

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 118

To direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 2026

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. MURPHY) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JOINT RESOLUTION

To direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

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) The President has a constitutional responsi-
9 bility to take actions to defend the United States

1 and its territories, possessions, citizens, service
2 members, and diplomats from attack.

3 (3) Congress has not declared war upon Iran or
4 any person or organization within Iran, nor enacted
5 a specific statutory authorization for the use of mili-
6 tary force within or against Iran.

7 (4) The purpose of the War Powers Resolution,
8 as stated in section 2(a) of such resolution (50
9 U.S.C. 1541(a)), is to “insure that the collective
10 judgment of both the Congress and the President
11 will apply to the introduction of United States
12 Armed Forces into hostilities.”.

13 (5) Section 3 of the War Powers Resolution (50
14 U.S.C. 1542) states, “The President in every pos-
15 sible instance shall consult with Congress before in-
16 troducing United States Armed Forces into hos-
17 tilities or into situations where imminent involve-
18 ment in hostilities is clearly indicated by the cir-
19 cumstances.”.

20 (6) During January and February 2026, the
21 United States carried out the largest military build-
22 up in the Middle East since the United States in-
23 vaded Iraq in 2003.

24 (7) On February 28, 2026, President Trump
25 ordered the United States Armed Forces to conduct

1 air strikes inside Iran’s territory, declaring that the
 2 strikes would be “massive and ongoing” and describ-
 3 ing the circumstances as “war,” without congres-
 4 sional authorization or consultation.

5 (8) This use of military force within or against
 6 Iran constitutes the introduction of United States
 7 Armed Forces into hostilities within the meaning of
 8 section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution (50
 9 U.S.C. 1543(a)).

10 (9) Section 1013 of the Department of State
 11 Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50
 12 U.S.C. 1546a) provides that any joint resolution or
 13 bill requiring the removal of United States Armed
 14 Forces from imminent engagement in hostilities
 15 without a declaration of war or specific statutory au-
 16 thorization shall be considered in accordance with
 17 the expedited procedures under section 601(b) of the
 18 International Security and Arms Export Control Act
 19 of 1976 (Public Law 94–329).

20 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**
 21 **FROM HOSTILITIES WITHIN OR AGAINST**
 22 **IRAN.**

23 (a) REMOVAL.—Pursuant to section 1013 of the De-
 24 partment of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984
 25 and 1985 (50 U.S.C. 1546a), and in accordance with sec-

tion 601(b) of the International Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–329), Congress hereby directs the President to remove the United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Iran, unless explicitly authorized by a declaration of war or a specific authorization for use of military force.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent the United States from—

(1) defending against an attack on the United States or its personnel or facilities in other nations;

(2) collecting, analyzing, or sharing intelligence, including with the State of Israel and partner countries who have been attacked by Iran since February 28, 2026, and other nations and international organizations as appropriate, related to threats from Iran or its proxies; or

(3) assisting the State of Israel and partner countries who have been attacked by Iran since February 28, 2026, and other nations—

(A) in directly defending against retaliatory attacks upon their territories by Iran or its proxies; or

- 1 (B) by providing defensive materiel sup-
- 2 port for such defensive measures.

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