

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. J. RES. 37

Directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 2019

Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Mr. POCAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. HOYER, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. JONES, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. OMAR, Mr. HIMES, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CROW, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. COX of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CISNEROS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MOORE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. TONKO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. NEGUSE) submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen 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 finds the following:

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 with respect  
9 to, or provided a specific statutory authorization for,  
10 the conflict between military forces led by Saudi  
11 Arabia, including forces from the United Arab Emir-  
12 ates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco,  
13 Senegal, and Sudan (the Saudi-led coalition),  
14 against the Houthis, also known as Ansar Allah, in  
15 the Republic of Yemen.

16            (3) Since March 2015, members of the United  
17 States Armed Forces have been introduced into hos-  
18 tilities between the Saudi-led coalition and the  
19 Houthis, including providing to the Saudi-led coal-  
20 ition aerial targeting assistance, intelligence sharing,  
21 and mid-flight aerial refueling.

22            (4) The United States has established a Joint  
23 Combined Planning Cell with Saudi Arabia, in which  
24 members of the United States Armed Forces assist

1 in aerial targeting and help to coordinate military  
2 and intelligence activities.

3 (5) In December 2017, Secretary of Defense  
4 James N. Mattis stated, “We have gone in to be  
5 very—to be helpful where we can in identifying how  
6 you do target analysis and how you make certain  
7 you hit the right thing.”.

8 (6) The conflict between the Saudi-led coalition  
9 and the Houthis constitutes, within the meaning of  
10 section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution (50  
11 U.S.C. 1543(a)), either hostilities or a situation  
12 where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly  
13 indicated by the circumstances into which United  
14 States Armed Forces have been introduced.

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

23 (8) Section 8(c) of the War Powers Resolution  
24 (50 U.S.C. 1547(c)) defines the introduction of  
25 United States Armed Forces to include “the assign-

1       ment of members of such armed forces to command,  
2       coordinate, participate in the movement of, or ac-  
3       company the regular or irregular military forces of  
4       any foreign country or government when such mili-  
5       tary forces are engaged, or there exists an imminent  
6       threat that such forces will become engaged, in hos-  
7       tilities”, and activities that the United States is con-  
8       ducting in support of the Saudi-led coalition, includ-  
9       ing aerial refueling and targeting assistance, fall  
10      within this definition.

11           (9) Section 1013 of the Department of State  
12      Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50  
13      U.S.C. 1546a) provides that any joint resolution or  
14      bill to require the removal of United States Armed  
15      Forces engaged in hostilities without a declaration of  
16      war or specific statutory authorization shall be con-  
17      sidered in accordance with the expedited procedures  
18      of section 601(b) of the International Security and  
19      Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–  
20      329; 90 Stat. 765).

21           (10) No specific statutory authorization for the  
22      use of United States Armed Forces with respect to  
23      the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the  
24      Houthis in Yemen has been enacted, and no provi-  
25      sion of law explicitly authorizes the provision of tar-

1 getting assistance or of midair refueling services to  
2 warplanes of Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emir-  
3 ates that are engaged in such conflict.

4 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**  
5 **FROM HOSTILITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF**  
6 **YEMEN THAT HAVE NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED**  
7 **BY CONGRESS.**

8 Pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State  
9 Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50  
10 U.S.C. 1546a) and in accordance with the provisions of  
11 section 601(b) of the International Security Assistance  
12 and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-  
13 329; 90 Stat. 765), Congress hereby directs the President  
14 to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in  
15 or affecting the Republic of Yemen, except United States  
16 Armed Forces engaged in operations directed at al-Qaeda  
17 or associated forces, by not later than the date that is  
18 30 days after the date of the enactment of this joint reso-  
19 lution (unless the President requests and Congress author-  
20 izes a later date), and unless and until a declaration of  
21 war or specific authorization for such use of United States  
22 Armed Forces has been enacted. For purposes of this reso-  
23 lution, in this section, the term “hostilities” includes in-  
24 flight refueling, non-United States aircraft conducting  
25 missions as part of the ongoing civil war in Yemen.

1 **SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING CONTINUED**  
2 **MILITARY OPERATIONS AND COOPERATION**  
3 **WITH ISRAEL.**

4 Nothing in this joint resolution may be construed to  
5 influence or disrupt any military operations and coopera-  
6 tion with Israel.

7 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON RISKS POSED BY CEASING SAUDI ARA-**  
8 **BIA SUPPORT OPERATIONS.**

9 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-  
10 ment of this joint resolution, the President shall submit  
11 to Congress a report assessing the risks posed to United  
12 States citizens and the civilian population of Saudi Arabia  
13 and the risk of regional humanitarian crises if the United  
14 States were to cease support operations with respect to  
15 the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the  
16 Houthis in Yemen.

17 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON INCREASED RISK OF TERRORIST AT-**  
18 **TACKS TO UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**  
19 **ABROAD, ALLIES, AND THE CONTINENTAL**  
20 **UNITED STATES IF SAUDI ARABIA CEASES**  
21 **YEMEN-RELATED INTELLIGENCE SHARING**  
22 **WITH THE UNITED STATES.**

23 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-  
24 ment of this joint resolution, the President shall submit  
25 to Congress a report assessing the increased risk of ter-  
26 rorist attacks on United States Armed Forces abroad, al-

1 lies, and to the continental United States if the Govern-  
2 ment of Saudi Arabia were to cease Yemen-related intel-  
3 ligence sharing with the United States.

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