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UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
**ARMED SERVICES**

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**Fiscal Year 2024**

**NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AUTHORIZATION ACT**

**Executive Summary**

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**U.S. Senator Jack Reed, Chairman**

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

**June 2023**



## 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 22, 2023, the Senate Armed Services Committee voted 24-1 to advance the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 to the Senate floor.

The United States faces a dangerous and growing set of national security challenges. Most urgently, the People’s Republic of China has emerged as America’s primary competitor, as the only nation with both the intent and the capability to mount a sustained challenge to the United States’ security and economic interests. Additionally, Russia has shown itself to be a violent and destabilizing force, and Iran and North Korea continue to push the boundaries of military brinkmanship. To deter and overcome these threats, the United States military must have the resources, training, equipment, and capabilities it needs to keep the Nation safe. Most importantly, Congress has a fundamental duty to take care of America’s men and women in uniform, their families, as well as the civilian workforce. The passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 is an important step toward achieving these goals.

## FY 2024 DEFENSE FUNDING LEVELS

The 63<sup>rd</sup> annual NDAA supports a total of \$886.3 billion in fiscal year 2024 funding for national defense. Within this topline, the legislation authorizes \$844.3 billion for the Department of Defense (DOD) and \$32.4 billion for national security programs within the Department of Energy (DOE).

<b>FY24 Defense Funding Levels (in billions of dollars)</b>	
Department of Defense	\$ 844.3
Department of Energy	\$ 32.4
NDAA Topline	\$ 876.8
Defense-related Activities Outside NDAA Jurisdiction	\$ 9.5
<b>National Defense Topline</b>	<b>\$ 886.3</b>

\*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. Supports the objectives of the National Defense Strategy, including defending the U.S. homeland; deterring adversaries; prevailing in long-term strategic competition; and building a resilient Joint Force.
  - Authorizes the full budget request for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative (PDI) and the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI).
  - Establishes the Indo-Pacific Campaigning Initiative in order to facilitate INDOPACOM's campaigning activities in the region, including increased frequency and scale of exercises, freedom of navigation operations, and partner engagements.
  - Establishes a comprehensive training, advising, and institutional capacity-building program for the military forces of Taiwan.
  - Supports DOD activities relating to the security partnership among Australia, United Kingdom, and the United States, known as AUKUS.
  - Authorizes the full budget request for fiscal year 2024 and extends the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI) through fiscal year 2027.
  - Extends waivers for the streamlined acquisition of defense stocks related to Ukraine and authorizes additional munitions eligible for multiyear procurement contracts.
  - Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives to respond to evolving threats, including:
    - Research on foreign malign influence operations,
    - The Joint All-Domain Command and Control (JADC2) program,
    - Counter-unmanned aircraft systems technology research and development.
  - Supports the use of multiyear contracting authority as a tool to improve industrial base stability.
  - Improves the process of foreign acquisition of U.S. defense articles through: (1) A pilot program for combatant commands to hire acquisition specialists as advisors; (2) A foreign acquisition industry day; (3) A DOD senior-level industry advisory group; (4) Establishing DOD points of contact for Foreign Military Sales; and (5) Establishing combatant command needs for exportability.
2. Strengthens the all-volunteer force and improves the quality of life of the men and women of the total force (Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserves), their families, and DOD civilian personnel.
  - Provides for a 5.2 percent pay raise for both military servicemembers and the DOD civilian workforce.



- Authorizes improvements to the quality and oversight of military enlisted barracks, including the replacement of substandard barracks and requiring that enlisted housing meets the same basic standards as all other military housing.
  - Authorizes increased funding for the military services' recruiting and advertising activities.
  - Modifies and improves the calculation of basic allowance for housing (BAH) rates with respect to junior enlisted members.
  - Initiates a community college Enlisted Training Corps demonstration program for the military services to recruit high-quality talent into the Armed Forces.
3. Provides the United States military services and combatant commanders with the resources needed to carry out the National Defense Strategy and out-compete, deter, and, if necessary, prevail against near-peer adversaries.
- Supports requested funding for procurement of naval vessels, combat aircraft, armored vehicles, weapon systems, and munitions.
  - Authorizes the Navy to enter into one or more contracts for the multiyear procurement of the next block of 10 *Virginia*-class submarines.
  - Reduces the minimum number of Navy carrier air wings required to be maintained to 9.
  - Authorizes \$1.9 billion to fully fund LPD-33, a *San Antonio*-class amphibious transport dock ship.
  - Authorizes funding to provide for an additional APL-67 berthing barge.
  - Reduces the total number of fighter aircraft the Air Force is required to maintain from 1,145 to 1,112, and allows the Air Force to retire 42 A-10 aircraft in fiscal year 2024.
  - Authorizes increased funding for cutting-edge technologies to improve warfighter lethality and survivability, including night vision enhancements, multi-spectral camouflage development, and Black Hawk, Apache, and Chinook helicopter performance improvements.
  - Establishes and fully funds a joint DOD-NNSA program to develop a nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile to address China's nuclear breakout and Russia's continued aggression.
  - Authorizes increased funding for the LGM-35A Sentinel program, the Fleet Ballistic Missile Strategic Weapon System, and the Hypersonic Targets and Countermeasures Program.

\*Any funding increases or decreases referenced in this summary are in relation to the President's defense budget request for fiscal year 2024.



## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION BY SUBCOMMITTEE**

### **SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND**

Under the leadership of Chair Mark Kelly (D-AZ) and Ranking Member Tom Cotton (R-AR), the Airland subcommittee continues to accelerate modernization of the Army and Air Force by focusing investment in research and development of future capabilities. The subcommittee also ensures the military services are appropriately focused on modernizing their enduring capabilities and improving processes to ensure optimal investments.

#### **Advancing Air Power**

- Supports requested funding for procurement of combat aircraft and munitions.
- Eases current restrictions on retiring A-10 aircraft to allow the Air Force to retire 42 A-10 aircraft in fiscal year 2024.
- Reduces the total number of fighter aircraft the Air Force is required to maintain from 1,145 to 1,112.
- Prohibits the Air Force from divesting any RQ-4 Block 40 aircraft.
- Directs a briefing on the Air Force's plans to use equipment harvested from retiring aircraft to upgrade F-16s designated to remain in service.
- Directs briefings on the Air Force's collaborative combat aircraft (CCA) activities, including progress in acquiring and operating test aircraft, conducting analysis of CCA mission effectiveness, and assessing tradeoffs between manned and unmanned systems.
- Requires a briefing on the military services' approach to providing self-protection capability to aviation forces.
- Requires a plan for modernizing the Air Force fighter force structure.

