

# *House Appropriations Committee*

*Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen*

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

## **Fiscal Year 2018 Defense Bill**

*Bill will continue to rebuild our military after years of cuts, fund operations overseas, help address growing global threats, and provide care for our troops*

The fiscal year 2018 Defense Appropriations bill funds the Department of Defense – including operations, readiness activities, and health and quality-of-life programs for our troops and military families.

The legislation provides a total of \$654.6 billion for the Department of Defense. This includes \$589.5 billion in discretionary and \$65.2 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)/Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) funding. When combined with fiscal year 2018 funding previously approved by Congress, the overall Defense total for fiscal year 2018 is \$659.5 billion, an increase of \$61.1 billion over the 2017 enacted level, which is fully consistent with the recently enacted budget agreement and the National Defense Authorization Act of 2018.

**Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)/Global War on Terrorism (GWOT)** – The legislation includes \$65.2 billion in OCO/GWOT funding. This will provide the needed resources for preparation and operations in the field to fight ongoing threats, including funding for personnel requirements, operational needs, the purchase of new aircraft to replace combat losses, combat vehicle safety modifications, additional Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) assets, and maintenance of facilities and equipment. It also provides critical support to our key allies, such as Israel, Ukraine and Jordan, to resist aggression.

Additional funds are targeted to requirements identified by our military services, including higher troop levels, readiness efforts, infrastructure, and equipment recapitalization and modernization. This also includes additional training time, facilities and aircraft repairs, procurement of modernized equipment, and the research and development of new military capabilities.

**Military Personnel and Pay** – The legislation includes \$137.7 billion – \$133.4 billion for base requirements and \$4.3 billion for OCO/GWOT requirements – to provide for 1,322,500 active-duty troops and 816,900 Guard and Reserve troops. The bill includes \$221.7 million above the request for additional end strength, and fully funds a 2.4 percent pay raise for the military.

**Operation and Maintenance** – Included in the legislation is \$238 billion – \$188 billion for base requirements and \$50 billion for OCO/GWOT requirements – for operation and maintenance. Funding for base requirements is \$20.4 billion above fiscal year 2017. This funding supports key readiness programs to prepare our troops for combat and peacetime missions, including flight time and battle training, equipment and facility maintenance, and base operations.

Within this amount, the bill includes \$853 million above the request to fill readiness shortfalls, \$616 million above the request to invest in facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization programs, and \$19.2 billion total for depot maintenance. This funding will help rebuild our forces to ensure our troops have the training and equipment they need.

The legislation also provides additional flexibility to the Services to spend operation and maintenance funding, as requested by the Department of Defense, while still ensuring accountability of the disbursement of taxpayer funds.

**Research and Development** – The bill contains \$89.2 billion – \$88.3 billion for base requirements and \$0.9 billion for OCO/GWOT requirements – for research, development, testing, and evaluation of new defense technologies. Funding for base requirements is \$5.6 billion above the request and \$16 billion above the fiscal year 2017 level, and will help to support current military operations and to prepare our nation to meet a broad range of future security threats.

Specifically, this funding will support research and development of: the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter; space security programs; the new Air Force bomber program; the JSTARS recapitalization program; the Ohio-class submarine replacement; Future Vertical Lift; the Israeli Cooperative Programs; the Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared Radar (OPIR); and other important research and development activities, including those within the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

**Equipment Procurement** – The legislation provides a total of \$144.3 billion – \$133.9 billion for base requirements and \$10.4 billion for OCO/GWOT requirements – for equipment and upgrades. Funding for base requirements is \$19.9 billion above the request and \$25.4 billion above fiscal year 2017. These funds support our nation’s military readiness by providing the necessary platforms, weapons, and other equipment our military needs to train, maintain the force, and conduct successful operations.

For example, the bill includes:

- \$23.8 billion to procure 14 Navy ships, including funding for one carrier replacement, two DDG-51 guided missile destroyers, two Virginia-class submarines, three Littoral Combat Ships; one Expeditionary Sea Base; one Expeditionary Fast Transport; one amphibious ship replacement; one fleet oiler; one towing, salvage, and rescue ship; and one oceanographic survey ship;
- \$10.2 billion for 90 F-35 aircraft;
- \$1.8 billion for 24 F/A-18E/F Super Hornet aircraft;
- \$1.6 billion for 30 new build and 50 remanufactured Apache helicopters;
- \$1.1 billion for 56 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters;
- \$225 million for 20 MQ-1 Gray Eagle unmanned aerial vehicles;
- \$1.7 billion for 10 P-8A Poseidon aircraft;
- \$1.3 billion for 14 V-22 aircraft;
- \$2.9 billion for 18 KC-46 tanker aircraft;
- \$2.4 billion for 25 C/HC/KC/MC-130J aircraft;
- \$103 million for A-10 wing replacements;
- \$348 million for 116 Stryker Double V-Hull upgrades;
- \$300 million for Stryker lethality upgrades;
- \$1.1 billion for the upgrade of 85 Abrams tanks;
- \$483 million for the upgrade of 145 Bradley fighting vehicles;
- \$705.8 million for the Israeli Cooperative Programs;
- \$1.4 billion for three Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicles (EELV);
- \$675 million for two Wideband Gap-filler Satellites
- \$220 million for National Guard High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) recapitalization, including \$120 million specifically for ambulance modernization; and
- \$1.3 billion for the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account.

- \$9.5 billion for the Missile Defense Agency, bringing the FY18 total for MDA to more than \$11.3 billion when combined with the previously passed supplemental

**Defense Health and Military Family Programs** – The bill contains \$34.4 billion for base requirements – \$764 million above the budget request – for the Defense Health Program to provide care for our troops, military families, and retirees.

Specifically, the bill provides \$359 million for cancer research, \$125 million for traumatic brain injury and psychological health research, and \$287 million for sexual assault prevention and response.

**Reductions and Rescissions to Save Tax Dollars** – The bill reflects commonsense decisions to save taxpayer dollars where possible in areas that will not affect the safety or success of our troops and missions. Some of these savings include \$115 million from lower-than-expected fuel costs and favorable economic conditions, and \$3.5 billion from rescissions of unused prior-year funding.

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