

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* **AMERICA**
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

January 8, 2020

The Honorable
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative,

The targeted killing of a terrorist responsible for an imminent attack on Americans is not the time for partisan politicking. The War Powers resolution being discussed has nothing to do with Congress debating their constitutional authority and everything to do with resisting President Trump. **Concerned Women for America LAC asks you to oppose House Con. Res. 83 seeking to subvert the President's authority to defend American personnel and facilities, and which downplays the imminent threat presented by Iranian Major General Qassem Soleimani.** It is foolish to suggest the actions taken by the President were anything but a constitutional act to protect American lives.

Former Senator Joe Lieberman (D-Connecticut) wrote this week in the *Wall Street Journal*, "It defies common sense to argue that the president must notify Congress or begin a formal process of authorization before acting on an imminent threat." When President Obama ordered the raid to kill Osama bin Laden, he did not seek prior Congressional approval and there was no partisan backlash. We celebrated justice won as Americans, not political parties.

The strike against Soleimani was not an act of war, it was a response to an imminent threat that Secretary of Defense Esper said would have occurred within days. The legitimacy of the threat was underlined by the Iranian-sponsored attack killing an American contractor on December 27 and the siege on the U.S. embassy in Iraq on New Year's Eve.

The President has constitutional authority to conduct U.S. foreign relations as Commander-in-Chief and Chief Executive. He did not take the U.S. into war, he de-escalated Iranian aggression. Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif announced Iran was finished responding to the killing of Soleimani declaring, "Iran took and concluded proportionate measures...We do not seek escalation or war..."


If the Iranian Foreign Minister does not view our actions of self-defense as a declaration of war, neither should the U.S. Congress.

This decisive action reinstated deterrence, a necessary measure to end Iranian escalation and lay the foundation for diplomatic success. Hopefully Iran will now be open to a real diplomatic solution that does not end with them obtaining nuclear weapons.

The targeted killing of the leader of the largest state-sponsored terrorist network who was planning an imminent attack on Americans is justified under the War Powers Act. The President was well within his constitutional authority and duties. **It would be a tragic mistake to undermine the authority of the President and of American deterrence measures, just as tensions with Iran are de-escalating.**

This is the time to show the world a united front, not partisan bickering.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Penny Nance". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Penny Young Nance
CEO and President
Concerned Women for America LAC