

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 15

Expressing the sense of Congress that the withdrawal of Armed Forces from Afghanistan does not undermine or diminish the sacrifice, efforts, and accomplishments of the members of the Armed Forces, diplomats, humanitarians, allies, and partners.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the withdrawal of Armed Forces from Afghanistan does not undermine or diminish the sacrifice, efforts, and accomplishments of the members of the Armed Forces, diplomats, humanitarians, allies, and partners.

Whereas the United States was viciously attacked by the murderous terrorist group al-Qaida on September 11, 2001;

Whereas al-Qaida was based in Afghanistan, which was governed by the ruthless and oppressive Taliban regime;

Whereas the United States led an international coalition of military forces into Afghanistan—

- (1) to destroy al-Qaida;
- (2) to kill or capture Osama bin Laden; and
- (3) to depose the Taliban government;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of members of the Armed Forces, diplomats, and humanitarians deployed to Afghanistan or supported operations from afar;

Whereas for nearly 2 decades, the United States was spared from further major attacks by international terror organizations; and

Whereas the withdrawal of the presence of the United States in Afghanistan led to—

- (1) the collapse of the Afghan government;
- (2) the return of the Taliban to Afghan rule; and
- (3) great heartache for so many: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the men and women who undertook the ef-
 4 forts of the past years in Afghanistan provided he-
 5 roic service to the country;

6 (2) the peace the United States experienced is
 7 a direct result of the actions of the brave members
 8 of the Armed Forces, diplomats, and humanitarians;

9 (3) despite the chaotic end to operations in Af-
 10 ghanistan, the service of the members of the Armed

1 Forces is something to be remembered, lauded, and
2 honored; and

3 (4) any veterans who feel stress, anger, or dis-
4 appointment from the end of operations in Afghani-
5 stan should seek available resources and the com-
6 fort, guidance, and counsel of friends, mentors, and
7 caregivers.

○