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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES.

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding many of today's greatest national security challenges and outlining a new framework for foreign policy for the 21st century.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. JAYAPAL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding many of today's greatest national security challenges and outlining a new framework for foreign policy for the 21st century.

Whereas the national security challenges facing people in the United States this century include—

- (1) the spread of infectious diseases and global pandemics;
- (2) the climate crisis;
- (3) the proliferation and threat of use of nuclear weapons and materials;
- (4) human rights violations;
- (5) corruption, conflict, and violence;

(6) authoritarianism and distrust in democratic institutions undermined by disinformation;

(7) gender, economic, and social inequality; and

(8) transnational White supremacist violence and racist nationalism;

Whereas such national security challenges are highlighted by the facts that—

(1) a year and a half after the World Health Organization declared COVID–19 a global pandemic, just 3.07 percent of people in low-income countries had received 1 or more doses of a vaccine while 60.18 percent of people in wealthy countries had;

(2) in 2020, natural disasters, worsened by climate change, displaced more than 30,700,000 people from their homes;

(3) the United Nations estimates that about 10 percent of people suffer from hunger worldwide;

(4) the total amount authorized to be appropriated by the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2021 is \$740,500,000,000;

(5) 9 countries hold more than 13,000 nuclear warheads and military stockpiles worldwide are on the rise; and

(6) about 900,000 military personnel, contractors, opposition combatants, humanitarian aid workers, journalists, national and military police, and other civilians have been killed in United States wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan, and other major war zones since 2001;

Whereas these challenges cannot be primarily solved through the use of military force or Department of Defense budget increases; and

Whereas refocusing United States national security strategy on these issues requires robust new investments in non-military tools of statecraft, as well as domestic and international institutions that rely on dialogue, inclusivity, accountability, conflict resolution, and global cooperation over competition: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) it should be the policy of the United
3 States—

4 (A) to prioritize mitigating and, where possible,
5 resolving the harms created by the security
6 challenges outlined in the preamble to this
7 resolution by—

8 (i) supporting robust investments in
9 diplomacy, development, justice, human
10 rights, and conflict prevention;

11 (ii) putting local leadership and part-
12 nership at the center of policy design, de-
13 velopment, and implementation; and

14 (iii) using both bilateral and multilat-
15 eral relationships and United States influ-
16 ence to uphold human rights and human
17 dignity;

18 (B) to acknowledge that United States na-
19 tional interests are aligned with the well-being
20 and rights of people around the world by plac-
21 ing human dignity, social justice, and coopera-

1 tion at the center of United States foreign pol-
2 icy;

3 (C) to implement effective, bold, and im-
4 mediate domestic and multilateral responses to
5 climate change in order to adapt, mitigate, pre-
6 vent, and, where possible, reverse the worst ef-
7 fects of this urgent, existential crisis this dec-
8 ade and to provide refuge to those impacted;

9 (D) to focus domestic and international in-
10 vestments on equitable and inclusive, people-
11 centered solutions that empower individuals,
12 workers, and communities, and safeguard uni-
13 versal human rights to equality, migration, and
14 human security; and

15 (E) to support the United Nations, includ-
16 ing funding its programs and specialized agen-
17 cies, participating in its committees, and sup-
18 porting reforms to make international institu-
19 tions more responsive to the most pressing
20 needs of the global community, including the
21 global migration crisis, the climate crisis, and
22 global health crises; and

23 (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-
24 tives that to address the national security priorities
25 outlined in the preamble and achieve the policy de-

1 scribed in paragraph (1), United States foreign pol-
2 icy must be reformed by—

3 (A) making the United States national se-
4 curity workforce more diverse, equitable, and
5 inclusive, both in terms of representation of his-
6 torically marginalized groups as well as under-
7 represented prodplomacy and anti-interven-
8 tionist perspectives;

