H. R. 5543

To prohibit the use of funds for unauthorized military force against Iran, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2020

Mr. Kihana (for himself, Mr. Engel, Mr. Smith of Washington, Mr. Schiff, Mr. McGovern, Ms. Lee of California, Mr. Crow, Mr. Brown of Maryland, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Levin of Michigan, Mr. Ted Lieu of California, Ms. Haaland, Ms. Jayapal, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Pocan, Mr. Gallego, Mr. Garamendi, Ms. Omar, Mr. Serrano, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. DeFazio, Mrs. Watson Coleman, Ms. Tlaib, Mr. Doggett, Ms. Pressley, Ms. Norton, Mr. Garcia of Illinois, Ms. Bonamici, Ms. Velázquez, Mr. Tonko, Mr. Grijalva, Mr. Lowenthal, Ms. Moore, Ms. Scanlon, Mr. Evans, Mr. Welch, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Price of North Carolina, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. Pallone, Ms. Ocasio-Cortez, Mr. Himes, Mr. Espaillat, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Beyer, Ms. Spanberger, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Cisneros) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds for unauthorized military force against Iran, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “No War Against Iran Act”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF UNAUTHORIZED MILITARY FORCE IN OR AGAINST IRAN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The acquisition by the Government of Iran of a nuclear weapon would pose a grave threat to international peace and stability and the national security of the United States and United States allies, including Israel.

(2) The Government of Iran is a leading state sponsor of terrorism, continues to materially support the regime of Bashar al-Assad, and is responsible for ongoing gross violations of the human rights of the people of Iran.

(3) Article I of the United States Constitution requires the President to obtain authorization from Congress before engaging in war with Iran.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF CURRENT LAW.—Nothing in the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–243; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), or any other provision of law enacted before the date of the enactment of
this Act may be construed to provide authorization for the
use of military force against Iran.

(c) PROHIBITION OF UNAUTHORIZED MILITARY
FORCE IN OR AGAINST IRAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
graph (2), no Federal funds may be obligated or ex-
pended for any use of military force in or against
Iran unless Congress has—

(A) declared war; or

(B) enacted specific statutory authoriza-
tion for such use of military force after the date
of the enactment of this Act that meets the re-
quirements of the War Powers Resolution (50
U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

(2) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition under para-
graph (1) shall not apply to a use of military force
that is consistent with section (2)(c) of the War
Powers Resolution.

(d) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
may be construed—

(1) to prevent the President from using nec-
essary and appropriate force to defend United States
allies and partners if Congress enacts specific statu-
tory authorization for such use of force consistent
with the requirements of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.);

(2) to relieve the executive branch of restrictions on the use of force, reporting, or consultation requirements set forth in the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.); or

(3) to authorize the use of military force.