



UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

Fiscal Year 2025

**NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT**

Executive Summary

U.S. Senator Jack Reed, Chairman

U.S. Senator Roger F. Wicker, Ranking Member

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PREFACE

Each year, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) authorizes funding levels and provides authorities for the U.S. military and other critical defense priorities, ensuring America’s forces have the training, equipment, and resources they need to carry out their missions. On June 13, 2024, the Senate Armed Services Committee voted 22-3 to advance the NDAA for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 to the Senate floor.

There is broad consensus among Congress, the Department of Defense (DOD), and the U.S. interagency about the threats to America’s national security. The People’s Republic of China poses an increasing threat to the United States and our allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific. Russia is committed to expanding its malign influence on the global stage, and is willing to inflict widespread violence to achieve its aims. Iran seeks to exploit violence in the Middle East, expel the U.S. from the region, and further sabotage the free world’s interests. Threats from North Korea are growing, with more nuclear capabilities in its arsenal. Transnational criminal organizations continue to evolve and endanger Americans at home and abroad. To deter and overcome these threats, the U.S. military and America’s men and women in uniform must have the resources they need to keep the Nation safe.

FY 2025 DEFENSE FUNDING LEVELS

The 64th annual NDAA supports a total of \$919.9 billion in FY 2025 funding for national defense. Within this topline, the legislation authorizes \$875.0 billion for the Department of Defense and \$33.4 billion for national security programs within the Department of Energy (DOE).

FY25 Defense Funding Levels (in billions of dollars)	
Department of Defense	\$ 875.0
Department of Energy	\$ 33.4
NDAA Topline	\$ 908.4
Defense-related Activities Outside NDAA Jurisdiction	\$ 11.5
National Defense Topline	\$ 919.9

*Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

The bill allows up to \$6 billion in general transfer authority for unforeseen higher-priority needs in accordance with normal reprogramming procedures.



MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

1. Equipping the Force for Long-Term Strategic Competition

- Authorizes the full budget request for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative (PDI) and the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI).
- Requires a plan for the establishment of joint force headquarters subordinate to U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM) in Japan and Australia.
- Authorizes an Indo-Pacific Security Assistance Initiative and authorizes DOD to provide defense articles and services to allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific.
- Requires a report on DOD efforts to identify, disseminate, and implement lessons learned from the war in Ukraine.
- Condemns the horrific terrorist attack by Hamas against Israel on October 7th; supports DOD activities to increase humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza; and increases support for certain U.S.-Israel cooperation efforts.
- Authorizes DOD to support civil authorities to detect, identify, and monitor uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) that cross the international land borders of the U.S.
- Promotes information sharing among DOD personnel and other federal, state, and local authorities deployed to the southwest border.

2. Modernizing for the Future Battlefield

- Authorizes increased funding for UAS defenses and capabilities.
- Requires a strategy for countering drone technologies, referring drone offenses for investigation and prosecution, and responding to drone incursions.
- Directs a pilot program to optimize artificial intelligence-enabled software for the workflow and operations of DOD depots, shipyards, and manufacturing facilities.
- Directs a briefing on current and future capabilities to test directed energy systems.
- Requires the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to establish a Quantum Scaling Initiative to rapidly expand and support the development of quantum computing capabilities for DOD.
- Requires a report on cybersecurity cooperation activities with international partners and allies, including to mitigate cyber threats to undersea cables.
- Requires actions to improve supply chain security, including the establishment of secondary domestic production sources at existing arsenals, depots, and ammunition plants to address munition supply chain chokepoints.



3. Strengthening the Joint Force and Defense Workforce

- Authorizes funding to support a 4.5 percent pay raise for military members and a 2 percent pay raise for DOD civilian employees.
- Increases monthly basic pay for junior enlisted servicemembers in the grades of E-1 through E-3, in addition to the force-wide pay raise.
- Amends the Military Selective Service Act to require the registration of women for Selective Service.
- Includes a number of provisions to improve DOD efforts related to traumatic brain injury, including treating, caring, and researching injuries related to blast overpressure or blast exposure.
- Authorizes servicemembers without dependents who live in military unaccompanied housing to be paid higher rates of the Partial Basic Allowance for Housing.
- Authorizes increased funding to repair and improve enlisted barracks across the services.
- Establishes the Commission on Quality of Life for the All-Volunteer Armed Force to assess quality of life considerations for the military and civilian workforces.

4. Building American Combat Power

- Authorizes a national defense topline increase of \$25 billion, including increased procurement of combat vessels, aircraft, and vehicles.
- Authorizes an additional \$1.43 billion for a third DDG *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyer.
- Authorizes increased funding to enhance the submarine industrial base and to support the construction of a second *Virginia*-class submarine in FY 2025.
- Directs a briefing on the feasibility of land-basing the contents of Army Prepositioned Stocks (APS-3) in a partner nation.
- Authorizes increased funding for military construction projects.
- Establishes a cross-functional team to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) Reform.
- Requires an assessment of the recommendations on the final report of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States.
- Requires a DOD plan for deterring and defeating simultaneous aggression by two near-peer nuclear competitors, including requirements for nuclear force sizing.
- Requires the development of a national integrated air and missile defense architecture.

