

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## ACS Triumphs in Securing Syria Amendment to FY 2025 NDAA

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The American Coalition for Syria (ACS), a coalition of Syrian and multifaith groups advocating for a free and democratic Syria, proudly announces the adoption of a bipartisan amendment to the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 8070). This significant amendment advances U.S.-Syria policy and underscores America's unwavering stance against normalizing relations with the Assad regime.

The House Armed Services Committee virtually unanimously approved the language proposed by Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC). This pivotal amendment declares as a Statement of Policy that the U.S. will never normalize relations with Syria under Bashar al-Assad's rule. Furthermore, it mandates the administration to develop a strategy to protect U.S.-supported forces at the al-Tanf base from threats posed by the Assad regime, Iranian-backed proxies, and Russia. It also requires a comprehensive report on the Assad regime's ties to ISIS and Iranian-backed groups, and Russian support to Foreign Terrorist Organizations.

ACS extends heartfelt thanks to Congressman Wilson for his collaboration with ACS and the Syrian American Council (SAC) in introducing this amendment. We also express our deep appreciation to Congressmen Seth Moulton (D-MA) and Marc Veasey (D-TX) for their crucial support in making this legislation bipartisan. Their cosponsorship ensured that the amendment received robust, crossparty endorsement from the Armed Services Committee.

This achievement is a testament to the power of collective action and the unwavering commitment of our community. We thank Congressman Wilson and his staff for introducing this vital amendment, and we are deeply grateful to Congressmen Moulton and Veasey for their bipartisan support. Most importantly, we thank our constituents whose tireless efforts made this possible. This achievement is all about them. The inclusion of this amendment in the National Defense Authorization Act is a clear signal that Congress remains fully committed to the Assad Regime Anti-Normalization Act and standing up to his regime, and we will not cease in our efforts until it is made the law of the land.

Mohammed Alaa Ghanem, Policy Chief, ACS

This victory belongs to our constituents who heeded our call to action, rallying behind our efforts and persuading their representatives to support this crucial amendment. We owe immense gratitude to our policy team for their strategic expertise and our government relations team for their relentless advocacy, which included countless visits to Hill offices, hand-delivering letters, emails, and phone calls. Our grassroots teams deserve special recognition for coordinating effective call-in and email campaigns that galvanized public support.

Once again, Congress has spoken with a united voice in favor of a free Syria. ACS remains steadfast in its mission and will now focus on ensuring that the Senate Armed Services Committee adopts similar language in the companion version of the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act.

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The American Coalition for Syria (ACS) is a coalition of U.S. organizations dedicated to fostering principled U.S. policies that champion democratic reform, human rights, and justice for Syria.