

The background of the entire page is a photograph showing the silhouettes of soldiers against a bright, low sun, likely at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow. In the foreground on the left, a soldier is shown in profile, facing right, holding a rifle. In the distance, two other soldiers are visible as smaller silhouettes against the horizon.

FY 2020

**NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT**

Senate Armed Services Committee

U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe, Chairman

U.S. Senator Jack Reed, Ranking Member



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the past 58 consecutive years, Congress has fulfilled its constitutional responsibility to “provide for the common defense” by passing the *National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)*. This annual legislation authorizes funding and provides authorities for the U.S. military and other critical national defense priorities, and ensures our troops have what they need to defend our nation. On May 22, 2019, the Senate Armed Services Committee voted overwhelmingly, 25-2, to advance the *National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2020* to the Senate floor and keep our troops safe.

The world is more unstable and dangerous than it has been in recent memory. Our margin of military supremacy has eroded and is undermined by new threats from strategic competitors like China and Russia. At the same time, we are confronting persistent threats from North Korea, Iran, and terrorist organizations. Rapid technological advances have fundamentally altered the nature of warfare, and years of sustained armed conflict, underfunding, and budgetary instability have harmed our military readiness and dulled our combat edge. Our Congressional duty to provide for the security of our nation, protect our values, and support those who defend them is all the more important as the tide of war has risen rather than receded. We must pivot to meet the needs of a nation increasingly at risk.

The National Defense Strategy (NDS) and the NDS Commission report established a comprehensive roadmap to bolster our national security in light of this new challenge of strategic competition. Last year’s defense authorization legislation, the *John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019*, was the first NDAA to support the implementation of this strategy, resulting in gains in readiness and improved capabilities. The *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020* keeps our Armed Forces on that trajectory, and builds on the recognition of this new reality—strengthening our force, investing in innovation, and improving the combat effectiveness of the Department of Defense.

The committee continues to prioritize the timely passage of this legislation and predictable funding, completing its work on the fiscal year 2020 NDAA just over two months after receiving the administration’s budget request. Our military leaders have repeatedly stated that stable, on-time, and adequate funding is key to implementing the recommendations of the NDS Commission report. The report serves to provide sharp guideposts to outfitting our Armed Forces with the resources and authorities they need to advance U.S. national security interests.

However, timely and sufficient funding alone will not fix all of our security problems. We must establish clear priorities and reinforce them with strategic investments to pursue urgent change at significant scale.

**THE NATION HAS REACHED A PIVOTAL
MOMENT...THE CHOICES WE MAKE
TODAY...WILL HAVE PROFOUND AND
POTENTIALLY LASTING CONSEQUENCES FOR
AMERICAN SECURITY AND INFLUENCE.**

National Defense Strategy Commission Report



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Difficult choices must be made and priorities established, particularly related to roles and missions, force employment, and resource allocation.

With the NDS and NDS Commission Report as the framework, the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020* advances the following priorities:

Investing in a lethal, ready all-volunteer force

The committee's top priority remains supporting the 2.15 million men and women who make up our all-volunteer force, particularly those troops in harm's way. The NDAA ensures that our warfighters will not only be equipped with the best equipment and munitions, but also that our military infrastructure supports the mission and a stable quality of life for service members and their families. In particular, the bill profoundly changes how on-base privatized housing is managed, increasing accountability to our military families, and guaranteeing future economic viability for the program. As critical initiatives, the legislation also increases employment opportunities for military spouses and improves the availability of child care on installations.

Restoring our combat advantage through modernization, innovation, and cooperation

Our military superiority can no longer be taken for granted and is not guaranteed. For too many years, we assumed our equipment was better than everyone else's—but it's simply not true. Without increased investment, we risk falling behind, losing our ability to successfully deter aggression from strategic competitors, and inflicting lasting damage to our national security. To meet urgent needs across operating domains, the NDAA aligns service resources with the NDS—continuing to rebuild readiness, optimizing the force for innovation and effectiveness, and re-establishing warfighting dominance.

Therefore, the NDAA authorizes investments in critical equipment, weapons, and missile defense platforms to improve munitions that enhance lethality. It modernizes key capabilities and increases preparedness for war.

WE ARE OPERATING A FORCE TODAY THAT WAS LAST MODERNIZED IN THE 1980S. WE ARE DEALING WITH SIGNIFICANT READINESS CHALLENGES. AND WE'RE HAVING TO DEAL WITH TECHNOLOGY, BUT DEAL WITH IT WITH COMPETITORS WHO ARE MOVING VERY QUICKLY IN A VERY INTEGRATED CIVILIAN/MILITARY STRATEGY...AND SO, WE'RE MOVING INTO A VERY NEW PHASE OF WARFARE THAT I THINK IS—IT HAS TO BE ADDRESSED.

Admiral Gary Roughead, Co-Chair, Commission on the National Defense Strategy



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This includes maintaining a safe, secure, sustainable, and credible nuclear deterrent—updating and securing our stockpile and infrastructure to prevent nuclear warfare and ensure nuclear weapons do not end up in the hands of malign actors. No one should doubt the capability or political will of the United States.

The NDAA passed by the committee drives innovation by authorizing funds and implementing policies to advance technology development and next-generation capabilities, including artificial intelligence, hypersonic weapons, and quantum computing. These investments will ensure our military is not fighting tomorrow's wars with yesterday's weapons and equipment.

As the global security dynamics shift, warfare has also expanded to new frontiers. To meet growing threats in the space domain, the NDAA establishes a U.S. Space Force as a new component of the Air Force. Our adversaries have Space Forces—we are behind. This new force will focus on cultivating a space warfighting ethos, unify command of space operations and activities, and improve acquisition policies for space programs and systems.

Also a new frontier, the NDAA includes numerous provisions to advance the Department of Defense's cybersecurity strategy and address our cyber warfighting capabilities.

To reinforce our military might, the NDAA supports programs and policies that will cultivate key alliances and partnerships. These relationships will help maintain a favorable balance of power against near-peer adversaries and counter other growing threats.

Improving effectiveness and efficiency within Pentagon management

The Pentagon's business operations provide the foundation for a responsive and innovative military. Building upon several years of reform, the NDAA continues to streamline operations—continuing acquisition policy reform, recalibrating contract reform, and strengthening program oversight. A more efficient bureaucracy will better utilize the full value of every taxpayer dollar spent on defense.

WE'VE CONCLUDED THAT THE CURRENT CONSTRUCT OF A TRIAD WITH A ROBUST NUCLEAR COMMAND-AND-CONTROL CAPABILITY IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO DETER A NUCLEAR WAR. AND IT IS ALSO THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO RAISE THE THRESHOLD FOR THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY ANY POTENTIAL ADVERSARY.

*General Joseph Dunford
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff*



PROVIDING FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE

The NDAA supports a total of \$750 billion in fiscal year 2020 funding for national defense, in line with the budget request and the NDS Commission report. Within this total, the legislation authorizes a base defense budget of \$642.5 billion for the Department of Defense and \$23.2 billion for national security programs within the Department of Energy. The NDAA also authorizes \$75.9 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations. These totals reflect a transfer of \$97.9 billion from the administration’s budget proposal for Overseas Contingency Operations “base” funding back to the base discretionary account.

THIS COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT CONGRESS INCREASE THE BASE DEFENSE BUDGET AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF THREE TO FIVE PERCENT ABOVE INFLATION THROUGH THE FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM AND PERHAPS BEYOND.

National Defense Strategy Commission Report

FY20 Defense Funding Levels (in billions)

DOD Discretionary Base	\$642.5
DOE Discretionary Base	\$23.2
Overseas Contingency Operations	\$75.9
NDAA Authorized Topline w/ OCO	\$741.5
Defense-Related Activities Outside NDAA Jurisdiction	\$8.4
National Defense Topline w/ OCO	\$750.0

