

Rep. Jones Escalates Fight for HCR 107

June 1—As the propaganda for new wars intensifies to a fever pitch, Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) has escalated his political fight for House Concurrent Resolution 107, which he introduced on March 7. On May 30, Jones issued a “Dear Colleague” letter under the title “A Resolution To Uphold the Constitution,” and sent it to every member of the House and Senate. (See www.larouche.com and www.larouchepub.com for a facsimile.)

Presently, HCR 107 has seven co-sponsors, and is awaiting a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee.

The core of Jones’s bill is a demand that Congress adhere to its Constitutional responsibility as the only agency authorized to declare war. It also states that any President who launches war without getting Congressional approval is subject to impeachment.

LaRouchePAC and its founder Lyndon LaRouche have endorsed HCR 107, and, as a spur to its passage, are making available Jones’s “Dear Colleague” letter, the text of HCR 107, and the Congressional Research Service summary.

The ‘Dear Colleague’ Letter

Jones’s letter highlights the following statement:

“As James Madison warned, allowing the President alone to take the country into war would be *‘too much of a temptation for one man’*” (emphasis in original).

Dear Colleague:

Over the last 20 years the presidency has assumed powers that our Constitution does not explicitly give to the commander-in-chief. From the U.S. intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina to the recent U.S. intervention in Libya, Congress did not authorize the use of military force. However, the president continues to send our forces into harm’s way without congressional approval. Most importantly, members of Congress did not insist that the president come to Congress in order to seek permission to use military force.



Rep. Walter Jones is intensifying the fight for his resolution, HCR 107, which requires the President to seek Congressional approval before waging war, or face impeachment.

My resolution has two points. The first is that the power to declare war resides in the U.S. Congress. Under Article 1, Section 8, except in response to an actual or imminent attack against the territory of the United States, the president must come to the Congress to initiate hostilities. The proceedings of the Constitutional Convention made clear that the framers firmly believed that the momentous consequences of initiating armed hostilities should be decided not by a single individual, but only by concurrence of both houses of Congress.

The second point of my resolution is that if any president violates this most fundamental constitutional provision, that this constitutes a high crime and misdemeanor under Article 2, Section 4, and a bill of impeachment should be introduced.

As we are now on the edge of new wars breaking out around the world, this resolution is urgent.

I ask you to join me as a cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 107. Please contact David Kinzler or Ray Celeste, Jr. in my office with any questions at 202-225-3415. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Walter B. Jones

Member of Congress