

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 83

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.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2020

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. BERA, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CLAY, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COX of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SIRES, Ms. WILD, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. KEATING, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. CROW, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SOTO, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. COOPER, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. WELCH, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. McEACHIN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. RYAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. KIND, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CASE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. CORREA, Mr. NEAL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. FRANKEL, Ms. MENG, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. STANTON, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. DEFazio, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr.

POCAN, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. LOWEY, and Ms. JAYAPAL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## 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 House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 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-  
 10      stabilizing activities across the Middle East. Iranian  
 11      General Qassem Soleimani was the lead architect of  
 12      much of Iran’s destabilizing activities throughout the  
 13      world.

14           (2) The United States has an inherent right to  
 15      self-defense against imminent armed attacks. The  
 16      United States maintains the right to ensure the  
 17      safety of diplomatic personnel serving abroad.

1           (3) In matters of imminent armed attacks, the  
2           executive branch should indicate to Congress why  
3           military action was necessary within a certain win-  
4           dow of opportunity, the possible harm that missing  
5           the window would cause, and why the action was  
6           likely to prevent future disastrous attacks against  
7           the United States.

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

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

13                (B) preventing Iran from achieving a nu-  
14                clear weapons capability; and

15                (C) supporting the people of Iraq, Iran,  
16                and other countries throughout the Middle East  
17                who demand an end to government corruption  
18                and violations of basic human rights.

19          (5) Over the past eight months, in response to  
20          rising tensions with Iran, the United States has in-  
21          troduced over 15,000 additional forces into the Mid-  
22          dle East. The killing of Iranian General Qassem  
23          Soleimani, as well as Iran’s ballistic missile attack  
24          on Iraqi bases, risks significant escalation in hos-  
25          tilities between the United States and Iran.

1           (6) When the United States uses military force,  
2           the American people and members of the United  
3           States Armed Forces deserve a credible explanation  
4           regarding such use of military force.

5           (7) The War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C.  
6           1541 et seq.) requires the President to consult with  
7           Congress “in every possible instance” before intro-  
8           ducing United States Armed Forces into hostilities.

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

11          (b) TERMINATION.—Pursuant to section 5(c) of the  
12 War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)), Congress  
13 hereby directs the President to terminate the use of  
14 United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or  
15 against Iran or any part of its government or military,  
16 unless—

17           (1) Congress has declared war or enacted spe-  
18           cific statutory authorization for such use of the  
19           Armed Forces; or

20           (2) such use of the Armed Forces is necessary  
21           and appropriate to defend against an imminent  
22           armed attack upon the United States, its territories  
23           or possessions, or its Armed Forces, consistent with  
24           the requirements of the War Powers Resolution.

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

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

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

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

14 (4) to prevent the use of necessary and appro-  
 15 priate military force to defend United States allies  
 16 and partners if authorized by Congress consistent  
 17 with the requirements of the War Powers Resolu-  
 18 tion; or

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

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