



# **PRESERVING NATIONAL SECURITY, PROTECTING MILITARY FAMILIES AND VETERANS, AND DEFENDING TAXPAYERS**

Sen. Elizabeth Warren's Record of Accomplishment  
on the Senate Armed Services Committee



Prepared by the Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren  
**SEPTEMBER 2024**

# CONTENTS

---

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	1
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	9
<b>FINDINGS SENATOR WARREN’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE</b> .....	10
1. PREVENTING CORRUPTION AND CONTRACTOR OVERCHARGING .....	11
2. PRESERVING DEFENSE INDUSTRY COMPETITION AND FIGHTING INDUSTRY MONOPOLIES. ....	13
3. IMPROVING HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND ACCESS TO CARE FOR SERVICEMEMBERS. ....	13
4. FIGHTING FOR SERVICEMEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES .....	15
5. WORKING FOR MASSACHUSETTS .....	17
6. RIGHTING HISTORICAL WRONGS .....	19
7. FIGHTING FOR VETERANS.....	20
8. ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS .....	21
<b>CONCLUSION</b> .....	23

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) was named as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC or “the Committee”) on December 14, 2016.<sup>1</sup> Upon being named a member of the Committee, Senator Warren promised that she would ensure that “Congress provides effective support and oversight of the Armed Forces, monitors threats to national security, and ensures the responsible use of military force around the globe.”<sup>2</sup>

Senator Warren has kept these promises. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, she has established a long list of legislative and oversight accomplishments to improve national security. This report contains a summary of those key accomplishments. She has introduced 41 pieces of legislation referred to the Committee<sup>3</sup> and cosponsored 63 others.<sup>4</sup> She has obtained numerous legislative victories in the annual National Defense Authorization Acts (NDAA) signed into law by Presidents Trump and Biden. She attended over 200 hearings,<sup>5</sup> and she has chaired seven hearings since becoming chair of the SASC Subcommittee on Personnel.<sup>6</sup> And she has been an aggressive investigator, sending nearly 200 oversight letters seeking accountability for key armed services issues.<sup>7</sup> This report contains a summary of her key accomplishments, which include:

<sup>1</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Senator Warren Announces Appointment to Armed Services Committee,” press release, December 14, 2016, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warren-announces-appointment-to-armed-services-committee>.

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> Congress.gov, <https://www.congress.gov/quick-search/legislation?wordsPhrases=&wordVariants=on&congress-Groups%5B0%5D=0&congresses%5B0%5D=118&congresses%5B1%5D=117&congresses%5B2%5D=116&congresses%5B3%5D=115&legislationNumbers=&legislativeAction=&sponsor=on&representative=&senator=W000817&senateCommittee%5B0%5D=ssas00>.

<sup>4</sup> Congress.gov, <https://www.congress.gov/quick-search/legislation?wordsPhrases=&wordVariants=on&congress-Groups%5B0%5D=0&congresses%5B0%5D=118&congresses%5B1%5D=117&congresses%5B2%5D=116&congresses%5B3%5D=115&legislationNumbers=&legislativeAction=&cosponsor=on&representative=&senator=W000817&senateCommittee%5B0%5D=ssas00>.

<sup>5</sup> On file with the office of Senator Elizabeth Warren.

<sup>6</sup> Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program,” May 8, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-military-and-civilian-personnel-programs-in-the-department-of-defense-in-review-of-the-defense-authorization-request-for-fiscal-year-2025-and-the-future-years-defense-program>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on the Department of Defense’s efforts to ensure servicemembers’ access to safe, high-quality pharmaceuticals,” April 30, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-the-department-of-defenses-efforts-to-ensure-servicemembers-access-to-safe-high-quality-pharmaceuticals>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on traumatic brain injury and blast exposure care,” February 28, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-traumatic-brain-injury-and-blast-exposure-care>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on the status of Department of Defense recruiting efforts and plans for fiscal year 2024,” December 6, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-the-status-of-department-of-defense-recruiting-efforts-and-plans-for-fiscal-year-2024>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on potential budgetary efficiencies achieved through improvement to management and planning processes within Department of Defense personnel programs,” July 26, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-potential-budgetary-efficiencies-achieved-through-improvement-to-management-and-planning-processes-within-department-of-defense-personnel-programs>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on public integrity and anti-corruption laws at the Department of Defense,” April 26, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-public-integrity-and-anti-corruption-laws-at-the-department-of-defense>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, “To receive testimony on military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program,” March 15, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-military-and-civilian-personnel-programs-in-the-department-of-defense-in-review-of-the-defense-authorization-request-for-fiscal-year-2024-and-the-future-years-defense-program>.

<sup>7</sup> On file with the office of Senator Elizabeth Warren.

## PREVENTING CORRUPTION AND CONTRACTOR OVERCHARGING

Senator Warren has used her position on the Armed Services Committee to fight for strong ethics and conflict of interest standards to protect the national interest and ensure that the Department of Defense's (DoD's) contracting decisions are made based on national security interests. And she has aggressively fought to cut waste, fraud, and abuse in DoD contracts. Her key victories include:

- Introducing *The Department of Defense Ethics and Anti-Corruption Act*<sup>8</sup> and securing NDAA provisions that prohibit senior DoD nominees from owning or trading stocks in the ten largest defense contractors.<sup>9</sup>
- Obtaining voluntary ethics commitments from key Pentagon officials to protect the military from potential conflicts of interest.<sup>10</sup>
- Fighting contractor price gouging, including seeking an investigation by the DoD Inspector General into overcharging by TransDigm Group Inc.<sup>11</sup> that resulted in TransDigm agreeing to return \$16.1 million to the Department of Defense.<sup>12</sup>
- Introducing the bicameral and bipartisan *Stop Price Gouging the Military Act* and winning new tools for DoD to end contractors' abuse of loopholes that rip off the military.<sup>13</sup>
- Fighting against contractor profiteering during the COVID crisis.<sup>14</sup>
- Introducing the bipartisan and bicameral *Streamline Pentagon Spending Act* to push back against the Pentagon's wasteful "unfunded priorities" wish lists and holding DoD accountable until the agency endorsed her proposal to scale them back.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senator Warren Introduces New Legislation to Strengthen Ethics and Transparency at the Defense Department," press release, May 16, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warren-introduces-new-legislation-to-strengthen-ethics-and-transparency-at-the-defense-department>.

<sup>9</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Section 921, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "In Response to Senator Warren's Questions, Secretary of Defense Nominee General Lloyd Austin Commits to Recusing Himself from Raytheon Decisions for Four Years," press release, January 19, 2021, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/in-response-to-senator-warrens-questions-secretary-of-defense-nominee-general-lloyd-austin-commits-to-recusing-himself-from-raytheon-decisions-for-four-years>; Air Force Magazine, "Warren lifts hold on Kendall nomination after ethics agreement extension," Abraham Mahshie, July 13, 2021, <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/warren-lifts-hold-on-kendall-nomination-after-ethics-agreement-extension/>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "At Hearing, Warren Secures Ethics Commitment Joint Chiefs of Staff Nominee General Brown; Reiterates Concern over Senior Military Holds," press release, July 11, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/at-hearing-warren-secures-ethics-commitment-joint-chiefs-of-staff-nominee-general-brown-reiterates-concern-over-senior-military-holds>.

<sup>11</sup> Reuters, "TransDigm's shares fall as Senator Warren seeks probe," June 12, 2017, <https://www.reuters.com/article/idUSKBN193270/>.

<sup>12</sup> Intercept, "How Rep. Ro Khanna Got a Price-Gouging Defense Contractor to Return \$16.1 Million to the Pentagon," David Dayen, May 28, 2019, <https://theintercept.com/2019/05/28/ro-khanna-transdigm-refund-pentagon/>.

<sup>13</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senators Warren, Braun, Representative Garamendi Reintroduce Bipartisan Stop Price Gouging the Military Act," press release, June 20, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-braun-representative-garamendi-reintroduce-bipartisan-stop-price-gouging-the-military-act>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>14</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Obtains Department of Defense Commitment to Protect Taxpayer Dollars, as DoD Indicates It Does Not Want to Adjust Contracts for Inflation," press release, October 27, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-obtains-department-of-defense-commitment-to-protect-taxpayer-dollars-as-dod-indicates-it-does-not-want-to-adjust-contracts-for-inflation>.

<sup>15</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Department of Defense Recognizes Ineffectiveness of 'Wish List' Spending, Endorses Senator Warren's Proposal to Repeal Requirement," press release, March 28, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/departement-of-defense-recognizes-ineffectiveness-of-wish-list-spending-endorses-senator-warrens-proposal-to-repeal-requirement>.

## PRESERVING DEFENSE INDUSTRY COMPETITION

Senator Warren has consistently fought excessive consolidation in the defense industry, which undermines innovation, increases costs for DoD, and puts the overall health of the defense industrial base at risk. Her victories include:

- Fighting dangerous and costly defense industry consolidation, including helping to block Lockheed Martin's plans to acquire rocket engine manufacturer Aerojet Rocketdyne.<sup>16</sup>
- Giving DoD strong new authority to prevent defense industry consolidation.<sup>17</sup>

## IMPROVING HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND ACCESS TO CARE FOR SERVICEMEMBERS

Senator Warren has led the way in addressing the emerging threats to servicemembers' health and ensuring they have access to the health care they need. Her victories include:

- Requiring DoD to study the health threats from blast overpressure and holding a hearing pushing DoD to act to protect servicemembers, including requiring DoD to update safety requirements, track exposure, and develop strategies to protect servicemembers at the greatest risk.<sup>18</sup>
- Successfully fighting to protect servicemembers' access to abortion services after the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, including battling on the Senate floor to ensure that hundreds of holds on military nominees were lifted and the Department's abortion policies stayed on the books.<sup>19</sup>
- Improving DoD's medical supply chains, including addressing DoD's dependence on foreign countries for our supply of critical drugs.<sup>20</sup>
- Giving DoD the authority to waive medical fees for civilians treated at DoD Military Treatment Facilities—enhancing DoD doctors' skills and medical readiness.<sup>21</sup>
- Introducing and passing, as part of the fiscal year 2018 NDAA, the *Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes Act* to make it easier for victims of terrorism attacks to receive care at MTFs.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Reuters, "Lockheed scraps \$4.4 billion deal to buy Aerojet amid regulatory roadblocks," February 14, 2022, <https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/lockheed-martin-terminates-44-bln-deal-acquire-aerojet-rocketdyne-2022-02-13/>; Roll Call, "Lawmakers request review of two defense industry acquisitions," John Donnelly, July 1, 2024, <https://rollcall.com/2024/07/01/lawmakers-request-review-of-two-defense-industry-acquisitions/>.

