

Amendment to H.R. 8800

Offered by: Mr. Moulton

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 8800, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Prohibitions on the Deployment of the Armed Forces to Polling Places

The committee affirms that a foundational pillar of American democracy and the rule of law is the prohibition of the military to be used to police domestic elections or intimidate citizens at the ballot box. Section 592 of title 18, United States Code, makes it a federal crime for any officer of the military to order, bring, keep, or have under their authority any troops or armed men at any place where a general or special election is held, unless necessary to repel armed enemies. Furthermore, Section 593 of title 18, United States Code, criminalizes any attempt by a member of the Armed Forces to prevent or attempt to prevent, by force, threat, intimidation, or advice, any qualified voter from fully exercising their right of suffrage.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a report and briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 1, 2027, on any directive or executive order from the executive branch to deploy military personnel to any location where a primary, general, or special election, as defined by Title 18, United States Code, was held in 2026.