

Barnes campaign: Statement on troop withdrawal from Afghanistan

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MADISON — Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes released the following statement on the troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and his commitment to defending allies and keeping Americans safe:

"I commend the brave men and women who sacrificed so much for their country while serving in Afghanistan, and my heart is also with our nation's Gold Star families today. For too long, we put our troops in harm's way while spending trillions on an endless war that was entering a third decade of conflict. We must honor their sacrifice by safely evacuating every American and honoring our commitment to ensuring the safety of our allies on the ground and provide humanitarian assistance to those devastated by the Taliban.

"Moving forward, we must continue to monitor terrorist activity in the region that has devastated the Afghani people, work to keep Americans safe, and do all we can to safeguard the rights of women, children, and religious and ethnic minorities in the country. As Wisconsin's next Senator, I will never back down from my duty to protect American lives while building a more just world and working tirelessly to secure human rights for all."