

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 297

To direct the Secretary concerned to reinstate a member involuntarily separated from the Armed Forces solely on the basis of the refusal of such member to receive a vaccination against COVID–19.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2023

Mr. MAST (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. VAN DREW, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BABIN, Mr. POSEY, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. BOST, Mr. PERRY, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. HUNT, Mr. CLINE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. FALLON, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. ZINKE, and Mr. DONALDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary concerned to reinstate a member involuntarily separated from the Armed Forces solely on the basis of the refusal of such member to receive a vaccination against COVID–19.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERS INVOLUN-**  
2 **TARILY SEPARATED FROM THE ARMED**  
3 **FORCES ON THE BASIS OF REFUSAL TO RE-**  
4 **CEIVE VACCINATIONS AGAINST COVID-19.**

5 (a) REINSTATEMENT.—At the election of a covered  
6 individual, the Secretary concerned shall reinstate such  
7 covered individual—

8 (1) as a member of the Armed Force concerned;  
9 and

10 (2) in the grade held by such covered individual  
11 immediately before the involuntary separation of the  
12 covered individual.

13 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) The term “covered individual” means an in-  
15 dividual involuntarily separated from the Armed  
16 Forces solely on the basis of the refusal of such indi-  
17 vidual to receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

18 (2) The term “Secretary concerned” has the  
19 meaning given that term in section 101 of title 10,  
20 United States Code.

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