

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES.

To require certifications regarding actions by Saudi Arabia in Yemen, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. COONS) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

JOINT RESOLUTION

To require certifications regarding actions by Saudi Arabia in Yemen, and for other purposes.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING ACTIONS BY**
4 **SAUDI ARABIA IN YEMEN.**

5 (a) INITIAL CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
7 of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of
8 Congress a certification whether the Government of Saudi
9 Arabia is undertaking—

1 (1) an urgent and good faith effort to conduct
2 diplomatic negotiations to end the civil war in
3 Yemen;

4 (2) appropriate measures to alleviate the hu-
5 manitarian crisis in Yemen by increasing access for
6 Yemenis to food, fuel, and medicine, including
7 through Yemen's Red Sea ports, the airport in
8 Sana'a, and external border crossings with Saudi
9 Arabia; and

10 (3) demonstrable action to reduce the risk of
11 harm to civilians and civilian infrastructure resulting
12 from its military operations in Yemen, including by
13 complying with applicable agreements and laws regu-
14 lating defense articles purchased or transferred from
15 the United States.

16 (b) SUBSEQUENT CERTIFICATIONS.—Not later than
17 180 and 360 days after the date of the enactment of this
18 Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate
19 committees of Congress a certification whether the Gov-
20 ernment of Saudi Arabia is undertaking the efforts de-
21 scribed in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

22 (c) RESTRICTION.—If the Secretary of State is un-
23 able under subsections (a) and (b) to certify that the Gov-
24 ernment of Saudi Arabia is taking demonstrable action as
25 described in subsection (a), no Federal funds may be obli-

1 gated or expended to provide in-flight refueling, pursuant
2 to any agreement authorized by section 2342 of title 10,
3 United States Code, or other applicable statutory author-
4 ity, of Saudi and Saudi-led coalition non-United States
5 aircraft conducting missions in Yemen other than missions
6 related to—

7 (1) al Qaeda, al Qaeda in the Arabian Penin-
8 sula (AQAP), and the Islamic State in Iraq and
9 Syria (ISIS);

10 (2) countering the transport, assembly, or em-
11 ployment of ballistic missiles or components in
12 Yemen;

13 (3) helping coalition aircraft return safely to
14 base in emergency situations; or

15 (4) force protection of United States aircraft,
16 ships, or personnel.

17 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this joint
18 resolution may be construed as authorizing the use of mili-
19 tary force.

20 (e) FORM OF CERTIFICATIONS.—The certifications
21 required under subsections (a) and (b) shall be written,
22 detailed, and submitted in unclassified form.

23 (f) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
25 of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense

1 and the Administrator of the United States Agency for
2 International Development, shall submit to the appro-
3 priate committees of Congress an unclassified report list-
4 ing United States objectives in Yemen and detailing a
5 strategy to accomplish those objectives. The report shall
6 be unclassified but may include a classified annex.

7 (g) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
8 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
9 tees of Congress” means—

10 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
11 Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee
12 on Appropriations of the Senate; and

13 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
14 Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee
15 on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.