

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 3, 2026

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman
House Armed Services Committee
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member
House Armed Services Committee
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Smith,

As the House Armed Services Committee prepares to mark up the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2027 on Thursday, June 4, we write to urge you to include language prohibiting the use of funds authorized by the Act for military operations against Cuba absent specific congressional authorization.

While we would prefer to believe that no such provision is necessary because any President would respect Congress's exclusive constitutional authority to declare war, President Trump has repeatedly demonstrated a willingness to use military force without congressional authorization. He has already undertaken military action in Venezuela, initiated a war with Iran, and publicly declared that "Cuba is next."¹ At the same time, the Administration's ongoing blockade of Cuba has contributed to the collapse of the island's electrical grid, and reports indicate that U.S. military planners are "weighing an array of options" that "could range from a single airstrike meant to scare the regime into concessions to a ground invasion meant to uproot it."²

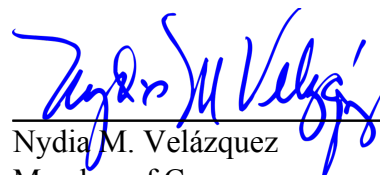
The American people do not want President Trump to continue embroiling our country in new wars. Just as nearly two-thirds of Americans agree that the war in Iran has harmed our country and the world, 64 percent of Americans oppose the United States going to war against Cuba.³ Congress should not wait until additional military action is underway in Cuba to assert its constitutional authorities. Therefore, we urge the Committee to adopt clear language prohibiting the obligation or expenditure of funds for military operations against Cuba unless and until Congress has specifically authorized such action.

We appreciate your commitment to ensuring that the NDAA reflects both our national security interests and our constitutional responsibilities, and we stand ready to work with you and your staff to reaffirm the Constitution and the War Powers Resolution in in this year's legislation. Congress alone possesses the authority to declare war, and the Committee should make clear that no funds authorized by this Act may be used to circumvent that fundamental constitutional principle.

Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

¹Holland, Steve and Gram Slattery. "Trump says 'Cuba is next' in speech touting US military successes." *Reuters*, March 27, 2026, <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/trump-says-cuba-is-next-speech-touting-us-military-successes-2026-03-27/>.

²Toosi, Nahal. "Yes, Trump Might Really Attack Cuba." *Politico*, May 18, 2026, www.politico.com/news/magazine/2026/05/18/the-odds-of-trump-attacking-cuba-are-going-up-00926317.

³"Americans Oppose US War with Cuba by 64% to 15%, New YouGov Poll Finds." *Center for Economic and Policy Research*, May 6, 2026, <https://cepr.net/newsroom/americans-oppose-us-war-with-cuba-by-64-to-15-new-yougov-poll-finds/>.