

September 8, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
The House Committee on Rules  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jim McGovern  
Ranking Member  
The House Committee on Rules  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Defense Appropriations Amendment Recommendations from Demand Progress Action**

Dear Chairman Cole, Ranking Member McGovern, and Members of the House Committee on Rules,

As the House Rules Committee prepares to meet and vote on which amendments are to be made in order for H.R. 4365, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024, Demand Progress Action strongly urges the House Rules Committee to allow votes for amendments that strengthen Congressional war powers, protect civil liberties, and increase transparency over the use of U.S. security assistance and armed forces.

**Specifically Demand Progress Action strongly urges the House Rules Committee to make in order the following amendments to H.R. 4365, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024:**

- **Amendment [131](#)** *Gaetz (FL), Jacobs (CA), Tlaib (MI)* — Prohibits funds made available by the bill from being used to transfer cluster munitions.
- **Amendment [237](#)** *Wild (PA), Castro (TX), Velázquez (NY), Schakowsky (IL), Kamlager-Dove (CA)* — States that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide arms, training, or other assistance to the following Peruvian military units: the Segunda Brigada de Infantería del Ejército del Perú; the Cuarta Brigada de Montaña del Ejército del Perú.
- **Amendment [245](#)** *Garcia (IL), Velázquez (NY), Castro (TX)* — Prohibits funds from being used for unauthorized military force against Mexico.
- **Amendment [250](#)** *Hoyle (OR)* — Prohibits U.S. funding from being used for unauthorized U.S. military involvement in the war in Yemen if the Saudi-led coalition resumes aerial hostilities against the Houthis in Yemen.
- **Amendment [230](#)** *Jayapal (WA), Kamlager-Dove (CA), Tlaib (MI)* — Prohibits firearms and explosive weapons from being transferred to Saudi border guards, weapons which were recently identified in the killings of hundreds of Ethiopian migrants and asylum seekers at the Saudi-Yemen border by Saudi security forces.
- **Amendment [34](#)** *Gaetz (FL)* — Prohibits use of funds for drawdown of defense articles and services pending certification of compliance with end-use monitoring requirements.
- **Amendment [36](#)** *Gaetz (FL)* — Prohibits funding for security assistance to Niger until, the Executive, Pentagon, and the CIA provide a briefing on their conduct in the Niger

coup to include but not limited to training, equipping, and failure to report any signs of possible instability within the military. This report is due no later than 180 days after the enactment of this act.

- **Amendment 37** *Gaetz (FL)* — Prohibits funds for security assistance to Niger until, a report is issued to the defense, intelligence, foreign affairs, and appropriations committees of the house and senate regarding the status of U.S. funding for Niger, before, during, and post-coup and with a breakdown of dates when the financial assistance started, halted, was suspended, or if there was no interruption and whether this money been used in any way to continue the coup within Niger.
- **Amendment 38** *Gaetz (FL)* — Prohibits funds for security assistance to Niger, until Niger's democratic government is restored, and the democratically elected President Mohamed Bazoum is restored to power.
- **Amendment 39** *Gaetz (FL)* — Prohibits funds for security assistance to Niger until the borders on Niger are safely reopened, there is a full accounting of the U.S. military equipment utilized during the coup within the county of Niger, there is a report to the defense, intelligence, foreign affairs, and appropriations committees of the house and senate regarding the parties involved in the coup to include any third party nations or paramilitary groups.
- **Amendment 85** *Garcia, Robert (CA), Balint (VT), Norton (DC)* — Prohibits funding for the Uganda Police Force or Uganda People's Defense Force
- **Amendment 87** *Blumenauer (OR), Garamendi (CA), McGovern (MA), Bush (MO)* — Prohibits the use of funding for sustainment of the B83-1 bomb.
- **Amendment 209** *Ogles (TN)* — Clarifies that the ban on assistance to the Azov Battalion in the underlying bill includes providing them with intelligence.
- **Amendment 215** *Ogles (TN)* — Requires DOD to maintain its policy against providing targeting assistance to Ukraine.
- **Amendment 216** *Tlaib (MI)* — Prohibits any funding from being used to support or facilitate offensive military operations by the Saudi-led coalition in the war in Yemen.
- **Amendment 221** *Jayapal (WA), Davidson (OH)* — Prohibits the use of funds to administer the unfunded priorities list.
- **Amendment 224** *Ogles (TN)* — Prohibits security assistance to Pakistan.
- **Amendment 235** *Roy (TX)* — Directs \$20 million from Operations and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, Office of The Secretary of Defense for the establishment of a Special Inspector General for Ukraine, as authorized by Section 1222 of the FY24 House passed NDAA.
- **Amendment 258** *Sherman (CA), Norton (DC)* — Prevents the use of funds to provide military assistance to Azerbaijan.
- **Amendment 318** *Buck (CO)* — Combatting the revolving door of lobbying between the Department of Defense and private companies working in procurement.