

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 163

Urging the collective judgment of both Congress and the President regarding
the use of military force by the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2007

Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. OLVER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. FATTAH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Urging the collective judgment of both Congress and the
President regarding the use of military force by the
United States.

Whereas the United States has the best trained, most effective military in the world;

Whereas the United States military consists of an all volunteer force of dedicated, patriotic men and women;

Whereas the men and women of the Armed Forces are a reflection of the best values and spirit of our Nation;

Whereas Congress has a responsibility to ensure that the members of the Armed Forces are provided for to the fullest extent possible;

Whereas Congress has a responsibility to make certain that the lives of the members of the Armed Forces are never put at risk without careful consideration;

Whereas, under the Constitution of the United States, Congress has the power to declare war;

Whereas the use of military force by the United States must not proceed without careful preparation;

Whereas Congress enacted legislation permitting the President of the United States to use military force against Afghanistan (Public Law 107–40) and against Iraq (Public Law 107–243) only after 17 hours of debate; and

Whereas the use of military force by the United States must not be undertaken without a full debate over whether it is in the best interests of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) it is the sense of the House of Representa-
3 tives that the Constitution of the United States pro-
4 vides that the President, in an emergency, may act
5 to defend the country, but reserved the matter of of-
6 fensive war to Congress as the representatives of the
7 people; and

8 (2) the House of Representatives affirms the
9 requirement under the Constitution that the Presi-
10 dent seek and obtain the approval of Congress be-
11 fore the United States undertakes offensive military
12 action against any other nation.