PRIORITIZING STRATEGIC COMPETITION

- The NDS identifies the reemergence of long-term, strategic competition with China and Russia as the central challenge presently facing to U.S. security and prosperity. As such, the NDAA prioritizes defense investments that restore our comparative military advantage and deter aggression. The legislation:
- Supports an Army Multi-Domain Task Force for the Indo-Pacific region to develop capabilities and operational concepts to restore the U.S. comparative military advantage in the region
 - Increases funding for posture site assessments in the Indo-Pacific region to accelerate the transition to smaller, dispersed, resilient, and dynamic basing
 - Requires a report on U.S. defense requirements in the Indo-Pacific region, including a plan to fully resource U.S. force posture and capabilities over the fiscal year 2022-2026 future years defense plan
 - Modifies the annual report on Chinese military and security developments to include an assessment of Chinese overseas investment as it relates to their military and security objectives



HIGHLIGHTS

- Authorizes an increase in funding for the Department of Defense to develop the capability to produce rare earth elements from coal ash, a market that China currently dominates
- Extends the limitation on bilateral military-to-military cooperation between the U.S. and Russia unless certain conditions are met, and prohibits authorized funds from being used for any activity that recognizes the sovereignty of Russia over Crimea
- Directs the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commander of U.S. European Command to assess the feasibility and merit of basing two additional destroyers at Rota, Spain, to deter aggression and improve readiness
- Fully funds the nuclear modernization program at or above the level of the request, including the triad of delivery systems, as well as the Department of Energy's warhead life extension programs and infrastructure recapitalization
- Requires the Secretary of Defense, Director of National Intelligence, and Secretary of State to submit a report on the nuclear capabilities of Russia and China, including Russian nuclear systems not covered by New START
- Continues the Department's work to maximize as many munitions production lines as possible—particularly those specific to the high-end fight, such as the Long-Range Anti-Ship Missile (LRASM), Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile Extended Range (JASSM-ER), the MK-48 torpedo, and Harpoon missiles
- Continues development of comprehensive missile defense technologies to deliver integrated and effective capabilities to counter ballistic, cruise, and hypersonic missiles
- Emphasizes the importance of Department of Defense military information operations capabilities to counter adversary messaging
- Assesses our equipment and munitions capabilities vis-a-vis those of Russia and China, including:
 - Directing the Air Force to finalize an optimum bomber and fighter force, including the B-21 and F-35, in regards to the strategic threat from peer competitors like China and Russia
 - Encouraging the Army to address capability gaps in rotary wing aircraft munitions
- Authorizes increases for research and testing related to advanced technology and transformational weapon systems, including hypersonic weapons and directed energy, to keep up with technological competition with China and Russia
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to enhance the assessment and mitigation of risks related to foreign ownership, control, or influence within the defense industrial base
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to develop a list of academic institutions in China and Russia associated with defense programs of those countries, in order to identify any university heavily engaged in military research as part of an effort to protect American national security academic researchers from undue influence and other security threats

BUILDING A MORE MODERN, LETHAL FORCE

The fiscal year 2020 NDAA prioritizes investments that ensure the U.S. military sustains or regains our comparative combat advantage in the current climate of great-power competition. To be prepared for peacetime deterrence or wartime in any domain, our warfighters must be equipped with effective equipment, weapons, and munitions. Therefore, the legislation:

- Authorizes \$10 billion to procure 94 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft, an additional 16 aircraft above the administration's request, enabling the forces to modernize and equip themselves with the most advanced and capable fifth-generation aircraft
 - Includes \$5.4 billion to procure 60 F-35A fighters
 - Includes \$1.3 billion to procure 12 F-35B fighters
 - Includes \$2.5 billion to procure 22 F-35C fighters
 - Authorizes advanced procurement to ensure that the Air Force is able to purchase the number of aircraft needed to meet the NDS in a timely fashion
 - Encourages the Department of Defense to establish a specific plan to find cost savings for the F-35, including authorizing the purchase of material and equipment in economic order quantities, supporting the Department's planning for multi-year procurement and block buys, and produce progress reports on achievements of specific targets
- Authorizes \$24.1 billion for shipbuilding to fund 12 new construction battle force ships
 - Includes \$5.1 billion for three Arleigh Burke-class destroyers
 - Improves submarine fleet by requiring modern Virginia Payload Modules in two Virginia-class submarines for a total of \$4.7 billion in investments. The bill also authorizes advances funding for an additional Virginia class submarine and requires the Navy to update its acquisition strategy
 - Includes the full request for: one Frigate; two Towing, Salvage, and Rescue ships; two Lewis-class oilers; four LCU-1700 amphibious landing craft; and completion of Zumwalt-class destroyers
 - Accelerates and incrementally funds procurement of one LHA replacement amphibious ship (LHA-9, \$650 million above the administration's request) and one LPD Flight II amphibious ship (LPD-31, \$277.9 million above the administration's request), and requires a report on alternative LHA and LPD acquisition strategies
 - Authorizes additional advanced procurement for Virginia-class submarines (+\$1.5 billion), Arleigh Burke-class destroyers (+\$260 million), Columbia-class submarines (+\$125 million), and Ship to Shore Connectors (+\$40.4 million)—all relative to the administration's request
 - Accelerates procurement of the first YP-703 Flight II ship
 - Requires the Secretary of the Navy to carry out the nuclear refueling and complex overhaul of the USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74) and USS Harry S. Truman (CVN-75)



HIGHLIGHTS

- Authorizes the procurement of 105 naval aviation aircraft (in addition to the F-35s noted above), including:
 - 24 F/A-18 Super Hornets
 - 6 P-8A Poseidons
 - 3 KC-130J Hercules
 - 10 MV-22 Ospreys
 - 6 VH-92A Presidential Helicopters
 - 2 MQ-4 Tritons
 - 4 E-2D Advanced Hawkeyes
 - 6 CH-53K King Stallions
- Transitions all funds for Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense procurement and sustainment from the Missile Defense Agency to the Army and encourages the Army to request funds to procure the eighth and ninth batteries beginning in fiscal year 2021, in accordance with the validated requirement
- Requires a report on optimal composition of the carrier air wing in 2030 and 2040 and alternative force design concepts
- Maintains air superiority by:
 - Authorizing funding for Air Force aircraft, including:
 - \$948 million for 8 F-15X aircraft, \$162 million below the administration's request to reflect excess nonrecurring costs
 - \$2.8 billion for 15 KC-46A, 3 aircraft more than the administration's request
 - \$871.2 million, the full request, for 8 MC-130J Super Hercules aircraft
 - Authorizing funding for Army helicopters, including:
 - \$806.8 million for 48 AH-64E Apaches, plus \$105 million for 3 new build aircraft above the request
 - \$1.27 billion for 66 UH-60M Blackhawks, 7 fewer than the request
 - \$204.3 million for 33 UH-60V Blackhawk conversions, 8 additional aircraft above the request
 - 9 CH-47 Chinooks
 - Encouraging the ongoing modernization of the A-10 fleet through fiscal year 2030 to continue providing unmatched air power
 - Urging the Air Force to expedite procurement of the MH-139 aircraft as a replacement for the UH-1N
 - Fully funding the administration's request for future vertical lift programs, and encouraging acceleration by additional funding (\$75.6 million above the request) for future long-range assault aircraft
- Prohibits changes to the National Security Space Launch Program Phase 2 procurement to ensure agile and effective space launch support to the warfighter
- Prohibits the Department of Defense from procuring firefighting foam that contains per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) after October 1, 2022

**WE OWE IT TO OUR SOLDIERS
TO PROVIDE THEM THE
WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT
THEY NEED TO WIN
DECISIVELY IN THE FUTURE.**

*The Honorable Mark Esper
Secretary of the Army*



HIGHLIGHTS

- Authorizes critical Army weapons and combat vehicles, including:
 - \$264 million for 65 Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicles
 - \$393.6 million for the Stryker, including additional funding above the administration's request for the 30mm cannon upgrade
 - \$553.4 million to procure 53 Paladin Integrated Management sets, meeting the administration's request
 - \$78.9 million for counterfire radars, including \$62.5 million above the administration's request for 13 Q53 extended range radars
 - \$126 million for infantry support weapons, including \$19.9 million above the administration's request for next-generation squad weapon-automatic rifle development

