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**NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019**



*U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee*

U.S. Senator John McCain, Chairman  
U.S. Senator Jack Reed, Ranking Member

# NDAA<sup>FY</sup><sub>19</sub>

## Executive Summary

One of the Congress' most important constitutional responsibilities is to provide for the common defense. To fulfill this fundamental duty, Congress has for 57 consecutive years passed the defense authorization bill, which this year is named the *John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019*. This important legislation authorizes funding and provides authorities for the U.S. military. The Senate Armed Services Committee voted overwhelmingly, 25-2, to advance this important legislation to the Senate floor.

The committee takes seriously its obligation to our men and women in uniform and their families. Their service represents the best of our country, and this committee and the Congress honor their sacrifice.

The array of national security threats facing the United States is more complex and diverse than at any time since World War II. The strategic environment has not been this competitive since the Cold War. Simply put, America no longer enjoys the comparative edge it once had over its competitors and adversaries.

To remain successful, America must maintain its military advantage, counter potential adversaries, and defend the international order that has protected and advanced the security, prosperity, and liberty of U.S. citizens and our allies and partners. This requires a strategic framework that establishes clear priorities and helps make tough choices.

Believing that the strategy development process in the Department of Defense needed to be reinvigorated, the Congress acted in the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017* to replace the legislative mandate for the Quadrennial Defense Review with the framework for a more focused and flexible National Defense Strategy (NDS). The legislation included a clearly defined set of expectations for what the strategy should address, including the current and anticipated strategic environment, prioritization among threats and missions, the roles and missions of the Armed Forces, force planning constructs and scenarios, force posture and readiness, and anticipated major investments required to execute the strategy. The desire to facilitate a more strategic approach to national defense also contributed to the Congress' willingness to forge a bipartisan budget agreement that increased defense and non-defense spending and provided a modicum of fiscal predictability through the end of next year.

The committee applauds Secretary of Defense James Mattis and the senior leadership of the Department for their efforts in crafting the National Defense Strategy that was delivered to the Congress earlier this year. The document prioritizes the challenges our nation faces and points toward potentially significant changes to reshape the joint force and business of the DOD. At the same time, much of the hardest work remains to translate the NDS into detailed policy guidance to realign defense programs, readiness, and posture in accordance with the strategy. This responsibility rests equally with the executive and legislative branches.

The committee is doing its part to meet its responsibilities through the NDAA. Informed by the strategy, as well as the administration's fiscal year 2019 budget request, the legislation aligns investments, requirements, structures, policies, and authorizations with the new strategic orientation articulated in the NDS.

The NDAA supports the latest budget agreement of \$716 billion in fiscal year 2019 for national defense. It authorizes a base defense budget of \$639 billion for the Department of Defense and the national security programs of the Department of Energy. The focus of this funding will be building a joint force that is ready, equipped, and capable of maintaining military overmatch against potential adversaries. The NDAA also authorizes \$69 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations.



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While the recent 2-year budget deal is a helpful step in the right direction, a higher funding topline alone will not sufficiently address the challenges we face. Even with adequate resources, we must make difficult choices about roles and missions, force development, resource allocation, and investment priorities.

To that end, the *National Defense Authorization Act* advances four primary themes:

(1) First, the NDAA adjusts the budget request to align resources in a manner consistent with the priorities and principles of the NDS. After years of warning from senior defense leaders, the NDS addresses the degrading state of U.S. military capabilities vis-à-vis potential competitors. While there are many contributing factors—unstable budgets, sustained high operational tempo, as well as adversaries' increased investments in military capabilities—the committee believes that reversing this trend should be a high priority for the Department. To encourage these efforts, the NDAA recommends re-prioritizing funds for each of the Services toward requirements that directly support the NDS.

For example, the NDAA makes significant investments in research and development (R&D) to re-establish a credible combat advantage. The legislation increases R&D spending by \$1.2 billion, the majority of which is for science and technology spending with an emphasis on high priority emerging technologies like hypersonics, artificial intelligence, space, cyber, and directed energy. Additionally, the NDAA boosts funding for promising new technologies and concepts such as distributed, low-cost, autonomous, and attributable systems in every domain—on land, in the air, on and under the sea, and in space and cyberspace. The NDAA also authorizes new initiatives and accelerates existing programs focused on NDS priorities, including the delivery of fixed-site cruise missile defense, increasing procurement of advanced munitions, and providing additional money for *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyers and *Virginia*-class submarines.