#### **Strengthening Land Warfare Capabilities**

- Supports the Army's priority modernization efforts, to include long-range fires, future vertical lift, next-generation combat vehicles, and air and missile defense.
- Supports requested funding for procurement of enduring combat aircraft, armored fighting vehicles, munitions, long-range fires, and short-range fires.
- Requires the Army to update its Tactical Wheeled Vehicle strategy every five years in order to provide a more consistent and holistic review of this family of vehicles while also providing a requirements signal to the industrial base.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's small arms modernization efforts and an assessment of the maturity of improved 5.56mm ammunition.



- Requires the Army to coordinate with the Navy on the Army's developmental heavy watercraft and to provide a report on current watercraft shortfalls and modernization plans.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's Black Hawk modernization activities, including requested funding for Black Hawk modernization and a program acquisition strategy.
- Supports the Army's continued leverage of dual-use, innovative commercial technology for the Robotic Combat Vehicle program and encourages the Army and other military services to consider a similar framework for future autonomous ground vehicles.
- Directs a review and assessment of Army air and missile defense modernization activities.

#### **Countering Evolving Threats**

- Directs a briefing on the current ability of the joint force to conduct contested logistics in the Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM) area of responsibility, as well as DOD's efforts to improve contested logistics capabilities and capacity.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's joint counter-small unmanned aerial systems (C-sUAS) efforts, including a plan for rapidly acquiring and integrating these capabilities into the joint force.
- Requires a review of Army air and missile defense modernization efforts and plans.
- Authorizes increased funding for 5G interference mitigation technologies for critical navigation and sensor systems on the Presidential Aircraft Fleet.
- Directs a briefing to assess the potential need for the expansion of threat environment training through multi-domain operations training ranges.
- Directs a briefing on DOD progress toward establishing an air and missile defense architecture for the Middle East to counter threats from Iran and Iranian-linked groups.
- Requires the Air Force to make accommodations to prioritize training Israelis on the KC-46.
- Supports cooperation with Israel to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

#### **Enhancing Advanced Munitions**

- Directs an assessment of the Precision Strike Missile (PrSM) program's industrial base capacity, including options for accelerating PrSM munitions production and a plan to reach annual procurement of 400 PrSM munitions.
- Supports the Army's continued development of the Extended Range Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) and encourages the service to examine all cost reduction measures, including qualification of a second solid rocket motor source.



- Directs a review and assessment of the Army's long-range fires modernization efforts and plans.
- Supports the Army's continued development of novel printed electronics, energetics, materials, and sensors for munition systems.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's ongoing efforts to develop 40mm programmable airburst munitions.
- Requires a waiver for procuring energetic materials from any company or entity located in China beginning in 2029.

### **Modernizing Warfighter Technologies**

- Requires an Army night vision device acquisition strategy that assesses the appropriate mix, fielding plan, and modernization requirements of its full range of night vision capabilities.
- Directs a briefing on technologies the Army is exploring to reduce soldier load and increase overall soldier effectiveness, lethality, and survivability.
- Authorizes increased funding for a number of cutting-edge technologies to improve warfighter lethality and survivability, including:
  - Enhanced Night Vision Goggle - Binocular enhancements,
  - Multi-spectral Ultra-Lightweight Camouflage Net System (ULCANS) development,
  - Black Hawk commonality and interoperability improvements,
  - Chinook and Apache mission performance capabilities.
- Authorizes increased funding for and directs a briefing on the Army's Pathfinder-Airborne program, which promotes soldier-led, "bottom-up" innovation.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's Degraded Visual Environment Pilotage System (DVEPS), including plans to incorporate DVEPS into the helicopter fleet.
- Directs the establishment of a unified datalink strategy to facilitate the rapid exchange of information between weapon and sensor systems – a vital component of future warfare.
- Directs a briefing on the Army's Command Post Computing Environment, including how the service is instilling lessons learned from subordinate command experimentation as well as assessing the scalability of commercial off-the-shelf capabilities.
- Supports the transition of High Energy Laser capabilities to the Army weapon acquisition system and encourages accelerated delivery for operational use.
- Directs a report on the Army prepositioned stock (APS) program to determine lessons learned from recent operations in Europe and efforts underway to improve the APS program.



**Strengthening Homeland Defense**

- Requires a study on the use of tactical fighter aircraft and bomber aircraft for deployments and homeland defense missions.
- Directs a review of the North American Aerospace Defense Command's (NORAD) aerospace warning and control mission and procedures.
- Extends the authorization for protection of certain facilities and assets from unmanned aircraft.





## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY**

Under the leadership of Chair Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Ranking Member Mike Rounds (R-SD), the subcommittee continues its efforts to strengthen and support the cybersecurity posture of the DOD and the defense industrial base. The subcommittee emphasizes the need for the DOD to adopt innovative and modern cybersecurity strategies, tools, and technologies. Recognizing the critical role of trained and equipped cyber personnel, the subcommittee also requires the DOD to address readiness challenges and ensure it is ready to meet future operational cyber force requirements.

### **Responding to the Cyber Threat Environment**

- Requires the development of a regional cybersecurity strategy to support the operations of each geographic combatant command.
- Requires the establishment of a dedicated cyber intelligence capability to support the entire joint force for information sharing on cyber threat actors' technology developments, capabilities, operations, and intentions.
- Directs the development of artificial intelligence and machine learning tools to better employ narrative intelligence technology in order to monitor and assess information campaigns by delivering comprehensive analysis of narrative themes, language and information patterns, and disinformation networks.
- Requires the tracking of results of sharing cyber capabilities and related information with foreign operational partners.
- Requires a modernization program for network boundary and cross-domain defense against cyber attacks.
- Supports sustained funding for the Air Force's Cyber Operations for Base Resilient Architecture (COBRA) pilot program in the INDOPACOM area of responsibility, and recognizes the potential for service-wide use of COBRA.
- Directs a briefing on DOD's progress toward discovery of all uses of vulnerable cryptography in classified and high impact systems, including a timeline for the transition and implementation of Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) and a strategy to incorporate cryptographic agility in response to the continuing development of quantum computers.

