

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To prohibit official United States Government business from being conducted in the Gaza Strip or the West Bank, to suspend foreign assistance to the Gaza Strip until Hamas no longer exercises authority over the Gaza Strip, and to require reports and impose sanctions with respect to the provision of services to Hamas, financial transactions that benefit the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the use of human shields, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. CRUZ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## **A BILL**

To prohibit official United States Government business from being conducted in the Gaza Strip or the West Bank, to suspend foreign assistance to the Gaza Strip until Hamas no longer exercises authority over the Gaza Strip, and to require reports and impose sanctions with respect to the provision of services to Hamas, financial transactions that benefit the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the use of human shields, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “ **Hamas Sanctions Act of 2023** ”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—SANCTIONS AND REPORTS WITH RESPECT TO  
PROVISION OF SERVICES TO HAMAS IN ALLIED COUNTRIES

Sec. 101. Definitions.

Sec. 102. Statement of policy.

Sec. 103. Report on provision of services to members of Hamas in allied coun-  
tries; imposition of sanctions.

TITLE II—LIMITATIONS ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS IN AND  
ASSISTANCE TO THE WEST BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP

Sec. 201. Prohibition on actions that would authorize conduct of official United  
States Government business in the Gaza Strip or the West  
Bank.

Sec. 202. Limitation on assistance to the Gaza Strip.

Sec. 203. Expansion of prohibitions on assistance to the West Bank.

TITLE III—SANCTIONS AND REPORTS WITH RESPECT TO  
TRANSACTIONS THAT BENEFIT IRAN

Sec. 301. Definitions.

Sec. 302. Report on certain financial transactions that benefit the Islamic Re-  
public of Iran; imposition of sanctions.

Sec. 303. Prohibition on actions altering application of certain sanctions with  
respect to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

TITLE IV—SANCTIONS AND REPORTS WITH RESPECT TO USE OF  
HUMAN SHIELDS

Sec. 401. Statement of policy.

Sec. 402. Modification and extension of Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as De-  
fenseless Shields Act.

Sec. 403. Report on countering the use of human shields.

Sec. 404. Recurring report on use of human shields by Iranian-funded terrorist  
groups.

1 **TITLE I—SANCTIONS AND RE-**  
2 **PORTS WITH RESPECT TO**  
3 **PROVISION OF SERVICES TO**  
4 **HAMAS IN ALLIED COUN-**  
5 **TRIES**

6 **SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this title:

8 (1) **ALLIED COUNTRY.**—The term “allied coun-  
9 try” means—

10 (A) a country that is a member of the  
11 North Atlantic Treaty Organization; or

12 (B) a country that has been designated as  
13 a major non-NATO ally under section 517 of  
14 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
15 2321k).

16 (2) **FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term “foreign per-  
17 son” means an individual or entity that is not a  
18 United States person.

19 (3) **MEMBER OR AFFILIATE OF HAMAS.**—The  
20 term “member or affiliate of Hamas” includes—

21 (A) an official, agent, member, or affiliate  
22 of Hamas;

23 (B) an official, agent, member, or affiliate  
24 of—

25 (i) the Palestine Islamic Jihad;

1 (ii) the Popular Resistance Commit-  
2 tees;

3 (iii) the Abd Al-Qadir Al-Husseini  
4 Brigades;

5 (iv) the Democratic Front for the Lib-  
6 eration of Palestine;

7 (v) the Lion's Den;

8 (vi) Liwa al-Quds;

9 (vii) Liwa Fatemiyoun;

10 (viii) Liwa Zeynabiyoun; or

11 (ix) the Palestinian Mujahideen Move-  
12 ment;

13 (C) any successor to a person described in  
14 subparagraph (A) or (B); or

15 (D) any foreign person owned or controlled  
16 by a person described in subparagraph (A) or  
17 (B).

18 (4) STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.—The term  
19 “state sponsor of terrorism” means a country the  
20 government of which the Secretary of State has de-  
21 termined has repeatedly provided support for acts of  
22 international terrorism, for purposes of—

23 (A) section 1754(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Export  
24 Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C.  
25 4813(c)(1)(A)(i));

1 (B) section 620A of the Foreign Assistance  
2 Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371);

3 (C) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Con-  
4 trol Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)); or

5 (D) any other provision of law.

6 (5) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term  
7 “United States person” means—

8 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-  
9 fully admitted for the permanent residence to  
10 the United States; or

11 (B) an entity organized under the laws of  
12 the United States or of any jurisdiction within  
13 the United States, including a foreign branch of  
14 such an entity.

