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**STUDY COMMITTEE**

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# H. J. Res. 30 – Disapproving the President’s proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation. (Hoyer, D-MD)

**FLOOR SCHEDULE:** Scheduled for consideration on January 17, 2019 under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 vote for passage.

**TOPLINE SUMMARY:** [H. J. Res 30](#) would disapprove of the President’s proposal to remove certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation.

**COST:** A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate is currently unavailable.

**CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:**

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

**DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:**

[H. J. Res 30](#) would disapprove of the President’s proposal to remove certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation and certain oligarchs. According to the [Congressional Research Service](#) (CRS), “on December 19, 2018, the Treasury Department announced that an agreement on eliminating Deripaska’s control of Rusal’s parent company had been reached and, accordingly, notified Congress it intended to terminate sanctions on Rusal and two related companies in 30 days.”

Furthermore, “Congress has authority to review this action and to prevent its implementation, if Congress passes a joint resolution of disapproval by a veto-proof majority within 30 days.”

For additional background: [On April 6, 2018](#), the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), in consultation with the Department of State, designated – for purposes of the imposition of sanctions -- seven Russian oligarchs and 12 companies they own or control, 17 senior Russian government officials, and a state-owned Russian weapons trading company and its subsidiary, as well as a Russian bank. As a consequence of the designation, “all assets subject to U.S. jurisdiction of the designated individuals and entities, and of any other entities blocked by operation of law as a result of their ownership by a sanctioned party, are frozen, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from dealings with them. Additionally, non-U.S. persons could face sanctions for knowingly facilitating significant transactions for or on behalf of the individuals or entities blocked today.”

The three companies mentioned in the resolution under consideration, En+ Group plc UC Rusal plc, and JSC EuroSibEnergo. were included in the designation because they were under the control of [Oleg Deripaska](#).

According to the same press release, those actions were pursuant to authority provided under [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 13661 and E.O. 13662](#), authorities codified by the [Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act](#) (CAATSA), as well as [E.O. 13582](#).

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** H. J. Res. 30 was introduced on January 15, 2019, and was referred to both the House Committee on Foreign Affairs; as well as the House Committee on the Judiciary.

**ADMINISTRATION POSITION:** There is no Stated Administrated Position on this bill at this time. However, the nature of the matter suggests that the President would oppose the bill because it disapproves of an action that the President approved.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:** According to the sponsor of this legislation: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

# Senate Amendment to H.R. 251 – Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program Extension Act (Rep. Thompson, D-MS)

## FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on January 17, 2019 under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for final passage.

## TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[The Senate Amendment to H.R. 251](#) would extend the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security one year and three months as opposed to the two-year extension originally passed by the House.

## COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not available.

## CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** The bill would extend a federal program by one year and three months.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

## DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 251 would extend the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security one year and three months as opposed to the two year extension originally passed by the House.

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program addresses security at high-risk chemical facilities and is [administered](#) by DHS' Infrastructure Compliance Division. The program works with high-risk facilities to be sure they have adequate security in handling hazardous chemicals and in preventing their use in terrorist attacks.

## COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 251 was introduced on January 4, 2019 and was referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security. It passed the House on January 8, 2019 by a [vote](#) of 414-3. The Senate agreed to the amended version by unanimous consent on January 16, 2019.

**ADMINISTRATION POSITION:**

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:**

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article I, Section 8, Clause 1; and Article I Section 8 Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States."

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