



December 13, 2022

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Public Health Association, a diverse community of public health professionals that champions the health of all people and communities, I write to urge all members of the U.S. Senate to support passage of S. J. Res. 56, the war powers resolution that would end any unauthorized U.S. military support of the Saudi Arabian-led war in the Republic of Yemen. The resolution would prevent U.S. support for arms shipments, intelligence sharing and other logistical support.

APHA opposes U.S. involvement in acts of war and instead advocates for protecting the health of affected populations in such conflicts. The civil war in Yemen has engulfed neighboring and distant nation-states in a conflict with significant global implications. In 2017, the United Nations Children's Fund declared Yemen's plight as the biggest humanitarian crisis in the world. An investigation mandated by the United Nations concluded that all the major parties to the conflict, especially a Saudi Arabian-led coalition and the Yemeni government it backs, have shown a disregard for civilian life, possibly amounting to war crimes. More than 150,000 people have been killed directly as a result of the war since 2015, more than 4 million have been displaced, and at least 23.4 million are in need of assistance to survive.

The conflict has become particularly deadly and [APHA has called for three areas of intervention](#):

- Congress should continue its efforts to employ the 1973 War Powers Act to end financing of and military collaboration with warring parties,
- All parties attempting to enforce a blockade of Yemen's ports should immediately lift barriers to the entry of humanitarian supplies, and
- Robust UN-led efforts should be undertaken to provide immediate relief and reconstruction, especially in the areas of health, education, transportation, and communications infrastructure given that all of these are important contributors to health

We urge all senators to vote in support of this important resolution to end any unauthorized U.S. military involvement in this deadly war.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Georges C. Benjamin'.

Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Executive Director