*Any funding increases or decreases referenced in this summary are in relation to the President's defense budget request for fiscal year 2025.



Equipping the Force for Long-Term Strategic Competition

Indo-Pacific

Strengthening Alliance Networks

- Authorizes the full budget request for the PDI and requires a plan for more effectively budgeting for PDI in future fiscal years.
- Requires a plan for the establishment of joint force headquarters subordinate to U.S. INDOPACOM in Japan and Australia.
- Authorizes an Indo-Pacific Security Assistance Initiative and authorizes DOD to provide or replenish defense articles and services to allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific.
- Requires DOD engagement with appropriate officials from Japan, Australia, and the Republic of Korea for the purpose of establishing multilateral security assistance initiatives with the military forces of foreign partners throughout the Indo-Pacific region.
- Requires a plan for advancing trilateral security cooperation among the United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.
- Adds Japan and the Republic of Korea to the contested logistics demonstration and prototyping program.
- Requires a plan to strengthen U.S. extended deterrence commitments to the Republic of Korea.
- Requires an annual report regarding the military capabilities of U.S. allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Directs a report on the activities conducted under Pillar II of the Trilateral Security Partnership Between Australia, the U.K., and the U.S., known as the AUKUS partnership.
- Establishes a medical readiness program with Indo-Pacific partner nations to ensure access to foreign medical facilities during peacetime and wartime operations.
- Establishes a pilot program to support the education of certain Australian, Japanese, and Republic of Korea personnel in matters related to nuclear deterrence, nuclear strategy, nuclear defense, and other issues.

Bolstering U.S. Force Posture

- Requires a review of the U.S. military logistics network in the Indo-Pacific and a plan for addressing any deficiencies.
- Requires an assessment of the feasibility of using DOD facilities in Guam to host the training of foreign partner military forces on a permanent or rotational basis.



- Directs an assessment of the feasibility of contracting commercial support vessels for intra-theater lift operations in the Indo-Pacific.
- Temporarily grants military construction authority to the INDOPACOM Commander, limited to \$30 million per project.
- Directs the development of a cybersecurity strategy for Guam.
- Requires a plan for ensuring radar coverage of Guam for defense against simultaneous ballistic missile threats from China and North Korea.
- Requires an annual briefing on the missile defense of Guam.

Supporting Taiwan

- Requires a multiyear plan for DOD activities to establish a regional contingency stockpile for Taiwan.
- Ensures that Taiwan is aligned with the U.S. National Defense Industrial Strategy in order to expand global defense production, increase supply chain security and resilience, and meet the defense needs of Taiwan.

Countering Chinese Aggression

- Requires a report on the military cooperation between the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, and the implications of such cooperation for U.S. national security.
- Requires a transregional strategy to expose malign activities by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA).
- Requires each geographic combatant command to designate a lead component for coordinating transregional efforts to counter malign activities by the PLA.

Europe

- Authorizes the full FY 2025 budget request for the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI).
- Modifies the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI) to add an additional two-year period of performance for the authority.
- Requires a report on DOD efforts to identify, disseminate, and implement lessons learned from the war in Ukraine.
- Extends the authority to train Eastern European national security forces, and includes Cyprus among the countries eligible to receive training.
- Encourages DOD to strengthen engagement with Armenia, including through bilateral training opportunities and other security cooperation activities.



Middle East

- Condemns the horrific terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel on October 7, 2023, and supports DOD assistance to Israel to increase the amount of humanitarian assistance provided to civilians in Gaza.
- Increases support for U.S.-Israel counter-tunneling cooperation.
- Authorizes an increase of \$47.5 million for U.S.-Israel cooperation on emerging technology.
- Requires congressional notification after any weapons or related materials are transferred by Iran to an Iranian-linked group or a second country, and requires an annual report on actions the U.S. is taking to counter and deter such weapons transfers.
- Directs an assessment of the capabilities of the Lebanese Armed Forces and their willingness to counter terrorist organizations.
- Directs the DOD Inspector General to conduct a report on the Gaza pier.
- Authorizes DOD to provide Israel with intelligence, advice, and support to assist in Israel's pursuit of senior Hamas leaders.
- Establishes a subject matter expert exchange program between U.S. military forces and ally and partner forces in the Middle East.
- Extends the authority to provide assistance to vetted Syrian groups, Iraqi Security Forces, and the Kurdish Peshmerga for countering the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).
- Expresses the committee's support for an extension of the Special Immigrant Visa program for Afghans.

Africa

- Directs an assessment of the current and anticipated U.S. force posture requirements and access agreements in the Sahel and West Africa.
- Directs a report on the U.S. national security interests in and related to Gabon, Niger, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, and Chad.

Western Hemisphere

- Requires a plan for training members of the U.S. Armed Forces jointly with the military forces of Mexico, including rotary-wing training.
- Authorizes DOD to train the national security forces of Costa Rica and Panama.
- Directs a study on the safety and security of the Panama Canal.



Southwest Border Security

- Authorizes an additional \$25 million for Joint Task Force North to bolster its mission countering transnational criminal organizations along the southwest border.
- Authorizes DOD to support civil authorities to detect, identify, and monitor uncrewed aircraft systems that cross the international land borders of the United States.
- Promotes information sharing among DOD personnel and other federal, state, and local authorities deployed to the southwest border.
- Requires DOD to prioritize requests for support at the southwest border that are timely and that define the required capabilities of support.
- Authorizes DOD to enter into services contracts in support of U.S. Customs and Border Protection tasked with securing the southwest border.
- Extends congressional oversight over southwest border security.

Counternarcotics

- Requires DOD to report on improvements to combatant command coordination and use of the Command and Control of the Information Environment capability to its counternarcotics and counter-transnational organized crime activities.
- Requires a study of the governance structure of the counternarcotics and counter-transnational organized crime activities of DOD.
- Requires DOD to conduct an assessment of types and sources of drugs causing drug overdoses on military installations.

International Security Cooperation

- Requires the establishment of a council to identify, evaluate, and coordinate research efforts relating to foreign economic competition activities intended to undermine the national security interests of the U.S. and its partners and allies.
- Authorizes an additional \$100 million for the INDOPACOM Joint Training Team.
- Creates the Expanded Competition Office to counter adversarial gray-zone economic competition activities.
- Requires DOD to convene private equity firms to discuss opportunities in the competition space and address adversarial predatory investment strategies.
- Requires a study on expanding the business intelligence activities of the Office of Commercial and Economic Analysis.



- Expands DOD authorities to strengthen ally and partner military capabilities and improve coalition interoperability.
- Authorizes DOD to accept, retain, and expend contributions, including money, personal property, and services, from foreign governments to carry out security cooperation activities in support of shared national security interests.
- Expands DOD authorities to build the capabilities of foreign security forces to include disaster risk reduction or response operations, space domain awareness and space operations, and foreign internal defense operations.
- Extends the authority to incorporate priorities of the Women, Peace, and Security Act into security cooperation activities with partner forces to promote and support the meaningful inclusion of women in security sectors.
- Authorizes DOD to provide non-lethal assistance in the form of medical training and equipment to allied and partner nation civilians to build international medical support capability and capacity.
- Authorizes increased funding to support research on foreign malign influence operations.
- Establishes a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Continuous Process Improvement Board to enhance accountability and continuous improvement within DOD.
- Requires DOD to submit a strategy for a cybersecurity cooperation pilot program in Latin America and the Caribbean.



Modernizing for the Future Battlefield

Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS)

Advancing Counter-UAS Technologies

- Requires the establishment of a counter-uncrewed aircraft system (c-UAS) task force to review guidance relating to c-UAS activities.
- Requires a strategy for countering drone technologies, referring drone offenses for investigation and prosecution, and assessing resources or authorities necessary for drone incursion response.
- Directs the Army, Navy, and Air Force to provide briefings on respective service plans for counter-UAS capabilities.
- Directs a report on all recommendations, findings, and results from DOD's counter-UAS Cross Functional Team, including efforts relating to airspace data feed accessibility.
- Authorizes increased funding for counter-UAS research and testing between the Army and university-based partners.
- Requires a full-scale counter-UAS exercise in DOD's special use airspace, and a briefing on the outcomes and lessons learned from the exercise.
- Directs a briefing on the acquisition of military grade UAS by foreign terrorist organizations.
- Requires the Army to certify at least one additional interceptor and production manufacturer for the M-LIDS/FS-LIDS counter-UAS system.
- Authorizes increased funding for various combatant commands' counter-UAS activities.
- Requires the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office to provide a liaison to the Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems Task Force to improve coordination in areas of shared responsibility.

Developing American UAS Capabilities

- Directs a report on the Army's current small UAS funding model and a proposal for the consolidation of funding lines to improve fiscal agility in the portfolio.
- Authorizes increased funding for the development of new and innovative design, manufacturing, and production techniques for low-cost attritable, uncrewed systems, as well as the development of distributed artificial intelligence fusion for such systems.
- Requires a strategy to develop a secure domestic and allied supply chain of critical components for small UAS.



Cutting-Edge Technologies

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Requires a pilot program to assess the use of AI-enabled software to optimize the workflow and operations for DOD depots, shipyards, manufacturing facilities, and contract administration services.
- Establishes a working group to develop and coordinate an AI initiative among U.S. allies and partners.
- Establishes a pilot program for the development of near-term use cases and demonstrations of AI for national security biotechnology applications.
- Expands the duties of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer Governing Council.
- Directs a review of DOD's management of AI-related issues.
- Requires a briefing on opportunities for the creation of lateral entry programs for the AI and machine learning (ML) fields within the military departments.
- Directs a briefing on the testing infrastructure and criteria currently used or needed to validate AI in military systems.
- Requires a plan to ensure that the budgeting process for programs containing AI includes cost estimates for the acquisition and sustainment of data required to train, maintain, or improve the AI.

Biodefense and Biotechnology

- Directs a biotechnology roadmap for the Department.
- Directs a plan for alternative approaches for biomedical modeling that complement or reduce reliance on non-human primates.
- Directs a briefing on a DOD-wide biosurveillance strategy.

Emerging Weapons and Technologies

- Directs a briefing on current and future capabilities to test directed energy systems.
- Designates DOD leadership with primary responsibility for collaboration with international partners on directed energy weapons.
- Directs a briefing on space-based sensing capabilities for detection, tracking, and fire control in hypersonic defense.
- Encourages investment in highly maneuverable, threat-representative hypersonic targets in order to develop U.S. defensive capabilities.
- Requires DARPA to establish a Quantum Scaling Initiative to rapidly expand and support the development of quantum computing capabilities for DOD.



- Authorizes DARPA to provide personnel to the military departments to support transition of technology from DARPA development to military department use, if requested by the Principal Technology Transition Advisor.

Cybersecurity

- Requires a report on cybersecurity cooperation activities with international partners and allies to mitigate cyber threats to undersea cables.
- Establishes a dedicated DOD cyber intelligence capability to support foundational, scientific, and all-source intelligence on cyber threat actors' operations and capabilities.
- Requires the DOD Cyber Crime Center to conduct cyber table top exercises with the defense industrial base, and to assess any gaps in capabilities or resources.
- Requires a strategy for the management and cybersecurity of the Joint Warfighting Cloud Capability and other multi-cloud environments.
- Requires the development of guidance for how the DOD 'zero trust' strategy applies to the Internet of Military Things hardware.
- Establishes an Artificial Intelligence Human Factors Integration Initiative to improve the human usability of AI systems.
- Makes permanent the authority for the Joint Federated Assurance Center.
- Directs DOD to issue guidance incorporating operational technology (OT) into the information assurance vulnerability management program.
- Requires an assessment of DOD's implementation of the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) 2.0.
- Limits the funding available for the Joint Warfighting Cyber Architecture (JCWA) until the Commander of U.S. CYBERCOM provides a plan to minimize work on the current JCWA architecture and create a baseline plan for a Next Generation JCWA.

Force Resiliency

- Requires the Army to provide options to establish secondary domestic production sources at existing arsenals, depots, and ammunition plants to address munition supply chain chokepoints.
- Requires a report on critical precursor chemicals supply chain vulnerabilities and steps to mitigate those vulnerabilities.
- Authorizes increased funding for:
 - The development of renewable electric vehicle charging stations.
 - The Environmental Security Technical Certification Program.



- The Glass Breakwater protecting Apra Harbor in Guam.
- The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration program.
- The Defense Operational Resilience International Cooperation program.
- Requires DOD to improve efforts to manage invasive species that exacerbate the risk of wildfires that can affect the health and safety of servicemembers, their families, and surrounding communities.
- Directs a briefing on the risks related to flooding and other natural disasters that threaten military installations and surrounding civilian infrastructure.
- Direct a briefing on DOD efforts to enhance military installation resilience through the scaling and adaptation of the DOD Climate Assessment Tool.

Warfighter Protection

- Directs a strategy for the fielding of active protection systems on Army ground combat vehicles.
- Directs the Army and Air Force to provide a report regarding ongoing efforts to improve safety at National Guard helicopter units.
- Directs DOD to review whether stockpiles of personnel lifesaving and essential field equipment are sufficient in the event of protracted conflict.
- Directs a DOD briefing on anomalous health incidents.
- Codifies existing DOD policy that compels the military services act to address any release or threatened release of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).
- Authorizes increased funding for:
 - Various military services' PFAS cleanup efforts.
 - The ongoing CDC assessment of human health impacts from PFAS.



Strengthening the Joint Force and Defense Workforce

Highlights

- Authorizes funding to support a 4.5 percent pay raise for military members and a 2 percent pay raise for Department of Defense civilian employees.
- Increases monthly basic pay for junior enlisted servicemembers in the grades of E-1 through E-3, in addition to the force-wide pay raise.
- Amends the Military Selective Service Act to require the registration of women for Selective Service.
- Authorizes an increase of \$80 million in Impact Aid (\$50.0 million for supplemental Impact Aid, and \$30.0 million for Impact Aid for military children with severe disabilities).
- Requires a comprehensive brain health and trauma demonstration program to provide coordinated, integrated, multi-specialist evaluations, treatment initiation, and aftercare coordination in a highly condensed model for members of the Armed Forces and their families.
- Directs a review of DOD research on traumatic brain injury, including injuries related to blast overpressure or blast exposure, and establishes DOD roles and responsibilities for the mitigation and treatment of traumatic brain injury.
- Requires a plan to ensure servicemembers' access to safe, high-quality pharmaceutical products and eliminate or mitigate risks in the pharmacy supply chain.
- Authorizes increased funding to support the re-establishment of the Troops-to-Teachers program.
- Authorizes a one-year extension of certain expiring bonus and special pays.
- Increases the maximum annual skill proficiency bonus to \$55,000.
- Increases the maximum accession bonus for the health professions scholarship and financial assistance program from \$20,000 to \$100,000.

End Strength and Force Structure

- Authorizes FY 2025 active-duty end strengths for the Army, 442,300; the Navy 332,300; the Marine Corps, 172,300; the Air Force, 320,000; and the Space Force, 9,800.



- Authorizes reserve component military end strengths in line with the President’s request, with certain exceptions.
- Requires the U.S. Air Force to transfer certain space functions of the Air National Guard to the U.S. Space Force. Such transfer shall not reduce the end strength for the affected state Air National Guard organizations.
- Authorizes increased funding to increase full time Active, Guard, and Reserve members within the Air National Guard.

Military Personnel Policy

- Authorizes servicemembers without dependents who live in military unaccompanied housing to be paid higher rates of the Partial Basic Allowance for Housing than the rates otherwise authorized.
- Authorizes servicemembers who are below the grade of E-6 without dependents who are assigned to sea duty to be paid a Basic Allowance for Housing.
- Authorizes free high-speed internet access and wireless network connections to be provided to servicemembers who reside in unaccompanied housing within the United States.
- Authorizes increased funding to repair and improve enlisted barracks across the services.
- Authorizes military officers to opt out of consideration for promotion, without penalty, due to long initial training pipelines.
- Authorizes promotion boards to recommend for promotion more than 95 percent of nurse officers eligible for promotion to major or lieutenant commander.
- Establishes the position of the Vice Chief of Space Operations, who will serve in the grade of general.
- Authorizes military officers to transfer from the Selected Reserve to the Inactive National Guard.
- Directs assessments of reserve component talent management and officer performance evaluations, including a review of the military services’ ability to provide timely, fair, and accurate evaluations for reserve component officers.
- Key Military Justice Amendments:
 - Amends the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) to expand the authority of special trial counsel to exercise jurisdiction over offenses that occurred prior to December 28, 2023, including the new punitive offense of sexual harassment.
 - Amends the UCMJ to require a determination that admissible evidence is sufficient to obtain and sustain a conviction before a charge can be referred for trial.



- Requires the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces (DACIPAD) to review how states investigate and prosecute allegations of sexual assault with a National Guard nexus.
- Extends the DACIPAD for an additional five years.
- Authorizes the military departments to provide payments to victims of designated offenses under the UCMJ for unreimbursed expenses directly related to the harm suffered as the result of being victimized, including health care expenses, travel expenses, and expenses for property damage or loss.
- Establishes a 10-year term limit for appellate civilian judges of the Court of Military Commission Review.
- Requires all newly commissioned officers of the Armed Forces to receive training on the Constitution, to include instruction on civilian control of the military.
- Establishes the Commission on Quality of Life for the All-Volunteer Armed Force to assess quality of life considerations for the military and civilian workforces.
- Directs a report on Air Force security forces personnel assignments so as to not isolate such personnel to specific duty locations, particularly intercontinental ballistic missile bases, in a manner that negatively impacts morale, career advancement, retention, or mission effectiveness.

Military and Dependent Education

- Codifies the maximum student-to-teacher ratios within Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) schools.
- Requires distance education programs used to satisfy Phase I or Phase II of Joint Professional Military Education requirements to include pathways for students to complete these programs in a fully remote status and without requiring any in-person attendance.
- Requires a briefing on the feasibility of offering non-degree pathways for some students at Professional Military Education schools to satisfy statutory and DOD-directed requirements for officer education.
- Reduces the minimum number of students required to establish a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) to 50 students, and provides certain waiver exceptions.
- Increases the minimum and maximum number of required JROTC units to 3,500 and 4,100, respectively.



Family Readiness and Community Support

- Directs a briefing on DOD processes for handling emergency and necessary childcare prioritization.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to redesign and modernize the child development program compensation and staffing models.

Military Health Care

- Authorizes TRICARE health providers to provide tele-mental health care services to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents without regard to the location of the provider or the patient.
- Authorizes DOD to reduce or waive cost-sharing amounts for prescriptions for family members enrolled in the TRICARE Remote Program.
- Commends the ongoing work of the Nutrition Committee and encourages the committee's important initiatives to be widely implemented.
- Directs a briefing on DOD's plan to share documentation with the Veterans Administration (VA) regarding personnel who were exposed to radioactive material during their career so these personnel can claim the VA benefits to which they are entitled.
- Directs a report on DOD's efforts to diagnose, treat, and measure traumatic brain injury (TBI) throughout members' service from the time of entry until transition to veteran status.
- Establishes the Defense Intrepid Network for Traumatic Brain Injury and Brain Health as a program of record in DOD.
- Requires DOD to provide travel and transportation allowances to servicemembers and their families to see a specialty health care provider in exceptional circumstances where such allowances are not otherwise authorized.
- Directs a briefing on establishing pregnancy as a qualifying life event for the purposes of TRICARE enrollment.

Defense Civilians

- Increases the maximum amount of voluntary separation incentive pay for DOD civilian employees from \$25,000 to \$40,000.
- Codifies the authority to hire military spouses into noncompetitive appointments in the civil service.



- Authorizes DOD to appoint a successful John S. McCain Strategic Defense Fellows Program participant into a vacant position in the competitive or excepted service.

DOD Organization and Management

- Directs DOD to institutionalize the "service secretary-like" role of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict through various updates to DOD processes, policies, and plans.
- Requires the development of a methodology for analyzing U.S. military force sizing necessary to conduct DOD activities in support of strategic competition.
- Directs DOD to address the size, structure, and posture priorities for special operations forces in the annual Defense Planning Guidance.
- Increases the authorized number of Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense from 60 to 62.
- Enhances synchronization of allied industrial base integration work by requiring additional coordination between the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International and Industry Engagement.

Accountability and Oversight

- Extends the annual report on civilian casualties in connection with U.S. military operations until December 31, 2030.
- Directs a report on the implementation of Department of Defense Instruction 3000.17 on Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response.
- Enhances protections for whistleblowers of DOD contractors by ensuring they are fully informed of the final disposition of their reprisal allegation, and what actions, if any, have been ordered to make them whole.
- Requires the Deputy Secretary of Defense to notify specific congressional committees when the Secretary is unable to perform the functions and duties of the Office of the Secretary of Defense.



Building American Combat Power

Sea Power

Naval Warfare

- Authorizes increased funding for procurement of surface vessels, undersea vessels, aircraft, and munitions.
- Fully supports Marine Corps Force Design modernization priorities.
- Authorizes an additional \$1.43 billion for a third DDG *Arleigh Burke*-class destroyer.
- Authorizes a block buy contract for up to 37 CH-53K airframes and a multiyear procurement contract for CH-53K engines.
- Requires the Navy to conduct a competitive demonstration of extra-large uncrewed underwater vehicles (UUV), including non-developmental items from commercial or foreign partner sources.
- Authorizes increased funding for the testing of additional autonomous surface and UUV dual-modality vehicles.
- Authorizes reduced funding for the E-2D Hawkeye aircraft as production line shutdown funding is unnecessary.
- Requires the full-scale testing of a minimum of two electric propulsion motor technologies for the DDG(X) program.
- Directs a Navy report examining options for producible manned small surface combatants and retrofitting existing vessels with missile launching capability.
- Authorizes increased funding for the Autonomous Low Profile Vessel.
- Encourages the Navy to fund annual sonobuoy procurement to no less than 95 percent of the total munitions requirement for sonobuoys.
- Directs a briefing on the Navy's plan to replace the self-defense test ship.
- Directs U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) to provide a briefing on strategic sealift recapitalization and procurement of used and new-build vessels for such purposes.
- Increases the number of used, foreign-built ships that may be acquired for the Ready Reserve Force.
- Authorizes \$252 million to support continued Navy development of the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile.



Shipbuilding and Industrial Base Matters

- Authorizes increased funding to enhance the submarine industrial base and to support the construction of a second *Virginia*-class submarine in FY 2025.
- Directs the Navy to work with submarine shipbuilders to establish a process by which they can bring new suppliers into the submarine industrial base more quickly.
- Fences fiscal year 2025 funds for *Constellation*-class frigate construction pending DOD certification relating to design completion.
- Encourages the Navy to use its authority, including authorization for economic order quantity, to support its ability to meet the statutory requirement for 31 amphibious warfare ships, achieve cost savings, and stabilize the industrial base.
- Prohibits lead ship construction for the Landing Ship Medium pending certification of design completion and authorizes the procurement or chartering of a minimally-modified commercial or non-developmental landing ship that meets core Marine Corps sealift and beach landing requirements.
- Clarifies the definition of basic and functional design, requires written determination that detail design will be completed for each block of a ship's construction before beginning construction of that block, and requires a report on the status of vendor- and government-furnished information.
- Requires an annual report analyzing suppliers of surface ship components, identifying at-risk component sources, and developing plans for supply base stabilization.
- Extends the termination date for the National Commission on the Future of the Navy.
- Directs a Navy plan to repair ship and submarine berths and piers, including the timeline and funding necessary to secure a more resilient source of energy.

Land Warfare

- Supports the Army's priority modernization efforts, to include long-range fires, future vertical lift, next-generation combat vehicles, and air and missile defense.
- Authorizes increased funding for procurement of enduring combat aircraft, armored fighting vehicles, munitions, long-range fires, and short-range fires.
- Directs a briefing on the feasibility of land-basing the contents of Army Prepositioned Stocks (APS-3) in a partner nation.
- Authorizes increased funding for the UH-72A Lakota lifecycle and directs a report on the Army's strategy for long-term life cycle sustainment and modernization of the Lakota fleet.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's plan to modernize the Apache fleet.
- Directs a briefing on efforts to ensure the Improved Turbine Engine Program (ITEP) meets timelines necessary to support enduring fleet modernization requirements.



- Directs a report assessing the establishment of formal affiliate relationships between units of the Army special operations forces and combat-enabling units of the Army general purpose forces.
- Requires a report assessing the feasibility of establishing an active-duty sustainment brigade in the Indo-Pacific.
- Authorizes increased funding to accelerate fielding of the Infantry Squad Vehicle.
- Directs a review of the Army Future Vertical Lift and network modernization efforts.
- Directs a briefing on Army efforts to train soldiers on contested logistics-related technical systems.
- Requires briefings on preliminary fielding plans for the Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA), efforts relating to foreign military sales, and any efforts to leverage the FLRAA for Special Operations Command, Air Force, and Marine Corps requirements.
- Directs a briefing on how the Army's recruiting goals and end strength requests are incorporated into Total Army Analysis.

Air Power

- Authorizes increased funding for procurement of combat aircraft and munitions.
- Approves the Air Force request to retire: 56 A-10s; 65 F-15C/Ds; and 11 F-16C/Ds.
- Disapproves the Air Force proposal to retire 26 F-15E and 32 F-22 aircraft.
- Requires the Air Force to maintain 16 E-3 aircraft until the E-3 can be replaced by E-7 Wedgetail aircraft, or until the retirement of the E-3 would create no lapse in Air Force capabilities.
- Directs a briefing on stratospheric balloon programs at the Air Force Research Lab (AFRL), including plans for integrating stratospheric balloon systems into normal military exercises.
- Requires an analysis of how the air superiority mission will be secured for the Joint Force in the 2030s and 2040s.
- Directs a plan for modernizing the strategic tanker fleet with the submission of the budget request for fiscal year 2026.
- Requires a plan and cost estimate for modernizing all 25 fighter aircraft squadrons in the Air National Guard.
- Directs the Air Force and Navy to jointly conduct a study on the future of the air superiority mission in the 2030s and 2040s.
- Requires an annual report on the Air Force tactical fighter force structure.
- Directs a report on the current status of Agile Combat Employment (ACE) in each of the geographic combatant command areas of responsibility.



- Authorizes increased funding to procure an additional 5 HH-60W Combat Rescue Helicopters.
- Authorizes reduced funding for:
 - The C-40 aircraft fleet expansion program.
 - The Survivable Airborne Operations Center (SOAC), due to contract delays.
 - The VC-25B, due to contract delays.
- Directs a plan for transferring divested Air Force UH-1N helicopters to the U.S. Army for use as a bridging solution for a long-term rotary wing replacement capability for Kwajalein Atoll.
- Directs a briefing on the requirements for, and implications of, returning between 5 to 10 long-range heavy bombers to alert status in the event that such an action should become necessary to meet operational requirements.

Military Construction

- Authorizes increased funding for military construction projects on the services' unfunded requirements list.
- Requires each military department to submit annually a prioritized list of military construction projects, including facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization projects, for each joint base.
- Establishes a temporary pilot program to optimize and consolidate Army facilities for resilient and healthy defense communities.
- Authorizes an additional \$12.5 billion, designated as emergency spending, for U.S. Navy and Air Force disaster recovery construction projects on Guam in response to Typhoon Mawar.
- Requires the military services to meet 4 percent of plant replacement value for facility maintenance by fiscal year 2029 to begin to buy down the \$180 billion backlog in deferred facility maintenance.



Improving Defense Acquisition and Industrial Base Policy

Acquisition Policy

- Removes an exemption of Special Access Programs from the definition of a major defense acquisition program, allowing them to be subject to the Nunn-McCurdy determination and analysis process.
- Streamlines the Milestone A and Milestone B approval processes for a major capability acquisition system to enter 1) the technology maturation and risk reduction phase, and 2) the engineering and manufacturing development phase in order to support the tailoring of the acquisition process.
- Strengthens middle tier of acquisition authority for rapid prototyping and rapid fielding and streamlines iterative deployment.
- Directs a report on the implementation of previous guidance relating to processes for modifying lists of items to be procured from National Technology and Industrial Base manufacturers.
- Directs DOD to publicly disclose a list of all textiles it uses that are not domestically produced and to establish a process for reviewing whether domestic sources could meet those needs.
- Creates a pilot program to expedite the qualification of alternative sources of key technologies for weapons such as energetics and solid rocket motors to increase the supplier base.
- Directs DOD to add strategic and critical materials derived from recycled or reused minerals or metals for to the sourcing preference list.
- Establishes a formal process for DOD to investigate and report on the national security implications of imports (e.g. steel, aluminum, titanium) when requested by another Federal agency.
- Directs the development of a solid rocket motor defense industry roadmap and strategy.
- Directs a report on the contribution of the defense industries of countries with Reciprocal Defense Agreements to the U.S. defense industrial base.
- Requires periodic examinations of research awards made to institutions of higher education in order to ensure compliance with current DOD research security policy.



- Establishes an advisory board to the Secretary of Defense to provide recommendations for improving the Department's requirements generation process.

Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution Reform

- Establishes a cross-functional team to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) Reform.
- Requires annual reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the PPBE Commission.
- Requires revision of the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R.
- Within the Defense Modernization Account, authorizes the procurement and integration of commercial technologies and services to satisfy the requirements of infrastructure projects that accelerate the fielding and adoption of new capabilities.

Commercial and Academic Partnerships

- Encourages DOD to expand the Defense Civilian Training Corps program, and to explore opportunities in emerging technical and acquisition fields such as advanced manufacturing, AI, and intellectual property rights.
- Authorizes increased funding for the Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.
- Extends a pilot program to raise the threshold for certified cost or pricing data for small businesses and non-traditional contractors and adds multiyear procurements and block buy contracts to the pilot program.
- Increases approval thresholds for other transaction authorities (OTAs).
- Creates a pilot program to track the number and amounts awarded to small businesses and non-traditional defense contractors through the use of OTAs, including those carried out through consortia in order to better understand the industrial base implications of using OTAs.
- Establishes a small business bill of rights to ensure small business customer service issues and conflicts are resolved in an expeditious manner at the lowest level possible within DOD.
- Makes permanent the authority for the Office of Strategic Capital to provide capital assistance, as well as make technical changes that eliminate the non-federal funding requirement and the list of specific technologies to focus investment.



- Directs DOD and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) to develop a strategy for developing a skilled manufacturing and high-demand vocational trade workforce to support the expansion of the national technology, industrial base, and nuclear security enterprise.



Strategic Deterrence and Homeland Defense

Nuclear Modernization and Strategic Defense

- Establishes a new senior Pentagon position to coordinate and oversee nuclear deterrence policies and programs.
- Directs a review of DOD implementation of the 2022 Nuclear Posture Review, including overall risk management and progress on meeting requirements to address long-term threats.
- Requires an assessment by DOD and the Department of Energy (DOE) of the recommendations on the final report of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States.
- Requires a DOD plan for deterring and defeating simultaneous aggression by two near-peer nuclear competitors, including requirements for nuclear force sizing.
- Establishes a program element and program office for the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile.
- Authorizes modification or development of the B61-13 gravity bomb and a variation of the W80 weapon for the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile.
- Directs the restoration of nuclear capabilities across the entire B-52 strategic bomber fleet.
- Requires no fewer than 400 responsive, on-alert U.S. intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) to be deployed, except for activities related to maintenance, sustainment, and replacement, or activities to ensure safety, security, or reliability.
- Requires a plan for acquiring and deploying up to 450 Sentinel ICBMs.
- Directs a briefing on the establishment of a National Land-Based Deterrence Fund, including the cost elements of the Sentinel ICBM weapon system.
- Directs an annual review of the Survivable Airborne Operations Center (SAOC) program, including cost, schedule, and technical readiness levels for on-board mission systems.
- Directs a report on cooperation between the Air Force and the Army Corps of Engineers to recapitalize the existing Minuteman III ICBM infrastructure.
- Authorizes increased funding to support demonstration of the network security sensor and collaboration hub operated by U.S. Strategic Command's Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications Enterprise Center.
- Authorizes increased funding to support design and manufacturing of an advanced modular solid rocket motor.



- Authorizes increased funding to support modernization of the Perimeter Acquisition Radar Attack Characterization System.
- Authorizes increased funding to support development of advanced reactive target simulation.
- Requires a report detailing the defense critical assets in the United States that would likely be targeted for kinetic or non-kinetic attacks in a major conflict with an adversary, and resources necessary to address such a threat.

Space Defense Activities

- Authorizes DOD to identify poor-performing contractors and require approval for additional contracts.
- Authorizes the designation of a Program Executive Office for space-based air and ground moving target indication.
- Directs a review of DOD efforts to acquire new moving target indicator capabilities and related programs.
- Authorizes the establishment of a Commercial Augmentation Space Reserve Fleet and requires a report on commercial insurance for DOD space support services.
- Requires DOD to designate a Program Executive Officer for Space Command, Control, and Integration to acquire a system to support a combined operations center at the National Space Defense Center.

Missile Defense

- Requires the development of a national integrated air and missile defense architecture.
- Authorizes procurement of the Iron Dome short-range rocket defense system, David's Sling Weapon System, and Arrow 3 Upper Tier Interceptor Program.

Electronic Warfare and Spectrum Security

- Requires a 5-year plan for advancing DOD interests with regard to electromagnetic spectrum security in international engagements or forums.
- Requires a demonstration and assessment of the viability of using wideband adaptive signal processing technology to support simultaneous transmission and reception signals on the same electromagnetic spectrum frequency band.



Test Ranges and Strategic Facilities

- Requires an assessment of the feasibility of designating the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site and U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll as facilities and resources comprising the Major Range and Test Facility.
- Directs a briefing on threats to nuclear deterrence capabilities from foreign owned or sourced communications equipment at nuclear facilities.

Nonproliferation Efforts

- Authorizes \$350.1 million for the DOD Cooperative Threat Reduction program.

Department of Energy

National Security Programs and Authorizations

- Authorizes \$25 billion for the activities of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).
- Authorizes \$7 billion for the Department of Energy's (DOE) defense environmental cleanup activities.
- Authorizes \$1.1 billion for the DOE's other defense activities.
- Authorizes \$150 million for the DOE's nuclear energy activities.
- Directs a report on NNSA construction project costs and schedule performance.
- Directs a report on the NNSA's integration of nuclear modernization programs and projects.

Modernization Activities

- Requires DOE to identify and assess the viability of two to four possible locations for a modular, scalable uranium enrichment facility, beginning no later than 2027.
- Authorizes \$70 million for the W80-X ALT-SLCM to support development of a warhead for the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile.
- Authorizes increased funding to support U.S. nuclear stockpile research, technology, and engineering.
- Directs a briefing on cost, schedule, and associated justification for the complete construction of the Tritium Finishing Facility at the Savannah River Site for nuclear stockpile maintenance.
- Directs a briefing on outstanding issues regarding the remediation and conveyance of land at Los Alamos National Laboratory.



- Directs a briefing on strategies for National Nuclear Security Administration sites across the Nuclear Security Enterprise to expand their use of satellite facilities

Environmental Management and Safety

- Authorizes \$47.2 million for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.