EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2023

BACKGROUND

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations bill provides necessary funding for the planning, design, construction, alteration, and improvement of military facilities worldwide. It also finances the cost of military family housing and the U.S. share of the NATO Security Investment Program. In addition, the bill provides funding, including environmental remediation, for base closures and realignments authorized by law. The bill provides resources to the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans benefits and healthcare and funding for U.S. cemeteries and battlefield monuments both in the United States and abroad, including the American Battle Monuments Commission and Arlington National Cemetery. Additionally, the bill funds the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and the Armed Forces Retirement Homes.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends new budget authority totaling \$329,186,936,000 for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 for military construction, family housing, base closure, and veterans healthcare and benefits, including fiscal year 2024 advance appropriations for veterans medical care and appropriated mandatories, and related agencies. This includes \$169,911,174,000 in discretionary funding and \$159,275,762,000 in mandatory funding. The table at the end of the explanatory statement displays the Committee recommendation in comparison with the current fiscal year and the President's fiscal year 2023 request. The following table shows total budget authority available for fiscal year 2023.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

	Budget request	Senate recommendation
New budget authority	\$322,342,687,000 111,287,000,000	\$328,131,762,000 111,287,000,000
mandatoriesLess advances provided for fiscal year 2024 for medical care Less advances provided for fiscal year 2024 for appropriated mandatories	161,033,258,000 - 128,104,000,000 - 155,351,762,000	161,033,258,000 128,104,000,000 155,351,762,000
Total appropriations for fiscal year 2023	311,207,183,000	316,996,258,000

OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY OF BILL

The Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations bill funds an array of programs that are vital to America's military personnel and their families, and to the Nations' veterans. For U.S. military forces and their families worldwide, the bill funds critical infrastructure, ranging from mission essential operational and training facilities, such as command and control centers, airfield improvements, and ranges, to key quality-of-life facilities, including barracks, family housing, child care centers, schools, and hospitals.

For America's 19.2 million veterans, the bill provides the necessary funding for veterans benefits and healthcare, from prescription drugs and clinical services to the construction of hospitals and

other medical facilities throughout the Nation.

The bill also funds veterans cemeteries in the United States, as well as four independent agencies—the American Battle Monuments Commission, the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Armed Forces Retirement Homes.

TITLE I

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

HEARING

The Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held one hearing related to the fiscal year 2023 military construction budget request. Witnesses included representatives of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The fiscal year 2023 budget request for military construction and family housing totals \$12,153,965,000. The Committee recommends \$16,645,000,000, which is \$4,491,035,000 above the President's budget request.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

The following reprogramming guidelines apply for all military construction and family housing projects. A project or account (including the sub-elements of an account) which has been specifically reduced by the Congress in acting on the budget request is considered to be a congressional interest item and as such, prior approval is required. Accordingly, no reprogrammings to an item specifically reduced below the threshold by the Congress are permitted.

Recognizing the increased cost and complexity of military construction projects since the threshold was previously adjusted, the Committee supports increasing the reprogramming threshold to enable the Department to be more agile and reduce delays associated with cost overruns. The modified reprogramming criteria that apply to military construction projects, as well as new housing construction projects and improvements, is \$10,000,000 or 25 percent of the funded amount, whichever is less. To provide the Services the flexibility to proceed with construction contracts without disruption or delay, the costs associated with environmental hazard remediation such as asbestos removal, radon abatement, lead-based paint removal or abatement, and any other legislated environmental hazard remediation may be excluded, provided that such remediation requirements could not be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submission. This exclusion applies to projects authorized in this budget year, as well as projects authorized in prior years for which construction has not been completed.

Furthermore, in instances where prior approval of a reprogramming request for a project or account has been received from the Committee, the adjusted amount approved becomes the new base for any future increase or decrease via below-threshold reprogrammings (provided that the project or account is not a congressional interest item as defined above).

In addition to these guidelines, the Services are directed to adhere to the guidance for military construction reprogrammings and notifications, including the pertinent statutory authorities contained in Department of Defense [DoD] Financial Management Regulation 7000.14–R and relevant updates and policy memoranda.

REAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

The Committee recommends a continuation of the following general rules for repairing a facility under "Operation and Maintenance" account funding:

—Components of the facility may be repaired by replacement, and such replacement may be up to current standards or code.

—Interior arrangements and restorations may be included as repair, but additions and new facilities must be performed as military construction projects.

—Such projects may be done concurrent with repair projects, as long as the final conjunctively funded project is a complete and usable facility.

—The appropriate Service Secretary shall submit a 21-day notification prior to carrying out any repair project with an estimated cost in excess of \$7,500,000.

The Department is directed to continue to report on the real property maintenance backlog at all installations for which there is a requested construction project in future budget requests. This information is to be provided on the form 1390. In addition, for all troop housing requests, the form 1391 is to continue to show all real property maintenance conducted in the past 2 years and all future requirements for unaccompanied housing at that installation.

INCREMENTAL FUNDING

In general, the Committee supports full funding for military construction projects. However, it continues to be the practice of the Committee to provide incremental funding for certain large projects, despite administration policy to the contrary, to enable the services to more efficiently allocate military construction dollars among projects that can be executed in the year of appropriation. Therefore, the Committee has recommended incremental funding for four projects.

Strategic Construction in the Indo-Pacific Region.—The Committee is pleased to see that the Department's request includes approximately \$1,200,000,000 in military construction investments in direct support of the Pacific Deterrence Initiative [PDI]. Further, the Committee continues to support efforts to execute emergent requirements and accelerate construction investments in the Indo-Pacific Command [INDOPACOM] region and has provided additional resources above the President's budget request over the past 3 years for this purpose. The Committee continues to believe there can be a significant return on investment for small dollar, dual use infrastructure that supports joint and multilateral exercises and enables power projection, particularly in the Western Pacific, and encourages INDOPACOM to continue to align these resources accordingly. Therefore, the Committee provides an additional

\$47,300,000 in planning and design and unspecified minor construction for projects in INDOPACOM that support National Defense Strategy objectives to sustain joint force military advantages, enable allies and partners, and deter adversaries from aggression against our National interest, and encourages the Department to leverage existing authorities to enable rapid execution of emergent

requirements.

Military Installation Resilience [MIR].—Since fiscal year 2020, the Committee has provided dedicated planning and design and unspecified minor construction funding to support installation resilience. The primary intent of this funding has been to develop projects that mitigate climate change risks to military installations. The Committee believes that such investments are critical to installation readiness and therefore provides \$40,000,000 for planning and design and unspecified minor construction in Section 129 to continue to develop projects, conduct studies and analyses, and update Unified Facility Criteria that will directly enhance military installation resilience. While prior year funding has been allocated towards these efforts to an extent, the Committee is concerned that the services have not adequately prepared for or prioritized the development of MIR projects and their integration into installation master planning, even at installations where climate impacts are already observed. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of each Military Department to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act on efforts to address military installation resilience requirements. The report shall include the following: (1) an explanation of what DoD and Military Departments are doing to develop the capacity and expertise to scope and design climate resilience projects for installations; (2) what direction DoD and the Military Departments have given to installations to incorporate military installation resilience projects into relevant master planning processes; (3) details on how DoD and the Military Departments are prioritizing MIR projects, including how projects support other installation resilience efforts, such as the DoD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration program; (4) how DoD and the Military Departments are incorporating non-traditional engineering methods to mitigate climate risks to installations, such as engineering with natural or nature-based features; and (5) any other identified barriers to planning and designing MIR projects.

Child Development Centers [CDCs].—The Committee continues to recognize the importance that access to childcare plays in improving quality of life for servicemembers and their families. In order to help address the significant capacity shortfall, the bill provides \$136,500,000 above the President's request for CDCs, as identified on unfunded requirements lists submitted to Congress and through Congressionally Directed Spending, including planning and design funding to help develop future construction projects. The Committee encourages the Services to continue to focus on improving and replacing aging facilities, especially at underserved installa-

nons.

Next Generation Data Transport Architecture.—The Committee has previously expressed concern about facility planning and design for increased in-building data transport and management to meet increasing technology requirements for future installations and digital missions. The Committee is aware that new applications being incorporated in facilities for data transport, physical safety, intrusion detection, and perimeter security enabled by artificial intelligence, machine learning and data defense weapon systems will benefit by upgrading legacy infrastructure which limits or delays the movement of data. The Committee urges the Department to work with private industry to better understand new technologies supporting increasing data management demands, and to make updates, where needed, to engineering guidance to allow for unlimited bandwidth through a facility for mission flexibility.

Integrated Project Delivery [IPD] Methodology.—The Committee is aware that construction projects can utilize an IPD approach, which incentivizes collaboration between the owner, architecture/engineering firm, constructor, subcontractors, and trade partners, and parties seek to jointly share risk, reward, and align interests via a single multi-party agreement. Senate Armed Services Committee Report 117–39 directed a brief from DoD on their construction contract approaches, a review of integrated project delivery, and whether changes in DoD's project delivery methods could improve project performance. The Committee is also interested in DoD's IPD review and encourages the Department to continue to evaluate the potential value added through such alternative methods

Integration of Innovative Construction Materials.—The Committee is aware of new and innovative building materials that are becoming more prevalent within the construction industry. Items such as cross laminated timber and Portland-limestone cement offer opportunities to build more sustainable facilities, with potential cost savings and schedule efficiencies. Specifically, mass timber, a category of wood-based framing, is engineered for high strength ratings like concrete and steel but is significantly lighter in weight, meets anti-terrorism and force protection standards and has been tested for extreme weather events like fire and seismic activity. Construction projects utilizing mass timber can also be built faster than projects utilizing traditional building materials. However, the Committee is concerned that DoD continues to rely on traditional building materials, using standardized designs across the Department based on those same traditional materials and that the Unified Facilities Criteria [UFC] and Unified Facilities Guide Specifications [UFGS] are not up to date with innovative and sustainable assets. Therefore, the Committee directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 180 days of enactment of this act on its efforts to incorporate sustainable products into the UFC and UFGS, integrate sustainable building materials such as mass timber and Portland-limestone cement into its designs, and any resources needed to accomplish these efforts.

Dormitories and Barracks.—The Committee recognizes the critical role that dormitories and barracks serve to support the warfighter, but notes that many of these facilities fall short of the high standards our servicemembers deserve. Inadequate living fa-

cilities can negatively impact readiness and morale and the Committee encourages the Department to continue ongoing reviews and assessments of dormitories and barracks and provide focused investment where needed to improve these facilities.

Community Supported Installation Resilience.—The Committee notes that many communities are supportive of local military installations and that they advocate for construction projects that will address deficiencies in community infrastructure that also enhance the military value, resilience or family quality of life at the local installation. While these projects do not qualify as military construction, the Committee encourages the Department to use existing authorities and flexibilities, such as the Defense Community

Infrastructure Program, to increase installation resilience.

Military Construction Funding Initiatives.—The bill includes funding to address important unfunded priorities and cost to completes included in DoD's unfunded priority lists provided to Congress. This includes an additional \$261,040,000 for the Army, \$727,387,000 for the Navy and Marine Corps, \$591,700,000 for the Air Force, \$151,000,000 for Defense-Wide, \$54,743,000 for the Army National Guard, \$9,200,000 for the Air National Guard, \$59,600,000 for the Army Reserve, \$137,300,000 for the Navy Reserve, and \$8,000,000 for the Air Force Reserve. The bill also provides \$292,822,000 for Army Family Housing Construction and \$18,800,000 for Air Force Family Housing Construction. This additional funding is reserved for projects that were included in the unfunded priority lists submitted to Congress. Further, the bill includes funding to address rising costs due to inflation, as appropriated in Section 131.

Laboratory Infrastructure.—The Committee continues to recognize the importance of DoD laboratory infrastructure and that investment is needed to modernize outdated science and technology laboratories and test and evaluation facilities. Therefore, the Committee provides \$120,000,000 for planning and design, unspecified minor construction and authorized major construction projects to address unfunded laboratory requirements, as appropriated in Section 128.

Congressionally Directed Spending.—The Committee includes Congressionally Directed Spending for planning and design, unspecified minor construction, and major construction in accordance with Senate Rule XLIV. DoD is directed to carry out funding for projects as identified in tables under each relevant account header.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

Appropriations, 2022	\$9,781,274,000
Budget estimate, 2023	10,197,635,000
Committee recommendation	11,903,078,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNTS-PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The military construction appropriation provides for acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Department of Defense. This appropriation also provides for facilities required as well as funds for infrastructure

projects and programs required to support bases and installations around the world.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

Appropriations, 2022	\$1,051,772,000
Budget estimate, 2023	845,565,000
Committee recommendation	1.481.665.000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,481,665,000 for Military Construction, Army for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$429,893,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$636,100,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Army, \$624,100,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Alaska	Fort Wainwright	Physical Fitness Center Annex	99,000
Arkansas	Pine Bluff Arsenal	Access Control Point: Planning and Design	1,800
Arkansas	Pine Bluff Arsenal	Sewage and Sanitation Modernization: Unspecified Minor Construction.	1,000
Georgia	Fort Gordon	Child Development Center Addition	21,000
Georgia	Fort Gordon	Child Development Center: Planning and Design	5,000
Hawaii	Fort Shafter	Upgrade Fort Shafter Water System	33,000
Hawaii	Schofield Barracks	Company Operations Facilities	111,000
Hawaii	Schofield Barracks	Firehouse Station Facility: Unspecified Minor Con- struction.	9,000
Hawaii	Tripler Army Medical Center	Upgrade Potable Water System	38,000
Kansas	Fort Riley (Custer Hill)	Unaccompanied Enlisted Barracks: Planning and Design.	15,930
Louisiana	Fort Polk	Joint Operations Center Construction: Cost to Complete.	61,000
Louisiana	Fort Polk	Information System Facility: Cost to Complete	35,360
Louisiana	Fort Polk	Child Development Center: Cost to Complete	9,000
Mississippi	Engineer Research and De- velopment Center.	General Purpose Lab and Test Building	20,000
Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Central Issue Facility: Planning and Design	5,300
New Mexico	White Sands Missile Range	One Company Satellite Fire Station: Unspecified Minor Construction.	6,400
New Mexico	White Sands Missile Range	Las Cruces Substation: Unspecified Minor Con- struction.	6,400
New Mexico	White Sands Missile Range	Missile Assembly Building: Planning and Design	3,600
New York	Fort Drum	Access Control Point: Unspecified Minor Construction.	6,800
New York	Fort Drum	Physical Fitness Testing Facility: Planning and Design.	3,060
North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Automated Infantry Platoon Battle Course: Planning and Design.	1,350
North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Multipurpose Machine Gun (MPMG 2): Planning and Design.	1,600
North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Automated Record Fire Range: Planning and Design.	2,000
North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Child Development Center: Planning and Design	2,700
Oklahoma	Fort Sill	Advance Individual Training Complex Phase 2	85,800
Oklahoma	McAlester AAP	Ammunition Demolition Shop	39,000

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement. Army Air Traffic Control Towers.—The Committee recognizes the importance of Army Air Traffic Control Towers, which house equipment and personnel for control of aircraft approaching and departing the terminal area and control of aircraft and vehicular movement on the runways, taxiways, and all other movement areas. They are the nerve center for an air installation complex and are critical to operational success, however, current Army towers are antiquated and unsafe. The Committee encourages the Army to allocate sufficient funding for these critical facilities in future budget requests.

Pacific Firefighting Support.—The Committee remains concerned about the conditions of firefighting facilities from which Federal firefighters, Army Forestry Technicians, Army Wildland Firefighters, and Emergency Service Technicians work to support military installations in the State of Hawaii, including Pohakuloa Training Area. The Joint Explanatory Statement for fiscal year 2021 directed the Secretary of the Army to provide a plan to replace current facilities and interim solutions to address substandard working conditions. The Committee received an assessment about current conditions and capacity across the enterprise, however it did not address the specific elements identified in the explanatory statement. The Committee directs the Secretary to provide the report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress with all requested elements as soon as practicable.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Appropriations, 2022	\$2,644,277,000
Budget estimate, 2023	3,752,391,000
Committee recommendation	4,024,314,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,024,314,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$1,380,037,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$271,923,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, \$486,980,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Arizona	MCAS Yuma	Water Treatment Plant: Planning and Design	5,000
California	Camp Pendleton	Child Development Center	32,100
California	MCRD San Diego	Recruit Barracks	82,230
Georgia	Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany.	Consolidated Communication Facility: Planning and Design.	6,400
Hawaii	JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam	Waterfront Production Facility: Planning and Design	20,000
Hawaii	JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam	Missile Magazines	103,350
Hawaii	MCB Hawaii	Bachelor Enlisted Quarters	87,900
Maine	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	Child Development Center: Planning and Design	2,500
South Carolina	MCRD Parris Island	Recruit Barracks	37,600
South Carolina	MCRD Parris Island	Recruit Barracks	38,300
Virginia	Naval Air Station Oceana	Child Development Center: Planning and Design	1,200
Virginia	Norfolk Naval Shipyard	Child Development Center: Planning and Design	2.300

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS-Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Washington	NAS Whidbey Island	Aircraft Airfield Pavement Improvements	68,100

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in

the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Naval Shipyard Modernization.—The Committee supports the Department's Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Plan [SIOP] and believes the restoration of deferred maintenance availabilities along with the public shipyard dry dock investments recommended by the plan are critical. The Committee urges the Secretary of the Navy to prioritize the timely funding of public shipyard infrastructure, and in particular, the dry dock and shore infrastructure necessary to support critical maintenance of surface and submarine fleets by public shipyards. Of note, after several years of delays and cancellations associated with the Waterfront Production Facility at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, the Committee urges the Navy to synchronize the construction schedule for the new facility with that of the Dry Dock 3 replacement. Recognizing the importance of SIOP and the need to adequately resource the development of future projects, in addition to fully funding the budget request of \$1,260,185,000, the Committee further provides \$75,000,000 in planning and design above the request.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

Appropriations, 2022	\$2,204,750,000
Budget estimate, 2023	2,055,456,000
Committee recommendation	2.306.796.000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$2,306,796,000 for Military Construction, Air Force for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$102,046,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$251,340,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Air Force, \$323,840,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION. AIR FORCE

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Alaska	JB Elmendorf-Richardson	Contaminated Soil Removal: Cost to Complete	5,200
Arizona	Luke AFB	Child Development Center: Planning and Design	2,700
Colorado	U.S. Air Force Academy	Cemetery Expansion: Unspecified Minor Construction.	3,400
Georgia	Moody AFB	Rescue Squadron Guardian Angel Operations Facil- ity: Planning and Design.	5,770
Georgia	Moody AFB	23d Security Forces Squadron Operations Facility: Planning and Design.	1,100
Nevada	Nellis AFB	Dormitory: Planning and Design	7,200
New Mexico	Cannon AFB	Add/Alter B575 for Security Forces: Unspecified Minor Construction.	4,000
New Mexico	Cannon AFB	SOF Construct Munitions Storage Area: Planning and Design.	8,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
New Mexico	Holloman AFB	F-16 Formal Training Unit Airfield Requirements:	4,140
New Mexico	Holloman AFB	Holloman High-Speed Test Track: Planning and Design.	5,000
New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	58 SOW/PJ/CRO Pipeline Dorm (432 RM): Planning and Design.	11,160
New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	ADAL Systems & Digital Engineering Lab: Planning and Design.	2,000
New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	Apparatus Bay for Fire Station 5: Unspecified Minor Construction.	4,200
New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	Explosives Operations Building: Planning and Design.	540
New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	Small Arms Storage Facility: Unspecified Minor Construction.	2,800
New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	Joint Navigational Warfare Center: Planning and Design.	4,700
New Mexico New York	Melrose Air Force Range Air Force Research Labora- tory—Hanscom Air Force Base Newport Test Annex.	Fire Department: Unspecified Minor Construction Construct HF Antennas, Newport, and Stockbridge Test Annexes: Unspecified Minor Construction.	5,600 4,200
North Carolina	Seymour Johnson AFB	Combat Arms and Maintenance Complex: Planning and Design.	3,300
North Carolina Ohio	Seymour Johnson AFB Wright-Patterson AFB	KC—46 Alert Facility: Planning and Design Human Performance Wing Laboratory: Planning and Design.	530 4,000
Oklahoma Oklahoma Oklahoma	Tinker AFB Tinker AFB	E-7 Operations Center: Planning and Design KC-46A 1-Bay Depot Corrosion Control Hangar KC-46A 2-Bay Program Depot Maintenance Hang- ar.	15,000 114,000 90,000
Washington Washington	Fairchild AFBFairchild AFB	ADAL KC—135 Flight Simulator	7,300 8,000

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in

the State table at the end of this explanatory statement. Joint Intelligence Analysis Complex.—Understanding the critical importance of the Joint Intelligence Analysis Complex [JIAC] to the regional intelligence architecture of the United States and its partners, the Committee provides \$421,000,000 above the budget request for the construction of the complex, despite the late-in-cycle identification of the significant funding requirement as part of the Air Force's unfunded priorities list. The Committee directs the Air Force, in coordination with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, to provide quarterly updates on the status of the obligation of funds for the construction of the JIAC.

Weapons Generation Facilities.—The Committee continues to recognize the importance of the Weapons Generation Facility [WGF] modernization program but is concerned that execution delays and cost overruns continue to impact the schedule of future projects. The Committee directs the Department to continue to provide quarterly updates on projects associated with the WGF modernization program, including the status of planning and estimated timelines for projects not yet in the design phase, and urges the Department to accelerate the WGF schedule wherever possible.

Global Strike Command Security Gates.—The Committee remains concerned about deficient security gates at Air Force Global Strike Command installations, particularly as the Air Force plans

to make significant investments in strategic weapons systems and weapons generation facilities at these bases. The Committee urges the Air Force to plan and program sufficient funding to address security gate deficiencies at these installations in its future years de-

fense program.

New Platform Construction.—The Committee understands challenges exist in aligning the construction of new facilities with the arrival of new platforms, particularly when that platform is making its way through the acquisition process. Both delays in construction as well as the procurement process can disrupt the synchronization of infrastructure and the weapons systems it is intended to support. For example, the facilities required to support the new MH–139 aircraft have experienced multiple cost increases resulting in project delays without a contract award. The Committee expects the Services to ensure construction of facilities aligns with planned deliveries of new platforms, including reprogramming of funds where necessary to meet aircraft delivery schedules.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2022	\$2,206,051,000
Budget estimate, 2023	2,416,398,000
Committee recommendation	2,514,648,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$2,514,648,000 for projects considered within the Military Construction, Defense-Wide account for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$308,597,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$98,250,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Defense-Wide, \$50,950,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Delaware	Dover AFB	Armed Services Whole Blood Processing Laboratory- East Replacement: Planning and Design.	350
Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Hospital Replacement Inc. 5	31,300
North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Lejeune Schools Modernization: Planning and Design.	6,600
North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Albritton Middle School Addition: Planning and Design.	7,000
South Carolina	MCAS Beaufort	Fuel Pier Replacement: Planning and Design	900
South Carolina	MCRD Parris Island	Ambulatory Care Clinic Replacement (Dental): Planning and Design.	4,800

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Energy Resilience and Conservation Investment Program [ERCIP].—The Committee supports DoD's investments in energy efficiency, renewable energy systems, and energy resilience, including through ERCIP. In particular, the Committee recognizes the significant increase to ERCIP in the fiscal year 2023 budget re-

quest, and the additional funding programmed in future years. Understanding that ERCIP projects have grown in complexity, scope, and demand, as well as the Department's effort to integrate these projects into the military construction project development process, which has led to a significant request for planning and design, the

Committee fully funds the budget request.

Fuel Services.—The Committee supports efforts to increase energy resilience at military installations, which in addition to ensuring mission assurance can also result in efficiencies and cost savings. Specifically, access to fuel is a critical capability that is directly tied to operational readiness and cannot risk interruptions or service denial. The Committee encourages the Military Departments to work with the Defense Logistics Agency to improve energy security and resilience related to fuel services and encourages local installation assessments and pipeline repairs where needed to facilitate these efforts.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Appropriations, 2022	\$337,893,000
Budget estimate, 2023	297,278,000
Committee recommendation	480,638,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$480,638,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$142,745,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$183,360,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Army National Guard, \$150,160,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Alaska	JB Elmendorf-Richardson	Aircraft Maintenance Hangar	63,000
Arkansas	Camp Robinson	Automated Multipurpose Machine Gun Range	9,500
Georgia	Fort Gordon	National Guard/Reserve Center Building: Planning and Design.	2,100
Illinois	Chicago	National Guard Readiness Center Alteration: Plan- ning and Design.	3,500
Maine	Saco	Southern Maine Readiness Center: Planning and Design.	3,000
Maine	Woodville Training Center	Range Complex: Planning and Design	1,400
Minnesota	Camp Ripley	Dining Facility, Collective Training: Unspecified Minor Construction.	3,000
Missouri	Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot.	AVCRAD Aircraft Maintenance Hangar Addition Phase IV: Planning and Design.	5,600
New Hampshire	Berlin	Hangar and Aviation Operations Building: Unspecified Minor Construction.	5,200
New Hampshire	Concord	National Guard Wellness Center: Planning and Design.	2,000
New Hampshire	Newington	Small Arms Range: Unspecified Minor Construction	2,000
New Jersey	Lawrenceville	Administration Building/General Purpose: Unspecified Minor Construction.	5,950
New Mexico	Rio Rancho	Vehicle Maintenance Shop: Planning and Design	600
New York	Lexington Armory	National Guard Readiness Center Addition/Alter- ation: Planning and Design.	3,580
North Carolina	Morrisville	Army Aviation Flight Facility #1: Planning and Design.	4,500

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD—Continued [In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Oregon	Camp Umatilla	Transient Training Officers Housing: Unspecified Minor Construction.	6,000
Pennsylvania	Fort Indiantown Gap	Eastern ARNG Aviation Training Site (EAATS) Post- Initial Military Training Unaccompanied Housing: Planning and Design.	2,700
Pennsylvania	New Castle	National Guard Readiness Center: Planning and Design.	2,360
Vermont	Ethan Allen AFB	Civil Support Team Facility: Planning and Design	1,300
Vermont	Ethan Allen AFB	Gold Star Pavilion: Unspecified Minor Construction	900
Vermont	Ethan Allen AFB	Micro-Grid System: Planning and Design	1,170
Vermont	Ethan Allen Firing Range	Cantonment Area for Training: Planning and Design.	3,500
Vermont	Ethan Allen Firing Range	Castle Trail Bypass (All Season Road): Planning and Design.	500
West Virginia	Kenova	Armed Forces Readiness Center ADD/ALT: Unspecified Minor Construction.	4,300
West Virginia	Martinsburg	National Guard Readiness Center: Planning and Design.	1,500
West Virginia	Wheeling	AASF#2 Hangar ADD/ALT: Unspecified Minor Con- struction.	6,000
West Virginia	Williamstown	AASF#1 Hangar ADD/ALT: Unspecified Minor Construction.	5,000

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

National Guard Biathlon Programs.—The Committee continues to support the National Guard's role in administering the U.S. military's biathlon program and includes \$8,000,000 above the President's budget request in unspecified minor construction for the update of biathlon facilities that enable engagement and training. The Director of the Army National Guard is directed to provide a spend plan for the use of these funds within 60 days of enactment of this act.

Army National Guard Readiness.—Recognizing the importance of readiness within the Army National Guard to carrying out missions at home and abroad, and the high demand for enabling infrastructure, the Committee provides an additional \$40,000,000 for planning and design and unspecified minor construction.

Readiness Centers.—The Committee notes that many Army National Guard units utilize outdated and substandard facilities which can negatively impact the unit's ability to meet readiness, recruiting and retention, and training objectives. Facilities with physical shortfalls of greater than 50 percent of authorized space, such as those in Jamestown, North Dakota, are particularly concerning. Continued use of inadequately sized and obsolete facilities can result in substandard training, negatively impacting troop readiness and morale. The Committee encourages the Army National Guard to allocate sufficient funding to address such facilities in future budget requests.

