

116TH CONGRESS
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S. CON. RES. 33

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9, 2020

Mr. UDALL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was 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 Senate (the House of Representatives*
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:

8 (1) The Government of Iran is a leading state
9 sponsor of terrorism and engages in a range of de-

1 stabilizing activities across the Middle East. Iranian
2 General Qassem Soleimani was the lead architect of
3 much of Iran’s destabilizing activities throughout the
4 world.

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

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

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

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

21 (B) preventing Iran from achieving a nu-
22 clear weapons capability; and

23 (C) supporting the people of Iraq, Iran,
24 and other countries throughout the Middle East

1 who demand an end to government corruption
2 and violations of basic human rights.

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

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

11 (7) The War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C.
12 1541 et seq.) requires the President to consult with
13 Congress “in every possible instance” before intro-
14 ducing United States Armed Forces into hostilities.

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

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

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

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

6 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
7 tion may be construed—

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

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

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

19 (4) to prevent the use of necessary and appro-
20 priate military force to defend United States allies
21 and partners if authorized by Congress consistent
22 with the requirements of the War Powers Resolu-
23 tion; or

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

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