THE REAL THREAT TO READINESS: JOE BIDEN'S EXTREME AGENDA

The Biden administration and Democrats claim Senator Tuberville's unanimous consent hold on the Pentagon's top nominees threatens military readiness, with their allies in the press claiming that top jobs are "vacant."

But this is false. All of these jobs are being performed by acting officials. In some cases, the acting officials are the same people nominated for the roles. Further, the Senate can still confirm these nominees, but Chuck Schumer refuses to put them up for a vote.

The Biden Administration's bluster about a unanimous consent hold cannot overshadow the real threat to military readiness: their injection of liberal and woke policies into the U.S. military.

The Facts:

In December 2021, the Biden administration <u>discharged</u> over 8,000 service members for not taking the COVID-19 vaccine. The Biden DoD unilaterally fired troops who were perfectly healthy and wanted to defend our country. Even after Congress overruled the vaccine mandate in December 2022, the Pentagon is still actively reviewing conduct cases for troops who <u>refused</u> the vaccine. Democrats just voted in this year's defense bill against reinstating these patriots.

The United States Armed Forces are facing the worst recruiting <u>crisis</u> since the end of the draft in 1973. At a House Armed Services Committee hearing this year, leaders from the Army, Navy, and Air Force all reported they are expected to miss their annual recruiting <u>goal</u> this year by thousands. Liberals' divisive anti-American rhetoric and identity politics have discouraged America's youth from joining the military. This was reflected in a Morning Consult <u>poll</u> showing just <u>16%</u> of 18–25-year-olds were proud to live in the U.S.

The Biden administration forced its obsession with identity politics into the U.S. military via DEI training. These woke training programs <u>undermine</u> cohesiveness by emphasizing differences based on race, ethnicity, and sex. It also undermines leadership authority by introducing questions about whether <u>promotion</u> is based on merit or left-leaning political correctness. Most importantly, it took time and resources away from training activities that contribute directly to readiness.

In his first act as Secretary of Defense, Secretary Lloyd Austin ordered a stand-down for training on extremism in the ranks. The DoD spent over 4-million-man hours promoting a false narrative that our military is full of extremists instead of countering our greatest adversaries and preparing our troops for battle. Such training destroys morale and instills mistrust in military units. The Pentagon later admitted that 99.9 percent of service members are not extremists, yet they still requested \$34.2 million in the FY23 budget for "countering extremist activities."

The Biden administration has created the most politicized Pentagon in American history and it is ruining the last trusted American institution: the U.S. Armed Forces. **Senator Tuberville is fighting for a military that's focused on national defense – and national defense alone.**