<sup>17</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, Sec. 857.

<sup>18</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Ernst, Khanna, Senators Announce Bipartisan Bill to Mitigate Blast Overpressure and Protect Service Members," press release, April 11, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-ernst-khanna-senators-announce-bipartisan-bill-to-mitigate-blast-overpressure-and-protect-service-members>.

<sup>19</sup> CNN, "Tuberville releases Senate holds on confirming hundreds of military nominations," December 5, 2023, <https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/05/politics/tommy-tuberville-releases-holds/index.html>.

<sup>20</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>21</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Castro Urge Department of Defense to Waive Civilians' Medical Debt Incurred at Military Treatment Facilities," press release, March 7, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-castro-urge-department-of-defense-to-waive-civilians-medical-debt-incurred-at-military-treatment-facilities>.

<sup>22</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren and Collins Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Provide Military Health Care Treatment to Victims of Terrorism," press release, June 15, 2017, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-and-collins-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-provide-military-health-care-treatment-to-victims-of-terrorism>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, Public Law 115-91, Sec. 712.

- Taking the first steps to cut costs for drugs and other medical treatments developed with DoD funds.<sup>23</sup>
- Helping ensure that Americans serving overseas have access to health care services at U.S. facilities in Japan.<sup>24</sup>

## FIGHTING FOR SERVICEMEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Senator Warren has fought for years to improve quality of life for servicemembers and their families. Her key victories include:

- Passing key parts of her *Military Housing Oversight and Service Member Protection Act* into law and holding private housing contractors accountable for their failures to provide adequate housing for military families – including fighting for and obtaining new requirements that restrict private contractors from abusing non-disclosure agreements and violating servicemembers’ rights – and requiring DoD to put the first-ever military housing complaint database online.<sup>25</sup>
- Investigating sexual assault and harassment of students in the Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corp (JROTC), and passing key parts of the *JROTC Safety Act* to protect JROTC students from abuse and forced enrollment.<sup>26</sup>
- Strengthening and improving military child care programs, including securing \$37 million for child care construction funding for military families in Massachusetts<sup>27</sup> and securing a proposal in the fiscal year 2025 Senate NDAA to address military childcare staffing shortages.<sup>28</sup>
- Improving care for military sexual trauma victims.<sup>29</sup>
- Requiring DoD to put in place enhanced efforts to identify servicemembers suffering from gambling disorder and obtain new data on overdoses among servicemembers.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Senate Armed Services Committee, “Report to Accompany S. 2226, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024,” p. 169, <https://www.congress.gov/118/crpt/srpt58/CRPT-118srpt58.pdf>.

<sup>24</sup> Stars and Stripes, “Senator questions Pentagon decision to limit DOD civilians’ access to on-base health care in Japan,” Alex Wilson, January 24, 2023, [https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia\\_pacific/2023-01-24/senator-warren-civilian-health-care-8870217.html](https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia_pacific/2023-01-24/senator-warren-civilian-health-care-8870217.html); Stars and Stripes, “Lack of civilian health care in Japan causing ‘serious and negative impacts,’ lawmakers say,” Alex Wilson, April 1, 2024, [https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia\\_pacific/2024-03-31/japan-dod-civilian-health-care-warren-13464166.html](https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia_pacific/2024-03-31/japan-dod-civilian-health-care-warren-13464166.html).

<sup>25</sup> National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 2890, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1790/text>; National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, Sec. 2821-2823, [https://www.congress.gov/118/plaws/publ31/PLAW-118publ31.pdf?trk=public\\_post\\_comment-text](https://www.congress.gov/118/plaws/publ31/PLAW-118publ31.pdf?trk=public_post_comment-text); Military Times, “Military families finally have a database for housing complaints,” Karen Jowers, August 12, 2024, <https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2024/08/12/military-families-finally-have-a-database-for-housing-complaints/>.

<sup>26</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Senators Warren, Sanders, Hirono Introduce Junior Reserve Officer Training Safety Act,” press release, June 15, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-sanders-hirono-introduce-junior-reserve-officer-training-safety-act>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, Sec. 552 and 556.

<sup>27</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act,” press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>28</sup> U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, “SASC Completes Markup of National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025,” July 8, 2024, p. 16, [https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy\\_25\\_ndaa\\_executive\\_summary\\_061324.pdf](https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy_25_ndaa_executive_summary_061324.pdf).

<sup>29</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren, Sullivan Introduce Bipartisan Protecting Servicemembers Online Act of 2017,” press release, June 13, 2017, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-sullivan-introduce-bipartisan-protecting-servicemembers-online-act-of-2017>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, Public Law 115-91, Sec. 533; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Sexual Trauma Response and Treatment (START) Act,” fact sheet, May 9, 2018, [https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/START\\_Act\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/START_Act_Fact_Sheet.pdf).

<sup>30</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Senate adopts Warren amendment to study problem gambling prevention, treatment, and financial counselling options for servicemembers,” press release, June 18, 2015, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/>

## WORKING FOR MASSACHUSETTS

Senator Warren has worked with the Massachusetts delegation to make sure DoD is investing in the Commonwealth and supporting the servicemembers that live and work there. Her victories include:

- Securing over \$490 million for family housing, safety upgrades, and other critical military construction for military bases and facilities throughout the Commonwealth.<sup>31</sup>
- Championing funding for Massachusetts universities, including securing almost \$50 million of DoD funds to support programs at UMass-Lowell, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Northeastern.<sup>32</sup>
- Obtaining DoD funding for innovative companies in Massachusetts.<sup>33</sup>
- Securing a commitment that the Air Force will base F-35s at Barnes Air Force base.<sup>34</sup>
- Ensuring quality of care for hundreds of veterans at State Veterans Homes in Massachusetts following cases of horrific negligence at Holyoke Soldiers' Home and other State Veterans Homes.<sup>35</sup>
- Responding to concerns she heard from veterans in Massachusetts by conducting aggressive oversight to make sure that medical examinations done for veterans to qualify for compensation or pension (C&P) benefits are conducted in a timely and professional manner.<sup>36</sup>
- Fighting to protect the health and well-being of the Commonwealth by addressing the threats from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), "forever chemicals" that have been linked to

---

[press-releases/senate-adopts-warren-amendment-to-study-problem-gambling-prevention-treatment-and-financial-counselling-options-for-servicemembers](#); National Council on Problem Gambling, "Gambling Addiction Prevention (GAP) Act," <https://www.ncpgambling.org/advocacy/gap-act/>.

- <sup>31</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "NDAA Signed Into Law, Includes Key Warren Provisions," press release, December 12, 2017, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/ndaa-signed-into-law-includes-key-warren-provisions>; John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Public Law 115-232, p. 771, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-115publ232/pdf/PLAW-115publ232.pdf>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, p. 896, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, pp. 628, 630, 782, 790, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, p. 667, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.
- <sup>32</sup> Worcester Polytechnic Institute, "WPI receives \$25 million award to bring cold spray 3D printing techniques to the battlefield," September 10, 2019, <https://www.wpi.edu/news/wpi-receives-25-million-award-bring-cold-spray-3d-printing-techniques-battlefield>.
- <sup>33</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.
- <sup>34</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Markey Statement on Air Force Decision to Base F-35s at Barnes Base in Westfield, MA," press release, April 18, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-markey-statement-on-air-force-decision-to-base-f-35s-at-barnes-base-in-westfield-ma>; MassLive, "Barnes Air National Guard Base Will Get F-35 fighters, ensuring long-term presence" April 18, 2023, <https://www.masslive.com/news/2023/04/barnes-air-national-guard-base-will-get-f-35-fighters-ensuring-long-term-presence.html>.
- <sup>35</sup> Letter from Senator Elizabeth Warren to U.S. Comptroller General Gene Dodaro, May 5, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2020.05.05%20Letter%20to%20GAO%20re%20VA%20oversight%20of%20SVH%20Care%20Quality.pdf>.
- <sup>36</sup> Letter from U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren to Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough, April 23, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/senator-warren-letter-to-va-re-contracted-disability-exams.pdf>.

“cancer, liver damage, and birth defects”<sup>37</sup> at Westover Air Reserve Base,<sup>38</sup> expediting flood protection and environment enhancement options to protect Revere, Malden, Saugus, Lynn, and Everett, and blocking funding for a proposed gun range that could jeopardize Cape Cod’s sole aquifer.<sup>39</sup>

## RIGHTING HISTORICAL WRONGS

Senator Warren has been a leader in addressing actions by the U.S. military that have placed them on the wrong side of history — and cast a dark shadow that extends to the modern era. To provide redress, she has:

- Introduced the *Removing Confederate Names and Symbols from Our Military Act* and led the fight to remove of the names and likenesses of all Confederate soldiers, officers, and sympathizers from DoD assets.<sup>40</sup>
- Introduced the *Remove the Stain Act* to revoke the Medal of Honor from the soldiers who perpetrated the Wounded Knee massacre<sup>41</sup> — and successfully worked to push the Secretary of Defense to direct a review of those Medal of Honor awards.<sup>42</sup>

## FIGHTING FOR VETERANS.

As a member of SASC, Senator Warren is a strong advocate for servicemembers, veterans, and their families. Her key victories for veterans include:

- Introducing the bipartisan *Women Veterans Peer Counseling Enhancement Act* to require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to help women veterans access peer counseling and better support their transitions to civilian life.<sup>43</sup>
- Successfully pressing the VA to ensure that, after the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, veterans did not lose their right to obtain an abortion.<sup>44</sup>
- Protecting veterans’ financial well-being and supporting bipartisan legislation – which was signed into law – to modernize the G.I. Bill to expand eligibility to all Purple Heart recipients.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>37</sup> New York Times, “Breaking Down New Rules About ‘Forever Chemicals,’” Josh Ocampo, April 24, 2024, <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/24/insider/pfas-water.html>.

<sup>38</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, p. 109, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>.

