



SENATOR HARRY REID, MAJORITY LEADER STRENGTHENING OUR MILITARY



Senator Reid has fought to ensure that our Armed Forces have the resources they need to meet the challenges we face around the world and defend America at home. Senator Reid has been at the forefront of initiatives to restore and maintain the readiness of our military. He has worked to secure additional funding for critical equipment needs for our active duty and National Guard and Reserve forces, supported measures to establish responsible deployment cycles for troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, and backed efforts to increase the size of our military in order to meet our operational demands and relieve the strain on our troops. At the same time, Senator Reid has actively endorsed the military's efforts to transition their forces and invest in the technology and resources for meeting the current and emerging challenges of the 21st century.

Senator Reid Secured Vital Funding for All of Nevada's Military Installations. Over the course of his tenure, Senator Reid has secured millions for Nevada's troops, veterans, military families, and installations. In fiscal year 2009 alone, Senator Reid worked to obtain over \$100 million for facilities and equipment for Nellis and Creech Air Force Bases. Over the past decade, Senator Reid ensured that funding was available for numerous range improvements and construction projects at Fallon Naval Air Station. Senator Reid also fought for the Nevada National Guard, securing funding to provide our men and women in uniform with the cutting edge technology necessary to protect Nevada. [Senate Vote 208, HR 2638, 09/27/08; Senate Vote 441, HR 2764, 12/18/07]

Senator Reid Fully Funded the Southern Nevada Veterans Complex, Making it a Reality. The 700,000 square-foot center will include a 90-bed hospital and 120-bed long-term care center. Senator Reid secured over \$600,000,000 for the project. The project is right on schedule to be opened in 2012. In the meantime four more Community-Based Outpatient Clinics are scheduled to be opened around the Las Vegas valley in the near future. [S. 3421, 12/22/2006, P.L. 109-461]

HIGHLIGHTS OF SENATOR REID'S RECORD ON STRENGTHENING OUR MILITARY

- ★ Senator Reid Secured Vital Funding for All of Nevada's Military Installations
- ★ Senator Reid Fully Funded for the Southern Nevada Veterans Complex, Making it a Reality
- ★ Senator Reid Successfully Fought the Closure of the Hawthorne Army Depot
- ★ Senator Reid Fought to Provide Our Troops with the Protection and Tools They Need on the Battlefield
- ★ Senator Reid Secured Additional Funding to Meet Army and Marine Corps Needs and Fill Dangerous National Guard Equipment Shortfalls
- ★ Senator Reid Fought for Responsible Deployment Cycles to Relieve the Strain on Our Armed Forces
- ★ Senator Reid Supported Efforts to Increase the Size of Our Military
- ★ Senator Reid Supported the Initiatives of Our Military Services to Transform Their Forces, Technology, and Tactics to Meet the Current and Emerging Threats
- ★ Senator Reid Backed Legislation to Combat Waste and Inefficiency in the Defense Acquisition System

Senator Reid Successfully Prevented the Closure of the Hawthorne Army Depot. In 2005, Senator Reid worked to reverse Defense Department decisions to close the Hawthorne Army Depot and move the Nevada Air National Guard's C-130s during the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. Brigadier General Cynthia Kirkland, the adjutant general for Nevada directing the Nevada Army and Air National Guard, wrote in an opinion piece, *“Through the tremendous efforts of Nevada’s legislative delegation, especially Senator Harry Reid, community leaders and our supportive populace, the BRAC recommendations will not adversely impact Nevada in any way, despite the fact that the Hawthorne Army Depot was set to close and the Nevada Air Guard’s C-130 fleet was proposed to move to Arkansas when the initial BRAC list was revealed. We in the military in Nevada will forever be indebted to Senator Reid for his work in urging BRAC Chairman Anthony Principi and Commissioner Phillip Coyle to visit Nevada and see firsthand the necessity of retaining all military resources and assets in the Silver State.”* [Reno Gazette-Journal, 11/23/05]

Senator Reid Fought to Provide Our Troops with the Protection and Tools They Need on the Battlefield. Senator Reid has consistently made the protection of our troops the first priority of our missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. In the fiscal year 2003 Iraq supplemental appropriations bill, Senator Reid voted to provide more funds for Humvees, body armor, and explosive jammers to safeguard our troops on the ground in Iraq. The following year, Reid backed an amendment to shift \$322 million in emergency appropriations from Iraq reconstruction to provide safety equipment for U.S. troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Though the U.S. Army commanders warned that this additional funding was necessary to provide critical gear for our deployed soldiers, the Republican majority blocked this measure. Later that year, Senator Reid was able to help advance an initiative to require the Defense Department to reimburse service members for the cost of any protective, safety, or health equipment purchased by them or their families. [Voice Vote, H.R. 3289, 11/3/03 (P.L. 108-106); Senate Vote 376, S. 1689, 10/2/03; Senate Vote 112, S. 2400, 6/14/04 (P.L. 108-375)]

As Majority Leader, Senator Reid has continued this fight. He has consistently worked to advance initiatives to better protect our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan from the threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), including measures to provide needed funds for up-armored Humvees (known as Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles or MRAPs). Under Senator Reid’s leadership, the Senate added more than \$1.2 billion in emergency fiscal year 2007 funds, over \$17 billion in fiscal year 2008 funding, and an additional \$1.2 billion in fiscal year 2010 funding for MRAPs, body armor, and other protective equipment for our military forces and Special Operations Command on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan. [Unanimous Consent, H.R. 4200, 10/9/04 (P.L. 108-375); Senate Vote 117, H.R. 1268, 5/10/05 (P.L. 109-13); Senate Vote 327, H.R. 2647, 10/22/09 (P.L. 111-84)]

Senator Reid Secured Additional Funding to Meet Army and Marine Corps Needs and Fill Dangerous National Guard Equipment Shortfalls. Senator Reid has worked hard to make sure our troops have the resources and equipment they need.

