

DETERRENCE Act

Reps. Ann Wagner, Brad Schneider, Nathaniel Moran, and Jared Moskowitz

Foreign adversaries like Iran have grown increasingly brazen in their attempts to threaten and carry out violence against U.S. citizens, including President Trump.

In November 2024, the Department of Justice charged three individuals with attempting to surveil and assassinate President Trump as well as a U.S. citizen who was critical of the Iranian regime.

According to the criminal complaint: *“the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is actively targeting nationals of the United States and its allies living in countries around the world for attacks, including assault, kidnapping, and murder.”*

Congress must act to protect the American people and deter future attacks.

SUMMARY

Congresswoman Wagner’s bipartisan, bicameral *DETERRENCE Act* would increase criminal sentences for those who commit the following crimes at the direction of, or in coordination with, a foreign government:

- **Murder-For-Hire:** 10-year increase if death or injury results; 5-years for attempt.
- **Murder of Federal Officers and Employees (including the military):** 10-year increase.
- **Kidnapping:** 10-year increase; 5-years for attempt.
- **Stalking:** 2.5-year increase; 5-years if injury results or deadly weapon used; 10-years if death results.
- **Threats of Violence Against Current and Former U.S. Officials and their Families:** 10-year increase for use of dangerous weapon during threat.
- **Violent Crimes Against Current and Former U.S. Officials and their Families:** 10-year increase for murder, assault with injury, or use of a dangerous weapon; 5-years for assault without injury.
- **Violent Crimes Against the President, Vice President, President-Elect, or Vice President-Elect:** 10-year increase.