<sup>39</sup> CAI, “Warren blocks funding extension for proposed machine gun range,” Eve Zuckoff, June 18, 2024, <https://www.capeandislands.org/local-news/2024-06-18/warren-blocks-funding-extension-for-proposed-machine-gun-range>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act,” press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>40</sup> New York Times, “Defying Trump, Senate Panel Moves to Strip Military Bases of Confederate Names,” Catie Edmondson, June 11, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/11/us/politics/senate-confederate-names-military-bases.html>.

<sup>41</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Senators Warren and Merkley Announce Senate Companion to Remove the Stain Act,” press release, November 27, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-and-merkley-announce-senate-companion-to-remove-the-stain-act>.

<sup>42</sup> Cherokee One Feather, “Defense Dept. to review Wounded Knee Medal of Honor awards,” July 25, 2024, <https://theonefeather.com/2024/07/25/defense-dept-to-review-wounded-knee-medal-of-honor-awards/>.

<sup>43</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Applauds Women Veterans Peer Counseling Provisions Included in New Opioids Law,” press release, October 26, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-applauds-women-veterans-peer-counseling-provisions-included-in-new-opioids-law>.

<sup>44</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, Heeding Call From Warren, Hirono, Colleagues, VA to Begin Providing Abortion Care,” press release, September 2, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/heeding-call-from-warren-hirono-colleagues-va-to-begin-providing-abortion-care>.

<sup>45</sup> Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, Public Law No. 115-48 (August 16, 2017), <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3218?q=%7B%22search%3A%5B%22harry+w.+colmery%22%5D%7D&r=1>.

- Introducing and passing the *Veterans Care Financial Protection Act*, which sought to crack down on scam artists and protect veterans who were being ripped off while applying for Aid and Attendance benefits.<sup>46</sup>
- Joining Senate colleagues to introduce and pass the bipartisan *National Prisoners of War/ Missing in Action Flag Act* to require the POW/MIA Flag to be displayed whenever the American flag is displayed on prominent federal properties.<sup>47</sup>
- Passing key parts of her *Servicemembers Improved Transition through Reforms for Ensuring Progress (SIT-REP) Act* into law to ensure that veterans had full access to their VA benefits.<sup>48</sup>

Senator Warren has many more accomplishments. She has pushed DoD to more effectively address the threat of climate change, prioritize the protection of civilians in military operations, and honor our promises to Gold Star families. Her victories include:

- Leading efforts to ensure the DoD is elevating climate change as a national security priority and integrating climate considerations into policies, strategies, and partner engagements.<sup>49</sup>
- Establishing a 2035 target for DoD's fleet of non-tactical vehicles to be electric or zero-emissions.<sup>50</sup>
- Introducing the *Protections of Civilians in Military Operations Act* to overhaul civilian harm prevention and accountability to require the Department of Defense to live up to its moral responsibility to reduce civilian harm in military operations.<sup>51</sup>
- Conducting vigorous oversight calling on State and the Department of Defense to stop U.S. weapons from contributing to civilian casualties around the world, including in Yemen and Gaza.<sup>52</sup>

<sup>46</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Congress Passes Bipartisan Warren-Cartwright Legislation to Protect Veterans from Financial Scams," press release, February 20, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/02/22/2018/congress-passes-bipartisan-warren-cartwright-legislation-to-protect-veterans-from-financial-scams>.

<sup>47</sup> CamdenNews, "President signs POW/MIA Flag Act into law," November 11, 2019, <https://www.camdenarknews.com/news/2019/nov/11/president-signs-powmia-flag-act-law/>.

<sup>48</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Applauds Historic Legislation to Benefit Veterans, Servicemembers, Gold Star Families," press release, December 20, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-applauds-historic-legislation-to-benefit-veterans-servicemembers-gold-star-families>.

<sup>49</sup> Id.

<sup>50</sup> Military Vehicle Fleet Electrification Act, S. 4380, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4380#:~:text=This%20bill%20requires%20that%20not,type%20that%20meets%20applicable%20industry>; James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, Public Law No. 117-263, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7776/text>; U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>51</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senator Warren and Rep. Khanna Introduce the Protection of Civilians in Military Operations Act," press release, June 10, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warren-and-rep-khanna-introduce-the-protection-of-civilians-in-military-operations-act>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, Sec. 1057, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2810/text>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 1213, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

<sup>52</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Khanna Urge DoD to Do Everything They Can to Prevent Civilian Harm," press release, October 13, 2021, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-khanna-urge-dod-to-do-everything-they-can-to-prevent-civilian-harm>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Sanders, Lee Lead Bipartisan Call for DoD and State Department to Investigate Possible U.S. Complicity in Civilian Harm in Yemen," press release, September 7, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-sanders-lee-lead-bipartisan-call-for-dod-and-state-department-to-investigate-possible-us-complicity-in-civilian-harm-in-yemen>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Kaine, Sanders, Merkley, Heinrich Call for Oversight of Use of U.S. Origin Weapons by Israel in War Against Hamas," press release, December 6, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-kaine-sanders-merkley-heinrich-call-for-oversight-of-use-of-us-origin-weapons-by-israel-in-war-against-hamas>.

- Helping Gold Star families by introducing and passing into law the *Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act*, *Gold Star Spouses and Spouses of Injured Servicemembers Leasing Relief Expansion Act*, and *The Leasing Relief for Dependents of Fall Heroes and Injured Servicemembers Act*.<sup>53</sup>

## CONCLUSION

Senator Warren has developed an extensive list of accomplishments during her time as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. She has worked across the aisle to protect national security. Her work has improved living and working conditions for servicemembers and their families; it has helped strengthen ethics standards for DoD officials; it has protected taxpayers; and it has expanded DoD's ability to pay fair prices for weapons, materials, and services by supporting a defense industry that remains competitive and innovative and is not stifled by defense monopolies. Senator Warren has fought for veterans and ensured that civilians are protected during warfare. She has helped DoD right historical wrongs. And she has ensured that DoD is investing in facilities, research, and personnel in Massachusetts.

---

<sup>53</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Applauds Historic Legislation to Benefit Veterans, Servicemembers, Gold Star Families," press release, December 20, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-applauds-historic-legislation-to-benefit-veterans-servicemembers-gold-star-families>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senate Passes Bipartisan Warren Proposal to Enhance Financial Protections for Gold Star Spouses and Spouses of Injured Servicemembers," press release, June 28, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senate-passes-bipartisan-warren-proposal-to-enhance-financial-protections-for-gold-star-spouses-and-spouses-of-injured-servicemembers>.

# INTRODUCTION

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) was named as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC or 'the Committee') on December 14, 2016.<sup>54</sup> This committee serves a critical role, with jurisdiction over all aspects of the nation's military and national security. Upon being named as a member of the Committee, Senator Warren promised that she would ensure that "Congress provides effective support and oversight of the armed forces, monitors threats to national security, and ensures the responsible use of military force around the globe."<sup>55</sup>

Senator Warren's appointment to the Committee "continue[d] a long Massachusetts tradition" – one of her predecessors in the Senate, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, spent decades on the Committee.<sup>56</sup> And, noting "that Massachusetts leads the nation in innovative defense work and scientific research," she promised to "continu[e] to work closely with [defense companies and research labs across the Commonwealth] as a member of the Committee."<sup>57</sup>

Senator Warren has served on the committee under a variety of different circumstances. She has served in the majority and in the minority, and under President Trump and President Biden. This changing balance of power has highlighted her ability to work in a bipartisan and bicameral fashion with members of the Senate and the House.

Six years after joining the Committee, in February 2023, Senator Warren was named Chair of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Personnel ("the Subcommittee"). This was an important new role: the Subcommittee is "responsible for military and civilian personnel policies and has primary jurisdiction on end strengths for military personnel, military personnel compensation and benefits, military health care, and military nominations."<sup>58</sup> Upon accepting this chairmanship, Senator Warren promised that she would "prioritize[e] quality childcare, housing and healthcare, [and] holding the Pentagon accountable when it lets defense industry profits overtake servicemembers' needs."<sup>59</sup>

Senator Warren has kept these promises. As a member of SASC, she has established a long list of legislative and oversight accomplishments to improve national security.

---

<sup>54</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senator Warren Announces Appointment to Armed Services Committee," press release, December 14, 2016, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warren-announces-appointment-to-armed-services-committee>.

<sup>55</sup> Id.

<sup>56</sup> Boston Globe, "Warren gets spot on Armed Services Committee," Victoria McGrane and Astead W. Herndon, December 14, 2016, <https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/politics/2016/12/14/warren-gets-spot-armed-services-committee/TR4Xf6TnDn8izaFSIUDJcN/story.html>

<sup>57</sup> Id.

<sup>58</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren to Chair Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Personnel, Announces Top Policy Priorities," press release, February 9, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-to-chair-senate-armed-services-subcommittee-on-personnel-announces-top-policy-priorities>.

<sup>59</sup> Id.

# FINDINGS

## SENATOR WARREN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

This report contains a summary of Senator Warren's key accomplishments. She has introduced 41 pieces of legislation referred to the Committee, and cosponsored 63 others.<sup>60</sup> Major bills include:

- *The Military Housing Oversight and Service Member Protection Act*
- *The Strengthening Supply Chains for Servicemembers and Security Act*
- *The Protections of Civilians in Military Operations Act*
- *The Blast Overpressure Safety Act*
- *The Stop Pentagon Price Gouging Act*
- *The Department of Defense Ethics and Anti-Corruption Act*
- *The Military Vehicle Fleet Electrification Act*
- *The Department of Defense Climate Resiliency and Readiness Act*
- *The National Guard Promotion Accountability Act*
- *The Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes Act*

She attended over 200 hearings, and chaired seven hearings since becoming chair of the Personnel Subcommittee.<sup>61</sup> Her personnel hearings focused on the revolving door between the Pentagon and defense contractors and foreign governments, the need to strengthen DoD's pharmaceutical supply chain, and opportunities to reduce wasteful Pentagon spending. Her key accomplishments include:

<sup>60</sup> Congress.gov, <https://www.congress.gov/quick-search/legislation?wordsPhrases=&wordVariants=on&congressGroups%5B0%5D=0&congresses%5B0%5D=118&congresses%5B1%5D=117&congresses%5B2%5D=116&congresses%5B3%5D=115&legislationNumbers=&legislativeAction=&sponsor=on&representative=&senator=W000817&senateCommittee%5B0%5D=ssas00>; Congress.gov, <https://www.congress.gov/quick-search/legislation?wordsPhrases=&wordVariants=on&congressGroups%5B0%5D=0&congresses%5B0%5D=118&congresses%5B1%5D=117&congresses%5B2%5D=116&congresses%5B3%5D=115&legislationNumbers=&legislativeAction=&co-sponsor=on&representative=&senator=W000817&senateCommittee%5B0%5D=ssas00>.

