

Sen. Tuberville: “Stop Playing Politics with Our Military” Action Toolkit

Senator Tuberville and his Senate colleagues are returning to Washington, DC this week after summer recess, and we **must** put pressure on him to stop blocking military nominations. As military loved ones, we need to use our voices to explain why his protest is so dangerous and unpatriotic.

Use this Toolkit and join hundreds of military families and spouses in speaking out about the negative impact the Senator's actions are having on our community.

- There are **three calls to action: post on socials, call the Senator's office, write a letter to the editor**. We encourage you to do all three, but the most important thing is to *do what you can, when you can*.
- Amplify your impact by sharing this Toolkit with friends and encouraging them to take action, too.

1. POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA

All of the recommended social media posts include a talking point and a call to action. If you like one talking point but prefer a different call to action - no problem! Please mix and match and personalize to reflect your unique voice and point of view. If you're comfortable, include a photo of your loved one in uniform and, if not, **[click here for a variety of social media graphics](#)**.

FACEBOOK / INSTAGRAM POST

- The former football coach is now playing politics with the military. Rather than resolve a policy disagreement through the appropriate process, Tuberville has thrown 300 military families into direct partisan conflict — and thrown our entire military community into frustration and uncertainty. His protest is dangerous and unpatriotic and it needs to end.
Join me and other military family members putting pressure on Tuberville: sign and share the @secure_families petition. bit.ly/TubervilleMilitaryPetition
- "I don't care if they promote anybody to be honest with you," Tuberville said. Well, I DO care, Senator! This stupid political stunt affects each and every one of us with a loved one in uniform. We are watching a United States Senator put his political position and ambition ahead of the lives of service members like my spouse who

have sworn to defend this country. His behavior is unpatriotic and shameful. This interview with @secure_families explains why this matters so much to my community. <https://youtu.be/q3XcV03SM2s>

- Senator Tuberville is threatening our national security. The Marine Corps, Army and Navy are without Senate-confirmed leaders. That leaves nearly half of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the President's chief military advisory bod, positions empty at a time when the US is navigating tensions with China and Russia and a war in Ukraine. I called Sen. Tuberville's office to urge him to end this protest. Can you take 3 minutes and call, too? 212-224-3121
- I urge Senator Tuberville to listen to military leaders and, yes, military spouses like me, when we tell him how his protest is being received by the actual people impacted. I know what it means to serve a cause greater than yourself - I see it every day in the actions of selfless service members who dedicate their lives to defend the Constitution. But, Senator Tuberville is the epitome of unpatriotic - he's withholding his Constitutional duty and using military members as pawns in a political fight. He needs to stop.
Join me and other military family members putting pressure on Tuberville: sign and share the @secure_families petition. bit.ly/TubervilleMilitaryPetition
- My loved one [spouse/child/parent] took an oath to defend the Constitution. He/She/They can't pick and choose which parts of the job to complete. Senator Tuberville, why did you take an oath of office and an oath to the Constitution if you aren't going to actually do your job and confirm qualified military nominees?
- Senator Tuberville's reason for blocking the nominations keeps changing. He is grasping at any excuse he can to disrupt the lives of servicemembers and their families. No matter his reason of the week, politicizing and disrupting promotions and employment packages, attacking diversity and inclusion programs, and blatant politicization of military service policies sends a message to the entire military community that you do not respect our sacrifices.

TWITTER POST

- I urge @SenTuberville to listen to military leaders and, yes, military spouses like me, the people actually impacted. He must stop using military members as pawns in a political fight. Join me and sign and share the @secure_families petition. bit.ly/TubervilleMilitaryPetition
- .@SenTuberville is threatening our national security. Marine Corps, Army & Navy are without Senate-confirmed leaders and hundreds of chains of command are missing a key link. I called his office to urge him to end this protest. Can you call, too?
202-224-3121

- "I don't care if they promote anybody to be honest with you," @SenTuberville said. Well, I DO care, Senator! This stupid political stunt affects each & every one of us with a loved one in uniform. This video from @secure_families explains why this matters! <https://youtu.be/q3XcV03SM2s>

