

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 65

To recognize the extraordinary performance of the Armed Forces in achieving the military objectives of the United States in Iraq, to encourage the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe a national day of celebration commemorating military success in Iraq, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To recognize the extraordinary performance of the Armed Forces in achieving the military objectives of the United States in Iraq, to encourage the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe a national day of celebration commemorating military success in Iraq, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Military Success in
3 Iraq Commemoration Act of 2009”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The invasion of Iraq by the United States
7 Armed Forces was one of the best executed military
8 operations in the history of modern warfare.

9 (2) The Armed Forces successfully toppled the
10 regime of Saddam Hussein and captured the key cit-
11 ies of a large nation in only 21 days.

12 (3) The Armed Forces in Iraq performed mag-
13 nificently in capturing or killing key enemies of the
14 United States, including key operatives of al Qaida;
15 Tariq Aziz, the former deputy prime-minister of
16 Iraq; Uday Hussein and Qusay Hussein, the sons of
17 Saddam Hussein and two of the regime’s most ac-
18 complished practitioners of cruelty, barbarism, and
19 terror; Ali Hassan al-Majid, better known as “Chem-
20 ical Ali”; and the dictator of Baghdad himself, Sad-
21 dam Hussein.

22 (4) Because of the skill and dedication of the
23 members of the Armed Forces, the entire world has
24 now been assured that Iraq does not possess weap-
25 ons of mass destruction that could threaten the

1 United States or any member nation of the inter-
2 national community.

3 (5) The success of the military operations con-
4 ducted by the Armed Forces in Iraq and the depos-
5 ing of Saddam Hussein removed a significant threat
6 to the security of United States allies in the Middle
7 East region.

8 (6) The Armed Forces performed magnificently
9 in conducting military operations designed to ensure
10 that the people of Iraq enjoy the benefits of a demo-
11 cratically-elected government governing a country
12 that is capable of sustaining itself economically and
13 politically and defending itself militarily.

14 (7) Since March 2003, the Armed Forces have
15 trained more 160,000 Iraqi security personnel.

16 (8) In June 2004, the Armed Forces facilitated
17 the transfer of sovereignty from the Coalition Provi-
18 sional Authority to the interim Government of Iraq,
19 which governed Iraq until December 2005 when na-
20 tional elections were held in which more than 8 mil-
21 lion Iraqi men and women voted in elections that
22 were free and fair.

23 (9) In October 2005, Saddam Hussein was cap-
24 tured by the Armed Forces and turned over to the

1 Government of Iraq to stand trial on charges of
2 crimes against humanity.

3 **SEC. 3. DECLARATIONS OF POLICY CONCERNING ACHIEVE-**
4 **MENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE AUTHOR-**
5 **IZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE**
6 **AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2002.**

7 Congress makes the following declarations of policy:

8 (1) The Authorization for Use of Military Force
9 Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–
10 243; approved on October 16, 2002) is the basis of
11 authority pursuant to which the President launched
12 the invasion of Iraq in March 2003.

13 (2) Public Law 107–243 authorized the Presi-
14 dent to use military force against Iraq to achieve the
15 following two objectives:

16 (A) To defend the national security of the
17 United States—

18 (i) by disarming Iraq of any weapons
19 of mass destruction that could threaten the
20 security of the United States and inter-
21 national peace in the Persian Gulf region;

22 (ii) by ensuring that the regime of
23 Saddam Hussein would not provide weap-
24 ons of mass destruction to international
25 terrorists, including al Qaida;

1 (iii) by changing the Iraqi regime so
2 that Saddam Hussein and his Baathist re-
3 gime no longer pose a threat to the people
4 of Iraq or Iraq's neighbors; and

5 (iv) by bringing to justice any mem-
6 bers of al Qaida bearing responsibility for
7 the attacks on the United States, its citi-
8 zens, and interests, including the attacks
9 that occurred on September 11, 2001,
10 known or found to be in Iraq.

11 (B) To enforce all relevant United Nations
12 Security Council resolutions regarding Iraq.

13 (3) The objectives of Public Law 107-243 de-
14 scribed in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph
15 (2) have in fact been achieved.

16 **SEC. 4. PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL DAY OF CELEBRA-**
17 **TION COMMEMORATING MILITARY SUCCESS**
18 **IN IRAQ.**

19 Congress encourages the President to issue a procla-
20 mation calling upon the people of the United States to
21 observe a national day of celebration commemorating mili-
22 tary success in Iraq.

1 **SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES COM-**
2 **MEMORATING MILITARY SUCCESS IN IRAQ.**

3 (a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Defense may award
4 grants to State and local governments for the following
5 purposes:

6 (1) To conduct suitable activities commemo-
7 rating military success in Iraq.

8 (2) To create appropriate memorials honoring
9 those who lost their lives securing military success in
10 Iraq.

11 (b) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be ap-
12 propriated to the Secretary of Defense such funds as may
13 be necessary to carry out this section.

14 **SEC. 6. GRANTS FOR VETERANS OF OPERATION IRAQI**
15 **FREEDOM.**

16 (a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
17 shall award to each veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom
18 a grant in the amount of \$5,000. The purpose of the grant
19 is to facilitate the veteran's transition to civilian life.

20 (b) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be ap-
21 propriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs such funds
22 as may be necessary to carry out this section.

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