

# S. CON. RES. 41

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3            (1) the Peshmerga of the Kurdistan Region of  
4        Iraq have been one of the most effective fighting  
5        forces in the military campaign against the Islamic  
6        State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS);

7            (2) the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham poses  
8        an acute threat to the Iraqi people and territorial in-  
9        tegrity of Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region of  
10       Iraq, and the security and stability of the Middle  
11       East;

12           (3) the severe budget shortfalls faced by both  
13        the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional  
14        Government are hindering the stability of Iraq and  
15        have the potential to undermine long-term efforts to  
16        bring about the sustainable defeat of the Islamic  
17        State of Iraq and al-Sham;

18           (4) the \$415,000,000 pledged by the United  
19        States Government to the Kurdish Peshmerga in

1 April of 2016, in coordination with the Government  
2 of Iraq, in addition to the \$65,000,000 already pro-  
3 vided from the Iraq Train and Equip Fund, should  
4 remain a priority for the United States as part of  
5 the continued support for Iraqi Security Forces, in-  
6 cluding the Peshmerga, in the fight against the Is-  
7 lamic State of Iraq and al-Sham;

8 (5) the Peshmerga should receive all weapons  
9 and equipment that the United States, by, with, and  
10 through the Government of Iraq, agrees to provide  
11 in an expeditious and in a timely manner;

12 (6) it should be the policy of the United States  
13 to support, within the framework of the Iraq Con-  
14 stitution, Iraqi Security Forces, the Kurdish  
15 Peshmerga in Iraq, Sunni tribal forces, and other  
16 local security forces, including threatened ethnic and  
17 religious minority groups, in the campaign against  
18 the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham;

19 (7) ensuring the safe resettlement and re-  
20 integration of ethnic and religious minorities, includ-  
21 ing Christians (among them Assyrian, Chaldean,  
22 Syriac, Armenian, Evangelical, Antiochian and  
23 Greek Orthodox, Maronite, Melkite, and Roman  
24 Catholic communities), Yezidis, Turkmen, Shi'a,  
25 Shabak, Sabaeen-Mandaeans, and Kaka'i, among oth-

1       ers, including victims of genocide, into their home-  
2       lands in Iraq, including the Ninevah Plain, is a crit-  
3       ical component toward achieving a safe, secure, and  
4       sovereign Iraq;

5           (8) the Peshmerga require equipment that will  
6       allow them to defend themselves and their coalition  
7       advisers against the increased use of vehicle-borne  
8       improvised explosive devices by the Islamic State of  
9       Iraq and al-Sham;

10          (9) the Peshmerga are vital partners in the  
11       fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham;  
12       and

13          (10) in coordination with the Government of  
14       Iraq, the United States will endeavor to increase as-  
15       sistance to Iraqi Kurdish Forces to enhance their  
16       combat medicine and logistical capabilities, to defend  
17       internally displaced persons and refugees, and to de-  
18       fend the Peshmerga and their coalition advisers.

Passed the Senate July 14, 2016.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

Expressing the sense of Congress on the Peshmerga  
of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.