MAINTAINING OUR TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANTAGE THROUGH INNOVATION

The fiscal year 2020 NDAA prioritizes investments in research and engineering, which are particularly critical given the scope and pace of our competitors' and adversaries' capabilities. A strong and responsive research enterprise will help deliver both capabilities at the speed of relevance and innovative concepts that the warfighter needs to prevail in a contested environment. The legislation:

- Robustly supports science and technology (S&T) efforts critical to implementing the National Defense Strategy, particularly in the areas of artificial intelligence, hypersonic weapons, 5G, directed energy, quantum Sciences, cyber, biotechnology, and university research
- Authorizes an increase of more than \$1.4 billion above the administration's request for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation programs
 - Directs investment to supersonic and hypersonic weapons systems and defense against such missiles from adversaries, to include test ranges and infrastructure
 - Authorizes \$108 million to support a space-based sensor layer for missile defense purposes
 - Authorizes \$125 million to increase subsystem-level prototyping of desired future naval vessel capabilities
- Strengthens Department efforts to develop and deploy artificial intelligence systems in support of national security, including by increasing funding for Defense Innovation Unit artificial intelligence research, extending the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, and directing the Department to expand artificial intelligence research in a number of critical defense areas
- Highlights the importance of establishing secure fifth-generation (5G) wireless network technologies for the warfighter and provides funding to start this effort at two Air Force locations
- Sets forth a new strategy for securing a trusted supply chain of advanced microelectronics for the United States and U.S. allies and partners



HIGHLIGHTS

- Prioritizes our cybersecurity strategy in response to the 2018 Department of Defense Cyber Strategy and Cyber Posture Review
 - Continues building the capabilities of U.S. Cyber Command, authorizing \$66 million in funding above the administration's request
 - Authorizes an increase of \$57.5 million above the administration's request for cyber basic and applied research
 - Directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering to develop a cyber roadmap for the science and technology activities of the Department
 - Requires the heads of the Department of Defense agencies and components, to complete zero-based reviews of cyber and IT personnel

ESTABLISHES A UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE

As the NDS outlines, space is an increasingly contested warfighting domain, and the Department of Defense must have a cohesive strategy to protect America's space capabilities and assets. Therefore, the bill supports the establishment of a U.S. Space Force, while deliberately avoiding additional bureaucracy and cost. The NDAA:

- Establishes the United States Space Force within the U.S. Air Force
- Addresses the key problem of space acquisition by redesignating the current Principal Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force for Space to the Principal Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration, who would oversee all space acquisition activities, including the to-be-established Space Acquisition Council
- Redesignates the Commander, Air Force Space Command, as the Commander, U.S. Space Force, who would:
 - In the first year after establishment, report through the Chief of Staff of the Air Force to the Secretary, then report directly to the Secretary of the Air Force thereafter
 - In the first year after establishment, be invited to Joint Chiefs of Staff sessions for space domain/space related topics, then become a permanent member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Designates the Commander of the U.S. Space Force to also serve as the Commander, United States Space Command, for one year, after which the two positions would be separated, creating a second four-star position
- To minimize bureaucracy, prohibits adding additional military or civilian personnel; the use of existing personnel within the Air Force will provide the requisite staff for the establishment of the United States Space Force
- Establishes an Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy within the Office of the Secretary of Defense



HIGHLIGHTS

- Requires the Department to work collaboratively across the federal government to develop methods for electromagnetic spectrum sharing
- Supports strategies to improve situational awareness, information sharing, and connectivity in highly contested, modern battlefield environments, including authorizing an additional \$50 million for research and development for Light Attack Armed Reconnaissance Squadrons and an additional \$49 million for the Advanced Battle Management System
- Directs the Department of Defense to establish a research and development program on the national security threats of emerging biotechnologies

STRENGTHENING ALLIANCES AND FOSTERING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

America's alliances and partnerships remain one of the most significant sources of American strength. These relationships are essential for defending our common security, mutual interests, and shared values. The NDAA strengthens key alliances and partnerships, guided by the National Defense Strategy, to support U.S. interests across the globe, deter aggression, and effectively engage in strategic competition. The legislation:

- Expands the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative to include eight additional nations in the Oceania region as recipients of assistance and training
- Calls on Indo-Pacific Command to establish one or more open-source intelligence fusion centers to enhance cooperation with Pacific Island countries
- Expresses support for enhancing the United States-Taiwan defense relationship
- Prohibits funds to transfer the F-35 aircraft or related equipment and intellectual property to the territory of Turkey unless the Secretaries of Defense and State certify that Turkey has not accepted delivery of the S-400 air and missile defense system from the Russian Federation and has provided reliable assurances it will not do so in the future
- Authorizes up to \$300 million for security assistance to Ukraine, of which \$100 million is available only for lethal assistance, and adds coastal defense and anti-ship missiles as eligible categories of security assistance
- Extends authority to support a joint procurement program for the Baltic nations to improve interoperability and build their capacity to deter and resist Russian aggression
- Commemorates the 70th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the most successful military alliance in history and a cornerstone of the security and national defense of the United States
- Promotes the enduring strategic partnership with the Republic of Georgia
- Expresses support for increasing the persistent presence of United States forces in the Republic of Poland in order to enhance deterrence against Russian aggression
- Prohibits funds to be used for one year for the withdrawal of United States forces from Europe in the event the United States initiates withdrawal from NATO
- Expresses support for deeper trilateral defense coordination and cooperation between the United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea



HIGHLIGHTS

- Prohibits the reduction of U.S. military forces in the Republic of Korea below 28,500 due to the continued threat posed by North Korea's conventional forces and weapons of mass destruction
- Expresses support for robust security and defense cooperation between the United States and the Republic of Singapore
- Requires a review, in consultation with the Government of Japan, of the distributed lay-down of United States forces in the Indo-Pacific region
- Expresses support for the U.S.-Japan alliance, recognizes Japan's significant burden-sharing and cost-sharing contributions, and promotes enhanced U.S.-Japan defense cooperation
- Continues to fulfill the 2016 U.S.-Israel Memorandum of Understanding by authorizing \$500 million for cooperative missile defense programs with Israel, including the Iron Dome, Arrow 3, and David's Sling programs
- Mandates a comprehensive posture review of the United States Central Command and urges the Secretary of Defense to work toward increased burden-sharing with our regional and European partners
- Authorizes \$4.8 billion for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, and dedicates a portion for recruiting women into the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces
- Extends the authority to provide assistance to the Iraqi Security Forces and vetted Syrian groups to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria through 2020, while supporting a transition towards a normalized and sustainable bilateral defense relationship with Iraq and supporting the temporary detention and repatriation of ISIS foreign terrorists
- Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to build capacity of partner countries to organize and administer their military legal institutions
- Expresses support for enhancing the major defense partnership with India
- Requires a report on Department of Defense cost impositions strategies with respect to China and Russia in support of the National Defense Strategy
- Authorizes the Defense Department to provide logistical support and equipment to civilian agencies conducting stabilization activities in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and other specified countries
- Extends for two years the authority for the Global Security Contingency Fund to formulate and conduct security assistance programs jointly between the Departments of Defense and State
- Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to transfer \$15 million in fiscal year 2020 to the Secretary of State for use by USAID to support the Bien Hoa dioxin cleanup in Vietnam

THE ACCEPTANCE OF RUSSIA AND CHINA AS THE MAIN GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGE OF THE 21ST CENTURY LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT U.S. INTERESTS ARE BEST SERVED WHEN WASHINGTON AND ITS ALLIES ACT TOGETHER.

