



Reassert Congressional War Powers With H. Con. Res. 38

Members of Congress have [introduced legislation](#) directing President Donald Trump to withdraw U.S. Armed Forces from hostilities involving Iran unless expressly authorized by Congress — an important step toward reasserting congressional war powers.

[H. Con. Res. 38](#) is sponsored by U.S. Representative Thomas Massie (R-Ky.), and is [co-sponsored](#) by Representative Ro Khanna (D-Calif.) and 71 other representatives. A companion resolution, [S. J. Res. 59](#), has been introduced in the Senate. H. Con. Res. 38 [declares](#), in part:

Congress hereby directs the President to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran or any part of its government or military, unless explicitly authorized by a declaration of war or specific authorization for use of military force against Iran.

In a [press release](#), Massie noted the importance of enacting H. Con. Res. 38:

The Constitution does not permit the executive branch to unilaterally commit an act of war against a sovereign nation that hasn't attacked the United States. Congress has the sole power to declare war against Iran. The ongoing war between Israel and Iran is not our war. Even if it were, Congress must decide such matters according to our Constitution.

The concurrent resolution represents a critical step in restoring the constitutional boundaries of American war powers that the Founding Fathers originally intended.

Americans and the current president would do well to heed the advice of the country's first president under the

The John Birch Society

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Constitution. In his Farewell Address in 1796, President George Washington [wrote](#):

The great rule of conduct for us, in regard to foreign Nations is in extending our commercial relations to have with them as little political connection as possible.

Contact your U.S. representative and senators, and urge them to follow Washington's advice and reassert Congress' constitutional war powers by enacting H. Con. Res. 38.