

Advocacy Teams

 Friends Committee
on National Legislation

Action Sheet

fcnl.org/TeamToolkit

Legislative Ask for October 2022

Urge your member of Congress to cosponsor and pass a Yemen War Powers Resolution.

The truce in Yemen expired on Oct. 2, and Yemenis are now at greater risk than ever. Although the UN is continuing to work towards an expanded agreement, the expiration puts civilians in heightened danger—and underscores the need to ensure that there's no U.S. military support for renewed hostilities. The Saudi blockade also remains a major threat because it prevents fuel and other essential goods from reaching millions of Yemenis in need.

A new report by the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) shows that the naval blockade by the Saudi-led coalition can be considered torture. It implicates the coalition members, as well as the states and companies supporting the blockade—including the United States.

Congressional action is drawing attention to the urgent humanitarian situation in Yemen. Reps. Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and Mark Pocan (WI-02) recently led a “Dear Colleague” letter calling on the Biden administration to increase pressure on the Saudis to lift its restrictions on Yemen’s ports. This letter underscores the crucial need to unilaterally lift the blockade as a humanitarian act, because human lives should not be used as bargaining chips in the pursuit of peace.

Bipartisan support exists to address the humanitarian crisis, as demonstrated in a recent letter led by Sens. Mike Lee (UT), Elizabeth Warren (MA), and Bernie Sanders (VT). Support has also grown for the Yemen War Powers Resolution, with Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (RI) and Rep. Ron Kind (WI-03) joining as the most recent cosponsors of the legislation. Both met with Advocacy Team members before signing on.

With so much public attention on the upcoming midterm elections, October is the month to attend town hall events, candidate forums, or round table discussions. Like advocates in Utah, Advocacy Team members can ask those running for elected office if they will support an end to U.S. involvement in the war in Yemen.

Read more background about our ask here: fcnl.org/ATcampaign



Actions to Take in October

Ask your members of Congress to co-sponsor and publicly support H.J. Res. 87 or S.J. Res. 56.

- Attend a town hall event or candidate forum to ask publicly about your legislator’s position.

If you have additional time:

- Ask your legislator to vote for the 2002 Iraq AUMF repeal amendment from Sens. Tim Kaine (VA) and Todd Young (IN) to the NDAA when it comes to the Senate floor!