

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. _____

To promote a diplomatic solution in Syria, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

JOINT RESOLUTION

To promote a diplomatic solution in Syria, and for other purposes.

Whereas the use of chemical weapons by the government of Bashar al-Assad against civilians in Syria, including on August 21, 2013, in the Damascus suburbs, is an abhorrent act and a serious violation of international norms and the laws of war;

Whereas the goal of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction, done at Paris January 13, 1993 (commonly known as the “Chemical Weapons Convention”), to eliminate an entire category of weapons of mass destruction by prohibiting the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer, or use of chemical weapons by States Parties is

in the interest of the United States and the international community; and

Whereas it is in the national interest of the United States to exhaust all diplomatic options and to build a robust coalition of international partners to prevent the proliferation and use of chemical weapons in Syria: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TITLE.**

4 This joint resolution may be cited as the “Chemical
5 Weapons Control and Accountability Resolution of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

7 It is the policy of the United States that—

8 (1) the Government of Syria must become a
9 signatory to the Chemical Weapons Convention and
10 take concrete steps to comply with the terms and
11 conditions of the Convention;

12 (2) the failure by the government of Bashar al-
13 Assad to sign and comply with the Convention clear-
14 ly demonstrates a willful disregard of international
15 norms on the use of chemical weapons; and

16 (3) if the Government of Syria does not sign
17 and comply with the Convention within 45 days
18 after the date of the enactment of this resolution, all
19 elements of national power will be considered by the
20 United States Government.

1 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT FOR A SYRIA STRATEGY AND BUILD-**
2 **ING AN INTERNATIONAL COALITION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this resolution, the President
5 shall submit to Congress a long term strategy for Syria,
6 while concurrently using all appropriate diplomatic tools
7 to develop and secure commitments from the international
8 community with the shared strategic interest of preventing
9 the proliferation and use of Syria’s chemical weapons.

10 (b) ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY.—The strategy re-
11 quired under subsection (a) shall include the following ele-
12 ments:

13 (1) A statement of United States strategic
14 goals in Syria.

15 (2) Specific objectives and benchmarks to be ac-
16 complished and a desired endstate.

17 (3) A comprehensive review of current and
18 planned United States diplomatic, political, eco-
19 nomic, and military policy toward Syria, including—

20 (A) the provision of all forms of assistance
21 to the Syrian Supreme Military Council and
22 other Syrian entities opposed to the government
23 of Bashar Assad that have been properly and
24 fully vetted and share common values and inter-
25 ests with the United States;

1 (B) the provision of all forms of assistance
2 to the Syrian political opposition, including the
3 Syrian Opposition Coalition;

4 (C) efforts to isolate extremist and ter-
5 rorist groups in Syria to prevent their influence
6 on the future transitional and permanent Syr-
7 ian governments;

8 (D) security coordination with allies and
9 regional partners including Israel, Jordan, and
10 Turkey;

11 (E) efforts to limit support from the Gov-
12 ernment of Iran and others for the Syrian re-
13 gime;

14 (F) planning for securing existing chem-
15 ical, biological, and other weapons supplies;

16 (G) efforts to address the ongoing humani-
17 tarian challenges presented by 2,000,000 Syr-
18 ian refugees in neighboring countries,
19 4,500,000 internally displaced persons in Syria,
20 and related humanitarian needs; and

21 (H) efforts to develop and secure commit-
22 ments from the international community to pre-
23 vent the proliferation and use of chemical weap-
24 ons in Syria.

- 1 (c) FORM.—The strategy required under subsection
- 2 (a) may include a classified annex, if necessary.