(2) Second, the NDAA provides one overarching reporting requirement to the Secretary of Defense: a list of detailed and specific questions regarding the roles, missions, and requirements of the military services that the committee believes are raised by the NDS. The NDAA requires the Secretary to re-evaluate the highest priority missions for the DOD, the roles of the joint force in the performance of these missions, and the capabilities required to complete these missions. More specifically, the committee wants the Secretary to update the roles and missions of the military services and to reassess how the NDS impacts end strength requirements, how the military will conduct the counterterrorism mission at a more sustainable cost to military readiness and resources, and how the focus on competing against peer adversaries and operating in contested environments impacts capability requirements and investments throughout the joint force. The committee believes that serious answers to these and other strategic questions are necessary to inform continued realignments of our defense program and improve the Congress's ability to perform oversight of the DOD's future program and budget requests.

(3) Third, the NDAA includes reforms to the Office of the Secretary of Defense to support effective implementation of the NDS. The committee believes organizational change will be key to addressing systemic problems and positioning the Department to confront the challenges outlined in the NDS.



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The ultimate success of the NDS will depend on implementation guided by strong civilian leadership determined to make the difficult choices required to align policies, authorities, organizations, requirements, and investments and informed by a realistic assessment of available resources. To help answer some of these big questions, the NDAA expands the duties of an existing position to create a new Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, Assessments, Readiness, and Capabilities. By combining these strategically-oriented tasks in one office, the committee seeks to align the critical functions necessary to exert strong civilian leadership in the development of defense strategy and its translation into detailed policy to guide investments in necessary capabilities, readiness, and posture for the future joint force. The NDAA would re-designate the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness as the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and clarify its role as the Department's Chief Human Capital Officer.

The NDAA also furthers the reform of the Department's strategy development process that began with the statutory requirement for the NDS. It clarifies the three strategic guidance documents that support and implement the NDS (the Defense Planning Guidance, the Contingency Planning Guidance or Guidance for the Employment of the Force, and the Global Defense Posture Report), describes the elements to be included in each document, and requires the Secretary of Defense to submit each document to Congress. These documents set forth the Secretary's policy guidance as to what the Department should buy for the joint force, how the joint force is to be used, and where the joint force is to be postured around the world in order to execute the NDS. Receiving this strategic guidance is essential to congressional oversight efforts.

(4) Finally, the NDAA modernizes officer personnel management to bolster the effectiveness, recruitment, and retention of the all-volunteer force. The NDS acknowledges that the current joint force must change to meet the threat of renewed great power competition, calling for a "broad revision" of talent management principles among the Services to increase the lethality and adaptability of the force. The 38-year-old *Defense Officer Personnel Management Act* requires all military services to manage their officer corps in the same general manner within specific constraints. By reforming this system, the NDAA will provide for flexibility in the careers of commissioned officers and better serve the demands of the modern force.

After the end of the Cold War, the United States enjoyed a robust comparative military advantage over other nations. However, through significant investment and military modernization, near-peer competitors eventually eroded America's military superiority. Meanwhile, decisions and policies we pursued—and those we did not—had consequences for our military: commitment to persistent counterterrorism operations, inadequate funding and budget uncertainty, and misplaced priorities and acquisition failures. Now, nation-state competitors present significant military challenges and could credibly threaten the security and prosperity of our country.

The *John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019* will help the United States change course. It will recalibrate and refocus our efforts on readiness restoration, capabilities modernization, and concept development—all aimed at reasserting a quantitative and qualitative military advantage over potential adversaries. The recent National Defense Strategy provides a framework to address these challenges, and the NDAA builds on the changes outlined in the NDS while providing the DOD with the resources and authorities it needs to play its part in the national effort to restore American power in the new era of competition.



# National Defense Funding

The NDAA supports a total of \$716 billion in fiscal year 2019 for national defense. It authorizes a base defense budget of \$639 billion for the Department of Defense and the national security programs of the Department of Energy. The NDAA also authorizes \$69 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations.

*FY19 Defense Funding Levels (in billions)*

DOD Discretionary Base	\$617.6
DOE Discretionary Base	\$21.6
<b>NDAA Authorized Base Topline</b>	<b>\$639.2</b>
Overseas Contingency Operations	\$68.5
<b>NDAA Authorized Topline w/OCO</b>	<b>\$707.7</b>
Defense-Related Activities Outside NDAA Jurisdiction	\$8.2
<b>National Defense (050) Topline w/OCO</b>	<b>\$715.9</b>

\*NDAA-authorized defense mandatory spending \$9.5 billion

## Organization and Management Reform

The committee is concerned that the Department is not currently organized to effectively confront the challenges outlined in the NDS or emerging threats in the information domain. The committee has long expressed its concern with the lack of an effective strategy and policy for the information domain, including cyber, space, and electronic warfare. To better position the DOD to tackle these challenges, the committee markup:

- Modifies the responsibilities of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy to express clearly that the primary duties of this senior official are the development of defense strategy and the translation of that strategy into detailed policy guidance for force development, operational planning, defense posture, joint force assessment, and readiness.
- Expands the duties of an existing position to create a new Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, Assessments, Readiness, and Capabilities to align the critical functions necessary to exert strong civilian leadership in the development of defense strategy and its translation into detailed policy to guide investments in necessary capabilities, readiness, and posture for the future joint force.
- Re-designates the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness as the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and clarifies its role as the Department's Chief Human Capital Officer.
- Establishes a senior designated official and an associated cross-functional team to update the June 2017 Department of Defense Electronic Warfare strategy and submit it, along with a road map of the referenced requirements and plans, to Congress.
- Clarifies the three strategic guidance documents that support and implement the NDS (the Defense Planning Guidance, the Contingency Planning Guidance or Guidance for the Employment of the Force, and the Global Defense Posture Report), describes the elements to be included in each document, and requires the Secretary of Defense to submit each document to Congress.
- Affirms the authority of the Secretary of Defense to conduct military activities and operations in cyber-space, including clandestine military activities and operations, by designating these as traditional military activities.



- Establishes a policy that the United States should employ all instruments of national power, including the use of offensive cyber capabilities, to deter if possible, and respond when necessary, to cyber attacks that target U.S. interests with the intent to cause casualties, significantly disrupt the normal functioning of our democratic society or government, threaten the Armed Forces or the critical infrastructure they rely upon, achieve an effect comparable to an armed attack, or imperil a U.S. vital interest.
- Mandates and enables implementation of reforms designed to enhance the “service secretary-like” role of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict.
- Encourages improved DOD management by supporting efforts to enhance the use of big data analytics for business operations, promote hiring of world class management talent, and support activities to help the Department pass a financial audit.
- Encourages the Department to realign more than a dozen high priority software-intensive command and control and business systems and adopt commercial agile methods to deliver capabilities to users more frequently, keep pace with innovation, and avoid fielding capability that is already vulnerable and years behind.
- Establishes the Strategic Defense Fellows Program to cultivate future civilian leaders of the Department of Defense.

## Innovation in Research and Engineering

The committee markup makes significant investments in research and engineering to ensure U.S. forces have a credible combat advantage over potential adversaries. A strong and responsive research enterprise will be crucial to delivering the cutting-edge military technologies the warfighter needs to prevail in a contested environment. To spur innovation, the legislation:

- Authorizes an increase of more than \$600 million above the administration’s request for science, technology, and testing programs, including \$75 million for university research.
  - Adds \$150 million for hypersonics.
  - Adds \$110 million for space constellation efforts.
  - Adds nearly \$100 million for test infrastructure and workforce, including for cybersecurity, directed energy, and hypersonics.
  - Adds \$50 million for rocket propulsion.
  - Adds \$40 million for directed energy.
  - Adds \$20 million for quantum information sciences.
- Adds \$15 million for microelectronics research and the DARPA Electronics Resurgence Initiative.
- Gives the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering directive authority for priority emerging technologies for one year.
- Directs a review of the defense research and engineering enterprise by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering to maximize innovation.
- Establishes coordinated defense research efforts in the critical emerging technology areas of artificial intelligence and quantum information science.
- Supports DOD’s access to innovative high tech small businesses by continuing to streamline procurement practices and permanently authorizing the successful Small Business Innovation Research program.
- Authorizes \$150 million and requires the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering to develop interaction between the DOD and the commercial technology industry and academia—potentially by establishing a non-profit entity—with the goal of encouraging private investment in specific hardware technologies of interest to future defense technology needs with unique national security applications.



# Strategic Competition

The National Defense Strategy identifies the reemergence of long-term, strategic competition as the central challenge facing the United States. It classifies China and Russia as revisionist powers and strategic competitors that seek to shape the world toward their authoritarian model through destabilizing activities that threaten the security of the United States and its allies. To help deter further Chinese and Russian aggression, the NDAA:

- Includes the *Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act* as adopted by the Senate Banking Committee to give the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) the authority it needs to address national security concerns.
- Requires a public report on the military and coercive activities of China in the South China Sea and encourages the Secretary of Defense to require the public release of declassified aircraft-generated imagery illustrating Chinese activities of concern.
- Extends authority for the Maritime Security Initiative (MSI) for an additional 5 years, re-designates the Southeast Asia MSI as the Indo-Pacific MSI, includes Bangladesh and Sri Lanka as recipient countries of assistance and training, and adds India as a covered country eligible for payment of certain expenses.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to submit a 5-year plan for an "Indo-Pacific Stability Initiative."
- Limits DOD funds for Chinese language programs at universities that host a Confucius Institute.
- Modifies the annual report on Chinese military and security developments to include malign influence, including efforts to influence media, cultural institutions, business, and academic and policy communities in the United States.
- Authorizes an additional \$235 million to procure deployable air base systems in the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility to support NDS priorities and "resiliency" and "agile logistics" force posture initiatives as well as to enhance the credible combat power of U.S. forces in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Prohibits the Secretary of Defense from procuring or obtaining, as well as entering into, extending, or renewing a contract with an entity that uses telecommunications equipment or services produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation.
- Extends the limitation on U.S.-Russian military cooperation.
- Expresses the sense of the Senate that it is the policy of the United States to pursue an integrated approach to strengthening the defense of allies and partners in Europe as part of a broader strategy backed by all elements of U.S. power to deter and, if necessary, defeat Russian aggression and calls on the Secretary of Defense to consider specific steps to: enhance U.S. forward presence, combat capability, and capacity in Europe; maintain robust security assistance for allies and partners in Europe; promote reforms within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); and enhance multilateral security cooperation among U.S. partners and allies.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to report on the feasibility and advisability of permanently stationing a U.S. Army brigade combat team in Poland.
- Authorizes the National Command Authority to direct U.S. Cyber Command to take appropriate and proportional action through cyberspace to disrupt, defeat, and deter systematic and ongoing attacks by Russia in cyberspace.
- Supports implementation of the Nuclear Posture Review by authorizing \$65 million to develop a low-yield submarine-launched ballistic missile.



- Directs the Army to acquire an interim short-term capability to fill gaps in cruise missile defense, which is a critical capability to defend against Chinese and Russian threats, in anticipation of the Indirect Fire Protection Capability.
- Continues the work of the Department 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 the Harpoon missiles.
- Authorizes an increase of \$18.6 million for additional civilian positions to support Defense Security Service efforts to protect classified information, technologies, and material from foreign adversaries.
- Requires the development of a Militarily Critical Technologies List to inform technology protection, export control, and research investment decisions.

## Allies and Partners

America's global system of alliances and partnerships provides the basis for security and stability around the world. With adversaries actively working to erode that system, it is imperative that the U.S. commitment to our allies and partners remains strong. Therefore, the committee markup:

- Authorizes \$5.2 billion for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund.
- Authorizes \$350 million in Coalition Support Funds to reimburse certain nations for support provided to or in connection with U.S. military operations.
- Authorizes \$300 million to train and equip the vetted Syrian opposition to counter ISIS, but limits the use of funds until the President submits the report on U.S. strategy in Syria required by the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2018.
- Authorizes \$850 million to train and equip Iraqi Security Forces to counter ISIS and requires a report that describes the roles, missions, and responsibilities of any future U.S. military presence in Iraq and provides information on anticipated funding requirements.
- Requires the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy to conduct a review of the legal and policy frameworks associated with advise, assist, and accompany missions by U.S. military personnel outside of Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan.
- Authorizes \$200 million to provide security assistance to Ukraine, including defensive lethal assistance.
- Expresses the sense of the Senate that the United States should strengthen and enhance its major defense partnership with India.
- Expresses the sense of the Senate that if Turkey purchases the S-400 air defense system from Russia, the President should impose sanctions against Turkey under the Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act.
- Fully supports the administration's request for Israeli missile defense by authorizing \$500 million to co-develop and co-produce the Iron Dome, Arrow, and David's Sling weapon systems.



