

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Harry Mitchell and the House today passed the Iran Counter-Proliferation Act to continue to apply political and economic pressure on Iran as it continues to defy the international community in its pursuit of nuclear arms.

H.R. 1400, of which Mitchell is a cosponsor, passed the House by a 397-16 vote. The measure aims to peacefully prevent Iran from securing nuclear arms and the means to produce them.

“Iran’s defiant pursuit of nuclear arms is a threat to the peace and stability of the United States and the world,” said Mitchell. “Today, the House took an important step, and sent a clear message that the American people are united in our pursuit to peacefully prevent the Iranian regime from acquiring a nuclear weapon.”

Specifically, the Iran Counter-Proliferation Act:

- Calls for enhanced U.N. Security Council efforts in response to Iran’s continued defiance of the international community,
- Expands bilateral sanctions against Iran by severely limited the export of U.S. items to Iran,
- Prevents U.S. subsidiaries of foreign oil companies that invest in Iran’s oil sector from receiving U.S. tax benefits for oil and gas exploration,
- Prevents the United States from entering into nuclear cooperation agreements with nations that provide assistance to Iran’s nuclear or missile programs, and
- Requires President Bush to determine whether the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps should be designated as a foreign terrorist organization.