

# U.S. Rep. Gallagher: Gallagher's third bill passes House

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## *Sanctions Hizballah for Use of Human Shields*

**Washington, D.C.** - Today Rep. Gallagher's third bill this year passed the House. The bipartisan SHIELDS Act (H.R. 3342) imposes sanctions on Hizballah, a State Department-designated foreign terrorist organization, for its use of civilians as human shields. Despite existing sanctions, Hizballah has continued to expand its military capabilities, due in large part to extensive Iranian financial support. The State Department has continually expressed alarm at Hizballah's capabilities and influence, describing the group in 2010 as "the most technically capable terrorist group in the world" and in 2013, noted the increasing tempo of Hizballah's terrorist activities.

After his bill passed the House, Rep. Gallagher released the following statement:

*"Since its creation, Hizballah has been an Iranian proxy dedicated to destroying Israel and combating American interests in the Middle East. From its bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in 1983, to its rocket attacks against Israel, to its expanding influence in Syria today, Hizballah's terrorist activities have served as a direct challenge to the United States and our allies. The SHIELDS Act is a vital and bipartisan bill that advances American interests, punishes those who support and enable Hizballah's barbaric practices, and protects our allies in the region."*

Measures included in the SHIELDS Act are:

- Identifying and sanctioning Hizballah members and those acting on behalf of

Hizballah who are complicit in, or responsible for ordering or directing their use of human shields.

- Identifying and sanctioning foreign persons, agencies, or instrumentalities of foreign states who have provided, attempted to provide, or facilitated provision of material support to such identified individuals.
- Invoking financial penalties, blocking real estate transactions, and leveraging powers ascribed by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.
- Empowering the Secretaries of State and Homeland Security with authority to revoke visas from such identified individuals or declare them ineligible for visas.

Earlier this year, Rep. Gallagher penned an [op-ed in the Wall Street Journal](#) on the need to urgently push back on Hizballah's barbaric practices.