# Modernization of the Joint Force

The committee markup prioritizes modernization to ensure a combat-credible joint force. In the new era of great power competition, our warfighters must be prepared to fight and win in contested environments against peer competitors. To rise to this challenges, the legislation:

- Authorizes \$7.6 billion to procure 75 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft, which is 2 aircraft fewer than the administration's request, to realign the program towards sustainment.
  - Includes \$4.2 billion to procure 47 F-35A fighters.
  - Includes \$2.4 billion to procure 20 F-35B fighters.
  - Includes \$1 billion to procure 8 F-35C fighters.
  - Increases funding for F-35 spares, modifications, and depot repair capability in order to establish a solid sustainment base before the steep ramp of production overwhelms the enterprise's ability to sustain the aircraft.
  - Fully funds Block 4 Continuous Capability Development and Delivery.
  - Mandates quarterly updates to Congress on the status and direction of the F-35 program.
- Authorizes \$23.1 billion for shipbuilding to fully fund 10 new construction battle force ships and accelerate funding for several future ships, which is \$1.2 billion more than the administration's request.
  - Includes \$5.9 billion for *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyers, which is \$250 million more than the administration's request for long lead material.
  - Includes \$7.4 billion for *Virginia*-class submarines, which is \$250 million more than the administration's request for either economic order quantity procurement or initiatives to expand the submarine industrial base.
  - Includes \$3 billion for *Columbia*-class submarines, which fully funds the administration's request.
  - Includes \$650 million for either multiyear economic order quantity procurement for *San Antonio*-class flight II amphibious ships (LPD) and/or advance procurement for LPD-31, which is in addition to the administration's request.
  - Includes \$250 million for 1 cable ship, which is in addition to the administration's request.
  - Includes \$25 million to accelerate replacement of Yard Patrol training ships.
- Authorizes the full budget request procurement quantities of:
  - 3 *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyers;
  - 2 *Virginia*-class submarines;
  - 1 Littoral Combat Ship;
  - 1 *Puller*-class expeditionary transport dock;
  - 2 *Lewis*-class oilers; and
  - 1 Towing, Salvage, and Rescue Ship.
- Authorizes 117 naval aviation aircraft, including:
  - 24 F/A-18 Super Hornets;
  - 10 P-8A Poseidons;
  - 2 KC-130J Hercules;
  - 25 AH-1Z Cobras;
  - 8 CH-53K King Stallions;
  - 7 MV-22/CMV-22B Ospreys;
  - 6 VH-92A Presidential Helicopters;
  - 3 MQ-4 Tritons; and
  - 5 E-2D Advanced Hawkeyes, including \$175 million for 1 additional E-2Ds above the administration's request.



