



# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

January 15, 2008

The Honorable John Tierney  
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign  
Affairs  
B-371C Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear John:

On January 18, 2008 the Government Accountability Office is releasing a report entitled "Iran Sanctions: Impact in Furthering U.S. Objectives Is Unclear and Should Be Reviewed." I write to request the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs hold a hearing to bring attention to the findings of this report and determine what actions will be taken by the Administration concerning the report's recommendations. Given the Subcommittee's recent focus on Iran, such a hearing would be especially appropriate.

In the report the GAO recommends "Congress should consider requiring the National Security Council, in collaboration with key agencies, to (1) assess data on Iran sanctions and complete an overall baseline assessment of sanctions, (2) develop a framework for ongoing assessments, and (3) periodically report the results to Congress."

If you agree to hold such a hearing I further recommend witnesses from the Department of State, Treasury, and Commerce testify. This hearing could serve as the necessary first step toward the establishment of an effective assessment process for U.S. sanctions on Iran.

Please contact Dr. R. Nicholas Palarino at 202/225-5074 if you have any questions or to coordinate what I hope will be an important hearing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Shays".

Congressman  
Christopher Shays  
Fourth District Connecticut

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