15 **SEC. 102. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

16 It shall be the policy of the United States to fully  
17 implement and enforce sanctions against terrorism in  
18 order to counter the activities of Hamas, including by de-  
19 nying members or affiliates of Hamas the ability to oper-  
20 ate or reside in the territories of allied countries.

21 **SEC. 103. REPORT ON PROVISION OF SERVICES TO MEM-**  
22 **BERS OR AFFILIATES OF HAMAS IN ALLIED**  
23 **COUNTRIES; IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**

24 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF MEMBERS OR AFFILIATES  
25 OF HAMAS.—Not later than 15 days after the date of the

1 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consulta-  
2 tion with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to  
3 Congress a report listing all foreign persons currently  
4 known to the United States to be a member or affiliate  
5 of Hamas.

6 (b) REPORT ON PROVISION OF SERVICES TO MEM-  
7 BERS OR AFFILIATES OF HAMAS IN ALLIED COUN-  
8 TRIES.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after  
10 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually  
11 thereafter, the Secretary of State, in consultation  
12 with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to  
13 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate  
14 and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House  
15 of Representatives a report on the provision of serv-  
16 ices to members or affiliates of Hamas in allied  
17 countries.

18 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-  
19 graph (1) shall include—

20 (A) a list of allied countries in the territory  
21 of which members or affiliates of Hamas are  
22 known to operate or reside;

23 (B) a list of any foreign persons in an al-  
24 lied country that provide services to members or  
25 affiliates of Hamas, including—

- 1 (i) lodging;
- 2 (ii) utilities;
- 3 (iii) services provided by paid lodging
- 4 facilities, including laundry and room serv-
- 5 ice;
- 6 (iv) the provision of facilities for meet-
- 7 ings; or
- 8 (v) personal banking services;

9 (C) for each country on the list required by

10 subparagraph (A), a determination of whether

11 allowing the provision of services to members or

12 affiliates of Hamas, including services described

13 in subparagraph (B), in the territory of the

14 country results in the country meeting the cri-

15 teria for designation as a state sponsor of ter-

16 rorism; and

17 (D) a description of actions taken by

18 United States diplomats to encourage countries

19 on the list required by subparagraph (A) to

20 cease allowing members or affiliates of Hamas

21 to operate or reside in those countries.

22 (c) SANCTIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose

24 the sanctions described in paragraph (2) with re-

1 spect to each foreign person on the list required by  
2 subsection (a) or (b)(2)(B).

3 (2) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-  
4 scribed in this paragraph are—

5 (A) the sanctions applicable under Execu-  
6 tive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relat-  
7 ing to blocking property and prohibiting trans-  
8 actions with persons who commit, threaten to  
9 commit, or support terrorism); and

10 (B) inclusion on the list of specially des-  
11 ignated nationals and blocked persons main-  
12 tained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control  
13 of the Department of the Treasury.

14 **TITLE II—LIMITATIONS ON OFFI-**  
15 **CIAL BUSINESS IN AND AS-**  
16 **SISTANCE TO THE WEST**  
17 **BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP**

18 **SEC. 201. PROHIBITION ON ACTIONS THAT WOULD AU-**  
19 **THORIZE CONDUCT OF OFFICIAL UNITED**  
20 **STATES GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN THE**  
21 **GAZA STRIP OR THE WEST BANK.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of the en-  
23 actment of this Act, the President may not take any action  
24 described in subsection (c) if taking such action would au-  
25 thorize the conduct of the official business of the United



1 States Government by employees, grantees, or contractors  
2 thereof in the West Bank or Gaza Strip that would other-  
3 wise be prohibited by the Global Terrorism Sanctions Reg-  
4 ulations under part 594 of title 31, Code of Federal Regu-  
5 lations, or the Foreign Terrorist Organizations Sanctions  
6 Regulations under part 597 of that title.

7 (b) APPLICATION TO EXISTING ACTIONS.—Any ac-  
8 tion described in subsection (c) that was taken before the  
9 date of the enactment of this Act is rescinded.

10 (c) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—An action described in  
11 this subsection is an action that reduces the application  
12 of the Global Terrorism Sanctions Regulations under part  
13 594 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, or the For-  
14 eign Terrorist Organizations Sanctions Regulations under  
15 part 597 of that title, including—

16 (1) any termination or waiver of the application  
17 of sanctions;

18 (2) any licensing action; or

19 (3) any removal of any person from the list of  
20 specially designated nationals and blocked persons  
21 maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control  
22 of the Department of the Treasury.

23 **SEC. 202. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE GAZA STRIP.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds described in  
25 subsection (b) may be obligated or expended unless the

1 President, during the 90-day period immediately pre-  
2 ceding such obligation or expenditure, transmitted written  
3 certification to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
4 Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
5 House of Representatives that Hamas does not exercise  
6 de facto authority over the Gaza Strip.

