

Amendment to H.R. 2670 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024

Offered by: Mr. Matt Gaetz

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 2670, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Study on Department of Defense reinstatement with backpay and bonus, for service members separated for refusal to get the COVID vaccine report

Report on Department of Defense regarding the cost and effort needed to re-recruit, reinstate, offer backpay, and \$15,000 bonuses for service members discharged for refusal to take the coronavirus vaccine.

The committee is concerned about the lapse in recruiting that jeopardizes national security. According to the committee service secretary and budget meeting, numerous incentive programs have been executed to no-avail. allegations regarding military attorneys, who may have violated the ethical standards for lawyers in accordance with the American Bar association and/or their State Bar licensure.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct an independently sourced report and submit the report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than April 1, 2024, which shall include the following:

- 1) An exact number of service members discharged for refusing the coronavirus vaccine.
- 2) The military occupation of each person discharged for coronavirus vaccine refusal to include, their rank, duty station, payrate, and estimated cost to retain on an annual basis each person by the Department of Defense.
- 3) The estimated cost to recruit, train, and house a new service member to replace the individuals discharged and reaching the exact rank of those discharged for vaccine refusal. The analysis should incorporate new bonuses, and incentive programs constituted to spur enlistment.
- 4) The exact number of service members who lost their lives due to the coronavirus and contrasted with the number discharged for refusing the vaccine, with a financial and human tool cost analysis, including family impact on healthcare, housing, and childcare.

- 5) What impact did the discharges have on the families of those discharged for vaccine refusal.
- 6) An analysis as to if the discharges hindered military readiness, training, or combat operations.
- 7) The impact of offering promotions, backpay, and \$15,000 bonuses for those seeking reenlistment after discharge for vaccine status.
- 8) Any potential funding concerns the Department of Defense Inspector General has raised regarding waste fraud and abuse within a that could serve as a funding offset