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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES.

Impeaching Peter B. Hegseth, Secretary of Defense of the United States,
for high crimes and misdemeanors.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. ANSARI submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Impeaching Peter B. Hegseth, Secretary of Defense of the
United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

1 *Resolved*, That Peter B. Hegseth, Secretary of De-
2 fense of the United States, is impeached for high crimes
3 and misdemeanors, and that the following articles of im-
4 peachment be exhibited to the Senate:

5 Articles of Impeachment Exhibited by the House of
6 Representatives of the United States of America in the
7 Name of Itself and of the People of the United States of
8 America, against Peter. B Hegseth, Secretary of Defense
9 of the United States, in maintenance and support of its

1 impeachment against him for high crimes and mis-
2 demeanors.

3 ARTICLE 1: UNAUTHORIZED WAR AGAINST IRAN AND
4 RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT OF UNITED STATES
5 SERVICEMEMBERS

6 In his conduct of the office of Secretary of Defense
7 of the United States, Peter B. Hegseth, in violation of
8 his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of
9 Secretary of Defense and, to the best of his ability, pre-
10 serve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United
11 States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take
12 care that the laws be faithfully executed, has engaged in
13 high crimes and misdemeanors in that—

14 (1) lacking lawful authority, and in direct con-
15 travention of Article I of the Constitution, which
16 vests in the Congress the sole power to declare war,
17 and the War Powers Resolution, Peter B. Hegseth
18 has willfully participated in and directed the initi-
19 ation and escalation of armed hostilities against the
20 Islamic Republic of Iran – which is a brutal regime
21 that terrorizes its own people – without a declaration
22 of war or specific statutory authorization by the
23 Congress;

24 (2) he has failed to seek or obtain meaningful
25 consultation with Congress prior to such actions,

1 thereby usurping legislative authority and under-
2 mining the separation of powers;

3 (3) he has authorized, supported, and advanced
4 military operations lacking defined objectives, lawful
5 authorization, or clear strategic necessity, knowingly
6 exposing members of the Armed Forces of the
7 United States to substantial and foreseeable risk of
8 injury or death;

9 (4) he has endorsed and facilitated operational
10 plans involving extreme and unnecessary risk to
11 United States personnel and interests, including po-
12 tential ground operations within Iran, thereby reck-
13 lessly endangering the lives of American
14 servicemembers deployed in combat operations and
15 stationed throughout the Middle East; and

16 (5) he has demonstrated a willful disregard for
17 the Constitution, abused the powers of his office,
18 and acted in a manner grossly incompatible with the
19 rule of law.

20 Wherefore Peter B. Hegseth, by such conduct, war-
21 rants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

22 ARTICLE II: VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW OF ARMED

23 CONFLICT AND TARGETING OF CIVILIANS

24 In further violation of his constitutional oath and du-
25 ties, Peter B. Hegseth has engaged in high crimes and
26 misdemeanors in that—

1 (1) he has authorized, condoned, or failed to
2 prevent the use of military force in a manner incon-
3 sistent with the law of armed conflict, such as oper-
4 ations resulting in large numbers of civilian casual-
5 ties and the destruction of civilian infrastructure in
6 Iran, including a girls' school in Minab;

7 (2) he has undermined or disregarded estab-
8 lished rules of engagement designed to minimize
9 harm to noncombatants, including illegal "double
10 tap" strikes in the southern Caribbean; and

11 (3) he has engaged in conduct that raises seri-
12 ous concerns of violations of the Geneva Conventions
13 and other binding legal obligations of the United
14 States, including by stating that the United States
15 shall give "no quarter, no mercy for our enemies,"
16 which is an unlawful command.

17 Wherefore Peter B. Hegseth, by such conduct, war-
18 rants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

19 ARTICLE III: NEGLIGENCE AND RECKLESS HANDLING OF
20 SENSITIVE MILITARY INFORMATION

21 In his conduct of the office of Secretary of Defense,
22 Peter B. Hegseth has engaged in high crimes and mis-
23 demeanors in that—

24 (1) he has demonstrated gross negligence in the
25 handling of sensitive and classified military informa-
26 tion, including through the use of unsecured commu-

1 communications systems like the Signal app to transmit or
2 discuss operational details in flagrant contravention
3 of United States law and military standards; and

(2) he has compromised operational security and placed United States personnel at risk through this careless and improper conduct.

Such conduct constitutes a betrayal of the trust placed in him and a dereliction of his duty to safeguard national security.

10 Wherefore Peter B. Hegseth, by such conduct, war-
11 rants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

12 ARTICLE IV: OBSTRUCTION OF CONGRESSIONAL
13 OVERSIGHT

14 Peter B. Hegseth has directed or engaged in efforts
15 to obstruct the constitutional oversight responsibilities of
16 Congress by—

(1) failing to provide timely and complete information regarding military operations;

(2) withholding material facts relating to civilian casualties and operational conduct in Iran, Venezuela, and other military theaters; and

(3) interfering with the ability of Congress to exercise its constitutional responsibilities.

24 Wherefore Peter B. Hegseth, by such conduct, war-
25 rants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

1 ARTICLE V: ABUSE OF POWER AND POLITICIZATION OF
2 THE ARMED FORCES

3 Peter B. Hegseth has abused the powers of his office
4 by—

5 (1) using his position to influence military deci-
6 sions for improper political purposes;

7 (2) intervening in military disciplinary or per-
8 sonnel matters in a manner inconsistent with estab-
9 lished law and practice, including targeting and
10 launching bogus investigations against specific elect-
11 ed officials for the express purpose of political ret-
12 ribution; and

13 (3) undermining the principle of a nonpartisan
14 and professional Armed Forces.

15 Wherefore Peter B. Hegseth, by such conduct, war-
16 rants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.

17 ARTICLE VI: CONDUCT BRINGING DISREPUTE UPON THE
18 UNITED STATES AND ITS ARMED FORCES

19 Through the cumulative conduct described in these
20 Articles, Peter B. Hegseth has—

21 (1) acted in a manner contrary to the public
22 trust as Secretary of Defense;

23 (2) shaken public confidence in the integrity
24 and ability of the Department of Defense, including
25 by undermining United States commitment to the

1 North Atlantic Treaty Organization and United
2 States credibility around the world;

3 (3) brought disrepute upon the United States,
4 its Armed Forces, and the Department of Defense
5 by violating its laws and the codes of conduct be-
6 stowed upon public servants; and

7 (4) degrading the readiness and cohesion of
8 U.S. armed forces by—

9 (A) denigrating women, LGBTQ+, and
10 people of color serving the United States, in-
11 cluding by forcibly separating transgender peo-
12 ple from service;

13 (B) personally intervening in promotions to
14 deny the elevation of qualified Black and
15 women officers;

16 (C) attacking women's physical qualifica-
17 tions, restricting their access to reproductive
18 care, and undermining systems to address sex-
19 ual harassment and assault in the military; and

20 (D) promoting standards of appearance
21 that disproportionately penalize Black
22 servicemembers.

23 Wherefore Peter B. Hegseth, by such conduct, war-
24 rants impeachment and trial, and removal from office.