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Defense bill would remove limits on military prayer

CAPITOL HILL The huge defense authorization bill awaiting House approval this week includes a provision that would allow military chaplains to pray as they see fit.

Navy Chaplain Gordon Klingenschmitt, who faces a possible court martial after praying in Jesus' name in uniform outside the White House, said he's "thanking God" for the legislation.

But senators could yet strip the language from the final defense bill. The provision says, "Each chaplain shall have the prerogative to pray according to the dictates of the chaplain's own conscience, except as must be limited by military necessity, with any such limitation being imposed in the least restrictive manner feasible."

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