



Thomas Massie issues one last warning to America

Govornik: Thomas Massie

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Rep. Thomas Massie warns that Section 219 of the National Defense Authorization Act would permanently integrate U.S. and Israeli military supply chains and technology, creating a structural arrangement that would outlast any presidency and lack the oversight mechanisms of temporary collaborative projects.

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Rep. Thomas Massie, drawing on 14 years of congressional experience, explains the critical distinction between temporary military collaboration and permanent structural integration. Section 219 of the NDAA—a bill guaranteed to pass annually—would legislatively mandate the integration of U.S. military technology and supply chains with Israel's, creating an arrangement the United States has with no other country. Unlike one-off projects a president could authorize independently, this provision establishes a permanent, cabinet-level position to oversee the integration, ensuring the arrangement survives changes in administration. Massie argues this poses risks to U.S. sovereignty and national security by permanently binding military capabilities to another nation. He offered amendment number two to the NDAA to address the provision, but his amendment was blocked from debate and voting, preventing Congress from formally discussing whether the section should be included or removed.

KLJUČNE PORUKE

Section 219 of the NDAA would permanently integrate U.S. military technology and supply chains with Israel's—an arrangement the U.S. does not have with any other country.

The integration would be legislatively mandated and overseen by an appointed official (likely eventually a cabinet-level position), making it a permanent structural change rather than a temporary project.

This arrangement would outlast any single presidency, meaning once enacted, it cannot be reversed by future presidents without new legislation.

The NDAA passes every year, making it an exceptionally reliable vehicle for embedding legislation, and anything included in it is virtually guaranteed to become law.

Rep. Massie's amendment to address Section 219 was blocked from debate and voting, preventing formal congressional discussion of whether the provision should be included or removed.

Permanent integration differs fundamentally from one-off collaborative military projects, which a president can authorize independently without legislative action.

This provision poses risks to U.S. sovereignty and the protection of national military secrets through permanent binding of military capabilities to another nation.

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Understanding the NDAA and Section 219

The NDAA stands for the National Defense Authorization Act, and it is one of the few bills that passes every year. Having served in Congress for 14 years, I have seen 14 NDAA's pass, which means you can set your clock on the fact that this bill will become law. Because of this reliability, anything that gets included in the NDAA is dangerous—as dangerous as a cocked gun—because it is guaranteed to become law.

The current NDAA bill is hundreds of pages long. Within those hundreds of pages, Section 219—originally section 224—spans five pages and calls for the integration of U.S. military technology and the supply chains that produce our high-tech military equipment to be integrated with Israel's. This is a significant provision because the United States does not have this kind of bilateral agreement with any other country in the world. I would argue that we should not have such an agreement in order to protect our sovereignty and to protect our national secrets.

The Mechanism of Integration and Its Permanence

There is a difference between one-off collaborative projects and permanent structural integration. If the United States wanted to share technology on a specific project—for instance, collaborate on missile defense systems—that would be fine. The president can do that simply by virtue of controlling the military and making individual decisions. However, what Section 219 does is legislatively appoint a person to oversee this integration. This appointed official will eventually likely become a cabinet-level position, though for now it is a lower-level position. What makes this dangerous is that this project will have a lifespan that outlasts the commander in chief, regardless of who the next president is. This provision is permanent. It is written into the National Defense Authorization Act, and it will come to a vote.

The Amendment and the Blocked Debate

Many people became aware of this provision, and I saw it back in June. Because I found this troubling, I offered an amendment to address it. There have been 1,400 amendments offered to the National Defense Authorization Act in the House. My amendment was amendment number two—I was the second person to offer an amendment to the NDAA—because I identified this provision as problematic and wanted to address it. However, what has happened is that my amendment has been blocked. There will be no vote and no debate on Section 219. Congress will not have the opportunity to formally discuss whether this section should be included in the NDAA or whether it should be removed.

#U.S. defense policy

#National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

#U.S.-Israel military relations

#Military supply chain integration

#Congressional procedure and amendments

#National security and sovereignty

#Legislative oversight