

The following Resolution was adopted by the Democratic National Committee at its meeting on March 10, 2018, in Washington, DC.

Submitted by: Yasmine Taeb, Virginia
Keith Ellison, DNC Deputy Chair/Minnesota
Grace Meng, DNC Vice Chair/New York
Barbara Lee, California
James Zogby, At-Large/District of Columbia
Larry Cohen, At-Large/District of Columbia
Michael Kapp, California
Chris Reeves, Kansas
Travis Nelson, Oregon
Andrew Werthmann, Wisconsin
Khary Penebaker, Wisconsin
John Eastwood, Democrats Abroad
Bart Dame, Hawaii
Jeri Shepherd, Colorado
Jessica Sell Chambers, Wyoming
Valdez Bravo, Oregon
Winston Apple, Missouri
Tin Vandevier, Chair, Hawaii
Atima Omara, Virginia
Terje Anderson, Chair, Vermont
Tanya Shively, Oregon
John Verdejo, North Carolina
Carrie Pugh, At-Large/District of Columbia

Resolution Calling Upon the Democratic Members of the 115th Congress to Reassert their Constitutional Authority to Repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) and to Debate and Vote on a new AUMF

WHEREAS, the Constitution gives Congress the sole power to declare war; and

WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution understood that the monumental decision to go to war, which can result in massive death and the destruction of civilized society, must be made by the representatives of the people and not by a single person; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) was passed three days after the attacks of September 11, 2001 in order to target those who committed or assisted with the attacks; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 AUMF is an overly broad piece of legislation that has been used as an open-ended authorization for the use of military force; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2018 Congressional Research Service Report, the 2001 AUMF has been used to conduct at least 41 military actions in 18 different countries; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Barbara Lee's amendment to the 2018 Department of Defense appropriations bill to repeal the 2001 AUMF passed with bipartisan support on June 29, 2017 but was stripped from the appropriations bill by Speaker Paul Ryan; and

WHEREAS, it is long past time for Congress to reclaim its constitutionally-designated authority by setting clear parameters around where and when our nation uses military force; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the House Liberty Caucus held an Ad-Hoc Hearing on the 2001 AUMF on February 27, 2018 that focused on the need to repeal the 2001 AUMF; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic National Committee strongly encourages Democratic lawmakers to join bipartisan efforts to assert Congress' proper role and oversight responsibilities in determining when and where the United States uses military force by supporting efforts to repeal the 2001 AUMF and debate and vote on a new AUMF.