



U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

PRESS RELEASE

July 18, 2006

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Appropriations Committee Reports FY 2007 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Spending Bill

WASHINGTON, DC – The Senate Appropriations Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee today approved their fiscal year 2007 spending bill. Highlights of the bill are below:

FY 2006 Appropriation: \$75.9 billion

President's FY 2007 Request: \$81.7 billion

Subcommittee Recommendation: \$81.0 billion

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION: \$6.1 billion, including:

- \$4.9 billion for Active Duty construction
- \$1.02 billion for Guard and Reserve construction
- \$1.11 billion for barracks construction
- \$223.8 million for hospitals and medical/dental facilities

FAMILY HOUSING: \$4.13 billion, including:

- \$1.91 billion to fully fund family housing construction and construction improvements
- \$2.22 billion for operation and maintenance of existing units

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Overall, the bill recommends over \$70.7 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Of this amount, \$36.6 billion is for mandatory programs (benefits and compensation) and \$34 billion is for discretionary programs.

- Medical Services – \$23.3 billion, which includes \$1.977 billion to address the fiscal year 2006 shortfall. This funding is \$1.335 billion above the President's request.
- Construction – For construction programs, the bill recommends the budget request levels of \$607.1 million for major construction and \$208.9 million for minor construction.
- Information Technology office – The bill requires the Department to create a new information technology office, funded at \$1.456 billion.
- Medical and prosthetic research – The bill provides \$412 million for this program, which is \$19 million over the fiscal year 2006 request.
- Grants to State Extended Care Facilities – The subcommittee recommends \$104 million for extended-care facilities. The House recommended \$25 million for this program. It was funded at \$104 million in fiscal year 2005.

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