

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0550

February 1, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Chairwoman DeLauro:

As you finalize appropriations for the remainder of FY 2022, we urge you to include language to prohibit funding for the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for active-duty, reserve, and national guard military personnel.

Except for the CMS health services mandate, all other COVID-19 vaccine mandates imposed by the Biden Administration have been struck down or halted by federal courts. Therefore, it is our patriotic military members alone who are still carrying the burden of this mandate and face swift removal from military service.

As you are aware, this year's National Defense Authorization Act contained provisions that acknowledge widespread concern over the impact of the mandate. But it didn't end the assault. So far, it has been reported that several hundred of active-duty military have been involuntarily discharged, and these numbers will very soon dramatically grow as each component's deadlines come to pass. We further calculate that, due to this mandate, as many as 50,000 active-duty military are facing expulsion from the honorable service to our country that every single one stepped forward and volunteered to do.

The mandate has been detrimental to fair evaluation as well. To date, not a single religious exemption has been granted to any servicemember that intends to continue serving in any service branch. Each week that passes, more requests for religious or administrative accommodations are denied, ending careers and giving us clarity as to the full damage this mandate will have on the military.

Hundreds of service members and their families have reached out to our offices about the direct impact of this mandate, their careers of service, and toll on their families. They share stories of honor and dignity, service to country, and commitment to defend. These are women and men, young and seasoned, multi-combat deployed, highly trained warriors and fighters, pilots and mechanics, infantry and intelligence and everything in between that the Administration is throwing out without consideration.

If continued, this mandate will devastate morale and destroy our military readiness and weaken our national security posture. With serious challenges emerging around the world, and an ill-prepared Administration at the helm, a purge of this nature is especially troubling.

Now is the time to pause implementation. It is essential that we set the record straight and remind our men and women in uniform we support them and will provide the resources they need to do their sworn duty: To protect the homeland and keep us safe.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



Mike Garcia
Member of Congress



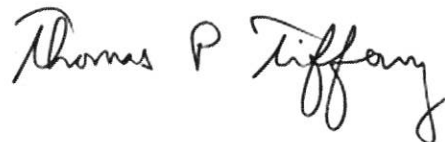
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