Lodging Facilities.—The Committee is aware of lodging shortfalls near Army National Guard training centers that support training and readiness activities as well as support training for outside agencies. The Committee encourages the Army National Guard to allocate appropriate funding towards lodging requirements in fu-

ture budget requests, particularly for installations with new training and readiness requirements.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Appropriations, 2022	\$305,050,000
Budget estimate, 2023	148,883,000
Committee recommendation	242,553,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$242,553,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$93,670,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Air National Guard, \$101,170,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Arizona	Morris ANGB	Main Gate Construction	10,300
Illinois	Scott SFB	Maintenance Hangar & Shops: Planning and Design.	2,500
Missouri	Jefferson Barracks ANGB	ADAL Security Forces Facility: Unspecified Minor Construction.	4,500
Missouri	Jefferson Barracks ANGB	Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Facility: Planning and Design.	730
Missouri	Rosecrans ANGB	Parking Apron: Planning and Design	2,000
Missouri	Rosecrans ANGB	Maintenance Hangar: Planning and Design	3,400
New Jersey	Atlantic City International Airport.	ADAL MAIN HANGAR: Planning and Design	3,000
New Jersey	Atlantic City International Airport.	Main Gate Complex: Unspecified Minor Construction.	5,100
Ohio	Rickenbacker ANGB	Small Arms Range	8,000
Oregon	Kingsley Field ANGB	B210 Communications Building: Unspecified Minor Construction.	5,000
Rhode Island	Quonset Point ANGB	Consolidated Headquarters Medical & Dining Facility.	46,000
Vermont	Burlington International Air- port.	Cyber Operations Squadron Building: Planning and Design.	1,000
West Virginia	McLaughlin ANGB	C-130J Apron Expansion	7,500
West Virginia	McLaughlin ANGB	Construct Indoor Small Arms Range: Planning and Design.	640
West Virginia	McLaughlin ANGB	Squadron Operations Building: Planning and Design.	1,500

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

Appropriations, 2022	\$94,111,000
Budget estimate, 2023	99,878,000
Committee recommendation	221,878,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$221,878,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$127,767,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$122,000,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Mili-

tary Construction, Army Reserve, \$74,000,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Wisconsin	Fort McCoy	Army Reserve Center: Planning and Design Transient Training Enlisted Barracks Transient Training Officer Barracks	,

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

Appropriations, 2022	\$71,804,000
Budget estimate, 2023	30,337,000
Committee recommendation	30.337.000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$30,337,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve for fiscal year 2023. This amount is equal to the budget request. Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

Appropriations, 2022	\$120,074,000
Budget estimate, 2023	56,623,000
Committee recommendation	93.423.000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$93,423,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$36,800,000 above the budget request. Within the total for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve, \$35,800,000 is for the following projects in the following amounts:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

[In thousands of dollars]

State	Location	Project	Amount
Mississippi	Keesler AFB	Aeromedical Evacuation Training Facility	10,000
Oklahoma	Tinker AFB	10th Flight Test Squadron Operations Facility	12,500
New York	Niagara Falls ARS	Combined Operations and Alert Facility: Planning and Design.	2,800
Virginia	JB Langley-Eustis	Intelligence Group Facility	10,500

Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2022	\$215,853,000
Budget estimate, 2023	210,139,000
Committee recommendation	210,139,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] appropriation provides for the U.S. cost share of the NATO Security Investment Program for the acquisition and construction of military facilities and installations (including international military headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective defense of the NATO Treaty area.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$210,139,000 for the NATO Security Investment Program for fiscal year 2023. This amount is equal to the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

Appropriations, 2022	\$529,639,000
Budget estimate, 2023	284,687,000
Committee recommendation	296,687,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Section 2711 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 112–239) consolidated the Base Closure Account 1990 and the Base Closure Account 2005 into a single Department of Defense Base Closure Account. The Base Closure Account provides for cleanup and disposal of property consistent with the four closure rounds required by the base closure acts of 1988 and 1990, and with the 2005 closure round required by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a total of \$296,687,000 for the Department of Defense Base Closure Account for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$12,000,000 above the budget request.

BRAC Contaminants Removal.—The Committee continues to recognize that the Services have active costs associated with ordnance disposal, environmental clean-up, property management, and other ongoing remedial actions at dozens of realigned or closed installations. Therefore, the Committee provides an additional \$12,000,000 to help remediate hazardous environmental sites at installations closed under previous Base Closure and Realignment rounds. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Service Secretaries to provide a spend plan for these additional funds to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 60 days after enactment of this act.

FAMILY HOUSING OVERVIEW

Appropriations, 2022	\$1,423,554,000
Budget estimate, 2023	1,956,330,000
Committee recommendation	1.956.330.000

FAMILY HOUSING ACCOUNTS—PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Family Housing appropriation provides funds for military family housing construction activities, operation and maintenance, the Family Housing Improvement Fund, and the Homeowners Assistance Program. Construction accounts provide funding for new construction, improvements and the Federal Government share of housing privatization. Operation and maintenance accounts fund costs associated with the maintenance and leasing of military family housing, including utilities, services, management, and furnishings.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,956,330,000 for Family Housing Construction, Operations and Maintenance, and the Department's family housing improvement fund for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$532,776,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

Air Purification Technology.—The Committee is concerned that mold and other dangerous substances are prevalent at some military housing units operated under the Military Housing Privatization Initiative. Humid climates are particularly susceptible to mold and related issues and may benefit from air purification technology that can reduce indoor air risks and yield measurable environmental and public health outcomes. The Committee encourages the Department to evaluate such technology and work with landlords of privatized military housing to address mold issues and improve quality of life for servicemembers.

Family Housing Construction, Army

Appropriations, 2022	\$99,849,000
Budget estimate, 2023	169,339,000
Committee recommendation	169,339,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$169,339,000 for Family Housing Construction, Army for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$69,490,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

Appropriations, 2022	\$391,227,000
Budget estimate, 2023	436,411,000
Committee recommendation	436,411,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$436,411,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army, for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$45,184,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

Family Housing Construction, Navy And Marine Corps

Appropriations, 2022	\$77,616,000
Budget estimate, 2023	337,297,000
Committee recommendation	337,297,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$337,297,000 for Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$259,681,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps

Appropriations, 2022	\$357,341,000
Budget estimate, 2023	368,224,000
Committee recommendation	368,224,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$368,224,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$10,883,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

Appropriations, 2022	\$115,716,000
Budget estimate, 2023	232,788,000
Committee recommendation	232,788,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$232,788,000 for Family Housing Construction, Air Force for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$117,072,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. Further detail of the Committee's recommendation is provided in the State table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force

Appropriations, 2022	\$325,445,000
Budget estimate, 2023	355,222,000
Committee recommendation	355,222,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$355,222,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force for fiscal year 2023. This

amount is \$29,777,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide

Appropriations, 2022	\$49,785,000
Budget estimate, 2023	50,113,000
Committee recommendation	50,113,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$50,113,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$328,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

Appropriations, 2022	\$6,081,000
Budget estimate, 2023	6,442,000
Committee recommendation	6,442,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Family Housing Improvement Fund appropriation provides for the Department of Defense to undertake housing initiatives and to provide an alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing and supporting facilities. This account provides seed money for housing privatization initiatives.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$6,442,000 for the Family Housing Improvement Fund for fiscal year 2023. This amount is \$361,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MILITARY UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

Appropriations, 2022	\$494,000
Budget estimate, 2023	494,000
Committee recommendation	494,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund appropriation provides for the Department of Defense to undertake housing initiatives and to provide an alternative means of acquiring and improving military unaccompanied housing and supporting facilities. This account provides seed money for housing privatization initiatives.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$494,000 for the Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund for fiscal year 2023. This amount is equal to the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and the budget request.

Administrative Provisions

Sec. 101. The Committee includes a provision that restricts payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for work, except in cases of contracts for environmental restoration at base closure sites.

Sec. 102. The Committee includes a provision that permits the use of funds for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

Sec. 103. The Committee includes a provision that permits the

use of funds for defense access roads.

Sec. 104. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits construction of new bases inside the continental United States for which specific appropriations have not been made.

Sec. 105. The Committee includes a provision that limits the use

of funds for purchase of land or land easements. Sec. 106. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits the use of funds to acquire land, prepare a site, or install utilities for any family housing except housing for which funds have been made available.

Sec. 107. The Committee includes a provision that limits the use of minor construction funds to transfer or relocate activities among installations.

Sec. 108. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits the procurement of steel unless American producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been allowed to compete.

Sec. 109. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits pay-

ments of real property taxes in foreign nations.

Sec. 110. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits construction of new bases overseas without prior notification.

Sec. 111. The Committee includes a provision that establishes a threshold for American preference of \$500,000 relating to architect and engineering services for overseas projects.

Sec. 112. The Committee includes a provision that establishes preference for American contractors for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific, and on Kwajalein Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf.

Sec. 113. The Committee includes a provision that requires notification of military exercises involving construction in excess of

\$100,000.

Sec. 114. The Committee includes a provision that permits funds appropriated in prior years to be available for construction authorized during the current session of Congress.

Sec. 115. The Committee includes a provision that permits the use of expired or lapsed funds to pay the cost of supervision for any project being completed with lapsed funds.

Sec. 116. The Committee includes a provision that permits obligation of funds from more than one fiscal year to execute a construction project, provided that the total obligation for such project is consistent with the total amount appropriated for the project.

Sec. 117. The Committee includes a provision that permits the transfer of funds from Family Housing Construction accounts to the DoD Family Housing Improvement Fund and from Military Construction accounts to the DoD Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund.

Sec. 118. The Committee includes a provision that provides

transfer authority to the Homeowners Assistance Fund.

Sec. 119. The Committee includes a provision that requires all acts making appropriations for military construction be the sole funding source of all operation and maintenance for family housing, including flag and general officer quarters, and limits the repair on flag and general officer quarters to \$35,000 per unit per year without prior notification to the congressional defense committees.

Sec. 120. The Committee includes a provision that provides authority to expend funds from the "Ford Island Improvement" ac-

Sec. 121. The Committee includes a provision that allows the transfer of expired funds to the Foreign Currency Fluctuation, Con-

struction, Defense Account.

Sec. 122. The Committee includes a provision that allows the reprogramming of military construction and family housing construction funds among projects and activities within the account in which they are funded.

Sec. 123. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits the

use of funds in this title for planning and design and construction

of projects at Arlington National Cemetery.

Sec. 124. The Committee includes a provision providing addi-

tional funds for unfunded military construction priorities.

Sec. 125. The Committee includes a provision directing all amounts appropriated to military construction accounts be immediately available and allotted for the full scope of authorized

Sec. 126. The Committee includes a provision permitting the obligation of funds for fiscal year 2017 and fiscal year 2018 projects for which the project authorization has not lapsed or has been ex-

tended.

Sec. 127. The Committee includes a provision defining the con-

gressional defense committees.

Sec. 128. The Committee includes a provision providing additional funding for science and technology and testing and evaluation laboratory infrastructure.

Sec. 129. The Committee includes a provision providing addi-

tional funding for Military Installation Resilience. Sec. 130. The Committee includes a provision providing addi-

tional funding for Air Force natural disaster recovery.

Sec. 131. The Committee includes a provision providing funds specified to address cost increases identified subsequent to the fiscal year 2023 budget request for authorized major construction projects across various accounts.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HEARING

The Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held one hearing related to the Department of Veterans Affairs' budget request for fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2024 advance appropriations. The subcommittee heard testimony from the Honorable Denis R. McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommendation includes \$299,909,298,000 for the Department of Veterans Affairs [VA] for fiscal year 2023, including \$164,957,258,000 in mandatory spending and \$134,952,040,000 in discretionary spending. The Committee also recommends \$155,351,762,000 in advance appropriations for appropriated mandatories and \$128,104,000,000 in advance appropriations for veterans medical care for fiscal year 2024.

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Veterans Administration was established on July 21, 1930, as an independent agency by Executive Order 5398, in accordance with the act of July 3, 1930 (46 Stat. 1016). This act authorized the President to consolidate and coordinate Federal agencies specially created for or concerned with the administration of laws providing benefits to veterans, including the Veterans' Bureau, the Bureau of Pensions, and the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. On March 15, 1989, the Veterans Administration was elevated to Cabinet-level status as the Department of Veterans Affairs.

VA's mission is to serve America's veterans and their families as their principal advocate in ensuring they receive the care, support, and recognition they have earned in service to the Nation. As of September 30, 2021, there were an estimated 19.2 million living veterans residing in the United States, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. There were an estimated 22.6 million dependents (spouses and dependent children) of living veterans, and there were about 600,000 survivors of deceased veterans receiving VA survivor benefits. Thus, approximately 42.3 million people, or 12.7 percent of the total estimated resident population of the United States, Puerto Rico, U.S. Island Areas and U.S. citizens living abroad were recipients or potential recipients of veterans benefits from the Federal Government. VA's operating units include the Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Health Administration, National Cemetery Administration, and staff support offices.

The Veterans Benefits Administration [VBA] provides an integrated program of nonmedical veterans benefits. VBA administers a broad range of benefits to veterans and other eligible beneficiaries through 56 regional offices; 3 Pension Management Centers; 6 Fiduciary Hubs; 2 Regional Éducation Processing Offices; 8 Regional Loan Centers; the Philadelphia Insurance Center; 9 National Call Centers; 3 Decision Review Operations Centers; and a records processing center in St. Louis, Missouri. The benefits provided include compensation for service-connected disabilities; pensions for wartime, needy, and totally disabled veterans; vocational rehabilitation assistance; educational and training assistance; home buying assistance; estate protection services for veterans under legal disability; information and assistance through personalized contacts; and 6 life insurance programs.

The Veterans Health Administration [VHA] develops, maintains, and operates a national healthcare delivery system for eligible veterans; carries out a program of education and training of healthcare personnel; conducts medical research and development; and furnishes health services to members of the Armed Forces during periods of war or national emergency. A system consisting of 145 VA Hospitals; 12 Health Care Centers; 204 Multi-Specialty Community-Based Outpatient Clinics; 536 Primary Care Community-Based Outpatient Clinics; 377 Outpatient Services Sites; 135 community living centers; 124 mental health residential rehabilitation treatment programs; 300 readjustment counseling Vet Centers; and 83 Mobile Vet Centers is maintained to meet VA's medical

The National Cemetery Administration [NCA] provides for the interment of the remains of eligible deceased servicemembers and discharged veterans in any national cemetery with available grave space; permanently maintains these graves; provides headstones and markers for the graves of eligible persons in national and private cemeteries; administers the grant program for aid to States in establishing, expanding, or improving State veterans cemeteries; and provides certificates to families of deceased veterans recognizing their contributions and service to the Nation. In 2023, cemetery activities will encompass 158 national cemeteries and 34 soldiers' lots and monuments and their maintenance as national

Staff support offices include the Office of Inspector General, Board of Veterans Appeals, and General Administration offices, which support the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretary for Benefits, Under Secretary for Health, Under Secretary for Me-

morial Affairs, and General Counsel.

In fiscal years 2020 and 2021, the Department received supplemental appropriations to assist them to prepare for, prevent, and respond to the pandemic and related costs. This included \$17,080,000,000 from the American Rescue Plan (Public Law 117-2) to address the costs of deferred care, backlog of veteran benefits claims and appeals, improve supply chain management capabilities, address needed construction to State extended care facilities, and train veterans unemployed due to the pandemic for high demand occupations. The Department's continued obligation of funds were considered as part of the administration's fiscal year 2023 request.

Toxic Exposures.—The Committee is aware of a long, painful history of servicemembers being exposed to toxic substances, and notes that the Senate recently passed the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 [PACT Act] (H.R. 3967). This legislation will expand long-overdue healthcare and benefit eligibility to veterans impacted by exposure to toxins during their service. As the Department implements the actions outlined in the PACT Act, including for the Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund, the Department is reminded of the importance of working with the Committees to develop estimates, processes, and regulations. Effective implementation of this legislation requires an enterprise-wide approach, including but not limited to work by the Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration, National Cemetery Administration, Office of Information and Technology, Office of General Counsel, the Office of Management, and the Board of Veterans

Veterans Exposed to Open Burn Pits and Airborne Hazards.—The Committee is supportive of the efforts of VA to research and study the health effects of open-air burn pits on veterans. In order to provide full and effective medical care, it is essential for the Department to better understand the impacts exposure during service has had on the health of veterans, including linkages to rare cancer not yet identified by VA as presumptive to military service. Therefore, the Committee includes \$15,000,000 to carry out responsibilities and activities of the Airborne Hazards and Burn Pits Center of Ex-

cellence.

Center for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander and U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islander Health.—The Committee acknowledges VA's December 2021 feasibility study in its report to Congress on the establishment of a VA Center for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islander Health, which indicated a strong potential benefit for Hawaii and the underserved veteran Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander populations. The report further States that such a VA center would concentrate on practical areas of research, data collection, and practice improvement, including efforts to expand telehealth and telepharmacy for remote and isolated areas, grow the healthcare workforce, leverage data analytics from modernized electronic health records, and more. Therefore, the Committee encourages VA to allocate appropriate funding towards the establishment of a VA Center for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islander Health, and to partner with other organizations, as appropriate.

Unobligated Balances of Expired Discretionary Funds.—The Committee directs the Secretary to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quarterly reports detailing all unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds by fiscal

year.

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2022	\$160,732,727,000
Advance Appropriations, 2023	161,033,258,000
Budget estimate, 2023	6,671,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	6,671,214,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	155,351,762,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	155,351,762,000

ADMINISTRATION OVERVIEW

The Veterans Benefits Administration is responsible for the payment of compensation and pension benefits to eligible service-connected disabled veterans, as well as education benefits and housing loan guarantees.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided \$161,033,258,000 in advance appropriations for VBA for fiscal year 2023. This included \$152,016,542,000 for Compensation and Pensions; \$8,906,851,000 for Readjustment Benefits; and \$109,865,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

For fiscal year 2023, the Committee's recommendation includes \$282,361,131 for the Veterans Housing Benefit Program Fund administrative expenses; \$7,171 for the Vocational Rehabilitation Loans Program account, with \$445,698 for administrative expenses; \$1,400,000 for the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program account; and \$3,863,000,000 for the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account.

The Committee recommendation also provides \$155,351,762,000 in advance appropriations for the Veterans Benefits Administration's mandatory accounts for fiscal year 2024. This level may be adjusted based on the results of the administration's mid-session review.

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2022	\$139.183.014.000
Advance Appropriations, 2023	152,016,542,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	146,778,136,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	146,778,136,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Compensation is payable to living veterans who have suffered impairment of earning power from service-connected disabilities. The amount of compensation is based upon the impact of disabilities on a veteran's earning capacity. Death compensation or dependency and indemnity compensation is payable to the surviving spouses and dependents of veterans whose deaths occur while on active duty or result from service-connected disabilities. A clothing allowance may also be provided for veterans with a service-connected disability who use a prosthetic or orthopedic device. In fiscal year 2023, the Department estimates it will obligate \$141,420,690,000 for compensation payments to 5,538,958 veterans, 482,949 survivors, and 1,098 children receiving special benefits.

Pensions are an income security benefit payable to needy wartime veterans who are precluded from gainful employment due to non-service-connected disabilities that render them permanently and totally disabled. The Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–103), restored the automatic presumption of permanent and total non-service-connected disability for purposes of awarding a pension to veterans age 65 and older, subject to the income limitations that apply to all pensioners. Death pensions are payable to needy surviving spouses and children of deceased wartime veterans. The rate payable for both disability and death pensions is determined on the basis of the annual income of the veteran or their survivors. In fiscal year 2023, the Department estimates that the Pensions program will provide benefits to 162,377 veterans and 114,250 survivors totaling \$3,548,552,000.

The Compensation and Pensions program funds certain burial benefits on behalf of eligible deceased veterans. These benefits provide the purchase and transportation costs for headstones and markers, graveliners, and pre-placed crypts; and provide partial reimbursement for privately purchased outer burial receptacles. In fiscal year 2023, the Department estimates the Compensation and Pensions program will obligate \$411,781,000 providing burial benefits. This funding will provide 46,549 burial allowances, 55,503 burial plot allowances, 53,974 service-connected death awards, 450,848 burial flags, 337,312 headstones or markers, 77,858 graveliners or reimbursement for privately purchased outer burial receptacles, 277 caskets and urns for the internment of the remains of veterans without next of kin, and 1,247 cremation urns and commemorative plaques in lieu of furnishing a headstone or marker for an eligible deceased individual not already buried who served in the Armed Forces.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$152,016,542,000 for fiscal year 2023 for the Compensation and Pensions account.

The Committee recommendation includes an advance appropriation of \$146,778,136,000 for the Compensation and Pensions account for fiscal year 2024, as requested

count for fiscal year 2024, as requested.

Military Sexual Trauma Disability Claims Processing.—The Committee is concerned by the VA Office of Inspector General's [OIG] August 2021 report (#20–00041–163) finding that more than half of denied military sexual trauma [MST]-related disability claims were not processed correctly from October 1 to December 31, 2019, which may have resulted in veterans being denied the benefits and care they were due. Within 180 days of enactment, the Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on corrective actions taken to improve the accuracy of processing MST-related disability claims. The report should include actions taken to address the VA OIG's findings and recommendations from Report #20–00041–163; as well as an update on the implementation of sections 5501 and 5502 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, MD Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Pub-

lic Law 116–315), including what percentage of claims are being reviewed by specialized teams, any barriers VBA faces in allowing veteran MST survivors to choose the sex of their medical examiner, and any proposed changes for ensuring veterans' choices can be met.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

Appropriations, 2022	\$14,946,618,000
Advance Appropriations, 2023	8,906,851,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	8,452,500,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	8,452,500,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Readjustment Benefits appropriation finances the education and training of veterans and servicemembers under chapters 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code. These benefits include the All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program (Montgomery GI bill) and the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, including changes through the Forever GI bill. Basic benefits are funded through appropriations made to the readjustment benefits account and by transfers from the Department of Defense [DoD]. This account also finances vocational rehabilitation, specially adapted housing grants, specially adapted automobile grants for certain disabled veterans, and educational assistance allowances for eligible dependents of those veterans who died from service-connected causes or who have a total permanent service-connected disability, as well as dependents of servicemembers who were captured or missing in action.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$8,906,851,000 for the Readjustment Benefits account for fiscal year 2023.

The Committee recommendation includes an advance appropriation of \$8,452,500,000 for Readjustment Benefits for fiscal year 2024, as requested.

Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses [VET TEC].—The VET TEC program provides veterans with training to start or advance a career in the high-technology industry. The Committee continues to strongly support this initiative and encourages the Department to expand the program to address increased demand, including adding additional providers, particularly in areas of the country where the initiative is not currently available. In addition, the Committee encourages the Department to expand the program to help train and employ veterans with disabilities, including through programs that support blind veterans in high-technology career fields, such as cybersecurity.

Post-9/11 GI Bill.—The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 60 days of enactment of this act on the potential costs associated with eliminating the 15-year delimitation date for using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. The report should also include the number of veterans that lost access to Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits in the

past 3 years and projections on the number of veterans that will lose access in the next 3 years.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

Appropriations, 2022	\$136,950,000
Advance Appropriations, 2023	109,865,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	121,126,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	121,126,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Veterans Insurance and Indemnities appropriation consists of the former appropriations for military and naval insurance, applicable to World War I veterans; National Service Life Insurance, applicable to certain World War II veterans; servicemen's indemnities, applicable to Korean conflict veterans; and veterans mortgage life insurance to individuals who have received a grant for specially adapted housing.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$109,865,000 for fiscal year 2023 for the Veterans Insurance and Indemnities account.

The Committee recommendation includes an advance appropriation of \$121,126,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities for fiscal year 2024, as requested.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

	Program account ¹	Administrative expenses
Appropriations, 2022 Budget estimate, 2023 Committee recommendation	SSAN SSAN SSAN	\$229,500,000 282,361,131 282,361,131

 $^{^{1}\,\}mathrm{Such}$ sums as may be necessary [SSAN]

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Veterans Housing Benefit Program Fund provides for all costs associated with VA's direct and guaranteed housing loan programs, with the exception of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program.

VA loan guaranties are made to servicemembers, veterans, reservists, and unremarried surviving spouses for the purchase of homes, condominiums, and manufactured homes, and for refinancing loans. VA guarantees part of the total loan, permitting the purchaser to obtain a mortgage with a competitive interest rate, even without a downpayment, if the lender agrees. VA requires a downpayment be made for a manufactured home. With a VA guaranty, the lender is protected against loss up to the amount of the guaranty if the borrower fails to repay the loan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends such sums as may be necessary, currently estimated to be \$2,524,000,000, for funding subsidy payments, and \$282,361,131 for administrative expenses for fiscal year

2023. Bill language limits gross obligations for direct loans for spe-

cially adapted housing to \$500,000.

VA Home Loans.—In an increasingly competitive housing market, it is important to ensure that veterans seeking to purchase a home with assistance through the home loan program are not at a disadvantage compared to other potential buyers. In this market, the strict inspection and appraisal requirements on a VA home loan have made it difficult for veterans to remain competitive home buyers. The Committee directs VA to take steps to complete all outstanding VA home loans, including those outside the contiguous United States, by the end of calendar year 2022 and to maintain policies, funding, and staffing levels that ensure appraisals are completed within VA's established timeliness standards.

Veterans Housing Rehabilitation and Modification Pilot [VHRMP] Program.—The Department of Housing and Urban Development's [HUD] VHRMP program is an important tool for providing home modification and adaptive housing for veterans. The Committee believes that VA can play a larger role in informing veterans of the assistance it offers. The Committee encourages VA to coordinate with HUD to develop an outreach plan to increase awareness about this program among veterans, Veterans Service

Organizations, and other eligible entities.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Administrative expenses
Appropriations, 2022 Budget estimate, 2023 Committee recommendation	\$2,838 7,171 7,171	\$429,467 445,698 445,698

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Vocational Rehabilitation Loans Program account covers the cost of direct loans for vocational rehabilitation of eligible veterans and, in addition, includes administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program. Loans of up to \$1,300 (based on the indexed chapter 31 subsistence allowance rate) are currently available to service-connected disabled veterans enrolled in vocational rehabilitation programs, as provided under 38 U.S.C. chapter 31, when the veteran is temporarily in need of additional assistance. Repayment is made in monthly installments, without interest, through deductions from future payments of compensation, pension, subsistence allowance, educational assistance allowance, or retirement pay. Virtually all loans are repaid in full and most in less than 1 year.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$7,171 for program costs and \$445,698 for administrative expenses for the Vocational Rehabilitation Loans Program account. The administrative expenses may be paid to the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account. Bill language is included limiting program direct loans to \$942,330. It is estimated VA will make 870 loans in fiscal year 2023, with an average amount of \$1,083.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Appropriations, 2022	\$1,400,000
Budget estimate, 2023	1,186,000
Committee recommendation	1,400,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program is authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 37, section 3761 to provide direct loans to Native American veterans living on trust lands. The loans are available to purchase, construct, or improve homes to be occupied as veteran residences or to refinance a loan previously made under this program in order to lower the interest rate.

Veterans pay a funding fee of 1.25 percent of the loan amount, although veterans with a service-connected disability are exempt from paying the fee. Before a direct loan can be made, the veteran's Tribal organization must sign a memorandum of understanding with VA regarding the terms and conditions of the loan. The Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program began as a pilot program in 1993 and was made permanent by the Veterans' Housing Opportunity and Benefits Improvement Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–233).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,400,000 for administrative expenses associated with this program. This is equal to the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$214,000 greater than the budget request.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2022	\$3,453,813,000
Budget estimate, 2023	3,863,000,000
Committee recommendation	3.863.000.000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The General Operating Expenses [GOE], VBA account provides funding for VBA to administer entitlement programs such as service-connected disability compensation, education benefits, and vocational rehabilitation services.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$3,863,000,000 for the GOE, VBA account, which is \$409,187,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. The Committee included bill language to make available through September 30, 2024, up to 10 percent of the GOE, VBA account.

Contract Providers for Exams.—The Committee is concerned about the Veterans Benefits Administration's increased reliance on outside providers to conduct compensation and pension or medical disability exams. These exams are necessary for veterans to receive the benefits that they have earned through their military service. Therefore, the Committee urges VA to ensure that compensation

and pension exams are available at VA facilities with the capability

to conduct them in a safe and thorough manner.

National Training Curriculum.—The Department is encouraged to improve the training of VA personnel who are responsible for processing disability claims to help ensure benefits are being correctly determined so veterans experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder have access to the healthcare, treatment, and compensa-

tion to which they are entitled.