<sup>61</sup> Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program," May 8, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-military-and-civilian-personnel-programs-in-the-department-of-defense-in-review-of-the-defense-authorization-request-for-fiscal-year-2025-and-the-future-years-defense-program>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on the Department of Defense's efforts to ensure servicemembers' access to safe, high-quality pharmaceuticals," April 30, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-the-department-of-defenses-efforts-to-ensure-servicemembers-access-to-safe-high-quality-pharmaceuticals>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on traumatic brain injury and blast exposure care," February 28, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-traumatic-brain-injury-and-blast-exposure-care>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on the status of Department of Defense recruiting efforts and plans for fiscal year 2024," December 6, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-the-status-of-department-of-defense-recruiting-efforts-and-plans-for-fiscal-year-2024>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on potential budgetary efficiencies achieved through improvement to management and planning processes within Department of Defense personnel programs," July 26, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-potential-budgetary-efficiencies-achieved-through-improvement-to-management-and-planning-processes-within-department-of-defense-personnel-programs>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on public integrity and anti-corruption laws at the Department of Defense," April 26, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-public-integrity-and-anti-corruption-laws-at-the-department-of-defense>; Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Personnel, "To receive testimony on military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program," March 15, 2023, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/to-receive-testimony-on-military-and-civilian-personnel-programs-in-the-department-of-defense-in-review-of-the-defense-authorization-request-for-fiscal-year-2024-and-the-future-years-defense-program>.

# 1. PREVENTING CORRUPTION AND CONTRACTOR OVERCHARGING

Senator Warren has used her position on SASC to fight for strong ethics and conflict of interest standards to protect the national interest and ensure that DoD contracting decisions are made based on national security interests, not based on contractors' or foreign nations' influence-peddling. She has also aggressively fought to cut waste, fraud, and abuse in DoD contracts.

She introduced *The Department of Defense Ethics and Anti-Corruption Act*<sup>62</sup> and *Retired Officers Conflict of Interest Act*,<sup>63</sup> and secured NDAA provisions that prohibited senior DoD nominees from owning or trading stocks in the ten largest defense contractors,<sup>64</sup> required DoD to annually report on retired military officers working for foreign governments, and barred Pentagon officials from participating in matters that affect the financial interests of their former employer, former clients, or former direct competitors for two years.<sup>65</sup> She sought and obtained voluntary ethics commitments from key Pentagon officials, including Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin III and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Charles "C.Q." Brown, to insulate the military from potential conflicts of interest, and conducted aggressive oversight of ethics and conflicts of interest problems at the Pentagon.<sup>66</sup>

Senator Warren has also attacked defense contractor price gouging. Her oversight has revealed the extent to which defense companies overcharge DoD for goods and services – and her legislative victories have helped DoD hold those companies accountable.

In 2017, Senator Warren joined Representative Ro Khanna in seeking an investigation by the DoD Inspector General into price gouging by TransDigm Group Inc.<sup>67</sup> Ultimately, as a result of this investigation, TransDigm agreed to return \$16.1 million to the DoD.<sup>68</sup> To crack down on the practice and try to prevent similar actions in the future, Senator Warren obtained language in the fiscal year 2020 NDAA to increase transparency surrounding product costs and prices.<sup>69</sup> She continued this work in 2023, introducing the bicameral and bipartisan *Stop Price Gouging the Military Act* to enhance DoD's ability to access information needed to make fair deals.<sup>70</sup>

<sup>62</sup> Mother Jones, "Elizabeth Warren is Doing to the Pentagon What She Did to Wall Street," Dan Spinelli, September 6, 2019, <https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/09/elizabeth-warren-is-doing-to-the-pentagon-what-she-did-to-wall-street/>.

<sup>63</sup> Washington Post, "Senators propose crackdown on retired military work for foreign powers," Craig Whitlock, June 20, 2023, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/2023/06/20/veterans-work-foreign-governments-bill/>.

<sup>64</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 921, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

<sup>65</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 651, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf> and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, Sec. 1117, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>.

<sup>66</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "In Response to Senator Warren's Questions, Secretary of Defense Nominee General Lloyd Austin Commits to Recusing Himself from Raytheon Decisions for Four Years," press release, January 19, 2021, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/in-response-to-senator-warrens-questions-secretary-of-defense-nominee-general-lloyd-austin-commits-to-recusing-himself-from-raytheon-decisions-for-four-years>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "At Hearing, Warren Secures Ethics Commitment Joint Chiefs of Staff Nominee General Brown; Reiterates Concern over Senior Military Holds," press release, July 11, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/at-hearing-warren-secures-ethics-commitment-joint-chiefs-of-staff-nominee-general-brown-reiterates-concern-over-senior-military-holds>; Air Force Magazine, "Warren lifts hold on Kendall nomination after ethics agreement extension," Abraham Mahshie, July 13, 2021, <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/warren-lifts-hold-on-kendall-nomination-after-ethics-agreement-extension/>; Breaking Defense, "New Pentagon weapons tester pledges to eschew defense contractor jobs after departure," March 12, 2024, <https://breakingdefense.com/2024/03/new-pentagon-weapons-tester-pledges-to-eschew-defense-contractor-jobs-after-departure/>.

<sup>67</sup> Reuters, "TransDigm's shares fall as Senator Warren seeks probe," June 12, 2017, <https://www.reuters.com/article/idUSKBN193270/>.

<sup>68</sup> Intercept, "How Rep. Ro Khanna Got a Price-Gouging Defense Contractor to Return \$16.1 Million to the Pentagon," David Dayen, May 28, 2019, <https://theintercept.com/2019/05/28/ro-khanna-transdigm-refund-pentagon/>.

<sup>69</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 803, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

<sup>70</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senators Warren, Braun, Representative Garamendi Reintroduce Bipartisan Stop Price Gouging the Military Act," press release, June 20, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators->

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, DoD changed contracting policy to allow contractors to receive more cash before a contract was complete – tilting policy in an even more favorable way for contractors’ executives and shareholders, who had already received billions in bailout funds.<sup>71</sup> In response to the Senator’s concerns, DoD prohibited big defense contractors from diverting those funds to “share buybacks, dividends, or executive salaries.”<sup>72</sup> Senator Warren also helped prevent contractors from receiving unjustified extra payments for inflation. When the defense industry began to push for a proposal to allow contractors to charge DoD more because their profits were down due to inflation, Senator Warren successfully pushed back against this DoD proposal in October 2022.<sup>73</sup> She codified that policy into law and created a pilot program for DoD to use those payments to incentivize better contractor performance.<sup>74</sup>

And Senator Warren has pushed back against the Pentagon’s wasteful wish lists: the billions of dollars of “unfunded priorities” the Department often attempts to get Congress to pay for outside of the traditional budget process. Senator Warren’s investigations found the military services manipulating this process to boost their budget and avoid clarity about the Department’s true budget needs, and in 2022, she sent a letter to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin criticizing DoD’s most recent unfunded priorities list and calling on him to “ensure the Department significantly improves its budget and financial management practices,” starting with “reducing the size of unfunded priorities lists.”<sup>75</sup> And she introduced the bipartisan *Streamline Pentagon Spending Act* to repeal the statutory requirements to provide unfunded priorities lists.<sup>76</sup>

Senator Warren has achieved notable success: in February 2023, she led a bipartisan group of Senators and Representatives in a letter to DoD demanding that the Department begin “eliminating the practice of sending Congress bloated wish lists.”<sup>77</sup> And in March 2023, DoD agreed that wish lists are “not effective” and revealed that “the Department supports [Senator Warren’s] proposal to repeal the requirement” of the wish lists.<sup>78</sup> She also secured a provision in the fiscal year 2024 NDAA to require the services to report significantly more information about the long-term costs of wish list

---

[warren-braun-representative-garamendi-reintroduce-bipartisan-stop-price-gouging-the-military-act.](#)

- <sup>71</sup> Id; New York Times, “Boeing’s Problems Predate the Virus. Should the U.S. Come to Its Rescue?” Natalie Kitroeff and Kenneth P. Vogel, April 12, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/12/us/politics/coronavirus-boeing-federal-aid.html>.
- <sup>72</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “After Inquiry from Warren, Department of Defense Says Big Defense Contractors Cannot Divert Increased Progress Payments During COVID-19 to Share Buybacks, Dividends, or Executive Salaries,” press release, July 15, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/after-inquiry-from-warren-department-of-defense-says-big-defense-contractors-cannot-divert-increased-progress-payments-during-covid-19-to-share-buybacks-dividends-or-executive-salaries>.
- <sup>73</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Obtains Department of Defense Commitment to Protect Taxpayer Dollars, as DoD Indicates It Does Not Want to Adjust Contracts for Inflation,” press release, October 27, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-obtains-department-of-defense-commitment-to-protect-taxpayer-dollars-as-dod-indicates-it-does-not-want-to-adjust-contracts-for-inflation>.
- <sup>74</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act,” press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>.
- <sup>75</sup> Letter from Senator Elizabeth Warren to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, December 6, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-calls-on-pentagon-to-rein-in-end-of-year-money-grab>.
- <sup>76</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren, Braun, Lee, King Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Reduce Wasteful Pentagon Spending, Repeal Unfunded Priorities List,” press release, December 15, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-braun-lee-king-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-reduce-wasteful-pentagon-spending-repeal-unfunded-priorities-list>.
- <sup>77</sup> Letter from Senators Warren, Lee, Braun, Reps. Jayapal, and McClintock to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, February 1, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-leads-bipartisan-call-to-dod-stop-sending-congress-bloated-wish-lists-of-wasteful-unnecessary-spending>.
- <sup>78</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Department of Defense Recognizes Ineffectiveness of “Wish List” Spending, Endorses Senator Warren’s Proposal to Repeal Requirement,” press release, March 28, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/department-of-defense-recognizes-ineffectiveness-of-wish-list-spending-endorses-senator-warrens-proposal-to-repeal-requirement>.

