

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 11, 2011

The Honorable Tim Johnson
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson:

More than a year has passed since President Obama signed the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (PL 111-195) into law. As a member of the Senate committee with jurisdiction over CISADA, I believe it is prudent to exercise the committee's oversight power and hold a hearing to review the law's implementation and effects.

When CISADA became law, then-chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee Chris Dodd said on July 1, 2010, "This bill sends a clear message to Iran—change your ways or you will suffer serious economic consequences." Although it appears Iran's economy has suffered under the weight of sanctions, it is far from clear whether or not CISADA has caused the "serious economic consequences" Chairman Dodd spoke of. Even if implementation of CISADA is found to have caused Iran serious economic harm, the law has yet to achieve its fundamental goal: to compel Iran to change its behavior.

Iran remains a leading state sponsor of terrorism and continues to amass greater stockpiles of low enriched uranium. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Iran's stockpile of low-enriched uranium increased from May 2010 to May 2011 by 1,678kg. In addition, Iran has accumulated more than 56kg of uranium enriched to a level of 20 percent, which represents 85 to 90 percent of the work needed to reach weapons-grade fuel. This work began in February 2010, four months before CISADA became law, and has continued despite sanctions. Iran now has enough low-enriched uranium that upon further processing could fuel three nuclear bombs, and Iran does not appear to be slowing down. Just last week, Yukiya Amano, the IAEA Director General, said he was "quite concerned" over Iranian plans to triple uranium production capacity.

At the same time as Iran's enrichment activities advance, Iran continues to flex its military muscle. On June 27 and 28, Iran's Revolutionary Guards conducted military exercises in which 14 missiles were fired and an underground missile silo was revealed. One of the

missiles tested reportedly has a range of 1,250 miles, which puts U.S. military targets in the region within Iran's reach.

Passage of CISADA was an important achievement, but the law must be robustly implemented. The Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee should do its part to see that the Administration is making full use of the tools Congress provided it in CISADA. As such, I respectfully request the committee hold a hearing as soon as the calendar permits so that the committee may review the implementation of CISADA and examine its effects.

Sincerely,



Jerry Moran

cc: The Honorable Richard Shelby

JM:jw