



**SENATE Resolution #3019**

**TITLE:** ASUW Supports Defend the Guard Act  
**DATE INTRODUCED:** 11/26/24  
**AUTHOR:** Senator Saint  
**SPONSORS:** ASUW President Murfitt, Senators Bogani, Harper, Holt, Keasling, Relaford, Robertson, Rzeszut, Ward, First-Year Senators Mongar, Pike, Lester, Student Organizations Turning Point USA at University of Wyoming, Young Americans for Liberty at University of Wyoming, Young Women for America at University of Wyoming

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, during the next Wyoming Legislative General Session, a piece of
4. legislation called Defend the Guard Act will be submitted; and,
5. WHEREAS, this act would prohibit the President of the United States from calling up
6. the Wyoming National Guard to deploy into a foreign war without a formal declaration
7. of war from Congress; and,
8. WHEREAS, ASUW supports such a bill; and,
9. WHEREAS, a growing number of Americans, especially young people, are not in favor
10. of sending American troops into foreign wars as outlined in Addendum A; and,
11. WHEREAS, Wyoming National Guard personnel should not have to be sent into foreign
12. wars that have nothing to do with the protection of the Wyoming people; and,
13. WHEREAS, the President of the United States should not be able to call up the
14. Wyoming National Guard without a formal declaration of war by Congress; and,
15. WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution says in Article I, Section 8, Clause 11, "The Congress
16. shall have Power...To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make
17. Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water"; and,
18. WHEREAS, many UW students who are members of the National Guard do not want to
19. be sent into foreign conflicts not relevant to Wyoming; and,
20. WHEREAS, Addendum B is the actual Defend the Guard bill; and,
21. WHEREAS, Addendum C is a letter on behalf of UW students and Wyomingites who
22. are members of the National Guard and Air Guard who support Defend the Guard.
23. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students at the University of Wyoming
24. (ASUW) Student Government that this resolution stands upon passage; and,
25. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Wyoming
26. State Legislature and the Governor of Wyoming upon its passage.

Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_ SWAC \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_ December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on \_\_\_\_\_ December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, I do hereby sign my name hereto and approve  
this Senate action.” \_\_\_\_\_  
Kameron Mufatto

ASUW President

## **Addendum A**

### **Statistics on Americans Wanting to Stay Out of Foreign Wars**

**([NewsNation](#))** — When it comes to major foreign conflicts in Ukraine, Israel and potentially Taiwan, Americans across the political spectrum prefer proposals that don't involve putting U.S. troops on the ground, according to a [new NewsNation/DecisionDesk HQ poll released Monday](#).

Regarding U.S. involvement in the [Israel-Hamas war](#), nearly 70% of Democrats and independents, as well as, two-thirds of Republicans favor policies that don't send American troops to the Middle East.

The margin was similar for the [Ukraine-Russia war](#), with three-quarters of Republican respondents and 68% of Democrat respondents preferring proposals that avoid sending troops.

A similar alignment of sentiments was seen among respondents from both parties concerning a potential war between China and Taiwan. Around 60% of Republicans and Democrats preferred strategies that did not send U.S. troops to the area. About a quarter of those polled from each party said they were "not sure" what their view was.

<https://www.newsnationnow.com/polls/americans-us-troops-foreign-conflicts-poll/>

Pluralities of these younger generations think military approaches are overused in US foreign policy, and unlike their elders, they would rather see the federal defense budget decreased than increased.

<https://globalaffairs.org/research/public-opinion-survey/young-americans-question-us-global-engagement>

**Addendum B**  
**Defend the Guard Act**

2024	STATE OF WYOMING	24LSO-0524
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**HOUSE BILL NO. HB0195**

**Defend the guard act.**

**Sponsored by: Representative(s) Singh, Andrew, Olsen, Provenza and Western and  
Senator(s) Hutchings, Ide and Rothfuss**

**A BILL**

**for**

**AN ACT relating to the Wyoming national guard; providing legislative findings;  
prohibiting the release of the Wyoming national guard into active duty combat as specified;  
and providing for an effective date.**

***Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:***

**Section 1. The Wyoming legislature finds that this act, creating the Defend the Guard Act, follows the principles embodied in the United States constitution and the writings of the founders. Article I, section 8 of the United States constitution vests in the congress the exclusive power to declare war. By abdicating the war powers to the executive branch, the United States congress has failed to follow the United States constitution and the intent of the founders.**

**Section 2. W.S. 19-9-104 is created to read:**

**19-9-104. Defend the guard act.**

**(a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Defend the Guard Act".**

**(b) For the purposes of this section:**

**(i) "Active duty combat" means performing the following services in the active federal military service of the United States:**

**(A) Participation in an armed conflict;**

**(B) Performance of a hazardous service relating to an armed conflict in a foreign state; or**

**(C) Performance of a duty through an instrumentality of war.**

**(ii) "Official declaration of war" means an official declaration of war made by the United States congress pursuant to article I, section 8, clause 11 of the United States constitution.**

**(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Wyoming national guard and any member thereof shall not be released from the state into active duty combat unless the United States congress has passed an official declaration of war or has taken an official action pursuant to article I, section 8, clause 15 of the United States constitution to explicitly call forth the Wyoming national guard and any member thereof for the enumerated purposes of expressly executing the laws of the union, repelling invasion or suppressing an insurrection. The governor shall take all actions necessary to comply with the requirements of this section.**

**(d) Nothing in this section limits or prohibits the governor from consenting to the deployment of any Wyoming national guard member under title 32 of the United States Code for the purpose of providing defense support for civil authority missions within the United States and United States territories.**

**Section 3. W.S. 19-9-204(b) is amended to read:**

**19-9-204. Command of military force called into service.**

**(b) Subject to W.S. 19-9-104 the national guard of the state may be ordered into the service of the United States by the president of the United States for any purpose for which he is authorized to use militia of the states by the constitution of the United States.**

**Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.**

**(END)**

### **Addendum C**

#### **Letter from National Guard and Air Guard Members**

On behalf of the National Guard and Air Guard members residing in Wyoming, we express our full support for House Bill No. HB0195: the Defend the Guard Act. Too often, we have seen friends and family members deployed during vulnerable times in their lives due to the failure of Congress and the President to fulfill their constitutional responsibilities. This bill promotes accountability at the national level and inspires hope that other states will adopt similar legislation into their frameworks.

Serving in the military is a deeply honorable role, carried with pride, dignity, and respect. Members of the Wyoming National Guard have dedicated their time and effort to courageously defend our nation, whether protecting our communities, supporting our state, or serving abroad. Members join with the intention of protecting and serving their own country, not engaging in wars that don't directly involve them. Many National Guard members enlist with the hope of supporting their local community or state, rather than being deployed to foreign countries for the purpose of building alliances, as outlined below.

In January 2024, ["The 2nd Battalion, 300th Field Artillery Regiment from Gillette deployed to Kuwait as part of Operation Spartan Shield. The battalion's goal is to build partnerships with U.S. allies."](#) In August 2024, ["Wyoming Air National Guard Airmen deployed to the 75th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. The 75th EAS provides tactical airlift support to multiple units and operations in East Africa."](#)

<https://www.usafe.af.mil/Units/406th-Air-Expeditionary-Wing/News-and-Articles/Display/Article/3660019/wyoming-tag-visits-deployed-ang-members/#:~:text=deployed%20ANG%20members-,Wyoming%20Gov.,11%2C%202024.>

<https://www.wyomingpublicmedia.org/news/2024-08-02/wyoming-army-national-guard-unit-deploying-to-kuwait-on-planned-rotation#>

We are here to defend the United States of America and the American people.

Passed 17-3-2