



# NIAC

National Iranian American Council | Community. Democracy. Universal Rights.

## H.R.4303 - The Stand With the Iranian People Act (SWIPA)

*The Stand With the Iranian People Act is sponsored by Reps. Keith Ellison (D-MN), Bill Delahunt (D-MA), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), John Tanner (D-TN), Jim Moran (D-VA), Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX), Fortney Pete Stark (D-CA), and Bob Filner (D-CA).*

### WHAT DOES SWIPA DO?

- ❖ Imposes travel restrictions against Iran's human rights abusers;
- ❖ Prohibits Federal procurement contracts for companies that provide surveillance and censorship software and other tools of repression to the Iranian government;
- ❖ Removes unintentional hurdles imposed against American NGOS so that they are able to provide assistance directly to the Iranian people and foster direct exchanges between Americans and Iranians.

### WHY IS SWIPA IMPORTANT?

- **The US must stand up against Iranian human rights abuses.** Congress should impose targeted sanctions directly on Iranian human rights abusers to demonstrate that the US will exact costs against the Iranian government for its reprehensible abuses. While the House and Senate has taken action to block gasoline from going to Iran, neither body has acted to address human rights abuses. *Congress must stand up now for Iranian human rights.*
- **Companies that support the repression of Iranians should NOT be rewarded with the US government contracts.** Companies like Nokia-Siemens provide Iran's government with tools of repression, such as internet censorship and surveillance technology. SWIPA eliminates this funding. *Cutting US funding sends an important message that the US will not be complicit in the repression of Iranians and provides pressure to deny Iran's government tools of repression*
- **US policies should not impose barriers on American NGOs and punish innocent Iranians.** United States NGOs face unnecessary and unintentional hurdles in US policy that prevent them from working with Iranians. Current policies inadvertently block Americans and Iranians from working together on projects like building hospitals or schools in Iran, promoting human rights, or expanding civil society. *SWIPA enables US NGOs to work directly with the Iranian people.*

*For further information contact Jamal Abdi ([jabdi@niacouncil.org](mailto:jabdi@niacouncil.org), 202-386-6408)*