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[H. Res. 233, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders](#)

### FLOOR SITUATION

On Monday, June 15, 2015, the House will consider [H. Res. 233](#), a resolution *expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders*, under suspension of the rules. H. Res. 233 was introduced on April 29, 2015, by Rep. Dan Kildee (D-MI) and was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, which ordered the resolution reported by unanimous consent on June 2, 2015.

### SUMMARY

H. Res. 233 resolves that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should release all detained United States citizens immediately and provide any information it possesses regarding any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders.

### BACKGROUND

Three American citizens have been held captive in Iran, in some cases for multiple years, while another disappeared more than eight years ago.<sup>1</sup> Although Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has stated that his government wants to engage in constructive interaction with the world, his government has not been forthcoming with information regarding American citizens who are missing or being detained. The missing and detained American citizens include:<sup>2</sup>

- Jason Rezaian, a journalist for the *Washington Post*, who has been held for more than 300 days;

<sup>1</sup> See H. Res. 233 at 1.

<sup>2</sup> See Press Release—“[Committee to Convene Hearing on Americans Detained in Iran](#),” June 2, 2015.

- Pastor Saeed Abedini, who was arrested in September 2012 and sentenced to 8 years for gathering with others to study the Bible;
- Amir Hekmati, a former U.S. Marine, was sentenced to death for alleged espionage. Upon appeal, the sentence was reduced to 10 years; and,
- Robert Levinson, who went missing on Iran's Kish Island more than eight years ago.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs held a [hearing](#) on the status of these individuals on June 2, 2015. More information on the hearing can be found [here](#).

### **COST**

Passage of the resolution will not result in any costs to the federal government.

### **STAFF CONTACT**

For questions or further information please contact [Jerry White](#) with the House Republican Policy Committee by email or at 5-0190.