November 10, 2026

Dear Members of the House of Representatives,

We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to vote to impeach Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth and to oppose any motion to table the articles of impeachment. Every member of the House, regardless of party, has a responsibility to defend Congress's constitutional authority over whether this country goes to war. That responsibility carries particular weight when American service members are already in harm's way.

If the articles are considered separately, we urge you to support every article. Congress's constitutional authority must be defended consistently, including in Iran, the boat strikes, Venezuela, and Yemen, regardless of members' views on the politics of any particular operation.

Congress never authorized the war with Iran. Secretary Hegseth directed U.S. forces into hostilities in violation of the Constitution and the War Powers Resolution. Both chambers went further and adopted H. Con. Res. 86, directing the President to withdraw U.S. forces from hostilities with Iran. The Pentagon continued the war anyway. A vote to impeach would affirm that a defense secretary can be held accountable for carrying on a war Congress never authorized and expressly called on the President to end.

The articles also charge Secretary Hegseth with extrajudicial killings for using military strikes against boats carrying people suspected of drug trafficking. They allege that a follow-up strike killed survivors of an initial attack. Suspected drug trafficking is a matter for law enforcement. The executive branch cannot claim the power to kill criminal suspects on the strength of its own accusations. The articles also raise serious questions about whether the Pentagon took the precautions required by law to protect civilians, including in the strike on a school in Iran.

Secretary Hegseth also censured Sen. Mark Kelly and initiated proceedings that could reduce his retired Navy rank and pay after Kelly publicly reminded service members of their duty to refuse unlawful orders. Members of both parties should be able to speak about the use of military force without fear of retaliation from the Pentagon.

We urge you to defend that right and Congress's authority by voting to impeach.

Sincerely,

Demand Progress
Public Citizen
MoveOn

Oxfam America
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)
Drug Policy Alliance
Our Revolution
Action Corps
Common Defense
Win Without War
Peace Action
The Chamberlain Network
Latin America Working Group (LAWG)
Alliance of Baptists
RootsAction
International Drug Law Advocacy & Resource Center (ILDARC)
New Jewish Narrative
The Libertarian Institute
CODEPINK
Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center
Center for International Policy Advocacy
September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows
MPower Change Action Fund
ReThinking Foreign Policy
Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP)
Veterans Action Council
IMEU Policy Project
Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security
Free Speech For People
A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing)
Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft
Yemeni Alliance Committee
Defending Rights & Dissent
Minnesota Peace Project
Antiwar.com
Lawyers for Good Government Action Fund
Human Rights and the Drug War
United for Peace and Justice
National Iranian American Council Action
The Porchlight Collective SAP
Center for Economic and Policy Research
Peace, Justice, Sustainability, NOW
StoptheDrugWar.org