9 (B) creating formal and informal processes
10 to ensure United States foreign policy is regu-
11 larly informed by, and responsive to, the exper-
12 tise, experiences, and needs of communities
13 most directly impacted by United States foreign
14 policy, especially marginalized groups such as
15 poor people, racial, religious and ethnic minori-
16 ties, indigenous people, women, people with dis-
17 abilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and youth;

18 (C) democratizing issues of war and peace
19 in the United States by reasserting article I of
20 the Constitution, which puts the decision to go
21 to war solely in the hands of the legislative
22 branch, the branch of government most ac-
23 countable to people in the United States;

24 (D) substantially reducing and bringing ac-
25 countability to wasteful Department of Defense

1 spending, outdated weapons systems, security
2 assistance, and overt and covert regime change
3 policies that fuel conflict;

4 (E) engaging in diplomacy, peacebuilding,
5 and conflict prevention to address violent
6 groups that perpetrate terrorism rather than
7 the existing framework predicated on high-value
8 assassinations, containment, coercion, torture,
9 and abuse;

10 (F) ending the use of broad-based, sectoral
11 sanctions as a punitive tool short of war, which
12 too often feeds authoritarianism and corruption
13 while disproportionately harming the most vul-
14 nerable;

15 (G) holding the United States Government
16 and its partners accountable to international
17 law, including the law of armed conflict and
18 international arms treaties, and supporting
19 international criminal justice, conducting inde-
20 pendent investigations of suspected violations,
21 and providing reparations, including ex gratia
22 payments, to survivors when it or a partner
23 fails to do so;

24 (H) limiting United States military assist-
25 ance, arms sales, and security sector coopera-

1 tion for governments that commit grand corrup-
2 tion, gross violations of human rights, crimes
3 against humanity, or genocide, regardless of
4 their political relationship to the United States
5 Government;

6 (I) acceding to and supporting universal
7 implementation of international conventions and
8 treaties that uphold the rule of law, promote
9 universal human rights and human dignity, pro-
10 tect the most vulnerable, and democratize inter-
11 national governance;

12 (J) recommitting United States resources
13 and capacity-building to international and bilat-
14 eral nonproliferation, arms control, and disar-
15 mament treaties to work toward a world with-
16 out planet-destroying nuclear weapons;

17 (K) devoting adequate resources toward,
18 and aligning United States policy with, the pur-
19 suit of equitable, sustainable global develop-
20 ment, including but not limited to the achieve-
21 ment of the United Nations Sustainable Devel-
22 opment Goals;

23 (L) ensuring that the rules of international
24 trade and investment, in the form of multilat-
25 eral and bilateral trade agreements and inter-

1 national bodies governing trade, enshrine the
2 right to collectively organize, protect labor
3 rights and the environment, promote gender
4 equality, public health, and anticorruption con-
5 trols over corporate profits;

6 (M) building a more just and equitable
7 global economy by combating illicit financial
8 flows, strengthening measures for global cor-
9 porate accountability, and reforming multilat-
10 eral economic development and lending institu-
11 tions so that the interests of workers, women
12 and children, as well as their reproductive free-
13 dom, the environment, and poor people are
14 prioritized over private and corporate interests
15 and profits;

16 (N) adopting an aggressive plan to trans-
17 form the United States and global economy
18 away from dependency on militarism and fossil
19 fuels and to create the solutions needed to com-
20 bat the climate crisis while centering workers
21 displaced from those industries in a just transi-
22 tion into jobs in the climate resilience work-
23 force; and

24 (O) advancing global reproductive and gen-
25 der justice by ensuring United States foreign

1 policy and foreign assistance programs uphold
2 all people's reproductive rights and access to
3 comprehensive reproductive health care, and by
4 prioritizing women's meaningful participation in
5 United States foreign policy, through securing
6 their positions within United States-influenced
7 peace processes, devoting increased resources to
8 grassroots women-led groups advancing social
9 justice, and supporting women human rights
10 defenders.