

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 51

To direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities that have not been authorized by Congress.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

Ms. OMAR (for herself, Mr. CASAR, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities that have not been authorized by Congress.

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) Congress has the sole power to declare war
6 under article I, section 8, clause 11 of the United
7 States Constitution.

8 (2) Section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution
9 (50 U.S.C. 1541(c)) states that “the constitutional
10 powers of the President as Commander-in-Chief to

1 introduce United States Armed Forces into hos-
2 tilities, or into situations where imminent involve-
3 ment in hostilities is clearly indicated by the cir-
4 cumstances, are exercised only pursuant to (1) a
5 declaration of war, (2) specific statutory authoriza-
6 tion, or (3) a national emergency created by attack
7 upon the United States, its territories or posses-
8 sions, or its armed forces.”.

9 (3) Congress has not declared war upon, nor
10 enacted a specific statutory authorization for use of
11 military force against, the Bolivarian Republic of
12 Venezuela, nor any transnational criminal organiza-
13 tions designated as Foreign Terrorist Organizations
14 or Specially Designated Global Terrorists since Feb-
15 ruary 20, 2025.

16 (4) The designation of a group, entity, or indi-
17 vidual as a Foreign Terrorist Organization or Spe-
18 cially Designated Global Terrorist provides no legal
19 authority for the President to direct the use of mili-
20 tary force against members of designated organiza-
21 tions or any foreign state.

22 (5) Neither the 2001 Authorization for Use of
23 Military Force (Public Law 107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541
24 note) against the perpetrators of the 9/11 attack nor
25 the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against

1 Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–243; 50
2 U.S.C. 1541 note) provides any statutory authority
3 for the President to direct the use of military force
4 against Venezuela or any transnational criminal or-
5 ganizations designated as Foreign Terrorist Organi-
6 zations or Specially Designated Global Terrorists
7 since February 20, 2025.

8 (6) Regarding Venezuelan jets flying near U.S.
9 warships dispatched to the South Caribbean Sea,
10 President Trump on September 5, 2025, stated that
11 such planes were “going to be in trouble,” and if a
12 flyover reoccurs, he told a U.S. general, “You have
13 a choice of doing anything you want,” including,
14 should such planes “put us in a dangerous situation,
15 they will be shot down,” indicating the introduction
16 of U.S. forces into imminent hostilities.

17 (7) No armed attack on the United States by
18 Venezuela or any transnational criminal organiza-
19 tions designated as Foreign Terrorist Organizations
20 or Special Designated Global Terrorist since Feb-
21 ruary 20th, 2025 has occurred, the trafficking of il-
22 legal drugs does not itself constitute such an armed
23 attack or threat of an imminent armed attack.

24 (8) The strike on the vessel in the Southern
25 Caribbean on September 2, 2025, the subsequent

1 strikes in September 2025, and the positioning of
2 U.S. warships and aircraft in the Caribbean and
3 President Trump’s statements on the use of force
4 without prior statutory authorization, fall within the
5 meaning of section 4(a)(1) of the War Powers Reso-
6 lution (50 U.S.C. 1543(a)(1)), constituting either
7 hostilities or a situation where imminent involvement
8 in hostilities is clearly indicated by the cir-
9 cumstances into which United States Armed Forces
10 have been introduced.

11 (9) Section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution
12 (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)) states that “at any time that
13 United States Armed Forces are engaged in hos-
14 tilities outside the territory of the United States, its
15 possessions and territories without a declaration of
16 war or specific statutory authorization, such forces
17 shall be removed by the President if the Congress so
18 directs.”.

19 (10) In its report to Congress on the strike
20 dated September 4, 2025, pursuant to section 4(a)
21 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1543(a)),
22 President Trump stated, “It is not possible at this
23 time to know the full scope and duration of military
24 operations that will be necessary. United States

1 forces remain postured to carry out further military
2 operations.”.

3 (11) The question of whether United States
4 forces should be engaged in hostilities against Ven-
5 zuela or any transnational criminal organizations
6 designated as Foreign Terrorist Organizations or
7 Specially Designated Global Terrorists since Feb-
8 ruary 20, 2025, should be answered following a full
9 briefing to Congress and the American public of the
10 issues at stake, a public debate in Congress, and a
11 congressional vote as contemplated by the Constitu-
12 tion.

13 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF THE USE OF UNITED STATES**
14 **FORCES FOR HOSTILITIES.**

15 (a) **TERMINATION.**—Pursuant to section 5(c) of the
16 War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)), Congress
17 hereby directs the President to terminate the use of
18 United States Armed Forces for hostilities against the fol-
19 lowing:

20 (1) The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela or
21 any part of its government or military.

22 (2) Any transnational criminal organizations
23 designated as Foreign Terrorist Organizations or
24 Specially Designated Global Terrorists since Feb-
25 ruary 20, 2025.

1 Unless explicitly authorized by a declaration of war or spe-
2 cific authorization for use of military force after the date
3 of the adoption of this concurrent resolution.

4 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
5 tion shall be construed to prevent the United States from
6 repelling sudden attacks or engaging in self-defense con-
7 sistent with the legal requirements outlined in section 2(c)
8 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541(c)). The
9 trafficking of illegal drugs does not itself constitute such
10 an armed attack or threat of an imminent armed attack
11 under section 2(c)(3) of the War Powers Resolution (50
12 U.S.C. 1541(c)(3)).

○