

Summary of Iran Nuclear Compliance Act of 2013

The purpose of the Iran Nuclear Compliance Act of 2013 (INCA) is to protect the existing sanctions regime and ensure that ongoing negotiations with Iran regarding its illicit nuclear program move toward a final agreement that meets the minimum criteria for international law and security.

INCA gives the president of the United States 60 days to conclude an interim agreement and 180 days to conclude a final agreement with Iran. During this 240 day period, the president may not waive, suspend, or otherwise reduce any sanctions imposed on Iran, whether by statute or through executive order, unless the president certifies to Congress that:

- (1) providing such relief is in the vital national security interests of the United States; and
- (2) Iran is in full compliance with the terms of any interim agreement between the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, China, Germany, and Iran.

After this 240 day period, the president cannot waive, suspend, or otherwise reduce any sanctions against Iran, unless the president certifies to Congress that the final deal with Iran includes the following key elements:

- (1) the above conditions continue to be met;
- (2) Iran fully complies with its basic international obligations, including six UN Security Council Resolutions, the most recent of which the Obama administration supported in 2010; and
- (3) Iran provides a full accounting of all of its nuclear weaponization and related activities and commits in writing to suspend such activities while taking substantial efforts to do so.

If, at any point, the president receives credible and accurate information that Iran has failed to comply with the conditions above, any and all sanctions that the president has waived, suspended, or otherwise reduced shall be reimposed.

INCA gives the administration the necessary flexibility to pursue diplomacy with Iran, while protecting the multilateral sanctions regime that brought Iran to the table in the first place.

INCA keeps the negotiations focused on the endgame and keeps the pressure on the Iranians to comply with all of their international obligations and abandon their pursuit of nuclear weapons.

In other words, INCA does two things: (1) sets the clock, creating a specific time limit for negotiations and (2) sets a strong floor for a final agreement, establishing the basic acceptable framework for the endgame with Iran.