

JOINT RESOLUTION

To direct 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 makes the following findings:

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.

1 (3) Since March 2015, members of the United
2 States Armed Forces have been introduced into hos-
3 tilities between the Saudi-led coalition and the
4 Houthis, including providing to the Saudi-led coali-
5 tion aerial targeting assistance, intelligence sharing,
6 and mid-flight aerial refueling.

7 (4) The United States has established a Joint
8 Combined Planning Cell with Saudi Arabia, in which
9 members of the United States Armed Forces assist
10 in aerial targeting and help to coordinate military
11 and intelligence activities.

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

17 (6) The conflict between the Saudi-led coalition
18 and the Houthis constitutes, within the meaning of
19 section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution (50
20 U.S.C. 1543(a)), either hostilities or a situation
21 where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly
22 indicated by the circumstances into which United
23 States Armed Forces have been introduced.

24 (7) Section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution
25 (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)) states that “at any time that

1 United States Armed Forces are engaged in hos-
2 tilities outside the territory of the United States, its
3 possessions and territories without a declaration of
4 war or specific statutory authorization, such forces
5 shall be removed by the President if the Congress so
6 directs”.

7 (8) Section 8(c) of the War Powers Resolution
8 (50 U.S.C. 1547(c)) defines the introduction of
9 United States Armed Forces to include “the assign-
10 ment of members of such armed forces to command,
11 coordinate, participate in the movement of, or ac-
12 company the regular or irregular military forces of
13 any foreign country or government when such mili-
14 tary forces are engaged, or there exists an imminent
15 threat that such forces will become engaged, in hos-
16 tilities,” and activities that the United States is con-
17 ducting in support of the Saudi-led coalition, includ-
18 ing aerial refueling and targeting assistance, fall
19 within this definition.

20 (9) Section 1013 of the Department of State
21 Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50
22 U.S.C. 1546a) provides that any joint resolution or
23 bill to require the removal of United States Armed
24 Forces engaged in hostilities without a declaration of
25 war or specific statutory authorization shall be con-

1 sidered in accordance with the expedited procedures
2 of section 601(b) of the International Security and
3 Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–
4 329; 90 Stat. 765).

5 (10) No specific statutory authorization for the
6 use of United States Armed Forces with respect to
7 the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the
8 Houthis in Yemen has been enacted, and no provi-
9 sion of law explicitly authorizes the provision of tar-
10 geting assistance or of midair refueling services to
11 warplanes of Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emir-
12 ates that are engaged in such conflict.

13 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**
14 **FROM HOSTILITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF**
15 **YEMEN THAT HAVE NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED**
16 **BY CONGRESS.**

17 Pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State
18 Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50
19 U.S.C. 1546a) and in accordance with the provisions of
20 section 601(b) of the International Security Assistance
21 and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–
22 329; 90 Stat. 765), Congress hereby directs the President
23 to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in
24 or affecting the Republic of Yemen, except United States
25 Armed Forces engaged in operations directed at al Qaeda

1 or associated forces, by not later than the date that is
 2 30 days after the date of the enactment of this joint reso-
 3 lution (unless the President requests and Congress author-
 4 izes a later date), and unless and until a declaration of
 5 war or specific authorization for such use of United States
 6 Armed Forces has been enacted. For purposes of this reso-
 7 lution, in this section, the term “hostilities” includes in-
 8 flight refueling of non-United States aircraft conducting
 9 missions as part of the ongoing civil war in Yemen.

10 **SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING CONTINUED**
 11 **MILITARY OPERATIONS AND COOPERATION**
 12 **WITH ISRAEL.**

13 Nothing in this joint resolution shall be construed to
 14 influence or disrupt any military operations and coopera-
 15 tion with Israel.

16 **SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING INTEL-**
 17 **LIGENCE SHARING.**

18 Nothing in this joint resolution may be construed to
 19 influence or disrupt any intelligence, counterintelligence,
 20 or investigative activities relating to threats in or ema-
 21 nating from Yemen conducted by, or in conjunction with,
 22 the United States Government involving—

- 23 (1) the collection of intelligence;
- 24 (2) the analysis of intelligence; or

1 (3) the sharing of intelligence between the
2 United States and any coalition partner if the Presi-
3 dent determines such sharing is appropriate and in
4 the national security interests of the United States.

5 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON RISKS POSED BY CEASING SAUDI ARA-**
6 **BIA SUPPORT OPERATIONS.**

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

15 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON INCREASED RISK OF TERRORIST AT-**
16 **TACKS TO UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**
17 **ABROAD, ALLIES, AND THE CONTINENTAL**
18 **UNITED STATES IF SAUDI ARABIA CEASES**
19 **YEMEN-RELATED INTELLIGENCE SHARING**
20 **WITH THE UNITED STATES.**

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

1 ment of Saudi Arabia were to cease Yemen-related intel-
2 ligence sharing with the United States.

3 **SEC. 7. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING NO AUTHOR-**
4 **IZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE.**

5 Consistent with section 8(a)(1) of the War Powers
6 Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547(a)(1)), nothing in this joint
7 resolution may be construed as authorizing the use of mili-
8 tary force.

Passed the Senate March 13, 2019.

Attest:

Secretary.

116TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. J. RES. 7

JOINT RESOLUTION

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