Divide F—Block Iranian Access to U.S. Banks Act of 2020

SEC. 6001. SHORT TITLE.
This division may be cited as the “Block Iranian Access to U.S. Banks Act of 2020”.

SEC. 6002. FINDINGS.
The Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2019, the Department of the Treasury concluded that Iran is a jurisdiction of primary money laundering concern and imposed restrictions on correspondent accounts in the United States involving Iranian financial institutions.

(2) In June 2019, the Financial Action Task Force (“FATF”) urged all jurisdictions to require increased supervisory examination for branches and subsidiaries of financial institutions based in Iran. The FATF later called upon its members to introduce enhanced relevant reporting mechanisms or
systematic reporting of financial transactions, and 
require increased external audit requirements, for fi-
nancial groups with respect to any of their branches 
and subsidiaries located in Iran.

(3) According to the State Department’s 
“Country Reports on Terrorism” in 2018, “Iran is 
the world’s foremost state sponsor of terrorism.” 
The regime has spent nearly one billion dollars per 
year to support terrorist groups that serve as its 
proxies and expand its malign influence across the 
globe. Tehran has funded international terrorist 
groups such as Hizballah, Hamas, and Palestinian 
Islamic Jihad.

SEC. 6003. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that the deposits of 
United States citizens held in United States financial in-
stitutions should not be used to finance the Government 
of Iran.

SEC. 6004. PROHIBITION ON IRANIAN ACCESS TO UNITED 
STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Prohibitions.—

(1) In general.—The Secretary of the Treas-
ury may not issue a license authorizing a United 
States financial institution to provide financial serv-
ices, directly or indirectly, to the Government of Iran.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “United States financial institution” has the meaning given the term “U.S. financial institution” under section 561.309 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

(B) GOVERNMENT OF IRAN.—The term “Government of Iran” has the meaning given that term under section 560.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive the requirements of subsection (a) with respect to a license authorizing financial services after issuing a report reporting to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate stating that—

(A) the financial services are required solely for the provision of medicines, medical equipment, agricultural commodities, or humanitarian assistance benefitting the people of Iran;

or
(B) the financial services are not provided
in connection with a foreign person that en-
gages in sanctionable activities.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after a
report is submitted by the President under para-
graph (1) with respect to a license, the Secretary of
the Treasury shall transmit a copy of the license
issued pursuant to the waiver to the Committee on
Financial Services of the House of Representa-
tives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(c) SUNSET.—The provisions of this division shall
cease to have any force or effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 5 years after the date of en-
actment of this Act; or

(2) the date that is 30 days after the Secretary
of the Treasury reports in writing to the Committee
on Financial Services of the House of Representa-
tives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
Urban Affairs of the Senate, and makes such report
publicly available, that—

(A) Iran is not a jurisdiction of primary
money laundering concern;

(B) Iran has ceased providing support for
acts of international terrorism; or
(C) terminating the provisions of this division is necessary to permit the United States to comply with a treaty ratified by the United States.