GI Bill Apprenticeships and On-the-Job-Training.—The Committee directs VA to take additional actions to promote awareness and increased utilization of apprenticeships and on-the-job training [OJT] programs, including continued coordination and support to State Approving Agencies [SAAs] and programs that may incentivize increased participation by employers. The Committee recommends additional support and resources be provided to SAAs for the purpose of increasing awareness and utilization of apprenticeships and OJT. The Department is encouraged to explore options to expand the program, while ensuring proper oversight of SAA contracts.

VetSuccess on Campus.—The VetSuccess on Campus program places Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors and a Vet Center Outreach Coordinator on college campuses to assist student veterans, servicemembers, and qualified dependents. The Committee strongly encourages VA to continue to support this program and expand to additional schools, including locations that serve multiple institutions

Support to County, Tribal and Equivalent Governmental Veterans Service Officers.—The Committee recognizes the crucial role of the 1,700 county, Tribal and equivalent governmental accredited Veteran Service Officers in ensuring veterans receive the benefits and care they deserve, by serving as the first point of contact for veterans in many rural communities across the country. Accordingly, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this act, the Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on how the Department could improve its support of county, Tribal and equivalent governmental Veterans Service Officers. The report shall assess the feasibility and current technical limitations of providing governmental Veterans Service Officers enhanced access to certain Department systems to better serve veterans and any other recommendations to improve how the Department monitors, coordinates with, or provides support to Veterans Service Officers to include but not limited to training or financial support for local governmental operations.

Evaluation of the Impact of the National Work Queue.—The Committee acknowledges that introduction of the National Work Queue [NWQ] to process claims realized many efficiencies, but is nevertheless concerned about the unintended consequences of a distributed process on veterans, their accredited representatives, and VA employees. Previously, the local Regional Office would process a veteran's claim. Now, to process each step of that claim, the NWQ generally assigns the Regional Office that has the most capacity at that moment, regardless of geographic proximity. While this has smoothed out workloads, veterans and their representatives no

longer have a local point of contact to resolve certain issues. Furthermore, VA employees may no longer have complete ownership over their work product from beginning to end, and may have their performance evaluated for work previously conducted by an employee from a different Regional Office. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on (1) how it plans to restore procedures to provide specialized assistance to and coordination with veterans' accredited representatives, and (2) how it plans to evaluate VA employees

fairly for their own work product.

Evaluation of VBA Information Technology Systems.—The Committee is concerned VA may continue to develop VBA Information Technology [IT] systems (e.g., the Veterans Benefits Management System [VBMS]) without adequately considering a key use case of those systems—that of veterans' accredited representatives. While systems like VBMS are primarily for internal use by employees, VA provides access to certain systems for veteran representatives to enhance veteran awareness and coordination. Therefore, continuing to develop VBA IT systems without also optimizing them for access by representatives may hinder effective coordination. The Department is directed to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on how it plans to receive feedback on potential front-end improvements to VBA IT systems that may enhance veteran awareness and coordination for the timeliness and accuracy of claims.

Modernize the Veterans Benefits Management System.—The Department is further directed to complete an assessment of VBMS, and develop a plan to modernize the system as appropriate. The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 180 days after enactment of this act detailing the findings of this assessment

and the Department's plan to update the system.

Ready for Decision Status.—The Committee is concerned by the wait time veterans currently experience between the time claims reach Ready for Decision [RFD] status and before a final decision is approved. No later than 90 days after enactment of this act, the Department shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on: (1) the number of claims that reached RFD status by month since January 2021; (2) the average time in RFD status, broken down by month and by the regional office responsible for the determination; (3) any impact that COVID-19 work from home status had on processing time; and (4) any impact from delays vendors contracted by the Government Publishing Office experienced in printing and mailing notification letters to veterans and claimants in calendar year 2021.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2022	\$98,334,260,000
Advance appropriations, 2023	111,287,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	8,377,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	128,104,000,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	128,104,000,000

ADMINISTRATION OVERVIEW

The Veterans Health Administration [VHA] is home to the United States' largest integrated healthcare system consisting of 145 VA Hospitals; 12 Health Care Centers; 204 Multi-Specialty Community-Based Outpatient Clinics; 536 Primary Care Community-Based Outpatient Clinics; 377 Outpatient Services Sites; 135 community living centers; 124 mental health residential rehabilitation treatment programs; 300 readjustment counseling Vet Centers; and 83 Mobile Vet Centers.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Care Collections Fund [MCCF] was established by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–33). In fiscal year 2004, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (Public Law 108–199) allowed the Department to deposit first-party and pharmaceutical co-payments, third-party insurance payments and enhanced-use collections, long-term care co-payments, Compensated Work Therapy Program collections, Compensation and Pension Living Expenses Program collections, and Parking Program fees into the MCCF.

The Parking Program provides funds for the construction, alteration, and acquisition (by purchase or lease) of parking garages at VA medical facilities authorized by 38 U.S.C. 8109. The Secretary is required under certain circumstances to establish and collect fees for the use of such garages and parking facilities. Receipts from the parking fees are to be deposited into the MCCF and are used for medical services activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided \$111,287,000,000 in advance appropriations for VA's medical care accounts for fiscal year 2023. This included \$70,323,116,000 for Medical Services, \$24,156,659,000 for Medical Community Care, \$9,673,409,000 for Medical Support and Compliance, and \$7,133,816,000 for Medical Facilities

For fiscal year 2023, the Committee recommends an additional \$261,000,000 for Medical Services, \$4,300,000,000 for Medical Community Care, \$1,400,000,000 for Medical Support and Compliance, and \$1,500,000,000 for Medical Facilities, for a total of \$118,748,000,000 for VA medical care. Additionally, the Committee recommendation includes \$916,000,000 for Medical and Prosthetic Research. Medical Care Collections are estimated to be \$3,910,000,000 in fiscal year 2023. The Committee recommendation also provides \$128,104,000,000 in advance appropriations for VA's medical care accounts for fiscal year 2024.

The Committee recognizes the invaluable role of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Nation's largest integrated healthcare system, in serving the unique needs of veterans. The Committee recognizes that a strong and fully resourced VHA is necessary to effectively serve our Nation's veterans.

The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment on the total cost of extending VA medical care eligibility to all non-federally activated members of the National Guard and Reserve components of the Armed Services.

Geographic Income Eligibility Thresholds.—Currently, veterans face a complex set of eligibility requirements to determine if they can receive healthcare from VA, not least of which is the 3000+ geographic income eligibility thresholds across the Nation. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the report on geographic income

eligibility thresholds requested in Senate Report 117–35.

Develop Accurate and More Robust Quality Comparisons between VA and the Community.—The Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act on steps it will take to provide more robust and accurate quality and timeliness comparisons between VA and Veterans Community Care providers so eligible veterans can make better informed decisions on where to receive care.

Negligence of Veterans Affairs Employees and Patient Safety.—The Committee remains concerned about the failure of patient safety standards at multiple VAMCs and CBOCs, many of which have resulted in death or serious injury and criminal sentences for the perpetrators. The Department should pursue administrative discipline of any employee found negligent in either a criminal, civil, or inspector general filing, and take appropriate action related to any accountable employee's ability to retire or resign. The Committee appreciates the report on the Department's safety standards policies submitted in response to Senate Report 117–35. The Department is directed to provide an update, including confirmation that the accreditation processes verify all patient safety standards are in place and followed by Department staff, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act.

Women's Health Care Facilities Improvements.—The Committee reminds VA of the annual reporting requirement included in the Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying Public Law 116–94.

Alternative Treatments.—The Committee recognizes that the United States is in the midst of a drug epidemic fueled by prescription opioids, which has been exacerbated by the pandemic. The veteran population is particularly susceptible to substance abuse given high rates of chronic pain and service-related injuries. Alternative treatments for pain management have been shown to be effective in reducing pain and reliance on prescription opioids. The Committee continues to encourage VA to expand the use of alternative treatments to pain management in its delivery of healthcare services. The Committee also urges VA to integrate treatments such as acupuncture into VA medical centers and clinics through licensed professionals or on a contract basis.

Study on Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment.—The Committee is aware that doctors of osteopathic medicine receive intensive training in osteopathic manipulative treatment [OMT] and could help ensure our veterans have access to effective non-addictive treatments for back and other pain. The Department is directed to track utilization of OMT among veterans seeking care and provide a report of the use of OMT, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 120 days of enactment of this act. The Department is further urged to develop a mechanism to

track outcomes of this treatment.

Transcendental Meditation in Veterans Mental Health.—The Committee looks forward to reviewing VA's report, as directed in Senate Report 117–35, on resources needed to deploy transcendental meditation [TM] across the VA system. The Committee remains interested in TM's potential as an evidence-based, non-invasive treatment for veterans of all backgrounds in treating both acute mental health as well as pain management needs.

The Committee also supports VA's ongoing Phase III clinical trial and pilot at nine VA Medical Centers and research hospitals evaluating TM as a first-line treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD] and suicidality, as well as offering TM instruction to VA patients and staff. The Committee encourages appropriate allo-

cation of funding to support this pilot program.

At-home Drug Deactivation and Disposal for Veterans.—The Committee is aware that in response to the direction in House Report 116–445 and House Report 117–81, VA is conducting a pilot program to evaluate the benefits of co-dispensing at-home drug deactivation and disposal products for postsurgical patients. The Committee encourages the Department to expand this pilot program, and allocate appropriate levels of funding, to include VA patients from a variety of geographic locations and VA medical facility types, as well as patients who are prescribed opioids for chronic pain management or other long-term use, as appropriate.

Pharmacogenomics Program.—Pharmacogenomic information is often critical to drug or dose selection to prevent patient harm. Therefore, the Committee commends the work of the Veterans Health Administration to implement a National Pharmacogenomics Program to ensure all eligible veterans have access to appropriate, evidenced-based pharmacogenomic testing and that the Department has a robust and highly trained healthcare professional workforce to help interpret and manage veterans who have undergone pharmacogenomic testing. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the information on pharmacogenomics testing requested in Sen-

ate Report 117-35.

Precision Oncology Program.—Molecular diagnostics and precision oncology, including microarray and next generation sequencing, performed at the first occurrence of cancer can provide vital information regarding the specific tumor type and its drivers, which can lead to the most accurate precision medicine for patients. The Committee commends the Department's Precision Oncology Program, appreciates the information provided in response to Senate Report 117-35, and directs the Department to provide an update to that report no later than 60 days after the enactment of this act. The Department is urged to accelerate the adoption of molecular diagnostics for numerous cancers, including rare cancers, and to provide information to clinicians on the value of using molecular diagnostics to cancer patients and how to contribute tissue specimens to a repository started among the Department, DoD and the National Institutes of Health, as appropriate. The Committee encourages the Department to consider engaging in public-private partnerships to use a next-generation, precision-oncology platform that integrates bioinformatics, machine learning, and mathematics to unveil insights into cancer to identify complex and interconnected mechanisms responsible for drug response and resistance

revealed in the human transcriptome to determine the best treat-

ments and facilitate developing new ones.

National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.—The National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder [NCPTSD] is the Federal Government's foremost center of expertise on evidence-based treatment of post-traumatic stress. The Committee continues to support the mission and work of the NCPTSD and provides \$40,000,000 to continue the center's advancement of the clinical care and social welfare of America's veterans who have experienced trauma or suffer from PTSD through research, education, and training in the science, diagnosis, and treatment of PTSD and stress-related disorders. The Committee supports the priorities for NCPTSD as described in the Congressional budget submission, and urges it to consider academic and interagency collaborations to investigate novel combinatorial forms of intervention for PTSD, including multifactor approaches.

cluding multifactor approaches.

Securing Medical Devices.—The Committee encourages the Department to implement security and remediation best practices to address potential medical device cyberattack risks as referenced in the VA Office of Inspector General report "DMLSS Supply Chain Management System Deployed with Operational Gaps That Risk National Delays" (#20–01324–215). The potential for compromised medical devices, such as ventilators, vital sign monitors, infusion pumps, and MRIs, puts veteran patients at risk. The Committee encourages the Department to ensure the security of all networked

medical devices.

Philanthropic Partnerships.—The Committee supports philanthropic partnerships that help advance patient care with a strategic focus on the critical role of clinician engagement. The Committee encourages the Department to work with nonprofit and forprofit patient organizations and experts in the healthcare philanthropic community to design and support an initiative that will strengthen national health services to the Nation's veterans and their families, as appropriate.

MEDICAL SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2022	\$58,897,219,000
Advance appropriations, 2023	
Budget estimate, 2023	261,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	74,004,000,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	74,004,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical Services account provides for medical services for eligible enrolled veterans and other beneficiaries in VA healthcare facilities, including VA medical centers and VA outpatient clinics.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$70,323,116,000 for fiscal year 2023 for the Medical Services account. The recommendation for fiscal year 2023 includes an additional \$261,000,000, coupled with the advance appropria-

tion provided for fiscal year 2023 provides the Department with total budget authority of \$70,584,116,000, which is equal to the request. In addition, VA has the authority to retain co-payments and third-party collections.

The Committee recommendation also includes an advance appropriation of \$74,004,000,000 for Medical Services for fiscal year

2024, equal to the budget request.

PREVENTING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

The Committee remains strongly supportive of VA's homeless prevention programs. As such the recommendation includes \$2,695,392,000 to support these programs, \$10,000,000 more than the request. This total includes \$750,167,000 for the Supportive Services for Veterans Families [SSVF] Program; \$557,921,000 for the Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing [HUD–VASH] Program case management, \$276,368,000 for the Grant and Per Diem Program [GPD]; and \$81,394,000 for the Veterans Justice Outreach [VJO] Program and Legal Services for Veterans grants.

The Committee recognizes the Department's efforts to reduce the number of veterans experiencing homelessness, and the goal of putting 38,000 veterans experiencing homelessness into long term housing in calendar year 2022. While VA increased supports to veterans at risk of homelessness during the pandemic, the Committee is concerned the number of veterans experiencing homelessness will increase as homelessness assistance, including debt relief programs, enacted at the Federal, State, and local levels during the

pandemic end.

Supportive Services for Low Income Veterans and Families.—SSVF is a critical initiative designed to help reach the goal of ending homelessness among veterans. Through grants to private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives, SSVF is designed to rapidly re-house homeless veteran families and prevent homelessness for those at imminent risk due to a housing crisis. The Committee urges the Department to increase the number of VA caseworkers, specifically in rural and underserved geographic areas, and ensure that those caseworkers have a strong cultural competency in order to gain veterans' trust and build rapport. The Committee directs the Department to fill open vacancies, using all available recruitment and retention resources, and to submit an annual report on the status on filling any and all vacancies. In addition, the Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 1 year after enactment of this act on the effectiveness of using contracted caseworkers in comparison to Department caseworkers, and on how effectively veterans are being assisted through SSVF. The Committee also supports the expansion of the shallow subsidy initiative of the SSVF program.

HUD-VASH.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the

HUD-VASH.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the HUD-VASH program in supporting at risk veterans while recovering from physical and mental health problems, substance use disorders, and functional concerns contributing to or resulting from homelessness. The Committee supports the expansion of caseworkers hired in order to reach the Department's goal of 90 percent

of caseworker positions filled, and encourages the Department to continue to expand the program to reach as many veterans as possible. The Department is reminded of the report requirement regarding the HUD-VASH program caseworkers included in Senate

Report 117-35.

The HUD-VASH Collaborative Case Management system was established allowing the VA Secretary to designate a third party to provide case management services to HUD-VASH veterans. This model can be effective to increasing the accessibility of case management services, particularly in circumstances where VA is insufficiently staffed. However, it is appropriate in areas with underutilized HUD-VASH vouchers to allow for a warm handover from Continuums of Care, social service organizations, or Public Housing Authorities [PHAs] for temporary case management services to VA for sustained case management. Therefore, the Committee directs VA to coordinate with HUD to establish pathways that would allow for temporary, transitional case management in areas that PHA's have vouchers that are available, allocated and accompanied with VA case management resources, but underutilized due to a lack of VA referrals.

Further, the fiscal year 2021 Joint Explanatory Statement directed HUD to consult with VA to enable PHAs to be designated entities to screen for veteran eligibility and make referrals for the HUD–VASH program. HUD issued new guidance in 2021, which stated that VA can approve a PHA to be a designated service provider [DSP], but that such approval would be dependent on further guidance from HUD and VA on the conditions under and process through which PHAs may become DSPs. HUD and VA have not yet issued the additional guidance, but are working to implement this directive for PHAs that are interested in assuming this mission. The Committee expects such guidance to be finalized this fall.

Homeless Providers GPD Program.—The Committee agrees with the goal of ending veteran homelessness by ensuring veterans access to permanent, affordable housing of their choice. However, the Committee recognizes that service-intensive transitional housing provided through VA's GPD Program is an important programmatic option, particularly in areas with low vacancy rates, limited housing stock, and high market rates, and that substancefree and service-intensive housing may be a critical step for veterans at risk of relapse into substance abuse. The most appropriate mix of housing services for veterans should be determined locally through a collaborative process including local housing partners, service providers, and VA. The Department should continue to make funding available for GPD beds based on a collaborative process with local housing partners, the local VA Medical Centers and the Continuums of Care. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the report requested in Senate Report 117-35 on the contingency and remediation plan for veterans impacted by changes in availability or losses of awards of Grant Per Diem Program funds for current providers that serve rural or highly rural areas that would result in the loss of veterans' access to transitional housing assistance.

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program.—The Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program [HCHV] performs valuable outreach

to identify veterans experiencing homelessness who are eligible for VA services and assist these veterans in accessing appropriate healthcare and benefits. The Committee recognizes that the HCHV program proved imperative in reaching at-risk veterans as the COVID-19 pandemic further highlighted the importance and need for healthcare and reliable transitional housing for vulnerable veterans. The Committee urges the Department to expand outreach regarding the housing, healthcare, and mental healthcare resources that VA offers in order to reach and strengthen its relationship with as many at-risk veterans as possible to improve long-term outcomes.

Utilization of Long-Term Care Services by Organizations Serving Homeless and At-Risk Veterans through VA.—The Department should assess the utilization of long-term care services by veterans known to be experiencing homelessness, at-risk of homelessness within the next 90 days, and having experienced homelessness in the last 90 days. This assessment should be done in collaboration between VA Office of Geriatric and Extended Care [GEC] and Homeless Programs Office [HPO], and should be broken down by each veteran's demographic data (gender, age, etc.), geographical location of services rendered by each program, and which program(s) the veteran utilized within GEC and HPO. It should also include a strategic plan to better coordinate access to GEC services for veterans utilizing HPO services. Within 1 year of enactment of this act, the Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report on the findings and strategic plan.

TELEHEALTH SERVICES

The Committee recommendation includes \$5,174,818,000, equal to the request, to sustain and increase telehealth capacity, including in rural and highly rural areas. VA and DoD have long been leaders in the field of emerging technology and medicine. For VA, telehealth creates a bridge between rural and urban centers, allowing the Department to expand access to care in areas where services are limited. Telehealth also allows care to be provided more effectively and efficiently for veterans closer to home and through direct in-home access to providers. While VA continues to lead the healthcare industry in the expansion of in-home telehealth and remote patient monitoring services, these services are often limited by the lack of broadband service in remote and rural areas.

Telehealth Briefing.—The Committee looks forward to receiving

the briefing requested in Senate Report 117–35.

VA-Academic Telehealth Partnerships.—The Committee recognizes the potential of telehealth to build capacity for VA to provide healthcare services to the increasing number of female veterans, including services that VA has not typically provided. The Committee also recognizes that telehealth partnerships between VA and academic institutions with telehealth and clinical expertise may be beneficial to serve veterans, their families, and communities, particularly in geographically isolated regions with large numbers of veterans. The Committee encourages the Department to support and allocate appropriate funding toward such VA-academic telehealth partnerships, including in communities in non-

contiguous areas without university teaching hospitals, and includ-

ing Maternal Fetal Medicine services.

Remote Patient Diabetes Foot Ulcer Monitoring.—The Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying Public Law 117-103 encouraged the Department to continue and expand efforts to monitor diabetes patients remotely and to provide a report, which the Committees look forward to reviewing. The Committee strongly encour-

ages VA to continue to expand efforts in this area.

Virtual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.—The Committee supports expanding access to mental health services for all eligible veterans. As such, the Committee encourages partnership with virtual programs and platforms with accredited therapist-guided cognitive behavioral therapy that can support VA's efforts to delivering timely and quality care to veterans, particularly over platforms that can bring these programs to veterans in areas of low broadband operability. The Committee also directs VA to provide the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report, not later than 90 days after enactment of this act, on the status of such efforts to better deliver mental health services virtually in areas struggling with broadband operability, including efforts to partner with commercially available platforms with VA-accredited clinicians.

MENTAL HEALTH/PREVENTING VETERANS SUICIDE

The Committee provides \$13,918,915,000 for mental health programs, equal to the request, including \$2,882,374,000 for suicide prevention outreach and treatment programs,

\$496,598,000 is for suicide prevention outreach.

Empowering VA Suicide Prevention Coordinators.—The Committee recognizes the importance of consistent and timely follow-up care with veterans identified as at-high-risk for suicide. Although VA has been an innovator in implementing the VA Risk ID strategy, an enterprise-wide suicide screening initiative, the responsibility to monitor and manage at-risk veterans falls on already overworked Suicide Prevention Coordinators and Case Managers, as documented in the Government Accountability Office [GAO] report "VA Health Care: Efforts Needed to Ensure Effective Use and Appropriate Staffing of Suicide Prevention Teams" (GAO-21-326). VA Medical Centers may benefit from the latest real-time technologies that complement the existing retrospective reporting tools from the VA Central Office. Specifically, Suicide Prevention Coordinators access to real-time case monitoring and management tools could improve situational awareness, patient safety and compliance with VA Risk ID policies. The Committee strongly encourages VA to allocate resources to support integrated, real-time data, interactive push notifications, data visualization tools and VA Suicide Prevention performance measure analytics. This type of technology should eliminate the need of VA suicide prevention team members using multiple software solutions to carry out their responsibilities. The Committee directs the Department to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 180 days of enactment, on the potential incorporation of, real-time, interactive technology to support Suicide Prevention Coordinators. This report should include (1) identifying facilities currently using this type of technology and the outcomes that have resulted, (2) the Department's plans to deploy this type of technology across all of VA medical facilities, and (3) total program cost and schedule to

implement an enterprise-wide solution.

Suicide Prevention.—In 2019, the most recent year of data available from the Department, 6,261 veterans in the United States took their own lives. That is a 7 percent decrease from the previous year, but an average of 17 veterans still lost their lives to suicide every day. The Committee supports the funding request and recognizes the importance of providing quality mental healthcare, with community-based and clinical approaches, to veterans to combat veteran suicide. The Committee encourages VA to provide complete continuity of outpatient, residential, and inpatient mental health

services to proactively screen for suicide risk.

Suicide Risk Assessment and Training.—The Committee recognizes the ongoing need to support the success of the Clinical Resource Hub at the Office of Rural Health. This program is an innovative model that delivers high-quality healthcare services to veterans in underserved locations. The Committee also recognizes the high risk of suicide among veterans and the need to train additional behavioral and mental health providers to assist veterans living in both rural and urban communities. Expanding access to telehealth services, combined with in-person care, is critical for reaching veterans that reside in areas without adequate behavioral and mental health resources. The Committee encourages Clinical Resource Hubs to better coordinate with urban and rural academic institutions, particularly minority-serving institutions, with expertise in suicide risk assessment and training, and to combine telehealth services along with in-person care to train providers and provide care to veterans in rural communities, as appropriate.

Veterans Crisis Line and 988 Implementation.—The Committee supports the request of \$255,968,000 for the Veterans Crisis Line [VCL]. VCL provides 24-hours per day suicide prevention and crisis intervention services for veterans in crisis and their families and friends. The Committee supports the Department's efforts to strengthen its operational readiness as the Federal Communications Commission designates 988 as the universal telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and VCL. The Department should ensure VCL is able to utilize geolocation capabilities in order to ensure accurate emergency dispatch to persons at risk of imminent harm to self or others, similar to those of 911 call

centers.

OPIOID SAFETY INITIATIVES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER CARE

To continue to build upon opioid reduction efforts and safety initiatives, the Committee recommendation includes \$662,805,000 for Opioid Prevention and Treatment programs at VA, equal to the budget request. This includes \$417,051,000 for treatment programs and \$245,754,000 to continue implementation of the Jason Simcakoski Memorial and Promise Act, as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–198).

Alcohol Use Disorder Medication Assisted Treatment.—The Committee encourages VA to increase education among its primary care practitioners on the diagnosis and treatment of alcohol use disorders with Food and Drug Administration [FDA]-approved medication assisted treatments and counseling, as clinically indicated.

LONG-TERM CARE

Long-Term Care.—The Committee provides \$4,052,596,000 for non-institutional care, equal to the budget request. The Committee is aware of the aging veteran population and supports long-term care that focuses on facilitating veteran independence, enhancing quality of life, and supporting the family members of veterans. As such, the Committee supports the Department's efforts to broaden veterans' options regarding non-institutional long-term care support and services, and to accommodate veterans' preferences in receiving home-based services, as well as community-based care, residential settings, nursing homes, and other services. The Committee acknowledges that the veteran population faces unique health risks and that each veteran requires an individualized approach to care, and VA is encouraged to continue cooperation with community, State, and Federal partners to expand and grow these programs.

Rural Access to Home and Community-Based Services.—Within 1 year of enactment, the Committee directs VA to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the availability of and access to home- and community-based services [HCBS] for rural veterans. Non-institutional long-term services and supports are valuable in helping veterans age in place. The report should include an analysis of rural veterans' access to HCBS, including programs or care provided directly by VA, as well as HCBS paid for by VA. The report should include any disparities in rural veterans' access to each type of HCBS, as compared to their urban veteran counterparts. If available, the report should include considerations in access to care for rural veterans who live on Tribal lands, are women veterans, or are disabled veterans.

Veteran-Directed Care.—The Committee supports the Veteran-Di-

rected Care Program and encourages expansion.

Domiciliary Care Claims for Veterans with Early-Stage Dementia.—Changes to VA's processing and treatment of domiciliary care claims have led to some veterans with early-stage dementia who were earlier ruled eligible for VA domiciliary care to now be deemed ineligible. In response, Congress passed legislation (Public Law 116–315; section 3007) to ensure VA has flexibility to waive certain eligibility requirements for domiciliary care for veterans with early-stage dementia when in the veteran's best interest. The Committee directs the Secretary to expeditiously implement this legislation and delegate this waiver authority to Veterans Integrated Service Networks [VISNs] and local VA hospital systems so that newly eligible veterans may begin to receive this crucial support.

RURAL HEALTHCARE

Veterans residing in rural and remote areas face unique barriers to receiving high-quality mental health, primary healthcare, and specialty care services. While enhanced community care programs offer veterans increased flexibility to obtain care close to home, there are often gaps in services in rural and remote communities even among private providers. The Office of Rural Health [ORH]

and its Rural Health Initiative has played a critical role in assisting VA in its efforts to increase access to care. Therefore the Committee recommendation includes \$337,455,000 for ORH and the Rural Health Initiative. This is \$10,000,000 more than fiscal year

2022 enacted and \$30,000,000 above the budget request.

Rural Transportation.—The Committee recognizes the need to address the care needs of veterans living in rural communities across the United States. Such veterans frequently lack access to the type of medical facilities and medical care found in urban areas which may lead to disparities in health outcomes in the long term. The Committee urges the Department to expand and improve transportation access to and from facilities that serve rural veterans, and recommends up to \$10,000,000 in funding for the Office of Rural Health be dedicated to the Highly Rural Transportation Grants Program that helps veterans in rural areas travel to VA or VA-authorized care facilities.

Rural Health Eligibility.—The Committee recognizes the urgent need for improved access to healthcare in rural communities. To further understand the healthcare needs of veterans, the Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 180 days after enactment that analyzes the impact on access to VA healthcare if the VA income eligibility threshold for Priority Group 7 is increased to the highest income eligibility threshold in each State. Further, the report should analyze the impact on veteran health if Congress expands eligibility for dental care within VA to include

all VHA eligible veterans.

