Keep Our Military Focused on Readiness, Not Social Experiments

As a proud American, a staunch conservative, and a supporter of our men and women in uniform, I believe our military's sole mission is to defend the United States and its interests, not to serve as a testing ground for progressive social ideology.

That's why I introduced <u>legislation</u> this week to codify President Trump's <u>executive order</u> that prohibits transgender individuals from serving in the military. Our fighting force must remain the most lethal, effective, and focused in the world.

The military has one job—to deter, fight, and win wars. Every policy we adopt must serve that objective.

President Trump understands that the military isn't the place for divisive social engineering. During his first term, President Trump's Pentagon raised serious concerns about the medical costs, psychological demands, and unit disruption associated with allowing individuals to transition while in service. In 2017, he reinstated a longstanding policy that barred individuals with a history or diagnosis of gender dysphoria from military service.

When Biden took office, this commonsense policy was reversed, and political correctness took priority over military strength. Service members were expected to accommodate policies that undermined trust, unit cohesion, and morale, leading to a drop in recruitment numbers.

Taxpayers were left to pay the bill for expensive hormone therapies and surgeries, and troops were being assigned or reassigned based not on military necessity, but identity politics.

That is simply unacceptable.

My bill, the Readiness Over Wokeness Act, restores clarity and discipline to military policy by codifying Trump's recent <u>executive</u> <u>order</u>. It ensures our service members can meet the physical and mental demands of their service without risks to the mission.

At a time when recruitment numbers are down, threats are rising abroad, and morale in our military is low, we need to refocus on what matters: building the strongest, most capable fighting force in history.

Our military exists to fight and win - not to serve as a platform used by activists to push their political ideology.

I will always stand with our service men and women. And I will always put military strength and readiness ahead of woke political agendas.

If you need help from my office with the VA, IRS, or another federal agency, or with a government service like passport processing,

please reach out to us. We've resolved over 6,400 cases since I took office in 2021. Visit one of my offices in Dothan, Andalusia, Mobile, Foley, Bay Minette or Washington, call us at 334-478- 6630, or visit <u>http://barrymoore.house.gov</u> to learn how we can help.