

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 41

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 2016

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress on the Peshmerga of the
Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the Peshmerga of the Kurdistan Region of
4 Iraq have been one of the most effective fighting
5 forces in the military campaign against the Islamic
6 State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS);

7 (2) the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham poses
8 an acute threat to the Iraqi people and territorial in-
9 tegrity of Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region of
10 Iraq, and the security and stability of the Middle
11 East;

12 (3) the severe budget shortfalls faced by both
13 the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional

1 Government are hindering the stability of Iraq and
2 have the potential to undermine long-term efforts to
3 bring about the sustainable defeat of the Islamic
4 State of Iraq and al-Sham;

5 (4) the \$415,000,000 pledged by the United
6 States Government to the Kurdish Peshmerga in
7 April of 2016, in coordination with the Government
8 of Iraq, in addition to the \$65,000,000 already pro-
9 vided from the Iraq Train and Equip Fund, should
10 remain a priority for the United States as part of
11 the continued support for Iraqi Security Forces, in-
12 cluding the Peshmerga, in the fight against the Is-
13 lamic State of Iraq and al-Sham;

14 (5) the Peshmerga should receive all weapons
15 and equipment that the United States, by, with, and
16 through the Government of Iraq, agrees to provide
17 in an expeditious and in a timely manner;

18 (6) it should be the policy of the United States
19 to support, within the framework of the Iraq Con-
20 stitution, Iraqi Security Forces, the Kurdish
21 Peshmerga in Iraq, Sunni tribal forces, and other
22 local security forces, including threatened ethnic and
23 religious minority groups, in the campaign against
24 the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham;

1 (7) ensuring the safe resettlement and re-
2 integration of ethnic and religious minorities, includ-
3 ing Christians (among them Assyrian, Chaldean,
4 Syriac, Armenian, Evangelical, Antiochian and
5 Greek Orthodox, Maronite, Melkite, and Roman
6 Catholic communities), Yezidis, Turkmen, Shi'a,
7 Shabak, Sabaeen-Mandaeans, and Kaka'i, among oth-
8 ers, including victims of genocide, into their home-
9 lands in Iraq, including the Ninevah Plain, is a crit-
10 ical component toward achieving a safe, secure, and
11 sovereign Iraq;

12 (8) the Peshmerga require equipment that will
13 allow them to defend themselves and their coalition
14 advisers against the increased use of vehicle-borne
15 improvised explosive devices by the Islamic State of
16 Iraq and al-Sham;

17 (9) the Peshmerga are vital partners in the
18 fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham;
19 and

20 (10) in coordination with the Government of
21 Iraq, the United States will endeavor to increase as-
22 sistance to Iraqi Kurdish Forces to enhance their
23 combat medicine and logistical capabilities, to defend

- 1 internally displaced persons and refugees, and to de-
- 2 fend the Peshmerga and their coalition advisers.

Passed the Senate July 14, 2016.

Attest: JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary.