Jim Hagedorn has shown disrespect to our troops and veterans who risked their lives for our country, even though Hagedorn himself never served in the military, instead working as a bureaucrat in Washington. That’s why it’s outrageous that he called a disabled combat veteran a half-soldier, he voted against pay raises for our servicemembers during the COVID-Nineteen pandemic, and he refused to condemn Russia for offering bounties to terrorists who kill American soldiers in Afghanistan.

From 1991 To 2009 Hagedorn Worked In Washington, D.C. At The Dept of the Treasury And Bureau of Engraving and Printing. “From 1991 to 1998, Hagedorn was the Director for Legislative and Public Affairs for the Financial Management Service, the U.S. Department of the Treasury agency responsible for the management of more than $2 trillion in federal funds. He also served as the Congressional Affairs Officer for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the department of the Treasury that manufactures U.S. paper currency.” [Fairbault County Register, 12/7/09]

Hagedorn Allegedly Called A Wheelchair-Bound Vietnam Veteran A “Half-Soldier” And Told The Man To “Roll Away” From Him. “Walz, considered one of the top experts in the House on veterans, advocated for constantly reforming and modernizing the VA system. He said Democrats and Republicans often find agreement and compromise on veterans issues. He also called Hagedorn out for allegedly insulting a veteran friend who disagreed with the Republican’s position by calling him a ‘half-soldier’ and told him to ‘roll away.’ Walz’s friend lost his legs and an arm in Vietnam and uses a wheelchair.” [Mankato Free Press, 10/5/16]

Hagedorn Voted Against The National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2021, Which Would Provide A 3% Pay Raise For Members Of The Armed Forces. Hagedorn voted against “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would authorize $731.6 billion in national defense spending, including $704.5 billion for the Defense Department and $26.6 billion for national security programs within the Energy Department. Within the total, it would authorize $69 billion for overseas contingency operations not subject to discretionary spending caps. The bill would authorize approximately $138.3 billion for weapons and other procurement, including $5.5 billion for overseas contingency operations, $7.4 billion for F-35 series joint strike fighter aircraft procurement, and $22.3 billion for shipbuilding. It would authorize $8.2 billion for military construction. It would authorize $3.6 billion in fiscal 2021 for the Defense Department to carry out a new Indo-Pacific Reassurance Initiative to optimize the presence of U.S. forces, build allied military capabilities, and improve infrastructure and asset positioning in the region. Among other provisions, the bill would authorize a 3 percent pay increase for members of the armed forces; authorize $1 billion to establish a Defense Department pandemic preparedness national security fund, primarily to fund biopreparedness research; and require the Defense Department to prohibit the public display of the Confederate battle flag on department property and rename any assets named after leaders of the Confederacy or any armed rebellion against the United States.” The bill passed 295-125. [H.R. 6395, Vote #152, 7/21/20; CQ, 7/21/20]

The House National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2021 Gave A 3% Pay Raise To Active Duty Troops. “On, July 23, 2020, the United States Senate passed their version of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act by a vote of 86 to 14. In-line with the President's proposal and the House's version, the Senate's rendition also contains the language to provide for a 3.0 percent pay raise for the military. The House and the Senate must now reconcile their differences contained in each bill to agree on a single version to send to President Trump for final approval. On, July 21, 2020, the House of Representatives passed their version of the National Defense Authorization Act by a vote of 295 to 125. The full Senate is projected to vote on their version later this week. Both the House and Senate's versions currently provide for a 3.0 percent military pay raise for 2021. […] The 2021 U.S. military pay chart reflects a 3.0 percent increase over the previous year in the rate of basic pay for the active components of the Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard.” [Navy CyberSpace, accessed 8/5/20]

Hagedorn Refused To Condemn Russia For Offering Bounties To Terrorists Who Kill American Soldiers In Afghanistan. “As asked about bounties offered by Russia on U.S. soldiers, Hagedorn countered by asking why his election opponent Dan Feehan supported the Iran deal. He said Iranians also killed U.S. soldiers in Iraq. Hagedorn also expressed doubts the bounty stories were true because soldiers on the ground were not taking them seriously. ‘President Trump and people like myself are trying to get the troops out of Afghanistan,’ he said. ‘Let’s get them
out of there so there can’t be bounties on them. We want to protect our troops around the world, and one of the best ways to do that is to get them out of a war that should have ended 15 years ago.” [New Ulm Journal, 7/17/20]