

AUMF PROPOSALS TO COMBAT ISIS

As the nation confronts the growing threat from the terrorist group known as the Islamic State in Iraq and al Sham (ISIS, also known as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL), the President has repeatedly said that he would welcome the support of Congress and has invited them to update the post 9/11 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) to protect the nation from terrorism. That 2001 AUMF is now almost thirteen years old, and its language is increasingly inapplicable to groups like ISIS that emerged later. A new AUMF specific to ISIS would be the strongest demonstration of Congressional support and reflect consensus of the American people. Many members of Congress have expressed their interest in taking such action.

In this infographic, we summarize the current Congressional AUMF proposals from broadest to most constrained. We hope it will be helpful for Members of Congress as they decide the best approach forward.

	SUMMARY	REPEAL 2002 AUMF?	TARGETS	EXPIRATION	GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATION	OTHER LIMITATIONS	REPORTING REQUIREMENT
Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) H.R. 5415	Sweeping authorization against any international terrorist groups.	NO	Countries, organizations, or persons associated with or supporting terrorist groups, including al Qaeda and its regional affiliates, ISIS, al Shabaab, Boko Haram and any other emerging regional terrorist groups that share a common violent extremist ideology with such terrorist groups, regional affiliates, or emerging terrorist groups.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK) S.J. Res. 43	To authorize force against ISIS or successor organizations and help the government of Iraq expel ISIS from their territory.	NO	ISIS and any successor organization	NONE	Wherever ISIS or successor organizations are.	NONE	15 Days after enactment, requires comprehensive strategy from White House that includes military, political, and economic issues; requires progress and implementation report from White House every 90 days thereafter.
Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) S.J.Res. 42	To authorize force against ISIS to prevent terrorist attacks against the U.S.	NO	ISIS	3 years after enactment	NONE	No rotational ground forces	NONE
Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) H.J. Res 125	Focused authorization for use of force against ISIS in Iraq and Syria.	YES	ISIS Only	Expires unless renewed 18 months from enactment	Iraq and Syria only.	No rotational ground forces	Every 60 days on actions authorized by bill as well as efforts over next 60 day period.
Sen Tim Kaine (D-VA) S.J. Res 44	Authorizes the use of force against ISIS in Iraq and Syria as well as provision of military equipment and training to forces fighting ISIS including "the Iraqi security forces, Kurdish fighters, and other legitimate, appropriately vetted, non-terrorist opposition groups in Syria."	YES	ISIS and designated associated forces	Expires 1 year from enactment unless renewed.	Iraq and Syria only.	No rotational ground forces, except protection or rescue of U.S. personnel, or against high value targets.	Every 90 days report on progress of effort against ISIS; also requires both an unclassified and classified (if necessary) list of organizations and individuals fighting with or in coordination with ISIS.
Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA) H.J. Res. 123	Non-geographically limited but limited by specific time constraints on reporting and extension of authority under War Powers Act.	YES	ISIS	120 days after enactment	NONE - wherever ISIS is	NONE	President has 60 days to present a plan of action to Congress, which must include a threat assessment of ISIS; regional coalition strategy; and budgetary assessment.