

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 12

To withdraw all United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 4, 2019

Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. UDALL) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JOINT RESOLUTION

To withdraw all United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Joint Resolution to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against those responsible for the attacks launched against the United States (Public Law 107–40) states, “That the President is authorized to use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001”;

Whereas since 2001, more than 3,002,635 men and women of the United States Armed Forces have deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism, with more than 1,400,000 of them deploying more than once, and these

Americans who volunteered in a time of war have served their country honorably and with distinction;

Whereas in November 2009 there were fewer than 100 Al-Qaeda members remaining in Afghanistan;

Whereas on May 2, 2011, Osama Bin Laden, the founder of Al-Qaeda, was killed by United States Armed Forces in Pakistan;

Whereas United States Armed Forces have successfully routed Al-Qaeda from the battlefield in Afghanistan, thus fulfilling the original intent of Public Law 107–40 and the justification for the invasion of Afghanistan, but public support for United States continued presence in Afghanistan has waned in recent years;

Whereas an October 2018 poll found that 57 percent of Americans, including 69 percent of United States veterans, believe that all United States troops should be removed from Afghanistan; and

Whereas in June 2018, the Department of Defense reported, “The al-Qa’ida threat to the United States and its allies and partners has decreased and the few remaining al-Qa’ida core members are focused on their own survival”:
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 “American
5 Forces Going Home After Noble Service Act” or the “AF-
6 GHAN Service Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**
2 **FROM AFGHANISTAN.**

3 (a) **PLAN REQUIRED.**—Not later than 45 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the Sec-
5 retary of Defense, or designee, in cooperation with the
6 heads of all other relevant Federal agencies involved in
7 the conflict in Afghanistan shall—

8 (1)(A) formulate a plan for the orderly draw-
9 down and withdrawal of all soldiers, sailors, airmen,
10 and Marines from Afghanistan who were involved in
11 operations intended to provide security to the people
12 of Afghanistan, including policing action, or military
13 actions against paramilitary organizations inside Af-
14 ghanistan, excluding members of the military as-
15 signed to support United States embassies or con-
16 sulates, or intelligence operations authorized by Con-
17 gress; and

18 (B) appear before the relevant congressional
19 committees to explain the proposed implementation
20 of the plan formulated under subparagraph (A); and

21 (2)(A) formulate a framework for political rec-
22 onciliation and popular democratic elections inde-
23 pendent of United States involvement in Afghani-
24 stan, which may be used by the Government of Af-
25 ghanistan to ensure that any political party that
26 meets the requirements under Article 35 of the Con-

1 stitution of Afghanistan is permitted to participate
2 in general elections; and

3 (B) appear before the relevant congressional
4 committees to explain the proposed implementation
5 of the framework formulated under subparagraph
6 (A).

7 (b) REMOVAL AND BONUSES.—Not later than 1 year
8 after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution—

9 (1) all United States Armed Forces in Afghani-
10 stan as of such date of enactment shall be with-
11 drawn and removed from Afghanistan; and

12 (2) the Secretary of Defense shall provide all
13 members of the United States Armed Forces who
14 were deployed in support of the Global War on Ter-
15 ror with a \$2,500 bonus to recognize that these
16 Americans have served in the Global War On Ter-
17 rorism exclusively on a volunteer basis and to dem-
18 onstrate the heartfelt gratitude of our Nation.

19 (c) REPEAL OF AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILI-
20 TARY FORCE.—The Authorization for Use of Military
21 Force (Public Law 107–40) is repealed effective on the
22 earlier of—

23 (1) the date that is 395 days after the date of
24 the enactment of this joint resolution; or

1 (2) the date on which the Secretary of Defense
2 certifies that all United States Armed Forces in-
3 volved in operations or military actions in Afghani-
4 stan (as described in subsection (a)(1)(A)) have de-
5 parted from Afghanistan.

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