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July 25, 2023

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell,

As you finalize the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (FY 2024 NDAA), we strongly urge you to include provisions aimed at protecting our armed forces and uniformed services from the national security threat posed by antisemitism and extremism.

Our country is facing a rise in [antisemitism](#), [extremism](#), and hate in all forms threatening the security of all communities, and our military is no exception.

Jewish communities across the U.S. are experiencing antisemitism at levels not seen in generations. ADL's most recent [Audit of Antisemitic Incidents](#) in the United States found that antisemitic incidents reached an all-time high in the United States in 2022, with a total of 3,697 incidents of assault, harassment and vandalism. At the same time, [domestic violent extremism has been on the rise in recent years](#). The Jewish community continues to be a primary target of extremists, regardless of ideology, alongside other targeted communities.

In the face of this wave of antisemitic hate, the Biden Administration released the first-ever comprehensive [U.S. National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism](#). The strategy includes nearly 200 concrete provisions to address antisemitism at all levels of government and in broader society. While the strategy is comprehensive and significant, it cannot succeed in fighting antisemitic threats without full implementation and buy-in from across the government.

We urge you to bring [amendment #792](#) to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to the floor. Led by Senators Rosen and Lankford, this amendment will require federal agencies to report on how they are implementing the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism. If passed, it will ensure our government is actively working to

fight back against antisemitism at every facet of society, including antisemitism threatening our military and our national security.

Additionally, ADL is also tracking and concerned by extremist threats to the military. Even a small number of extremists in the ranks can cause harm far disproportionate to their number, as has been demonstrated numerous times over the past decades. [ADL has documented](#) that unchecked extremism in the ranks can cause physical harm to servicemembers and civilians, security breaches, and harm to morale, unit cohesion, personnel retention, recruiting efforts, and mission success. **We also urge you to include NDAA [amendment #213](#), led by Senator Feinstein, which would help the Department of Defense ensure that its security clearance processes are capable of meeting the broad scope of this threat, in a manager's package.**

These amendments are a critical step towards protecting all communities from hate and extremism, and strengthening our national security.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Max Sevilla', written over a horizontal line.

Max Sevilla
Senior Vice President
National Affairs
ADL (Anti-Defamation League)