items that they request,<sup>79</sup> as well as requiring the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to audit these lists and their overall impact on DoD's budget.<sup>80</sup>

## 2. PRESERVING DEFENSE INDUSTRY COMPETITION AND FIGHTING INDUSTRY MONOPOLIES.

Senator Warren has fought dangerous and costly defense industry consolidation. In December 2021, she successfully fought Lockheed Martin's plans to acquire rocket engine manufacturer Aerojet Rocketdyne, which would have combined the only two remaining manufacturers of rocket propulsion engines.<sup>81</sup> Later that year, Senator Warren's language requiring DoD to provide a report to Congress on competition in the defense industrial base was included in the fiscal year 2022 NDAA.<sup>82</sup> The DoD's report was released in February 2022: the report's recommendations – strengthening merger oversight, addressing intellectual property limitations, and increasing new entrants – have provided a road map for improving defense industry competition.<sup>83</sup>

She continued her efforts in the fiscal year 2024 NDAA, securing language that gave early notification of mergers to DoD, so the Department would have more clarity as it assesses the impacts of mergers and acquisitions of medium and smaller defense industry suppliers.<sup>84</sup> And she secured two key amendment in the Senate's fiscal year 2025 NDAA: one to require DoD to follow a competitive award process for contracting with cloud providers and one requiring DoD to conduct a public report on competition in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) sector, "assessing the competition, innovation, barriers to entry, and concentrations of market power or market share in the AI space... [and] includ[ing] recommendations of appropriate legislative and administrative action."<sup>85</sup>

## 3. IMPROVING HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND ACCESS TO CARE FOR SERVICEMEMBERS.

Senator Warren has worked for years on SASC to improve access to healthcare for servicemembers and their families. She has a record of success.

She has led the way in addressing the emerging threats to servicemembers' health from traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and other health threats from blast overpressure. Senator Warren introduced bipartisan legislation requiring DoD to examine the effects of blast exposure.<sup>86</sup> She supported access to innovative care for servicemembers affected by brain injuries and their families, including

<sup>79</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, H.R. 2670, Sec. 1003, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/2670/text>.

<sup>80</sup> TBD, [https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy2024\\_ndaa\\_bill\\_report.pdf](https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy2024_ndaa_bill_report.pdf).

<sup>81</sup> Reuters, "Lockheed scraps \$4.4 billion deal to buy Aerojet amid regulatory roadblocks," February 14, 2022, <https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/lockheed-martin-terminates-44-bln-deal-acquire-aerojet-rocketdyne-2022-02-13/>.

<sup>82</sup> Fiscal Year 2022 National Defense Authorization Act Report, pp. 206-207, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/FY22%20NDAA%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>83</sup> U.S. Department of Defense, "State of Competition within the Defense Industrial Base," report, February 2022, pp. 1-2, <https://media.defense.gov/2022/Feb/15/2002939087/-1/-1/1/STATE-OF-COMPETITION-WITHIN-THE-DEFENSE-INDUSTRIAL-BASE.PDF>.

<sup>84</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, Sec. 857.

<sup>85</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, S. 4638, Sec. 231, [https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy25\\_ndaa\\_bill\\_text.pdf](https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy25_ndaa_bill_text.pdf).

<sup>86</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren and Ernst Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Improve Servicemember Blast Exposure Injury Prevention," press release, May 18, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-and-ernst-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-improve-servicemember-blast-exposure-injury-prevention->; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, Public Law 115-91, Sec. 734; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senators Warren and Ernst Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Improve Study of Blast Exposure Injuries in Servicemembers," May 17, 2019, press release, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-and-ernst-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-improve-study-of-blast-exposure-injuries-in-servicemembers>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 742.

from Massachusetts-based nonprofit Home Base.<sup>87</sup> She pushed the Pentagon to better protect servicemembers from blast overpressure<sup>88</sup> and held a SASC Personnel Subcommittee hearing on the impacts of blast overpressure and need for DoD to better protect servicemembers.<sup>89</sup> And she secured several provisions of her bipartisan *Blast Overpressure Safety Act* in the Senate version of the fiscal year 2025 NDAA, including requiring DoD to update blast overpressure safety thresholds, establish blast overpressure and traumatic brain injury logs for servicemembers; and develop strategies for protecting those servicemembers who are most at risk.<sup>90</sup> In August, DoD released an updated blast overpressure policy incorporating many provisions of Senator Warren's bill.<sup>91</sup>

When the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, it stripped 40 percent of active-duty servicemembers of their access to abortion services where they are stationed because of restrictive state abortion policies.<sup>92</sup> Senator Warren pushed for a DoD response,<sup>93</sup> and the Department issued a series of policies to protect servicemembers' ability to access necessary care, including the ability to request administrative leave to access or accompany a dual-military spouse or dependent to access abortion care.<sup>94</sup> When Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-Alabama) retaliated against the Department of Defense and held U.S. national security hostage by placing a hold on all senior military nominations,<sup>95</sup> she fought on the Senate floor to ensure that hundreds of holds were lifted and the Department's policies stayed on the books.<sup>96</sup>

She has also led the way to improve DoD's medical supply chains, including by addressing its dependence on foreign countries for our supply of critical drugs. Senator Warren conducted an investigation<sup>97</sup> and introduced the *Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Defense and Enhancement Act* in 2020 to reinvigorate the United States' drug manufacturing capacity and end the nation's reliance on

---

<sup>87</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Massachusetts Congressional Delegation Announce \$225 Million in Federal Funding to Support Critical Projects Across Commonwealth," press release, December 13, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-massachusetts-congressional-delegation-announces-225-million-in-federal-funding-to-support-critical-projects-across-commonwealth>.

<sup>88</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Ernst, Tillis Press Pentagon to Protect Service Members from Blast Overpressure," press release, January 19, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-ernst-tillis-press-pentagon-to-protect-service-members-from-blast-overpressure>.

<sup>89</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Leads Senate Hearing to Urge Department of Defense to Better Protect Service Members from Weapon Blasts," press release, February 28, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-leads-senate-hearing-to-urge-department-of-defense-to-better-protect-service-members-from-weapon-blasts>.

<sup>90</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, S. 4638, Secs. 711 and 1081, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/4638>.

<sup>91</sup> U.S. Department of Defense, "Statement by Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks on Blast Overpressure Risk-Management Policy Memorandum," August 9, 2024, <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3868333/statement-by-deputy-secretary-of-defense-kathleen-hicks-on-blast-overpressure-r/>.

<sup>92</sup> RAND Health Quarterly, "How the Dobbs Decision Could Affect U.S. National Security," Kyleanne M. Hunter, Sarah O. Meadows, Rebecca L. Collins, and Isabelle González, May 15, 2023, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10187552/>.

<sup>93</sup> Office of Senator Jeanne Shaheen, "NEW: Shaheen Leads 37 Senators in Letter to Pentagon Underscoring National Security Imperative to Provide Abortion Leave for Service Members," press release, March 27, 2023, <https://www.shaheen.senate.gov/news/press/new-shaheen-leads-37-senators-in-letter-to-pentagon-underscoring-national-security-imperative-to-provide-abortion-leave-for-service-members>.

<sup>94</sup> U.S. Department of Defense, "DoD Releases Policies to Ensure Access to Non-Covered Reproductive Health Care," February 16, 2023, <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3301006/dod-releases-policies-to-ensure-access-to-non-covered-reproductive-health-care/>.

<sup>95</sup> NPR, "Sen. Tuberville drops remaining holds on senior military promotions," Eric McDaniel, December 19, 2023, <https://www.npr.org/2023/12/19/1220492250/tuberville-drops-blockade-military-promotions>.

<sup>96</sup> CNN, "Tuberville releases Senate holds on confirming hundreds of military nominations," December 5, 2023, <https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/05/politics/tommy-tuberville-releases-holds/index.html>.

<sup>97</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "In Bipartisan Letter, Warren, Cotton, Kaine, & Romney Warn of National Security and Public Health Risks Posed by China's Influence Over Drug Supply Chain," press release, December 9, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/in-bipartisan-letter-warren-cotton-kaine-and-romney-warn-of-national-security-and-public-health-risks-posed-by-chinas-influence-over-drug-supply-chain>.

foreign countries for critical drugs used by millions of Americans<sup>98</sup> and then was able to include new provisions addressing the drug supply chain crisis in the NDAA.<sup>99</sup> In this year's NDAA, she secured a provision requiring DoD to enter contracts to increase domestic drug manufacturing.<sup>100</sup>

She also fought to ensure that DoD Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) can waive medical fees for civilians treated at these facilities – enhancing DoD doctors' skills and medical readiness by providing important training opportunities.<sup>101</sup> She introduced and passed, as part of the 2018 NDAA, the *Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes Act* to make it easier for victims of terrorism attacks to receive care at MTFs.<sup>102</sup> She took the first steps to cut costs for drugs and other medical treatments developed with DoD funds.<sup>103</sup> And she fought for DoD to reverse a policy put in place in January 2023 that limited access to health care services at U.S. facilities in Japan for DoD-affiliated American civilians serving overseas.<sup>104</sup>

#### 4. FIGHTING FOR SERVICEMEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Senator Warren fought for years to improve on-base housing for military families, passing key parts of her *Military Housing Oversight and Service Member Protection Act* into law and holding private housing contractors accountable for their failures. She fought for and obtained new requirements that restrict private contractors from abusing non-disclosure agreements and violating servicemembers' rights, as well as establishing a public complaint database for military families to report housing deficiencies.<sup>105</sup>

When multiple investigations by the *New York Times* in July 2022 revealed a disturbing pattern of sexual assault and harassment of students by Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) instructors, Senator Warren swung into action, opening an investigation to improve oversight of the program and protect students from these abuses.<sup>106</sup> She questioned DoD officials during a SASC hearing,<sup>107</sup> and introduced the *JROTC Safety Act* to protect JROTC students from abuse and forced

<sup>98</sup> Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Defense and Enhancement Act, S.4175, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4175?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22U.S.+Pharmaceutical+Supply+Chain+Defense+and+Enhancement+Act%22%7D&s=2&r=1>.

<sup>99</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>100</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, S. 4638, Section 845, [https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy25\\_ndaa\\_bill\\_text.pdf](https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy25_ndaa_bill_text.pdf).

