

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 31

Expressing the sense of Congress that the President is required to obtain in advance specific statutory authorization for the use of United States Armed Forces in response to civil unrest in Libya.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 2011

Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. JONES, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. CAPUANO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the President is required to obtain in advance specific statutory authorization for the use of United States Armed Forces in response to civil unrest in Libya.

Whereas according to press reports, the United States administration is considering initiating military action in response to civil unrest in Libya, including imposition of a “no fly” zone or other military operations on Libyan territory, airspace, or waters;

Whereas the Government of Libya is not currently engaged in hostilities against the United States;

Whereas according to article I, section 8, of the United States Constitution, “The Congress shall have Power To

declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water”; and

Whereas according to the War Powers Resolution (Public Law 93–148), “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.”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that the
 3 President is required to obtain in advance specific statu-
 4 tory authorization for the use of United States Armed
 5 Forces in response to civil unrest in Libya.

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