- Authorizes multiyear contract authority for up to:
  - 72 F/A-18 Super Hornet;
  - 24 E-2D Advanced Hawkeye;
  - 625 SM-6 standard missiles; and
  - 204 SM-3 IB guided missiles.
- Authorizes \$100 million to procure Marine Corps light attack aircraft and associated long lead material.
- Authorizes \$100 million to procure a Marine Corps Group 5 Unmanned Aerial System.
- Authorizes several provisions, based on the *Surface Warfare Enhancement Act of 2018*, to improve the readiness of naval surface ships in the wake of the USS *Fitzgerald* and USS *John S. McCain* collisions.
- Limits funds for the Littoral Combat Ship until the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment submits a certification related to the transition to the guided missile frigate (FFG(X)).
- Authorizes the Coast Guard to enter into a contract or contracts for up to 6 polar-class heavy icebreakers.
- Authorizes \$2.3 billion to procure 14 KC-46 aircraft, which is 1 aircraft fewer than the administration's request, to restore program accountability.
- Authorizes \$350 million to procure Air Force light attack aircraft and associated long lead material.
- Fully funds development of the B-21 bomber.
- Prohibits the retirement of any E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar (JSTARs) aircraft while increasing funding for the Advanced Battle Management System, the JSTARs replacement program.
- Authorizes multiyear procurement for the C-130J aircraft program.
- Authorizes \$144.2 million for the A-10 Wing Replacement Program, which is \$65 million more than the administration's request.
- Fully funds the administration's budget request for Army helicopters.
  - Includes \$1.04 billion to procure 60 AH-64E Apaches.
  - Includes \$1 billion to procure 50 UH-60M Blackhawks.
  - Includes \$124 million to procure 7 CH-47 Chinooks.
- Authorizes \$1.53 billion to procure 135 M1A2SEP v3 Abrams tanks.
- Authorizes \$319 million for the Mobile Protected Firepower vehicle program.
- Authorizes \$205 million to procure 61 Bradley Fighting Vehicles for the European Deterrence Initiative.
- Authorizes \$190 million to prototype the next generation combat vehicle, which is \$70 million more than the administration's request, in order to increase combat power of close combat maneuver forces against peer competitors.
- Authorizes \$529 million to procure 46 Paladin Integrated Management sets, which is \$110 million and 10 sets more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$123 million to accelerate the development of the Extended Range Cannon Artillery gun, which is \$20 million more than the administration's request, to increase the range and lethality of field artillery.
- Authorizes \$610 million for the Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle.
- Authorizes \$1.1 billion for the Army's Joint Light Tactical Vehicle program.
- Fully authorizes the administration's request, including \$9.9 billion for the Missile Defense Agency in support of programs vital to developing advanced technology, protecting forces in South Korea, and countering emerging threats.



# All-Volunteer Force

As we continue to ask our military to do more in response to rising threats around the world, we rely on young Americans who commit to serve in the all-volunteer force that defends our nation. The committee markup seeks to improve the quality of life for the men and women of the total force and their families. To meet these goals, the committee markup:

- Authorizes a 2.6 percent pay raise for members of the Armed Forces.
- Authorizes Active-Duty end strength at the following levels, each of which represents growth over fiscal year 18 levels to meet the requirements of the NDS:
  - 485,741 in the Army;
  - 331,900 in the Navy;
  - 186,100 in the Marine Corps; and
  - 325,720 in the Air Force.
- Begins to modernize the 38-year-old officer personnel system to provide career flexibility and better serve the demands of today's force.
  - Creates alternative promotion and continuation process for selected officers that allows for multiple opportunities for promotion, removes predetermined officer promotion timelines, and creates a term-based selective continuation process.
  - Expands officer spot promotion authority to all services up to the grade of O-6.
  - Abolishes year-group officer management policies.
  - Increases constructive credit to allow initial appointment up to the grade of O-6
  - Allows officers in grades O-2 and above to extend careers to 40 years of service
  - Repeals age-based officer appointment requirements.
  - Revokes statutory office grade limitation table and requires annual authorization of mid-grade officers.
  - Authorizes high-performing officers to be promoted ahead of peers.
  - Mandates more detailed officer manpower requirements process.
- Authorizes \$145.9 billion for military personnel, including costs of pay, allowances, bonuses, death benefits, and permanent change of station moves.
- Authorizes \$32.5 billion for the Defense Health Program.
- Authorizes \$11.4 billion in base and OCO funding for military construction, including family housing and operational and support infrastructure.
- Authorizes \$40 million in DOD supplemental impact aid, and \$10 million in impact aid for severely disabled military children.
- Applies the protections of title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) schools to more effectively address discrimination and harassment within DODEA.
- Requires DODEA to craft a new policy combatting sexual harassment among students that provides at least the level of protection as afforded by title IX.
- Requires the service secretaries to establish and maintain multidisciplinary teams on child abuse and other domestic violence at military installations.
- Expands eligibility for Special Victims' Counsel services to victims of domestic violence and other aggravated violent offenses.
- Establishes a new punitive article on domestic violence in the Uniform Code of Military Justice.
- Authorizes military judges and magistrates to issue military protective orders.
- Authorizes programs to carefully manage opioid prescriptions.

