



UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

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National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018

Conference Report Highlights

Providing for the Common Defense

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) authorizes funding above the President's fiscal year 2018 budget request to meet the immediate needs of restoring readiness, rebuilding capacity, and recapitalizing capabilities. The NDAA authorizes a base defense budget of \$626.4 billion for the Department of Defense and the national security programs of the Department of Energy. This includes authorization for the administration's \$5.9 billion budget amendment for bolstering missile defense, repairing U.S. Navy ships after recent collisions at sea, and supporting the strategy for Afghanistan and South Asia. The bill also authorizes \$65.8 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). In total, the NDAA supports a topline of \$700 billion for national defense (Function 050), for a total of \$26.1 billion above the President's request.

Reforming Pentagon Management

The conferees recognize that the Pentagon's business operations are in need of reform. The NDAA includes a number of provisions to streamline administration, transform business practices, and eliminate excess bureaucracy. Most importantly, the legislation clarifies the role and expands the responsibilities of the DOD Chief Management Officer (CMO), establishing it as the third most senior position in the Pentagon. The FY17 NDAA created this new role, which will be established on February 1, 2018. The fundamental mission of the CMO will be to manage the enterprise business operations, or "shared services," of the Department. This year's bill also gives the CMO explicit authority to direct the secretaries of the military departments and the heads of other defense organizations with regard to business reforms.

The expanded authority of the CMO includes oversight, direction, and control of business-focused defense agencies and field activities, to be determined by the Secretary of Defense, with a goal of improving their management to ensure effective and efficient performance. The CMO will also assume some of the traditional Chief Information Officer functions related to business information technology systems and business management data. To support these missions and activities, the NDAA includes a direct hiring authority for additional management expertise.

The conferees included a section of the bill dedicated exclusively to data management and analytics, in recognition of the importance of accurate, available, and reliable data for Pentagon reform. Specific provisions require the Secretary of Defense to develop a policy on sharing

defense business system data across the enterprise. Finally, the bill includes provisions addressing the use of data for improved acquisition outcomes, encouraging more active management of certain defense agencies, and mandating the development of data integration strategies for difficult problems such as logistics and personnel security.

The NDAA also includes a number of provisions related to audit, financial transparency, and fiscal responsibility. It formalizes and modernizes reporting requirements related to audit as the Department moves into its first full financial statement audit this year, requiring clear accountability for progress. The bill allows the Department to stand up a team of private sector experts with audit experience to make recommendations to the Department on how to best achieve a clean audit. It also requires the DOD to establish a database containing key indicators of the Department's financial performance, in order to promote increased transparency across the Department and improved financial management.

Additionally, the NDAA:

- Limits the number of Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense to 48.
- Reduces the number of Assistant Secretaries of Defense from 14 to 13.
- Re-designates the Principal Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense as Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense in recognition that these are the only Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense.
- Enhances post-employment ethics rules for senior DOD personnel.
- Requires the creation of a 10-year pilot program on an enhanced civilian personnel management system for cybersecurity and legal professionals within the DOD.
- Directs the Secretary of Defense to take actions by 2020 to allow the Defense Security Service to conduct all personnel background and security investigations adjudicated by the Consolidated Adjudication Facility of the Department in order to address the backlog of more than 700,000 security clearances that DOD currently faces.

Supporting the 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 NDAA improves military readiness and effectiveness by increasing the size of the total force. The legislation also aims to improve the quality of life for the men and women of the total force. To meet those goals, the NDAA:

- Authorizes increases in end strength above the President's request by the following amounts:
 - 7,500 in the Active-Duty Army.
 - 1,000 in the Active-Duty Marine Corps.
 - 500 in the Army Reserve.
 - 500 in the Army National Guard.
- Authorizes a 2.4 percent across-the-board pay raise for members of the Armed Forces.
- Authorizes \$141.8 billion for military personnel, including costs of pay, allowances, bonuses, death benefits, and permanent change of station moves.

