

Sacramento County Democratic Party Resolution Opposing War with Iran

January 9, 2020

WHEREAS the sovereign states of Iraq and Iran are already suffering from past and present United States sanctions, widespread poverty, military conflict and battles with Da'esh/ISIS, and both countries should be engaged with a full spectrum of multilateral, internationally recognized diplomacy and dialogue that achieves lasting peace and prosperity, not attacked;

WHEREAS the United States has spent over 16 years in a war in Iraq that was justified by lies, and which has killed over 4,000 American service members, killed over 100,000 Iraqi civilians, displaced millions, directly led to the rise of Da'esh/ISIS, and directly destabilized an entire region, and attacking Iran could lead to an even more catastrophic moral, humanitarian and military disaster, in which thousands or even millions of innocent human beings die;

WHEREAS assassinating General Soleimani – a citizen of a sovereign state – was an act of war and an unconstitutional assertion of unilateral authority that lacked congressional approval, was executed despite no significant provocation in violation of Article 51 of the UN Charter and exceeded the 2001 and 2002 authorizations for the use of military force (AUMF) that have been abused to justify military strikes at least 41 times in 19 countries but cannot reasonably justify an attack on Iran;

WHEREAS military action must only be the absolute last resort after every single other diplomatic and social option has been thoroughly exhausted, but a pre-emptive strike violates international law and undermines regional and global progress toward peace, while primarily serving the interests of oil and war profiteers and pandering to white supremacist tendencies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sacramento County Democratic Party unequivocally condemns and opposes any attack on or proxy war with Iran, supports congressional resolutions to order President Trump to cease hostilities with Iran, demands that Congress immediately repeal the 2001 and 2002 authorizations for the use of military force, and demands that Congress pass legislation to strengthen the 1973 War Powers Act to ensure that no president can take unilateral action that has the potential to start a war without congressional approval.