

WASHINGTON

HOUSE VOTES TO CURB WAR POWERS; SENATE SAYS NO



ERIC LEE, REUTERS

U.S. Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., speaks with reporters alongside U.S. Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., and U.S. Rep. Greg Casar, D-Texas, after the House passed a war powers resolution on the ongoing conflict with Iran on Thursday on Capitol Hill.

Trump promises ‘military punishment’ for Iran, Houthi rebels

PATRICIA ZENGERLE
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The Republican-led U.S. House of Representatives backed a resolution on Thursday directing President Donald Trump to halt U.S. military action against Iran unless he obtains Congress’ approval, but the Senate voted hours later to block a separate, similar measure.

The House vote, the latest rebuke of Trump from Congress, was 214-208 in favor of the war powers resolution as four Republicans joined Democrats in voting for it.

But the Senate voted 49 to 47 to block its own war powers measure within hours of the House vote.

The House resolution, introduced by Rep. Pramila Jayapal, a Washington Democrat, directed Trump “to remove the use of United States Armed Forces from hostilities” against Iran unless Congress authorizes it.

However, it was largely symbolic. Lawmakers have passed similar resolutions repeatedly since the U.S. and Israel began striking Iran on Feb. 28, but they have not

led to a cessation of the war.

The four House Republicans who voted in favor were Tom Barrett of Michigan, Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, Warren Davidson of Ohio and Thomas Massie of Kentucky.

In the Senate procedural vote, Republican Susan Collins of Maine voted with Democrats in favor of the resolution and Democrat John Fetterman of Pennsylvania voted with Republicans against it. Four Republican senators did not vote.

Republicans hold slim majorities in the House and Senate.

The votes reflected growing frustration among lawmakers, including some Republicans as well as Democrats, about a conflict that Trump pitched as a quick, focused effort that would trigger Iran’s capitulation but instead has become a morass for the United States.

Also on Thursday, Trump promised “major military punishment” for Iran and its Houthi allies, after the Yemeni fighters struck two Saudi oil tankers in the Red Sea, extending the Middle East war to a second

major shipping chokepoint.

Fears that disruption could widen further to block another sea route sent global oil prices surging in one of the steepest rises of the war. Brent crude rose more than 6%, breaking through \$100 a barrel for the first time since May.

Two weeks since the effective collapse of an interim truce meant to end the war, the U.S. military launched another round of airstrikes on Iran overnight into Thursday, prompting Iran to fire at neighboring Arab countries that house U.S. bases.

Iranian state media said a missile struck Qeshm Island on the Strait of Hormuz on Thursday evening, raising the prospect of another night of attacks in a conflict well into its fifth month that has already killed thousands and raised fears of a global economic downturn.

After the Houthis said they struck the two tankers, Trump said he would hold Iran accountable for further attacks by the fighters.

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Annual Cheers on the Corner today

Downtown Auburn street closures begin at 3:45 p.m.

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Auburn Downtown Merchants Association’s Cheers on the Corner will be on Friday, and downtown streets will close beginning at 3:45 p.m., according to the City of Auburn.

Cheers on the Corner is an annual event where attendees can enjoy live music, games, entertainment and food. The event will feature 29 downtown stops that will

provide attendees with savory bites and beverage samples.

College Street will close between Thach and Tichenor avenues, and Magnolia Avenue will be closed between Gay and Wright streets.

To promote the safest environment for event attendees, all vehicles parked in on-street parking within the event area must be removed by 5 p.m., the city said.

All vehicles that remain after 5 p.m. will be towed at the owner’s expense, and parking downtown will be gradually coned

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O-A NEWS FILE

In this 2023 file photo, a guest raised a commemorative glass in front of Toomer’s Drugs at the Cheers on the Corner event in downtown Auburn.