



# EXPLAINER

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## 3 Ways the House Is Declaring #NoWarWithIran

Since President Trump brought the U.S. to the brink of war with Iran at the beginning of the year, the House of Representatives has pursued complementary legislative options to check the power of the President.

### 1. PASSING A WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

**H.Con.Res. 83**, introduced by Rep. Elissa Slotkin (MI-8) and passed by the House on January 9, 2020

**S.J.Res. 68**, introduced by Sen. Tim Kaine (VA) and passed by the Senate on February 13, 2020

The bipartisan War Powers Resolutions passed by the House and Senate explicitly direct the President to terminate use of military force for hostilities against Iran or any part of its government or military unless specifically authorized by Congress. It serves as a direct congressional rebuke to Donald Trump.

In addition to passing its own resolution in January, the House will soon take up the Senate-passed War Powers Resolution.

### 2. REPEALING THE 2002 AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE

**H.R. 2456**, introduced by Rep. Barbara Lee (CA-13) and passed by the House as Title II of H.R. 550 on January 30, 2020

Rep. Barbara Lee's legislation repeals the Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 so that the Administration can no longer use it as a blank check for war. The Trump Administration claimed authority under the 2002 AUMF to assassinate Iranian General Qassem Soleimani at the Baghdad Airport.

While a War Powers Resolution calls for end of hostilities in this specific situation, repealing the 2002 AUMF would generally limit presidential authority to take military action in Iraq without congressional action going forward.

### 3. DEFUNDING WAR WITH IRAN

**H.R. 5543, No War Against Iran Act**, introduced by Rep. Ro Khanna (CA-17) and passed by the House as Title I of H.R. 550 on January 30, 2020

Rep. Ro Khanna's No War Against Iran Act states that "no Federal funds may be obligated or expended for any use of military force in or against Iran" except in the cases of a formal war declaration, specific authorization by Congress, or a national emergency created by an attack.

The War Powers Resolution and 2002 AUMF repeal focus on presidential authority, but the No War Against Iran Act targets funding for military force.

**Both chambers have passed War Powers Resolutions, but the 2002 AUMF repeal and No War Against Iran Act are still awaiting action in the Senate.**