

Thursday, March 12, 2015

To: Members of the U.S. Senate

As organizations representing millions of Americans that support a peaceful diplomatic resolution to the nuclear standoff with Iran, we strongly urge you to oppose S.615, the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act. By threatening to reject a prospective nuclear deal, inserting conditions outside the scope of negotiations, and delaying the implementation of any agreement for months, this bill risks derailing the best chance to both prevent an Iranian nuclear weapon and avert a disastrous war.

We understand that some members of Congress seek additional consultation and oversight regarding a final agreement. This bill is not the means to do so. Instead, this bill risks ensuring that there is no agreement for Congress to oversee in the first place. The politicized manner through which some have attempted to advance this bill, by seeking to bypass regular procedure and pass the bill at such a delicate time in negotiations, should give pause to those members who do not want to subject a potential nuclear deal to a vote that is based on politics rather than substance. If Members of Congress support this bill and it ends up defeating a nuclear deal, they would own the consequences of a diplomatic failure: an expanding Iranian nuclear program, the unraveling of international sanctions on Iran, and an increasing threat of war.

There are appropriate ways to increase Congressional oversight of a nuclear deal with Iran without threatening to scuttle a diplomatic solution. However, in order to give negotiations the best chance to prevent an Iranian nuclear weapon and avert war, it is important that Congress reject S.615.

Sincerely,

American Friends Service Committee
American Values Network
Americans for Peace Now
Arab American Institute
Arms Control Association
Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation
Center for Interfaith Engagement of Eastern Mennonite University
Center for International Policy
Citizens for Global Solutions
Church of the Brethren, Office of Public Witness
CODEPINK
Conference of Major Superiors of Men
Council for a Livable World
CREDO
Daily Kos

Friends Committee on National Legislation
Global Exchange
Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church
of Christ
The HAND Foundation
Historians Against the War
Institute for Policy Studies
International Civil Society Action Network
Jewish Voice for Peace
Just Foreign Policy
Maryknoll Office of Global Concern
MoveOn.org Civic Action
National Council of Churches
National Iranian American Council
National Security Network
NETWORK
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
Pax Christi International
Peace Action
Peace Action West
People Demanding Action
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Progressive Democrats of America
RootsAction.org
Sojourners
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries
United for Peace and Justice
United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
U.S. Labor Against the War
USAction
Veterans for Peace
WarisaCrime.org
Win Without War
Women's Action for New Directions
World Beyond War