- Authorizes \$33.7 billion for the Defense Health Program.
- Reauthorizes over 30 types of bonuses and special pays aimed at encouraging enlistment, reenlistment, and continued service by active-duty and reserve component military personnel.
- Authorizes \$40 million in supplemental impact aid to local educational agencies with military dependent children and \$10 million in impact aid for schools with military dependent children with severe disabilities.
- Authorizes \$1 million for a pilot program on public-private partnerships for telework facilities on military installations outside the United States to assist with military spouse employment.
- Allows for reimbursement of credentialing fees for military spouses.
- Creates an offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice that prohibits the distribution of a photo or video of the private area of a person or of sexually explicit conduct that was recorded with consent and distributed by someone who knew or should have known that there was no consent to distribute.
- Increases pharmacy co-pays to generate discretionary savings for the DOD to fund improvements in military readiness and healthcare.
- Permanently extends the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance under the Survivor Benefit Plan and provides for annual inflation adjustments.
- Authorizes the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to approve certain medical products for use by combat medics to improve chances of survival on the battlefield.
- Improves military family readiness by addressing the shortage of qualified child-care workers, requiring that realities of military life be considered in setting the operating hours of child-care centers, and by increasing flexibility for families in the permanent change of station process.

Modernizing the Force

The NDAA prioritizes modernization to meet current and future threats and directs funds to provide critical military capabilities to our warfighters. The legislation:

- Authorizes \$10.1 billion for procuring 90 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft, which is \$2.6 billion and 20 aircraft more than the administration's request.
 - Includes \$5.8 billion for procuring 56 F-35A fighters, which is \$1.3 billion and 10 aircraft more than the administration's request.
 - Includes \$2.9 billion for procuring 24 F-35B fighters, which is \$526 million and 4 aircraft more than the administration's request.
 - Includes \$1.4 billion for procuring 10 F-35C fighters, which is \$800 million and 6 aircraft more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$2.9 billion for procuring 17 KC-46A tankers, which is \$400 million and 2 tankers more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$980 million for procuring 11 MC-130J aircraft, which is \$600 million and 6 aircraft more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$103 million above the administration's request to restart A-10 replacement wing production.

- Authorizes \$400 million for procuring a fleet of Light Attack/Observation aircraft.
- Authorizes \$3.1 billion for Army helicopters, including \$1.4 billion for 71 AH-64E Apaches, \$1.1 billion for 92 UH-60 Blackhawks, \$310 million for 10 CH-47F Chinooks, \$246 million for 4 MH-47G Chinooks, and \$108 million for 13 Light Utility Helicopters.
- Authorizes \$2.2 billion for Army ground combat vehicles, including \$1.1 billion for M1 Abrams tanks, \$622 million for Stryker armored combat vehicles, \$445 million for Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and \$41 million for Ground Mobility Vehicles.
- Authorizes \$133 million for Active Protection System development.
- Authorizes \$26.2 billion for shipbuilding to fund 14 ships, which is \$6.3 billion and 5 battle force ships more than the administration's request.
 - Includes \$842 million for *Columbia*-class submarines, which supports the administration's request.
 - Includes \$4.4 billion for *Ford*-class aircraft carriers, which supports the administration's request.
 - Includes \$5.6 billion for *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyers, which is \$2.0 billion more than the administration's request, including funds for 1 additional destroyer and \$250 million for multiyear economic order quantity procurement.
 - Includes \$5.9 billion for *Virginia*-class submarines, which is \$698 million more than the administration's request for a third FY20 *Virginia*-class submarine, multiyear economic order quantity procurement, or initiatives to expand the submarine industrial base.
 - Includes \$1.5 billion for Littoral Combat Ships (LCSs), which is \$900 million and 2 LCSs more than the administration's request.
 - Includes \$1.5 billion and incremental funding authority for either the lead amphibious ship replacement (LX(R)) or the next amphibious transport dock (LPD-30), which is in addition to the administration's request.
 - Includes \$1.7 billion for LHA replacement ships, which supports the administration's request.
 - Includes \$635 million for 1 expeditionary sea base, which is in addition to the administration's request.
 - Includes \$466 million for 1 TAO fleet oiler, which supports the administration's request.
 - Includes \$250 million for 1 cable ship, which is in addition to the administration's request.
 - Includes \$76 million for 1 towing, salvage, and rescue ship, which supports the administration's request.
 - Includes \$525 million for 8 ship-to-shore connectors (SSCs), which is \$312 million and 5 SSCs more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$30 million for preliminary design of a smaller aircraft carrier, which is in addition to the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$1.9 billion for procuring 24 F/A-18 Super Hornets, which is \$739 million and 10 aircraft more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$1.8 billion for procuring 10 P-8A Poseidon aircraft, which is \$507 million and 3 aircraft more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes \$1.2 billion for procuring 12 V-22 Osprey aircraft, which is \$522 million and 6 aircraft more than the administration's request.

- Authorizes \$3.0 billion for aircraft spares and repair parts, which is \$280 million more than the administration's request.
- Authorizes a \$1.5 billion increase for various missile procurement and development.
- Authorizes \$12.3 billion for the Missile Defense Agency to bolster homeland, regional, and space missile defenses.
 - Expands the current capacity for ground-based interceptors, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) interceptors, and SM-3 Block IIA missiles and strengthens the sensor network capabilities.
- Requires the Army to develop a comprehensive modernization strategy explicitly addressing the Army's vision, end-state, key objectives, and warfighting challenges.
- Requires the Army to report how it will develop a prototype for a ground combat vehicle.
- Directs the Secretary of Defense to commission three independent studies on future Air Force aircraft inventory levels and capabilities.
- Requires the Air Force to maintain a minimum fighter aircraft inventory.
- Authorizes multiyear contract authority and advance procurement for up to 13 *Virginia*-class submarines.
- Authorizes multiyear contract authority and advance procurement for up to 15 *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyers.
- Authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to procure the first polar-class heavy icebreaker and includes a review of Navy capabilities in the Arctic region.
- Codifies at least a 355-ship Navy with the optimal mix of ships as U.S. policy.
- Authorizes limited aspects of the Department's proposal to recapitalize the Ready Reserve Force.
- Expands the National Sea-Based Deterrence Fund to include multiyear procurement of critical components.
- Directs reports of maritime intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and targeting; defense of combat logistics and strategic mobility forces; the acquisition strategy to recapitalize undersea fixed surveillance systems; *Los Angeles*-class submarine service life extensions; and mine warfare readiness.
- Fully supports the modernization of the nuclear triad and ensures that U.S. nuclear forces are survivable, well-exercised, and increasingly ready to counter Russian nuclear provocations while reassuring allies.
- Fully supports Department of Energy programs to modernize and extend the life of our nuclear weapons and authorizes over \$175 million more than the administration's request to repair and rebuild aging infrastructure across the nuclear enterprise.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment of the Department's global force posture in conjunction with the development of a new National Defense Strategy.

Continuing Acquisition Reform

Ensuring Implementation of Previously Legislated Acquisition Reforms

The NDAA continues congressionally-driven efforts to reform acquisition processes and procedures through establishing accountability, accessing new sources of innovation, removing unnecessary processes and requirements, adopting best practices, and improving the acquisition

workforce. The conferees believe these steps will drive the bold changes necessary to improve the transparency, accountability, and effectiveness of the Department of Defense. The legislation:

- Continues oversight and management of the DOD acquisition enterprise and workforce structure to reorganize offices and senior leadership to encourage innovative solutions to complex problems.
- Authorizes a government-wide phased program facilitating procurement of commercial items using commercial e-commerce portals.
- Reduces unnecessary laws and regulations that limit the DOD from obtaining the best value to the government and the American taxpayer.
- Continues to optimize the way DOD conducts audits of costs incurred by DOD contractors, to enable more efficient and effective oversight of contractor performance.
- Authorizes programs and funding to improve the quality and support the efforts of the DOD acquisition workforce and the labor workforce that executes the mission.
- Addresses challenges from the DOD on prior acquisition reforms, including the use of Other Transaction Authorities, commercial items, and the Small Business Innovation Research program.
- Includes provisions to improve DOD software-related acquisition practices, including a high-level study by the Defense Innovation Board, a pilot program to start effective new software activities, and another pilot program to realign acquisition of troubled software-intensive systems.

Promoting Accountability in Development and Acquisition

As part of the commitment to providing rigorous oversight for defense spending, the NDAA contains several provisions that demand accountability for results, promote transparency, protect taxpayers, and ensure our men and women in uniform receive the capabilities they need on time, on schedule, and at a reasonable cost. The conferees identified targeted reductions to wasteful or underperforming programs and reinvested the savings in high-priority needs for the warfighters. The legislation:

- Reduces Army networking programs, such as AIAMD IBCS by \$84 million.
- Reduces funding for the Air and Space Operations Center 10.2 by \$105 million (restructured to O&M).
- Establishes cost controls for the Presidential Aircraft Recapitalization program.
- Reduces *Zumwalt*-class destroyers by \$50 million.
- Reduces duplicative research and development programs by \$80 million.
- Reduces duplicative personnel, pay, and resource programs by \$26 million.
- Requires the Army to report how it intends to implement the findings of the DOD Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation study of the air-land mobile tactical communications and data network.
- Directs the Army to submit a plan for successfully fielding a suitable, survivable, and effective Integrated Air and Missile Defense Battle Command System program.

- Clarifies the Secretary of Defense’s authority to waive the requirement to conduct full ship shock trials on *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN-78) before her first deployment.
- Establishes a \$12.6 billion procurement cost limitation for aircraft carriers after *USS John F. Kennedy* (CVN-79).
- Extends a limitation on sole-source shipbuilding contracts for certain vessels.
- Requires submission of periodic updates on *Columbia*-class cost, design, and construction goals.
- Requires annual certifications on the Navy’s Ready, Relevant Learning initiative.

Software-Intensive Systems

The NDAA reduces the authorized funding for underperforming programs that heavily rely on software and information technology (IT). DOD’s warfighting, business, and enterprise systems are increasingly reliant on, or driven by, software and IT. While the DOD has committed billions of dollars to systems that would empower the warfighter with a common picture of communications, command, and control in order to manage operations within and across all domains, the Department and its partners in the defense IT industrial base have been unable to deliver many of these capabilities. Similarly, DOD’s investments in business systems are often fragmented, with the military services developing their own custom solutions to common business problems that have ready and available solutions in the commercial marketplace. The conferees are pushing the Department hard to adopt modern IT systems and practices, by using commercial agile software development practices, to include more incremental development, and the NDAA includes pilot programs as well as associated training, tools, and infrastructure to accomplish this.

Developing Strategy and Policy for the Information Domain

Strengthening Cyber Deterrence

The committees have long expressed their concern with the lack of an effective strategy and policy for the information domain, including cyber, space, and electronic warfare. Previous NDAs have included numerous provisions that directed the executive branch to define and develop the strategies and policies necessary to improve the structure, capability, roles, and responsibilities of our national cyber efforts, and the responses to these directives have been insufficient and not commensurate with the threats we face in the information domain. The conferees believe that it is long past time that the federal government develops a comprehensive cyber deterrence strategy, and it is the role of the Congress to guide and impel the creation of that strategy. To help address these issues, the bill:

- Strengthens the DOD Chief Information Officer (CIO) by requiring that the position be presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed, and report directly to the Secretary of Defense. This empowered CIO will assume new responsibilities related to developing offensive and defensive cyber capabilities, developing standards for the information domain (across information technology, networking, and cyber), and evaluating and certifying that DOD budgets are sufficient in meeting Department-wide requirements for the Department’s priorities.

- Requires the President to develop a national policy for the United States relating to cyberspace, cybersecurity, and cyberwarfare, including the use of offensive cyber capabilities, to deter and respond when necessary to any and all cyber attacks that target U.S. interests.
- Establishes a strategic cybersecurity program, in accordance with a recommendation from the Defense Science Board, intended to ensure the security of offensive cyber systems, long-range strike systems, nuclear deterrent systems, National Security Systems, and critical infrastructure of the Department of Defense.
- Clarifies the functions of U.S. Cyber Command and refines command and control responsibilities of the commander.
- Requires the Commanders of U.S. Cyber Command and U.S. Strategic Command to jointly assess the cyber resiliency of the nuclear command and control system.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to establish processes and procedures to integrate strategic information operations and cyber-enabled information operations across the Department—including public affairs, electronic warfare, cyber operations, and military deception—and to designate a senior DOD official to implement and oversee these processes.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct a Cyber Posture Review, with the purpose of clarifying U.S. cyber deterrence policy and strategy.

Centralizing Operations for Space

Decision-making with respect to space is currently fragmented across more than 60 offices in DOD. RDT&E funding for space programs is at a 30-year low, while the threats in and our reliance on space are at their highest and growing. Space programs are programmatically unsynchronized across systems in orbit, ground stations, and terminals. To centralize authority for space acquisitions, operations, and personnel, the NDAA:

- Reorganizes the Air Force Space Command by modeling it after the successful Office of Naval Reactors, both of which are highly technical in nature. The bill accomplishes this by assigning the Commander of Air Force Space Command a six-year term and empowering the Commander with responsibility for personnel, operations, and acquisitions with respect to space forces of the Air Force.
- Terminates the position and office of the Principal Department of Defense Space Advisor, eliminates the Air Force A-11, and consolidates the duties, responsibilities, and personnel to a single official selected by the Deputy Secretary of Defense.
- Re-designates the Operationally Responsive Space Program Office as the Space Rapid Capabilities Office, the head of which reports to Air Force Space Command.
- Limits the obligation or expenditure of funds for carrying out the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle program to: (a) the development of a domestic rocket propulsion system to replace non-allied space launch engines; (b) the development of the necessary interfaces to that system with an existing or planned launch vehicle; and (c) the development of capabilities necessary to enable existing or planned commercially-available space launch vehicles or infrastructure primarily for national security space missions.

Driving Innovation in Research and Development

A strong and responsive research and development (R&D) enterprise has always been the backbone of defense innovation and is crucial to delivering cutting-edge military technology. For over 70 years, the DOD research enterprise has produced myriad scientific breakthroughs, which ensured that the United States maintained a significant military technological advantage over its adversaries. With that technological edge now eroding in the face of rapid and sustained foreign investment in military technology, it is important that the United States maintains an agile and streamlined defense research and development enterprise. While DOD R&D continues to operate at an advanced level, it has been hampered in recent years by an increasingly restrictive set of rules and regulations imposed by the Department itself. Building on previous efforts to make the research enterprise more efficient and effective, the NDAA:

- Authorizes funding for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Strategic Capabilities Office, and basic research near or above the level of the administration's budget request.
- Authorizes significant additional funding to accounts meant to drive advancements in the Department's Third Offset Strategy and address unfunded requirements of the Department, with the goal of bolstering U.S. military technological superiority, including over \$40 million for basic research programs, and an additional \$100 million for prototyping of directed energy systems.
- Establishes and authorizes funding for a directed energy weapon system prototyping and demonstration program to enhance the fielding and deployment of such systems for the benefit of the warfighter.
- Expands the use of Other Transactions Authority and Experimental Procurement Authority as methods for entering into research agreements.
- Streamlines bureaucratic processes that hinder the effectiveness of Department of Defense laboratories.
- Expands DOD technology prize authority to allow non-cash prizes and to allow the government to jointly fund prizes with private sector organizations.
- Establishes authority for test and evaluation facilities of the DOD to hire senior scientific technical managers.
- Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to establish more flexible mechanisms for the DOD to access technical expertise at U.S. universities.

Strengthening Homeland Defense and Assisting Partners in the Counterdrug Fight

As threats increase around the world, they are also on the rise here at home. The NDAA takes several steps to bolster the defense of the homeland. The legislation:

- Authorizes \$821 million for Department of Defense drug interdiction, counterdrug, and drug demand reduction programs.
- Extends by three years the authority to support the unified counterdrug and counterterrorism campaign in Colombia.

- Directs the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force to provide a report with recommendations on how the Army National Guard and Air National Guard could gain effective unit and individual training while also enhancing border security capabilities.
- Directs an evaluation of the National Guard Counterdrug Program to assess its funding and determine how it aligns with DOD counter-narcotics goals, state-level plans, and program objectives.
- Directs the DOD to provide an update on its efforts to combat the trafficking of drugs, people, weapons, antiquities, and tobacco.
- Requires that 50 percent of any funding allocated for cooperative anti-tunneling R&D activities with Israel be spent in the United States.

Sustaining Detention Policy

The NDAA extends prohibitions related to Guantanamo Bay previously enacted by Congress. This legislation:

- Extends the prohibition on the use of funds for transfer to the United States of individuals detained at Guantanamo Bay.
- Extends the prohibition on the use of funds to construct or modify facilities in the United States to house detainees transferred from Guantanamo Bay.
- Extends the prohibition on the use of funds to transfer or release individuals detained at Guantanamo Bay to Libya, Somalia, Syria, or Yemen.
- Extends the prohibition on the use of funds for realignment of forces at or closure of U.S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Countering Russian Aggression