### **Strengthening DOD's Cybersecurity Posture**

- Requires the establishment of a cross-functional team to implement security enhancements for the nuclear command, control, and communications network.



- Directs a briefing on the Thunderdome Zero Trust Architecture implementation plan, including a summary, lessons learned, and plans to expand the Thunderdome prototype project.
- Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives and technologies, including:
  - Internet gateway cyber defense activities,
  - The NATO Locked Shields Exercise – an international critical infrastructure protection exercise,
  - Analysis of future cyber threats to the domestic semiconductor industry and exploration of the policy and technical means needed to mitigate those threats,
  - Military cyber cooperation activities with the Kingdom of Jordan.
- Requires a briefing on DOD’s plans to fully deploy the internet operations management (IOM) program.
- Requires a plan to modernize DOD’s cyber red teams, establish joint service standards, and expand partnerships to increase the cyber talent workforce.
- Directs DOD to support institutions of higher education on cyber workforce education and development efforts in the fields of cybersecurity, intelligence, data science, information security management, and quantum information science.
  - Further directs the services to partner with universities to increase learning opportunities for DOD personnel awaiting assignment by providing hands-on cyber operations experience, training opportunities, and access to courses to assist transition into the DOD cyber field.
- Directs a briefing on the National Security Agency Cyber Collaboration pilot program, including an analysis of the program’s effectiveness and a plan to expand coverage for up to 10,000 defense industrial base entities.
- Requires DOD-wide guidance regarding methods and processes to secure the laboratories of the Armed Forces.
- Requires a Department-wide strategy regarding cyber protection activities for the DOD space enterprise.
- Directs a mission assurance program to acquire and maintain all-domain awareness of threats posed to defense critical infrastructure.
- Directs an independent assessment of creating a Cyber Force or further evolving the existing force development and management model.
- Requires a prize competition to evaluate technology, including applications, tools, and models, for the detection and watermarking of generative artificial intelligence (AI).



## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES**

Under the leadership of Chair Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Ranking Member Joni Ernst (R-IA), the subcommittee advances many important priorities, including supporting the development of new capabilities necessary for long-term strategic competition with China and Russia, enabling security cooperation with foreign partners, and providing resources for special operations forces.

### **Strengthening U.S. Posture in the Indo-Pacific Region**

- Authorizes the full budget request for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative (PDI) and extends PDI through fiscal year 2024.
- Establishes the Indo-Pacific Campaigning Initiative in order to facilitate INDOPACOM's campaigning activities in the region, including increased frequency and scale of exercises, freedom of navigation operations, and partner engagements.
- Establishes a comprehensive training, advising, and institutional capacity-building program for the military forces of Taiwan.
- Requires engagement with appropriate officials of Taiwan for the purpose of expanding cooperation on military cybersecurity activities.
- Directs a plan for enhancing security cooperation with Japan, including analyzing the feasibility and advisability of modifying U.S. command structures in Japan.
- Establishes the "Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness Initiative" – a defense initiative with allies and partners of the United States, including Australia, Japan, and India.
- Ensures that India is appropriately considered for security cooperation benefits consistent with the status of India as a major defense partner of the United States.
- Directs the designation of a senior Department of Defense civilian official to be responsible for overseeing DOD activities relating to the security partnership among Australia, United Kingdom, and the United States, known as AUKUS, and the development of an AUKUS implementation plan.
- Extends the cyber cooperation program with Vietnam, Thailand, and Indonesia and expands the program to include foreign military partners in the Philippines and Malaysia.
- Directs a strategy for improving the posture of U.S. ground-based theater-range missile capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.



- Directs a report and notification related to the transfer of operational control on the Korean Peninsula.

#### **Bolstering Support for Ukraine and NATO**

- Authorizes the full fiscal year 2024 budget request for the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI).
- Extends the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI) through fiscal year 2027 and authorizes the full budget request of \$300 million in fiscal year 2024.
- Expresses the sense of the Senate that the United States' commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is ironclad and emphasizes the importance of maintaining a unified response to the Russian Federation's unjust war in Ukraine.
- Requires a report on the execution of, and any updates to, the multi-year strategy for security cooperation with the nations of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, in light of the changes to the European security environment.
- Authorizes the Department of Defense to provide funding for the NATO Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic joint research and development initiative.

#### **Responding to Evolving Threats**

- Directs an assessment of the benefits that Iran may be garnering by assisting Russia in waging war on Ukraine.
- Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives, including:
  - Research on foreign malign influence operations,
  - Counter-unmanned aircraft systems technology research and development,
  - Enhancing the Department of Defense's understanding of the performance of loitering munition systems,
  - The activities of the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO).
- Requires a report on the Department of Defense's roles and responsibilities in support of the National Strategy for the Arctic Region.
- Clarifies the mandate of the Department of Defense's Anomalous Health Incidents Cross-Functional Team to include efforts related to emerging directed energy capabilities.
- Requires an independent assessment of the lessons learned in the information operations space throughout the conflict in Ukraine in order to inform and improve U.S. information operations capabilities in the future.

#### **Investing in Cutting-Edge Technologies**

- Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives, including:



- The Joint All-Domain Command and Control (JADC2) operational experimentation testbed,
- A distributed quantum networking testbed,
- Development of a next-generation ion trap quantum computer at the Air Force Research Laboratory,
- Accelerated development of semiautonomous adversary air platform systems,
- Expansion of the National Security Innovation Network's activities,
- A polar proving ground and training program,
- Development of fuel cell electric vehicles,
- Research and development of the use of hydrogen as a fuel source,
- High-performance computing modernization,
- Research and development of intelligent autonomous systems for seabed warfare,
- Development of a next-generation unmanned aerial system distribution platform,
- Development of a Next-Generation Blue Force Tracker,
- Improvements at the Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center.
- Requires a report on the feasibility of establishing a quantum computing innovation center within the Department of Defense.
- Requires a demonstration of a joint multi-domain non-kinetic testing and training environment across military departments by interconnecting existing ranges and training sites in the Western states.
- Directs a briefing on the National Network for Microelectronics Research and Development.
- Directs an assessment of the activities and organization of the Defense Innovation Unit.
- Establishes a pilot program to help accelerate the scaling, production, and acquisition of advanced capabilities for national security by creating incentives for investment in domestic small businesses or nontraditional businesses.

