

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 17
2 BY FALLON, SHOULTZ, JOCHUM, MYERS, CONNORS, THOMAS,
3 D. TAYLOR, GREIMANN, BERRY, WENDT, D. OLSON,
4 OSTERHAUS, BUKTA, FOEGE, MASCHER, FORD, MURPHY,
5 PETERSEN, HEDDENS, LENSING, and FREVERT
6 A Resolution regarding preemptive, unilateral military
7 action against Iraq.
8 WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for genuine,
9 multilateral action to eliminate weapons of mass
10 destruction worldwide; and
11 WHEREAS, a preemptive, unilateral strike by the
12 United States against a sovereign nation without a
13 direct threat to the national security of the United
14 States violates a basic principle of American foreign
15 policy enunciated in George Washington's farewell
16 address and historically adhered to by our nation; and
17 WHEREAS, other governments in the international
18 community oppose preemptive, unilateral action against
19 Iraq and support the full pursuit of diplomatic
20 resolutions and weapons inspections before any further
21 military action is taken against Iraq; and
22 WHEREAS, a preemptive, unilateral military strike
23 by the United States against Iraq will undermine
24 efforts to bring to justice those who helped carry out
25 the attacks of September 11, 2001, and hinder efforts
26 to reduce acts of international terror; and
27 WHEREAS, a preemptive attack against Iraq will set
28 a dangerous precedent which other countries may
29 follow; and
30 WHEREAS, a United States military attack on Iraq

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1 threatens the stability of the Middle East region; and

2 WHEREAS, conflict in the area may result in the
3 widespread destruction of the environment and the
4 civilian infrastructure of Iraq; and

5 WHEREAS, war in Iraq will likely be a humanitarian
6 disaster, jeopardizing the lives of American soldiers,
7 potentially exposing American soldiers to biological
8 and chemical forms of warfare almost too horrible to
9 imagine, and resulting in the killing of many innocent
10 Iraqi civilians who have already suffered enormously
11 under Saddam Hussein's rule and sanctions of the
12 United Nations; and

13 WHEREAS, military action will likely result in a
14 long-term United States military presence in Iraq with
15 no guarantee that the next regime in Iraq will achieve
16 a better record on democracy, human rights, and
17 disarmament issues, or in maintaining peaceful
18 relations with its neighbors; and

19 WHEREAS, it has been estimated that a war with Iraq
20 would likely cost between \$100 billion and \$1 trillion
21 and the American occupation of Iraq would cost another
22 \$15 to \$20 billion per year; and

23 WHEREAS, unlike the 1991 war with Iraq, a
24 preemptive, unilateral strike against Iraq will result
25 in the United States bearing most of the financial
26 cost of the war; and

27 WHEREAS, the costs of a war with Iraq will cause
28 further federal budget deficits, further weakening of
29 an already sluggish economy, and further undermining
30 of the long-term prospects for solvency of the Social

1 Security and Medicare systems, and will ensure
2 reductions in federal aid to the State of Iowa; and

3 WHEREAS, such reductions in state aid at the
4 federal level would hinder the likelihood of
5 increasing reimbursement rates for Medicare and
6 Medicaid and make financial assistance to seniors for
7 prescription drugs even less likely; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa is already suffering
9 from a financial crisis, which has severely impacted
10 many of the programs that assist working people and
11 families; NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
13 That the Iowa House of Representatives supports the
14 efforts of American troops to protect and defend the
15 nation against those who seek to harm it, but, out of
16 concern for the safety of those who would risk their
17 lives, respectfully urges and requests the President
18 of the United States not to initiate a preemptive,
19 unilateral military strike against Iraq; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa House of
21 Representatives respectfully urges that if the United
22 States does take military action against the sovereign
23 nation of Iraq that it only be done with the official
24 approval of the United Nations Security Council as
25 required under international law; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of
27 this resolution, duly authenticated by the Chief Clerk
28 of the Iowa House of Representatives, be transmitted
29 to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the
30 United States, to each member of the Iowa

1 congressional delegation, and to the Governor of the
2 State of Iowa.

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