

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 29, 2019

The Honorable James Inhofe
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Adam Smith
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mac Thornberry
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Inhofe, Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Reed, and Ranking Member Thornberry:

We want to thank you for your hard work on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2020. As you prepare for conference negotiations, we urge you to support the inclusion of the Khanna-Smith-Schiff-Jayapal amendment #26. The amendment would prohibit U.S. military support for the Saudi-led coalition's war against the Houthis in Yemen and was passed by the House of Representatives in a bipartisan vote of 240-185.

This bipartisan vote follows President Donald Trump's veto of the Yemen War Powers Resolution that would have ended U.S. military support for the Saudi-led war against the Houthis in Yemen. This amendment marks the second time in the past three months that the House of Representatives has passed with bipartisan support a prohibition on U.S. military support for the Saudi-led coalition's war against the Houthis in Yemen. The House passed the Yemen War Powers Resolution (H.J.Res. 37) led by Rep. Ro Khanna by a vote of 248-177.

A bipartisan majority of the U.S. Senate has voted three times over the past year to end all U.S. military support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen. The Senate passed the Yemen War Powers Resolution (S.J.Res. 7), led by Senators Sanders, Lee, and Murphy, by a vote of 54-46 in the 116th Congress and passed the near-identical legislation led by the bipartisan trio of Senators (S.J. Res. 54) by a vote of 56-41 in the 115th Congress. While there were insufficient Senate votes to override the President's veto of S.J. Res. 7, the override vote once again signaled bipartisan support to end U.S. military involvement in the Saudi-led war in Yemen.

This amendment would not prevent any intelligence or logistical support to the Saudi and UAE-led coalition for defensive purposes, to protect U.S. personnel in the region, for operations against al Qaeda and ISIS, or for hostilities that have been authorized by Congress. Rather, the legislation is narrowly limited to only prohibit U.S. involvement in offensive strikes in the Saudi-led campaign against the Houthis in Yemen which a bipartisan, bicameral majority of Congress has declared to be unauthorized.

As you finalize the NDAA, we strongly urge you to include the House provision that prohibits military support for the Saudi-led coalition's war against the Houthis in Yemen. Inclusion of this amendment would ensure that our men and women in uniform are not involved in a war which has never been authorized by Congress and continues to undermine rather than advance U.S. national security interests.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your work on the FY20 NDAA. We look forward to continuing to work together to keep our troops and our nation safe.

Sincerely,



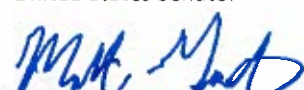
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



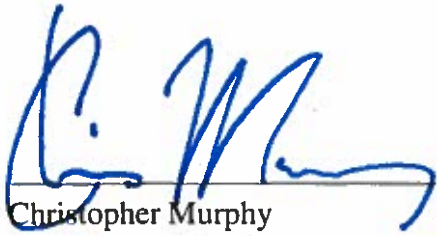
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Member of Congress



Mike Lee
United States Senator



Matt Gaetz
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Christopher Murphy
United States Senator



Rand Paul
United States Senator



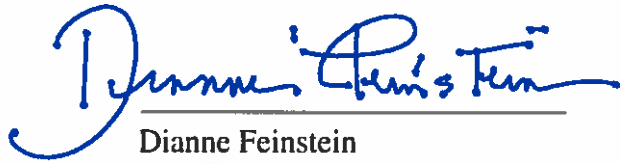
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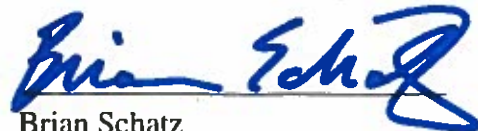
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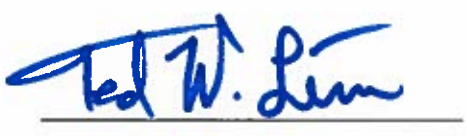

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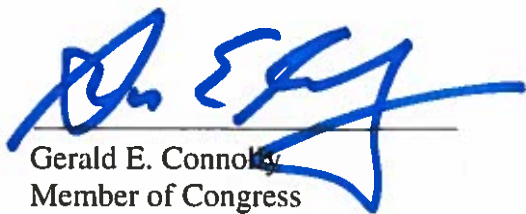

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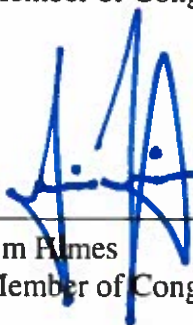
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