



U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

PRESS RELEASE

Summary Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2012

President's Request: \$656.8 billion
FY 2012 Appropriations Act: \$630.6 billion

The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2012 provides \$630.6 billion in base and overseas contingency operation funding. The base budget appropriation is \$513.0 billion, or a spending freeze at the fiscal year 2011 level. This freeze represents a \$25.9 billion reduction from the budget request, consistent with the spending cuts directed by the Budget Control Act of 2011. The defense bill also contains \$117.6 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) of the Department of Defense, the same amount requested by the President.

In compliance with the earmark moratorium, the Act contains no congressionally directed spending items.

Priorities for the FY 2012 Defense Appropriations Act include:

- (1) Taking Care of People
- (2) Supporting Military Readiness
- (3) Protecting Our Forces
- (4) Maintaining Our Technological Edge
- (5) Improving Fiscal Accountability

(1) **Taking Care of People**

The bill funds an active duty end strength of 1,422,600, and reserve component end strength of 847,100. It fully funds the 1.6 percent authorized pay raise for military personnel. In addition, the bill adds \$255 million above the budget request to cover shortfalls in military personnel accounts which were identified by the Services.

The bill recommends \$33.8 billion for the Defense Health Program, an increase of \$1 billion from the fiscal year 2011 level. This provides medical services for our military personnel and their families, continues our advancements in medical

research, modernizes and maintains our medical infrastructure, and develops the next generation of electronic health records.

The bill also recommends an additional \$60 million for peer-reviewed psychological health and traumatic brain injury programs, and an additional \$194 million for peer-reviewed breast, prostate, and ovarian cancer research programs.

(2) Supporting Military Readiness

The bill fully funds key programs to strengthen our military readiness. The operation and maintenance funding in the bill sustains training, base operations support, and equipment maintenance, as well as high tempo operations such as ship steaming days, aircraft flight hours, and vehicle miles.

The bill fully funds family support programs and provides enhancements for programs such as Impact Aid and the Educational Partnership Program that assist military dependent students.

Funding included in the Overseas Contingency Operations section of the bill funds currently known requirements for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for fiscal year 2012. The full funding includes adjustments for the drawdown of 10,000 troops from Afghanistan by December 2011, and an additional 23,000 withdrawn by the end of September 2012. The bill also includes a reduction based on an Army-reported \$2 billion overestimate of transportation and reset costs.

(3) Protecting Our Forces

The bill funds new equipment and upgrades to existing programs to ensure that our military forces have the hardware needed to support training and military operations during a time of war.

The bill adds \$500 million in the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account to ensure that our Reserve Components are prepared for their national defense and homeland security missions.

The following are examples of high-priority programs supported or increased by the bill:

- **Aircraft** – The bill fully funds the request for Army Chinook and Apache helicopters; Navy P-8A Poseidon, EA-18G, and F/A-18 aircraft; Air Force Joint Cargo Aircraft; and Air Force and Marine Corps V-22s. Funds are added for an additional six Army Black Hawk helicopters, and \$120 million is added for efficient production of Air Force C-130Js.

- ***Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance*** – The bill fully funds the procurement of MQ-9 Reaper, RQ-4 Global Hawk, and MQ-8 Fire Scout unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs); and adds \$89 million for Army tactical UAVs to replace aircraft lost in combat.
- ***Force Protection*** – The bill increases funding by \$250 million for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle survivability upgrades; provides \$2.4 billion for the Joint IED Defeat Organization; adds \$25 million for Special Operations Command emerging equipment requirements for Afghanistan; fully funds armored cab upgrades for High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems; increases funding for an additional 49 Abrams tank upgrades; provides \$57.7 million for Counter-Rocket, Artillery, and Mortar systems; and supports the budget request for Sense Through the Wall systems.
- ***Transferring Responsibility to Our Partners*** – The bill provides \$11.2 billion for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, \$400 million for the Commander’s Emergency Response Program (CERP) in Afghanistan, and \$400 million for the Afghanistan Infrastructure Fund.

(4) **Maintaining Our Technological Edge**

Part of the strength of the United States Armed Forces is the technological advantage that we maintain over our enemies and competitors. The bill promotes investment in technologies that benefit both our service members and our high-tech industrial base.

Examples of the bill’s initiatives in technology and research include:

- ***Supporting Innovation*** – The bill fully funds “6.1” Basic Research programs across the Services and DARPA; provides \$200 million for the Rapid Innovation Fund authorized by the Senate Armed Services Committee; and includes increases in the areas of nanotechnology, cybersecurity, and alternative energy.
- ***Invigorating the Industrial Base*** – \$150 million is added to the Defense Production Act to build production capacity for critical defense-related initiatives; and \$30 million is added for the Industrial Base Innovation Fund authorized by the Senate Armed Services Committee.
- ***Investing in Next-Generation Weapons Systems*** – The bill fully funds advanced systems including development of the Air Force Next Generation Bomber and the Prompt Global Strike program; fully funds the Navy Shipbuilding and Conversion request; and production of satellites including the Advanced EHF, Space Based Infrared System, Global Positioning System III, and the Wideband Global Satellite.

(5) Improving Fiscal Accountability

The defense appropriations bill complies with the security spending reductions directed in the Budget Control Act of 2011. To meet the spending allocation, *the bill proposes 580 reductions to programs requested in the budget*. These cuts are made as a result of program terminations or delays, changes to policies or programs since submission of the budget in February 2011, inadequate justification, or corrections to poor fiscal discipline in the Department of Defense.

The following are examples of some of the bill's major reductions:

- ***Joint Strike Fighter*** – Freezes production at FY 2011 levels for FY 2012 and reduces production ramp in FY 2013 to minimize concurrency in test and production in order to avoid costly modification bills in the future.
- ***Joint Light Tactical Vehicle*** – Terminates the program based on excessive cost growth, unstable requirements, and new alternatives. Savings from this program help support Army and Marine Corps efforts to recapitalize and competitively upgrade HMMWV fleets.
- ***Ground Combat Vehicle*** – Proposes reductions to the Army Ground Combat Vehicle due to schedule delays and changes to the acquisition strategy.
- ***Defense Weather Satellite System (DWSS)*** – Directs the cancellation of DWSS and provides funds for a new competitive development program.
- ***Mobile Landing Platform*** – Eliminates funding for one ship due to the congressional acceleration of one ship in fiscal year 2011.
- ***Joint Tactical Radio Systems*** – Reduces funding for the Ground Mobile Radio, the Manpack Radio, and the Airborne/Maritime Fixed Radio due to delayed production decisions, and eliminates increases for premature Manpack capability enhancements.
- ***Theater High Altitude Area Defense*** – Reduces funding for interceptors that cannot be produced in FY2012.
- ***Double-Funding of Congressional Initiatives*** – Eliminates requests for battle losses of aircraft and other equipment which were funded by Congress in Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2011, but were also included in the Administration's 2012 budget.
- ***Rescissions*** – Cuts \$2.7 billion in prior year funds that are excess to defense needs due to program terminations, schedule delays, or contract savings.
- ***Funding Identified as Excess*** – The Department of Defense identified billions of dollars in the request that are no longer required in FY2012.