

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021

SR 30

4  
5 By: Senator T. Garner  
6

7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO CONDEMN PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN'S POOR EXECUTION OF  
9 THE UNITED STATES' WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO CONDEMN PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN'S POOR  
14 EXECUTION OF THE UNITED STATES'  
15 WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN.  
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18 WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, terrorists for al-Qaeda, a network of  
19 Islamic extremists granted sanctuary in Afghanistan by the Taliban:

20 (1) Flew hijacked airliners into the World Trade Center in New  
21 York and the Pentagon in Virginia; and

22 (2) Crashed one (1) hijacked airliner into a field near Indian  
23 Lake and Shanksville, Pennsylvania; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, on October 7, 2001, President George W. Bush announced  
26 military action - Operation Enduring Freedom - to remove the Taliban regime  
27 and eliminate al-Qaeda from Afghanistan; and  
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29 WHEREAS, just over two thousand three hundred (2,300) American service  
30 members' lives were lost in the twenty-year conflict in Afghanistan; and  
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32 WHEREAS, the casualties in Afghanistan resulted from two (2) official  
33 military operations: Operation Enduring Freedom, a conflict that lasted from  
34 late 2001 until 2014, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel, which continued  
35 operations in Afghanistan until August 30, 2021; and  
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1           WHEREAS, American military personnel from every single state were  
2 killed in the twenty (20) years of military operations in Afghanistan,  
3 including twenty-six (26) service members from Arkansas; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in February 2020, President Trump's administration negotiated  
6 an agreement with the Taliban to withdraw all United States military troops,  
7 its allies, and coalition partners from Afghanistan by May 1, 2021, in return  
8 for the Taliban's promise to prevent any group or individual, including al-  
9 Qaeda, from using Afghanistan to threaten the security of the United States  
10 and its allies; and  
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12           WHEREAS, on April 14, 2021, President Biden announced that all troops  
13 were to be removed from Afghanistan by September 11, 2021, four (4) months  
14 after the Trump administration's May 1 withdrawal date; and  
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16           WHEREAS, in response to President Biden's decision to delay withdrawal  
17 until September 11, 2021, the Taliban released a statement saying that  
18 failure to complete withdrawal by May 1 "opens the way for [the Taliban] to  
19 take every necessary countermeasure, hence the American side will be held  
20 responsible for all future consequences"; and  
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22           WHEREAS, on July 6, 2021, the United States military confirmed its  
23 evacuation of Bagram Airfield, the largest airfield in Afghanistan, leaving:

24                   (1) The civilian airport in Kabul as the only safe way in and  
25 out of the country; and

26                   (2) Any American citizens, United States allies, and United  
27 States service members that had not left the country with little military  
28 protection; and  
29

30           WHEREAS, on July 8, 2021, President Biden:

31                   (1) Moved up the timeline for full troop withdrawal to August  
32 31, 2021;

33                   (2) Assured Americans that a Taliban takeover of Afghanistan "is  
34 not inevitable"; and

35                   (3) Denied that United States intelligence assessed that the  
36 Afghan government would likely collapse; and

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2           WHEREAS, on August 6, 2021, the Taliban took control of the capital of  
3 Nimroz province and in a matter of days captured all major cities; and  
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5           WHEREAS, on August 15, 2021, the:

6                 (1) Taliban fighters entered the Afghanistan capital, Kabul, and  
7 took over the city;

8                 (2) Afghan president, Ashraf Ghani, fled the country and the  
9 Afghan government collapsed; and

10                (3) United States evacuated diplomats from its embassy by  
11 helicopter; and  
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13           WHEREAS, thousands of Afghan citizens rushed to the airport in an  
14 effort to flee the country for fear the Taliban would:

15                 (1) Target them for their work with international governments  
16 and organizations; or

17                 (2) Return Afghanistan to the Taliban's previous brutal regime;  
18 and  
19

20           WHEREAS, on August 26, 2021, amid evacuations of Americans and United  
21 States allies, the Islamic State Khorasan (ISIS-K) set off two (2) suicide  
22 bombs outside Kabul's Hamid Karzai International Airport, killing more than  
23 one hundred seventy (170) people, including thirteen (13) United States  
24 service members, innocent civilians, and United States allies; and  
25

26           WHEREAS, the August 26, 2021, attack at the airport in Kabul marked one  
27 (1) of the deadliest days for American military forces in the past decade of  
28 the twenty-year war in Afghanistan; and  
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30           WHEREAS, during the last days of the war there was a series of  
31 misjudgments made by President Biden that prevented an orderly withdrawal  
32 from Afghanistan, such as pulling out American troops and prioritizing their  
33 safety before evacuating American citizens and United States allies; and  
34

35           WHEREAS, President Biden is responsible for the poorly executed and  
36 chaotic withdrawal that became tragic and deadly, resulting in the worst

1 United States foreign policy mistake in modern history,

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3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

5 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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7 THAT the Senate:

8 (1) Condemn the actions of President Biden that resulted in the  
9 worst United States foreign policy mistake in modern history; and

10 (2) Thank each United States service member for his or her  
11 service and sacrifice.

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