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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. RES.

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Condemns President Biden’s failure to heed the advice of military and intelligence advisors about the speed and nature of the Taliban offensive, leading to a disorganized, chaotic, and abrupt evacuation of United States personnel and Afghan allies.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WALTZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## RESOLUTION

Condemns President Biden’s failure to heed the advice of military and intelligence advisors about the speed and nature of the Taliban offensive, leading to a disorganized, chaotic, and abrupt evacuation of United States personnel and Afghan allies.

Whereas despite increasing Taliban violence in the first three months of 2021 and intelligence that the Taliban and al-Qaida were maintaining close ties, on April 14, 2021, President Biden announced a full United States troop withdrawal from Afghanistan by September 11, 2021;

Whereas in his April 14, 2021, announcement of full United States troop withdrawal, President Biden stated, “We

will not conduct a hasty rush to the exit” and “We’ll do it responsibly, deliberately, and safely”, and flatly denied the assessments from his own intelligence community about prospects for the fall of the Government in Kabul;

Whereas, on July 6, 2021, the United States military withdrew from Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, reportedly without notifying the base’s new Afghan commander;

Whereas, on July 8, 2021, President Biden said that “there’s going to be no circumstance where you see people being lifted off the roof of an embassy of the United States from Afghanistan”, adding “the likelihood there’s going to be the Taliban overrunning everything and owning the whole country is highly unlikely” and moved up the September 11, 2021, withdrawal date to another arbitrary date of August 31, 2021;

Whereas, on July 12, 2021, President Biden ordered 4-star General Austin Miller, Commander of NATO’s Resolute Support Mission and United States Forces–Afghanistan, to relinquish his position and depart Afghanistan, leaving the remaining United States presence without a seasoned leader in the face of a growing Taliban offensive;

Whereas, on August 6, 2021, the first Provincial capital, Zaranj, fell to the Taliban since the signing of the United States-Taliban agreement, leading to a violent onslaught of offensives throughout other Provinces;

Whereas, on August 15, 2021, the United States Embassy in Kabul was evacuated and Taliban fighters soon stood outside chanting “Death to America”;

Whereas, as of August 23, 2021, the Department of State and Department of Defense were unable to provide the number of United States citizens and lawful permanent

residents (LPRs) remaining in Afghanistan, including the status of Mark Frerichs who is held hostage, an estimate of how long it will take to evacuate this number of citizens and LPRs, and what efforts are being made to secure their return to the United States; and

Whereas the Biden administration received countless letters, calls, and oversight questions from bipartisan Members of Congress over the last 7 months on plans for the withdrawal that received minimal response: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) condemns President Biden’s failure to heed  
3       the advice of military and intelligence advisors about  
4       the speed and nature of the Taliban offensive, lead-  
5       ing to a disorganized, chaotic, and abrupt evacuation  
6       of United States personnel and Afghan allies;

7           (2) condemns President Biden’s inability to  
8       present a coherent plan to prevent a Taliban take-  
9       over or prepare for the long-term counterterrorism  
10       effects of a withdrawal, to effectively plan for the  
11       evacuation of United States citizens, or to ade-  
12       quately respond to concerns from Congress about  
13       the need to rapidly take steps to evacuate our Af-  
14       ghan allies following his announcement of full  
15       United States troop withdrawal;

16           (3) condemns the damage done to United  
17       States credibility, partnerships, and national security

1 by the President's abandonment of our Afghan al-  
2 lies, failure to consult with our NATO partners, and  
3 creation of a vacuum for terrorist networks and  
4 other United States adversaries to thrive in;

5 (4) calls on the President to conduct a multi-  
6 agency accounting of United States military equip-  
7 ment and other resources left behind in Afghanistan,  
8 now in the hands of the Taliban or other groups,  
9 and immediately present a clear plan to Congress of  
10 how he intends to fill the intelligence gaps created  
11 by this chaotic withdrawal; and

12 (5) calls on the President to commit to main-  
13 taining the evacuation operation as long as nec-  
14 essary to safely evacuate any United States citizen,  
15 lawful permanent resident, and Afghan partner that  
16 requests evacuation assistance and to utilize all  
17 United States military resources to ensure access to  
18 Hamid Karzai International Airport remains open  
19 and unobstructed.