Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should immediately remove all members of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan and pursue alternative strategies, which do not require large deployments of ground combat forces of the Armed Forces, in order to create a stable Afghanistan that is not a base for international terrorism.

Whereas members of the United States Armed Forces have fought bravely and honorably for more than 11 years in Afghanistan;

Whereas more than 2,000 members of the United States Armed Forces have died in Afghanistan since 2001, more
than 18,400 members have been wounded, and thousands of members remain in harm’s way;

Whereas it is estimated that the United States has spent more than $640 billion on aid and military operations in Afghanistan since 2001;

Whereas the United States has brought Osama Bin Laden to justice, which was the original justification for removing the Taliban from power in Afghanistan;

Whereas, despite the tremendous effort of the United States Armed Forces to create a stable and secure Afghanistan, long-standing political and ethnic divisions in Afghanistan that pre-date the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks remain unresolved;

Whereas the resource demands required to maintain large scale United States military operations in Afghanistan have become a strategic vulnerability; and

Whereas continuation of the current United States strategy for Afghanistan offers no realistic prospects to create a stable and secure Afghanistan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should—

(1) immediately remove all members of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan; and

(2) pursue alternative strategies, which do not require large deployments of ground combat forces of the Armed Forces in Afghanistan, in order to cre-
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2. ...ate a stable Afghanistan that is not a base for international terrorism.