**S. 58**

To limit the use of funds for kinetic military operations in or against Iran

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IN THE WASAMUN MODEL UNITED STATES SENATE

January 17, 2020

Mr. Udall and Mr. Paul introduced the following bill

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**A BILL**

To limit the use of funds for kinetic military operations in or against Iran.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Prevention of Unconstitutional War with Iran Act of 2019”.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

1. Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the sole power to declare war.
2. Iran's support for terrorism presents a serious threat to the United States and our allies in the Middle East, Europe, and Asia. Missile tests by Iran have led to escalating tensions with Israel, Saudi Arabia, the United States, and the United Nations.
3. Iran has threatened to shut down crucial maritime lines of communication, putting United States and international naval assets, as well as global energy assets, at risk.
4. According to the intelligence assessments of the United States, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action curtailed enrichment and prevented processing of fissile materials by Iran to levels which would preclude Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. The International Atomic Energy Agency has repeatedly verified that Iran has continued to comply with its nuclear-related obligations as required by the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.
5. A war with Iran would endanger United States assets, personnel, and foreign policy objectives throughout the region, including in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Israel.
6. President Trump tweeted that Iran “will suffer consequences the likes of which few throughout history have ever suffered before”. Loose talk of war and belligerent rhetoric increases the risk of miscalculation by either side and unsettles United States allies.
7. Section 2(c) of the War Powers Resolution (War Powers Act) (50 U.S.C. 1541(c)) states that “the constitutional powers of the President as Commander-in-Chief to introduce United States Armed Forces into hostilities, or into situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, are exercised only pursuant to (1) a declaration of war, (2) specific statutory authorization, or (3) a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces”.

SECTION 3. LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR KINETIC MILITARY OPERATIONS IN OR AGAINST IRAN.

1. No funds may be used for kinetic military operations in or against Iran except pursuant to an Act or joint resolution of Congress specifically authorizing such use that is enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act.
2. Exceptions. The limitation in subsection (a) shall not apply to the following:
3. Kinetic military operations in response to an imminent threat to the United States, as otherwise authorized by applicable statutes and joint resolutions.
4. The introduction of the United States Armed Forces into hostilities in order to repel a sudden attack on the United States, its territories or possessions, or its Armed Forces.
5. The deployment of United States Armed Forces to rescue or remove United States citizens or personnel.
6. Nothing in this section may be construed to relieve the Executive Branch of restrictions on the use of force or reporting requirements set forth in the War Powers Resolution (War Powers Act) (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).