



House Armed Services

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Middle School Model Congress 2016



House Armed Service: Topic 1

Background

The United States has used conscription, known as the draft, for over 150 years. It has been used in the American Civil War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The Civil War experienced a corrupt and disorganized draft, but in the years following, through bills like the Selective Service Act of 1917, The Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, and the Selective Service Act of 1948, conscription became an organized legal part of society. Currently, conscription applies only to men in the United States. An argument used against admitting women into the draft is the scientific fact that women are typically less strong than men. There is truth to this, as according to the U.S. National Library of Medicine, women are approximately 52% and 66% as strong as men in the upper and lower body respectively, and subsequently the flooding of women in the military could mean a weaker military. Another argument used is that the United States could be at war with a country that would specifically target women due to the country's ideology. Senator Ted Cruz has often called the proposition to draft women into combat "nuts". The Senate passed a bill similar to this one in June of 2016, but as of October 2016, the House of Representatives has been avoiding it. The bill is admired by both Democrats and Republicans, but generally more Democrats are for it than not.

Summary

This bill will mandate that all women must register for the draft like men. It is an effort to create a more equal country of equal opportunity. The bill does not change any facet of Selective Service other than who must register.

Some Questions to Consider

- Do you think that making women register for the draft would make the military more equal?
- Do you agree or disagree that adding women to the military could make it physically weaker?
- Do you find any military draft to be unjust and unconstitutional? If so, present your thoughts in your arguments.

Sources

- Selective Service: <https://www.sss.gov>
- Women's Intergration Act: <http://archive.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=41380>
- Demographics: <http://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/2014-Demographics-Report.pdf>

MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL CONGRESS

House Armed Services

Principal Authors: Eli Kline

Bill No: 1

Co-Authors: William Blackman

Title of Bill: An Act to Mandate Equality In the Selective Service System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL CONGRESS

1 *Whereas* under current law, all American men ages 18-25 must sign up for the U.S.
2 Draft through the Selective Service System; *Whereas* if the United States entered a
3 severe military crisis, men would be called upon from the Selective Service System
4 in a sequence determined by random lottery number and year of birth; *Whereas* the
5 chosen men would then be examined for mental and physical fitness by the military
6 before being deferred from military service or inducted into the Armed Forces;
7 *Whereas* the draft has not been used since 1973, but men are still obligated to
8 register; *Whereas* the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 enabled
9 women to serve as permanent members of the United States’ Armed Service;
10 *Whereas* according to the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense from
11 2014, women take up over 15% of Armed Service jobs; *Whereas* women have
12 exhibited throughout history their prominent role in the American military and their
13 ability to participate in the draft.

14

15 **SECTION ONE:** All United States citizens, including women, agendered, or
16 transgender citizens, must register with Selective Service within 30 days of their
17 18th birthday.

18 Subsection A: This bill does not apply to lawful non-immigrants on visas
19 and seasonal agricultural workers.

20 Subsection B: This bill does not apply to Americans incarcerated,
21 hospitalized, or institutionalized for medical reasons.

22 Subsection C: This bill does not apply to disabled citizens who are unable to
23 move around independently.

24

25 **SECTION TWO:** All current laws regarding Selective Service remain with the
26 addition of women in the draft.

27

28 **SECTION THREE:** This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2018.

29 Subsection A: Women who turn 18 before this date will not be involved
30 with Selective Service.

House Armed Service: Topic 1

Background

The Syrian war has raged on for over five years and is a complex web of agendas, foreign influence, and death. The Syrian Civil War officially broke out in 2011 in the midst of the Arab Spring when Bashar al-Assad's crackdown on national Syrian protests sparked violence between the oppressive government and the people. Communities took up arms in defence and eventually fought back. This aggression spiralled into war and uncontrollable violence. Since 2011 over 400,000 people have been killed and the conflict has become infinitely more complicated. The United States currently funnels weapons to the Syrian rebels fighting Assad and strongly denounce his rule. The United States is currently conducting air assaults within Syria against ISIS only and has yet to directly attack the forces of Bashar al-Assad. The full description of the

Syrian Civil War is long and extensive, if you are interested in more information to help prepare for debate, read the NYTimes' *Straightforward Answers to Basic Questions About Syria's War*: http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/19/world/middleeast/syria-civil-war-bashar-al-assad-refugees-islamic-state.html?_r=0

Summary

The purpose of this bill is to catalyze large scale military involvement within Syria. The United States would be granted the authority to conduct war in all but name against Bashar al-Assad and his forces. The defeat of Assad and the stabilization of the region is of utmost importance to the United States and would save thousands of lives. This piece of Legislation gives the means necessary to accomplish these ambitious goals.

Some Questions to Consider

- Can the United States blatantly turn a blind eye to the suffering and death of thousands of innocent people?
- Could American intervention create bad tension with Russia and other powers backing the Assad regime?
- Would United States involvement in Syria lead the nation into a seemingly endless war with unclear objectives, wasting money and lives in the process?

Sources

1. http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/19/world/middleeast/syria-civil-war-bashar-al-assad-refugees-islamic-state.html?_r=0
2. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-23849587>
3. <http://middleeast.about.com/od/syria/tp/Options-For-Intervention-In-Syria.htm>
4. <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/16/world/africa/obama-somalia-secret-war.html>

MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL CONGRESS

House Armed Services

Principal Authors: William Blackman

Bill No: 2

Co-Authors: Eli Kline

Title of Bill: An Act to Save Syria

BE IT ENACTED BY THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL CONGRESS

1 *Whereas* the war in Syria has raged on for five years and claimed over 400,000 lives;
2 *Whereas* the plight in Syria has produced over 5 million refugees spawning the greatest
3 humanitarian catastrophe of the 21st century; *Whereas* Bashar al-Assad has perpetrated
4 atrocities against his own people; *Whereas* the Assad regime is backed by both Iran and
5 Russia; *Whereas* years of conflict has destroyed all basic order within Syria reducing a
6 once peaceful nation to a burnt husk of what it once; *Whereas* the United States has the
7 power to end a bloody civil war and bring humanitarian aid to millions of families who are
8 in desperate need of help; *Whereas* the fall of the Assad regime and an end to the war is
9 the step necessary in order to bring stability to the region; *Whereas* it is the United States'
10 duty to protect those in need and not turn a blind eye to the deaths of thousands.

11

12 **SECTION ONE:** The United States will significantly increase its military involvement in
13 the Syrian conflict with the express goal of toppling the Assad regime and restoring order
14 and peace to Syria.

15 Subsection A: The United States Military will have full authority to use any means
16 at their disposal to achieve these objectives.

17

18 **SECTION TWO:** The United States will escalate the already established multinational
19 coalition force dedicated to toppling the Assad regime and restoring peace in order to the
20 region through shift military action.

21 Subsection A: The United States lead coalition will be encouraged to expand its
22 primarily air based combat to all known forms of legal warfare.

23

24 **SECTION THREE:** This bill will go into effect 100 days after passage.