Veterans Affairs Health Navigator Platform.—The Department is encouraged to consider allocating funding for Health Management Platforms and a health navigator system, focused on improving patient access and beneficiary experiences for veterans in rural and/or low population density areas. This rural veterans' program could parallel the ongoing Defense Health Agency's healthcare management pilot program and further harmonize the healthcare systems of DoD and VA.

CAREGIVERS

The Committee recommendation includes \$1,899,210,000 for VA's Caregivers Program, which is \$53,000,000 more than the budget request and consistent with the need identified given recent

changes in program implementation.

The Caregivers Program was enhanced as part of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks [MISSION] Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–182). VA was not able to implement the program consistent with statutory timelines or Congressional intent. As such, the Committee supports VA's decision to halt dismissals from the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers [PCAFC] and to reevaluate proposed changes to the program. These eligibility reassessments were a source of serious confusion and anxiety for veterans and their caregivers. The Committee is concerned that despite VA's acknowledgement the new system was flawed, veterans whose applications were denied under the flawed system were advised they

need to officially appeal the decision through the Board of Veterans' Appeals, which has a significant backlog, further challenging these families. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Secretary to permit recently disqualified and denied applicants with a history in the program to have their applications automatically reconsidered under the current requirements, rather than go through the appeals process, or consider creating an expedited review for PCAFC appeals to ensure timely decisions.

The Department is now urged to proceed expeditiously in revising and reissuing regulations to bring the program fully in line with statute and Congressional intent. The Committee further urges the Department to work collaboratively with the Committee

in this process.

PCAFC Program Legacy Caregivers Employment Assistance.— The Committee is also concerned about PCAFC changes with regard to legacy caregivers that will need to find employment once no longer eligible for the PCAFC stipend, despite not having been in the workforce for years. The Department is directed to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 60 days after enactment of this act detailing what steps have been or could be taken to assist legacy PCAFC caregivers with job-hunting skills and employment placement.

WOMEN VETERANS HEALTHCARE

Women are the fastest growing cohort within the veteran community and are expected to represent about 16 percent of the total veteran population by 2040, up from about 6 percent in 2000. Accordingly, women veterans are enrolling in VA healthcare at record levels, with women accounting for over 30 percent of the increase in veterans enrolled over the past 5 years and the number of women veterans using VA healthcare nearly tripling since 2001. With the upward trend of women serving in all branches of the Armed Forces, VA must continue to aggressively expand efforts that address the current barriers to gender-specific healthcare services and plan accordingly for the type and length of the treatment needs of women veterans. VA must enhance its services and access to gender-specific care, including primary care providers, gynecologists, maternity care, and mental health providers, including care related to experiences of military sexual trauma. VA should also enhance capacity to support pregnant and postpartum women veterans, including expansion of maternity care and lactation support. The Committee continues to believe VA must be poised to address the changing demographic of today's and tomorrow's veterans in order to fulfill its mission.

Toward this end, the Committee recommendation includes \$911,119,000 for fiscal year 2023, which is \$10,000,000 above the request, to support gender-specific healthcare services, as well as the program office and initiatives. VA is encouraged to use this funding to continue to expand this care so that all women veterans, including those in rural areas, have the access to care they deserve. The Committee also urges the Department to continue its planning and work to redesign its women's healthcare delivery system; to ensure that there are dedicated entrances, security, and women providers at all VA sites of care; and to ensure all women veterans

have the option to be assigned to Women Health Primary Care Providers. The Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act a spend plan detailing planned activities related to care for women veterans.

CLINICAL WORKFORCE

The Committee appreciates the Department's efforts to address challenges in recruiting and retaining physicians, physician assistants, nurses, mental health providers, other healthcare professionals, and related support staff. The Committee reminds the Department of the annual requirement for a report on workforce issues outlined in the Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying Public Law 116–260.

VA Medical Center Staffing.—The Committee recognizes that pay rates for health and human resources professionals at VA continue to be uncompetitive with the private market and could limit access to care. In addition to utilizing new authorities provided by Congress, the Committee encourages the Department to explore ways to introduce new technologies to reduce staff workloads and improve patients' access to timely care.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Neurology Centers of Excellence.—The Committee recognizes the increasing number of veterans affected by neurologic conditions, including but not limited to: epilepsy, headache, multiple sclerosis, and Parkinson's disease. The Neurology Centers of Excellence provide essential innovative clinical care, education, and research efforts focused on these conditions. The Committee applauds the Department for its recent investments into the headache and epilepsy centers.

The Committee is aware of the Department's work to coordinate care for veterans living with Parkinson's disease through the Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers and the associated PD Consortium Centers across the country. The Committee supports efforts to increase these services for veterans across the country and includes \$12,000,000 for such purposes. The Committee also supports increased investments to support and expand multiple sclerosis centers.

Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program.—The VA Intimate Partner Violence Program [IPV] has made important progress in implementing programs to combat domestic violence, including the expansion of vital services for veterans, their partners, caregivers, and VA staff impacted by intimate partner violence. The Committee recognizes that high visibility of the program must be supported in order to assist as many veterans as possible. The Committee encourages increasing the staffing at the National level, and supports maintaining IPV Coordinator positions at each VA medical facility in order to expand this essential program to as many veterans who require the program as possible. The Committee supports funding for section 5304 of Public Law 116–315, and thus supports the request of \$29,314,000 in order to fully fund the program, and directs the Department to continue to include it as a

program of interest with budget detail in the justifications accom-

panying the fiscal year 2024 budget submission.

DoD to VA Mental Health Transition Improvements.—The Committee recognizes that the Joint Action Plan created in response to Executive Order 13822 reflects laudable proposals to move toward a holistic, integrated approach to better support transitioning servicemembers with respect to suicide prevention and continuity of care. However, the Committee is concerned that the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense have not taken the steps necessary to fully implement the Joint Action Plan. The Committee encourages VA and DoD to work together to replace mental health screenings with comprehensive mental health exams for all separating servicemembers, and develop the necessary data management and analytic tools, including the development of a single predictive analytics model, to aid in connecting transitioning servicemembers and veterans to services, conducting targeted outreach, and improving post-transition support. The Department providing a mandatory warm hand-off to mental healthcare and services to servicemembers already engaged in care should assist in eliminating risk of mental health crisis and suicide. The Committee directs the Veterans Affairs Collaboration Office to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on progress in implementing the Joint Action Plan no later than 30 days after enactment of this act.

Technology Enabled Transportation for Veterans.—The Committee is concerned about the continued transportation challenges of veterans seeking healthcare, but acknowledges continued progress in addressing transportation barriers for veterans, especially those in areas that have limited transportation services. While the Committee recognizes the important work of Veteran Service Organizations and the existence of the Veterans Transportation Program, transportation remains a challenge for many VA service areas, especially rural ones. Many new technologies are being commercially developed and becoming increasingly available in both rural and urban locations throughout the United States. These technologies could improve the overall efficiency and coverage of the Veterans Transportation Program. The Committee encourages the Veterans Transportation Program to consider a partnership between Veterans Transportation Service and a sharedride on-demand transportation software to provide veterans with reliable transportation services, and to study whether techenablement of the on-demand shared ride model will benefit the broader Veterans Transportation Program.

Continued Support and Expansion for Whole Health.—The Committee is pleased by data in the Department's budget request regarding the Whole Health program, demonstrating its consistent, ongoing ability to provide efficient and effective patient-centered, integrative care to veterans, especially those who are struggling with opioid use disorder and chronic pain. Given evidence of the program's success, the Committee supports expanding the Whole

Health model to all VA health facilities nationwide.

Rehabilitation and Disability Prevention.—The Committee encourages the Department to develop, evaluate, implement, and disseminate new strategies for rehabilitation and for disability pre-

vention, including strategies for emotional well-being.

Adaptive Sports.—The Committee includes \$16,000,000 for the adaptive sports programs. Veterans have shown marked improvements in mental and physical health from participating in adaptive sports and recreational therapy and veterans have expressed the need for these activities to be included in the healthcare services VA offers. The Committee also recognizes that adaptive sports and recreational therapy provide a low-cost alternative to other healthcare services that produce similar health outcomes, and applauds the efforts of community providers of these grants, especially in rural areas, who have been able to utilize this key program in successfully reintegrating veterans back into their communities.

Dental Services.—The Committee applauds the excellent quality of care provided by VA for all enrolled veterans but recognizes that the lack of statutory authority for the provision of oral healthcare has hampered the ability of the Department to meet its mission of providing comprehensive care for enrolled veterans. Therefore, the Committee supports efforts to expand dental services throughout the Department to the broadest extent of current authority, in alignment with its whole health model of care and with the understanding that the provision of such services may improve veterans' lives, their overall health, and could serve as a cost-effective method for reducing expensive applies health could find

od for reducing expensive, complex health conditions.

Standards for Pressure Injuries.—The Committee reiterates its desire for VA to update the VHA Directive 1352 based on the 2019 International Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Injuries as VA standard of care. The Committee understands that VHA is currently in the process of evaluating and revising Directive 1352, and requests the Secretary expedite the update, which should include the Standardized Pressure Injury Prevention Protocol Checklist. Furthermore, the Committee directs the Department to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act that details a planned timeline to complete the review and issue an updated Directive.

Support for Vet Centers.—The Committee continues to believe Vet Centers play a critical role in helping veterans get the counseling and referral services they need and deserve. To ensure that the full complement of assistance and resources are available at Vet Centers in every State, the Department should expeditiously implement the recommendations made in the report "VA Vet Centers: Evaluations Needed of Expectations for Counselor Productivity and Centers' Staffing" (GAO–20–652). The Department shall provide a written report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on its progress in implementing these recommendations.

Home Improvements and Structural Alterations.—The Committee directs the Department to conduct a study on whether the Home Improvements and Structural Alterations benefit is sufficient to cover the costs of medically necessary improvements and structural alterations. The study should take into account current housing costs in defined geographic regions and include formal determina-

tions and recommendations. The Department shall provide a report on this study to the Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this act.

Pilot Programs for Agritherapy.—The Committee directs \$5,000,000 to continue a pilot program to train veterans in agricultural vocations, while also tending to behavioral and mental health needs with behavioral healthcare services and treatments by li-

censed providers.

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy.—The Committee continues to be supportive of alternative treatment options for veterans with PTSD or Traumatic Brain Injury [TBI]. The Committee is concerned with the Department's decision to end its hyperbaric oxygen therapy [HBOT] demonstration project. The Committee encourages the Department to continue to research the efficacy of HBOT as a treatment for PTSD and TBI and permit case-by-case referrals for HBOT in the community.

Domestic Procurement of Medical Isotope Molybdenum-99.—The Federal Government has made major investments in a competitive process to develop domestically produced medical isotopes. To reflect this on-shoring of manufacturing, the Department is encouraged to increase the portion of procured technetium-99m patient doses produced from domestically manufactured molybdenum-99, if

feasible.

Acquisition of Personal Protective Equipment.—The Committee is concerned about the Department's acquisition of personal protective equipment (PPE) including nitrile and vinyl gloves, surgical masks, respirator masks and powered air-purifying respirators and required filters, face shields and protective eyewear, surgical and isolation gowns, and head and foot coverings or clothing, and the materials and components thereof, other than sensors, electronics, or other such items. The Committee urges that competitive procurement of these items be from bidders who have demonstrated performance in other Federal Government procurements to manufacture PPE that meets U.S. safety and sanitary standards and that such procurements be open for no less than 30 days to assure full and open competition among qualified vendors.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Compliance.—Section 70913 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58) required the head of each Federal agency to identify all Federal financial assistance programs for infrastructure under its purview and report these findings to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress by January 14, 2022. The Department of Veterans Affairs has not provided this report. The Committee directs the Department to promptly provide this report and apply the required preference to infrastructure projects funded by this act.

Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer Treatment.—The Committee supports making sure that veterans have timely access to all clinically proven FDA-authorized treatment modalities for nonmelanoma skin cancer. This may include such treatments as Mohs micrographic surgery, image-guided superficial radiotherapy [Image-Guided SRT], and systemic therapy (chemotherapy, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy). However, the Committee is concerned that there may be some barriers to making these types of treatments widely available to veterans, such as limiting Image-Guided SRT to cer-

tain clinical settings. Therefore, the Committee requests that the Secretary conduct an analysis of what barriers exist for veterans seeking Image-Guided SRT treatment across different types of practices, including but not limited to certified medical establishments and private dermatology practices, and what action can be taken to remove any identified obstacles. Such report should be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after the enactment of this act.

Technology to Improve Patient and Staff Safety.—The Committee recognizes the opportunity of commercial off-the-shelf sensor-based automated technology platforms to increase the safety of patients and staff, especially in reducing healthcare-acquired infections through rapid contact tracing and improved hand hygiene. The Department is encouraged to integrate these technologies into its ongoing system-wide patient and staff safety improvement efforts and

to prioritize any necessary information technology reviews.

Produce Prescription Program.—The Committee is concerned with food insecurity among the veteran population and recognizes the role of access to healthy produce in managing chronic disease and reducing healthcare utilization. The Committee is further aware of produce prescription programs across the country that allow medical providers to prescribe fresh fruits and vegetables to individuals or households who are at-risk due to health status or income, often pairing these prescriptions with financial incentives or nutrition education resources. The Committee understands that VA has demonstrated interest in supporting efforts to provide produce prescriptions to veterans in partnership with community-based organizations and/or government entities with demonstrated experience and expertise, for VA to provide guidance and resources for VA facilities to develop local programs and pursue strategies for patient education and outreach. Therefore, the Committee encourages the expansion of this program through partnerships to provide produce prescriptions, as feasible.

Medical Cannabis.—The Committee has concerns with any effort by VA to interfere with the ability of a veteran to participate in a medicinal marijuana program approved by a State, deny any services from the Department to a veteran who is participating in such a program, and limit or interfere with the ability of a healthcare provider of the Department to make appropriate recommendations,

fill out forms, or take steps to comply with such a program.

Non-pharmaceutical Migraine Prevention and Treatment for Veterans.—The Committee recognizes the significant issues with veterans who were diagnosed with or exhibited symptoms of migraines, at three times the rate of the general population. Among veterans with migraines, taking prescription headache medication can sometimes have negative effects. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Department to ensure non-pharmacological, FDA-cleared neuromodulation devices for indications to prevent and/or treat migraines are available to veterans and to educate clinicians and veterans on such devices.

Mobile Health Clinics.—Mobile health clinics provide a variety of important services for veterans including healthcare, counseling, community education, and outreach, with community agencies and access to links between veterans and VA. The Committee recog-

nizes that mobile clinics provide valuable services that help to reach more veterans in rural areas and at-risk populations. The Committee supports robust funding and encourages VA to expand their mobile clinics in order to serve more veterans.

Accessible, Autonomous and Electric Vehicles.—The Committee understands the Department is investigating the use of accessible, autonomous and electric vehicles, which could be particularly helpful in rural areas, and looks forward to reviewing its findings and recommendations.

Medical Device Reprocessing.—The Department is encouraged to explore FDA-regulated, commercial reprocessing of single-use medical devices to use reprocessing to reduce emissions, costs and improve supply chain resilience, as appropriate. Within 180 days of the enactment of this act, the Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress that provides an assessment of VA's medical device reprocessing efforts, including benefits, potential cost savings to VA medical facilities, estimates of reduced waste, and impacts on health outcomes.

On-Dose Pharmaceutical Authentication Study and Report.—The Department is directed to conduct a study, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this act, on currently available on-dose tracking and tracing technologies for pharmaceuticals, including silicon dioxide based microtags, and how these technologies can help with: (1) securing the VA pharmaceutical supply chain; (2) reducing illegal distribution of opioid products within VA; and (3) eliminating the distribution of counterfeit pharmaceutical products within VA. Following the completion of the study, the Department shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress outlining the implementation and deployment strategies for on-dose tracking of pharmaceutical products within the VA.

Gerofit Program.—The Committee encourages the Department to

expand access to the Gerofit Program to all veterans.

Improved Transparency of, Access to, and Usability of Data.—The Department is directed, not later than 180 days after enactment of this act, to complete a review of data that is publicly available on the Department's Access to Care website, as redesigned. The review shall include an analysis of the access to and usability of the data, including: (1) any numeric indicators relating to timely care, effective care, safety, and veteran-centered care; (2) patient wait times information; and (3) patient safety, quality of care, and outcome measures. In conducting the review, the Department shall consult with stakeholders including veterans, Veterans Service Organizations, and caregivers of veterans from geographically diverse areas and representing different eras of service in the Armed Forces. Not later than 30 days after completing the review, the Department shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, a report on the outcome of the review, including an assessment of how the Secretary plans to modify the presentation of data in light of the review findings.

Integration of Veteran and Tribal Partners in Applicable Areas.— The Committee directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to appoint a single point of contact to coordinate Federal Tribal and veteran healthcare in areas where it may be difficult for a veteran to find proper representation of care due to limited presence of VA facilities.

Improving the Quality of Life in Tinnitus Management by Veterans.—The Committee encourages the Department to work with academic partners, as appropriate, to address and improve the outcomes for veterans experiencing problematic tinnitus, including research to identify contributing factors associated with tinnitus onset and progression to chronic tinnitus and develop novel interventional therapies and self-management tools. VA is encouraged to consider academic institution factors such as proximity to operational military bases, the presence of Nurse Practitioner/Doctor of Nursing Practice/Doctorate programs, and the presence of Osteopathic Medicine and Engineering programs.

Nuclear Medicine Quality Improvements.—The Committee understands that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are considering regulatory actions to improve nuclear medicine injection quality. The Committee continues to encourage VA health facilities to monitor injection quality, as well as image extravasations and perform dosimetry and notify patients when they occur, and urges the Department to adopt regulatory requirements to improve safety, quality, and trans-

parency for patients, as appropriate.

Solid Tumor Diagnostic Assay.—The Committee is aware of ongoing research to develop a novel diagnostic blood assay using proteomics. The technology has the potential for widely-utilized diagnostic applications which may not only diagnose solid cancers, but also serve as a tool to stage the disease, and monitor the efficacy of treatment with near-time results. The Committee encourages the Department to explore this novel research, and potentially partner with private or academic partners. The Department is directed to provide an update on cancer diagnostics proteomics research no later than 180 days after enactment of this act to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

MEDICAL COMMUNITY CARE

Appropriations, 2022	\$23,417,244,000
Advance appropriations, 2023	
Budget estimate, 2023	4,300,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	4,300,000,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	33,000,000,000
Committee recommendations, advance appropriations, 2024	

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical Community Care account provides for medical services for eligible enrolled veterans and other beneficiaries that is purchased from and provided by non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities and providers, including contract hospitals, State homes, and outpatient services.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$24,156,659,000 for fiscal year 2023 for the Medical Community Care account. The recommendation for fiscal year 2023 includes an additional \$4,300,000,000, coupled with the advance appropriation provided for fiscal year 2023 provides the Department with total budget authority of \$28,456,659,000, which is equal to the request.

The Committee recommendation also includes an advance appropriation of \$33,000,000,000 for Medical Community Care for fiscal

year 2024.

MISSION Act Reporting.—The Department is directed to continue to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quarterly reports on the expenditures related to the MISSION Act for the prior fiscal year and the current fiscal year, and estimates for expenditures related to the MISSION Act for the next five fiscal years. These reports should include costs broken out by account, with categories for costs of MISSION Act-affected community care, caregiver expansion, urgent care, and other efforts. These reports should also include: (1) the number of veterans served by each authority for care outlined in section 1703(d) of title 38, United States Code (i.e., the Department does not offer the care, the Department does not operate a full-service medical facility in the State in which the covered veteran resides, etc.); (2) the cost of such care broken out by the authorities in section 1703(d); and (3) the timeliness of care, on average.

In addition, the Department is directed to submit monthly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress identifying available resources, obligations, authorizations, and anticipated funding needs for the remainder of the fiscal year. This should include detail on the timing of authorization of care and the obligation of funds. The report should also provide data broken out by VISN on the number of referrals and completed appointments in-house and in the community, including timeliness.

Community Care Referral Data.—Within 30 days of enactment, the Committee directs VA to provide an update on when its report to Congress on community care wait times, as required by section 3103 of Public Law 116–315, can be expected. This update should include specific milestones for collecting the scheduling data and expected dates of completion of those milestones, along with any specific hurdles VA faces in providing the legally required information. The Committee expects the Public Law 116–315 report to be provided to Congress no later than 90 days after enactment.

Rural Health Continuity of Care.—The Committee encourages the Department to sustain continuity of care for rural veterans through provider agreements, based on previous models, such as the Access Received Closer to Home program, to ensure veterans do not experience a lapse in existing healthcare access during the transition to the Veterans Community Care Program and Community Care Networks. The Committee continues to support enabling the Department to enter into provider agreements, with non-VA long-term care providers, including skilled nursing facilities, as appropriate.

Dialysis Services.—The Committee looks forward to receiving the report on a value-based care model for dialysis services requested in Senate Report 117–35. As part of that feasibility report, the Department is directed to include a pay-for-performance [P4P] value-based dialysis payment model under which dialysis providers are

accountable for outcomes and are paid based on improved care metrics. VA shall consider the feasibility of P4P metrics that are highly correlated with improved veteran outcomes and lower total cost of care, as well as a health equity metric since minority vet-

erans are disproportionately impacted by kidney disease.

Community Care Payment Rates.—The Committee is concerned lower payment rates, based on the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, for certain mental healthcare providers serve as a disincentive to participation in the Veterans Community Care Program [VCCP] at a time when reducing veteran suicide remains a top Congressional and administration priority. Therefore the Committee directs the Department, within 90 days of enactment, to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on any effect lower payment rates have on: (1) provider recruitment and retention in the VCCP network, and (2) veterans' ability to access mental healthcare in the community. The report should also include information on any disproportionate effects these lower rates have on veterans seeking mental healthcare in rural areas. The Committee would also appreciate the inclusion of VA's view on whether the payment structure established under Public Law 115– 182, the VA MISSION Act of 2018, limits reimbursement rates for non-physician community mental health providers to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

State Veterans Homes Per Diem.—The Committee directs the Department to examine the contracts entered into with each State home for payment by the Secretary for nursing home care. The analysis should determine if adequate compensation is provided for the cost of furnishing care in that location, including in States outside of the contiguous United States, and that no undue burden is placed on the States to provide care to veterans. The Department is directed to submit a report of the findings to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of the

enactment of this act.

State Veterans Homes.—The Committee is concerned by reports that some State veterans homes organizations have sought to close facilities in rural locations. The Committee directs the Secretary to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 120 days of enactment of this act on actions that the Department or Congress can take to expand support for State veterans homes in rural areas at risk of closure due to financial challenges. The report shall include an evaluation of options such as increasing per diem reimbursement rates, expanding the eligibility for care to include a broader cohort of veterans, altering the required veteran occupancy rate, expanding authorities to assist States in the hiring and retention of skilled medical staff, and any other proposals or options deemed appropriate by the Secretary. The report shall also include an analysis of the budgetary impacts of options reviewed and an explanation of any additional authorities necessary to implement them.

Veterans Access to Long-Term Care.—The Committee remains concerned that the Department is not utilizing Veterans Care Agreements, as established by section 102 of the MISSION Act, and veterans may lose access to long-term care services. The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropria-

tions of both Houses of Congress within 60 days of enactment of this act an update on its efforts to carry out the direction provided in Senate Report 117–35. In addition, this report should address if veteran access to long-term care services could be improved if TRICARE's Office of Federal Contract Compliance program exemptions included VA Health Benefits Providers, such as skilled nurs-

ing homes.

Contract Nursing Homes.—The Committee is concerned about the possibility that the number of available contract nursing homes used by VA is shrinking due, in part, to VA not being able to pay market rates for care. The Department shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 120 days of enactment of this act to determine if there has been a decrease in the availability of this care and why. The report should include the following information: (1) the number of contract nursing homes VA uses nationwide, by State, for each of the past 10 years; (2) an assessment about whether Medicare payment rates or VA Fee Schedule Rates affect whether non-VA nursing homes are willing to accept veteran patients; and (3) the number of veteran inpatients who remained at VA Medical Centers and VA Healthcare Systems for at least 30 days while awaiting an available treatment bed.

Caregiver and Nurse Registries.—The Committee is concerned about the Department's decision to exclude licensed caregiver and nurse registries from participating in at home caregiving through the Community Care Network. VA's decision has exacerbated the shortage of qualified at home caregivers available to veterans. The Secretary shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act on: (1) the rationale that led to the exclusion of licensed caregiver and nurse registries after 2 years of allowing them to participate; (2) the explanation provided to veterans on why they could no longer use the services they had previously relied on; (3) the total number of veterans impacted by this change; and (4) information on efforts undertaken by VA to ensure veterans are not left without caregivers as a result of this change.

MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

Appropriations, 2022	\$8,403,117,000
Advance appropriations, 2023	9,673,409,000
Budget estimate, 2023	1,400,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	1,400,000,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	12,300,000,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	12,300,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical Support and Compliance account provides funds for management, security, and administrative expenses within the VA healthcare system, in addition to providing costs associated with the operation of VA medical centers and clinics, VISN offices, and the VHA Central Office in Washington, DC. This appropriation also covers Chief of Staff and Facility Director operations, quality of care oversight, legal services, billing and coding activities, procurement, financial management, security, and human resource management.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$9,673,409,000 for fiscal year 2023 for the Medical Support and Compliance account. The recommendation for fiscal year 2023 includes an additional \$1,400,000,000, coupled with the advance appropriation provided for fiscal year 2023 provides the Department with total budget authority of \$11,073,409,000, which is equal to the request.

The Committee recommendation also includes an advance appropriation of \$12,300,000,000 for Medical Support and Compliance for

fiscal year 2024.

Office of Health Informatics.—The Committee recognizes that there may be substantial overlap between veterans receiving 100 percent service connected, permanent and total disability ratings and those eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance [SSDI] benefits. In order to ensure that these veterans' claims are being processed with expediency and care, the Committee directs the Department to evaluate the processes currently in place for coordinating with the Social Security Administration to transmit relevant medical and disability information for veterans with 100 percent service connected, permanent and total disability ratings, for the purpose of expediting SSDI benefits decisions.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2022 ¹	\$6,734,680,000
Advance appropriations, 2023	7,133,816,000
Budget estimate, 2023	1,500,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	1,500,000,000
Budget estimate, advance appropriations, 2024	8,800,000,000
Committee recommendation, advance appropriations, 2024	8,800,000,000

¹In addition, in fiscal year 2022, \$150,000,000 from the Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund was appropriated to the Medical Facilities account.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical Facilities account provides funds for the operation and maintenance of the VA healthcare system's vast capital infrastructure. This appropriation provides for costs associated with engineering, capital planning, leases, groundskeeping, housekeeping, facility repair, and property disposition and acquisition.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

In fiscal year 2022, the Committee provided an advance appropriation of \$7,133,816,000 for fiscal year 2023 for the Medical Facilities account. The recommendation for fiscal year 2023 includes an additional \$1,500,000,000, coupled with the advance appropriation provided for fiscal year 2023 provides the Department with total budget authority of \$8,633,816,000, which is equal to the re-

The Committee recommendation also includes an advance appropriation of \$8,800,000,000 for Medical Facilities for fiscal year

Prohibition on Smoking.—The Committee supports the Department's efforts to make VA facilities smoke-free and encourages full implementation and enforcement of VHA Directives 1085 and 1085.1, which prohibit the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and any other combustion or heating of tobacco, and the use of any electronic nicotine delivery system, including electronic or e-cigarettes, vape pens, and e-cigars by any person on the premises of any facil-

ity of the Veterans Health Administration.

Negative Air Pressure Containment Systems.—The Committee is concerned VA has not adequately addressed the scalability and surge capacity of commercial-off-the-shelf [COTS] negative air pressure containment systems to ensure readiness at its medical facilities nationwide. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Secretary to explore COTS portable and modular negative air room containment systems to increase readiness and capacity to respond to surges during pandemics and other infections disease events at VA hospitals and clinics. The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on the Department's prior utilization or purchase of these systems in response to the COVID–19 pandemic and an analysis of potential requirements necessary to prepare for future pandemics.

