

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. J. RES. 43

To authorize the use of force against the organization called the Islamic State in order to defend the American people and assist the Iraqi Government in expelling the Islamic State from their territory.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

Mr. INHOFE introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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# JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the use of force against the organization called the Islamic State in order to defend the American people and assist the Iraqi Government in expelling the Islamic State from their territory.

Whereas the organization called the Islamic State or “IS”, formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, has murdered United States citizens;

Whereas IS has threatened to kill United States citizens and the current leader of IS has stated that “[t]he war with you has just begun”;

Whereas the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of United Kingdom have jointly confirmed the threat posed by IS fighters returning to allied nations and American shores by stating that “[w]hether it is re-

gional aggression going unchecked or the prospect that foreign fighters could return from Iraq and Syria to pose a threat in our countries, the problems we face today threaten the security of the British and American people, and the wider world”;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel has stated IS is “as sophisticated and well-funded as any group that we have seen. . . .” and “. . . an imminent threat to every interest we have, whether it’s in Iraq or anywhere else. . . .”;

Whereas acts, such as the murder of United States citizens, and threats of other terrorist acts render it both necessary and appropriate that the United States exercise its rights to self-defense and to protect United States citizens both home and abroad;

Whereas acts, such as the murder of United States citizens, and threats of other terrorist acts continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution (“UNSCR”) 2169 notes the Islamic State’s advancement is a major threat to Iraq’s future, condemns the attacks by the Islamic State, reiterates the international community support for Iraq’s security and territorial integrity, and emphasizes “the need to continue efforts to promote international and regional cooperation aimed at supporting Iraq to prevent terrorist groups . . . in particular ISIL [IS], from using the territories of Iraq and neighboring States to carry out violence or other illicit acts to destabilize Iraq and the region . . . .”;

Whereas UNSCR 2169 further notes IS’s actions have resulted in “heavy human casualties including children, the displacement of more than one million Iraqi civilians and the threats against all religious and ethnic groups . . .”; and

Whereas the Iraqi Government has requested the assistance of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This joint resolution may be cited as the “Authoriza-  
5 tion for Use of Force Against the Organization Called the  
6 Islamic State”.

7 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF UNITED STATES**  
8 **ARMED FORCES.**

9        (a) IN GENERAL.—That the President is authorized  
10 to use to use all necessary and appropriate force in order  
11 to defend the national security of the United States  
12 against the threat posed by the organization called the Is-  
13 lamic State (or “IS”), formally known as the Islamic State  
14 of Iraq and the Levant, as well as any successor organiza-  
15 tion.

16        (b) WAR POWERS RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS.—

17            (1) SPECIFIC STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.—

18        Consistent with section 8(a)(1) of the War Powers  
19        Resolution, the Congress declares that this section is  
20        intended to constitute specific statutory authoriza-

1           tion within the meaning of section 5(b) of the War  
2           Powers Resolution.

3                   (2)   APPLICABILITY   OF   OTHER   REQUIRE-  
4           MENTS.—Nothing in this joint resolution supercedes  
5           any requirement of the War Powers Resolution.

6   **SEC. 3. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

7           (a)   STRATEGY.—Not later than 15 days after the  
8           date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the Presi-  
9           dent shall submit to Congress a written report setting  
10          forth a comprehensive strategy of the United States to de-  
11          feat the organization called the Islamic State, as well as  
12          any successor organization, by using all appropriate mili-  
13          tary, economic, and political capabilities of the United  
14          States.

15          (b)   IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGY.—Not later  
16          than 90 days after the submittal of the report required  
17          by subsection (a) and every 90 days thereafter, the Presi-  
18          dent shall submit to Congress a written report setting  
19          forth a current comprehensive description and assessment  
20          of the implementation of the strategy set forth in the re-  
21          port required by subsection (a). If the President makes  
22          a substantive change to the comprehensive strategy, the  
23          President will immediately submit a written report to Con-  
24          gress which articulates the change, the reason for the

- 1 change and the change's effect on the rest of the com-
- 2 prehensive strategy.

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