



Sanctions and Accountability for Non-Compliance and Transparent Investigative Oversight for National Security (SANCTIONS) in the West Bank Act

Introduced in the Senate by: Senators Peter Welch (D-Vt.); Dick Durbin (D-Ill.); Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.); Jack Reed (D-R.I.); Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.); Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.)

Introduced in the House by: Representatives Summer Lee (D-PA-12); Mark Pocan (D-WI-02); Betty McCollum (D-MN-04); Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-18); Jill Tokuda (D-HI-02); Al Green (D-TX-09); Jan Schakowsky (D-IL-09); Sara Jacobs (D-CA-51); Jim McGovern (D-MA-02); André Carson (D-IN-07)

Background:

The West Bank has experienced an alarming increase in violence and destruction since October 7th, including property destruction, arson, forced displacement, and civilian shootings. In response, the Biden Administration issued [Executive Order 14115](#) (EO) authorizing sanctions against those undermining peace and stability in the West Bank. The EO targets those involved in violence, forced displacement, or terrorism. It also blocks sanctioned individuals' United States-based assets, prohibits financial transactions, and suspends their entry into the United States.

Additionally, in order to further deter extremist violence and protect civilians, the EO applies sanctions without consideration of national origin, ethnicity, or religion. In recent months, sanctions have been imposed on individuals promoting, perpetrating and otherwise engaging in violence, including Palestinian militant groups and instigators from extremist Israeli settler movements and illegally established outposts from which violent attacks are launched. As violence in the West Bank increases, Congress must affirm the need for these sanctions and ensure proper oversight of their implementation in future Administrations.

Legislation:

The *SANCTIONS in the West Bank Act* codifies Executive Order 14115 to ensure that sanctions remain an effective tool to deter violence and destabilizing activities in the West Bank. This bicameral legislation provides a clear framework for lifting sanctions under appropriate conditions and strengthening oversight and accountability on imposed sanctions. The legislation also reaffirms U.S. commitment to ensuring accountability for individuals threatening violence and instability while safeguarding the path for durable Middle East peace.

Supporting Organizations:

The *SANCTIONS in the West Bank Act* is supported by J Street, Human Rights Watch, Quincy Institute, Peace Action, New Jewish Narrative, and the Friends Committee on National Legislation.