## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 20, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy:

Thank you for your commitment to bring legislation to the House floor in September 2023 that would repeal outdated Authorizations for the use of Military Force (AUMFs). We write to urge you to begin this process by scheduling S. 316 and H.R. 4445 for a vote in the House during September 2023.

We appreciate your commitment to act to reclaim the founders' intended role for Congress' on matters of war and peace. We support the conversation underway, led by the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to move beyond the outdated and overly broad 2001 AUMF (Public Law 107-40) passed in the immediate wake of the 9/11 attacks. While this conversation proceeds, it cannot be allowed to delay the repeal of other outdated AUMFs. The President has made clear to Congress that the 2002, 1991, and 1957 AUMFs do not provide authority for any current military operations. The most recent of these AUMFs was adopted more than two decades ago. Only forty-four current Members of the House were here to vote on the 2002 AUMF. Each day that these outdated AUMFs remain on the books undermines the framers' intent for Congress to determine when and how America goes to war, and further alienates Americans from their right to inform Congress' decisions on these matters.

Measures to repeal the 2002, 1991 and 1957 AUMFs have already passed the House multiple times, most recently in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress as part of <u>H.Amdt.271</u>, a bipartisan en bloc amendment to the FY23 NDAA, adopted by the house by a <u>vote of 277-150</u>. House legislation to repeal the 2002 and 1991 AUMFs, H.R. 932, currently has sixty-eight bipartisan cosponsors. House legislation to repeal the 1957 AUMF, H.R. 4445, likewise reflects bipartisan support.

S. 316, a bipartisan Senate bill identical to H.R. 932, passed the Senate without amendment in March of this year by a <u>vote of 66-30</u>. Scheduling a vote in September on S. 316 represents the fastest path to delivering this legislation to the President's desk. Similarly, a September vote on H.R. 4445 would allow the Senate to act on that legislation.

For more than twenty years, Congress has failed to play its assigned Constitutional role in determining how and when the United States goes to war. We urge you to schedule S. 316 and H.R. 4445 for votes on the House floor in September 2023.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lee Member of Congress

Alien & mentere

Abigail Davis Spanberger Member of Congress

Mare

Nancy Mace Member of Congress

Cc: Majority Leader Steve Scalise Minority Leader Hakeem S. Jeffries

Chip Roy Member of Congress

Wmen

Warren Davidson Member of Congress

James P. McGovern Member of Congress