<sup>101</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Castro Urge Department of Defense to Waive Civilians' Medical Debt Incurred at Military Treatment Facilities," press release, March 7, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-castro-urge-department-of-defense-to-waive-civilians-medical-debt-incurred-at-military-treatment-facilities>.

<sup>102</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Urges Department of Defense to Fully Use Authority to Treat Victims of Acts of Terror at Military Treatment Facilities," press release, May 23, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-urges-department-of-defense-to-fully-use-authority-to-treat-victims-of-acts-of-terror-at-military-treatment-facilities>.

<sup>103</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>104</sup> Stars and Stripes, "Lack of civilian health care in Japan causing 'serious and negative impacts,' lawmakers say," Alex Wilson, April 1, 2024, [https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia\\_pacific/2024-03-31/japan-dod-civilian-health-care-warren-13464166.html](https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia_pacific/2024-03-31/japan-dod-civilian-health-care-warren-13464166.html).

<sup>105</sup> National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, section 2890, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1790/text>; National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, Secs. 2821-2823, [https://www.congress.gov/118/plaws/publ31/PLAW-118publ31.pdf?trk=public\\_post\\_comment-text](https://www.congress.gov/118/plaws/publ31/PLAW-118publ31.pdf?trk=public_post_comment-text).

<sup>106</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Gillibrand Lead Colleagues to Open Investigation into Failure to Protect Students in Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps from Sexual Misconduct," press release, September 21, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-gillibrand-lead-colleagues-to-open-investigation-into-failure-to-protect-students-in-junior-reserve-officers-training-corps-from-sexual-misconduct>.

<sup>107</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "ICYMI: At Hearing, DoD Officials Acknowledge to Senator Warren There is Lack of Adequate Oversight to Prevent Sexual Misconduct in Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps," press release, September 23, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/icymi-at-hearing-dod-officials-acknowledge-to-senator-warren-there-is-lack-of-adequate-oversight-to-prevent-sexual-misconduct-in-junior-reserve-officers-training-corps>.

enrollment.<sup>108</sup> Key provisions of that bill were adopted in the fiscal year 2024 NDAA to require schools to report allegations of instructor misconduct to DoD in a timely manner, provide tools and processes for students to report misconduct, increase transparency on instructor misconduct through annual reports to Congress, ensure that students are enrolled in JROTC voluntarily, and hold schools accountable for failing to abide by these requirements.<sup>109</sup>

Senator Warren has also used her role on the Armed Services Committee to strengthen and improve military child care programs. She obtained language in the fiscal year 2020 NDAA requiring a Government Accountability Office (GAO) study assessing the effects of DoD's childcare system.<sup>110</sup> She pushed DoD to address concerns about the outdated pay scale for DoD child care workers and its serious impact on military families and the armed forces' ability to effectively recruit and retain servicemembers.<sup>111</sup> In the fiscal year 2024 NDAA, Senator Warren secured \$37 million for CDC construction funding for military families in Massachusetts.<sup>112</sup> And in the Senate version of the fiscal year 2025 NDAA bill, she secured a proposal to redesign and modernize CDC compensation and staffing models to address these staffing problems.<sup>113</sup>

She has done much more to help servicemembers and their families. Senator Warren has supported major reforms to the military justice system to better protect servicemembers and survivors from sexual abuse.<sup>114</sup> And she was able to include in the fiscal year 2018 NDAA the *Protecting Servicemembers Online Act*, which prohibited the nonconsensual distribution of pornographic photographs and harassing communications, and strengthened the tools available to military prosecutors to fight these problems. She included language in the fiscal year 2019 NDAA to improve care for military sexual trauma victims.

She worked with colleagues across the aisle to require DoD to put in place enhanced efforts to identify servicemembers suffering from gambling disorder.<sup>115</sup> And after press reports revealed a

---

<sup>108</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senators Warren, Sanders, Hirono Introduce Junior Reserve Officer Training Safety Act," press release, June 15, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-sanders-hirono-introduce-junior-reserve-officer-training-safety-act>.

<sup>109</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, Sec. 552 and 556.

<sup>110</sup> Government Accountability Office, Report to Congressional Committees, Military Child Care, "DOD Efforts to Provide Affordable, Quality Care for Families," February 2023, <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-23-105518.pdf>.

<sup>111</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "ICYMI: Chairing Hearing, Warren Highlights Priorities for Military Personnel for Year Ahead, Urges More Investment in Housing, Child Care," press release, May 10, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/icymi-chairing-hearing-warren-highlights-priorities-for-military-personnel-for-year-ahead-urges-more-investment-in-housing-child-care>.

<sup>112</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>113</sup> U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, "SASC Completes Markup of National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025," July 8, 2024, <https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/press-releases/sasc-completes-markup-of-national-defense-authorization-act-for-fiscal-year-2025>.

<sup>114</sup> Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, "Senators Gillibrand, Grassley, Ernst, Blumenthal, Cruz, Shaheen, Kelly And Military Sexual Assault Advocates Introduce New, Bipartisan Military Justice Improvement And Increasing Prevention Act," press release, April 29, 2021, <https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/news/press/release/senators-gillibrand-grassley-ernst-blumenthal-cruz-shaheen-kelly-and-military-sexual-assault-advocates-introduce-new-bipartisan-military-justice-improvement-and-increasing-prevention-act/>.

<sup>115</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Daines Unveil Bipartisan Bill to Address Gambling Addiction Among Servicemembers," press release, May 15, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-daines-unveil-bipartisan-bill-to-address-gambling-addiction-among-servicemembers>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senators Warren, Daines Reintroduce Bicameral, Bipartisan Bill to Address Gambling Addiction Among Servicemembers," press release, July 9, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-daines-reintroduce-bicameral-bipartisan-bill-to-address-gambling-addiction-among-servicemembers>.

disturbing pattern of overdoses among servicemembers involving opioids, she investigated<sup>116</sup> and partnered with Senator Ed Markey to introduce the *Department of Defense Overdose Data Act of 2023* and secured its inclusion in the fiscal year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).<sup>117</sup>

## 5. WORKING FOR MASSACHUSETTS

Senator Warren has worked with the Massachusetts delegation to make sure the Department of Defense is investing in the Commonwealth and supporting the servicemembers that live and work there. Since joining the Committee, she has secured over \$494 million for family housing, safety upgrades, and other critical military construction at Hanscom Air Force Base, U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Center, the Westover Air Reserve Base, and the Barnes Air National Guard.<sup>118</sup> That has included hundreds of millions of dollars of DoD funding for construction and research at MIT's Lincoln Laboratory, which performs crucial work for the Department. She also secured full funding for the Defense Innovation Unit in Boston, which helps connect DoD to rapidly field and adopt commercial technology.<sup>119</sup>

Senator Warren fought for years to convince the Air Force to upgrade jets at Barnes Air National Guard Base,<sup>120</sup> including a personal meeting with the Secretary of the Air Force.<sup>121</sup> She was successful: in April 2023 the Air Force announced it would base F-35s at Barnes.<sup>122</sup>

When Senator Warren learned that Massachusetts National Guard members were waiting months to receive pay and benefits they had earned, she swung into action and introduced the bipartisan

<sup>116</sup> Letter from Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr. to Senators Ed Markey, John Cornyn, Elizabeth Warren, Lisa Murkowski, and Martin Heinrich, February 10, 2023, Enclosure p. 1, [https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dod\\_response\\_to\\_senator\\_markey\\_colleagues\\_september\\_2022\\_letterpdf.pdf](https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dod_response_to_senator_markey_colleagues_september_2022_letterpdf.pdf).

<sup>117</sup> Office of Senator Ed Markey, "Markey, Warren, Murkowski, Braun Celebrate Passage of Bipartisan Legislation to Address Overdoses Among Members of the Military," press release, December 15, 2023, <https://www.markey.senate.gov/news/press-releases/markey-warren-murkowski-braun-celebrate-passage-of-bipartisan-legislation-to-address-overdoses-among-members-of-the-military>.

<sup>118</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "NDAA Signed Into Law, Includes Key Warren Provisions," press release, December 12, 2017, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/ndaa-signed-into-law-includes-key-warren-provisions>; John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Public Law 115-232, p. 771, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-115publ232/pdf/PLAW-115publ232.pdf>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, p. 896, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislative Priorities Included in 2024 National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 14, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislative-priorities-included-in-2024-national-defense-authorization-act>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, p. 628, 782, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>. Hanscom Air Force Base, "Ribbon-cutting highlights NC3 building grand opening," <https://www.hanscom.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/3068344/ribbon-cutting-highlights-nc3-building-grand-opening/>; National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, pp. 630 and 790, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>. National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, p. 667, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

<sup>119</sup> Defense Innovation Unit, "Who We Are / Our Mission," <https://www.diu.mil/about>.

<sup>120</sup> MassLive, "Barnes Air National Guard Base will get F-35 fighters, ensuring long-term presence," Jim Kinney and Cynthia G. Simison, April 18, 2023, <https://www.masslive.com/news/2023/04/barnes-air-national-guard-base-will-get-f-35-fighters-ensuring-long-term-presence.html>.

<sup>121</sup> MassLive, "Gov. Charlie Baker, Rep. Richard Neal tout Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport improvements, continue quest for new F-35 jets for Air National Guard," Jim Kinney, September 27, 2022, <https://www.masslive.com/business/2022/09/gov-charlie-baker-rep-richard-neal-tout-westfield-barnes-regional-airport-improvements-continue-quest-for-new-f-35s.html>.

<sup>122</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Markey Statement on Air Force Decision to Base F-35s at Barnes Base in Westfield, MA," press release, April 18, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-markey-statement-on-air-force-decision-to-base-f-35s-at-barnes-base-in-westfield-ma>.

