Friends,

I wanted to take a moment to honor Senator Bob Dole who unfortunately passed away over the weekend at age 98. The late Senator served our nation valiantly in WWII, and then served the people of Kansas in Congress for over 30 years.

**TWEET:** It was an honor to stand with Senator Dole

Simply put, our nation lost a great man in Senator Dole. He will always serve as a reminder of what all Americans should strive to be: a noble patriot. Mr. Dole will be dearly missed by all, and Jo and I will continue to pray for his family during their time of need.

**The NDAA and Unconstitutional Vaccine Mandates**

This week in Washington, the House voted to pass the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). While funding our military is of critical importance to me, I ultimately could not support passage of this legislation.

**TWEET:** Vaccine mandates are unconstitutional, and our troops deserve better

First off, I commend the GOP negotiators who worked tirelessly to make the final version of the NDAA much better than its radical, original form. You may remember that Democrats included some radical provisions in their first draft, such as “red flag” laws and granting the Secretary of Defense powers to label any service member as an “extremist.” These agenda items had no place in the NDAA, and I am grateful they were removed.
However, the NDAA unfortunately did not overturn President Biden’s unconstitutional vaccine mandates against our troops, even as federal courts continue to strike down these unconstitutional mandates across the board.

This is a deal breaker for me because our troops deserve so much better.

Biden’s vaccine mandates are simply unconstitutional and an egregious example of government overreach. America was built on the very idea that you have the freedom to make your own individual choices. But vaccine mandates are an afront to this concept that has allowed our country to thrive.

MORE: America’s legal system continues to block Biden’s vaccine mandates

My belief is that we cannot give an inch on this basic issue of human freedom. Because if we do, the radical Left will take a mile. And if you have heard Fauci’s latest comments on the Biden mandates, it sure sounds like they’re trying:

“I would prefer, and we all would prefer, that people would be voluntarily getting vaccinated, but if they’re not gonna do that, sometimes you’ve got to do things that are unpopular, but that clearly supersede individual choices,” said Fauci this week.

Hear that? We are now at a point in America where government officials are openly talking about “superseding individual choices.” The normalization of this very mindset why I could not in good conscience support the NDAA. Whether you serve our nation in the military, or run a small business, desire to remain employed, or are simply going grocery shopping, your vaccine status shouldn’t matter. I will always fight for Americans’ individual rights, and that especially includes choices concerning their own health.

Should our troops be forced to take the vaccine?

Yes

No

Submit survey to sign up for updates on my work in Congress.*

Adam Schiff is the Jussie Smollett of Congress

https://youtu.be/AEK82auE9jY
Sincerely,

Dan Bishop
Member of Congress