

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3159

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

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 8, 2020

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds for 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF UNAUTHORIZED MILITARY FORCE**

7 **IN OR AGAINST IRAN.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
9 ings:

1           (1) Congress has the sole power to declare war  
2           under article I, section 8 of the United States Con-  
3           stitution.

4           (2) Congress has not declared war against Iran  
5           nor has Congress enacted a specific statutory au-  
6           thorization for the use of force against Iran.

7           (3) Article I, section 9 of the United States  
8           Constitution vests Congress with the sole authority  
9           over Federal expenditures and states, “No Money  
10          shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Con-  
11          sequence of Appropriations made by Law.”.

12          (b) CLARIFICATION OF CURRENT LAW.—Nothing in  
13          the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law  
14          107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), the Authorization for Use  
15          of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public  
16          Law 107–243; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), or any other provi-  
17          sion of law enacted before the date of the enactment of  
18          this Act may be construed to provide authorization for the  
19          use of military force against Iran.

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

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

1 (A) declared war; or

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

7 (2) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition under para-  
8 graph (1) shall not apply to a use of military force  
9 that is consistent with section 2(c) of the War Pow-  
10 ers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541(c)).

11 (d) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

12 (1) SELF-DEFENSE.—Nothing in this Act may  
13 be construed to prevent the President from using  
14 necessary and appropriate force to defend United  
15 States allies and partners if Congress enacts specific  
16 statutory authorization for such use of force con-  
17 sistent with the requirements of the War Powers  
18 Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

19 (2) WAR POWERS RESOLUTION REQUIRE-  
20 MENTS.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to  
21 relieve the executive branch of restrictions on the  
22 use of force, reporting, or consultation requirements  
23 set forth in the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C.  
24 1541 et seq.).

1           (3) NO AUTHORITY FOR USE OF MILITARY  
2       FORCE.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to  
3       authorize the use of military force.

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