Russia's ongoing aggressive actions—including its invasions of Georgia in 2008 and Ukraine in 2014, threats to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, rapid military modernization, advanced anti-access and area denial capabilities, increasing military activity in the Arctic region and Mediterranean Sea, evolving nuclear doctrine and capabilities, and violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty and Open Skies Treaty—constitute a major challenge to the security interests of the United States and that of our allies and partners in Europe. Furthermore, Russia's ongoing malign influence activities—misinformation, disinformation, propaganda, cyber attacks, election interference, active measures, and hybrid warfare operations—pose not only a threat to the security interests of the United States and those of our allies and partners in Europe but also to the integrity of Western democracies and the institutions and alliances they support. Therefore, the NDAA:

- Authorizes \$4.6 billion for the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI) to reassure NATO allies and enhance the U.S. deterrent and defense postures in Europe. The legislation also requires the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Commander of the United States European Command, to submit a future years plan on activities and resources of EDI for fiscal year 2018 and four successive fiscal years.
- Authorizes \$350 million to provide security assistance to Ukraine, including defensive lethal assistance. The legislation restricts half of these funds until the Secretary of

Defense certifies that Ukraine has taken substantial action to make defense institutional reforms critical to sustaining capabilities developed using security assistance.

- Authorizes up to \$100 million from the European Deterrence Initiative to conduct or support a single joint program of the Baltic nations to improve their resilience against and build their capacity to deter Russian aggression.
- Authorizes \$58 million for measures in response to the Russian violation of the INF Treaty, including a research and development program on a ground-launched intermediate-range missile, which would not place the United States in violation of the treaty.
- Strengthens the implementation of existing sanctions against individuals who facilitate the violation of arms control agreements, in accordance with section 1290 of the FY17 NDAA.
- Provides that a multichannel video programming distributor (MVPD), such as cable and satellite television providers, may not be required to carry video content from television stations to the extent that such content is owned, controlled, or financed by the Government of the Russian Federation. Likewise, MVPDs may not be required to lease, or otherwise make available, channel capacity to any person for the provision of video programming that is owned, controlled, or financed by the Government of the Russian Federation.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to counter threats by the Russian Federation.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to develop jointly a comprehensive strategy to counter the threat of malign influence by the Russian Federation.
- Adds reporting on hybrid warfare as part of the annual report on Russian military and security developments, including assessments of Russia's information warfare strategy and capabilities, malicious cyber activities, and coercive economic tools.
- Extends the prohibition on using DOD funds for bilateral military-to-military cooperation with Russia.
- Prohibits the federal government from using software platforms developed by Kaspersky Lab due to reports that the Moscow-based company might be vulnerable to Russian government influence.

Supporting 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 NDAA:

- Authorizes \$1.8 billion in funding for counter-ISIS efforts via the "train and equip" programs in Iraq and Syria.
- Clarifies and supports the role of the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq to assist Iraq in building strong defense institutions and improving force professionalization.
- Requires strategies to address diplomatic, security, and humanitarian challenges in Iraq, Syria, Somalia, and Yemen.

- Authorizes \$4.9 billion for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, including \$1.7 billion to sustain and advance the capabilities of the Afghan Air Force and \$41 million to support the recruitment, training, and integration of women into the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces.
- Authorizes 3,500 visas to be made available for individuals who are eligible for special immigrant status under the *Afghan Allies Protection Act*.
- Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to establish the Indo-Asia-Pacific Stability Initiative.
- Approves the Compact Review Agreement with Palau and authorizes \$123.9 million for the Agreement.
- Authorizes \$705 million for Israeli cooperative missile defense programs—\$558.5 million more than the administration’s request—including \$290 for procurement of multi-tiered missile defense systems and \$268.5 million for RDT&E for these systems. Of this funding, up to \$120 million is for the David’s Sling Weapon System, up to \$120 million is for the Arrow Upper Tier program, and up to \$92 million is for Israeli procurement of Tamir interceptors for the Iron Dome short-range rocket defense system through co-production in the United States.
- Expresses the sense of Congress reaffirming security commitments to the governments of South Korea and Japan and reaffirming the importance of trilateral cooperation between our three countries in the face of threats and aggression from North Korea.
- Reiterates U.S. commitment to Taiwan under the Taiwan Relations Act and expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should strengthen and enhance its long-standing partnership and strategic cooperation with Taiwan.
- Authorizes up to \$700 million in Coalition Support Funding to reimburse Pakistan for activities carried out in support of U.S. operations in Afghanistan.
- Directs the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy for strengthening defense cooperation between the United States and India.