*National Guard Promotion Accountability Act*.<sup>123</sup> Thanks to her leadership, the fiscal year 2019 NDAA gave DoD the authority to allow DOD to back date promotions for National Guard officers when they are delayed, improving their future promotion opportunities and making them eligible for back pay.<sup>124</sup>

She championed DoD funding for Massachusetts universities, securing almost \$50 million of Department funds to support programs at UMass-Lowell, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Northeastern.<sup>125</sup> The fiscal year 2022 NDAA included \$2 million for command post modernization<sup>126</sup> performed at Northeastern and \$2 million for the verified inherent control program<sup>127</sup> at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.<sup>128</sup>

Senator Warren has helped obtain DoD funding for innovative companies in Massachusetts. And she has also fought to protect the health and well-being of the Commonwealth, obtaining NDAA provisions to address damage from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), “forever chemicals” that have been linked to “cancer, liver damage, and birth defects”<sup>129</sup> at Westover Air Reserve Base,<sup>130</sup> and provisions to expedite flood protection and environment enhancement options to protect Revere, Malden, Saugus, Lynn, and Everett, as well as studies for Chelsea Creek, Chatham, North Attleboro, and Herring River.<sup>131</sup> In the fiscal year 2025 NDAA, she blocked funding for a proposed gun range that could jeopardize Cape Cod’s sole aquifer.<sup>132</sup>

Senator Warren also worked hard to ensure quality of care for hundreds of veterans at State Veterans Homes in Massachusetts. Following cases of horrific negligence at Holyoke Soldiers’ Home and other State Veterans Homes, in May 2020, Senator Warren sought a Government Accountability Office review of quality of care at the facilities,<sup>133</sup> released the results,<sup>134</sup> and pushed for VA to take a more proactive role ensuring quality care at State Veterans Homes by stepping up its monitoring of these long-term care facilities.<sup>135</sup> And officials took action: as a result of Senator Warren’s efforts, the VA published a revised high-risk action plan to address oversight and accountability concerns, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for Veterans Affairs provided recommendations for improved security and incident preparedness, including staffing, management and policy standardization, many of which were implemented by VA.<sup>136</sup>

<sup>123</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren, Daines, Shea-Porter, Kelly Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Streamline National Guard Promotion Process,” press release, May 8, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-daines-shea-porter-kelly-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-streamline-national-guard-promotion-process>.

<sup>124</sup> John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Public Law 115-232, Sec. 518, <https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ232/PLAW-115publ232.pdf>.

<sup>125</sup> Worcester Polytechnic Institute, “WPI receives \$25 million award to bring cold spray 3D printing techniques to the battlefield,” September 10, 2019, <https://www.wpi.edu/news/wpi-receives-25-million-award-bring-cold-spray-3d-printing-techniques-battlefield>.

<sup>126</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, p. 729, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>.

<sup>127</sup> Id., p. 727.

<sup>128</sup> Worcester Polytechnic Institute, “2023 Trustees’ Celebration of Faculty Achievement,” <https://www.wpi.edu/offices/president/trustees/celebration-2023>.

<sup>129</sup> New York Times, “Breaking Down New Rules About ‘Forever Chemicals,’” Josh Ocampo, April 24, 2024, <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/24/insider/pfas-water.html>.

<sup>130</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law 117-81, p. 109, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ81/PLAW-117publ81.pdf>.

<sup>131</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act,” press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>132</sup> CAI, “Warren blocks funding extension for proposed machine gun range,” Eve Zuckoff, June 18, 2024, <https://www.capeandislands.org/local-news/2024-06-18/warren-blocks-funding-extension-for-proposed-machine-gun-range>.

<sup>133</sup> Letter from Senator Elizabeth Warren to U.S. Comptroller General Gene Dodaro, May 5, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2020.05.05%20Letter%20to%20GAO%20re%20VA%20oversight%20of%20SVH%20Care%20Quality.pdf>.

<sup>134</sup> Id.

<sup>135</sup> Id.

<sup>136</sup> Oversight.Gov, “Security and Incident Preparedness at VA Medical Facilities,” Department of Veterans Affairs OIG, February 22, 2023, <https://www.oversight.gov/report/VA/Security-and-Incident-Preparedness-VA-Medical-Facilities>.

And – responding to concerns she heard from veterans in Massachusetts – she conducted aggressive oversight to make sure that medical examinations done for veterans to qualify for compensation and pension (C&P) benefits are conducted in a timely and professional fashion.<sup>137</sup>

## 6. RIGHTING HISTORICAL WRONGS

Senator Warren has been a leader in addressing actions by the U.S. military that have placed the armed services on the wrong side of history – and cast a dark shadow that extends to the modern era. For example, during World War I (WWI), the U.S. Army issued orders for the construction of numerous bases to support its growing ranks and commissioned bases located in former Confederate states with the names of Confederate officers and figures.<sup>138</sup> These names honor individuals who acted dishonorably and stained our nation. For some of our servicemembers, who defend our country every day, these underserved honors serve as a reminder of their ancestor’s enslavement and of America’s dark past.

In June 2022, Senator Warren and Representative Anthony Brown (D-MD) introduced the *Removing Confederate Names and Symbols from Our Military Act* and secured amendments to the fiscal year 2021 NDAA mandating the removal of the names and likenesses of all Confederate soldiers, officers, and sympathizers from DoD assets.<sup>139</sup> They fought off a veto by President Trump, and Senator Warren’s amendments became law.<sup>140</sup> And in October 2022, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin authorized a change of names for 1,111 military installations and facilities that were named for individuals connected to the Confederacy.<sup>141</sup>

The 1890 massacre at Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota was a horrific act of violence against the Lakota people. U.S. Army members slaughtered hundreds of Lakota men, women, and children.<sup>142</sup> But a year after the massacre, 20 of the perpetrators were awarded medals of honor, the military’s highest honor.<sup>143</sup>

In 2019, Senators Warren and Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon) introduced the *Remove the Stain Act* to revoke the Medal of Honor from the soldiers who perpetrated the Wounded Knee massacre.<sup>144</sup> On July 19, 2024, the Secretary of Defense directed a review of Medals of Honor awarded for actions at the Wounded Knee massacre.<sup>145</sup>

<sup>137</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Joins Tester, Colleagues to Slam Privatization of Compensation and Pension Exams for Disabled Veterans,” press release, November 20, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-joins-tester-colleagues-to-slam-va-privatization-of-compensation-and-pension-exams-for-disabled-veterans>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Calls Out Ineffectiveness of VA’s Privatized Disability Rating Exams, Pushes for Review of Private Contractors’ Service Quality,” press release, April 24, 2024, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-calls-out-ineffectiveness-of-vas-privatized-disability-rating-exams-pushes-for-review-of-private-contractors-service-quality>.

<sup>138</sup> NPR, “The last army base named for a Confederate general is now called Fort Eisenhower,” Jay Price, November 6, 2023, <https://www.npr.org/2023/11/06/1211025633/the-last-army-base-named-for-a-confederate-general-is-now-called-fort-eisenhower#:~:text=Meanwhile%2C%20the%20Army%2C%20as%20it, names%20to%20reduce%20clerical%20work>.

<sup>139</sup> William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Public Law 116-283, Sec. 370, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ283/PLAW-116publ283.pdf>.

<sup>140</sup> Associated Press, “In a first, Congress overrides Trump veto of defense bill,” Matthew Daly, January 1, 2021, <https://apnews.com/article/election-2020-donald-trump-defense-policy-bills-85656704ad9ae1f9cf202ee76d7a14fd>.

<sup>141</sup> The Hill, “Pentagon chief gives go ahead to change military bases named after Confederate generals,” Ellen Mitchell, October 6, 2022, <https://thehill.com/policy/defense/3677228-pentagon-chief-gives-go-ahead-to-change-military-bases-named-after-confederate-generals/>.

<sup>142</sup> Indianz.com, “O.J. Semans: Stop honoring the men who massacred my people at Wounded Knee,” February 4, 2019, <https://indianz.com/News/2019/02/04/oj-semans-stop-honoring-the-men-who-mass.asp>.

<sup>143</sup> U.S. Department of Defense, “Honors for Valor,” <https://www.defense.gov/Multimedia/Experience/honors-for-valor/>; Washington Post, “Soldiers got Medals of Honor for massacring Native Americans. This bill would take them away,” Kayla Epstein and Alex Horton, November 27, 2019, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2019/11/27/soldiers-got-medals-honor-massacring-native-americans-this-bill-would-take-them-away/>.

<sup>144</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Senators Warren and Merkley Announce Senate Companion to Remove the Stain Act,” press release, November 27, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senators-warren-and-merkley-announce-senate-companion-to-remove-the-stain-act>.

<sup>145</sup> U.S. Secretary of Defense, “Review of Medals of Honor Awarded for Actions Related to the Engagement at Wounded Knee

## 7. FIGHTING FOR VETERANS

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Warren is a strong advocate for servicemembers, veterans, and their families. She has worked hard to protect veterans and improve benefits that they have earned.

In October 2018, soon after joining the Committee, Senator Warren worked to introduce the bipartisan *Women Veterans Peer Counseling Enhancement Act* to ensure that the VA Peer Support Program is equipped with an adequate number of peer counselors to address the mental health needs of women veterans – and she succeeded in getting key parts of this legislation passed into law.<sup>146</sup>

In the wake of the Supreme Court’s decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, millions of veterans were at risk of losing their right to obtain an abortion. In July 2022, Senator Warren led 23 senators in a letter to the VA urging the Department to immediately begin offering abortion services and reproductive care to veterans and eligible dependents.<sup>147</sup> Two months after she sent this letter, the VA published an interim final rule in the Federal Register amending its medical regulations to remove the exclusion on abortion counseling in the medical benefits package; and establish exceptions to the exclusion on abortions for Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) beneficiaries and all VA beneficiaries in the case of rape, incest or to preserve the health of the mother.<sup>148</sup>

Republicans in Congress fought this rule, bringing a resolution to overturn it to the Senate floor in April 2023. Senator Warren helped lead the fight against efforts to defeat this rule – and ultimately, she helped ensure that it remained in place.<sup>149</sup>

Senator Warren has also acted to protect veterans’ financial well-being. She supported bipartisan legislation to modernize the G.I. Bill to expand eligibility to all Purple Heart recipients, which was signed into law as part of the *Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017*.<sup>150</sup>

She introduced the *Veterans Care Financial Protection Act* in May 2017, which sought to crack down on scam artists and protect veterans who were being ripped off while applying for Aid and Attendance benefits – and this law passed the House and Senate on bipartisan votes, and was signed into law by President Trump on March 9, 2018.<sup>151</sup>

---

Creek on December 29, 1890,” July 19, 2024, <https://media.defense.gov/2024/Jul/24/2003509466/-1/-1/1/WOUNDED-KNEE-MOH-REVIEW-SD-MEMO-SIGNED.PDF>.