#### **Enhancing DOD Operations and Warfighter Capabilities**

- Fully authorizes the budget request for U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM), including a realignment of approximately \$55 million to address unfunded requirements identified by the SOCOM Commander and other emergent requirements.
- Requires the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide regular updates on the implementation of the Joint Concept for Competing.
- Improves the ability of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to attract and more rapidly hire new types of program managers.
- Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives, including:



- The Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research,
  - Improved civics education through the National Defense Education Program.
- Requires the establishment of a program to develop and continuously update the standards, commercial best practices, and requirements for the design, manufacture, packaging, test, and distribution of microelectronics acquired by the Department of Defense.
- Encourages examination of the possible future uses of technology for identifying biomarkers that can be used to help diagnose post-traumatic stress disorder, in parallel with its development.
- Establishes a Joint Energetics Transition Office.
- Authorizes the appointment of two Principal Deputy Assistant Secretaries to support the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict.
- Establishes a pilot program to conduct assessments, support industrial base decision-making, and provide mitigation measures to counter adversarial capital flows into domestic and allied industrial entities intended to undermine or deny United States access to key industrial capabilities or access and placement needed to support national security and military functions.
- Removes waiver for Department of Defense to provide funding to universities which host Confucius Institutes.

#### **Reinforcing International Alliances and Partnerships**

- Urges the U.S. interagency to develop a plan to protect maritime boundaries and marine resources of partner nations in regions impacted by incursions of Chinese distant water fishing fleets into their exclusive economic zones.
- Authorizes DOD to provide a friendly foreign government's military personnel with persistent advanced networked training and exercise activities and to provide information technology to support those activities.
- Expands the list of countries authorized to receive support for their armed forces for border security operations to Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan.
- Extends the authority to continue cooperation with Israel to improve anti-tunneling technologies.
- Directs a briefing on the role and impact of cartel and transnational organized crime on the security of the United States and the broader region.
- Requires a Department of Defense strategy to counter fentanyl trafficking and reporting on efforts to enhance security cooperation with Mexico to counter transnational criminal organizations.



- Requires a plan to counter human trafficking operations, including human trafficking by transnational criminal organizations, in coordination with interagency and North and South American defense partners.
- Requires the Department of Defense to reutilize, transfer, or donate any border wall construction materials that the Department is currently paying to store at various sites across the Southwest.
- Directs a strategy for improved maritime domain awareness and interdiction capabilities to counter seaborne threats in the Middle East.
- Requires a strategy for improved regional cybersecurity cooperation between the United States and Middle Eastern allies and partners.
- Authorizes DOD to enter into international agreements to direct the acquisition of defense items under DOD's "Section 333" capacity building program.
- Authorizes greater DOD collaboration with the Armed Forces of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom to participate in interoperability programs.



## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL**

Under the leadership of Chair Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Ranking Member Rick Scott (R-FL), the subcommittee advances numerous initiatives to strengthen the all-volunteer force and improve the quality of life of the men and women of the armed forces, their families, and the DOD civilian workforce.

### **Highlights**

- Provides for a 5.2 percent pay raise for both military servicemembers and the Department of Defense civilian workforce.
- Authorizes an increase of \$80.0 million in Impact Aid (\$50.0 million for supplemental Impact Aid, and \$30.0 million for Impact Aid for military children with severe disabilities).
- Modifies the calculation of basic allowance for housing (BAH) rates with respect to junior enlisted members by delinking that calculation from specific housing types and provides additional flexibility to ensure equitable housing rates can be calculated in markets with limited housing inventory.
- Authorizes training and support to Ukraine for the treatment of individuals with extremity trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, amputations, traumatic brain injuries, and any conditions associated with traumatic brain injuries.
- Authorizes reserve component members without dependents who would normally have to permanently change station for attendance at a school for a duration between 140 and 365 days to be paid basic allowance for housing at both the location of the school as well as their permanent residence if they are returning to that residence after completion of the training.
- Requires members of the reserve component to receive special and incentive pay in the same monthly amount that is paid to a member in the regular component when such pay is made for the purpose of maintaining a skill certification or proficiency identical to those required in the regular component, or when such pay is made to compensate reserve component members for exposure to hazards or risks identical to those that regular component members are exposed.

### **End Strength**

- Authorizes fiscal year 2024 active-duty end strengths for the Army, 452,000; the Navy, 342,000; the Air Force, 320,000; the Marine Corps, 172,300; and the Space Force, 9,400.
- Authorizes reserve component military end strengths in line with the President's request, with certain exceptions.





- Increases the percentage by which the Secretary of Defense and Secretaries of the Military Departments can vary certain authorized end strengths.
- Reduces authorized funding for multiple services' personnel authorizations to reflect reductions in certain active-duty and reserve components' end strength levels.
- Authorizes increased funding for Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard Operations and Maintenance to reflect increased military technician (dual status) end strengths.
- Authorizes increased funding in the military service Operations and Maintenance accounts for the establishment of the Enlisted Training Corps.

### **Military Personnel Policy**

- Directs DOD to pay reserve component pilots sufficient compensation to cover all inactive-duty training periods per month necessary for the pilots to obtain or maintain an aeronautical rating or designation.
- Reduces the threshold used to determine high cost-of-living areas for the purpose of providing a cost-of-living allowance to servicemembers assigned to locations in the continental United States.
- Requires a review of military pay rates and the submission of a legislative proposal for a comprehensive military pay table reauthorization.
- Authorizes alternative promotion authority for reserve officers in designated competitive categories, similar to the alternative promotion authority for active-duty officers.
- Limits the number of recruits who score between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> percentile of the Armed Forces Qualification Test to fill not more than 4 percent of the total number of recruits who enlist in a fiscal year.
  - Authorizes this limitation to increase to 20 percent of the total number of new recruits upon the request of the Secretary of the military department concerned.
  - Requires the Secretary of a military department to establish a future servicemember preparatory course if, during a fiscal year within their service, the number of enlisted recruits who score lower than a 31 on the Armed Services Qualification Test exceeds 10 percent of the total number of recruits.
- Expresses support for the Army's Command Assessment Program and encourages the other military services to implement similar programs.
- Authorizes licensed mental health professionals contracted or employed by the Department of Defense to provide non-medical counseling services to qualifying populations without regard for their geographic location.
- Prohibits the adjustment of a cost-of-living allowance (COLA) for servicemembers living outside the continental United States (OCONUS) more than twice per year or in connection with a permanent change of station for such member.



- Authorizes the establishment of active-duty service commitments for certain members of the Armed Forces who accept fellowships, scholarships, and grants.
- Makes technical amendments to sections 628a and 14502a of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit the appointment or nomination of certain officers subject to special selection review boards convened under those sections.
- Authorizes the transfer of the promotion selection of an active-duty regular officer or warrant officer to a reserve component and the integration of the officer into the corresponding reserve component promotion list based upon the officer's date of rank in their current grade.
- Authorizes members of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve who are on active duty to serve as members of the Air Force Reserve Policy Committee.
- Increases the maximum number of Navy spot promotions to the grade of lieutenant commander from 325 to 425.
- Makes permanent the authority to order retired members to Active Duty on a voluntary basis for a duty assignment intended to alleviate a high-demand, low-density military capability.
- Limits delegation of emolument waivers to an Assistant Secretary of a military department or higher official.
- Directs a review of military discharge review boards' implementation of "liberal consideration" when reviewing discharge applications that are based on PTSD and related conditions.
- Directs the Comptroller General of the United States to review the training of military criminal investigators.
- Restores the Army's Physical Fitness Test (APFT) as the test of record and requires a 24-month pilot program, briefing to Congress, and a one year waiting period before a new standard can be implemented.
- Requires oversight regarding the pay and hiring of civilian employees in diversity, equity, and inclusion roles.

### **Military Education**

- Initiates a community college Enlisted Training Corps demonstration program for the military services to establish a pre-enlistment scholarship program at community or junior colleges for the purposes of recruiting high-quality talent into the Armed Forces.
- Requires a briefing on Military Service Academy recruiting initiatives to increase diversity among the officer corps of the Armed Forces, including efforts undertaken by Diversity and Recruitment Officers of each of the military service academies to recruit in Title I high schools.



- Requires a briefing on the management and recruiting value of service academy athletes playing professional sports and seeks DOD legislative input on Congressional intent that Military Service Academy graduates serve two years of active-duty service prior to pursuing professional athlete careers.
- Authorizes the development of a standardized instructor pay scale for Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) instructors and clarifies the authority of the Secretary concerned to employ reserve component members as JROTC instructors.
- Requires the establishment and support of not less than 3,400, and not more than 4,000, units of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.
- Directs a review of JROTC instructor recruitment and retention and a review of outside funding sources for JROTC programs.
- Requires annual reports on allegations of sexual misconduct against certified JROTC instructors and a report on efforts to increase transparency on reporting on sexual violence in the JROTC program.
- Requires that service academies require the submission and consideration of standardized test scores as part of the application process.

#### **Family Readiness and Community Support**

- Expands servicemember eligibility to receive reimbursement for qualified spouse relicensing or business costs when the servicemember transfers from a regular component to the Selected Reserve or Ready Reserve of a uniformed service.
- Requires each Department of Defense installation that has an Indian Tribe, Native Hawaiian organization, or Tribal interests in the area surrounding the installation to have a dedicated Tribal or Native Hawaiian liaison located at the installation.
- Requires a pilot program to assess the effectiveness of increasing compensation for employees of Department of Defense Child Development Centers in improving the ability to recruit and retain providers.
- Directs a briefing on opportunities for parent input and involvement in Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) programs and schools.
- Directs an assessment of the military services and DODEA's efforts to meet the requirements of DODEA students with special educational needs.
- Directs a review and report on DODEA students' access to resources and services related to mental health.

#### **Military Health Care**

- Increases the maximum annual stipend from \$30,000 to \$50,000 for participants in the military departments' health professions scholarship and financial assistance programs.



- Encourages a comprehensive review of the Navy's efforts to prevent and respond to incidents of death by suicide, suicide attempts, and suicidal ideation in commands and organizations within the Navy that have not been reviewed by other studies.
- Authorizes the waiving of cost-sharing requirements for the first three outpatient mental health visits each year for beneficiaries in the active-duty family member category and in the TRICARE Young Adult program.
- Authorizes military dependents to receive space available dental care at military dental treatment facilities at certain remote or isolated locations.
- Requires the Comptroller General to review military medical personnel staffing at military treatment facilities.
- Requires the Comptroller General to review the TRICARE Pharmacy Benefits Program, including the recently awarded nationwide pharmacy contract and its effect on TRICARE beneficiaries' ability to obtain the medications they need in a timely manner.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on servicemember medical debts incurred between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2022.

#### **Defense Civilian Workforce**

- Expands direct hire authority for certain positions in support of: aircraft operations; public safety, law enforcement, and first responders; and the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense relating to oversight of the Ukraine conflict.
- Combines direct hire authority for candidates with advanced degrees and candidates with bachelor's degrees seeking positions in the science and technology reinvention laboratories.
- Expands and modifies the ability of the Department of Defense to hire for senior executive service (SES) positions and civilian competitive and noncompetitive appointments.

#### **Cyber Workforce**

- Improves the readiness and effectiveness of the cyber mission force by providing for the use of standardized terms of enlistment and tour lengths, service obligations commensurate with the training provided to cyber personnel, and training and education improvements for cyber personnel.
- Authorizes the extension of the minimum period of obligated service of an unrestricted officer designated with a cyberspace occupational specialty to the period of obligated service specified in the officer's contract or agreement.
- Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to order units and members of the Ready Reserve to active duty to respond to a significant cyber incident.



## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT**

Under the leadership of Chair Mazie Hirono (D-HI) and Ranking Member Dan Sullivan (R-AK), the subcommittee authorizes \$16.7 billion for military construction projects, after incrementally funding other large projects in the budget request. The subcommittee continues to improve acquisition outcomes by strengthening the ability of the DOD to analyze the defense industrial base, evaluate acquisition programs, and implement acquisition reform efforts. The subcommittee also streamlines processes to allow the DOD to invest in and incorporate advanced commercial technologies to support defense missions, as well as strengthen DOD small business programs to allow the DOD to partner with innovative high-tech companies.

### **Training and Readiness**

- Prohibits the Department of Defense from conducting an additional base realignment and closure round.
- Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives, including:
  - More than \$400 million in increased funding for the military services' recruiting and advertising activities, including recruiting and advertising for the establishment of the Enlisted Training Corps.
  - Payroll increases for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve military technician (dual status) civilians.
- Requires a report on the capacity of infrastructure, resources, and personnel available in Guam to meet U.S. Indo-Pacific Command strategic objectives.

### **Industrial Base Operations and Acquisition Policy**

- Supports the use of multiyear contracting authority as a tool to improve industrial base stability.
- Extends certain waivers for the streamlined acquisition of defense stocks related to Ukraine and authorizes additional munitions eligible for multiyear procurement contracts.
- Establishes a Department-wide pilot program to leverage innovative intellectual property strategies in acquisition programs for systems sustainment.
- Limits or prohibits Department of Defense funding for institutions or researchers that contract with Chinese or Russian institutions which engage in intellectual property theft or are linked to the Chinese or Russian military or intelligence services.
- Requires updated planning guidance for the exportability of future defense systems.



- Requires the creation of at least three new commercial solutions openings for emerging technologies and dual-use products and services each year, as well as a feasibility study and recommendations on ways to improve the acquisition of commercial products and services.
- Improves the timeliness of payments made to small business subcontractors.
- Improves the execution of the Procurement Technical Assistance Program, also known as the APEX Accelerators.
- Requires a briefing on the implementation plan for the MyTravel system.
- Provides limited acquisition authority for the Strategic Capabilities Office (SCO).
- Supports DOD efforts to strengthen domestic production of strategic and critical materials.
- Provides additional flexibilities and authorities through the Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpiling Act, and authorizes the National Defense Stockpile to dispose of certain materials that have been determined to be excess to Stockpile requirements.
- Requires a briefing on the health of the defense industrial base with regard to ammunition manufacturing, production, and procurement, and modifies the annual updates to master plans for Army Ammunition Plants to include changes made as a result from current global events, including armed conflicts and pandemics.
- Requires an organization outside of the United States Government to conduct an independent assessment of the Department of Defense Business Enterprise Architecture.
- Authorizes one or more prize competitions to support the business systems modernization goals of the Department of Defense.
- Directs a briefing on a defense industrial base merger and acquisitions (M&A) impact model for assessing the defense industrial base M&A environment.
- Directs a briefing on lessons learned from combatant command partnerships with private industry to better identify, leverage, and experiment with emerging capabilities and commercial technologies.
- Supports the establishment of the Office of Acquisition, Integration, and Interoperability (AI2) to institutionalize joint requirements for development, acquisition management, and programming for joint kill chain integration.
- Authorizes increased funding for the Defense Manufacturing Community Support Program.

### **Improving Enlisted Housing**

Authorizes a number of provisions to improve the quality and oversight of military enlisted barracks, including:



- Authorizes the replacement of substandard enlisted barracks using various funding sources for five years.
- Requires that enlisted housing meets the same basic standards as all other military housing, both privatized and Government-owned.
- Requires the establishment of a DOD-wide work order system for enlisted barracks.
- Requires the establishment of civilian oversight through the installation housing office to oversee enlisted housing.

### **Strengthening Energy, Environmental, and Health Security**

- Directs a briefing on the status of the development of nuclear microreactors and plans to transition such capabilities to the services for production, as well as a briefing on the potential for using modular microreactors to supplement power generation in Guam.
- Directs an assessment on renewable technologies for backup power on military installations.
- Directs an assessment of the Department of Defense's response to natural disasters at military installations.
- Directs the development of a master plan for the State of Hawaii to modernize critical defense infrastructure including electrical grids, drinking and wastewater systems, sewage systems, and communication systems.
- Clarifies that the National Guard has access to the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for the purposes of conducting environmental cleanup.
- Authorizes increased funding for:
  - The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration program,
  - Support for the Bien Hoa, Vietnam, dioxin cleanup,
  - The Sustainable Technology Evaluation and Demonstration program.
- Extends the authorization and funding transfer for the study on human health impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Directs a report on the proposed schedule and cost estimate for the completion of remediation activities associated with PFAS, and encourages the use of emergent, best available, and most effective PFAS treatment options.

### **Military Construction**

- Supports requested funding for military construction projects.
- Authorizes U.S. Indo-Pacific Command to exercise temporary and limited military construction authorities to support allies throughout its area of responsibility.
- Extends the existing military land withdrawal for the Barry M. Goldwater Range, Arizona, for an additional 25 years.



- Directs a study on modernizing the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site including installation recapitalization plans.
- Directs a briefing on DOD plans for military construction projects to enable the timely deployment of air and missile defense capabilities required for U.S. Indo-Pacific Command operational plans.





## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER**

Under the leadership of Chair Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Ranking Member Kevin Cramer (R-ND), the subcommittee directs continued improvements to the Navy and Marine Corps' ability to implement the National Defense Strategy. The subcommittee continues to provide greater predictability and stability in Navy and Marine Corps acquisition programs, including through the authorization of multi-year procurement contracts and stipulating specific program requirements to improve acquisition outcomes.

### **Surface and Littoral Warfare**

- Supports requested funding for procurement of surface vessels, aircraft, and munitions.
- Reduces the minimum number of Navy carrier air wings required to be maintained to 9.
- Authorizes \$1.9 billion to fully fund LPD-33, a *San Antonio*-class amphibious transport dock ship.
- Authorizes funding to provide for an additional APL-67 berthing barge.
- Directs a briefing on efforts to integrate Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUM-T) into MQ-25 Stingray operations.
- Authorizes the Department of Defense to purchase used vessels under the National Defense Sealift Fund as part of its efforts to continue modernizing the Ready Reserve Force and the Military Sealift Command surge sealift fleet.
- Directs the Navy to schedule maintenance and repair activities for amphibious ships in order to ensure that 24 such warships are available for worldwide deployment at any given time.
- Requires an annual report detailing the programmatic choices made to implement Force Design 2030 capabilities, including capabilities and capacity divested to accelerate the implementation of Force Design 2030.
- Directs the development of a plan for a second shipyard to produce the *Constellation*-class frigate.
- Directs the submission of a 10-year plan for ship homeporting that would reflect proposed LCS retirements and would ensure stability in industries supporting the fleet concentration areas.
- Directs the development of a plan to adopt unmanned surface vessels (USVs) that addresses gaps in lower-end maritime security missions and demonstrates how small and medium USVs, through manned-unmanned teaming, can improve the survivability, lethality, and tasking of manned platforms.
- Directs a briefing on survivable, non-strategic missile launchers and the Navy's plan to meet DOD requirements through the 2020s.



- Directs a certification process for Military Sealift Command (MSC) mariners to operate the EPF-13 Expeditionary Fast Transport vessel using all autonomy enhancements, as well as advanced manned-unmanned teaming and expeditionary advance based operations.
- Requires quarterly briefings on the operational status of the amphibious warship fleet.
- Requires the submission of a 30-year shipbuilding plan that maintains 31 amphibious ships in the Navy fleet.
- Prevents the Navy from retiring three amphibious ships and one *Aegis* cruiser earlier than the expiration of their useful lives.

### **Undersea Warfare**

- Supports requested funding for procurement of undersea vessels and munitions.
- Authorizes the Navy to enter into one or more contracts for the multiyear procurement of the next block of 10 *Virginia*-class submarines.
- Authorizes increased funding to support continued development of the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile.
- Authorizes increased funding for composite shafting technology to increase the submarine availability for the *Columbia*-class and to validate the benefits of composite shafting for SSN(X).
- Directs an analysis of *Columbia*-class electronic schedule data from the shipbuilders.

### **Evolving Threats**

- Authorizes increased funding for Marine Corps ground-based air defense.
- Directs an analysis of incidents of suspected or confirmed intrusions by unmanned underwater vehicles (UUVs) on or near U.S. military installations.
- Directs a report on Chinese penetration of transportation node infrastructure and commercial technologies, including an analysis of existing and proposed DOD initiatives intended to mitigate such threats.
- Authorizes increased funding for the Advanced Sensors Application Program and realigns management of the program from the Department of the Navy to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security and the Department of the Air Force.



## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES**

Under the leadership of Chair Angus King (I-ME) and Ranking Member Deb Fischer (R-NE), the subcommittee continues to support the modernization of the United States' nuclear forces, including the nuclear triad and programs at the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). In a time of great power competition, the triad serves as the foundational bedrock of U.S. national defense. As space becomes a contested domain among near-peer rivals, the subcommittee continues its oversight of the Space Force, consistent with the intent of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020. The subcommittee further supports modernizing the U.S. missile defense architecture against evolving threats, while providing congressional oversight to ensure taxpayers' dollars are well invested. Finally, the subcommittee ensures the nonproliferation programs at the NNSA and the DOD have the necessary funding to stem the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons around the world.

### **Nuclear Modernization and Strategic Defense Activities**

- Includes a number of initiatives regarding the LGM-35A Sentinel program, including:
  - Authorizes increased funding for the Sentinel Guidance Program.
  - Requires the Sentinel program to refurbish and make operable no fewer than 150 silos for intercontinental ballistic missiles at each of the relevant bases.
  - Provides multiyear and advance procurement authority for the Sentinel program and requires the certification of a long-term capability to maintain and modernize the guidance system of the missile over its full life cycle.
  - Requires the full replacement of the entire Strategic Automated Command and Control System with the initial operational capability of the Sentinel weapon system.
- Requires the establishment of the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile and W80-4 ALT nuclear weapons development programs, and requires both programs to reach initial operational capability by fiscal year 2035.
- Requires no fewer than 400 responsive, on-alert U.S. intercontinental ballistic missiles to be deployed, except for activities related to maintenance, sustainment, and replacement, or activities to ensure safety, security, or reliability.

### **Space Defense Activities**

- Codifies the Space Force's role in providing space-based design and tasking of ground and air moving target indicators to the combatant commanders.



- Establishes an additional lane (Lane 2A) two years into Phase III of the National Security Space Launch acquisition program to allow for greater competition within the field.
- Directs the use of middle tier acquisition authority for the rapid fielding of satellites and associated systems for Tranches 1-3 of the proliferated warfighter space architecture of the Space Development Agency.
- Directs the establishment of transparent regulations for entering into agreements and receiving cost reimbursements for the provision of goods and services to commercial entities conducting space launch activities at Space Force bases.
- Directs a report on DOD efforts to better integrate space operations with allies and partners.
- Requires a report on the initial operational capability of the Advanced Tracking and Launch Analysis System and requires the Air Force to contract with a Federally Funded Research and Development Center to conduct periodic reviews of Space Command and Control system's software acquisition.

### **Missile Defense**

- Authorizes increased funding for a number of initiatives, including:
  - Accelerated maturation of the Fleet Ballistic Missile Strategic Weapon System,
  - The Hypersonic Targets and Countermeasures Program.
- Designates the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment as the principal DOD official responsible for the acquisition of a system for the missile defense of Guam.
- Authorizes the procurement of the Iron Dome short-range rocket defense system, David's Sling Weapon System, and Arrow 3 Upper Tier Interceptor Program.
- Requires an annual report on developing, acquiring, and establishing an operational integrated air and missile defense architecture for the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility, including Hawaii.
- Directs a report on current and future hypersonic threats and defenses and a briefing on accelerating development and deployment of the Glide Phase Interceptor, with an objective of achieving initial operational capability by 2030.
- Requires a General Officer to be the Director of the Missile Defense Agency.

### **Electronic Warfare**

- Codifies the Electronic Warfare Executive Committee, requires the designation of a Joint Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations Center at U.S. Strategic Command, and requires periodic reporting on the implementation of integrated electronic warfare strategy, plans, and budgeting across the Department.



- Requires the Department of Defense to address deficiencies in the electronic protection of defense systems.
- Requires an assessment of Department of Defense ranges for Electromagnetic Warfare training.

### **Nonproliferation Efforts**

- Authorizes \$351.0 million for the Cooperative Threat Reduction program.

### **Department of Energy**

#### ***National Security Programs and Authorizations***

- Authorizes \$24.1 billion for the activities of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).
- Authorizes \$7.1 billion for the Department of Energy's (DOE) defense environmental cleanup activities.
- Authorizes \$1.1 billion for the DOE's other defense activities.
- Authorizes \$177.7 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.

#### ***Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Matters***

- Requires the management of the Plutonium Modernization Program to establish a comprehensive integrated master schedule for manufacturing plutonium pits and meeting pit production requirements.
- Extends the Department of Energy's program to remove or secure fissile materials, radiological materials, and related equipment at vulnerable sites worldwide.
- Directs the Department of Energy to conduct comprehensive, integrated analyses of the nuclear programs of foreign countries.
- Requires the NNSA to establish a supply chain reliability assurance program for critical materials.
- Directs a report and a briefing on the Department of Energy's development and management of domestic uranium resources.
- Directs a report on the stockpile research, technology, and engineering capabilities that require recapitalization or replacement.
- Directs a report on the NNSA's development and management of high explosives, including supply chain security.



***Modernization Activities***

- Establishes and fully funds a joint DOD-NNSA program to develop a nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile to address China's nuclear breakout and Russia's continued aggression.
- Authorizes increased funding for the W80-4 ALT-SLCM warhead development as a part of the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile program.
- Requires continued construction of the conventional high explosives manufacturing facility at the Pantex Plant for the unique conventional high explosives used at the NNSA as well as a research facility at Los Alamos in support of the Pantex facility.
- Directs a report on contracting, procurement, construction, and material acquisition including further application of the Defense Production Act for recapitalization of the nuclear security enterprise.

***Environmental Management and Safety***

- Authorizes funding for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.
- Directs a report on the Office of Environmental Management's decontamination of mercury at the Oak Ridge Reservation.
- Directs a briefing on the conveyance of land at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.



## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Key Amendments Adopted in Full Committee Markup

- Expresses the sense of the Senate that there are growing national security concerns that require additional funds beyond the defense spending limit and urges the President to send emergency supplemental funding requests to address those concerns, to include continued support for Ukraine, additional munitions production, and additional naval vessels and combat vehicles.
- Directs a report on the legality, oversight functions, and processes related to the Department of Defense's policies for allowing servicemembers to travel to seek reproductive healthcare procedures, including abortions, otherwise unavailable locally.
- Requires an annual report on the Department of Defense's unfunded priorities for research, development, test, and evaluation activities.
- Directs a report on the Department's efforts to expand military recruitment eligibility by eliminating unnecessary disqualifying standards and modifying the recruiting standards and waiver processes.
- Provides flexibility to the Department for determining the terms of appointment for certain senior officer positions, particularly service chiefs and combatant commanders, to ensure continuity of leadership and to limit simultaneous turnover.
- Directs a briefing on the DOD's assessment of the will to fight of foreign combat forces that receive U.S. security assistance.
- Authorizes basic allowance for housing (BAH) payments for enlisted servicemembers who are assigned to vessels stationed at shipyards.
- Requires a federally funded research and development center to assess Marine Corps Force Design 2030.
- Requires a report on landmine capabilities and inventories and a briefing on efforts to develop advanced capabilities.
- Expresses the sense of the Senate that the Office of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (CAPE) is vital to U.S. defense acquisition, and requires new responsibilities for CAPE to improve the methods and effectiveness of its analyses.
- Requires oversight of and limitation on the pay and hiring of military or civilian employee whose sole duties involve developing or implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs and policies.
- Requires all military personnel action to be based on merit and performance.
- Prohibits the DOD from requiring military and civilian employees to list their gender or pronouns on any official correspondence, but does not prevent those who wish to do so.



- Directs a plan to make Harpoon missiles in the U.S. releasable to allies and partners, as well as an updated plan for expanded Harpoon production and the potential of repurposing existing Harpoon missiles in the stocks of allies and partners.
- Requires the Department of Defense to prioritize basing, training, and exercises in NATO countries that achieve the goal of spending not less than two percent of their gross domestic product on defense by 2024.
- Expresses the sense of the Senate that Ukraine would derive military benefit from the provision of certain munitions like the dual-purpose improved conventional munition.

### **DOD Foreign Military Sales Process Enhancements**

Reflecting the important role of the Department of Defense in implementing Foreign Military Sales (FMS) and arms transfers, the bill includes a number of provisions to make this process more effective and responsive, including:

- Strengthens the management and implementation of the DOD Security Cooperation Workforce Development program by improving the training and education of DOD personnel responsible for planning and executing FMS and other arms transfers.
- Authorizes the establishment of an account within the Special Defense Acquisition Fund to be known as the Foreign Advance Acquisition Account to receive contributions from certain covered foreign countries for the purpose of accelerating the production of U.S.-produced defense items.
- Establishes a pilot program for each geographic combatant command to use Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund (DAWDF) funding to hire up to two acquisition specialists to advise on the foreign arms transfer process.
- Requires combatant commands (COCOMs) to provide a list of weapons systems that would benefit from investment for exportability features in support of the security cooperation objectives of the COCOM.
- Establishes mechanisms for improved DOD-industry coordination and information sharing on the FMS process, including: (1) A requirement for an annual industry day; (2) Establishing a senior-level DOD-Industry advisory group; and (3) Designating DOD points of contact for the FMS process.
- Directs a briefing on the organization, management, and processes of the Defense Technology Security Administration related to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

### **Improving DOD Operations**





- Provides initial authority for the Space Force to become a single-component military service, incorporating elements of personnel policy from both active and reserve components from other Armed Forces.
- Establishes the Office of Strategic Capital, which will provide investment support for the development of critical technologies in the U.S. national security interest.
- Authorizes combatant commanders, upon providing a written determination to a supporting head of contracting activity, to request emergency, rapid contracting response using special authorities.
- Enhances the DOD's authority to provide certain former and retired DOD personnel with protection within the United States in instances where serious and credible threats of harm arise from duties performed while employed by the Department.

### **Europe**

- Extends the DOD's authority to provide training for Eastern European national military forces in the course of multilateral exercises and modifies the authority to include the Republic of Kosovo among the list of countries eligible to receive training.
- Extends the prohibition of any authorized funds from being obligated or expended to implement any activity that recognizes the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over the internationally recognized territory of Ukraine.
- Directs a briefing on end-use monitoring of U.S. defense articles or services transferred from the United States to Ukraine.

### **Middle East and South Asia**

- Extends the DOD's authority to provide assistance to Iraq to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).
- Extends the DOD's authority to provide training and equipping to vetted Syrian groups.
- Supports a comprehensive approach to continue to facilitate the relocation and resettlement of at-risk Afghans, including those who remain in Afghanistan under threat from the Taliban, and those currently residing in third countries.

### **Guantanamo Bay**

- Extends through fiscal year 2024 the existing restrictions relating to the detention facility at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, specifically:
  - A ban on the transfer of Guantanamo detainees to the United States;
  - A ban on the use of DOD funds to construct or modify facilities in the United States to house Guantanamo detainees;
  - A ban on the use of DOD funds to transfer Guantanamo detainees to Libya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, and Afghanistan.



- Extends through fiscal year 2024 the ban on the use of DOD funds to close the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, to relinquish control over that facility, or to make a material modification to the treaty between the United States and Cuba that would effectively close the Guantanamo Bay facility.
- Directs a briefing on the progress of the Department of Defense in contingency planning for addressing the anticipated medical contingencies for the aging population at the Guantanamo detention facility.