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Gillibrand's Groundbreaking Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Amendment Included In Final NDAA

Gillibrand's Provision Will Establish a Formal Office to Carry Out a Coordinated Effort on Collection and Analysis Related to UAPs

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is announcing the inclusion of her Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) amendment in the FY22 NDAA. Today, UAPs pose a significant challenge to our national security, appearing in sensitive U.S. airspace and around military personnel. Gillibrand has been working alongside Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Congressman Ruben Gallego (AZ-07) to establish an office that would replace the current Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force and would have access to Department of Defense (DoD) and Intelligence Community data related to UAPs. By doing so, the office will have the authority to establish a coordinated effort to report and respond to UAPs, significantly improve data-sharing between agencies on UAP sightings, address national security concerns, and report health effects people may experience in relation to UAP events. The office will be administered jointly between the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, and will empower military and civilian personnel working for the DoD and Intelligence Community to report incidents and information involving UAPs.

"Our national security efforts rely on aerial supremacy and these phenomena present a challenge to our dominance over the air. Staying ahead of UAP sightings is critical to keeping our strategic edge and

keeping our nation safe," **said Senator Gillibrand.** *"My amendment will establish a formal office to report and respond to UAPs and give us the scientific capabilities needed to track and share data, investigate sightings, and develop a response to this growing security threat. The United States needs a coordinated effort to take control and understand whether these aerial phenomena belong to a foreign government or something else altogether. I am proud to have worked alongside Congressman Gallego to include this amendment that will help remove the stigma surrounding UAPs, protect our nation, and keep those who serve safe."*

"It is my hope that the creation of a new joint Defense Department and Intelligence Community office focused on UAPs will provide the resources, analytics and attention needed to determine what is loitering around our military training ranges," **said Senator Rubio.** *"The DoD and IC need to ensure a more uniform collection strategy is in place and that we continue to destigmatize reporting on UAPs, particularly from military aviators. Significantly, we also maintain the transparency and accountability that my provision in last year's Intelligence Authorization Act report provided, by ensuring ongoing unclassified reporting."*

"The bicameral, bipartisan Gillibrand amendment provides a comprehensive framework for a scientific data driven approach to get to the truth about UAP," **said Senator Blunt.** *"This amendment ensures that we treat UAP as we would any potential national security threat that would enter U.S. restricted training or operational areas."*

"Protecting our national security interests means knowing who and what are flying in U.S. airspace. Right now our system of tracking and identifying UAPs is scattered throughout the Department of Defense and other departments and agencies of the federal government," **said**

Congressman Gallego. *“Based on briefings I’ve received as Chairman of the House Intelligence and Special Operations Subcommittee, I firmly believe that the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community need to come together and create a permanent, synchronized structure to collect and analyze UAP data. I’m excited that the amendment I introduced alongside Senator Gillibrand was included in the final version of the NDAA.”*

As established in the NDAA, the UAP office would be given the task of providing a full spectrum of intelligence, scientific, and technical assessments related to UAPs, including:

- **Collection & Analysis of Data into a Central Repository:** The UAP office will supervise the development and execution of intelligence collection and analysis regarding UAPs in order to understand their technical and scientific characteristics. The UAP office will receive relevant data immediately from Intelligence Community agencies.
- **Establish a Science Plan:** The UAP office will be responsible for implementing a science plan to test scientific theories related to UAP characteristics and performances.
- **Build a National Priorities Intelligence Framework:** The DNI will be required to consult with the Secretary of Defense to assign a level or priority within the National Intelligence Priorities Framework related to UAPs.
- **Evaluate any links between UAPs and foreign governments or non-state actors:** The UAP office will be tasked with evaluating threats that UAPs may pose to the United States. Additionally, the office will be responsible for coordinating with federal agencies, including the FAA and NASA, and international allies and partners on UAPs.
- **Report to Congress:** The UAP office will be required to provide unclassified annual reports to Congress and classified semiannual briefings on intelligence analysis, reported incidents, health-related effects, the role of foreign governments, and nuclear security.

This amendment is cosponsored in the Senate by Senators Rubio (R-FL), Graham (R-SC), Heinrich (D-NM), and Blunt (R-MO).