7 (b) FUNDS DESCRIBED.—The funds described in this  
8 subsection are Federal funds appropriated for—

9 (1) assistance to the Gaza Strip; or

10 (2) contributions to the United Nations Relief  
11 and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the  
12 Near East, to any successor or related entity, or to  
13 the regular budget of the United Nations for the  
14 support of the United Nations Relief and Works  
15 Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East or  
16 a successor or related entity.

17 **SEC. 203. EXPANSION OF PROHIBITIONS ON ASSISTANCE**  
18 **TO THE WEST BANK.**

19 Section 1004(a)(1) of the Taylor Force Act (22  
20 U.S.C. 2378c–1) is amended by striking “that directly  
21 benefits the Palestinian Authority”.

1 **TITLE III—SANCTIONS AND RE-**  
2 **PORTS WITH RESPECT TO**  
3 **TRANSACTIONS THAT BEN-**  
4 **EFIT IRAN**

5 **SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this title:

7 (1) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-  
8 son” means an individual or entity that is not a  
9 United States person.

10 (2) UNITED STATES PERSON.—the term  
11 “United States person” means—

12 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-  
13 fully admitted for permanent residence to the  
14 United States; or

15 (B) an entity organized under the laws of  
16 the United States or of any jurisdiction within  
17 the United States, including a foreign branch of  
18 such an entity.

19 **SEC. 302. REPORT ON CERTAIN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**  
20 **THAT BENEFIT THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF**  
21 **IRAN; IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**

22 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-  
25 nually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit

1 to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-  
2 ate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
3 House of Representatives a report on the violation  
4 of sanctions imposed by the United States with re-  
5 spect to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

6 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-  
7 graph (1) shall include the following:

8 (A) A list of foreign persons that—

9 (i) knowingly conducted or facilitated  
10 any significant financial transaction with a  
11 foreign person relating to funds trans-  
12 ferred by foreign persons relating to any  
13 agreement between the United States and  
14 the Islamic Republic of Iran between Janu-  
15 ary 1, 2023, and the date of the enactment  
16 of this Act, that would be subject to the re-  
17 strictions described in section 1245(d) of  
18 the National Defense Authorization Act for  
19 Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a(d))  
20 but for the issuance of a waiver under  
21 paragraph (5) of that section;

22 (ii) knowingly conducted or facilitated  
23 any significant financial transaction with  
24 the Central Bank of Iran or another Ira-  
25 nian financial institution subject to sanc-

1 tions imposed by the United States for the  
2 purpose of repatriating to the Government  
3 of the Islamic Republic of Iran assets sub-  
4 ject to the restrictions described in such  
5 section 1245(d); or

6 (iii) knowingly engaged in trans-  
7 actions involving the exchange of Special  
8 Drawing Rights issued by the Inter-  
9 national Monetary Fund and held by or al-  
10 located to the Islamic Republic of Iran into  
11 United States dollars or another foreign  
12 currency.

13 (B) An identification of any vessel that  
14 was knowingly used by a foreign person for the  
15 transportation of petroleum or petroleum prod-  
16 ucts from the Islamic Republic of Iran, includ-  
17 ing the following information for the vessel:

18 (i) The International Maritime Orga-  
19 nization number of the vessel.

20 (ii) The vessel identification number.

21 (iii) The current name and any past  
22 name of the vessel.

23 (iv) Any maritime classification soci-  
24 ety providing services for the vessel.

1 (v) The current flag under which the  
2 vessel operates.

3 (vi) Any past flag under which the  
4 vessel operated.

5 (vii) All owners and operators of the  
6 vessel.

7 (C) A description of actions taken by the  
8 Secretary of State to engage maritime classi-  
9 fication societies identified under subparagraph  
10 (B)(iv), and foreign governments that allow ves-  
11 sels described in subparagraph (B) to fly their  
12 flag, to ensure those societies and govern-  
13 ments—

14 (i) are fully aware of the sanctions, fi-  
15 nancial crimes, and reputational risks in-  
16 volved in continuing to provide services to  
17 such vessels or to allow such vessels to fly  
18 their flag; and

19 (ii) cease providing those services or  
20 allowing such vessels to fly their flag, as  
21 the case may be.

22 (b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

23 (1) TRANSACTIONS.—Notwithstanding the  
24 issuance of any waiver or license, including General  
25 License 8 issued by the Office of Foreign Assets

1 Control, the President shall impose the sanctions de-  
2 scribed in section 1245(d)(1)(A) of the National De-  
3 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22  
4 U.S.C. 8513a(d)(1)(A)) with respect to any financial  
5 institution on the most recent list required by sub-  
6 section (a)(2)(A).

