

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 83

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 2020

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran.

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. TERMINATION OF USE OF UNITED STATES**
4 **ARMED FORCES TO ENGAGE IN HOSTILITIES**
5 **IN OR AGAINST IRAN.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
7 ings:

1 (1) The Government of Iran is a leading state
2 sponsor of terrorism and engages in a range of de-
3 stabilizing activities across the Middle East. Iranian
4 General Qassem Soleimani was the lead architect of
5 much of Iran’s destabilizing activities throughout the
6 world.

7 (2) The United States has an inherent right to
8 self-defense against imminent armed attacks. The
9 United States maintains the right to ensure the
10 safety of diplomatic personnel serving abroad.

11 (3) In matters of imminent armed attacks, the
12 executive branch should indicate to Congress why
13 military action was necessary within a certain win-
14 dow of opportunity, the possible harm that missing
15 the window would cause, and why the action was
16 likely to prevent future disastrous attacks against
17 the United States.

18 (4) The United States has national interests in
19 preserving its partnership with Iraq and other coun-
20 tries in the region, including by—

21 (A) combating terrorists, including the Is-
22 lamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS);

23 (B) preventing Iran from achieving a nu-
24 clear weapons capability; and

1 (C) supporting the people of Iraq, Iran,
2 and other countries throughout the Middle East
3 who demand an end to government corruption
4 and violations of basic human rights.

5 (5) Over the past eight months, in response to
6 rising tensions with Iran, the United States has in-
7 troduced over 15,000 additional forces into the Mid-
8 dle East.

9 (6) When the United States uses military force,
10 the American people and members of the United
11 States Armed Forces deserve a credible explanation
12 regarding such use of military force.

13 (7) The War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C.
14 1541 et seq.) requires the President to consult with
15 Congress “in every possible instance” before intro-
16 ducing United States Armed Forces into hostilities.

17 (8) Congress has not authorized the President
18 to use military force against Iran.

19 (b) TERMINATION.—Pursuant to section 5(c) of the
20 War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)), Congress
21 hereby directs the President to terminate the use of
22 United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or
23 against Iran or any part of its government or military,
24 unless—

1 (1) Congress has declared war or enacted spe-
2 cific statutory authorization for such use of the
3 Armed Forces; or

4 (2) such use of the Armed Forces is necessary
5 and appropriate to defend against an imminent
6 armed attack upon the United States, its territories
7 or possessions, or its Armed Forces, consistent with
8 the requirements of the War Powers Resolution.

9 (c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
10 tion may be construed—

11 (1) to prevent the President from using military
12 force against al Qaeda or associated forces;

13 (2) to limit the obligations of the executive
14 branch set forth in the War Powers Resolution (50
15 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.);

16 (3) to affect the provisions of an Act or joint
17 resolution of Congress specifically authorizing the
18 use of United States Armed Forces to engage in
19 hostilities against Iran or any part of its government
20 or military that is enacted after the date of the
21 adoption of this concurrent resolution;

22 (4) to prevent the use of necessary and appro-
23 priate military force to defend United States allies
24 and partners if authorized by Congress consistent

1 with the requirements of the War Powers Resolu-
2 tion; or

3 (5) to authorize the use of military force.

Passed the House of Representatives January 9,
2020.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.