

Iran Nuclear Deal Debate Reaches Fresno

Fresno,
Calif.

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A group of six nations led by the United States have reached an agreement with Iran that President Obama says isn't based on trust, but verification.



The agreement would lift international oil and financial sanctions from Iran and curb Iran's nuclear capabilities. Congress has 60 days to weigh-in on the agreement and would need a two-thirds vote to overturn the president's decision.

The President's nuclear agreement with Iran is being highly scrutinized by many lawmakers in Washington and will be a topic of debate for future presidential candidates.

In Fresno at least one man with ties to Iran says the President's effort during these negotiations is meaningful.

"Iranian people want to assimilate and want to be back in the country of nations and participate in democracy and have greater relationships with the United States and the west," said Darius Assemi.

Assemi is a successful Fresno businessman who came to the United States from Iran during the 1970s. He says an agreement to lift sanctions on Iran, while limiting the country's nuclear power is encouraging because he sees the President emphasizing diplomacy rather than military force.

"If you can appeal to the moderates in Iran and empower them to help maintain and honor this agreement and help develop and expand the economic opportunities for the Iranian people. Then the Iranian people can become the guardians of this agreement and make sure it stays safe and secure," said Assemi.

California Congressman Devin Nunes isn't convinced.

"It's just a bad deal. It encourages Iranians essentially to get nuclear weapons and from the intelligence committee that I sit on and the intelligence that I see this is one of the worst regimes we have on the entire planet," said Nunes.

Fresno political analyst Don Larson says President Obama made history with this nuclear agreement, but it will take time to figure out if it was the right call.

"We want some kind of settlement in the middle east. Is this the right thing? I don't know. Is it wrong? I don't know, but we have to start somewhere," said Larson.

President Obama describes this agreement as a comprehensive long-term deal with Iran that will prevent it from obtaining a nuclear weapon. The President will address media members tomorrow to answer questions about the deal.

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