

About Freaking Time! Pentagon Now Considering Back Pay To Troops Discharged For This...

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The US Department of Defense is considering offering some back pay for service members who were discharged for their refusal to take the COVID-19 vaccine.

The Daily Wire reports that service members may receive back pay after the Pentagon formally dropped the vaccine last week as a requirement to be in the military. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) made this happen for the military by forcing the issue into the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) passed by Congress and signed into law in December. He made this a top priority for getting this done after he and other Republicans agreed that this is the kind of thing that the government must address.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin wrote in a memo last week that the Pentagon is formally resending its requirement that service members receive the vaccine to provide their service to the military. Politico said that this “opened the door to reinstating troops.”

Officials had yet to make it clear if they would offer back pay to those discharged between August 2021, when the vaccine mandate was first put in place, and this past week when it was finally repealed.

Pentagon spokesperson Maj. Charlie Dietz told Politico the following about it:

“The Department is still exploring this and will provide its views on the legislation of this nature at the appropriate time and through the appropriate process.”

The Biden Administration directed the Department of Defense to discharge more than 8,400 service members for their refusal to take the COVID-19 vaccine. A federal judge also stated that thousands of other service members sought medical and religious exemptions from taking the vaccine. That being said, Secretary Austin stated that more than 2 million members, including roughly 96% of all active duty service members, have been fully vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine.

National Security Council spokesman John Kirby alluded to the idea that President Biden and Secretary Austin wanted to keep the vaccine mandate policy in place. However, the military is, fortunately, getting rid of the policy now. Kirby said:

“Secretary Austin’s been very clear that he opposes the repeal of the vaccine mandate, and the president concurs with the secretary of defense.” He also made it clear that Biden: “continues to believe that all Americans, including those in the armed forces, should be vaccinated and boosted for COVID-19 . . . Vaccines are saving lives including our men and women in uniform.”

However, Biden signed the bill that ended the mandate as it was part of this year’s overall military funding bill.