*Damon Wilson
Executive Vice President of the Atlantic Council*



HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORTING AN ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE

The committee takes seriously its obligation to national security as well as to our men and women in uniform and their families, who represent the best of our country. The NDAA acknowledges their service and sacrifice, and seeks to improve the quality of life for those who serve. The legislation:

- Provides for a 3.1 percent pay raise for members of the Armed Forces
- Authorizes Active-Duty end strength at the following levels, consistent with the administration's request:
 - Army: 480,000
 - Navy: 340,500
 - Marine Corps: 186,200
 - Air Force: 332,800
- Authorizes \$155.8 billion for military personnel, including costs of pay, allowances, bonuses, death benefits, and permanent change of station moves
- Continues efforts to modernize the officer personnel system to provide career flexibility and better serve the demands of today's force
- Allows parental leave to be taken in multiple increments
- Authorizes \$18.07 billion in base and OCO funding for military construction, including family housing
 - Authorizes \$3.6 billion to replenish funds for previously authorized military construction projects that may be repurposed under section 2808 of title 10, United States Code, for the national emergency declared on the southern border
- Includes a total \$3.31 billion for disaster recovery at Navy, Air Force and Army National Guard installations in Nebraska, North Carolina and Florida
- Authorizes \$33 billion for the Defense Health Program
- Clarifies the respective responsibilities of the Defense Health Agency and the Military departments for the delivery of beneficiary health care and medical readiness
- Extends the term of the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces, and includes several provisions to improve the response to sexual misconduct, including preventing and addressing retaliation for reporting offenses, in the military
- Requires military department boards for the correction of military records to review all applications for discharge or dismissal upgrades with liberal consideration of all evidence presented by the former service member
- Encourages Department of Defense victim advocate programs to provide victims with advice and assistance in expeditiously obtaining military and civilian protection orders
- Authorizes \$40 million in supplemental Impact Aid to local educational agencies with military dependent children, and \$10 million in Impact Aid for schools that serve military dependent children with severe disabilities



HIGHLIGHTS

- Increases employment opportunities for military spouses by including provisions to:
 - Make it easier for military spouses to transport their occupational licenses when they move
 - Extend the authority for the Services to reimburse licensure and certification costs of military spouses arising from a permanent change of station
 - Encourage the Department to expand the Military Spouse Employment Partnership program
 - Simplifies military spouse residency requirements
- Authorizes \$15 million for the STARBASE program
- Improves the availability of and access to child care for military families
- Encourages the Federal Voting Assistance Program to continue and expand the Military Ballot Tracking Pilot
- Authorizes federal agencies to reimburse federal employees for tax liability arising out of government-provided moves

ADDRESSES CRISIS IN PRIVATIZED MILITARY HOUSING

The NDAA takes meaningful steps to address serious issues with the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, including:

- Improving quality of life for service members and their families living in privatized military housing by creating a Tenant Bill of Rights, setting up a dispute resolution process, and increasing oversight
- Holding private military housing companies accountable by instating new quality assurance and quality control measures and increasing health and hazard inspections
- Strengthening management of military housing by providing an additional \$301.8 million to ensure each installation has the necessary government housing personnel to implement thorough oversight and planning measures

MILITARY FAMILIES UNDERSTAND THAT QUALITY HOUSING DOES NOT MEAN ENTITLEMENT TO ELEGANT MANSIONS. WE SIMPLY ASK FOR HOMES FREE OF MOLD, PESTS, LEAD, AND OTHER HAZARDS. WE EXPECT HOMES FREE FROM THE STRESSORS OF DEPLOYMENTS, WORKUPS, TRAINING, AND THE DAY-TO-DAY MILITARY SERVICE. AS PARENTS, WE WANT SAFE PLACES FOR OUR CHILDREN TO SLEEP AT NIGHT

Crystal Cornwall, Military Spouse



HIGHLIGHTS

REFORMING THE PENTAGON FOR GREATER PERFORMANCE AND AFFORDABILITY

Building on NDAs passed in prior years, the committee continues to implement changes to the Department of Defense's management policies and assess the effectiveness of these updated business practices. By strengthening oversight and streamlining the Pentagon's bureaucracy, the NDAA ensures that the Department of Defense will be a more effective steward of taxpayer dollars, capable of providing more efficient, effective responses to our national security needs. The legislation:

