

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6298

To restrict nuclear cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2008

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, and Mr. FORTENBERRY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To restrict nuclear cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) On May 16, 2008, Secretary of State
6 Condoleezza Rice and Minister of Foreign Affairs of
7 the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Saud al-Faisal bin
8 Abdulaziz al-Saud signed a Memorandum of Under-
9 standing between the Government of the United

1 States of America and the Government of the King-
2 dom of Saudi Arabia Concerning Cooperation in Nu-
3 clear Energy and Other Energy Fields.

4 (2) This Memorandum of Understanding de-
5 clared an intent to cooperate in developing “appro-
6 priately-sized light water reactors and fuel service
7 arrangements for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia” as
8 well as “civilian nuclear energy training, infrastruc-
9 ture and human resource development”.

10 (3) Saudi Arabia possesses vast energy re-
11 sources, including the world’s largest proven reserves
12 of oil.

13 (4) Saudi Arabia has invested heavily in a na-
14 tional natural gas distribution pipeline which will
15 serve as the backbone of Saudi Arabia’s national
16 electricity generation system for decades to come.

17 (5) Questions about the need for oil-rich na-
18 tions in the Middle East to acquire the equipment
19 and expertise to generate nuclear power have been
20 raised in the past, notably in 2004, when Vice Presi-
21 dent Dick Cheney said, “[Iran is] already sitting on
22 an awful lot of oil and gas. No one can figure out
23 why they need nuclear, as well, to generate energy”.

24 (6) Saudi Arabia possesses even greater petro-
25 leum resources than does Iran.

1 (7) The development of nuclear energy tech-
2 nologies by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia does not
3 appear to have a compelling economic rationale, par-
4 ticularly because Saudi Arabia has additional indige-
5 nous energy advantages besides petroleum reserves,
6 such as an average of more than 300 days of expo-
7 sure to full sunlight every year, giving it a rich solar
8 electricity generation potential.

9 (8) The proliferation of nuclear technology in
10 the Middle East will increase that region's insta-
11 bility, and prevent the establishment of a durable
12 and lasting security framework.

13 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

14 Congress—

15 (1) affirms the strong and historic ties between
16 the Government of the United States of America
17 and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Ara-
18 bia;

19 (2) disapproves of the Memorandum of Under-
20 standing between the Government of the United
21 States of America and the Government of the King-
22 dom of Saudi Arabia Concerning Cooperation in Nu-
23 clear Energy and Other Energy Fields signed by
24 Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Minister of
25 Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

1 Saud al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz al-Saud on May 16,
2 2008, at Riyadh;

3 (3) encourages the Government of the United
4 States of America and the Government of the King-
5 dom of Saudi Arabia to enter into full cooperation
6 in the development of renewable energy sources in
7 Saudi Arabia, including a solar energy program that
8 takes advantage of that country's strong solar en-
9 ergy potential; and

10 (4) reiterates that the United States is com-
11 mitted to the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons
12 and to preventing the acquisition of nuclear weapons
13 by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

14 **SEC. 3. RESTRICTION ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH**
15 **THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA.**

16 (a) RESTRICTION ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION
17 AGREEMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of
18 law or any international agreement, no agreement for co-
19 operation between the United States of America and the
20 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia pursuant to section 123 of the
21 Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) may enter
22 into force on or after the date of the enactment of this
23 Act.

24 (b) RESTRICTION ON EXPORTS OF NUCLEAR MATE-
25 RIALS, EQUIPMENT, OR TECHNOLOGY.—Notwithstanding

1 any other provision of law, including specifically section
2 121 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2151),
3 no nuclear materials and equipment or sensitive nuclear
4 technology, including items and assistance authorized by
5 section 57 b. of such Act (42 U.S.C. 2077(b)) and regu-
6 lated under part 810 of title 10, Code of Federal Regula-
7 tions, and nuclear-related items on the Commerce Control
8 List maintained under part 774 of title 15, Code of Fed-
9 eral Regulations, shall be exported or reexported, or trans-
10 ferred or retransferred, whether directly or indirectly, and
11 no Federal agency shall issue any license, approval, or au-
12 thorization for the export or reexport, or transfer or re-
13 transfer, whether directly or indirectly, of these items or
14 assistance (as defined in this subsection) to the Kingdom
15 of Saudi Arabia if the end user is a nuclear production
16 or utilization facility, or if the President determines that
17 the material, equipment, technology, or item may be di-
18 verted for use in such a facility.

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