

A BILL

To strengthen the multilateral sanctions regime with respect to Iran and enforcement of the United States sanctions laws by state governments, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'State and Local Enforcement of United States Sanctions Against Iran Act.'

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEED FOR STATES TO ENACT AND ENFORCE SANCTIONS LAWS CONSISTENT WITH THOSE ENACTED BY THE UNITED STATES.

Congress makes the following findings:

- (a) The United States Congress and the President of the United States passed into law the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 ("CISADA");
- (b) CISADA of 2010, amended and strengthened the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996;
- (c) The United States has passed several different pieces of sanctions legislation, strengthened and amended sanctions legislation, and the President has issued several executive orders concerning Iran, and may continue to do so in the future, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);
- (d) The United States Congress recognizes that international diplomatic efforts to address Iran's illicit nuclear efforts and support for international terrorism are more likely to be effective if sanctions are imposed on the Government of Iran by State and local governments;
- (e) There is an increasing interest by State governments, local governments, educational institutions, and private institutions, business firms, and other investors to disassociate themselves from companies that conduct business activities in Iran, since such business activities may directly or indirectly support the efforts of the Government of Iran to achieve a nuclear weapons capability, support terrorism and repress the Iranian people;
- (f) In 2010, CISADA the United States Congress found that "the United States should support the decision of any State or local government that for moral, prudential, or reputational reasons divests from, or prohibits the investment of assets of the State or local government in, a person that engages in investment activities in the energy sector of Iran, as long as Iran is subject to economic sanctions imposed by the United States";

- (g) Notwithstanding CISADA, State governments and local governments have faced increasing challenges to their authority to enforce and/or enact sanctions to the same extent and limits of all United States laws, executive orders and regulations;
- (h) The United States Congress recognizes that state governments must have the ability and right to enforce and/or enact sanctions laws against Iran to the same extent and limits enacted by United States laws, executive orders and regulations, now and in the future; and
- (i) Recognizing its inherent federal power under the United States Constitution, including the Commerce Clause, to grant states the power to enforce and/or enact sanctions legislation against Iran, the United States Congress hereby seeks to affirm the authority of State and local governments to enforce and/or enact sanctions laws, executive orders and regulations against Iran to the same extent and limits enacted by the United States, now and in the future.

SEC. 3. APPLICABILITY OF SANCTIONS TO STATES

- (a) **AUTHORITY TO ENACT AND ENFORCE SANCTIONS LAWS. AUTHORITY TO DIVEST.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State or local government may adopt and enforce measures consistent with measures adopted and/or enforced by the United States including, without limitation, United States laws, regulations and executive orders.
- (b) **NONPREEMPTION.**—A measure of a State or local government authorized hereunder is not preempted by any other Federal law or regulation.
- (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This Act applies to measures adopted by a State or local government before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.
- (d) **AUTHORIZATION FOR PRIOR ENACTED MEASURES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State or local government may enforce a measure adopted by the State or local government before the date of the enactment of this Act to the same extent and limits of any act, law, regulation or executive order of the United States.