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July 11, 2022

The Honorable Jim McGovern
Chairman
House Rules Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
House Rules Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman McGovern, and Ranking Member Cole:

Since 1913, the mission of ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) has been to “stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.” ADL is dedicated to combating antisemitism, prejudice, and bigotry of all kinds, as well as defending democratic ideals and promoting civil rights. For decades, ADL has fought against bigotry and antisemitism by monitoring and exposing extremist groups and movements that spread hate and commit acts of violence.

We write to request your support for, and opposition to, key amendments to the FY23 NDAA to help combat domestic extremism, fight antisemitism and other forms of bigotry and hatred, and build a more just and inclusive society:

- #367, Sponsored by Rep. Josh Gottheimer (NJ)
 - Requires that DoD issue a report confirming that none of their contractors participate in or are engaged with the BDS movement.
- #370, Sponsored by Rep. Josh Gottheimer (NJ)
 - Requires each military service to report on all substantiated administrative investigations or instances of antisemitism within the Equal Opportunity Program.
- #373, Sponsored by Rep. Josh Gottheimer (NJ)
 - Requires the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to report to Congress on the use of online social media by U.S. State Department-designated foreign terrorist organizations, and the threat posed to U.S. national security by online radicalization.
- #753, Sponsored by Rep. Josh Gottheimer (NJ)
 - Establishes an Office to Counter Domestic Violent Extremism within the Office of the Secretary of Defense to coordinate activities to address extremism in the ranks and as a threat to the force.
- #824, Sponsored by Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI)

- Authorizes the Department of Defense and Department of State to transfer funds for the purposes of combatting Racially and Ethnically Motivated Violence Extremism (REMVE).
- #921, Sponsored by Rep. Linda Sánchez (CA)
 - Requests that the Department of Defense produce a report on the spread of malign disinformation within the ranks and ways in which the Department is currently working to mitigate the spread of - and impact of - malign disinformation.
- #948, Sponsored by Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI)
 - Requires the Secretary of Defense to develop a training and education plan for Department of Defense members and civilian personnel on handling extremist recruitment and activity.
- #1076, Sponsored by Rep. Kathy Manning (NC)
 - Requires the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress on the role of antisemitism in violent extremist movements, and the threat that global antisemitism and violent extremist movements pose to United States Armed Forces and national security.
- #1082, Sponsored by Rep. Brad Schneider (IL)
 - Directs the FBI, Department of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Defense to publish a report that analyzes and sets out strategies to combat White supremacist and neo-Nazi activity in the uniformed services and Federal law enforcement agencies not later than 180 days after enactment and every 6 months thereafter.
- #1104, Sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Rice (NY) and Rep. Brad Schneider (IL)
 - Requires a report to Congress by the FBI and DHS, in consultation with DNI, on compliance with reporting requirements under the FY20 NDAA related to domestic terrorism and a summary of findings; requires a GAO report on FBI, DHS, and DNI compliance with domestic violent extremism transparency mechanisms required by Federal law.
- #1119, Sponsored by Rep. Brad Schneider (IL):
 - Requires a DOD report to update the status of domestic terrorism threat and mitigation measures based on the Countering Extremist Activity Working Group's recommendations, released by the Secretary of Defense in December 2021.

We urge you to oppose the following amendments:

- #2, Sponsored by Rep. Matt Gaetz (FL)
 - Expresses the sense of Congress that combating extremism in the military should not be a top priority for the Department of Defense.
- #685, Sponsored by Rep. Lauren Boebert (CO)
 - Adds a prohibition on the use of federal funds to issue an extreme risk protection order to a member of the Armed Forces or a veteran.
- #751, Sponsored by Rep. Lauren Boebert (CO)

- Prohibits any funds made available by this Act from being used to fund the Open Technology Fund at the United States Agency for Global Media.
- #960, Sponsored by Rep. Lauren Boebert (CO)
 - Strikes Section 562, which discharges servicemembers that have violated Department of Defense Instruction 1325.06 relating to extremist activity.

Together, these amendments can help protect our nation and military from extremism and mitigate the national security threat of antisemitism.

Thank you for your consideration of our perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Carmiel Arbit', with a stylized, cursive script.

Carmiel Arbit
Director of Federal Advocacy and Strategy