



Legislation is currently pending in Congress which would fund endless war and dangerously escalate intelligence sharing and technology integration between the United States and Israeli militaries.

On July 22, the House of Representatives passed the FY 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), **which, if also passed by the Senate, approves a record-breaking \$1.15 trillion budget for the Pentagon. It also includes Section 219, which would establish a United States–Israel Defense Technology Cooperation Initiative.** Section 219 would require the U.S. Secretary of Defense to designate a Pentagon executive agent responsible for coordinating “bilateral defense research, development, testing, evaluation, and industrial cooperation between the two countries.” (<https://theintercept.com/2026/07/22/ndaa-defense-bill-pentagon-israel-massie/>)

Overall, passage of the NDAA means that while Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill Act (passed in 2025) reduces spending on major United States social safety net programs by an estimated \$1.4 trillion over 10 years, the U.S. government will still have carte blanche to pursue its endless wars (such as its latest, against Iran, to the tune of \$37 billion and growing daily). Section 219 of the act guarantees that the Israeli government (already heavily armed and funded by the U.S. government) will have the resources and support to continue to target civilians and mete out collective punishment on the people of Gaza despite the ceasefire signed in October of last year. **But it also has far-ranging implications for any possible citizen oversight of our own military-industrial-technological complex.**

What does Section 219 mean?

“I can’t think of another example of Congress formalizing integration of critical national security technologies with a foreign power,” retired Air Force Lt. Col. William Astore told *The Intercept*. The publication explained one aspect of this initiative:

Unlike traditional foreign military aid programs, [Section 219] would establish a framework for integrating Israeli-developed technologies directly into U.S. research, procurement, manufacturing, and acquisition processes — which military experts warned would be complicated, if not impossible, to unwind. It would apply across areas including AI, autonomous systems, cyberwarfare, biotechnology, missile defense, and defense industrial production.

Astore said he is most worried about the AI component: “Israel is a leader in using AI predictive models and programs to surveil and kill people, using manned and unmanned drones. The ‘smart,’ even autonomous technologies Israel has used against Palestinians could very well be used by the U.S. government against American citizens — especially the so-called radical left that President Trump appears to see as domestic terrorists.” (<https://theintercept.com/2026/06/08/us-israel-224-ai-defense-budget/>)

Use your voice: tell your Senators that Section 219 must go

House passage does not make Section 219 law. The Senate has its own version of the NDAA, with its own version of the defense technology initiative. **The Senate will debate and vote on the bill when they return to session in early September.** Then negotiations will take place between the Senate and the House to reconcile the two versions. **Let them hear from you, their constituents. At the very least, demand that Section 219 be entirely removed from the bill. Take your message directly to their local offices, and call, write and email them.**

Resist This Endless War

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New Haven Sunday Vigil for Peace and Justice

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