

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9646

To prohibit the availability of Federal funds to support the Armed Forces of Lebanon, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

Mr. STEUBE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit the availability of Federal funds to support the Armed Forces of Lebanon, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Preventing Armed
5 Groups from Engaging in Radicalism” or the “PAGER
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR**
8 **THE LEBANESE ARMED FORCES.**

9 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Fed-
10 eral funds are authorized to be appropriated or otherwise

1 made available to the Armed Forces of Lebanon until the
2 date on which the Secretary of State certifies to the appro-
3 priate congressional committees that—

4 (1) the Government of Lebanon, including the
5 Chamber of Deputies, no longer recognizes the legit-
6 imacy as political parties of, nor permits its min-
7 isters or other cabinet-level officials to be from or
8 claim alliance with—

9 (A) Hezbollah;

10 (B) Loyalty to the Resistance Bloc; and

11 (C) Amal;

12 (2) Hezbollah no longer maintains any presence
13 in Lebanon pursuant to action of the Lebanese
14 Armed Forces and internal security forces to imple-
15 ment the clauses of United Nations Security Council
16 Resolution 1559 (2004), which calls for the “dis-
17 banding and disarmament of all Lebanese and non-
18 Lebanese militias”;

19 (3) such implementation of United Nations Se-
20 curity Council Resolution 1559 includes the expul-
21 sion of Hezbollah forces from known strongholds;

22 (4) the Lebanese Armed Forces and internal se-
23 curity forces have established an increased presence
24 in areas known to be Hezbollah strongholds in order
25 to prevent a resurgence of Hezbollah;

1 (5) the Lebanese Armed Forces do not main-
2 tain any coordination or support with Hezbollah or
3 any other group designated by the United States as
4 a foreign terrorist organization that has a presence
5 in Lebanon as of the date of such certification;

6 (6) the Lebanese Armed Forces do not main-
7 tain any coordination with or receive support from
8 the Government of Iran;

9 (7) any military aid previously received from
10 Iran, whether in the form of weapons, ammunition,
11 munitions, or equipment, is destroyed or disarmed;
12 and

13 (8) Lebanese courts and military tribunals
14 under the jurisdiction of the Lebanese Armed Forces
15 dismiss all charges and arrest warrants against
16 American citizens who have advocated against
17 Hezbollah's influence over the Government of Leb-
18 anon, including American journalists who have ap-
19 peared on Israeli news media or invited Israeli
20 guests on their media programs.

21 **SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON UNITED STATES SUPPORT TO THE**
22 **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PRO-**
23 **GRAMME.**

24 No Federal funds authorized to be appropriated or
25 otherwise made available to the United Nations Develop-

1 ment Programme may be obligated or expended to support
2 any livelihood support programs making assistance avail-
3 able to members of the Lebanese armed forces or the Leb-
4 anese internal security forces.

5 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

6 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Sec-
8 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of De-
9 fense and the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency,
10 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
11 a report on the influences of Hezbollah and the Govern-
12 ment of Iran throughout the Government of Lebanon, in-
13 cluding the Lebanese Ministry of Defense.

14 **SEC. 5. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
15 **FINED.**

16 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
17 mittees” means—

18 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
19 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives; and

21 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
22 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

○