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December 10, 2024

Dear Member of Congress,

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 240 national organizations committed to promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States, urges you to oppose H.R. 5009, the FY2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), that includes a provision banning medically necessary, gender-affirming health care for families of service members. If the version of the bill containing this provision reaches the floor for a vote, we urge Members of Congress to vote against passage of the FY2025 NDAA.

Everyone deserves access to the medical care that they need, free from interference from politicians who have no place inserting themselves into decisions that should be between families and their medical providers. Gender-affirming care is a best practice, medically necessary, and supported by nearly every major medical association in the country. Preventing thousands of military family members from obtaining medically necessary care is a betrayal of our military families and an unnecessary threat to our national security. Military families with transgender youth should not be forced to choose between their military careers and providing health care for their families.

Please help protect the essential right of service members and their families to access medically necessary health care. **The Leadership Conference intends to include your position on this version of the NDAA in our voting record for the 118th Congress.** Please reach out to Peggy Ramin, senior policy counsel, at ramin@civilrights.org, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jesselyn McCurdy
Executive Vice President for Government Affairs

President and CEO

Maya Wiley