7 (2) VESSELS.—The President shall—

8 (A) impose the sanctions described in Ex-  
9 ecutive Order 13382 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; re-  
10 lating to blocking property of weapons of mass  
11 destruction proliferators and their supporters)  
12 with respect to—

13 (i) each vessel identified under sub-  
14 section (a)(2)(B); and

15 (ii) each owner or operator of such a  
16 vessel identified under clause (vii) of that  
17 subsection; and

18 (B) include each such vessel, owner, and  
19 operator on the list of specially designated na-  
20 tionals and blocked persons maintained by the  
21 Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Depart-  
22 ment of the Treasury.

1 **SEC. 303. PROHIBITION ON ACTIONS ALTERING APPLICA-**  
2 **TION OF CERTAIN SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT**  
3 **TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—On and after the date of the en-  
5 actment of this Act, the President may not take any action  
6 described in subsection (c) if taking the action would sig-  
7 nificantly alter the application of sanctions described in  
8 subsection (d).

9 (b) **APPLICATION TO EXISTING ACTIONS.**—Any ac-  
10 tion described in subsection (c) taken before the date of  
11 the enactment of this Act is rescinded.

12 (c) **ACTIONS DESCRIBED.**—An action described in  
13 this subsection is—

14 (1) any termination or waiver of the application  
15 of sanctions described in subsection (d);

16 (2) any licensing action with respect to such  
17 sanctions; or

18 (3) any removal of any person from the list of  
19 specially designated nationals and blocked persons  
20 maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control  
21 of the Department of the Treasury.

22 (d) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The sanctions de-  
23 scribed in this subsection are sanctions under—

24 (1) section 1245(d)(1) of the National Defense  
25 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C.  
26 8513a(d)(1)); and



1 (2) sections 1244(c)(1) and 1247(a) of Iran  
2 Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (22  
3 U.S.C. 8803(c)(1) and 8806(a)).

4 **TITLE IV—SANCTIONS AND RE-**  
5 **PORTS WITH RESPECT TO**  
6 **USE OF HUMAN SHIELDS**

7 **SEC. 401. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

8 It shall be the policy of the United States to fully  
9 implement and enforce sanctions against terrorist organi-  
10 zations and other malign actors that use innocent civilians  
11 as human shields.

12 **SEC. 402. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF SANC-**  
13 **TIONING THE USE OF CIVILIANS AS DE-**  
14 **FENSELESS SHIELDS ACT.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Sanctioning the  
16 Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law  
17 115–348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (b)—

19 (A) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
20 paragraph (4); and

21 (B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the  
22 following:

23 “(3) Each foreign person that the President de-  
24 termines, on or after the date of the enactment of  
25 the Hamas Sanctions Act of 2023—

1           “(A) is a member of Palestine Islamic  
2           Jihad or is knowingly acting on behalf of Pal-  
3           estine Islamic Jihad; and

4           “(B) knowingly orders, controls, or other-  
5           wise directs the use of civilians protected as  
6           such by the law of war to shield military objec-  
7           tives from attack.”;

8           (2) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), (g),  
9           (h), and (i) as subsections (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j),  
10          respectively; and

11          (3) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
12          lowing:

13          “(e) CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS.—Not later than  
14          120 days after receiving a request from the chairman and  
15          ranking member of one of the appropriate congressional  
16          committees with respect to whether a foreign person meets  
17          the criteria of a person described in subsection (b) or (c),  
18          the President shall—

19                 “(1) determine if the person meets such cri-  
20                 teria; and

21                 “(2) submit a written justification to the chair-  
22                 man and ranking member detailing whether or not  
23                 the President imposed or intends to impose sanc-  
24                 tions described in subsection (b) or (c) with respect  
25                 to such person.”.

1 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 4 of the Sanctioning the  
2 Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law  
3 115–348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraph (7) as para-  
5 graph (8); and

6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(7) PALESTINE ISLAMIC JIHAD.—The term  
9 ‘Palestine Islamic Jihad’ means—

10 “(A) the entity known as Palestine Islamic  
11 Jihad and designated by the Secretary of State  
12 as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to  
13 section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality  
14 Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); or

15 “(B) any person identified as an agent or  
16 instrumentality of Palestine Islamic Jihad on  
17 the list of specially designated nationals and  
18 blocked persons maintained by the Office of  
19 Foreign Asset Control of the Department of the  
20 Treasury, the property or interests in property  
21 of which are blocked pursuant to the Inter-  
22 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
23 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).”.