TIKTOK / INSTAGRAM REEL

We have a number of short, repost-worthy videos about the Tuberville military promotion protest on both our TikTok and Instagram. Here are a few of our favorites to share:

- "I object!" [TikTok](#) / [Instagram](#)
- "Where Sen. Tuberville is blocking promotions and why it matters" [TikTok](#) / [Instagram](#)
- "Why can't Tuberville do his job?" [TikTok](#) / [Instagram](#)

CALL TO ACTION

- Join me and other military family members putting pressure on Tuberville: sign and share the @secure_families petition. bit.ly/TubervilleMilitaryPetition
- Watch this video with Secure Families Initiative to understand why this matters so much to my community. <https://youtu.be/q3XcV03SM2s>
- I called Sen. Tuberville's office and left a message urging him to end this protest. Can you take 3 minutes and call, too? 212-224-3121

2. CALL SENATOR TUBERVILLE'S OFFICE

SENATOR TUBERVILLE CALL SCRIPT

Please call and leave a message for the Senator or call after hours and leave a voicemail. Be respectful and be sure to include your connection to the military.

DC Office Phone Numbers

- **DC Office:** (202) 224-4124
- **Congressional Switchboard:** (202) 224-3121

DC Office Call Script

Hello, my name is *[your name]* I am an active duty military spouse *[veteran/relationship with the military]*.

I am calling to express my frustration with and disappointment in the Senator for blocking military promotions. He has inflicted direct harm to military leaders and caused confusion and frustration for the entire military community.

It is widely known that the military is facing challenges to recruitment and retention. Politicizing and disrupting promotions and employment packages, attacking diversity and inclusion programs, and blatant politicization of military service policies compounds this problem and sends a message to female service members (who make up over 17% of our active duty force) and servicemembers of color (who make up 40% of the active duty force) that they are not welcome. For a Senator who has stated publicly that no one is more military than him, he should be ashamed of his actions.

If the Senator disagrees with a DoD health care policy, he should settle it through normal legislative or administrative channels. It is highly inappropriate and unpatriotic to wage a political battle by using military service members as pawns. No matter his political beliefs, we must agree that service members and military families will not be used as political leverage.

Are you able to pass along this message to the Senator?

ALABAMA CONNECTION CALL SCRIPT

If you have a connection to Alabama - live there, relatives do, vote, stationed, etc - please call the district office. We have everything you need to call: the phone number, contact and sample script.

Local Office Phone Numbers and Contacts

- **Montgomery:** (334) 523-7424. District contact: Cindy Pate, Regional Director
- **Huntsville:** (256) 692-7500. District contact: Gwen Shelton, Regional Director
- **Birmingham:** (205) 760-7307. District contact: Mike Raita, Regional Director
- **Dothan:** (334) 547-7441. District contact: John Ferguson, Regional Director
- **Mobile:** (251) 308-7233. District contact: Andrew Hinkebein, Regional Director

Local Office Call Script

Hello, my name is *[your name]* I am an active duty military spouse *[veteran/relationship with the military]*. I would like to speak to *[district contact]*. *(If not available, ask to leave a message.)*

[Explain your connection to Alabama] and I am calling to express my frustration and disappointment in Coach for blocking military promotions. He has inflicted direct harm to military leaders and caused confusion and frustration for the entire military community.

It is widely known that the military is facing challenges to recruitment and retention. Politicizing and disrupting promotions and employment packages, attacking diversity and inclusion programs, and blatant politicization of military service policies compounds this problem and sends a message to female service members (who make up over 17% of our active duty force) and servicemembers of color (who make up 40% of the active duty force) that they are not welcome. For a Senator who has stated publicly that no one is more military than him, he should be ashamed of his actions.

If the Senator disagrees with a DoD health care policy, he should settle it through normal legislative or administrative channels. It is highly inappropriate and unpatriotic to wage a political battle by using military service members as pawns. No matter his political beliefs, we must agree that service members and military families will not be used as political leverage.

Are you able to pass along this message to the Senator?

How do I remain in contact with your office on this issue?

BONUS: CALL LEADER MCCONNELL'S OFFICE

As the leader of Tuberville's party in the Senate, Leader McConnell must clearly and forcefully call for an end to the promotion protest.