- Improves contracting processes and oversight
 - Encourages a pilot program on intellectual property evaluation for acquisition programs
 - Establishes a pilot program to use alpha contracting teams for complex requirements for services, and directs a review of service contract management and oversight
 - Accelerates, strengthens, or streamlines several processes related to the approval and award of contracts, including pricing evaluations, contract writing systems, and task and delivery orders
- Expands the capacity, innovation, and integrity of the defense industrial base, including small businesses
 - Modernizes contracting, risk assessment, and mitigation processes to strengthen the integrity of the defense industrial base, in addition to authorizing an additional \$15 million above the administration's request for continued risk assessments
 - Authorizes increases of approximately \$50 million above the administration's request for advanced manufacturing, materials and printed circuit boards
 - Sets up processes to gain insight to foreign ownership, control of and influence over defense contractors, and expands elements under Never Contract With the Enemy
- Adopts and oversees modern software development and IT acquisition practices to improve lethality and efficiency
 - Establishes special pathways for rapid acquisition of software applications and upgrades
 - Requires the use of agile software development methods for the Joint Strike Fighter Autonomic Logistics Information System
 - Reduces funds for systems not effectively implementing agile acquisition methods
 - Directs development and implementation of a policy for transitioning data and applications in support of the Department's cloud strategy
 - Authorizes an additional \$9 million above the administration's request for Marine Corps pilot programs to use commercial software to establish digital infrastructure for additive manufacturing
 - Authorizes additional funding for the Defense Digital Service to support modernization of Department of Defense IT systems



HIGHLIGHTS

- Strengthens oversight of the Department of Defense's progress toward aligning its records to conduct proper audits
 - Requires the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to track the costs of the audit corrective action plan
 - Includes audit results and activities for classified programs in the Financial Improvement and Audit Remediation Plan
- Improves the technical foundation of shipbuilding programs to reduce delays, budget overages, and performance deficiencies by requiring:
 - The designation of a Senior Technical Authority for each class of naval vessels to establish, monitor, and approve the technical aspects of such class of vessels
 - A certification by the Secretary of the Navy and Senior Technical Authority before Milestone B approval for new shipbuilding programs
 - Design changes identified in the first Arleigh Burke-class destroyer in the Flight III configuration to be incorporated into the next new class of Navy large surface combatants
 - Reporting of Navy procurement prime and subcontractor stop work orders or other manufacturing disruptions of 15 calendar days or longer to the program manager and technical authority
 - A capabilities-based assessment for naval vessels that carry fixed-wing aircraft
 - Detailed acquisition roadmaps for the development of unmanned surface and undersea vessels
- Adjusts Ford-class aircraft carrier cost limitation baselines to align with block buy contracting savings
- Prohibits funds from being used to procure an additional Littoral Combat Ship above the Navy's requirement of 32 ships unless a certification is submitted
- Implements stronger oversight for programs of record that have experienced significant reliability issues, cost growth, and/or schedule delays, including:
 - CH-53K King Stallions
 - Key systems on the Ford-class aircraft carriers (CVN-78), including the Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS), Advanced Arresting Gear (AAG), Dual Band Radar (DBR) and Advanced Weapons Elevators (AWE)

WE MUST USE CREATIVE APPROACHES, MAKE SUSTAINED INVESTMENT, AND BE DISCIPLINED IN EXECUTION TO FIELD A JOINT FORCE FIT FOR OUR TIME, ONE THAT CAN COMPETE, DETER, AND WIN IN THIS INCREASINGLY COMPLEX SECURITY ENVIRONMENT. A DOMINANT JOINT FORCE WILL PROTECT THE SECURITY OF OUR NATION...

Summary of the 2018 National Defense Strategy

SUSTAINING DETENTION POLICIES

The NDAA:

- Extends until December 31, 2020 long-standing prohibitions on the use of funds provided to the Department of Defense to:
 - Transfer or release individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the United States
 - Construct or modify facilities in the United States to house detainees transferred from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
 - Transfer or release individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Libya, Somalia, Syria and Yemen
- Extends until fiscal year 2020 the prohibition on the use of funds provided to the Department of Defense to:
 - Close or abandon United States Naval Station, Guantanamo or relinquish Guantanamo Bay to the Republic of Cuba
- Authorizes transfer of detainees at Guantanamo to the United States for emergency medical care
- Establishes the position of Chief Medical Officer at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba