Do Not Rubber Stamp Trump's Wars at Home and Abroad A message from Win Without War:

Just this summer, Trump has used the military to occupy major U.S. cities, intimidate political opponents, and run cover for a mass deportation campaign that is leaving communities in fear.

Trump's efforts to weaponize our military against the people are inflammatory, dangerous, and dictatorial. Fortunately, we're about to face a critical chance to push back.

<u>In a matter of days</u>, Congress will be voting on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), a must-pass funding bill that sets the budget for the Pentagon, which is currently overseeing the deployments of armed federal troops to our cities and towns.

But <u>this is no time for business as usual</u>. Rubber-stamping the Pentagon's **trillion** dollar topline sends a dangerous signal that Congress is fine footing the bill for Trump's power grab.

Months after ordering 4,000 National Guard troops and 700 Marines to suppress protests in Los Angeles, Trump deployed 2,200 National Guard troops to Washington, DC in an unprecedented federal takeover — and now, even amidst rulings his LA deployments broke the law, he's threatening to rinse and repeat in Chicago, Baltimore, and New Orleans.

The impacts of Trump's violence-first policies are being felt abroad, too: the U.S. military just conducted an unauthorized, lethal strike in the Caribbean, escalating tensions with Venezuela. Just months ago, Trump brought us to the brink of all-out war in the Middle East after ordering strikes against Iran's nuclear facilities. All the while, U.S. weapons continue to be used by the Israeli military against starving people in Gaza.

Trump is leaving no room for misinterpretation as he rebrands the Department of Defense as the aptly named "Department of War." While he deploys the military to amass power and advance his political agenda, we must stem the flow of funding that makes that possible — blocking the National Defense Authorization Act is a powerful way to do just that.

Here's the good news: Opposition to this year's NDAA is already growing on Capitol Hill. 14 senators (note: neither of CT's Senators were part of the 14 in opposition) just voted against a simple motion to proceed with the NDAA process earlier this week — an extraordinary action on a bill that's usually passed with huge bipartisan margins.

It's a promising start, but it'll be an uphill battle to build a congressional firewall strong enough to reject the NDAA outright. Luckily, pressure from constituents like you can make a HUGE difference.

Go to Win Without War to send a letter with suggested text (which you can edit) to your legislators:

https://actionnetwork.org/letters/reject-the-ndaa-2025/. Or simply write to them directly at their Congressional email addresses.

Note: The New Haven Sunday Vigil suggests the following content (edited in your own words) to address Connecticut's (or other) legislators who say they are against the Trump regime's authoritarian takeover:

The National Defense Authorization Act must be rejected. It gives a rubber stamp to whatever policies the Trump regime wants to carry out, such as the militarization of our cities, the bombing of whatever country or entity it chooses to target, and continued funding and military support for the destruction and famine in Gaza.

Congress cannot treat this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) votes as business-as-usual. A "Yea" vote signifies complicity with the authoritarian takeover already in place as this dangerous administration consolidates its hold on all branches of our government.

If you truly mean what you say in your opposition to the Trump regime, you must reject the NDAA and oppose further funds to the Pentagon while it carries out Trump's illegal and immoral orders.

Distributed by the New Haven Sunday Vigil for Peace and Justice, ongoing since 1999.

Resist This Endless War. Resist fascism now (before it's too late.)

https://newhavensundayvigil.org.

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