

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1710

To impose sanctions with respect to the system of compensation of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority that supports acts of terrorism.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To impose sanctions with respect to the system of compensation of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority that supports acts of terrorism.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “PLO and PA Terror
5 Payments Accountability Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
3 ings:

4 (1) The Palestine Liberation Organization and
5 the Palestinian Authority provide hundreds of mil-
6 lions of dollars per year in payments, salaries, and
7 benefits to terrorists and the families of terrorists as
8 part of a system compensation that incentivizes, en-
9 courages, rewards, and supports acts of terrorism.

10 (2) The Palestine Liberation Organization and
11 the Palestinian Authority policies, laws, and regula-
12 tions that direct, authorize, enact, facilitate, and im-
13 plement a system of compensation in support of acts
14 of terrorism require payments, salaries, and benefits
15 to terrorists including those who are members and
16 part of organizations designated as foreign terrorist
17 organizations by the Secretary of State under sec-
18 tion 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
19 U.S.C. 1189), including Hamas and Islamic Jihad,
20 that receive direct support including financial and
21 military assistance from Iran, the leading state
22 sponsor of terrorism in the world.

23 (3) In 2018, Congress passed the Taylor Force
24 Act (title X of division S of Public Law 115–141;
25 132 Stat. 1143) into law that calls on the Palestine
26 Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Author-

1 ity to end their system of compensation that
2 incentivizes, encourages, rewards, and supports acts
3 of terrorism and restricts United States assistance
4 “that directly benefits the Palestinian Authority”
5 unless the Secretary of State certifies to Congress
6 that the Palestine Liberation Organization and the
7 Palestinian Authority have met specific conditions
8 including terminating that system of compensation
9 and revoking the policies, laws, and regulations that
10 authorize and implement the system of compensa-
11 tion.

12 (4) Despite the enactment of the Taylor Force
13 Act, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the
14 Palestinian Authority have continued their system of
15 compensation that incentivizes, encourages, rewards,
16 and supports acts of terrorism.

17 (5) On October 7, 2023, Hamas, Islamic Jihad,
18 and other Gaza-based terrorist organizations at-
19 tacked Israel on Shabbat and during the Jewish hol-
20 iday of Simchat Torah, committing the deadliest at-
21 tack on the Jewish people since the Holocaust.

22 (6) On October 7, 2023, Hamas fired thou-
23 sands of rockets into Israel, deliberately targeting
24 Israeli civilians, and thousands of terrorists invaded
25 Israeli communities—massacring, raping, torturing,

1 decapitating, burning alive, seriously injuring, and
2 kidnapping Israelis and Americans, including men,
3 women, children, babies, and grandparents, and in-
4 cluding Holocaust survivors, with children being
5 murdered in front of their parents and parents being
6 murdered in front of their children.

7 (7) On October 7, 2023, Hamas murdered more
8 than 1,200 who were mostly civilians, and kidnapped
9 more than 240, including Israeli and American men,
10 women, children, babies, and grandparents, and took
11 them to Gaza as hostages.

12 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
13 of the United States to hold the Palestine Liberation Or-
14 ganization and the Palestinian Authority accountable in-
15 cluding through the imposition of sanctions for providing
16 payments, salaries, and benefits to terrorists and the fami-
17 lies of terrorists as part of a system compensation that
18 incentivizes, encourages, rewards, and supports acts of
19 terrorism.

20 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) ACT OF TERRORISM.—The term “act of ter-
23 rorism”—

1 (A) means an act of international ter-
2 rorism (as defined in section 2331 of title 18,
3 United States Code); and

4 (B) includes the meanings given the terms
5 “terrorist activity” and “engage in terrorist ac-
6 tivity” by section 212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigra-
7 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
8 1182(a)(3)(B)).

9 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
13 the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of
14 Representatives; and

15 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
16 and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
17 Urban Affairs of the Senate.

18 (3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
19 son” means any person or entity that is not a
20 United States person.

21 (4) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly”, with
22 respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result,
23 means that a person had actual knowledge, or
24 should have known, of the conduct, the cir-
25 cumstance, or the result.

1 (5) SYSTEM OF COMPENSATION.—The term
 2 “system of compensation”, with respect to the Pales-
 3 tinian Authority and the Palestinian Liberation Or-
 4 ganization, means the payments described in sub-
 5 paragraph (B) of section 1004(a)(1) of the Taylor
 6 Force Act (22 U.S.C. 2378c–1) and the system of
 7 compensation described in subparagraph (C) of that
 8 section.

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

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

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

18 (C) a person in the United States.

