

## Interim Report Summary – National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2025

The following partial list of amendments submitted to the [House Rules Committee](#) – drawn from 1352 proposed amendments to the House Draft version of **National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2025** – highlights both positive and negative military/social policy matters of interest to the **Center for Military Readiness (CMR)**. The list includes a few references to **House Armed Services Committee**-approved amendments that have been incorporated in the defense bill, [HR 8070](#), as of June 10, but the Rules Committee will change the number and text of amendments before floor votes in the same week.

Social progressivism taken to extremes, which defines wokeism, has eroded **recruiting, readiness and morale**. If you would like to express your opinion on any of the annual NDAA amendments listed below, either pro or con, call the **Capitol in Washington D.C. at 202/224-3121** or consult [Congress.gov](#) to locate and communicate with your member of Congress through their website.

### SPONSOR      TOPIC

#### Meritocracy & Non-Discrimination

HR 8070 Sec. 547 Banks	Affirms meritocracy and a ban on discrimination at the service academies, to include no less than 30% weighted consideration of standardized test scores
HR 8070 Sec.523 Banks	Defense Secretary shall ensure personnel decisions are based on individual merit, without regard to political affiliation, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or marital status of the covered member (Does not define important terms such as “sex,” which has been interpreted to mean “gender identity,” not biological sex.)
Grothman	(Revised) Prohibits funds for race- and sex-based procurement and hiring practices (“sex” is correctly defined in biological terms)

#### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

HR 8070 Sec. 573 - Banks	Defense Secretary may not establish or maintain any committee, panel, office, or other organization responsible for DEI programs in DoDEA schools
Banks	Terminates the Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (DACODAI) and prohibits renewal of the committee until receipt of report
Banks	Limits new DEI positions or vacancy replacements, making DEI hiring freeze permanent
Higgins	Eliminates Chief Diversity Officer of the Department of Defense
Grothman	Prohibits funds for DEI training or implementation (Similar amendments submitted by Reps. Greene, Norman, Alford, Steube, Boebert, Burlison, and Duncan)
McCormick	Prohibition of academic degrees or certificates for DEI at the military service academies
Davidson	Reduces pay rate authorized in NDAA for 2024 from “GS-10” (approx. \$70,000) to “GS-1”
Boebert	Terminates DoD office of Deputy Inspector General for Diversity & Extremism and funding for personnel

### **Critical Race Theory (CRT)**

HR 8070 Banks	Requires DoDEA to provide a report explaining the purpose and value of plans to incorporate “social emotional learning” (SEL) curriculum in DoDEA schools
Steube Steube	Prohibits funds for race-based theories in DoDEA schools (includes definitions) (Placeholder) Prohibits DoDEA schools from purchasing, displaying, or maintaining material promoting radical gender ideology or pornographic content.
Luna	Prohibits critical race theory (CRT) indoctrination with detailed definitions of race-based theories
Duncan	Prohibits funds for DoD CRT instructions (not defined)
Boebert	Prohibits funds for Countering Extremist Activity Working Group

### **Abortion/Reproductive Rights & Technology**

Van Duyne	Prohibits DoD funding for expenses related to abortions
Aderholt	Prohibits discrimination against health care providers who do not participate in assisted reproductive technology
Greene	Prohibits funds for abortions and related travel to obtain abortions
Rosendale	Prohibits certain types of assisted reproductive technologies

### **LGBT/Transgender Treatments and Surgeries**

Rosendale	Prohibits coverage of “sex reassignment” and related surgeries under TRICARE (Similar amendments submitted by Reps. Hageman and Greene)
Norman	Prohibits gender transition services or referrals through the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) for minor dependent children, and change of duty station through EFMP to obtain access to such procedures
Steube Boebert	Prohibits certain Internet/social media activities promoting “LGBT Pride Month” Requests report on funds used for Pride Month celebrations compared to Veterans Day and Memorial Day celebrations
Boebert	Reinstates August 2017 Presidential Memo that Trump rescinded when he ordered a nuanced policy regarding persons diagnosed with gender dysphoria in March 2018, following an extensive DoD study by a panel of experts

### **COVID-19 Mandates**

Alford	Requires reinstatement of servicemembers involuntarily separated solely on the basis of refusing to receive vaccination against COVID-19 (Rep. Gaetz submitted a similar amendment)
Mills	Mandates no repayment of signing bonus paid to an individual involuntarily separated on the sole basis of refusal to receive COVID-19 vaccination
Self	(Sense of Congress) DoD must restore the personnel records and repair the careers of chaplains who suffered adverse personnel actions after seeking a religious accommodation request to COVID-19 mandate

