To reduce the amount authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 21, 2023

Ms. Lee of California (for herself, Mr. Pocan, Mr. Blumenauer, Ms. Bush, Mr. Garcia of Illinois, Mr. Grijalva, Ms. Norton, Ms. Jayapal, Ms. Omar, Mr. McGovern, Ms. Tlaib, and Mrs. Watson Coleman) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To reduce the amount authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “People Over Pentagon Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—
(1) many of the most urgent threats to the national security of the United States are not military in nature;

(2) the Federal budget should reflect the national priorities of the United States; and

(3) in order to better protect the security of all people and address the national priorities of the United States, the budget of the Department of Defense should be reduced and the associated savings should be reallocated.

SEC. 3. REDUCTION IN AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED TO BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amount authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for 2024 is—

(1) the aggregate amount appropriated for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2023 in division C of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117–103), reduced by

(2) $100,000,000,000.

(b) FUNDING FOR CERTAIN ACCOUNTS.—The amount authorized to be appropriated for each of the following accounts of the Department of Defense shall be the amount authorized to be appropriated for such account for fiscal year 2024:
(1) The Defense Health Program.

(2) Each military personnel account.

(3) Each account providing for pay and benefits for persons appointed into the civil service as defined in section 2101 of title 5, United States Code.

(c) APPLICATION OF FUNDING CUTS.—In reducing funding for Department of Defense programs in accordance with subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall take into consideration the findings and recommendations contained in the Congressional Budget Office report entitled “Illustrative Options for National Defense Under a Smaller Defense Budget” and dated October 2021.