



The Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey recommend the Iran Nuclear Deal be opposed by Congress

August 9, 2015- On July 14, 2015, the United States announced the completion of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on Iran's nuclear program.

At that time, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey (JCRC) issued a statement acknowledging the need for careful study and reflection. In the ensuing weeks, our leadership listened carefully to the vibrant debate surrounding this proposed deal with Iran. We have focused our energy and efforts in providing numerous opportunities for community members to better understand the key details and potential implications for the United States, her allies and all of the Middle East, in the event this proposed deal is implemented. We have hosted a webcast with Ambassador Dennis Ross, gathered for a live briefing by Consul General of Israel for the Mid-Atlantic Region Yaron Sideman, co-sponsored a video conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and participated in a state-wide conference call with New Jersey Senator Cory Booker.

Following this thorough, thoughtful and deliberative process, the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey recommend at this time the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action be opposed by Congress.

We recognize the very hard work that the President, the Secretary of State, and members of the P5 + 1 committee have put into these negotiations. However, it is based on numerous promises made by members of the United States negotiating team during the previous two years that are no longer part of the final deal including "anytime/anywhere inspections" as well as Iran needing to disclose "possible military dimensions (PMDs)" of their nuclear program.

In addition, our decision to oppose this deal is based on the following analysis:

1. Contrary to the expectation that this deal would ultimately and permanently halt Iran's path to a nuclear weapon, this deal all but ensures that Iran will become a threshold nuclear power, with the likely capacity, at the end of the 15 year deal, to have the infrastructure in place to develop a nuclear weapon with such a short break-out time that there would be little or no opportunity to prevent this outcome.
2. The sanctions relief afforded to Iran by this deal, allowing Iran to reintegrate economically with the rest of the world, will facilitate Iran's ongoing support and funding of terrorist organizations around the world, in turn continuing to pose grave danger to the State of Israel and our allies in the Middle East.
3. Near universal opposition to this deal by the Israeli coalition government and opposition government, a strong U.S. ally and a country which has been and continues to be directly and indirectly targeted by terrorism and the threat of terrorism from the Iranian government.

4. The position by White House administration officials that this deal should be supported because it is the best deal that could be reached by the negotiating partners. We believe this argument in and of itself refutes previous statements by U.S. officials which stated that no deal is better than a bad deal, not that the best deal that could be secured therefore becomes a good deal.

Our community is united around ensuring a safe and secure Israel. We understand that all of us who love Israel and yearn for peace may have different ideas on how to achieve our shared goal. We respect the right of everyone to his or her own view; we are a broad and diverse community. We embrace the Jewish people's tradition of argument and dissent, and encourage our entire community - those who disagree as well as those who agree with our position - to continue to share your views with us.

We consistently place great importance on the role of our JCRC to inform and educate our community on issues affecting the safety and security of Jews locally, in Israel and around the world. It is for this reason that we will continue to provide regular updates via email, our website and on social media to keep all members of the community up-to-date on the latest developments of this proposed deal.

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey will be sharing our position with our elected officials. We encourage you to do the same by expressing your views to the senators and representatives listed below.

JCRC Board of Directors
Amy Clayman, *President*
David Snyder, *Executive Director*

NOTE: This position statement was approved by a majority of the 42 member JCRC Board of Directors. The vote was not unanimous and we remain proud of our commitment to strive to have representatives on our board who reflect the wide spectrum of thought among pro-Israel individuals throughout our community.

Contact your elected officials:

Senator Robert Menendez- <http://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact/>

Senator Cory Booker- <http://www.booker.senate.gov/?p=contact>

For both Senators, select "Foreign Relations" under "Topic"

Congressman Donald Norcross- <https://norcross.house.gov/contact>

Congressman Tom MacArthur- <https://macarthur.house.gov/contact>

For either Congressman, must have Zip+4 Digit code available. If not sure of your member of Congress, please contact JCRC at jcrs nj@jfedsnj.org