### **Parents Rights/DoDEA Schools**

HR 8070  
Sec. 572 Banks Improves training and pay for teachers and establishes a school choice pilot program in Bahrain

Boebert Prohibits funding for pornographic and radical gender ideology books at DoDEA schools

Boebert Prohibits funds for Pride Month celebrations at DoDEA schools

### **Climate Change/Electric Vehicles**

Roy Prohibits funds to implement named presidential Executive Orders addressing “climate change” and “clean energy”

Greene Prohibits funds for electric vehicles or charging infrastructures

Feenstra Requires additional cost analysis of replacing gasoline-powered vehicles with vehicles fueled by a blend of gasoline and ethanol

Boebert Terminates contracts for electric non-tactical vehicles

### **Miscellaneous**

HR 8070  
McCormick Prohibits the use of news sources such as NewsGuard that rate opinions and censor “bias” from a biased perspective

Davidson Abolishes Selective Service System and possible military draft

Banks Requires regulations regarding students using smartphones in schools

Walberg Prohibits TikTok in DoDEA schools

Aderholt Strikes section 532 of HR 8070 Draft, Gaetz measure waiving restrictions on new recruits testing positive for cannabis (Rep. Sessions submitted a similar amendment)

Arrington Requires a briefing on instances of attempted breaches of DoD military installations

Edwards Suspends or revokes security clearances for individuals who have expressed support for terrorist organizations

Ryan Requires report on role of antisemitism in violent extremist movements, including Islamist extremism and racially/ethnically motivated violent extremism

Luna Requires that Air Force combat controller training include dive school

### **NEGATIVE PROPOSALS:**

HR 8070  
Sec. 532 - Gaetz Waives restrictions on new recruits testing positive for cannabis

Chavez-  
Deremer Establishes elaborate “Tiger Teams” to seek, find, and change the records of persons who received a less than honorable discharge for violations of Sec. 654, Title 10, the 1993 law regarding gays in the military. (Absent additional UCMJ offenses, persons stating they were homosexual and not rebutting the presumption of homosexual conduct received an honorable or general discharge under honorable conditions.)

Jacobs	Standards for eligibility for service shall be based only on the ability to meet general or MOS-specific standards, and may not include criteria relating to . . . sex [including] gender identity [and] sexual orientation . . .”
Brown/OH	Would strike Banks’ HR 8070 Sec. 573, which would prohibit DEI policy bodies and activities for DoDEA schools
Tokuda	Would strike Banks’ HR 8070 Sec. 572 provision, approved in committee on a voice vote, to establish DoDEA school choice program in Bahrain
Schneider	Implements recommendations of the DoD Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) on “Extremist Activity” in the military, even though the IDA report, belatedly released in December 2023, found “no evidence that the number of violent extremists in the military is disproportionate to the number of extremists in the US as a whole”
Sherrill	Repeals all restrictions on abortions
Sherrill	Defense Secretary shall provide to servicemembers information on reproductive health care, including abortion, and how to request leave and travel costs to obtain abortions across state lines
Sherrill	Orders training for military physicians on obligations to provide “reproductive health care,” including abortion, contraceptive, and fertility care
Sherrill	Provides emergency medical treatment to “pregnant individuals” at a military treatment facility
Sherrill	Requires provision of time off and reimbursement of expenses for seeking abortions across state lines if not available locally, without disclosure to commanding officers
Mace	Pregnancy prevention assistance for sexual assault survivors
Joyce	Allows waivers for potential enlistees testing positive for cannabis
Garcia	Prohibits funds to deny security clearances for marijuana usage

**CONGRESS CAN AND SHOULD DO MORE IN 2024**

Although the current list of submitted amendments includes many positive measures, several more would make the bill stronger: [CMR Challenge to Congress: Let’s Do More in 2024](#) (4-pg.)

In addition, members of Congress should be aware of the consequences of negative amendments listed above and oppose problematic measures that have no place in the **National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2025**. CMR will report on changes made in the annual defense bill during this ongoing process.

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*Prepared by the Center for Military Readiness, an independent public policy organization that reports and analyzes military/social issues. Nothing in this analysis is a statement for or against legislation. More information is available at [www.cmrlink.org](http://www.cmrlink.org). June 10, 2024*