

US Senate advances Rand Paul-sponsored resolution rebuking Trump on Venezuela

ASHLEY MURRAY
STATES NEWSROOM

WASHINGTON — In a rare rebuke to President Donald Trump, Senate Republicans joined Democrats in advancing a war powers resolution to halt U.S. military action in Venezuela without congressional authorization. Republican Sens. Todd Young of Indiana, Josh Hawley of Missouri, Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska split with their party to act as a check on the administration’s use of military forces — as did Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, the measure’s co-sponsor with Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia. Trump in response slammed the vote on his own social media platform, writing that the Republicans who voted

in favor “should never be elected to office again.” The White House said in a statement he would likely veto the resolution if it reaches his desk. The move marked a significant moment after Republicans on Capitol Hill have largely smoothed the path for Trump’s agenda throughout the past year. Sen. John Fetterman, D-Pa., also unexpectedly supported the measure, which advanced on a 52-47 vote. Sen. Steve Daines, a Montana Republican, did not vote. The joint resolution directs the “removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Venezuela that have not been authorized by Congress.” Democratic Rep. Jim McGovern of Massachusetts and Republican Rep. Thomas Massie of Ken-

tucky have introduced their own bipartisan war powers resolution in the House. A previous effort failed to advance in the House in December. **Trump looks toward next vote** Trump in his social media post said the Republicans joined Democrats in trying to curb his authority as the chief executive. “This Vote greatly hampers American Self Defense and National Security, impeding the President’s Authority as Commander in Chief. In any event, and despite their ‘stupidity,’ the War Powers Act is Unconstitutional, totally violating Article II of the Constitution, as all Presidents, and their Departments of Justice, have determined before me. Nevertheless, a more important Senate Vote will be taking place next week on this very

subject,” he posted on Truth Social. Thursday’s vote advanced the legislation over a procedural hurdle to discharge the bill from committee. The bill still requires additional Senate debate and votes before it would head to the House. The vote came days after U.S. special forces launched a surprise overnight attack on Venezuela’s capital of Caracas on Saturday, capturing the country’s president, Nicolás Maduro, and his wife, Cilia Flores. The couple appeared in federal court Monday on federal drug and conspiracy charges. Venezuelan Interior Minister Diosdado Cabello claimed Wednesday that more than 100 were killed in the raid, according to numerous media outlets that posted a video of his statement.



PHOTO BY ANNA MONEYMAKER
U.S. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., speaks to reporters alongside U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., during a pen and pad meeting with reporters at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 7, 2026 in Washington, D.C.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

The Pulaski County 109 Board is accepting sealed bids for two (2) new/current year ¾ or one (1) ton full sized extended or crew cab 4x4 pickup trucks. Bids will be accepted at the Pulaski County Recycling Center and Solid Waste office at 218 W Hwy 80, Somerset, KY 42503 until 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 20th, 2026. At which such bids shall be publicly opened and read aloud in the normally scheduled January 109 Board meeting held January 20th 2026 at 5:00 P.M. Specifications and instructions to bidders are on file at the Pulaski County Recycling Center and Solid Waste office.

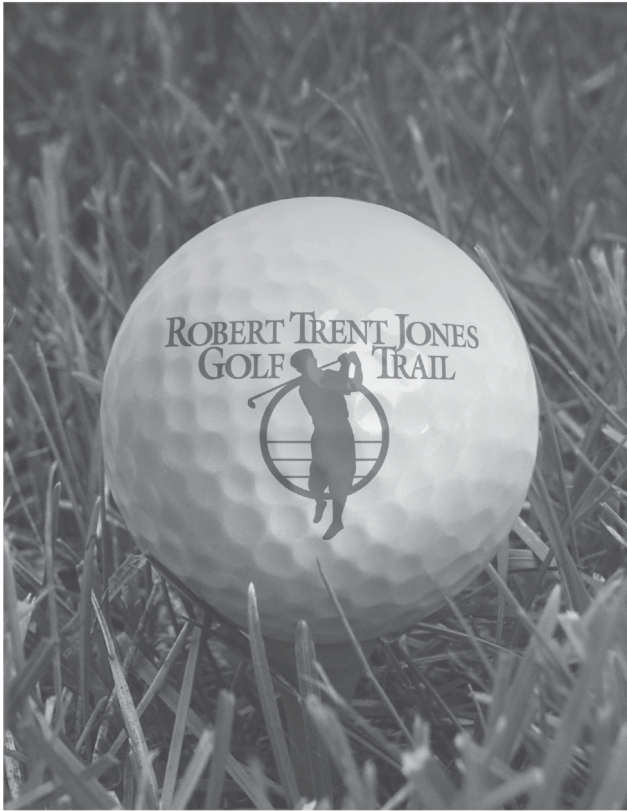
The Pulaski County 109 Board reserves the right to reject or accepted any or all bids and to waive any irregularities.

Bid specifications may be picked up at the Solid Waste Office Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sealed bids must be sent to:

ATTN: Solid Waste Coordinator
Pulaski Co. Recycling and Solid Waste
218 W Hwy 80
Somerset, KY 42503



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