

## **Resolution Condemning Potential U.S. War with Iran**

**Authored by the Director of University Affairs Alejandro Alfaro Ramirez, Commissioner of Sustainability Affairs Jared Geiser, and Senator for the College of Humanities and Fine Arts Alexander Smith**

**Whereas;** the AS Government Affairs Committee is the official recognized voice of the 17,000 students at CSU, Chico, and

**Whereas;** the AS Government Affairs Committee has previously spoken out on injustices in the Middle East, and

**Whereas;** war requires people to carry out the will of the U.S. Military Industrial Complex in the name of an entire nation and corporate interests<sup>1</sup>, and

**Whereas;** military recruiters show recurring patterns of disproportionately directing recruitment efforts towards rural, low-income populations, and at-risk students to enlist with the promise of access to education and economic opportunities<sup>2</sup>, and

**Whereas;** the U.S. has a history of employing imperialist tactics to gain regional control in the Middle East and its oil pathways, including:

- In 1953, the U.S. and U.K. staged a coup of Iran's democratically elected prime minister Mohammad Mosaddegh as an attempt to prevent him from nationalizing Iran's oil<sup>3</sup>, and
- Military aggression towards Iran in the form of training and military technology given to Iraq during the Iraq-Iran War in pursuance of oil interests and regional control<sup>4</sup>,

**Whereas;** going to war can be recognized as furthering the imperialist goal of regional control and access to oil pathways,

**Therefore, be it Resolved;** that the AS Government Affairs Committee of Chico State condemns any plans of the U.S. Government to go to war with Iran or to increase military aggression in the region, and demands that the U.S. withdraw all military forces used for a possible invasion from Iraq and Kuwait, and be it further,

**Resolved;** that the AS Government Affairs Committee denounces U.S. imperialistic practices, and be it further

**Resolved;** that the AS Government Affairs Committee of Chico State stand in solidarity with anti-war activists and coalitions in the context of the CSSA "Resolution Supporting Civil Disobedience and Social Action in all CSUs", and favors the First Amendment right of all people in the U.S. to speak out and denounce a possible war with Iran, and be it further

**Resolved;** the Commissioner of Diversity Affairs as a member of GAC will deliver this resolution and the attached letter of censure to any official recruiter of the armed forces who shows up on campus to take to their ranking officer asking that they stop recruiting practices on campus, and be it further

**Resolved;** that this resolution be distributed to the student body, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of the University President, the Academic Senate of CSU, Chico, the Office of the Chancellor, the local media outlets, our respective congressional representatives, and the White House.

---

<sup>1</sup> Jones, Toby Craig. "America, Oil, and War in the Middle East." The Journal of American History, vol. 99, no. 1, 2012, pp. 208–218., [www.jstor.org/stable/41510316](http://www.jstor.org/stable/41510316).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/military-recruiters-target-isolated-depressed-areas/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2019/01/31/690363402/how-the-cia-overthrew-irans-democracy-in-four-days>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/irans-news-parliament-approves-bill-designating-u-s-military-terrorist-organizations-qassem-soleimani/>

On the behalf of the Associated Student Government Affairs Committee:

We acknowledge that as a result of the Solomon Amendment, the federal government has the right to recruit military personnel on our campus. However, we also acknowledge that we reserve the right as a body to exercise our First Amendment right to free speech. War requires people to participate in multiple facets of the Military Industrial Complex to carry out its will. It has been observed time and time again that your recruiting services often target those living in rural, low income communities, especially high school and college students with the promise of access to education and economic opportunities which should be provided to people regardless of military enlistment. We've witnessed how previous invasions by the U.S. in the Middle East have destabilized its democracies. We recognize that going to war with Iran or increasing military aggression at this time is a part of a strategic plan of the U.S. to gain regional control of the Middle East and of oil pathways. The Iranian Parliament has voted to recognize all U.S. military forces as terrorists due to our aggression in the region. Though we fear action that may be taken against Americans, we are also concerned about the use of force by the U.S. military towards Iranian civilians.

Acutely aware of this situation, we as a body have voted to take the following actions:

1. Denounce any plan of the U.S. to go to war with Iran or increase military aggression in the region and demand the withdrawal of all U.S. military forces from Iraq and Kuwait that can be used for possible invasions
2. Stand in support with anti-war activists and coalitions
3. Deliver this letter and a copy of the Resolution Condemning War with Iran to all recruiting officials who come onto Chico State, and to their ranking officers
4. Send this resolution to our campus administration, CSU executives, local media, and our respective congress representatives

We ask that you voluntarily stop all recruiting services at Chico State. If you have any questions, please contact us at our office in Bell Memorial Union 220.

Sincerely,

The Associated Students Government Affairs Committee

Approved by GAC: 2/24/20

Reported to BOD: 2/28/20