<sup>146</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Warren Applauds Women Veterans Peer Counseling Provisions Included in New Opioids Law,” press release, October 26, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-applauds-women-veterans-peer-counseling-provisions-included-in-new-opioids-law>; H.R.6 – An act to provide for opioid use disorder prevention, recovery, and treatment, and for other purposes, Public Law No. 115-271, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6/text?r=1>.

<sup>147</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “ICYMI: Warren, Hirono Lead 23 Senators to Urge VA to Immediately Begin offering Abortion Services to Veterans and Eligible Dependents,” press release, July 29, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/icymi-warren-hirono-lead-23-senators-to-urge-va-to-immediately-begin-offering-abortion-services-to-veterans-and-eligible-dependents>.

<sup>148</sup> U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Federal Register Notice, “Reproductive Health Services,” 38 CFR 17, March 4, 2024, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/04/2024-04275/reproductive-health-services>.

<sup>149</sup> Military Times, “Advocates draw battle lines ahead of looming VA abortion fight,” Leo Shane III, September 7, 2022, <https://www.militarytimes.com/veterans/2022/09/07/advocates-draw-battle-lines-ahead-of-looming-va-abortion-fight/>; NBC News, “GOP resolution seeking to halt abortion care at Veterans Affairs fails in the Senate,” Rebecca Shabad and Julie Tsrkin, April 19, 2023, <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/senate-resolution-halt-abortion-care-veterans-affairs-fails-rcna80460>.

<sup>150</sup> Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, Public Law 115-48, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3218?q=%7B%22search%3A%5B%22harry+w.+colmery%5D%7D&r=1>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Senator Warren Applauds Passage of Bipartisan Legislation to Expand GI Bill,” press release, August 3, 2017, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warren-applauds-passage-of-bipartisan-legislation-to-expand-gi-bill>.

<sup>151</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, “Congress Passes Bipartisan Warren-Cartwright Legislation to Protect Veterans from Financial Scams,” press release, February 20, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/02/22/2018/congress-passes-bipartisan-warren-cartwright-legislation-to-protect-veterans-from-financial-scams>.

She joined Senate colleagues in March 2018 to introduce the bipartisan *National Prisoners of War/ Missing in Action Flag Act* to honor more than 82,000 Americans who are listed as Prisoners of War (POW), Missing in Action (MIA), or otherwise unaccounted for from our nation's past wars and conflicts.<sup>152</sup> This bill required the POW/MIA Flag to be displayed whenever the American flag is displayed on prominent federal properties, including the U.S. Capitol, the White House, at national war memorials, VA facilities, post offices, and more.

With Senator Warren's leadership, the bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law on November 7, 2019.<sup>153</sup>

To make sure that veterans could fully access their G.I. Bill benefits, Senator Warren introduced the *Servicemembers Improved Transition through Reforms for Ensuring Progress (SIT-REP) Act*, and in June 2022, the bill's provisions became law through the *Veterans Benefits and Transition Act* omnibus legislation.<sup>154</sup>

## 8. ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Senator Warren believes we have a sacred obligation to honor and support military families. She was an original cosponsor of legislation to repeal the military widow's tax, which was included in the final fiscal year 2020 NDAA.<sup>155</sup> She also worked across the aisle to help Gold Star families – those families that have made the ultimate sacrifice. She introduced and passed into law the *Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act*, *Gold Star Spouses and Spouses of Injured Servicemembers Leasing Relief Expansion Act*,<sup>156</sup> and *The Leasing Relief for Dependents of Fall Heroes and Injured Servicemembers Act*.<sup>157</sup> Senator Warren is committed to providing Gold Star families the financial stability and peace of mind to end leases without fees after the loss of their loved one.

Senator Warren led efforts to ensure DoD is elevating climate change as a national security priority, integrating climate considerations into policies, strategies and partner engagements<sup>158</sup> and ensuring that DoD has addressed and budgeted for the risks of climate change to military networks, systems, installations, and other assets, as well as the operational plans and capabilities.<sup>159</sup> Over two years of hearings, she revealed unanimous concern among military leaders about the rising threat of climate

---

<sup>152</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Cotton, Thune, Sinema, Colleagues Applaud Senate Passage of Bipartisan National POW/MIA Flag Act," press release, May 6, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-cotton-thune-sinema-colleagues-applaud-senate-passage-of-bipartisan-national-pow/mia-flag-act>.

<sup>153</sup> CamdenNews, "President signs POW/MIA Flag Act into law," November 11, 2019, <https://www.camdenarknews.com/news/2019/nov/11/president-signs-powmia-flag-act-law/>.

<sup>154</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Applauds Historic Legislation to Benefit Veterans, Servicemembers, Gold Star Families," press release, December 20, 2018, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-applauds-historic-legislation-to-benefit-veterans-servicemembers-gold-star-families>.

<sup>155</sup> Office of Senator Susan Collins, "Collins, Jones Announce Military Widow's Tax Repeal Included in Final Defense Bill," press release, December 10, 2019, <https://www.collins.senate.gov/newsroom/collins-jones-announce-military-widow%E2%80%99s-tax-repeal-included-final-defense-bill>.

<sup>156</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Portman, Blackburn, Boozman, Tester, Reed Introduce Bill to Modernize Delivery of Notice of Lease Terminations for Servicemembers," press release, September 16, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-portman-blackburn-boozman-tester-reed-introduce-bill-to-modernize-delivery-of-notice-of-lease-terminations-for-servicemembers>.

<sup>157</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Sens. Warren and Portman Unveil Companion Bill to Support Dependents of Fallen and Injured Servicemembers," press release, June 10, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/sens-warren-and-portman-unveil-companion-bill-to-support-dependents-of-fallen-and-injured-servicemembers>; William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Public Law 116-283, Sec. 549.

<sup>158</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senator Warren's SASC Hearing Questions Reveal Unanimity of Military Leaders on Climate Change as a Threat to Readiness," press release, April 16, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warrens-sasc-hearing-questions-reveal-unanimity-of-military-leaders-on-climate-change-as-a-threat-to-readiness>.

<sup>159</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

change to the military's missions, operational plans, installations, and overall readiness.<sup>160</sup> In 2022, Senator Warren and Representative John Garamendi (D-CA) introduced the *Military Vehicle Fleet Electrification Act*,<sup>161</sup> and established a 2035 target for DoD's fleet of non-tactical vehicles to be electric or zero-emissions.<sup>162</sup> Senator Warren has made it a mission to ensure the U.S. prevents and mitigates civilian casualties during warfare.<sup>163</sup> She introduced the *Protections of Civilians in Military Operations Act* to overhaul civilian harm prevention and accountability to require the Department of Defense to live up to its moral responsibility to mitigate civilian harm in military operations.<sup>164</sup> Provisions she has added to the NDAA have required DoD to annually report on civilian casualties,<sup>165</sup> to create a Civilian Protection Center of Excellence,<sup>166</sup> and given DoD the mandate to provide *ex-gratia* payments to compensate civilians harmed by U.S. military action.<sup>167</sup> She has also conducted vigorous oversight calling on State and the Department of Defense to stop U.S. weapons from contributing to civilian casualties around the world, including in Yemen and Gaza.<sup>168</sup>

---

<sup>160</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senator Warren's SASC Hearing Questions Reveal Unanimity of Military Leaders on Climate Change as a Threat to Readiness," press release, April 16, 2019, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warrens-sasc-hearing-questions-reveal-unanimity-of-military-leaders-on-climate-change-as-a-threat-to-readiness>.

<sup>161</sup> Military Vehicle Fleet Electrification Act, S.4380, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4380#:~:text=This%20bill%20requires%20that%20not,type%20that%20meets%20applicable%20industry>.

<sup>162</sup> James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, Public Law 117-263, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7776/text>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>163</sup> *HuffPost*, "Elizabeth Warren Delivers National Security Address Focused on Civilian Casualties," Ryan Grim, February 26, 2014, [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/elizabeth-warren-national-security\\_n\\_4861778](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/elizabeth-warren-national-security_n_4861778); *Newsweek*, "Elizabeth Warren Pushes Pentagon for Higher Ethical Standards, Lower Costs," January 11, 2023, <https://www.newsweek.com/2023/01/20/elizabeth-warren-pushes-pentagon-higher-ethical-standards-lower-costs-1772801.html>.

<sup>164</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Senator Warren and Rep. Khanna Introduce the Protection of Civilians in Military Operations Act," press release, June 10, 2020, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senator-warren-and-rep-khanna-introduce-the-protection-of-civilians-in-military-operations-act>.

<sup>165</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, Public Law 115-91, Sec. 1057, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2810/text>.

<sup>166</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren Announces Legislation Included in National Defense Authorization Act," press release, December 12, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-announces-legislation-included-in-national-defense-authorization-act>.

<sup>167</sup> National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92, Sec. 1213, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ92/PLAW-116publ92.pdf>.

<sup>168</sup> Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Khanna Urge DoD to Do Everything They Can to Prevent Civilian Harm," Press Release, October 13, 2021, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-khanna-urge-dod-to-do-everything-they-can-to-prevent-civilian-harm>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Sanders, Lee Lead Bipartisan Call for DoD and State Department to Investigate Possible U.S. Complicity in Civilian Harm in Yemen," press release, September 7, 2022, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/warren-sanders-lee-lead-bipartisan-call-for-dod-and-state-department-to-investigate-possible-us-complicity-in-civilian-harm-in-yemen>; Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, "Warren, Kaine, Sanders, Merkley, Heinrich Call for Oversight of Use of U.S.-Origin Weapons by Israel in War Against Hamas," press release, December 6, 2023, <https://www.warren.senate.gov/oversight/letters/warren-kaine-sanders-merkley-heinrich-call-for-oversight-of-use-of-us-origin-weapons-by-israel-in-war-against-hamas>.

# CONCLUSION

Senator Warren joined the Senate Armed Services Committee in January 2017, and will soon complete her eighth year as a member of the Committee. She has served under both President Trump and President Biden, and as a member of the Senate majority and a member of the Senate minority. She has now served for almost two years as chair of the Committee's Subcommittee on Personnel. During her time on the Committee, she has worked across the aisle, conducted aggressive oversight, and obtained significant legislative victories for taxpayers, servicemembers and their families, and veterans. She has helped ensure that DoD is investing in its personnel and facilities in Massachusetts. She has fulfilled her promise to "provide effective support and oversight of the Armed Forces" in order to protect and strengthen national security.

