

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1212

To require the cessation of the use of force in, or directed at, the country of Libya by the United States Armed Forces unless a subsequent Act specifically authorizes such use of force.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2011

Mr. AMASH (for himself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. PAUL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the cessation of the use of force in, or directed at, the country of Libya by the United States Armed Forces unless a subsequent Act specifically authorizes such use of force.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Restoring Essential
5 constitutional Constraints for Libyan Action Involving the
6 Military Act” or “RECLAIM Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The President of the United States directed
4 United States Armed Forces to begin Operation Od-
5 yyssey Dawn against Libya, including bombings of
6 Libyan air defense systems and military airfields,
7 without the authorization of Congress.

8 (2) The Government of Libya has not declared
9 war or initiated hostilities against the United States
10 or its allies.

11 (3) Article 1, Section 8, of the United States
12 Constitution states that Congress shall have the
13 power “To declare War”, “To raise and support Ar-
14 mies”, “To provide and maintain a Navy”, and “To
15 make Rules for the Government and Regulation of
16 the land and naval Forces”.

17 **SEC. 3. CESSATION OF USE OF FORCE AGAINST THE COUN-**
18 **TRY OF LIBYA.**

19 The President shall cease the use of force in, or di-
20 rected at, the country of Libya by the United States
21 Armed Forces unless a subsequent Act specifically author-
22 izes such use of force.

23 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR USE OF**
24 **FORCE AGAINST THE COUNTRY OF LIBYA.**

25 No funds available to any United States Government
26 department or agency may be used for the use of force

1 in, or directed at, the country of Libya by the United
2 States Armed Forces unless a subsequent Act specifically
3 authorizes such use of force.

4 **SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

5 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the
6 United States, including the United States Armed Forces,
7 from defending itself from attack or imminent danger of
8 attack.

9 **SEC. 6. DEFINITION.**

10 In this Act, the term “country of Libya” means the
11 geographic area encompassed in the political unit known
12 as “Libya” on March 19, 2011.

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