



FISCAL YEAR 2024 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

The Defense bill funds agencies and programs under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense (DOD) and Intelligence Community, including the Military Services, Central Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Agency. For Fiscal Year 2024, the bill provides \$826.45 billion in new discretionary spending, which is \$285.87 million over the President's Budget Request and \$28.71 billion – or 3.6% – over the FY23 enacted level.

The bill prioritizes funding to counter China, optimize DOD's workforce, promote innovation, support servicemembers and their families, and increase DOD's role in combatting the flow of fentanyl, synthetic opioids, and other illegal drugs into the United States.

TOP LINE MESSAGING

- Ensures servicemembers and their families have the support they need by:
 - Funding a 5.2% pay raise for our servicemembers;
 - Including a historic pay increase for junior enlisted servicemembers of an average of 30%;
 - Directing the Department to assess on-installation childcare capacity and staff hiring challenges and to develop a plan to reduce wait time; and
 - Supporting youth-focused programs such as Impact Aid, National Guard Youth Challenge, Sea Cadets, Young Marines, and STARBASE.
- Counters China by:
 - Making a historic investment in security cooperation funding for Taiwan;
 - Supporting training programs for Taiwan, including through the National Guard State Partnership Program.
 - Prioritizing the delivery of defense articles and services to Taiwan.
 - Rejecting the Biden Administration's inadequate shipbuilding plan by preventing 4 ships from early retirement;
 - Increasing investments in 5th and 6th generation aircraft like the F-35 and Next Generation Air Dominance; and
 - Including over \$9 billion for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative, which bolsters U.S. military capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Optimizes the Pentagon's civilian workforce by:
 - Cutting \$1 billion of the President's Budget Request to increase the size of the civilian workforce;
 - Directing the Department to reassess the number and roles of its civilian personnel needed for its core mission, tasks, and functions and ensuring the Department has an appropriate workforce for areas that directly serve the warfighter, like depots and shipyards; and

HOUSE

APPROPRIATIONS

REPUBLICANS

- Providing funding to accelerate the Department's digital transformation of business practices through the Chief Data Artificial Intelligence Office.
- Innovates and modernizes the Military by:
 - Investing in next-generation fighter aircraft, helicopters, tactical combat vehicles, and submarines;
 - Empowers combatant commanders to quickly obtain the cutting-edge technology and weapons they need and to rapidly get them to the warfighter;
 - Funding the modernization of the nuclear triad: the B-21 Raider, the Columbia Class Submarine, and Sentinel;
 - Providing significant funding for the Defense Innovation Unit and the military services to accelerate acquisition processes;
 - Fully funding the Office of Strategic Capital to maximize the use of private capital for defense emerging technologies and manufacturing; and
 - Including increased funding for the successful program to Accelerate the Procurement and Fielding of Innovative Technologies (APFIT).
- Enhances DOD's role in countering the flow of illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids by:
 - Providing \$1.16 billion for the drug interdiction and counterdrug activities account, which is \$275 million above the President's Budget Request;
 - Increasing funding for the National Guard Counterdrug Program;
 - Increasing funding for train and equip programs to counter illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids and the transnational criminal organizations that contribute to the fentanyl crisis, particularly the Sinaloa and Jalisco drug cartels; and
 - Transferring Mexico from U.S. Northern Command to U.S. Southern Command, which enables better coordination and prioritization.



BILL HIGHLIGHTS

Cuts to Wasteful Spending

- Cuts \$20 billion from the President’s Budget Request and redirects that funding to address warfighting needs, counter China, and support our servicemembers and their families.
- Prevents funding for climate change programs and prohibits the use of funds to finalize, implement, or promulgate the rule proposed by the DOD on November 14, 2022, titled “Federal Acquisition Regulation: Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate-Related Financial Risk.”

Conservative Priorities

- Prohibits the implementation, administration, or enforcement of the Biden Administration’s executive orders on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).
- Defunds the position of Deputy Inspector General for Diversity and Inclusion and Extremism in the Military.
- Prohibits the use of funds to perform medical procedures that attempt to change an individual’s biological gender.
- Prohibits the use of funds for events on military installations or as part of recruiting programs that bring discredit upon the military, such as a drag queen story hour for children or the use of drag queens as military recruiters.
- Prohibits the use of funds to promote or advance Critical Race Theory (CRT).
- Prohibits censoring constitutionally protected speech of Americans.
- Protects Americans against religious discrimination.
- Prohibits the recruitment, hiring, or promotion of any person who has been convicted of charges related to child pornography or other sexual misconduct.
- Prohibits the use of funds for paid leave and travel or related expenses of a federal employee or their dependents for the purposes of obtaining an abortion or abortion-related services.
- Prohibits granting, renewing, or maintaining of a security clearance for any individual listed as a signatory in the statement titled “Public Statement on the Hunter Biden Emails” dated October 19, 2020.
- Directs clear Departmental guidance on professional license portability and improvements for measuring military spouse employment.
- Requires the deliberate, cost-effective, and transparent clean-up of environmental contaminations at current and former defense sites.