

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 172

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

APRIL 13, 2026

Mr. WARNOCK 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) Congress has not declared war upon Iran or
9 any person or organization within Iran, nor enacted

1 a specific statutory authorization for the use of mili-
2 tary force within or against Iran.

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

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

16 (5) On February 28, 2026, the United States
17 launched Operation Epic Fury, introducing the
18 United States Armed Forces into hostilities as part
19 of a military campaign against the Government of
20 Iran.

21 (6) As of April 8, 2026, 13 members of the
22 United States Armed Forces have been killed and at
23 least 380 have been wounded, and President Donald
24 J. Trump has suggested there will likely be addi-
25 tional American lives lost.

1 (7) Following the initiation of combat oper-
2 ations on February 28, 2026, the Islamic Revolu-
3 tionary Guard Corps (IRGC) effectively closed the
4 Strait of Hormuz to all vessels, resulting in a pre-
5 cipitous drop in maritime traffic and worldwide eco-
6 nomic disruption.

7 (8) On March 24, 2026, the Department of De-
8 fense ordered additional United States military
9 forces to the region in preparation of a further esca-
10 lation of the military operations consistent with the
11 President’s statements acknowledging the possibility
12 of using ground forces against Iran.

13 (9) A ceasefire between the United States and
14 the Government of Iran took effect on April 8, 2026.
15 Following an initial round of negotiations, the
16 United States announced a blockade of the Strait of
17 Hormuz to be implemented by the United States
18 Armed Forces.

19 (10) The use of military force within or against
20 Iran constitutes the introduction of United States
21 Armed Forces into hostilities within the meaning of
22 section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution (50
23 U.S.C. 1543(a)).

24 (11) Section 1013 of the Department of State
25 Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50

1 U.S.C. 1546a) provides that any joint resolution or
2 bill requiring the removal of United States Armed
3 Forces from imminent engagement in hostilities
4 without a declaration of war or specific statutory au-
5 thorization shall be considered in accordance with
6 the expedited procedures under section 601(b) of the
7 International Security and Arms Export Control Act
8 of 1976 (Public Law 94–329).

9 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**
10 **FROM HOSTILITIES WITHIN OR AGAINST THE**
11 **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN.**

12 Pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State
13 Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50
14 U.S.C. 1546a), and in accordance with section 601(b) of
15 the International Security Assistance and Arms Export
16 Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–329), Congress here-
17 by directs the President to remove the United States
18 Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Iran, un-
19 less explicitly authorized by a declaration of war or a spe-
20 cific authorization for use of military force.

21 **SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

22 Nothing in this resolution may be construed to pre-
23 vent the United States from—

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

1 (2) collecting, analyzing, or sharing intelligence,
2 including United States partners and allies such as
3 the State of Israel, and international organizations
4 as appropriate, related to threats from Iran or its
5 proxies;

6 (3) assisting partner countries who have been
7 attacked by Iran since February 28, 2026, and other
8 nations—

9 (A) in taking defensive measures to protect
10 their territory from retaliatory attacks by Iran
11 or its proxies; or

12 (B) by providing defensive materiel sup-
13 port for such defensive measures; or

14 (4) providing assistance for the security, depar-
15 ture, and evacuation to United States citizens af-
16 fected by the hostilities.

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