- **DC Office:** (202) 224-2541
- **Congressional Switchboard:** (202) 224-3121

McConnell Call Script

Hello, my name is *[your name]*. I am an active duty military spouse *[veteran/relationship with the military]*. I would like to leave a message for Leader McConnell.

I'm calling to convey my support for Senator McConnell's early opposition to Senator Tuberville blocking military confirmations. As a military spouse myself, I would also like to communicate my personal gratitude. As you know, Senator Tuberville has stopped the confirmation of over 300 military leaders, inflicting direct harm to these service members and causing confusion and frustration for the entire military community.

If the "world's most deliberative body" can't even confirm qualified military leaders without being hijacked by one Senator's political ambitions, how can we trust you'll handle the most consequential decisions like declaring when my loved one will go to war?

I'm calling to encourage Senator McConnell to take a firmer and more aggressive stance against Senator Tuberville's protest. No matter our political beliefs, we must agree that service members and military families will not be used as political leverage.

Are you able to pass along this message to the Senator?

3. WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A Letter to the Editor is a short and quick reader-submitted letter that newspapers publish to give a snapshot of life from a member of the community. It provides a personal perspective on broad, difficult issues. A strong Letter to the Editor can be persuasive and reach people in a way that traditional news stories and national pundits never will. We encourage you to submit a letter to your local paper to put a personal spin on why Tuberville's protest is so problematic.

How to Submit a Letter to the Editor

- Step 1: Decide where you want to submit your letter. Your best bet is to pick a local news outlet where you live or vote. (For example, a Nebraska resident pitching to the *Omaha World Herald* or the *Lincoln Star!*) Make sure to include your relevant address in the submission.
- Step 2: Look for submission details online. Every news outlet is different, so once you've identified your target outlet, check out their website — usually under a section called "Letters to the Editor," "Opinion," "Commentary." That should tell you the word limit (typically 250 words) and the submission form or email address for submission.

- Step 3: Prep your letter. This is your opportunity to share what you wish civilians understood about how Tuberville is impacting the military community. Draw on your personal experience and relationship to the military.
- Step 4: Submit and wait!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR TEMPLATES

Option 1

As a military spouse [family member / veteran / supporter], I am appalled by Senator Tuberville's continued hold on essential military business. He has stopped the confirmation of at least 300 military leaders, inflicted direct harm to these service members and caused confusion and frustration for the entire military community. This political grandstanding is causing uncertainty for military families like mine and directly threatens our national security. The military is a family business, and seeing our service insulted, ignored and belittled by a sitting U.S. Senator will negatively impact retention in the future. And it is undoubtedly affecting our national security as world leaders see one of our own politicians wreak havoc on the lives of service members. Military families like mine have been sounding the alarm on Tuberville's blockade for months and it's past time his colleagues in the Senate do the same. They must urge Tuberville to stop playing politics with the military so they can confirm all of the nominees and put this ugly period in military history behind us.

Option 2

Senator Tommy Tuberville, a Senator who insists on being called "Coach" despite being off the sidelines since 2016, is playing politics with the military and blocking the Senate from critical business of confirming military leaders. His risky play call is putting our national security in peril and intercepting the lives of military families. At a time when our country needs to recruit and retain the best and brightest, he is committing a personal foul and interfering with the lives and livelihoods of service members. Indeed, for the first time in history the Marine Corps, Army and Navy are without a confirmed leader. In terms he might understand, this is like pulling the head coach from the sideline in the middle of a game for a decision he had no part in making. It's disruptive, punishing the wrong player, and confusing to everyone on the team! Military families like mine rightly expect that Senators will respect the service and sacrifice of our military members. But Tuberville is holding military leaders, their families and all service members hostage for a political advantage. The game must end!

TUBERVILLE RESOURCES

- [Petition: Stop Playing Politics with the Military](#)
- [Senator Tuberville Promotion Protest FAQs](#)

- **Take Action: Tuberville Toolkit**
- Follow Secure Families Initiative on social media: **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **Twitter**, **TikTok** and **YouTube**.

