

House Rules Committee
Hearing on S. Con. Res. 33
April 27, 2026

Chair Foxx and Ranking Member McGovern,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of my amendment to Senate Concurrent Resolution 33.

My amendment would prevent a partisan reconciliation process from being used to fund military action in Iran unless Congress has authorized such hostilities through a declaration of war or specific authorization for military force.

Congress created the reconciliation process under the Congressional Budget Act more than 50 years ago so the House and Senate could quickly resolve issues with the budget. Reconciliation was never meant to replace the bipartisan appropriations process and using it to fund ICE and CBP shuts the door on the negotiations needed to reform those agencies. We cannot normalize using reconciliation as the vehicle for every party-line priority.

As we consider this resolution, we cannot ignore what may come next. The administration has already requested \$350 billion in mandatory defense spending, and another reconciliation package could be the vehicle for moving that funding in the future.

I want to make sure reconciliation does not become a blank check for spending billions of taxpayer dollars, all while putting American lives on the line. A decision that serious requires open debate, transparency for the American people and Members of both parties being forced to take a vote.