VA Infrastructure Requirements.—The Committee acknowledges the need for substantial investments in facilities within the Department to address aging infrastructure, and encourages the Depart-

ment to reflect this requirement in future budget requests.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

Appropriations, 2022	\$882,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	916,000,000
Committee recommendation	916,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical and Prosthetic Research account provides funds for medical, rehabilitative, and health services research. Medical research supports basic and clinical studies that advance knowledge leading to improvements in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases and disabilities. Rehabilitation research focuses on rehabilitation engineering problems in the fields of prosthetics, orthotics, adaptive equipment for vehicles, sensory aids, and related areas. Health services research focuses on improving the effectiveness and economy of the delivery of health services.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$916,000,000 for the Medical and Prosthetic Research account. This is \$34,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

The Committee remains highly supportive of this program, and recognizes its importance both in improving healthcare services to veterans and recruiting and retaining high quality medical professionals in the Veterans Health Administration.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Exposure.—The Committee is concerned about the exposure of veterans to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances [PFAS] during their military service and how these chemicals may have affected their health and what resources are available to them. PFAS chemicals have been found in

the drinking water at more than 600 military installations nationwide. A byproduct of aqueous firefighting foam used by the military, PFAS materials are classified as "emerging contaminants" as their long-term cumulative effects on human health is not yet known. However, initial analyses have linked PFAS materials with birth defects, various forms of cancer and immune system dysfunction, causing great public concern for members of the military and veterans who have served at the dozens of bases found to be contaminated with these materials. After the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences reviews recommendations by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, and issues a consensus report, expected in the summer of 2022, the Department is directed to report to the Committees of Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the PFAS testing that will be undertaken at VA, and whether evidence-based information included in the document may impact VA decisions related to blood testing for this chemical and establishing a PFAS registry for certain veterans (e.g., military firefighters).

VA Cancer Moonshot.—The Committee supports the Department's contribution to this effort by utilizing advances in genomic science to provide targeted treatment to veterans. The Department has identified prostate cancer, triple-negative breast cancer, colorectal cancer, and rare cancers as areas of priority. Due to the prevalence of various skin cancers among servicemembers, the

Committee directs that skin cancer be included as well.

Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Department's Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders [SCI/D] System of Care mission to support, promote, and maintain the health, independence, quality of life, and productivity of veterans with SCI/D throughout their lives, and urges the Department to prioritize clinical science research and development activities to study and assess spinal-cord neurostimulation therapies and devices to restore movement and autonomic functions in veterans living with SCI/D. Rapid innovations in treatment and technology indicate the potential of programmed and precise electrical stimulation of the spinal cord to help restore movement and autonomic functions in veterans. The Committee encourages the Department to increase the Clinical Science Research and Development program funding specifically invested in research and development initiatives conducted across the SCI/D System of Care. This research should investigate potential clinical applications of spinalcord neurostimulation treatment for veterans living with SCI/D.

Million Veterans Program.—The Committee encourages the Million Veterans Program to support research utilizing emissions data that was collected and catalogued for the Department of Defense during Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terror to help in identifying the potential long-term health consequences of exposure to burn pit emissions and environmental pollutants for servicemembers. The effort builds upon this previous work to monitor ambient pollutant levels at 16 bases during the second Gulf conflict. The results of this program will allow for earlier and more cost-effective health interventions to protect veterans' health. The program augments the Million Veterans Program by specifically

addressing burn pit exposures and possible links to syndromic cancers. This project will accelerate the development of risk assessment tools related to gene/environment interactions as they relate to cancer risk with a focus on carcinogens potentially important given recent combat areas and strategic global centers of conflict. Identifying novel gene/environment interactions could result in target identification and drug development in cancer, which would generate a ground-breaking data set for the understanding of impacts of burn pit emissions and environmental exposure on cancer and other disease risks.

Opiate-Free Pain Therapy for Veterans.—The Department is encouraged to implement a research project in various VA facilities/VISNs evaluating the efficacy of thermal, shortwave diathermy on patients with chronic pain for non-opioid pain relief. This research should include an evaluation of any FDA-approved, thermal shortwave diathermy device to provide non-opioid pain relief solution for use in the home, using real world evidence collected by VHA researchers in collaboration with veteran patients and the private providers and researchers.

MEDICAL CARE COST RECOVERY COLLECTIONS

MEDICAL CARE COLLECTION FUND

Appropriations, 2022	\$3,386,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	3,910,000,000
Committee recommendation	3,910,000,000

MEDICAL CARE COLLECTION FUND—REVENUES APPLIED

Appropriations, 2022	-\$3,386,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	-3,910,000,000
Committee recommendation	-3,910,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical Care Collection Fund [MCCF] was established by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–33). In fiscal year 2004, Public Law 108–199 allowed the Department of Veterans Affairs to deposit first-party and pharmacy co-payments; third-party insurance payments and enhanced-use collections; long-term care co-payments; Compensated Work Therapy Program collections; and Parking Program fees into the MCCF. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs has the authority to transfer funds from the MCCF to the Medical Services and Medical Community Care accounts.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommendation includes the authority to retain co-payments and third-party collections, estimated to total \$3,910,000,000 in fiscal year 2023.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2022	\$394,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	430,000,000
Committee recommendation	430,000,000

ADMINISTRATION OVERVIEW

The National Cemetery Administration [NCA] was established in accordance with the National Cemeteries Act of 1973 (Public Law 93–43). It has a four-fold mission: to provide for the interment in any national cemetery of the remains of eligible deceased servicemembers and discharged veterans, together with their spouses and certain dependents, and permanently maintain their graves; to provide headstones for, and to mark graves of, eligible persons in national, State, and private cemeteries; to administer the grant program for aid to States in establishing, expanding, or improving State veterans cemeteries; and to administer the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$430,000,000 for the National Cemetery Administration. This is an increase of \$36,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. The appropriated funding for NCA should be used to maintain existing cemeteries and to activate newly completed cemeteries.

cemeteries and to activate newly completed cemeteries.

The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2024, up to 10 percent of the National Cem-

etery Administration appropriation.

Western New York Cemetery.—The Department is directed to provide a detailed plan and timeline to the Committee no later than 60 days after the enactment of this act to fully address and mitigate traffic safety concerns at the intersection of New York State Route 77 and Indian Falls Road (County Route 4) adjacent to the Western New York Cemetery.

Rural Initiative National Cemetery Grants Program.—The Committee directs the Department to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing a Rural Initiative National Cemetery Grants Program to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act. Such program would provide grants to State and local entities to support projects that enhance the operation and maintenance of Rural Initiative National Cemeteries.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2022	\$10,478,500,000
Budget estimate, 2023	10,813,000,000
Committee recommendation	10,798,000,000

ADMINISTRATION OVERVIEW

Departmental Administration provides for the administration of veterans benefits through VBA, the executive direction of the Department, several top level supporting offices, and the Board of Veterans Appeals.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$10,798,000,000 for Departmental Administration. The amount is composed of \$425,000,000 for General Administration; \$285,000,000 for the Board of Veterans Appeals; \$5,782,000,000 for Information Technology Systems;

\$1,759,000,000 for the Veterans Electronic Health Record; \$273,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General; \$1,447,890,000 for Construction, Major Projects; \$626,110,000 for Construction, Minor Projects; \$150,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities; and \$50,000,000 for Grants for the Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries.

In addition, funds are available from the Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund [Transformational Fund]. Established in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–113), the Transformational Fund consists of unobligated balances of expired discretionary appropriations, following the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year funds were originally available. These funds shall be available until expended for facilities infrastructure improvements, including nonrecurring maintenance, at existing VA hospitals and clinics, and for information technology systems improvements and sustainment. For fiscal year 2023, VA proposed to allocate \$968,000,000 of the anticipated Transformational Fund balance, with approximately \$804,510,000 for major construction projects and \$163,490,000 for minor construction projects.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2022	\$401,200,000
Budget estimate, 2023	435,000,000
Committee recommendation	425,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The General Administration account provides funding for the Office of the Secretary, six assistant secretaries, and three independent staff offices.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$425,000,000 for General Administration. This amount is \$23,800,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$10,000,000 below the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2024, up to 10 percent of the General Administration appropriation.

The Committee provides funding for General Administration in the amounts specified below:

[In thousands of dollars]

Office ¹	Fiscal year 2023 budget request	Committee recommendation
Office of the Secretary	17,324	16,265
Office of General Counsel	137,347 78,564	135,000 75,735
Office of Human Resources & Administration/Office of Operations, Security & Pre- paredness	111.394	111.394
Office of Enterprise Integration	36,229	36,229
Office of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs	16,264 9,545	14,435 7.609
Office of Accountability & Whistleblower Protection	28,333	28,333
Total	435,000	425,000

¹The Office of Acquisition, Logistics & Construction and the Veterans Experience Office are funded solely with reimbursable authority.

The Secretary may alter these allocations if the Committees have been notified and written approval is provided.

Improving Personal Cybersecurity for Veterans.—The Department is encouraged to help improve personal cybersecurity among veterans by increasing digital and media literacy through education and resources, including protection against cyber threats and influ-

ence campaigns.

Data Governance and Analytics.—The Committee continues to support the work carried out by VA's Office of Enterprise Integration [OEI] for the continuous improvement of veterans' access and outcomes throughout their lifetimes, as outlined in the VA Data Strategy. VA, as a learning enterprise, should manage, integrate, and consolidate its various data sources to ensure its data is of the highest quality and is used to support operational decision-making. As such, the Committee encourages OEI to further coordinate enterprise-wide efforts to manage VA data as a strategic asset, enhance veterans' insights, and strengthen VA's delivery of services and benefits to veterans, their families, survivors, and caregivers. Within the funds provided, the Office of Enterprise Integration is directed to further coordinate enterprise-wide efforts of managing VA data as a strategic asset, enhance veterans' insights, and strengthen VA's delivery of services and benefits to veterans, their families, survivors, and caregivers.

VA Accessibility Office and VA Accessibility Officer.—The Committee recognizes a need to ensure that the Department meets the accessibility needs of disabled veterans and employees. The Committee also is aware of the importance of engagement with external stakeholders to remediate accessibility issues. Accordingly, the Committee encourages the Department to establish and allocate appropriate funding for a VA Accessibility Office to handle all accessibility concerns and to create the role of VA Chief Accessibility

Officer to lead the VA Accessibility Office.

508 Accessibility.—All veterans, regardless of disability status, should have access to all VA Information and Communication Technology [ICT], which is commonly needed to obtain the benefits they have earned. The Committee directs the Secretary to review VA's 508 accessibility compliance and ICT accessibility, and report findings to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of

Congress within 90 days after enactment, and continue to report on the progress of 508 accessibility compliance every year for 3 years after enactment. The Committee also urges the Department to maintain open lines of communication with VSOs and Blinded Veterans Association during the ongoing effort to improve accessibility.

erans Association during the ongoing effort to improve accessibility. VA Public Affairs Office.—The VA Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs and Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs coordinate with VBA, VHA, and NCA in order to provide Congressional offices and other stakeholders with the information they need to help our veterans receive the care they deserve. The Committee encourages VA to effectively communicate with veterans, VSOs, and Congressional offices in a timely matter, specifically

during the ongoing EHR modernization efforts.

Department of Veterans Affairs Pershing Hall in Paris, France.— The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 180 days of enactment of this act on the current status of and the envisioned future state of Pershing Hall in Paris, France with regard to operations, developments and improvements, as well as any options for disposition under consideration. In developing the report, the Department shall consult with the Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission and interested stakeholders, including the American Legion and its Paris Post 1.

BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS

Appropriations, 2022	\$228,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	285,000,000
Committee recommendation	285,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As set forth in section 7101(a) of title 38 United States Code, the Board of Veterans Appeals [BVA] is responsible for making final decisions on claims for veterans benefits presented to the Board for appellate review. The vast majority of the Board's workload derives from benefit claims initiated by the Veterans Benefits Administration's Regional Offices. The appellate process has multiple steps, most of which occur at the local Regional Office level. If a veteran is not satisfied with the Regional Office determination, he or she may appeal to the Board for a final agency decision. The Board adjudicates appeals covering all areas of veterans benefits, including service connection, increased disability ratings, total disability ratings, pensions, insurance benefits, educational benefits, home loan guaranties, vocational rehabilitation, waivers of indebtedness, fee basis medical care, and dependency and indemnity compensation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$285,000,000 for the Board of Veterans Appeals, which is \$57,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2024, up to 10 percent of the Board of Veterans Appeals' appropriation.

Scheduling Backlog.—The Committee urges the Department to investigate the scheduling process of the Board of Veterans Ap-

peals. The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on the length of time it takes to schedule and the Board's planned steps to improve efficiency.

Appeals Backlog.—VBA is currently experiencing a backlog of claims, which has only been exacerbated by the recent Beaudette court case ruling. The Committee recognizes veterans' expectations regarding timely and accurate appeals processing and supports BVA's efforts to increase personnel and achieve the necessary goal of reducing the backlog of claims and getting veterans the answers they deserve. The Committee urges the Department to invest in updated technology in order to help the Board keep up with the increase in demand.

Evaluating Execution of the Appeals Modernization Act.—The Committee is concerned with the growing appeals backlog, several years after the enactment of Public Law 115–55, the Appeals Modernization Act [AMA], which was designed to streamline appeals and offer veterans more choices for additional review or appeals of their claims. Recent data shows veterans forgo quicker review by VBA, increasingly opting for more time-consuming appeals before a BVA judge. This has resulted in an appeals backlog unanticipated by the AMA. Therefore, the Committee directs VA to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on: (1) its analysis of why more veterans choose to skip a quicker review by VBA, (2) its plan to educate veterans on quicker options available to them under the AMA, (3) a summary of recurring issues before BVA, and (4) its plan to improve training of VBA employees to reduce the fre-

Recruitment and Retention.—The Committee recognizes the challenge VA has in the recruitment and retention of attorneys at BVA. The Committee encourages the Board to use its discretion to lift

the cap to reimburse attorneys for their Bar Dues.

quency of recurring issues before BVA.

Appropriations, 2022 ¹	\$4,842,800,000
Budget estimate, 2023	5,782,000,000
Committee recommendation	5.782.000.000

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Information Technology [IT] Systems appropriation, along with reimbursements, funds the costs of all IT staff salaries and expenses, the operations and maintenance of all existing information technology systems, and the development of new projects and programs designed to improve the delivery of service to veterans. This appropriation also funds the costs associated with the Office of Information and Technology which oversees the functions highlighted above.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$5,782,000,000 for the Information Technology Systems account. This amount is equal to the budget

 $^{^1\}mathrm{In}$ addition, in fiscal year 2022, \$670,000,000 from the Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund was appropriated to the Information Technology Systems account.

request. The Committee recommendation includes \$1,494,230,000 for staff salaries and expenses, \$4,145,678,000 for operation and maintenance of existing programs, and \$142,092,000 for program

development.

The Committee has appropriated the Information Technology Systems account as three subaccounts. This funding structure enhances the Committee's ability to ensure funds are executed in a manner consistent with the Department's budget submission. The Committee has provided sufficient flexibility within the subaccounts by way of authorized carryover amounts and reprogramming authority to give the Office of Information Technology as much flexibility as possible to accomplish its mission and goals,

while ensuring proper accountability and oversight.

The Committee is aware that an aging IT infrastructure and antiquated systems have contributed to issues affecting veterans, their families, and third parties with whom VA has agreements; and that the Department continues to identify significant costs to support new and critical initiatives. Additionally, the Department has reported its inability to comply with requirements that have been passed into law due to lack of appropriate IT systems. While the Committee will continue to work with the Department to ensure current IT projects are appropriately resourced, the Committee believes the Department's Information Technology Programs budget submission document is in need of significant improvement.

The Committee is disappointed that the Department has not made more progress with the Committee direction regarding improvements to the IT budget submission in Volume II. The Committee reaffirms its belief that the Department's IT budget submission document is in need of significant improvement. Similar to efforts the Committee directed for improvements to Volume IV, Construction and Long Range Plan, the Committee directs the Department to improve the type, quality, and organization of information in the IT budget submission starting in the fiscal year 2024 submission. This should include a section detailing every existing funded IT project. The Department's approach in reforming its IT submission should draw lessons from the detail of the Construction and Long Range Plan submission.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

[In thousands of dollars]

Project	Fiscal year 2023 budget request	Committee recommendation
Health Management Platform:		
Community Care	37,879	37,879
Telehealth Services	13,657	13,657
Purchased Care	10,000	10,000
Patient Record System	9,200	9,200
Subtotal Health Management Platform	70,736	70,736
Clinical Applications:		
Supply Chain Management	33,223	33,223
Healthcare Administration Systems	10,054	10,054
Subtotal Clinical Applications	43,277	43,277

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Project	Fiscal year 2023 budget request	Committee recommendation
Health Research and Development: Research	5,209	5,209
Subtotal Health Research and Development	5,209	5,209
Benefits Systems: Other Benefits IT Systems Veterans Customer Experience Benefits Systems	8,000 7,222 5,505	8,000 7,222 5,505
Subtotal Benefits Systems	20,727	20,727
Other IT Systems: Human Resources	2,143	2,143
Subtotal Other IT Systems	2,143	2,143
Total IT Development	142,092	142,092

Concept of Operations.—As the Department rolls out its enterprise applications and moves toward more agile development, the Committee urges the Department to review and consider successful models of implementing the software factory concept of operations, including at other Departments or Agencies.

VETERANS ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

Appropriations, 2022	\$2,500,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	1.759,000,000
Committee recommendation	1.759.000.000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Veterans Electronic Health Record [EHR] account funds all activities related to the acquisition, implementation, preparation, development, interface, management, rollout, and maintenance of a new EHR. The EHR solution and implementation will include program management; an enterprise-wide EHR system; change management; training; testing; deployment services; sustainment; and other solutions encompassing the entire range of EHR requirements.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,759,000,000 for the Veterans EHR, equal to the budget request. While the Committee remains supportive of replacing VA's current EHR with the same system being acquired by DoD, frustrations continue with the delays in execution, as well as with the Department's poor communication. The Committee appreciates the Secretary undertaking a strategic review following concerns raised from the rollout of the new system at the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center in Spokane, Washington, and subsequent efforts to ensure subsequent rollouts are successful.

Given the schedules and costs associated with any acquisition of this size and magnitude, it is important for the Department to provide regular implementation updates. Therefore, the bill continues strict quarterly reporting of obligations, expenditures, and deployment schedule by facility. The Department is directed to continue quarterly briefings to review timelines, performance milestones, costs, implementation, and change management progress. In addition, the Committee included a statutory proviso that makes 25 percent of funding contingent upon the Secretary (1) being up to date on the quarterly reports on cost, performance metrics, and outcomes as required by the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–154), and (2) providing a report comparing current estimated costs to the revised Life Cycle Cost Estimate and certifying and detailing any changes to the full deployment schedule, no later than 30 days prior to July 1, 2023.

The Committee continues to direct GAO to perform quarterly performance reviews of the VA EHR deployment to keep the Committees on Appropriations and Veteran's Affairs of both Houses of

Congress apprised of VA's progress.

Veterans Electronic Health Record Modernization.—Congress continues to urge caution in the Department's implementation of electronic health record systems, especially given the known systemic issues that increase reliance on employees to identify and correct for these issues and therefore increase the risk of human error. It is clear that each rollout provides new lessons learned, but these lessons should not be at the expense of veteran patients or clinical employees. To outline some of the changes, the Department is directed to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than June 1, 2023, detailing steps taken to: (1) revise and enhance the EHR training program; (2) independently validate the efficacy of the super user program and the training for such program; (3) ensure proper medication management and accurate patient data through such record; (4) demonstrate that patient record flags that identify veterans who are at high risk for suicide are properly displayed in such record; and (5) implement a policy for regular updates to affected employees about progress on and estimated completion dates for issues arising from trouble tickets.

For each site using the new EHR, the Committee directs the Department to periodically report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on changes to staffing levels, productivity compared to pre-implementation levels, and wait times for access to VA care and care in the community. The Committee also discourages the Department from retaliation against employees who raise patient safety concerns related to the EHR Modernization activities.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2022	\$239,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	273,000,000
Committee recommendation	273,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Office of Inspector General [OIG] was established by the Inspector General Act of 1978 and is responsible for the audit, investigation, and inspection of all Department of Veterans Affairs programs and operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$273,000,000 for OIG. This is \$34,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2024, up to 10 percent of

the OIG appropriation.

OIG continues to sustain an extremely high performance level, and the Committee continues to support OIG's essential oversight of VA's programs and operations, and maintains a provision to support timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the Department. Similarly, the Committee strongly encourages OIG to undertake and complete investigations in a timely manner, including sharing information with the Department, the Department of Justice, or other entities as appropriate.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

Appropriations, 2022	\$1,611,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023 1	1,447,890,000
Committee recommendation	1,447,890,000

¹In addition, the Committee supports VA's proposal to allocate \$804,510,000 from the Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund to support major construction projects.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Construction, Major Projects account provides for constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities (including parking projects) under the jurisdiction or for the use of VA, including planning, architectural and engineering services, needs assessment, and site acquisition where the estimated cost of a project is more than the amount set forth in 38 U.S.C. 8104(a)(3)(A). Proceeds realized from enhanced use lease activities may be deposited into the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,447,890,000 for the construction of major projects. This is equal to the budget request. In addition, the Committee supports the Department's allocation of funds from the Transformational Fund to support the construction of major projects.

The following table reflects the President's budget request for major construction projects and the corresponding Committee rec-

ommendations.

MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

[In thousands of dollars]

Location and description	Fiscal year 2023 budget request	Fiscal Year 2023 Transformational Fund	Committee recommendation
Veterans Health Administration [VHA]: Portland, OR: Upgrade Portland Bldg 100/101 for Seismic			
Retrofit and Renovation		503,000	503,000
Louisville, KY: New Medical Center	35,000		35,000
Canandaigua, NY: Construction and Renovation		62,500	62,500
Alameda, CA: Community Based Outpatient Clinic and Na-			
tional Cemetery	128.800		128.800

MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Location and description	Fiscal year 2023 budget request	Fiscal Year 2023 Transformational Fund	Committee recommendation
Livermore, CA: Realignment & Closure, Livermore Campus Fort Harrison, MT: Seismic Upgrade and Specialty Care	35,000		35,000
Improvements		88,600	88,600
El Paso, TX: Construct New Health Care Center	550,000		550,000
Advance Planning and Design Fund: Various Stations	190,378	70,000	336,378
Asbestos—Various Stations		15,000	15,000
Claims Analysis—Various Stations	2,500		2,500
Construction & Facilities Management Staff—Various Sta-			
tions	128,122		128,122
Hazardous Waste—Various Stations	16,000		16,000
Land Acquisition Fund—Various Stations	76,000		
Non-Departmental Federal Entity Project Management Sup-			
port—Various Stations	134,590	65,410	200,000
Seismic Corrections—Various Stations	1,500		1,500
Total, VHA	1,297,890	804,510	2,102,400
National Cemetery Administration [NCA]:			
Elmira, NY: Phase 1 Gravesite Development	25,000		25,000
Albuquerque, NM: Phase 1 Gravesite Development	57,000		57,000
St. Louis, MO: Phase 1 Gravesite Development (New Land)	44,000		44,000
Advance Planning and Design Fund: Various Stations	13,000		13,000
NCA Land Acquisiion Fund: Various Stations	1,000		1,000
Total. NCA	140,000		140,000
			_ : 3,000
General Administration/Staff Offices			
Department Advance Planning and Design Fund for Major Construction	10,000		10,000
Total Construction, Major Projects	1,447,890	804,510	2,252,400

Construction Program.—The Committee recognizes the importance of VA's construction program and encourages the Department to take into account whether States have a full-service VA medical facility when determining which projects to fund.

Cost Increases.—The Committee recognizes the unique challenges and impacts the COVID-19 epidemic, subsequent supply chain shortages and surging inflation has had on construction projects. Therefore the Committee strongly encourages the Department to request additional funding required to complete construction projects, including CHIP-IN for Vets Act projects, in next year's budget request.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

Appropriations, 2022	\$553,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023 ¹	626,110,000
Committee recommendation	626,110,000

 $^{^1\}mathrm{In}$ addition, the Committee supports VA's proposal to allocate \$163,490,000 from the Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund to support minor construction projects.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Construction, Minor Projects account provides for constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities (including parking) under the jurisdiction or for the use of VA, including planning, assessment of needs, architectural and engineer-

ing services, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is equal to or less than \$20,000,000. The Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act (Public Law 106-117) gave VA authority to make capital contributions from minor construction in enhanced-use leases. Proceeds realized from enhanced-use lease activities may be deposited into the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$626,110,000 for minor construction. This is \$73,110,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. In addition, the Committee supports the Department's allocation of funds from the Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund to support the construction of minor

projects.

The recommendation includes \$344,245,000 for the Veterans Health Administration, \$157,265,000 for the National Cemetery Administration, \$30,000,000 for the Veterans Benefits Administration, and \$94,600,000 for staff offices and the Office of Information and Technology. The Department is directed to provide an expenditure plan to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 30 days after enactment of this act for the amount appropriated for minor construction.

Permanent Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Unit.—The Committee recognizes the importance of long-term beds for veterans suffering from substance use disorders, particularly in rural areas. The Committee is concerned that VA does not appear to have prioritized these projects in its construction planning and budgeting, and is encouraged to include necessary projects in future budget requests to ensure veterans are able to receive ade-

quate mental health and substance use treatment.

Enhanced Use Leases.—The Committee continues to support the Department's efforts to enter into enhanced use leases to more effectively utilize vacant or underutilized real property assets. In particular, the Committee appreciates VA's efforts to operationalize the Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System's Master Plan. The Committee supports the budget request and encourages VA to continue to engage with the Principal Developer Team and others on any potential funding opportunities, including Capital Contributions.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2022	\$50,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	150,000,000
Committee recommendation	150,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account is used to provide grants to assist States in acquiring or constructing State home facilities for furnishing domiciliary or nursing home care to veterans, and to expand, remodel, or alter existing buildings for furnishing domiciliary, nursing home, or hospital care to veterans in State homes. The grant may not exceed 65 percent of the total cost of the project. Public Law 102–585 granted permanent authority for this program, and Public Law

106–117 provided greater specificity in directing VA to prescribe regulations for the number of beds for which grant assistance may be furnished. This program has been a successful partnership between States and VA in meeting the long-term care needs of elderly veterans for decades.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$150,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities. This is \$100,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget

request.

The Committee recognizes the important role that State Veterans Homes play in providing nursing home, domiciliary or adult day care to veterans around the country. The Committee notes that the Department received significant funding for the Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities through the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136) and the American Rescue Plan (Public Law 117–2) that enabled VA to fund all existing Priority 1 projects at that time.

Prioritization Process Review.—As required under section 8134(a) of title 38, United States Code, when the Secretary reviews and revises regulations prescribed for grant applications submitted for assistance under grants for construction of State extended care facilities program, the Secretary is urged to supplement established prioritization criteria to take into account: (1) geographic diversity among grant recipients, including the need for a balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas; (2) age and condition of the facility, to prioritize facilities over 80 years with an industry-standard Facility Condition Index maximum rating of poor; and (3) access to other providers who can appropriately meet the veterans' extended care facilities' needs, to prioritize facilities with limited access to other such providers.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

Appropriations, 2022	\$48,500,000
Budget estimate, 2023	50,000,000
Committee recommendation	50,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Public Law 105–368 amended title 38 U.S.C. 2408 and established authority to provide aid to States for establishment, expansion, and improvement of State veterans cemeteries, which are operated and permanently maintained by the States. This statutory change increased the maximum Federal share from 50 percent to 100 percent in order to fund construction costs and initial equipment expenses when the cemetery is established. States remain responsible for providing the land and for paying all costs related to operation and maintenance of the cemeteries, including the costs for subsequent equipment purchases.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$50,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries. This is \$2,500,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted and equal to the budget request.

ASSET AND INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW

Appropriations, 2022	\$5,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	5,000,000
Committee recommendation	

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Asset and Infrastructure Review [AIR] account was established to fund implementation of the Asset and Infrastructure Review Act, under the VA MISSION Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–182), Title II, including support to the Asset and Infrastructure Review Commission [AIR Commission].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee provides no funding for the AIR account. While VA providing recommendations to the AIR Commission was required by statute, bipartisan concerns were raised related to the inaccuracy, completeness, and poor quality of the data used for the market analysis, much of which was done prior to shifts in healthcare resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional concerns were raised related to the potential consequences of specific recommendations, such as the creation of additional barriers to care (e.g., increased travel time), and at this time, the nominated Commissioners are not expected to be approved by the Senate or seated as part of the Commission. Without Commissioners to review and act upon recommendations, the AIR account requires no funding.

