



**THE REPUBLICAN
STUDY COMMITTEE**

LIBERTY. OPPORTUNITY. SECURITY.
MARK WALKER, CHAIRMAN

1. [H.R. 479 – North Korea State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation Act of 2017, as amended](#)
2. [H.Res. 92 – Condemning North Korea’s development of multiple intercontinental ballistic missiles, as amended](#)
3. [H.Res. 54 – Reaffirming the US-Argentina Partnership and Recognizing Argentina’s Economic Reforms, as amended](#)



H.R. 479 – North Korea State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation Act of 2017, as amended (Poe, R-TX)

CONTACT: [Brittan Specht](#), 202-226-9143

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on Monday, April 3, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 479](#) would require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a determination as to whether the government of North Korea meets the criteria for designation as a state sponsor of terror.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive 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?** The bill would direct the OIRA Administrator to establish guidelines for federal agencies to comply with the requirements of the bill.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 479 would express the sense of Congress that the government of North Korea likely meets the criteria for designation as a state sponsor of terrorism and would require the Secretary of State to submit a determination as to whether such designation is appropriate within 90 days of enactment.

The North Korean government was designated as a state sponsor of terror from 1988 through 2008. Since 2008, North Korea has been implicated in several assassinations or attempted assassinations,

as well as involvement with, and providing support for, various terrorist organizations. Further, the removal of North Korea's designation in 2008 was, in part, a component of diplomatic efforts to curtail North Korea's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs. North Korea has repeatedly and flagrantly violated its commitments regarding such curtailments, and has not only continued prohibited weapons and missile programs, but has been implicated in the proliferation of such technology to other actors.

States designated as state sponsors of terrorism are subject to financial sanctions, restricted access to U.S. financial systems, import and export restrictions, and reductions in foreign assistance. Iran, Sudan, and Syria are currently designated as state sponsors of terrorism.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 479 was introduced by Representative Poe on January 12, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which held a mark-up on March 29 and reported the measure, as amended, by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*



H.Res. 92 – Condemning North Korea’s development of multiple intercontinental ballistic missiles, as amended (Wilson, R-SC)

CONTACT: [Brittan Specht](#), 202-226-9143

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on Monday, April 3, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.Res. 92](#) would express the sense of the House condemning North Korean development of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), supporting U.S. allies in the region and the development of regional missile defense systems to deter North Korean offensive missiles, and calling on China to end diplomatic and economic intimidation in response to U.S. and South Korean deployments of missile defense systems and to pressure North Korea to cease its provocative behavior.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive 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?** The bill would direct the OIRA Administrator to establish guidelines for federal agencies to comply with the requirements of the bill.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Over the last two years, North Korea has conducted multiple nuclear weapons tests and tests of various ballistic missiles, including tests of increasingly sophisticated and long-range weapons. In response to these tests and other provocative behavior, the U.S. has coordinated with allies in the region, predominantly South Korea and Japan, to strengthen relations and to implement deterrent measures, including through the deployment of U.S. missile defense systems and Theater High-Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) systems. The People’s Republic of China has viewed the deployment

of THAAD in South Korea as a destabilizing move by the U.S., and has responded by placing diplomatic and economic pressure on South Korea and South Korean firms. U.S. defense, intelligence, and diplomatic communities have all expressed increasing levels of concern with North Korean ballistic missile activity and made it clear that North Korea's continued development of offensive missile systems pose a threat to the United States and U.S. interests abroad.

H.Res. 92 would express the sense of the House condemning North Korean development of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), supporting U.S. allies in the region and the development of regional missile defense systems to deter North Korean offensive missiles, and calling on China to end diplomatic and economic intimidation in response to U.S. and South Korean deployments of missile defense systems and to pressure North Korea to cease its provocative behavior.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.Res. 92 was introduced by Representative Wilson on February 6, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, as well as the House Committee on Armed Services. Foreign Affairs held a mark-up on March 29 and reported the measure, as amended, by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority statement is available.

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H.Res. 54 – Reaffirming the US-Argentina Partnership and Recognizing Argentina’s Economic Reforms, as amended (Sires, D-NJ)

CONTACT: [Brittan Specht](#), 202-226-9143

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on Monday, April 3, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.Res. 54](#) would express the sense of the House affirming the U.S. commitment to its partnership with Argentina, encouraging the Department of State to coordinate a strategy to increase bilateral cooperation with Argentina, and commending the government of Argentina for taking positive steps to reform its economy and settle disputes with international investors.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive 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?** The bill would direct the OIRA Administrator to establish guidelines for federal agencies to comply with the requirements of the bill.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

In 2001-2002, Argentina suffered an economic crisis that resulted in a default on its sovereign debt. Thereafter, international creditors sought settlement for claims against Argentina in international and U.S. forums. In 2015, Mauricio Macri was elected president of Argentina, and has since overseen an ambitious reform agenda to reopen the Argentinian economy, remove anti-free market policies, and settle claims resulting from the sovereign default. These reforms have proved successful, allowing for increased growth in Argentina and for its return to international debt markets.

Argentina is designated as a major non-NATO ally of the United States, and is the only Latin American country with such a designation.

H.Res. 54 would express the sense of the House affirming the U.S. commitment to its partnership with Argentina, encouraging the Department of State to coordinate a strategy to increase bilateral cooperation with Argentina, and commending the government of Argentina for taking positive steps to reform its economy and settle disputes with international investors.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.Res. 54 was introduced by Representative Sires on January 23, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which held a mark-up on March 29 and reported the measure, as amended, by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority statement is available.

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