

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2829

To clarify that Congress has not provided authorization for the use of military force against Iran.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan (for himself and Mr. MASSIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To clarify that Congress has not provided authorization for the use of military force against Iran.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “AUMF Clarification
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The 2001 Authorization for Use of Military
9 Force (Public Law 107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note)
10 authorizes the President to use “necessary and ap-

1 appropriate force against those nations, organizations,
2 or persons he determines planned, authorized, com-
3 mitted, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred
4 on September 11, 2001, or harbored such organiza-
5 tions or persons”.

6 (2) Iran and Al Qaeda historically have been
7 adversaries. A 2018 analysis of declassified docu-
8 ments obtained during the 2011 raid on Osama bin
9 Laden’s compound found that “[Al Qaeda] views
10 Iran as a hostile entity” and “examined documents
11 provide no evidence of cooperation between [Al
12 Qaeda] and Iran on planning or carrying out ter-
13 rorist attacks”.

14 (3) The Authorization for Use of Military Force
15 Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–
16 243; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) authorizes the President
17 “to use the Armed Forces of the United States as
18 he determines to be necessary and appropriate in
19 order to (1) defend the national security of the
20 United States against the continuing threat posed by
21 Iraq; and (2) enforce all relevant United Nations Se-
22 curity Council resolutions regarding Iraq”.

23 (4) On May 5, 2019, National Security Advisor
24 Ambassador John Bolton announced the deployment
25 of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group

1 and a bomber task force to the United States Cen-
2 tral Command region as a response “to a number of
3 troubling and escalatory indications and warnings”
4 from Iran and “to send a clear and unmistakable
5 message to the Iranian regime that any attack on
6 United States interests or on those of our allies will
7 be met with unrelenting force”.

8 (5) Congress has not authorized the use of mili-
9 tary force against Iran.

10 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

11 It is the sense of Congress that Congress has not au-
12 thorized the use of military force against Iran under the
13 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Res-
14 olution of 2002 (Public Law 107–243; 50 U.S.C. 1541
15 note), the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public
16 Law 107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), or any other provision
17 of law enacted before the date of the enactment of this
18 Act.

19 **SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION.**

20 Nothing in the Authorization for Use of Military
21 Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–
22 243; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), the Authorization for Use of
23 Military Force (Public Law 107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541
24 note), or any other provision of law enacted before the
25 date of the enactment of this Act may be construed to

- 1 provide authorization for the use of military force against
- 2 Iran.

