



THE CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS, INC.
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January 14, 2025

The Honorable Roger Wicker
The Honorable Jack Reed
U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Wicker and Ranking Member Reed,

The over 100,000 members of The Conservative Caucus--the oldest conservative grassroots organization in the United States--strongly supports the nomination of Peter Hegseth to be Secretary of Defense.

The primary role of the Department of Defense is to safeguard the United States and our interests abroad by deterring aggression through a strong military, and if deterrence fails, to fight and win wars when necessary to protect our national interest.

President Joe Biden's reckless withdrawal from Afghanistan demonstrated to the world that the principle of peace through strength had been abandoned. That invited Russia to invade Ukraine, and Iran to unleash war on Israel through their proxies. Biden even allowed the Chinese spy balloon to complete its mission.

President Trump needs a strong Secretary of Defense to restore the peace.

One of Hegseth's first duties will be to restore the image and readiness of our military as a competent fighting force, set free from the destructive DEI rules which severely harmed recruitment, retention and readiness. He can also restore military personnel who were kicked out because they refused to be guinea pigs for an experimental vaccine.

His experiences as a soldier will enable him to formulate more effective plans that would succeed under any and all conditions. There would be no Gaza pier debacles, for example.

Pete Hegseth has the experience and leadership qualities—honed in combat—to restore peace through strength.

Again, the members of The Conservative Caucus strongly endorse his confirmation to be the Secretary of Defense.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Thomas
Chairman

Jim Pfaff
President