19 **SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON CERTAIN FOREIGN**
 20 **PERSONS SUPPORTING TERRORISM.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
 22 date of the enactment of this Act, and an ongoing basis
 23 thereafter, the President shall impose the sanctions de-
 24 scribed in subsection (b) on—

25 (1) any foreign person that—

1 (A) has served in a position as a represent-
2 ative, minister, official, or employee of the Pal-
3 estine Liberation Organization, the Palestinian
4 Authority, or any other foreign person that has
5 directed, authorized, been responsible for, mate-
6 rially assisted with, enacted, implemented, or
7 otherwise facilitated the Palestine Liberation
8 Organization and the Palestinian Authority sys-
9 tem of compensation supporting acts of ter-
10 rorism; or

11 (B) has provided payments, salaries, and
12 benefits to terrorists and the families of terror-
13 ists as part of the Palestine Liberation Organi-
14 zation and the Palestinian Authority system of
15 compensation supporting acts of terrorism;

16 (2) any entity that directly or indirectly has op-
17 erated, ordered, controlled, directed, or otherwise fa-
18 cilitated the Palestine Liberation Organization and
19 the Palestinian Authority system of compensation
20 supporting acts of terrorism including the Commis-
21 sion of Prisoners and Released Prisoners, the Insti-
22 tute for the Care of the Families of the Martyrs and
23 the Wounded, the Palestine National Fund, National
24 Association of the Families of the Martyrs of Pal-

estine, or any successor, agency, instrumentality, organization, or affiliated entities thereof; or

(3) any foreign person that has knowingly provided significant financial, technological, or material support and resources support to, or knowingly engaged in a significant transaction with a foreign person described in subparagraph (1) or (2).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions that shall be imposed with respect to a foreign person described in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall exercise all of the powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of the foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An alien described in subsection (a) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

1 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other
2 documentation to enter the United States;
3 and

4 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
5 or paroled into the United States or to re-
6 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-
7 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
8 seq.).

9 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

10 (i) IN GENERAL.—An alien described
11 in subsection (a) is subject to revocation of
12 any visa or other entry documentation re-
13 gardless of when the visa or other entry
14 documentation is or was issued.

15 (ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revoca-
16 tion under clause (i) shall—

17 (I) take effect immediately; and

18 (II) automatically cancel any
19 other valid visa or entry documenta-
20 tion that is in the alien's possession.

21 (iii) PENALTIES.—The penalties pro-
22 vided for in subsections (b) and (c) of sec-
23 tion 206 of the International Emergency
24 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705)
25 shall apply to a person that violates, at-

1 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or
2 causes a violation of this section or any
3 regulations promulgated to carry out this
4 section to the same extent that such pen-
5 alties apply to a person that commits an
6 unlawful act described in section 206(a) of
7 that Act.

8 (c) CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS.—Not later than 30
9 days after receiving a request from the chairman or rank-
10 ing member of one of the appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees with respect to whether a person meets the criteria
12 of a person described in subsection (a), the President
13 shall—

14 (1) determine if the person meets such criteria;
15 and

16 (2) submit a classified or unclassified report to
17 the chairman or ranking member, that submitted the
18 request with respect to that determination that in-
19 cludes a statement of whether or not the President
20 imposed or intends to impose sanctions with respect
21 to the person.

22 (d) IMPLEMENTATION; REGULATIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may exercise
24 all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205
25 of the International Emergency Economic Powers

1 Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) for purposes of car-
2 rying out this section.

3 (2) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 60 days
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
5 President shall issue such regulations or other guid-
6 ance as may be necessary for the implementation of
7 this section.

8 (e) DEFINITION.—In this section:

9 (1) MATERIAL SUPPORT OR RESOURCES.—The
10 term “material support or resources” has the mean-
11 ing given that term in section 2339A(b) of title 18,
12 United States Code.

13 **SEC. 5. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FI-**
14 **NANCIAL INSTITUTIONS THAT FACILITATE**
15 **TRANSACTIONS SUPPORTING TERRORISM.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, and on an ongoing basis
18 thereafter, the President shall impose the sanctions de-
19 scribed in subsection (c) with respect to each foreign fi-
20 nancial institution that engages in the activities described
21 in subsection (b).

22 (b) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—A foreign financial in-
23 stitution engages in an activity described in this subsection
24 if the institution—

1 (1) processes, participates in, facilitates, or pro-
2 vides a transaction that are payments, salaries, or
3 benefits, or any other conduct described in section
4 4(a); or

5 (2) knowingly conducted or facilitated any sig-
6 nificant financial transaction with any foreign per-
7 son subject to sanctions under section 4(a).

8 (c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The President shall
9 prohibit the opening, and prohibit or impose strict condi-
10 tions on the maintaining, in the United States of a cor-
11 respondent account or a payable-through account by a for-
12 eign financial institution described in subsection (a).

13 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT; PAYABLE-
15 THROUGH ACCOUNT.—The terms “correspondent ac-
16 count” and “payable-through account” have the
17 meanings given those terms in section 5318A of title
18 31, United States Code.

19 (2) FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The
20 term “foreign financial institution” has the meaning
21 of that term as determined by the Secretary of the
22 Treasury pursuant to section 104(i) of the Com-
23 prehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Di-
24 vestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8513(i)).

1 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION.**

2 The provisions of this Act shall have no force or effect
3 only if the Secretary of State certifies in writing to the
4 appropriate congressional committees that the Palestine
5 Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority
6 system of compensation providing payments, salaries, and
7 benefits to terrorists and the families of terrorists that
8 incentivizes, encourages, rewards, and supports acts of
9 terrorism as described in this Act, has ceased to be in ef-
10 fect and is no longer taking place.

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