

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6298

To restrict nuclear cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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## 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

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## 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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