To clarify that Congress has not provided authorization for the use of military force against Iran.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ________________

A BILL

To clarify that Congress has not provided authorization for the use of military force against Iran.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “AUMF Clarification Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

authorizes the President to use “necessary and ap-
propriate force against those nations, organizations,
or persons he determines planned, authorized, com-
mited, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred
on September 11, 2001, or harbored such organiza-
tions or persons”.

(2) Iran and Al Qaeda historically have been
adversaries. A 2018 analysis of declassified docu-
ments obtained during the 2011 raid on Osama bin
Laden’s compound found that “[Al Qaeda] views
Iran as a hostile entity” and “examined documents
provide no evidence of cooperation between [Al
Qaeda] and Iran on planning or carrying out ter-
rorist attacks”.

(3) The Authorization for Use of Military Force
Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–
243; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) authorizes the President
“to use the Armed Forces of the United States as
he determines to be necessary and appropriate in
order to (1) defend the national security of the
United States against the continuing threat posed by
Iraq; and (2) enforce all relevant United Nations Se-
curity Council resolutions regarding Iraq”.

(4) On May 5, 2019, National Security Advisor
Ambassador John Bolton announced the deployment
of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group
and a bomber task force to the United States Central Command region as a response “to a number of troubling and escalatory indications and warnings” from Iran and “to send a clear and unmistakable message to the Iranian regime that any attack on United States interests or on those of our allies will be met with unrelenting force”.

(5) Congress has not authorized the use of military force against Iran.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress has not authorized the use of military force against Iran under the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–243; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107–40; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note), or any other provision of law enacted before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION.

The date of the enactment of this Act may be construed to provide authorization for the use of military force against Iran.