

June 12, 2024

(202) 626-8820

RE: Scorecard advisory on Van Duyne Amendment (#55) to NDAA

Dear Representative:

The House is expected to continue consideration of H.R. 8070, the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (NDAA). A vote is expected on an amendment from Rep. Van Duyne (R-Texas) to prohibit the Secretary of Defense from paying for or reimbursing expenses relating to elective abortion.

The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) urges you to support the Van Duyne Amendment and intends to include the roll call on the amendment in its scorecard of key pro-life votes of the 118th Congress.

Federal law (10 U.S.C. § 1093) has long prevented the Department of Defense (DOD) from using funds to perform elective abortions and prevented the DOD from using its facilities to provide abortions. On October 20, 2022, the Biden Administration's DOD published a memorandum directing the DOD to pay the travel and transportation costs for military members and dependents to travel to obtain elective abortions. The federal prohibition against DOD funding elective abortion clearly extends to funding for any item related to the abortion, such as travel and transportation, which has been the case for the entire life of the funding prohibition.


The amendment would:

- Explain that federal law (10 U.S.C. § 1093) prevents DOD funding from being used to perform elective abortions and prohibits DOD facilities from being used to provide abortions.
- Repeal the October 20, 2022 memorandum.
- Amend federal law to clarify that the DOD may not pay for the licensure of health-care professionals in a state if the purpose is to provide abortions.

For the above reasons, the National Right to Life Committee urges you to support the Van Duyne Amendment. NRLC intends to include the roll call on the Van Duyne Amendment in its scorecard of key pro-life votes of the 118th Congress.

Should you have any questions, please contact us at (202) 378-8863, or via e-mail at jpopik@nrlc.org. Thank you for your consideration of NRLC's position on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Carol Tobias
PresidentScott Fischbach
Executive DirectorJennifer Popik, J.D.
Legislative Director