



**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503**

September 24, 2026  
(Senate)

## **STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY**

### **H. Con. Res. 89 – Directing the President to remove United States Armed Forces from Hostilities with Iran**

(Rep. Jayapal, D-WA, and 16 cosponsors)

The Administration strongly opposes passage of H. Con. Res. 89, a resolution that purports to direct the removal of U.S. Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

Although concurrent resolutions such as H. Con. Res. 89 lack the force of law and even if it were otherwise should be deemed unconstitutional legislative vetoes under controlling Supreme Court precedent, *I.N.S. v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919 (1983), it is nevertheless important to highlight its many deficiencies.

The resolution attempts to legislate away essential Article II authority and would create immediate, material risks to U.S. forces, allies, and missions. In addition, the broad scope of the resolution risks creating uncertainty and operational paralysis in a crisis, while emboldening the Iranian regime and undermining the United States's ability to speak with one voice in the midst of an active conflict.

The President has the Constitutional authority to defend the United States and our citizens from the danger posed by the Iranian regime. This requires the ability to act decisively to ensure it never obtains a nuclear weapon. Further, protecting U.S. forces and interests requires the President to respond to Iranian aggressive behavior given the ongoing international armed conflict with Iran. The President needs to have the flexibility to take action necessary to defend against attacks that threaten U.S. forces or interests. H. Con. Res. 89 should be rejected because it attempts to disrupt the President's ability to protect United States diplomats, armed forces, allies, and partners from the continued threat posed by Iran and its proxies within the context of escalating attacks that have resulted in U.S. casualties.

For decades, Iran has supported and committed acts of terrorism and pursued policies that have threatened U.S. personnel and interests and undermined regional stability, including through support to armed proxy groups, direct attacks and attacks through proxies and partners, and development of advanced missile capabilities. For example, the regime's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and its partners and proxies have attacked U.S. personnel and facilities in Syria and Iraq more than 150 times since 2021. Since the initiation of Operation Epic Fury, Iran

has targeted, killed, and harmed U.S. service members, personnel, and interests in the region and harmed neutral territory and property.

Moreover, since June 2025, the regime massively expanded its ballistic missile production for the purpose of overwhelming regional air defenses in order to provide a shield for its efforts to reconstitute its nuclear program, which it refuses to relinquish. Iran's nuclear activities, including enrichment beyond levels consistent with exclusively peaceful purposes and its limits on International Atomic Energy Agency monitoring remain a serious concern. These challenges underscore the need for the President to retain the flexibility and authorities necessary to protect U.S. forces, deter escalation, and advance U.S. interests in the Middle East, including through diplomacy backed by credible deterrence.

Congress has repeatedly affirmed the bipartisan Executive Branch commitment to preventing the Iranian regime from developing or acquiring a nuclear weapon. A nuclear-armed Iran would pose an unacceptable and urgent threat to the U.S. homeland and to U.S. military personnel deployed across the Middle East: it would embolden the regime's aggression against U.S. allies and partners, enable the regime to escalate terrorism under a nuclear umbrella, trigger a regional arms race, and potentially lead to a nuclear exchange.

H. Con. Res. 89 should be rejected, as it fails to recognize the significant and ongoing national security threats posed by Iran.

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