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PAUL ARCANGELI, STAFF DIRECTOR

September 28, 2021

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
Member of Congress
2354 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Bilirakis:

Thank you for your efforts to move the FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) forward in the legislative process. I also want to thank you for your leadership in opposing Section 529, the “red flag” language Democrats included in the NDAA. I want to assure you this: the red flag language in Section 529 will not be included in the final bill that the president signs into law later this year.

As you are aware, House passage of the FY22 NDAA is one of many steps in the legislative process. The Senate now must act on their version of the bill. After the Senate acts, the House and Senate will conduct a conference committee to reconcile the differences in our two bills. I have talked with my colleagues in the Senate, and I have been assured this red flag provision will not be included in their bill. With your efforts, we will strip the House Democrats’ red flag provision during the conference committee and vote on a bill without this poisonous language.

The language in Section 529 was included in the House bill last year (the FY2021 NDAA). That same language was dropped during the conference committee last year and we will do the same thing again this year. Just like you, I will not support a conference report that includes this language, and I will not let it become law.

Finally, once this provision is removed, an NDAA can be signed into law that gives our servicemembers a 2.7% pay raise, protects are nuclear deterrence from liberals, aligns our military so we have the force necessary to defeat a rising China, and ensures that our men and women in uniform remain the greatest force for good in the world.

Thank you for your leadership.



Ranking Member Mike Rogers