COST OF WAR TOXIC EXPOSURES FUND

Appropriations, 2022	\$500,000,000
Committee recommendation, 2023	1,400,000,000

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund was established in order to fully fund the new costs related to providing veterans and their families the benefits and care associated with eligibility expansion included in the Senate-passed PACT Act (H.R. 3967). The Department may allocate funds from the Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund for investment in the delivery of veterans healthcare associated with exposure to environmental hazards in service, expenses incident to the delivery of veterans healthcare and benefits associated with exposure to environmental hazards in service, and medical and other research related to exposures to environmental hazards in service. The Department must provide detailed estimates of their projected requirements in these areas to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, after consultation with the Committees on the policies and procedures for developing these estimates.

The intent of this fund is to cover the costs associated with implementing the PACT Act, including additional future eligibilities that result from the process changes enacted. This fund is not intended to be used to cover costs of healthcare or providing other benefits that VA had authority for prior to passage, or care and benefits that are not related to toxic exposure.

Gulf War Veterans Toxic Exposures.—The Committee is committed to caring for veterans with service-connected health conditions related to toxic exposures that occurred during their military service. The Committee commends efforts to address more service-connected conditions, and further encourages VA to ensure it is considering and addressing all varieties of toxic exposures, including herbicides, that affect veterans of all eras of service, including Gulf War veterans.

Cancer Detection and Recurrence Monitoring Related to Toxic Exposure.—The Committee recommends VA work with outside entities specializing in genetic sequencing technologies and diagnostic services to better address cancer diagnoses related to toxic exposures.

Karshi Khanabad Air Base.—The Committee remains concerned about servicemembers who were exposed to various hazards at Karshi Khanabad Air Base, Uzbekistan, also known as "K2", and urges the Department to implement the PACT Act's provisions related to K2 as quickly as possible.

lated to K2 as quickly as possible.

Medical Research on Burn Pit Exposure.—The Department is urged to partner with DoD to coordinate and share research on airborne hazards from open-air burn pits and its impact to servicemembers and veterans. The Departments are encouraged to enter into a memorandum of understanding for research on identifying and treating the health outcomes following exposure of servicemembers to airborne hazards from open-air burn pits, including utilizing information gathered through the VA's Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry.

Adjusted Rulemaking Process.—The Department is directed to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 1 year after enactment of this act on the timeline under which the Department plans to use the new rulemaking process to undertake a review of evidence related to toxic exposures of veterans who served at Ft. McClellan, Alabama.

Administrative Provisions

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

Sec. 201. The Committee includes a provision which outlines transfer authority and responsibilities for the Veterans Benefits Administration.

Sec. 202. The Committee includes a provision which outlines transfer authority and responsibilities for the Veterans Health Administration.

Sec. 203. The Committee includes a provision which outlines the use of funds appropriated for salaries and expenses.

Sec. 204. The Committee includes a provision mandating that only construction funds may be used for land procurement or the construction of any new hospital or home.

Sec. 205. The Committee includes a provision allowing for reimbursements to the Medical Services account.

Sec. 206. The Committee includes a provision allowing for payments of prior year obligations.

Sec. 207. The Committee includes a provision which allows for the use of funds for prior year obligations. Sec. 208. The Committee includes a provision which allows for payments from the National Service Life Insurance Fund.

Sec. 209. The Committee includes a provision which outlines the

use of funds from enhanced-use lease proceeds.

Sec. 210. The Committee includes a provision which provides funds for the Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication, and the Alternate Dispute Resolution function within the Office of Human Resources and Administration.

Sec. 211. The Committee includes a provision which requires dis-

closure of third-party reimbursement information.

Sec. 212. The Committee includes a provision which allows for the transfer of revenue derived from enhanced-use leases into the construction accounts.

Sec. 213. The Committee includes a provision which outlines authorized uses for Medical Services account funds.

Sec. 214. The Committee includes a provision which allows funds in the Medical Care Collection Fund to be transferred into the Medical Services and Medical Community Care accounts.

Sec. 215. The Committee includes a provision which allows eligible veterans in the State of Alaska to obtain medical care services.

Sec. 216. The Committee includes a provision which allows for the transfer of funds into the construction accounts.

Sec. 217. The Committee includes a provision requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit quarterly financial reports.

Sec. 218. The Committee includes a provision outlining transfer

authority for the Information Technology Systems account.

Sec. 219. The Committee includes a provision allowing for the transfer of funds from certain accounts to the Joint Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, as authorized by Public Law 111–84.

Sec. 220. The Committee includes a provision allowing for the transfer of funds from certain advance appropriation accounts to the Joint Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, as authorized by Public Law 111–84.

Sec. 221. The Committee includes a provision allowing for the transfer of certain funds deposited in the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Joint Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, as authorized by Public Law 111–84.

Sec. 222. The Committee includes a provision directing a minimum of \$15,000,000 be transferred from Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, and Medical Facilities to the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, as authorized by section 8111 of title 38, United States Code.

Sec. 223. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting funds available to the Department in this or any other act from being used to replace the current system by which VISNs select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

Sec. 224. The Committee includes a provision requiring notification of all bid savings for major construction projects.

Sec. 225. The Committee includes a provision restricting scope increases for major construction projects above that specified in the original project justification.

Sec. 226. The Committee includes a provision requiring the Department to submit reports relating to the Veterans Benefits Ad-

ministration on claims processing at Regional Offices.

Sec. 227. The Committee includes a provision requiring VA to notify the Committee 15 days prior to any organizational changes within VA of 25 or more FTE.

Sec. 228. The Committee includes a provision requiring the Secretary to report to the Committees each quarter about any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign exceeding \$1,000,000.

Sec. 229. The Committee includes a provision permitting the transfer to the Medical Services account of fiscal year discretionary 2022 appropriated funds.

Sec. 230. The Committee includes a provision permitting the

transfer of funds between GOE, VBA and BVA.

Sec. 231. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the reprogramming of funds in excess of \$7,000,000 among major construction projects or programs.

Sec. 232. The Committee includes a provision mandating certain

professional standards for the veterans crisis hotline.

Sec. 233. The Committee includes a provision requiring VA to use the mammography screening guidelines announced by the Sec-

retary on May 10, 2017.

Sec. 234. The Committee includes a provision allowing the use of Medical Services funding for assisted reproductive technology treatment and adoption reimbursement for veterans and their spouses if the veteran has a service-connected disability that results in being unable to procreate without such fertility treatment.

Sec. 235. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting any funds to be used to contract out any functions performed by more

than 10 employees without a fair competition process.

Sec. 236. The Committee includes a provision pertaining to Native Hawaiian small businesses.

Sec. 237. The Committee includes a provision directing the discontinuation of the usage of Social Security numbers within VA.

Sec. 238. The Committee includes a provision pertaining to the

certification of marriage and family therapists.

Sec. 239. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the transfer of funds from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund to any other VA account.

Sec. 240. The Committee includes a provision regarding a

childcare program.

Sec. 241. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting funds to be used to restrict an individual's ability to speak with a Member of Congress or his or her staff.

Sec. 242. The Committee includes a provision requiring certain data to be included in the budget justifications for the Construction, Major account.

Sec. 243. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds to deny the Inspector General timely access to informa-

tion, unless a provision of law expressly refers to the Inspector General and expressly limits such access.

Sec. 244. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting funding from being used in a manner that would increase wait times for

veterans at medical facilities.

Sec. 245. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds in fiscal year 2022 to convert any program which received specific purpose funds in fiscal year 2021 to a general purpose-funded program without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior to any such action.

Sec. 246. The Committee includes a reference to a provision in the 2017 appropriations act identifying information which may be used to verify the status of coastwise merchant seamen who served during World War II for the purposes of eligibility for medals, rib-

bons, or other military decorations.

Sec. 247. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of canines in VA research unless: the scientific objectives of the study can only be met by using canines; the study has been directly approved by the Secretary; and the study is consistent with the revised VA canine research policy document released in December, 2017.

Sec. 248. The Committee includes a provision ensuring particular ratios of veterans to FTE position within any VA program of rehabilitation.

Sec. 249. The Committee includes a provision to allow fiscal year 2022 and 2023 "Medical Community Care" funds to be used to cover obligations that otherwise would be paid by the Veterans Choice Fund, if necessary.

Sec. 250. The Committee includes a provision to allow obligations and expenditures applicable to the "Medical Services" account in fiscal years 2017 through 2019 for aid to State homes to remain in

the "Medical Community Care" account.

Sec. 251. The Committee includes a provision specifying an amount from the four medical care accounts for gender-specific care and programmatic efforts to deliver care for women veterans.

Sec. 252. The Committee includes a provision rescinding and reappropriating funds from the "Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund".

Sec. 253. The Committee includes a provision requiring quarterly reports on the status of the "Veterans Medical Care and Health Fund".

Sec. 254. The Committee includes a provision to address contributions from other Federal agencies to VA Non-Profit Corporations for research.

Sec. 255. The Committee includes a provision to rescind previously appropriated funding.

Sec. 256. The Committee includes a provision to restrict funds from being used to close medical facilities.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

OVERVIEW

The American Battle Monuments Commission [ABMC] was established by Congress in 1923 and is responsible for the following: designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining permanent American cemeteries in foreign countries; establishing and maintaining U.S. military memorials, monuments, and markers where American Armed Forces have served overseas since April 6, 1917, the date of the United States entry into World War I, and within the United States when directed by public law; and controlling the design and construction of permanent U.S. military monuments and markers by other U.S. citizens and organizations, both public and private, and encouraging their maintenance. ABMC administers, operates, and maintains 26 permanent American military cemeteries and 32 Federal memorials, monuments, and markers, located in 17 foreign countries, the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Midway Atoll, the British Dependency of Gibraltar, and the United States of America.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2022	\$87,500,000
Budget estimate, 2023	86,800,000
Committee recommendation	86,800,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$86,800,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account. This amount is equal to the budget request.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS

The Committee includes in the accompanying act, as proposed by the administration, such sums as necessary for the Foreign Currency Fluctuations account. Funding the account in this manner allows the Commission to maintain cemeteries regardless of the volatility of foreign currency fluctuations.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

OVERVIEW

The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims was established by the Veterans' Judicial Review Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–687). The Court is an independent judicial tribunal with exclusive jurisdiction to review decisions of the Board of Veterans Ap-

peals. It has the authority to decide all relevant questions of law; interpret constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions; and determine the meaning or applicability of the terms of an action by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. It is authorized to compel action by the Secretary. It is authorized to hold unconstitutional or otherwise unlawful and set aside decisions, findings, conclusions, rules, and regulations issued or adopted by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Board of Veterans Appeals, or the Chairman of the Board that are found to be arbitrary or capricious. The Court's principal office location is Washington, DC; however, it is a national court, empowered to sit anywhere in the United States.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2022	\$41,700,000
Budget estimate, 2023	46,900,000
Committee recommendation	46,900,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$46,900,000 for the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. This amount is \$5,200,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

Evaluating Recurring Appeals Issues.—The Committee is concerned certain issues involving veterans' claims continue to surface on appeals to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims [CAVC]. Veterans who disagree with a VA decision may seek another review by the Administration of jurisdiction, e.g., the Veterans Benefits Administration, or they may appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals [BVA]. After a BVA decision, veterans may further appeal to the first tribunal beyond the confines of VA—the CAVC. Despite multiple layers of review at the Administration or BVA, and despite years of remands, the CAVC reportedly sees recurring issues with how VA processes a veteran's claim. Therefore, the Committee directs the CAVC to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this act on the recurring issues the Court addresses in VA decisions, and the impact it has on the quality or timeliness of a veteran's claim.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL

CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

OVERVIEW

The Secretary of the Army is responsible for the administration, operation, and maintenance of Arlington National Cemetery [ANC] and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery. In addition to its principal function as a national cemetery, Arlington hosts more than 3,000 public wreath laying ceremonies, and approximately 3.5 million visitors annually.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2022	\$87,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	93,400,000
Committee recommendation	93,400,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$93,400,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account. This amount is \$6,400,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

ANC historically performs over 7,000 burial services each year for veterans and family members and an average of 27–30 each weekday. The Committee remains unwavering in its support for the Cemetery and the successful completion of the Cemetery's truly unique and honored mission.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriations, 2022	\$141,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	62,500,000
Committee recommendation	62,500,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$62,500,000 for the Construction account. This amount is equal to the budget request. In addition to the \$360,000,000 previously appropriated, this funding will enable Arlington National Cemetery to complete planning and design and construction for its Southern Expansion project. This project will provide approximately 80,000 additional burial opportunities across 38 acres and extend the service life of the cemetery into the 2060s. Additionally, within the total funding, \$2,500,000 is for planning and design for the Memorial Avenue improvements project.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

TRUST FUND

OVERVIEW

The Armed Forces Retirement Home [AFRH] is an independent agency that was created in 1991 by the merging of the United States Soldiers' and Airmen's Home in Washington D.C. and the United States Naval Home in Gulfport, Mississippi. AFRH operates and maintains the two communities to provide affordable resident services and care to retired and former enlisted servicemembers and their spouses.

TRUST FUND

Appropriations, 2022	\$77,000,000
Budget estimate, 2023	75,360,000
Committee recommendation	75,360,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends authority to expend \$75,360,000 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington, DC, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport, Mississippi. This amount is equal to the budget request.

The Committee recognizes the critical role of AFRH operations and the importance of delivering uninterrupted healthcare to its

residents. Therefore, the Committee continues to support the 2-year availability of funds.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriations, 2022	
Budget estimate, 2023	77,000,000
Committee recommendation	77,000,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$77,000,000 for the Construction account. This amount is \$77,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and equal to the budget request. This funding will provide for design, planning, and renovation of the Sheridan Building, which houses 80 percent of the residents at the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington campus, and was originally constructed in the 1960s.

Administrative Provision

Sec. 301. The Committee includes a provision making available funds as authorized by 10 U.S.C. 7727.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits the obligation of funds beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly

so provided.

Sec. 402. The Committee includes a provision that prohibits the use of funds for programs, projects, or activities not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

Sec. 403. The Committee includes a provision that encourages

the expansion of E-commerce technologies and procedures.

Sec. 404. The Committee includes a provision that specifies the congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifi-

Sec. 405. The Committee includes a provision that limits funds from being transferred from this appropriations measure to any instrumentality of the United States Government without authority from an appropriations act.

Sec. 406. The Committee includes a provision regarding the post-

ing of congressional reports on agency Web sites.

Sec. 407. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography, except for law enforcement investigation, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

Sec. 408. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds for the payment of first-class travel by an employee of the

executive branch.

Sec. 409. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds in this act for any contract where the contractor has not complied with E-Verify requirements.

Sec. 410. The Committee includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds in this act to construct facilities on military installations that do not meet resiliency standards.

PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

In fiscal year 2021, for purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-177) or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Reaffirmation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–119), the following information provides the definition of the term "program, project, and activity" for departments, agencies and programs under the jurisdiction of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies subcommittee. The term "program, project, and activity" shall include the most specific level of budget items identified in the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2021, the House and Senate Committee reports, and the conference report and accompanying joint explanatory statement of managers of the committee of conference.

If a sequestration order is necessary, in implementing the Presidential order, departments, and agencies shall apply any percentage reduction required for fiscal year 2021 pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–177 or Public Law 100–119 to all items specified in the justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives in support of the fiscal year 2021 budget estimates, as amended, for such departments and agencies, as modified by congressional action, and in addition, for the Department of Defense, Military Construction, the definition shall include specific construction locations as identi-

fied in the explanatory notes.

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7, RULE XVI, OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 7 of rule XVI requires that Committee reports accompanying general appropriations bills identify each recommended amendment which proposes an item of appropriation which is not made to carry out the provisions of an existing law, a treaty stipulation, or an act or resolution previously passed by the Senate during that session.

The Committee recommends funding for the following programs which currently lack authorization:

Title I: Department of Defense

Military Construction, Army Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps

Military Construction, Air Force

Military Construction, Defense-Wide

Military Construction, Army National Guard

Military Construction, Air National Guard

Military Construction, Army Reserve

Military Construction, Navy Reserve

Military Construction, Air Force Reserve

North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program

Department of Defense Base Closure Account

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force

Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide

Family Housing Construction, Army

Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps

Family Housing Construction, Air Force

Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund

Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund

Title II: Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Benefits Administration

Veterans Health Administration

National Cemetery Administration

Departmental Administration

Title III: Related Agencies

American Battle Monuments Commission U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

Cemeterial Expenses, Army

Armed Forces Retirement Home

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 12, RULE XXVI OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 12 of rule XXVI requires that Committee reports on a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part of any statute include "(a) the text of the statute or part thereof which is proposed to be repealed; and (b) a comparative print of that part of the bill or joint resolution making the amendment and of the statute or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by stricken-through type and italics, parallel columns, or other appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions which would be made by the bill or joint resolution if enacted in the form recommended by the committee."

The Committee bill as recommended contains no such provisions.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT LISTING BY LOCATION

Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
ALABAMA			
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: BIRMINGHAM IAP:			
SECURITY AND SERVICES TRAINING FACILITY	7,500		-7,500
TOTAL, ALABAMA	7,500		- 7,500

84

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
ALASKA			
ARMY:			
FORT WAINWRIGHT: PHYSICAL FITNESS CENTER ANNEX		99,000	+ 99,000
AIR FORCE:		,	· ·
CLEAR AFS: LRDR DORMITORY	68,000	68,000	
JB ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON: CONTAMINATED SOIL REMOVAL: COST TO COMPLETE EXTEND RUNWAY 16/34 (INC)		5,200 100,000	+ 5,200
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: JB ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON: AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR		63,000	+ 63,000
TOTAL, ALASKA	168,000	225 200	167 200
TOTAL, ALASKA	100,000	335,200	+ 167,200
ARIZONA			
AIR FORCE: LUKE AFB:			
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN NAVY:		2,700	+ 2,700
MCAS YUMA: WATER TREATMENT PLANT: PLANNING AND DESIGNAIR NATIONAL GUARD:		5,000	+ 5,000
TUCSON IAP: LAND ACQUISITION	10.000	10,000	
MORRIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE:			
BASE ENTRY COMPLEX		10,300	+ 10,300
TOTAL, ARIZONA	10,000	28,000	+ 18,000
ARKANSAS			
ARMY:			
PINE BLUFF ARSENAL:			
ACCESS CONTROL POINT: PLANNING AND DESIGN		1,800	+ 1,800
MINOR CONSTRUCTIONARMY NATIONAL GUARD: CAMP ROBINSON:		1,000	+ 1,000
AUTOMATED MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE		9,500	+ 9,500
TOTAL, ARKANSAS		12,300	+ 12,300
CALIFORNIA			
NAVY:			
CAMP PENDLETON: BASILONE ROAD REALIGNMENT		85,210	
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERLEMOORE:		32,100	+ 32,100
F-35C AIRCRAFT MAINT HANGAR & AIRFIELD PAVE POINT LOMA ANNEX:	· ·	100,000	- 101,261
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERSAN DIEGO:	56,450	56,450	
PIER 6 REPLACEMENT (INC)RECRUIT BARRACKS	15,565	15,565 82,230	+ 82,230
TWENTYNINE PALMS: RANGE SIMULATION TRAINING & OPERATIONS FACILITY AIR FORCE:	120,382	120,382	
Vandenberg afb: GBSD consolidated maintenance facility	89,000	89,000	

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
DEFENSE-WIDE:			
CORONADO:			
SOF OPERATIONS SUPPORT FACILITY	75,712	75,712	
AIR FORCE RESERVE: BEALE AFB:			
940 ARW SQUAD OPS/AMU	33,000		- 33,00
			,
TOTAL, CALIFORNIA	676,580	656,649	- 19,93
COLORADO			
ARMY:			
FORT CARSON:			
FIRE STATION SUPPORT BUILDING	14,200	14,200	İ
AIR FORCE:			
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY:			
CEMETERY EXPANSION: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		3,400	+ 3,40
TOTAL, COLORADO	14,200	17,600	+ 3,40
	14,200	17,000	7 3,40
CONNECTICUT			
NAVY:			
NEW LONDON:			
RELOCATE UNDERWATER ELECTROMAGNETIC MEASURE	15,514	15,514	
TOTAL, CONNECTICUT	15,514	15,514	
DELAWARE			
DEFENSE-WIDE: DOVER AFB:			
ARMED SERVICES WHOLE BLOOD PROCESSING LABORA-			
TORY-EAST REPLACEMENT: PLANNING AND DESIGN		350	+ 35
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
NEW CASTLE:			
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	16,000	16,000	
TOTAL, DELAWARE	16,000	16,350	+ 35
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FLORIDA			
NAVY:			
JACKSONVILLE:			
ENGINE TEST CELLS MODIFICATIONS	86,232	86,232	
WHITING FIELD: AHTS AIRCRAFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY	57,789	57,789	
DEFENSE-WIDE:	37,703	37,703	
HURLBURT FIELD:			
SOF HUMAN PERFORMANCE TRAINING CENTER	9,100	9,100	
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
PALM COAST:			
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOPAIR NATIONAL GUARD:	12,000	12,000	
AIK NATIONAL GUARD: JACKSONVILLE IAP:			
F-35 CONSTRUCT FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY	22,200	22,200	
ARMY RESERVE:	22,230	22,230	
PERRINE:			
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/AMSA	46,000	46,000	
TOTAL, FLORIDA	233,321	233,321	
TOTAL, TEORIDA	. 200,021	. 200,021	

86

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
GEORGIA			
ARMY:			
FORT GORDON: CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER ADDITION CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN		21,000 5,000	+ 21,000 + 5,000
KINGS BAY:			
NUCLEAR REGIONAL MAINTENANCE FACILITY TRIDENT TRAINING FAC COLUMBIA TRAINER EXPAN MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY:	213,796 65,375	100,000 65,375	— 113,796
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATION FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN		6,400	+ 6,400
MOODY AFB: 23D SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY:			
PLANNING AND DESIGN		1,100	+1,100
RESCUE SQUADRON GUARDIAN ANGEL OPERATIONS FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN		5,770	+ 5,770
FORT GORDON:			
NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE CENTER BUILDING: PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,100	+ 2,100
ARMY RESERVE: DOBBINS ARB:			
ARMY RESERVE CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN		5,000	+ 5,000
TOTAL, GEORGIA	279,171	211,745	- 67,426
HAWAII			
ARMY:			
FORT SHAFTER: UPGRADE FORT SHAFTER WATER SYSTEMSCHOFIELD BARRACKS:		33,000	+ 33,000
COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITIES		111,000	+ 111,000
FIREHOUSE STATION FACILITY: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CON- STRUCTION		9,000	+ 9,000
TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER: UPGRADE POTABLE WATER SYSTEM		38,000	+ 38,000
NAVY:			
Joint Base Pearl Harbor—Hickam: Dry Dock 3 Replacement (Inc)	621,185	621,185	
MISSILE MAGAZINES WATERFRONT PRODUCTION FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN		103,350 20,000	+ 103,350 + 20,000
MCB HAWAII: BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS		87,900	+ 87,900
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: KAPOLFI:		,	,
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADDITION	29,000	29,000	
TOTAL, HAWAII	650,185	1,052,435	+ 402,250
ILLINOIS			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: CHICAGO:			
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ALTERATION: PLAN- NING AND DESIGN		3,500	+ 3,500
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: SCOTT AFB:			
MAINTENANCE HANGAR & SHOPS: PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,500	+ 2,500

87

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
TOTAL, ILLINOIS		6,000	+ 6,000
INDIANA			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
ATLANTA: NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	20,000	20,000	
FORT WAYNE IAP: MUNITIONS MAINTENANCE & STORAGE COMPLEX	12,800	12,800	
TOTAL, INDIANA	32,800	32,800	
KANSAS			
ARMY:			
FORT RILEY (CUSTER HILL): UNACCOMPANIED ENLISTED BARRACKS: PLANNING AND DE- SIGN		15,930	+ 15,930
TOTAL, KANSAS		15,930	+ 15,930
IOWA		10,000	1 10,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
WEST DES MOINES: NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	15,000	15,000	
TOTAL, IOWA	15,000	15,000	
LOUISIANA		·	
ARMY:			
FORT POLK: CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: COST TO COMPLETE INFORMATION SYSTEM FACILITY: COST TO COMPLETE JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER: COST TO COMPLETE	32,000	32,000 9,000 35,360 61,000	+ 9,000 + 35,360 + 61,000
AIR FORCE: BARKSDALE AFB: WEAPONS GENERATION FACILITY (INC)	125,000	125,000	
TOTAL, LOUISIANA	157,000	262,360	+ 105,360
	137,000	202,300	1 103,300
MAINE NAVY:			
KITTERY: MULTI-MISSION DRYDOCK #1 EXTENSION (INC)	503,282	503,282	
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD: CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,500	+ 2,500
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: SACO:		2,000	. 2,000
SOUTHERN MAINE READINESS CENTER: PLANNING AND DE- SIGN		3,000	+ 3,000
WOODVILLE TRAINING CENTER: RANGE COMPLEX: PLANNING AND DESIGN		1,400	+ 1,400
TOTAL, MAINE	503,282	510,182	+ 6,900
MARYLAND			,
DEFENSE-WIDE:			
BETHESDA NAVAL HOSPITAL: MEDCEN ADDITION / ALTERATION (INC 6)	75,500	75,500	

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
FORT MEADE: NSAW MISSION OPS AND RECORDS CENTER (INC)	140,000 378,000	140,000 378,000	
TOTAL, MARYLAND	593,500	593,500	
MASSACHUSETTS			
AIR FORCE: HANSCOM AFB: MIT-LINCOLN LAB (WEST LAB CSL/MIF) (INC)	30,200	30,200	
TOTAL, MASSACHUSETTS	30,200	30,200	
MICHIGAN			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: GRAYLING: NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	16,000	16,000	
TOTAL, MICHIGAN	16,000	16,000	
MINNESOTA	10,000	10,000	
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: CAMP RIPLEY: DINING FACILITY COLLECTIVE TRAINING: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		3,000	+ 3,000
NEW ULM: NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	17,000	17,000	
TOTAL, MINNESOTA	17,000	20,000	+ 3,000
MISSISSIPPI ARMY: ENGINEER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER: GENERAL PURPOSE LAB AND TEST BUILDING		20,000	+ 20,000 + 10,000
TOTAL, MISSISSIPPI		30,000	+ 30,000
MISSOURI			
ARMY: FORT LEONARD WOOD: CENTRAL ISSUE FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN DEFENSE—WIDE: FORT LEONARD WOOD:		5,300	+ 5,300
HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT INC 5		31,300 5,600	+ 31,300 + 5,600
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: JEFFERSON BARRACKS ANGB: COMBAT ARMS TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY: PLANING AND DESIGN		730 4,500	+ 730 + 4,500
ROSECRANS ANGB:		,	·
MAINTENANCE HANGAR: PLANNING AND DESIGN	l	3,400	+ 3,400

${\tt MILITARY\ CONSTRUCTION\ PROJECT\ LISTING\ BY\ LOCATION} \\ -- {\tt Continued}$

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
PARKING APRON: PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,000	+ 2,000
TOTAL, MISSOURI		52,830	+ 52,830
NEVADA			
NAVY:			
FALLON: F-35C AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	97,865	97,865	
NELLIS AFB: DORMITORY: PLANNING AND DESIGNARMY NATIONAL GUARD:		7,200	+7,200
RENO: NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT	18,000	18,000	
TOTAL, NEVADA	115,865	123,065	+ 7,200
NEW HAMPSHIRE			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: BERLIN: HANGAR AND AVIATION OPERATIONS BUILDING: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		5,200	+ 5,200
CONCORD: NATIONAL GUARD WELLNESS CENTER: PLANNING AND DE- SIGN		2,000	+ 2,000
NEWINGTON: SMALL ARMS RANGE: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		2,000	+ 2,000
TOTAL, NEW HAMPSHIRE		9,200	+ 9,200
,		9,200	+ 9,200
NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
LAWRENCEVILLE: ADMINISTRATION BUILDING/GENERAL PURPOSE: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		5,950	+ 5,950
ATLANTIC CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: ADAL MAIN HANGAR: PLANNING AND DESIGN		3,000 5,100	+ 3,000 + 5,100
TOTAL, NEW JERSEY		14,050	+ 14,050
NEW MEXICO			
ARMY: WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE: LAS CRUCES SUBSTATION: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUC-			0.400
TION MISSILE ASSEMBLY BUILDING: PLANNING AND DESIGN ONE COMPANY SATELLITE FIRE STATION: UNSPECIFIED		6,400 3,600	+ 6,400 + 3,600
MINOR CONSTRUCTIONAIR FORCE:		6,400	+ 6,400
ADD/ALTER B575 FOR SECURITY FORCES: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		4,000	+ 4,000
SOF CONSTRUCT MUNITIONS STORAGE AREA: PLANNING AND DESIGN		8,000	+ 8,000
F-16 FORMAL TRAINING UNIT AIRFIELD REQUIREMENTS: PLANNING AND DESIGN		4,140	+ 4,140

