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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the use of funds to provide for in-flight refueling of Saudi or Saudi-led coalition aircraft conducting missions as part of the ongoing coalition intervention in Yemen.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TED LIEU of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds to provide for in-flight refueling of Saudi or Saudi-led coalition aircraft conducting missions as part of the ongoing coalition intervention in Yemen.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Yemen Refueling Pro-
5 hibition Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) From April 2015 to November 2018 the
2 United States provided in-flight refueling to the mili-
3 taries of the Saudi-led coalition in support of the
4 coalition's air strikes in Yemen.

5 (2) A 2018 report by the United Nations-con-
6 vened Group of International and Regional Eminent
7 Experts on Yemen found that during this timeframe,
8 most of the 6,600 civilians deaths and 10,563 civil-
9 ian injuries officially reported in Yemen were due to
10 Saudi-led coalition airstrikes. The report indicated
11 that the real numbers were likely significantly high-
12 er.

13 (3) Due to the repeated failures of the Saudi-
14 led coalition to avoid civilian casualties, the Obama
15 administration suspended the sale of precision-guid-
16 ed munitions to Saudi Arabia in December 2016.

17 (4) In May 2017, then-Saudi Foreign Minister
18 Adel al-Jubeir sent a letter to then-Secretary of
19 State Rex Tillerson outlining the steps the Saudi
20 military was taking to change its operational con-
21 duct, mitigate civilian harm and avoid civilian cas-
22 ualties in Yemen.

23 (5) In June 2017, the Trump administration
24 announced its intention to resume the sale of preci-
25 sion-guided munitions to Saudi Arabia.

1 (6) Despite the Saudi Foreign Minister's assur-
2 ances, from June 2017 to November 2018, airstrike-
3 caused civilian deaths continued, including—

4 (A) over a 10-day period in December
5 2017, the United Nations recorded at least 109
6 civilians killed by airstrikes, including 54 civil-
7 ians killed at a market in Taiz province and 14
8 members of one family killed in Hudaydah
9 province;

10 (B) in April 2018, more than 20 civilians
11 were killed at a wedding party in Hajjah prov-
12 ince; and

13 (C) in August 2018, a Saudi-led coalition
14 airstrike hit a school bus in a market in
15 Dahyan, killing 51 people, 40 of whom were
16 children.

17 (7) On November 9, 2018, the United States
18 announced its decision to halt all refueling assist-
19 ance to the Saudi-led coalition.

20 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON IN-FLIGHT REFUELING OF SAUDI**
21 **OR SAUDI-LED COALITION AIRCRAFT OPER-**
22 **ATING IN YEMEN.**

23 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Fed-
24 eral funds may be obligated or expended to provide for
25 in-flight refueling of Saudi or Saudi-led coalition aircraft

- 1 conducting missions as part of the ongoing coalition inter-
- 2 vention in Yemen.