- ***Senator Reid Helped Secure Additional Funding to Meet Army and Marine Corps Equipment Needs.*** Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have taken an enormous toll on essential Army and Marine Corps equipment – a situation that our top military leaders warned that, by 2007, had dangerously compromised force readiness and our ability to respond to emerging threats around the globe. Senator Reid has consistently worked to provide increased reset funding for the Army and Marine Corps to replace damaged, destroyed, or worn-out equipment. He voted to provide \$23.8 billion in fiscal year 2007 emergency funding for Army and Marine Corps reset; supported fiscal year 2008 defense legislation that authorized \$18.4 billion for Army reset and \$8.6 billion for Marine Corps reset – \$4.8 billion and

\$6.9 billion, respectively, over the previous Administration's request; and also voted to provide \$10 billion in emergency fiscal year 2008 funding and an additional \$4 billion in emergency fiscal year 2009 funding for critical equipment needs for service members fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. [Senate Vote 181, H.R. 2206, 5/24/07 (P.L. 110-28); Senate Vote 1, H.R. 4986, 1/22/08 (P.L. 110-181); Senate Vote 162, H.R. 2642 (P.L. 110-252); Senate Vote 210, H.R. 2346, 6/18/09 (P.L. 111-32)]

- ***Senator Reid Provided Funds to Fill Dangerous National Guard Equipment Shortfalls.*** In early 2007, a Congressional commission assessed that nearly 90 percent of Army National Guard units in the United States were rated as unready, primarily due to equipment shortfalls. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau warned that the situation was compromising the quality of force training and limiting the Guard's ability to quickly respond to domestic disasters. Under Senator Reid's leadership, the Senate moved swiftly to address this crisis. Senator Reid helped to secure an additional \$1 billion in fiscal year 2007 emergency funding, an additional \$980 million in fiscal year 2008 funds, and \$500 million in fiscal year 2009 emergency funding, above President Bush's requests, to ensure that these forces have the equipment and resources they need to support military operations overseas and to fulfill their homeland security duties. [Senate Vote 181, H.R. 2206, 5/24/07 (P.L. 110-28); Voice Vote, H.R. 3222, 11/8/07 (P.L. 110-116); Senate Vote 210, H.R. 2346, 6/18/09 (P.L. 111-32)]
- ***Senator Reid Fought for Responsible Deployment Cycles to Relieve the Strain on Our Armed Forces.*** The Army has been repeatedly forced to violate its own deployment policies to meet the previous Administration's demands for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Under Senator Reid's leadership, the Senate called for the establishment of minimum periods between deployments of units and members of the Armed Forces deployed for U.S. operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. By establishing responsible deployment cycles, the measure would have supported our troops and their families, worked to relieve the enormous stress on our ground forces, and helped to address rising recruiting and retention challenges within our military. Though the amendment received 56 votes, it was ultimately blocked due to Republican obstructionism. [Senate Vote 341, H.R. 1585, 9/19/07]

Senator Reid Supported Efforts to Increase the Size of Our Military. In order to relieve some of the strain on our active duty force, meet the requirements of continued deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, and more effectively train for future conflicts, Senator Reid has voted for measures to authorize and fund increases in the end strength of the Army and Marine Corps.

- ***End Strength Increases*** Senator Reid voted for fiscal year 2005, 2006, and 2007 defense legislation to support end strength increases and also backed fiscal year 2008 legislation, which authorized a permanent end strength increase of 65,000 for the Army and 27,000 for the Marine Corps. [Senate Vote 129, H.R. 4200, 6/17/04 (P.L. 108-375); Voice Vote H.R. 1815, 12/21/05 (P.L. 109-163); Unanimous consent, H.R. 5122, 9/30/06 (P.L. 109-364); Senate Vote 1, H.R. 4986, 1/22/08 (P.L. 110-181)]
- ***Increase the Size of the U.S. Army*** Senator Reid supported a measure in fiscal year 2010 legislation that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to grow the U.S. Army by 30,000 active-duty soldiers in Fiscal years 2010-2012. [Senate Vote 236, S. 1390, 7/21/09 (P.L. 111-84)]

Senator Reid Supported the Initiatives of Our Military Services to Transform Their Forces, Technology, and Tactics to Meet the Current and Emerging Threats. Senator Reid has consistently voted for increased investments to enhance our military's war fighting capabilities. Senator Reid has worked to secure additional funding for items on the Army Chief of Staff's Unfunded Requirements List as well as for critical military

equipment, space situational awareness capabilities, and defense science and technology (S&T) programs. Senator Reid voted for fiscal year 2010 defense legislation, which endorses the decisions of the Secretary of Defense to rebalance our defense spending to ensure we have the programs and systems in place to more effectively address the challenges we face today and meet the threats we are likely to face in the future. [Senate Vote H.R. 2647, 10/22/09 (P.L. 111-84)]

Senator Reid Backed Legislation to Combat Waste and Inefficiency in the Defense Acquisition System.

Under Senator Reid’s leadership, the Senate passed the *Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act of 2009* to address cost overruns and program delays in the defense acquisition system, which have imposed an enormous burden on our defense budget and unacceptable cost to American taxpayers. By instituting management reforms and providing the Department of Defense with additional tools to ensure effective oversight and accountability, this bipartisan legislation will lead to billions in taxpayer savings and ensure that our acquisition process is structured to support our troops fighting on the front line. [Senate Vote 286, S. 454, 5/21/09 (P.L. 111-23)]

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