90

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
HOLLOMAN HIGH-SPEED TEST TRACK: PLANNING AND DE- SIGN		5,000	+ 5,000
58 SOW/PJ/CRO PIPELINE DORM (432 RM): PLANNING AND DESIGN		11,160	+11,160
DESIGN		2,000	+ 2,000
CONSTRUCTION EXPLOSIVES OPERATIONS BUILDING: PLANNING AND DESIGN SMALL ARMS STORAGE FACILITY: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CON-		4,200 540	+ 4,200 + 540
STRUCTION		2,800	+ 2,800
SIGN		4,700	+4,700
FIRE DEPARTMENT: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: RIO RANCHO:		5,600	+ 5,600
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP: PLANNING AND DESIGN		600	+ 600
TOTAL, NEW MEXICO		69,140	+69,140
NEW YORK			
ARMY: FORT DRUM: ACCESS CONTROL POINT: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		6,800	+ 6,800 + 3.060
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY: ENGINEERING CENTER	39,800	3,060 39,800	+ 3,000
AIR FORCE: AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY—HANSCOM AFB NEWPORT TEST ANNEX: CONSTRUCT HE ANTENNAS NEWBORT AND STOCKERINGE.			
CONSTRUCT HF ANTENNAS NEWPORT AND STOCKBRIDGE TEST ANNEXES: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: LEXINGTON ARMORY:		4,200	+ 4,200
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADDITION/ALTERATION: PLANNING AND DESIGN		3,580	+ 3,580
TROY: NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	17,000	17,000	
NIAGARA FALLS ARS: COMBINED OPERATIONS AND ALERT FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,800	+ 2,800
TOTAL, NEW YORK	56,800	77,240	+ 20,440
NORTH CAROLINA			
ARMY: FORT BRAGG: AUTOMATED INFANTRY PLATOON BATTLE COURSE: PLANNING			
AND DESIGN		1,350	+ 1,350
AUTOMATED RECORD FIRE RANGE: PLANNING AND DESIGN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE (MPMG 2): PLANNING		2,000 2,700	+ 2,000 + 2,700
AND DESIGN	34,000	1,600 34,000	+ 1,600

91

Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
NAVY:			
CAMP LEJEUNE:			
REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION, HADNOT POINT	47,475	47,475	
CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION:	100.000	100.000	
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR (INC)	106,000	106,000	
CH-53K GEARBOX REPAIR AND TEST FACILITY	38,415	38,415	
F-35 FLIGHTLINE UTIL MODERNIZATION PH 2 (INC)	58,000	58,000	
AIR FORCE: SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB:			
COMBAT ARMS AND MAINTENANCE COMPLEX: PLANNING AND			
DESIGN		3,300	+ 3.30
KC-46 ALERT FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN		530	+ 53
DEFENSE-WIDE:		000	100
CAMP LEJEUNE:			
LEJEUNE SCHOOLS MODERNIZATION: PLANNING AND DESIGN		6,600	+ 6,60
FORT BRAGG:		0,000	. 0,00
ALBRITTON MIDDLE SCHOOL ADDITION: PLANNING AND DE-			
SIGN		7,000	+ 7,00
SOF OPERATIONS BUILDING	18,870	18,870	
SOF SUPPLY SUPPORT ACTIVITY	15,600	15,600	
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:	,,,,,	,,,,,	
MCLEANSVILLE:			
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	15,000	15,000	
MORRISVILLE:			
ARMY AVIATION FLIGHT FACILITY #1: PLANNING AND DESIGN		4,500	+ 4,500
TOTAL, NORTH CAROLINA	333,360	362,940	+ 29,58
OHIO			
AIR FORCE:			
WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB:			
HUMAN PERFORMANCE WING LABORATORY: PLANNING AND			
DESIGN		4,000	+ 4,00
AIR NATIONAL GUARD:		.,000	,
RICKENBACKER ANGB:			
SMALL ARMS RANGE		8,000	+ 8,00
		-,	.,
TOTAL, OHIO		12,000	+ 12,00
OV/ AUOMA			
OKLAHOMA			
ARMY:			
FORT SILL:			
ADVANCE INDIVIDUAL TRAINING COMPLEX PHASE 2		85,800	+ 85,80
MCALESTER AAP:			
AMMUNITION DEMOLITION SHOP		39,000	+ 39,00
AIR FORCE:			
TINKER AFB:			
E-7 OPERATIONS CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN		15,000	+ 15,00
FACILITY AND LAND ACQUISITION (MROTC)	30,000	30,000	, 114.00
KC-46A 1-BAY DEPOT CORROSION CONTROL HANGAR		114,000	+ 114,00
KC_46A_2_BAY_PROGRAM_DEPOT_MAINTENANCE_HANGAR_(INC)	40.000	90,000	+ 90,00
KC-46A 3-BAY DEPOT MAINTENANCE HANGAR (INC) KC-46A FUEL POL INFRASTRUCTURE	49,000 13,600	49,000 13,600	
NC-46A FUEL PUL INFRASTRUCTURE	13,000	13,000	
TINKER AFB:			
10TH FLIGHT TEST SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY		12,500	+ 12,50
	00.000		,
TOTAL, OKLAHOMA	92,600	448,900	+ 356,300

92

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
OREGON			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
CAMP UMATILLA: TRANSIENT TRAINING OFFICERS HOUSING: UNSPECIFIED			
MINOR CONSTRUCTION		6,000	+6,00
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: KINGSLEY FIELD ANGB:			
B210 COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING: UNSPECIFIED MINOR		F 000	
CONSTRUCTION		5,000	+ 5,00
TOTAL, OREGON		11,000	+11,00
PENNSYLVANIA			
ARMY:			
LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT: SHIPPING AND RECEIVING BUILDING	38,000	38,000	
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: FORT INDIANTOWN GAP:			
EASTERN ARNG AVIATION TRAINING SITE (EAATS) POST-INI-			
TIAL MILITARY TRAINING UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING: PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,700	+ 2,70
NEW CASTLE:		2,700	. 2,70
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER: PLANNING AND DE- SIGN		2,360	+ 2,36
TOTAL, PENNSYLVANIA	38.000	43,060	+ 5,06
	30,000	45,000	7 3,00
RHODE ISLAND			
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: QUONSET POINT ANGB:			
CONSOLIDATED HEADQUARTERS MEDICAL & DINING FACILITY		46,000	+46,00
TOTAL, RHODE ISLAND		46,000	+ 46,00
SOUTH CAROLINA			
NAVY:			
MCRD PARRIS ISLAND: RECRUIT BARRACKS		38,300	+ 38,30
RECRUIT BARRACKS		37,600	+ 37,60
AIR FORCE: Shaw Afb:			
RAPCON FACILITY	10,000	10,000	
DEFENSE—WIDE: MCAS BEAUFORT:			
FUEL PIER REPLACEMENT: PLANNING AND DESIGN MCRD PARRIS ISLAND:		900	+ 90
AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC REPLACEMENT (DENTAL): PLAN-			
NING AND DESIGN		4,800	+ 4,80
TOTAL, SOUTH CAROLINA	10,000	91,600	+ 81,60
SOUTH DAKOTA			
AIR FORCE:			
ELLSWORTH AFB: B-21 2-BAY LO RESTORATION FACILITY (INC)	91,000	51,000	- 40,00
B-21 RADIO FREQUENCY FACILITY	77,000	84,500	+ 7,50
B-21 WEAPONS GENERATION FACILITY (INC)	50,000	50,000	
TOTAL, SOUTH DAKOTA	218,000	185,500	- 32,50

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
TENNESSEE			
AIR FORCE:			
ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE: ARC HEATER TEST FACILITY DRAGON FIRE	38,000	38,000	
MCGHEE-TYSON AIRPORT: KC-135 MAINTENANCE SHOPS	23,800	23,800	
TOTAL, TENNESSEE	61,800	61,800	
TEXAS			
ARMY:			
CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT: POWERTRAIN FACILITY (ENGINE ASSEMBLY)	103,000	103,000	
FORT BLISS: FIRE STATION	15,000	15,000	
AIR FORCE:	,	,	
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO: BMT RECRUIT DORMITORY 7 (INC) DEFENSE—WIDE:	90,000	44,000	-46,000
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO: AMBULATORY CARE CENTER REPLACEMENT (DENTAL)	58,600	58,600	
TOTAL, TEXAS	266,600	220,600	- 46,000
UTAH			
AIR FORCE:			
HILL AFB:			
GBSD ORGANIC SOFTWARE SUSTAIN CENTER (INC 2)	95,000 84,000	95,000 84,000	
TOTAL, UTAH	179,000	179,000	
VERMONT	170,000	170,000	
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
BENNINGTON:			
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	14,800		- 14,800
ETHAN ALLEN AFB: CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM FACILITY: PLANNING AND DESIGN		1,300	+ 1,300
GOLD STAR PAVILION: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		900	+ 900
MICRO-GRID SYSTEM: PLANNING AND DESIGN ETHAN ALLEN FIRING RANGE:		1,170	+ 1,170
CANTONMENT AREA FOR TRAINING: PLANNING AND DESIGN CASTLE TRAIL BYPASS (ALL SEASON ROAD): PLANNING AND		3,500	+ 3,500
DESIGNDESIGN RUAD): PLANNING AND		500	+ 500
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: BURLINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:			
CYBER OPERATIONS SQUADRON BUILDING: PLANNING AND			
DESIGN		1,000	+ 1,000
TOTAL, VERMONT	14,800	8,370	- 6,430
VIRGINIA			
NAVY:			
NORFOLK:			
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN SUBMARINE LOGISTICS SUPPORT FACILITIES	16.863	2,300 16.863	+ 2,300
SUBMARINE PIER 3 (INC 2)			

94

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
NAVAL AIR STATION OCEANA:		1 000	1.000
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: PLANNING AND DESIGN PORTSMOUTH:		1,200	+ 1,200
DRY DOCK SALTWATER SYSTEM FOR CVN-78 (INC) DEFENSE-WIDE:	47,718	47,718	
DAM NECK: SOF OPERATIONS BUILDING ADDITION	26,600	26,600	
PENTAGON: COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INSPECTION FACILITY	18,000	18,000	
AIR FORCE RESERVE:	10,000	10,000	
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS: INTELLIGENCE GROUP FACILITY		10,500	+ 10,500
TOTAL, VIRGINIA	264,181	278,181	+ 14,000
WASHINGTON			
ARMY:			
JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD: BARRACKS	49,000	49,000	
NAVY: WHIDBEY ISLAND:			
AIRCRAFT AIRFIELD PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS E/A—18G AIRCRAFT FLT READ SQUAD TRAIN FAC	37,461	68,100 37,461	+ 68,100
AIR FORCE:	37,401	37,401	
FAIRCHILD AFB: ADAL KC—135 FLIGHT SIMULATOR		7,300	+ 7,300
CONSOLIDATE TFI BASE OPERATIONS: COST TO COMPLETE		8,000	+ 8,000
TOTAL, WASHINGTON	86,461	169,861	+ 83,400
WEST VIRGINIA			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
BUCKHANNON: NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT KENOVA:	14,000	14,000	
ARMED FORCES READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		4,300	+ 4,300
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER: PLANNING AND DE- SIGN		1,500	+ 1,500
WHEELING: AASF#2 HANGAR ADD/ALT: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		6,000	+ 6,000
WILLIAMSTOWN: AASF#1 HANGAR ADD/ALT: UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION TION		5,000	+ 5,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD: MCLAUGHLIN ANGB:		,	,
C-130J APRON EXPANSION		7,500	+ 7,500
CONSTRUCT INDOOR SMALL ARMS RANGE: PLANNING AND DESIGN		640	+ 640
SQUADRON OPERATIONS BUILDING: PLANNING AND DESIGN		1,500	+ 1,500
TOTAL, WEST VIRGINIA	14,000	40,440	+ 26,440
WISCONSIN			
ARMY RESERVE: FORT MCCOY:			
TRANSIENT TRAINING ENLISTED BARRACKS		38,000	+ 38,000

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
TRANSIENT TRAINING OFFICER BARRACKS		31,000	+ 31,000
TOTAL, WISCONSIN		69,000	+ 69,000
WYOMING			
AIR FORCE:			
FE WARREN AFB:	05.000	05.000	
GBSD INTEGRATED COMMAND CENTER WING A	95,000 34,000	95,000 34.000	
GBSD MISSILE HANDLING COMPLEX WING A	47,000	47,000	
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:	,,,,,	,,,,,,	
SHERIDAN:	14.000	14.000	
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	14,800	14,800	
TOTAL, WYOMING	190,800	190,800	
AUSTRALIA			
NAVY:			
DARWIN: PDI: AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON (INC)	72,446	72,446	
	72,446	72,446	
TOTAL, AUSTRALIA	/2,440	72,440	
GERMANY			
ARMY:			
EAST CAMP GRAFENWOEHR: EDI: BATTALION TRNG CPLX1 (BRKS/VEH MAINT)	104,000	104,000	
EDI: BATTALION TRNG CPLX1 (BRRS/VEH MAINT)	64,000	64,000	
DEFENSE-WIDE:	.,,,,,,,,	.,,,,,,,	
BAUMHOLDER:			
BAUMHOLDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	71,000	71,000	
SOF BATTALION ANNEXSOF COMMUNICATIONS ANNEX	22,468 9,885	22,468 9.885	
SOF OPERATIONS ANNEX	23,768	23,768	
SOF SUPPORT ANNEX	21,902	21,902	
RHINE ORDNANCE BARRACKS:	,	ĺ	
MEDICAL CENTER REPLACEMENT (INC 10)	299,790	299,790	
WEISBADEN: CLAY KASERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	60,000	60,000	
OLAT MADERINE ELEMENTARY SOURCE	00,000	00,000	
TOTAL, GERMANY	676,813	676,813	
GUAM			
NAVY:			
FINEGAYAN:			
PDI: 9TH ENG SUPP BATTALION EQUIP & MAIN FAC	131,590	131,590	
PDI: 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION OPS FAC	35,188	35,188	
PDI: BROWN TREE SNAKE EXCLUSION BARRIER SOUTH PDI: GROUND COMBAT ELEMENT INF BTN 1 & 2 FAC	14,497 149,314	14,497 149,314	
TOTAL, GUAM	330,589	330,589	
HUNGARY			
AIR FORCE:			
PAPA AB:			
EDI: DABS—FEV STORAGE	71,000	71,000	
TOTAL, HUNGARY	71,000	71,000	

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
ICELAND			
AIR FORCE:			
KEFLAVIK:	04.000	04.000	
EDI: DABS_FEV STORAGE	94,000	94,000	
TOTAL, ICELAND	94,000	94,000	
ITALY			
AIR FORCE:			
AVIANO AB: COMBAT RESCUE HELICOPTER SIMULATOR FACILITY	15,500	15,500	
EDI: RADR STORAGE FACILITY	31,000	31,000	
TOTAL, ITALY	46,500	46,500	
·	10,000	10,000	
JAPAN			
NAVY: KADENA AB:			
PDI: MARINE CORPS BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS	94,100	94,100	
PDI: MARINE CORPS BARRACKS COMPLEX	101,300	101,300	
KADENA AB:			
HELICOPTER RESCUE OPS MAINTENANCE HANGAR (INC) PDI: THEATER A/C CORROSION CONTROL CTR (INC)	71,000 77,000	71,000 77,000	
DEFENSE—WIDE:	77,000	77,000	
IWAKUNI:	05.000	05.000	
PDI: BULK STORAGE TANKS PH 1	85,000	85,000	
PDI: BULK STORAGE TANKS PH I (INC)	44,000	44,000	
PDI: OPERATIONS AND WAREHOUSE FACILITIES	72,154	72,154	
KINNICK HIGH SCHOOL (INC)	20,000	20,000	
TOTAL, JAPAN	564,554	564,554	
JORDAN	,	,	
AIR FORCE:			
AZRAQ:			
BULK PETROLEUM/OIL/LUBRICANTS STORAGE	32,000	32,000	
FUEL CELL AND PHASE MAINTENANCE HANGARS	18,000	18,000	
TOTAL, JORDAN	50,000	50,000	
KWAJALEIN			
ARMY:			
KWAJALEIN ATOLL: MEDICAL CLINIC	69,000	69,000	
-			
TOTAL, KWAJALEIN	69,000	69,000	
MARIANA ISLANDS			
AIR FORCE:			
TINIAN: PDI: AIRFIELD DEVELOPMENT PHASE 1 (INC)	58,000	58,000	
PDI: FUEL TANKS W/PIPELN & HYDRANT SYS (INC)	92,000	92,000	
PDI: PARKING APRON (INC 2)	41,000	41,000	
TOTAL, MARIANA ISLANDS	191,000	191,000	

97

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
NORWAY			
AIR FORCE:			
RYGGE:			
EDI: BASE PERIMETER SECURITY FENCE	8,200	8,200	
	.,		
TOTAL, NORWAY	8,200	8,200	
PUERTO RICO			
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
CAMP SANTIAGO:			
ENGINEERING/HOUSING MAINTENANCE SHOPS (DPW)	14,500	14,500	
ARMY RESERVE:		- 1,555	
FORT BUCHANAN:			
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	24,000	24,000	
TOTAL, PUERTO RICO	38,500	38,500	
,	36,300	36,300	
SPAIN			
AIR FORCE:			
MORON:			
EDI: RADR STORAGE FACILITY	29,000	29,000	
TOTAL, SPAIN	29,000	29,000	
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM	210,139	210,139	
	210,100	210,100	
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED			
ARMY:	100 151	100 151	
PLANNING AND DESIGN	193,151 90,414	193,151	
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	30,414	102,414	+ 12,000
SUBTOTAL, ARMY	283,565	295,565	+ 12,000
NAVY:			
PLANNING AND DESIGN	397,124	397,124	
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	109,994	109,994	
SUBTOTAL, NAVY	507,118	507,118	
AIR FORCE:		,	
PLANNING AND DESIGN	135,794	135,794	
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	66,162	72,162	+ 6,000
SUBTOTAL, AIR FORCE	201,956	207,956	+ 6,000
DEFENSE-WIDE:	201,000	207,000	,,,,,
ENERGY RESILIENCE AND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM	329,000	329,000	
PLANNING AND DESIGN:			
DEFENSE-WIDE	26,689	26,689	
DEFENSE-WIDE ERCIP	224,250	224,250	
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY	47,063	47,063	
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	30,000	30,000	
DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY	33,227	33,227	
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION AGENCY	20,086	20,086	
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY	9,618	9,618	
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	26,978	26,978	
THE JOINT STAFF	2,360	2,360	
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES	2,106	2,106	. 21 17/
INDOPACOM		31,170	+ 31,170
SUBTOTAL, DEFENSE-WIDE	751,377	782,547	+ 31,170

98

	Budget	Committee	Committee recommendation
Installation and project	estimate	recommendation	compared to budget estimate
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION			
DEFENSE—WIDE: DEFENSE—WIDE	3,000	3.000	
DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY	15,000	15.000	
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	31,702	31,702	
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION AGENCY	8,000	8,000	
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY	6,000	6,000	
US, SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	36,726	36,726	
THE JOINT STAFF	18,644	18,644	
INDOPACOM		16,130	+ 16,130
SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	119,072	135,202	+ 16,130
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD:			
PLANNING AND DESIGN	28,245	43,245	+ 15,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	35,933	68,933	+ 33,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN	28,412	28,412	
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	44,171	44,171	
ARMY RESERVE:	,	,	
PLANNING AND DESIGN	9,829	32,829	+ 23,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	20,049	45,049	+ 25,000
NAVY RESERVE:	0.500	0.500	
PLANNING AND DESIGNMINOR CONSTRUCTION	2,590 27,747	2,590 27,747	
AIR FORCE RESERVE:	27,747	27,747	
PLANNING AND DESIGN	11,773	18,773	+ 7,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	11,850	38,850	+ 27,000
SUBTOTAL, WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED	2,296,832	2,492,132	+ 195,300
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY			
GERMANY:			
BAUMHOLDER:			
FAMILY HOUSING REPLACEMENT CONSTRUCTION	57,000	57,000	
ITALY:			
VICENZA: FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION	05.000	05 000	
PLANNING AND DESIGN	95,000	95,000 17,339	
T LANNING AND DESIGN		17,555	
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	169,339	169,339	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:			
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	46,849	46,849	
SERVICES ACCOUNT	9,580	9,580	
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	45,718	45,718	
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	559	559	
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNTLEASING	22,911 127,499	22,911 127,499	
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	117,555	117,555	
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	65,740	65,740	
SUBTOTAL, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	436,411	436,411	
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS			
GUAM:			
JOINT REGION MARIANAS:			
REPLACE ANDERSEN HOUSING PH VI	68,985	68,985	
MARIANA ISLANDS: GUAM:			
REPLACE ANDERSEN HOUSING PH IV	86,390	86,390	

${\tt MILITARY\ CONSTRUCTION\ PROJECT\ LISTING\ BY\ LOCATION} \\ -- {\tt Continued}$

<u> </u>			
Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
REPLACE ANDERSEN HOUSING PH V	93,259	93,259	
IMPROVEMENTS, USMC HQ WASHINGTON DC	74,540	74,540	
DESIGN, USMC HQ WASHINGTON DC	7,043	7,043	
PLANNING AND DESIGN FOR USMC/DPRI	7,043	7,043	
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	337,297	337,297	
·	331,231	337,237	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:	40 417	40 417	
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	42,417	42,417	
SERVICES ACCOUNT	16,494	16,494	
	59,312	59,312	
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	411	411	
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	16,182	16,182	
LEASING	66,333	66,333	
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	105,470	105,470	
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	61,605	61,605	
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	368,224	368,224	
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE			
DELAWARE:			
DOVER AFB:			
DOVER MHPI RESTRUCTURE	25,492	25,492	
FLORIDA:			
TYNDALL AFB:			
AETC RESTRUCTURING	150,685	150,685	
ILLINOIS:			
SCOTT AFB:			
SCOTT MHPI RESTRUCTURE	52,003	52,003	
MARYLAND:	,,,,,	,,,,,	
ANDREWS AFB:			
MHPI EQUITY CONTRIBUTION CMSSF HOUSE	1,878	1,878	
PLANNING AND DESIGN	2,730	2,730	
	-		
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	232,788	232,788	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:			
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	46,217	46,217	
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	77,042	77,042	
SERVICES ACCOUNT	10,570	10,570	
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	27,379	27,379	
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	2,240	2,240	
LEASING	7,882	7,882	
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	150,375	150,375	
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	33,517	33,517	
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	355,222	355,222	
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE			
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:			
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY:	1.5	1.5	
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	15	15	
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	12 200	12 200	
LEASING	13,306	13,306	
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	34	34	
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY:	4 100	4 100	
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	4,166	4,166	
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	656	656	
LEASING	31,849	31,849	
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	50,113	50,113	
	00,220	55,120	

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Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUNDDOD MILITARY UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND	6,442 494	6,442 494	
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE			
ARMY	67,706	67,706	
NAVY	106,664	106,664	
AIR FORCE DEFENSE—WIDE	107,311	119,311	+ 12,000
DEFENSE—WIDE	3,006	3,006	
TOTAL, BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE	284,687	296,687	+ 12,000
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS			
UNFUNDED REQUIREMENTS (Sec. 124):			
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY (Sec 124)		261,040	+ 261,040
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY & MARINE CORPS (Sec 124)		727,387	+ 727,387
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE (Sec 124)		591,700	+ 591,700
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE—WIDE (Sec 124) MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD (Sec 124)		151,000 54,743	+ 151,000 + 54,743
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARM NATIONAL GUARD (Sec 124)		9,200	+ 9,200
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE (Sec 124)		59,600	+ 59,600
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE (Sec 124)		137,300	+ 137,300
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE (Sec 124)		8,000	+ 8,000
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY (Sec 124)		292,822	+ 292,822
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE (Sec 124)LAB INFRASTRUCTURE (Sec. 128):		18,800	+ 18,800
LAB INFRASTRUCTURE, ARMY (Sec 128)		20,000	+ 20,000
LAB INFRASTRUCTURE, NAVY & MARINE CORPS (Sec 128)		10,000	+ 10,000
LAB INFRASTRUCTURE, AIR FORCE (Sec 128)		90,000	+ 90,000
MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE (Sec. 129): MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE, ARMY (Sec 129) MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE, NAVY & MARINE CORPS (Sec		10,000	+ 10,000
129)MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE, AIR FORCE (Sec 129)		20,000 10,000	+ 20,000 + 10,000
NATURAL DISASTER (SEC. 130): MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE (Sec 130)		100,000	+ 100,000
COST TO COMPLETE PROJECTS:—BUDGET (Sec. 131):		40.000	40.000
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY (Sec 131)		40,000	+ 40,000
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY & MARINE CORPS (Sec 131) MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE (Sec 131)		65,000 58,000	+ 65,000 + 58,000
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE (SEC 131)		51,000	+ 51,000
SUBTOTAL, COST TO COMPLETE BUDGET		214,000	+ 214,000
RECAP			
ARMY	845,565	1,481,665	+ 636,100
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS	3,752,391	4,024,314	+ 271,923
AIR FORCE	2,055,456	2,306,796	+ 251,340
DEFENSE-WIDE	2,416,398	2,514,648	+ 98,250
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	297,278	480,638	+ 183,360
AR NATIONAL GUARD	148,883	242,553	+ 93,670
ARMY RESERVE	99,878	221,878	+ 122,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE	30,337 56,623	30,337 93,423	+ 36,800
NATO	210,139	210,139	+ 30,600
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT (BRAC)	284,687	296,687	+ 12,000
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY	605,750	605,750	
CONSTRUCTION	(169,339)	(169,339)	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	(436,411)	(436,411)	
	705 521	705 501	I
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS	705,521 (337,297)	705,521 (337,297)	

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT LISTING BY LOCATION—Continued [In thousands of dollars]

Installation and project	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Committee recommendation compared to budget estimate
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE	(368,224) 588.010	(368,224) 588.010	
CONSTRUCTION	(232,788)	(232,788)	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	(355,222)	(355,222)	
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE—WIDE	50,113	50,113	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	(50,113)	(50,113)	
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND	6,442	6,442	
DOD UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND	494	494	
NONPRINT TOTAL, FAMILY HOUSING	(1,956,330)	(1,956,330)	
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS		2,785,592	+ 2,785,592
GRAND TOTAL	12,153,965	16,645,000	+ 4,491,035

DISCLOSURE OF CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

The Constitution vests in the Congress the power of the purse. The Committee believes strongly that Congress should make the decisions on how to allocate the people's money.

As defined in Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the term "congressionally directed spending item" means a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Senator, providing, authorizing, or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, locality or congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative, formula-driven, or competitive award process.

For each item, a Member is required to provide a certification that neither the Member nor the Member's immediate family has a pecuniary interest in such congressionally directed spending item. Such certifications are available to the public on the website of the Senate Committee on Appropriations (https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/congressionally-directed-spending-requests).