24 (c) SUNSET.—Section 5 of the Sanctioning the Use  
25 of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–

1 348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by striking “De-  
2 cember 31, 2023” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

3 (d) SEVERABILITY.—The Sanctioning the Use of Ci-  
4 vilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–348;  
5 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by adding at the end  
6 the following:

7 **“SEC. 6. SEVERABILITY.**

8 “If any provision of this Act, or the application of  
9 such provision to any person or circumstance, is found to  
10 be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, or the ap-  
11 plication of that provision to other persons or cir-  
12 cumstances, shall not be affected.”.

13 **SEC. 403. REPORT ON COUNTERING THE USE OF HUMAN**  
14 **SHIELDS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the  
16 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense  
17 shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the  
18 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the  
19 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representa-  
20 tives a report that contains the following:

21 (1) A description of the lessons learned from  
22 the United States and its allies and partners in ad-  
23 dressing the use of human shields by terrorist orga-  
24 nizations such as Hamas, Hezbollah, Palestine Is-

1        lamic Jihad, and any other organization as deter-  
2        mined by the Secretary of Defense.

3            (2) A description of a specific plan and actions  
4        being taken by the Department of Defense to incor-  
5        porate the lessons learned as identified in paragraph  
6        (1) into Department of Defense operating guidance,  
7        relevant capabilities, and tactics, techniques, and  
8        procedures to deter, counter, and address the chal-  
9        lenge posed by the use of human shields and hold  
10       accountable terrorist organizations for the use of  
11       human shields.

12           (3) A description of specific measures being de-  
13        veloped and implemented by the United States Gov-  
14        ernment to mobilize and leverage allied nations, in-  
15        cluding member nations of the North Atlantic Trea-  
16        ty Organization (NATO), to deter, counter, and hold  
17        accountable terrorist organizations for the use of  
18        human shields.

19           (4) The current status of joint exercises, doc-  
20        trine development, education, and training on coun-  
21        tering the use of human shields in multinational cen-  
22        ters of excellence.

23           (5) The current status of participation of mem-  
24        bers of the Armed Forces and Department of De-  
25        fense civilian personnel in any multinational center

1 of excellence for the purposes of countering the use  
2 of human shields.

3 (6) The feasibility and advisability of beginning  
4 or continuing participation of members of the Armed  
5 Forces and Department of Defense civilian per-  
6 sonnel to promote the integration of joint exercises,  
7 doctrine development, education, and training on  
8 countering the use of human shields into multi-  
9 national centers of excellence.

10 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “multi-  
11 national center of excellence” has the meaning given that  
12 term in section 344 of title 10, United States Code.

13 **SEC. 404. RECURRING REPORT ON USE OF HUMAN SHIELDS**  
14 **BY IRANIAN-FUNDED TERRORIST GROUPS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
16 date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,  
17 the President shall submit to the congressional defense  
18 committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
19 Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
20 House of Representatives a report on the use of human  
21 shields by Iranian funded terrorist groups.

22 (b) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under sub-  
23 section (a) shall include—

24 (1) a list of Palestinian terrorist groups—

1 (A) that receive financial assistance or  
2 training primarily from Iran; or

3 (B) over which Iran exerts undue influ-  
4 ence;

5 (2) a list of foreign persons who are members  
6 of—

7 (A) Hezbollah’s Shura Council;

8 (B) Hezbollah’s Executive Council;

9 (C) Hamas’s Politburo;

10 (D) Hamas’s Shura Council; and

11 (E) Palestine Islamic Jihad’s Shura Coun-  
12 cil;

13 (3) a determination, with respect to each for-  
14 eign person listed in paragraph (2), whether, during  
15 the relevant reporting period, that person knowingly  
16 ordered, controlled, or otherwise directed the use of  
17 civilians protected as such by the law of war to  
18 shield military objectives from attack; and

19 (4) for every positive determination under para-  
20 graph (3), if sanctions have not been imposed on the  
21 foreign person under the Sanctioning the Use of Ci-  
22 vilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–  
23 348), an explanation why such sanctions were not  
24 imposed.

1           (c) RELEVANT REPORTING PERIOD DEFINED.—In  
2 this section, the term “relevant reporting period” means—

3           (1) for the first report—

4                   (A) in the case of members of Hamas or  
5 Hezbollah, since the date of the enactment of  
6 the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as De-  
7 fenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–348; 50  
8 U.S.C. 1701 note); and

9                   (B) in the case of members of Palestine Is-  
10 lamic Jihad, since the date of the enactment of  
11 this Act; and

12           (2) for subsequent reports, since the date of the  
13 last report.