## MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES, 2021

\$113.124 billion in total discretionary funding (\$8.064 billion defense | \$104.710 billion non-defense | \$350 million OCO)

## **BILL HIGHLIGHTS**

- \$8.1 billion for military construction projects. This amount funds 106 critical infrastructure projects at military bases and installations around the world to enhance resiliency and support warfighter readiness. Within this amount, the bill provides \$1.3 billion to improve and maintain housing for servicemembers and their families. The bill also includes \$350 million for projects requested as part of the European Deterrence Initiative to improve infrastructure and facilities throughout the European theater to support the fight against continued Russian aggression.
- \$104.4 billion in discretionary funds for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), an increase
  of \$12.5 billion over the FY20 enacted level, to address rapidly increasing costs of health care
  and information technology support.
- \$90.0 billion for VA medical care, an increase of \$9.8 billion over the FY20 enacted level, including:
  - \$10.3 billion for mental health;
  - \$1.3 billion for telehealth services;
  - \$1.2 billion for the Caregivers Program;
  - \$504 million for opioid misuse prevention and treatment;
  - \$815 million for medical and prosthetic research;
  - \$661 million for health care specifically for women veterans; and
  - \$300 million for rural health initiatives.
- 54.9 billion for information technology systems, an increase of \$540 million over the FY20 enacted level, to support the development, operations, and maintenance of systems.
- o \$2.6 billion for the veteran electronic health record, an increase of \$1.1 billion over the FY20 enacted level. This allows VA to continue deployment of their new electronic health record that is interoperable with the Department of Defense's system.
- o \$138.7 billion for mandatory veterans benefits, including veteran disability compensation programs, education benefits, and vocational rehabilitation and employment training.
- \$94.2 billion in FY22 advance discretionary funding for veterans health care and \$145.3 billion in FY22 advance mandatory funding for veterans benefits.
- \$278.3 million, an increase of \$2.7 million over the FY20 enacted level, for related agencies, including the American Battle Monuments Commission, the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home.