Following is a list of congressionally directed spending items included in the Senate recommendation discussed in this report, along with the name of each Senator who submitted a request to the Committee of jurisdiction for each item so identified. Neither the Committee recommendation nor this report contains any limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits as defined in rule XLIV.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS [In thousands of dollars]

Alask	State	Location IB Flmendorf-Richardson	Project Contaminated Soil Removal: Cost to Complete	Amount 5.200	Requestor(s)
Arizona Colorado		Luke AFB	Containmated Soft Removal: Cost to Complete	2,200 2,700 3,400	Kelly Kelly Bennet/Hickenlooper
ueorgia		Moody Arb	23d Security Forces Squadron Operations Facility: Plan- ning and Design.	1,100	Warnock/Ussoit
Georgia		Moody AFB	Rescue Squadron Guardian Angel Operations Facility: Planning and Design.	5,770	Ossoff
Nevada		Nellis AFB	Dormitory: Planning and Design Add/Alter B575 for Security Forces: Unspecified Minor	7,200	Cortez Masto/Rosen Heinrich/Luján
New Mexico		Cannon AFB	Construction. Soft Construct Munitions Storage Area: Planning and De-	8,000	Heinrich/Luján
New Mexico		Holloman AFB	Sign. F-16 Ormal Training Unit Airfield Requirements: Planning	4,140	Heinrich/Luján
New Mexico New Mexico		Holloman AFBKirtland AFB	and Design. Holloman High-Speed Test Track: Planning and Design S SOW/PJ/CRO Pipeline Dorm (432 RM): Planning and	5,000	Luján/Heinrich Heinrich/Luján
New Mexico		Kirtland AFB	Design. ADAL Systems & Digital Engineering Lab: Planning and Desim	2,000	Hei nrich/Luján
New Mexico		Kirtland AFB	Apparatus Bay for Fire Station 5: Unspecified Minor Con- etruction	4,200	Heinrich/Luján
New Mexico	1 1	Kirtland AFB	Structon. Explosives Operations Building: Planning and Design Small Arms Storage Facility: Unspecified Minor Construction	540 2,800	Heinrich/Luján Heinrich/Luján
New Mexico New Mexico New York	111	Kirtland AFB	Joint Navigational Warfare Center: Planning and Design Fire Department: Unspecified Minor Construction	4,700 5,600 4,200	Heinrich/Luján Heinrich/Luján Gillibrand/Schumer
North Carolina		port lest Annex. Seymour Johnson AFB	Combat Arms and Maintenance Complex: Planning and	3,300	Tillis/Burr
North Carolina Ohio		Seymour Johnson AFB	Design. KC-46 Alert Facility: Planning and Design	530	Tillis/Burr Brown
Oklahoma		Tinker AFB	sign. Tinker AFB E-7 Operations Center: Planning and Design	15,000 Inhofe	Inhofe

Inhofe Inhofe Murray Murray Hyde-Smith/Wicker Gillibrand/Schumer	Inhofe Warner/Kaine Kelly/Sinema Durbin Blunt		Blunt Menendez Menendez Brown Merkley/Myden	Reed Leahy Capito Manchin Marchin Murkowski Boozman	Ossoff/Warnock Ossoff/Warnock Hirono/Schatz Hirono/Schatz Schatz Hirono/Schatz Mirono/Schatz Cassidy Cassidy
114,000 90,000 7,300 8,000 10,000 2,800	12,500 10,500 10,300 2,500 730	4,500	2,000 3,000 5,100 8,000 5,000	46,000 1,000 7,500 640 1,500 99,000 1,800 1,000	21,000 5,000 33,000 111,000 9,000 15,930 9,000 35,360
KC-46A 1-Bay Depot Corrosion Control Hangar	sign. 10th Flight Test Squadron Operations Facility	ADAL Security Forces Facility: Unspecified Minor Construction. Maintenance Hangar: Planning and Design	Parking Apron: Planning and Design ADAL MAIN HANGAR: Planning and Design Main Gate Complex: Unspecified Minor Construction Small Arms Range	Struction. Consolidated Headquarters Medical & Dining Facility	Construction. Child Development Center Addition Child Development Center. Planning and Design Upigrade Ford Shafter Water System Company Operations Facilities Frienbuse Station Facilities Unspecified Minor Construction Upgrade Potable Water System Unaccompanied Enlisted Barracks. Planning and Design Child Development Center. Cost to Complete Information System Facility. Cost to Complete
Tinker AFB Tinker AFB Fairchild AFB Fairchild AFB Keesler AFB Niagara Falls ARS	Inker AFB JB Langley-Eustis Morris ANGB Scott SFB Jefferson Barracks ANGB	Jefferson Barracks ANGB	Rosecrans ANGB Atlantic City International Airport Atlantic City International Airport Rickenbacker ANGB Kingsley Field ANGB	Quonset Point ANGB Burlington International Airport McLaughlin ANGB McLaughlin ANGB McLaughlin ANGB Fort Wainwright Pine Bluff Arsenal Pine Bluff Arsenal	Fort Gordon Fort Gordon Fort Shafter Schofield Barracks Schofield Barracks Tripler Army Medical Center Fort Riley (Custer Hill) Fort Polk Fort Polk
Oklahoma Oklahoma Washington Washington Massissippi New York	Oklahoma Virginia Arizona Illinois	Missouri	Missouri New Jersey New Jersey Ohio	Rhode Island Vermont West Virginia West Virginia West Virginia Alaska Arkansas Arkansas	Georgia Georgia Hawaii Hawaii Hawaii Hawaii Kansas Louisiana Louisiana
Air Force Reserve Air Force Rese	Air Force Reserve	Air National Guard	National Guard National Guard National Guard National Guard	Air National Guard Army Army Army	Army Army Army Army Army Army Army Army

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS—Continued [In thousands of dollars]

				101					
Requestor(s)	Cassidy Hyde-Smith/Wicker	Blunt Heinrich/Luján Heinrich/Luján Heinrich/Luján	Gillibrand/Schumer Gillibrand/Schumer Burr	Burr Tillis/Burr Burr	Inhofe Inhofe Murkowski Boozman Warnock	Durbin Collins		Blunt Shaheen	Shaheen Shaheen
Amount	61,000	5,300 6,400 3,600 6,400	6,800 3,060 1,350	2,000 2,700 1,600	85,800 39,000 63,000 9,500 2,100	3,500	1,400	5,600	2,000
Project	Joint Operations Center Construction: Gost to Complete General Purpose Lab and Test Building	Central Issue Facility: Planning and Design	Access Control Onit: Unspecified Minor Construction Physical Fitness Testing Facility: Planning and Design Authorized Infantry Platoon Battle Course: Planning and Design	Automated Record Fire Range: Planning and Design Child Development Center: Planning and Design Multipurpose Machine Gun (MPMG 2): Planning and Design sign	Adr Arr Air Au	sign. National Guard Readiness Center Alteration: Planning and Design. Southern Waine Readiness Center. Planning and Design.	Range Complex: Planning and Design Dining Facility, Collective Training: Unspecified Minor Construction.	AVCRAD Aircraft Maintenance Hangar Addition Phase IV: Planning and Design. Hangar and Aviation Operations Building: Unspecified	Army National Guard New Hampshire Concord
Location	Fort Polk	Fort Leonard Wood White Sands Missile Range White Sands Missile Range	Fort Drum Fort Drum Fort Bragg	Fort Bragg	Fort Sill	Chicago	Woodville Training Center	Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot. Berlin	Concord
State	Louisiana	Missouri New Mexico New Mexico New Mexico	New York New York North Carolina	North Carolina North Carolina	Oklahoma Oklahoma Oklahoma Alaska Arkansas Georgia	Illinois	Maine Minnesota	Missouri New Hampshire	New Hampshire New Hampshire
Account	Army	Army Army Army Army Army Army	Army Army Army	Army Army Army	Army Army Army Army National Guard Army National Guard Army National Guard Army National Guard	Army National Guard	Army National Guard Army National Guard	Army National Guard Army National Guard	Army National Guard Army National Guard

Army National Guard	New Jersey	Lawrenceville	Administration Building/General Purpose: Unspecified Minor Construction	5,950	Booker/Menendez
Army National Guard Army National Guard	New Mexico New York	Rio Rancho	Wehicle Maintenance Shop: Planning and Design	600 3,580	Heinrich/Luján Gillibrand/Schumer
Army National Guard Army National Guard	North Carolina Oregon	Morrisville Camp Umatilla	riaming alla Design. Army Aviation Flight Facility #1: Planning and Design Transient Taining Officers Housing. Unspecified Minor Construction	4,500	Tillis/Burr Merkley/Wyden
Army National Guard	Pennsylvania	Fort Indiantown Gap	Eastern ARNG Aviation Training Site (EAATS) Post-Initial Military Training Unaccompanied Housing: Planning	2,700	Casey
Army National Guard		New Castle Ethan Allen AFB	and Design. National Guard Readiness Center: Planning and Design Civil Support Team Facility, Planning and Design	2,360	Casey Leahy
Army National Guard Army National Guard		Ethan Allen AFBEthan Allen AFB	Gold Star Pavilion: Unspecified Minor Construction	900 1,170	Leany Sanders
Army National Guard Army National Guard	Vermont	Ethan Allen Firing RangeEthan Allen Firing Range	Cantonment Area for Training: Planning and Design Castle Trail Bypass (All Season Road): Planning and De-	3,500	Leahy Sanders
Army National Guard	West Virginia	Kenova	sign. Armed Forces Readiness Center ADD/ALT: Unspecified	4,300	Manchin
Army National Guard	West Virginia	Martinsburg	Minor Construction. National Guard Readiness Center: Planning and Design	1,500	Capito
Army National Guard	West Virginia	Wheeling	AASF#2 Hangar ADD/ALT: Unspecified Minor Construction	6,000	Manchin
Army National Guard Army Reserve	West Virginia Georgia	Williamstown Dobbins ARB	AASF#1 Hangar ADD/ALI: Unspecified Minor Construction Army Reserve Center: Planning and Design	5,000	Manchin Ossoff/Warnock
Army Reserve	Wisconsin	Fort McCoy	Transient Training Enlisted Barracks	38,000	Baldwin
Army Reserve	Wisconsin	Fort McCoy	Transient Training Officer Barracks	31,000	Baldwin
Defense Wide (DHA)	South Carolina	MCRD Parris Island	Ambulatory Care Clinic Replacement (Dental): Planning	4,800	Graham
	:		and Design.		
Defense Wide (DLA)	South Carolina	MCAS Beaufort	Fuel Pier Replacement: Planning and Design	006	Graham
Defense Wide (DoDEA)	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune Fort Bragg	Abritton Middle School Addition: Planning and Design	7,000	Tillis/Burr
	Delaware	Dover AFB	Armed Services Whole Blood Processing Laboratory-East	350	Carper/Coons
			Replacement: Planning and Design.		
Navy	Arizona	MCAS Yuma	Water Treatment Plant: Planning and Design	5,000	Kelly/Sinema
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Child Development Center	32,100	Feinstein
Navy	Georgia	Marine Corps Logistics Base Al-	Consolidated Communication Facility: Planning and De-	6,400	Ossoff/Warnock
Navy		bany. JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam	sign. Missile Magazines	103,350	103,350 Hirono/Schatz

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS—Continued [In thousands of dollars]

Requestor(s)	Hirono Hirono/Schatz Shaheen/Collins Graham Graham Warner/Kaine Warner/Kaine
Amount	20,000 87,900 2,500 37,600 38,300 1,200 2,300 68,100
Project	Waterfront Production Facility: Planning and Design Bachelor Enlisted Quarters Child Development Center: Planning and Design Recruit Barracks Child Development Center: Planning and Design Child Development Center: Planning and Design Aircraft Airfield Pavement Improvements
Location	JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam MCB Hawaii Portsmouth Naval Shipyard MCRD Parris Island MCRD Parris Island MCRD Parris Island MAVAI Air Station Oceana Norfolk Naval Shipyard MS Whidbey Island
State	Hawaii Hawaii Maine South Carolina South Carolina Niginia Virginia Washington Mashington
Account	Navy Navy Navy Navy Navy Navy Navy Navy

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023
[In thousands of dollars]

ecommendation $(+ \text{ or } -)$	Budget estimate		+636,100 +271,923	+ 251,340 + 98,250	+1,257,613		07 + 172,000 + 175,000		+ 36,800	+ 435,830		+ 12,000	+1,705,443					
Senate Committee recommendation compared with ($+$ or $-$)	2022 appropriation		+429,893 +1,380,037	+ 102,046 + 308,597	+ 2,220,573	+ 142,745	-62,497 + 127.767	-41,467	-26,651	+ 139,897	- 5,714	-232,952	+ 2,121,804	+ 69,490 + 45,184	+ 259,681	+ 10,883	+ 29,777	+ 328 + 361
Committee	recommendation		1,481,665 4,024,314	2,306,796 2,514,648	10,327,423	480,638	242,553	30,337	93,423	1,068,829	210,139	296,687	11,903,078	169,339	337,297	368,224	355,222	50,113 6,442
Rudget estimate	Duuget estilliate		845,565 3,752,391	2,055,456 2,416,398	9,069,810	297,278	148,883	30,337	56,623	632,999	210,139	284,687	10,197,635	169,339	337,297	368,224	355,222	50,113 6,442
2022	appropriation		1,051,772 2,644,277	2,204,750 2,206,051	8,106,850	337,893	305,050 94.111	71,804	120,074	928,932	215,853	529,639	9,781,274	99,849	77,616	357,341	325,445	49,785 6,081
Hom	IKAIII	TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	Military Construction, Army	Military Construction, Air Force	Total, Active components	Military Construction, Army National Guard	Military Construction, Air National Guard	Military Construction, Navy Reserve	Military Construction, Air Force Reserve	Total, Reserve components	North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program	Department of Defense Base Closure Account	Total, Wiltary Construction	Family Housing Construction, Army	=	Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps	Air Force	Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023—Continued

₌	mate				9	,040 387		8 [°] 10		500	009	300	000,	778	008	000	000	000			000	000,	000					
recommendation (+ or –)	Budget estimate					+ 261,040 + 727,387	+ 591,700	+ 151,000	+ 54	+ 9,200	+ 29	+ 137	+8,000	+ 292,822	+ 18,800	+ 20,000	+ 10,000	06+			+ 10,000	+ 20,000	+ 10,000					
Senate Committee recommendation compared with $(+ \text{ or } -)$	2022 appropriation		+ 532,776		000	-3/5,060 -554,593	+ 354,250	+ 58,000	-16,257	-77,420	+ 30,400	+ 137,300	- 36,000	+ 204,758	+ 18,800	- 65,000	- 5,000	+ 65,000	-275,000	-153,000	-15,000	-20,000	-30,000	-15,000	-11,000	-11,000	-11,000	-20,000
Committee	recommendation	767	1,956,330		0	261,040 727,387	591,700	151,000	54,743	9,200	59,600	137,300	8,000	292,822	18,800	20,000	10,000	90,000			10,000	20,000	10,000					
Rudget estimate	panger extillate	767	1,956,330																									
2022	appropriation	464	1,423,554		000	636,100 1,281,980	237,450	93,000	71,000	86,620	29,200		44,000	88,064		85,000	15,000	25,000	275,000	153,000	25,000	40,000	40,000	15,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	20,000
Ham	ונפווו	Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund	Total, Family Housing	ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS	Unfunded Requirements:	Military Construction, Army (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Air Force (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Defense-Wide (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Army National Guard (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Air National Guard (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Army Reserve (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Navy Reserve (Sec 124)	Military Construction, Air Force Reserve (Sec 124)	Family Housing Construction, Army (Sec 124)	Family Housing Construction, Air Force (Sec 124)	Lab Infrastructure, Army (Sec 128)	Lab Infrastructure, Navy & Marine Corps (Sec 128)	Lab Infrastructure, Air Force (Sec 128)	Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps—SIOP Unspecified Worldwide (Sec 130)	Military Construction, Defense-Wide (Sec 131)	Military Installation Resilience, Army (Sec 129)	Military Installation Resilience, Navy and Marine Corps (Sec 129)		Military Installation Resilience, Defense-Wide (Sec 132)	Military Construction, Army—Child Development Centers: Planning & Design (Sec 133)	Military Construction, Air Force Child Development Centers: Planning & Design (Sec 133)	Military Construction, Navy & Marine Corps Child Development Centers: Planning & Design (Sec 133)	Natural Disaster, Military Construction, Navy & Marine Corps: Planning & Design (Sec 134)

Natural Disaster, Military Construction, Air Force (Sec 130)	$130,000 \\ -131,000$		100,000	-30,000 +131,000	+ 100,000
Subtotal, Unfunded Requirements—Services	3,292,414		2,571,592	- 720,822	+ 2,571,592
Cost to Complete Projects—Services. Cost to Complete Projects Guard (Sec 135) Military Construction, Army National Guard (Sec 135) Military Construction, Air National Guard (Sec 135)	86,536 35,371			- 86,536 - 35,371	
Cost to Complete Projects Budget (Sec 138) Military Construction, Army (Sec 131) Military Construction, Navy & Marine Corps (Sec 131) Military Construction, Air Force (Sec 131) Military Construction, Defense-Wide (Sec 131)	4,000 11,000 25,000 30,000		40,000 65,000 58,000 51,000	+ 36,000 + 54,000 + 33,000 + 21,000	+ 40,000 + 65,000 + 58,000 + 51,000
Military Construction, Air National Guard (Sec 138) Military Construction, Army Reserve (Sec 138) Military Construction, Air Force Reserve (Sec 138) Family Housing Construction, Navy & Marine Corps (Sec 138)	11,800 5,800 4,400 13,000			-11,800 $-5,800$ $-4,400$ $-13,000$	
Cost to Complete Projects (Sec 139) Military Construction, Army (Sec 139) Military Construction, Navy & Marine Corps (Sec 139) Military Construction, Arr Force (Sec 139) Military Construction, Array National Cost 139) Military Construction, Array National Cost 139) Military Construction, Array Reserve (Sec 139) Military Construction, Array Reserve (Sec 139) Military Construction, Array Reserve (Sec 139)	20,800 18,926 46,574 11,410 9,961 9,180 7,000 2,000			- 20,800 - 18,926 - 46,574 - 11,410 - 9,180 - 7,000 - 2,000	
Subtotal, Cost to Complete Projects—Services	352,758		214,000	- 138,758	+ 214,000
Military Construction, Navy & Marine Corps Water Treatment and Distribution Infrastructure (Sec 133)	50,000			- 50,000	
Total, Administrative Provisions	3,695,172		2,785,592	- 909,580	+2,785,592
Total, title I, Department of Defense	14,900,000	12,153,965	16,645,000	+ 1,745,000	+4,491,035
Appropriations	(15,031,000)	(12,153,965)	(16,645,000)	(+1,614,000)	(+4,491,035)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023—AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023—Continued

Budget year appropriations
pensions available in fiscal year
dvances
Jvances
and indemnities available in fiscal year

Less appropriations from prior year advances	-136,950	-109,865	-109,865	+ 27,085	
Total, Veterans insurance and indemnities appropriated in this bill	109,865	121,126	121,126	+ 11,261	
Veterans housing benefit program fund: Credit subsidy: Direct	-41,000	-104,000	-104,000	-63,000	
Guaranteed	2,822,000	2,628,000	2,628,000	-194,000	
Subtotal (Credit subsidy)	2,781,000	2,524,000	2,524,000	-257,000	
(Limitation on direct loans)	(500) 229,500	(500) 282,36 <u>1</u>	(500) 282,36 <u>1</u>	+ 52,861	
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account. (Limitation on direct loans) Administrative expenses	(1,663)	(942)	(942)	+ 4 (-721) + 17	
Native American veteran housing loan program account General operating expenses, VBA	1,400 3,453,813	1,186 3,863,000	1,400 3,863,000	+ 409,187	+ 214
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration Budget year appropriations Advance appropriations Advances from prior year appropriations	176,454,767 (15,421,509) (161,033,258) (145,311,218)	162,022,762 (6,671,000) (155,351,762) (161,033,258)	162,022,976 (6,671,214) (155,351,762) (161,033,258)	-14,431,791 (-8,750,295) (-5,681,496) (+15,722,040)	+ 214 (+ 214)
Veterans Health Administration					
Medical services (MS): Budget year appropriations Advance from prior year appropriations	58,897,219	261,000 70,323,116	261,000 70,323,116	$^{+261,000}_{+11,425,897}$	
Subtotal, MS available in fiscal year	58,897,219	70,584,116	70,584,116	+ 11,686,897	
Advance Appropriations	70,323,116	74,004,000	74,004,000	+ 3,680,884	
weducal community data (who.c): Budget year appropriations	3,269,000 20,148,244	4,300,000 24,156,659	4,300,000 24,156,659	$^{+1,031,000}_{+4,008,415}$	
Subtotal, MCC available in fiscal year	23,417,244	28,456,659	28,456,659	+ 5,039,415	
Advance Appropriations	24,156,659	33,000,000	33,000,000	+ 8,843,341	
Budget year appropriations		1,400,000	1,400,000	+ 1,400,000	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023—Continued

lb.m.	2022	Duday to time	Committee	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	recommendation h (+ or -)
tem	appropriation	Budget estimate	recommendation	2022 appropriation	Budget estimate
Advance from prior year appropriations	8,403,117	9,673,409	9,673,409	+1,270,292	
Subtotal, MSC available in fiscal year	8,403,117	11,073,409	11,073,409	+ 2,670,292	
Advance Appropriations	9,673,409	12,300,000	12,300,000	+2,626,591	
weutar I admittes (wm?: Budget year appropriations	6,734,680	1,500,000 7,133,816	1,500,000 7,133,816	$^{+1,500,000}_{+399,136}$	
Subtotal, MF available in fiscal year Advance Appropriations Medical and prosthetic research	6,734,680 7,133,816 882,000	8,633,816 8,800,000 916,000	8,633,816 8,800,000 916,000	$+1,899,136 \\ +1,666,184 \\ +34,000$	
Medical care cost recovery collections: Offsetting collections Appropriations (indefinite)	-3,386,000 3,386,000	-3,910,000 3,910,000	$-3,910,000\\3,910,000$	$-524,000 \\ +524,000$	
Subtotal					
Medical Care Collections Fund (MCCF) (transfer out) (Sec 214) Medical Community Care and Medical Services (by transfer) (Sec 214) VA medical funds (transfer out) (Sec 219) DoD-VA Joint Medical Facility Demonstration Fund (by transfer) (Sec 219) DoD-VA Joint Medical Facility Demonstration Fund (by transfer) (Sec 221) VA Medical Care Funds (transfer out) (Sec 222) DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (by transfer) (Sec 222) Total, Veterans Health Administration Budget year appropriations Advance appropriations Advances from prior year appropriations	(-623,000) (-379,009) (-379,009) (-17,000) (17,000) (-15,000) (-15,000) (115,000) (1115,438,000) (4,151,000) (111,287,000) (94,183,260)	(-785,000) (785,000) (-330,140) (-16,000) (16,000) (-15,000) (-15,000) (-15,000) (15,000) (128,100) (128,100) (128,100)	(-785,000) (785,000) (-330,140) (-16,000) (16,000) (-15,000) (-15,000) (15,000) (128,104,000) (111,287,000)	(-162,000) (+162,000) (+48,869) (-48,889) (-1,000) (-1,000) (+1,226,000) (+1,226,000) (+16,817,000)	

(By transfer)	(1,034,009) (-1,034,009)	(1,146,140) (-1,146,140)	(1,146,140) (-1,146,140)	(+112,131) (-112,131)	
National Cemetery Administration Mational Cemetery Administration	394,000	430,000	430,000	+ 36,000	
General administration Board of Veterans Appeals Board of Veterans Appeals Information Technology Systems (IT Systems) Veterans Electronic Health Record (EHR) Office of Inspector General Construction, major projects Construction, minor projects Grants for construction of State extended care facilities Grants for the construction of Veterans cemeteries Asset and Infrastructure Review	401,200 228,000 4,842,800 2,500,000 2,30,000 1,511,000 50,000 48,500 5,000	435,000 285,000 5,782,000 1,759,000 2,23,000 1,447,890 626,110 150,000 50,000 5,000	425,000 285,000 5,782,000 1,759,000 2,730,000 1,447,890 626,110 156,000 50,000	+ 23,800 + 57,000 + 939,200 - 741,000 + 34,000 - 163,110 + 73,110 + 1,500 - 5,000	- 10,000
Total, Departmental Administration	10,478,500	10,813,000	10,798,000	+ 319,500	-15,000
Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund Administrative Provisions			1,400,000	+ 1,400,000	+1,400,000
Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund (Sec 253) (rescission) Construction, Major Projects (Sec 253) (appropriation) Construction, Minor Projects (Sec 253) (appropriation) Information Technology Systems (Sec 253) (appropriations) Medical Facilities (Sec 253) (appropriations) Medical Sevices (Sec 255) (rescission): Medical Community Care (Sec 255) (rescission): Veterans Electronic Health Record (Sec 255) (rescission) Asset and Infrastructure Review (Sec 255) (rescission) Supply Chain Modernization (Sec 256) (rescission)	-820,000 670,000 150,000 -200,000 -200,000 -76,105		968,000 804,510 163,490 163,490 - 82,174 - 5,000	- 148,000 + 804,510 + 163,490 - 670,000 - 150,000 + 200,000 + 200,000 + 117,826 - 5,000 + 76,105	- 968,000 + 804,510 + 163,490 + 163,490 - 82,174 - 5,000
Total, Administrative Provisions	-676,105		-87,174	+ 588,931	-87,174
Total, title II, Department of Veterans Affairs	302,089,162	309,746,762	311,044,802	+ 8,955,640	+1,298,040

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023—AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023—Continued

1000	2022	O. desired	Committee	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	recommendation (+ or -)	
кеш	appropriation	budget estimate	recommendation	2022 appropriation	Budget estimate	
Budget year appropriations Rescissions	(31,265,009) (-1,496,105)	(26,291,000)	(28,644,214) (-1,055,174)	(-2,620,795) (+440,931)	(+2,353,214) (-1,055,174)	
Advance Appropriations (Mandatory)	(161.033.258)	(155.351.762)	(155.351.762)	(-5.681.496)		
	(111,287,000)	(128,104,000)	(128,104,000)	(+16,817,000)		
(Transfer out)	(-1,034,009)	(-1,146,140)	(-1,146,140)	(-112,131)		
(Limitation on direct loans)	(2,163)	(1,442)	(1,442)	(-721)		
Advances from prior year appropriations: (Mandatory)	(145,311,218)	(161,033,258)	(161,033,258)	(+15,722,040)		1
(Discretionary)	(94,183,260)	(111,287,000)	(111,287,000)	(+17,103,740)		14
Total, available this fiscal year	269,263,382	298,611,258	299,909,298	+ 30,645,916	+1,298,040	
(Mandatory)	(157,047,582)	(163,557,258)	(164,957,258)	(+7,909,676)	(+1,400,000)	
	(112,213,000)	(133,034,000)	(134,332,040)	(+ 22,730,240)	(-101,300)	
TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES						
American Battle Monuments Commission						
Salaries and expenses	87,500	86,800	86,800	- 700		
US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims						
Salaries and expenses	41,700	46,900	46,900	+ 5,200		
Department of Defense—Civil						
Cemeterial Expenses, Army						
Salaries and expenses	87,000	93,400	93,400	+ 6,400		
	141,000	000,200	02,300	- 70,300		

Total, Cemeterial Expenses, Army	228,000	155,900	155,900	-72,100	
Armed Forces Retirement Home—Trust Fund					
Operation and maintenance		43,060	43,060	09+	
capital program Payment from General Fund	3,000	7,300	7,300	- 1,700	
Armed Forces Retirement Home—Major Construction					
Major Construction		77,000	77,000	+ 77,000	
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home	77,000	152,360	152,360	+ 75,360	
Total, Title III, Related Agencies	434,200	441,960	441,960	+ 7,760	
Grand total Budget year appropriations Rescissions Advance appropriations Ouverseas contingency operations Advances from prior year appropriations (By transfer out) (Limitation on direct loans)	317,423,362 (46,730,209) (-1,627,105) (272,330,258) (239,494,478) (1,034,009) (-1,034,009) (-1,034,009)	322,342,687 (38,886,925) (283,455,762) (272,320,258) (1,146,140) (-1,146,140)	328,131,762 (45,731,174) (-1,055,174) (283,455,762) (272,320,258) (1,146,140) (-1,146,140) (1,146,140)	+ 10,708,400 (- 999,035) (+ 571,931) (+ 11,135,504) (+ 32,825,780) (+ 112,131) (- 112,131)	+ 5,789,075 (+ 6,844,249) (-1,055,174)