[FULL COMMITTEE PRINT]

114TH CONGRESS, 1st Session | HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES | REPORT 114–

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2016

_____ ____, 2015.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. DENT, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R.]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

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PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to support our military and their families and provide the benefits and medical care that our veterans have earned for their service to our Nation. This is accomplished through the programs funded in the bill, which provide the facilities and infrastructure needed to house, train, and equip our military personnel to defend this nation, both in the United States and abroad; provide the housing and military community infrastructure that supports a good quality of life for them and their families; and allow the military to maintain an efficient and effective base structure. The bill also funds programs to ensure that all veterans receive the benefits and medical care that they have earned as a result of the sacrifices they have made in their service to our country. Finally, the bill funds four related agencies that provide support to our nation's heroes: the American Battle Monuments Commission, Cemeterial Expenses, Army (including Arlington National Cemetery), the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends $171,135,757,000 in budget authority for the fiscal year 2016 programs and activities funded in the bill. The fiscal year 2016 recommendation is an increase of $4,975,364,000 above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and $2,195,982,000 below the President's request. Included in this amount is $94,546,757,000 in mandatory budget authority and $76,589,000,000 in discretionary budget authority.

The Committee recommendation highlights the continued commitment to our servicemembers and their families and to our veterans. In discretionary budget authority, the bill is nearly 6 percent over the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. The bill includes significant increases in military construction, which is 11.8 percent over the fiscal year 2015 level, and the Department of Veterans affairs budget, which is 5.6 percent over the fiscal year 2015 level. While the Committee recommendation continues essential support for servicemembers and veterans, it does not provide funds for projects or activities that lacked sufficient justification or were less mission-critical. Where it was prudent, the Committee rec-

ommendation rescinds prior year funding that is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was appropriated while leaving sufficient resources to close out contracts.

The programs funded in the bill for the Department of Defense address the priorities of the Department's Agencies and the Services for numerous facility challenges that they face. The funds provided support new construction, family housing, continued cleanup of military bases closed during previous Base Realignment and Closure rounds, resource Combatant Commanders requirements where appropriate, and ensure that our military personnel and their families' quality of life is preserved.

The total recommended funding level for military construction and family housing, including base and Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding, is $7,638,000,000, which is $1,080,000,000 above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and $799,620,000 below the budget request. The total includes $7,151,000,000 in base funding and $532,000,000 in OCO funding. The recommendation includes full funding for Family Housing, funding for necessary construction on our bases, including barracks, health facilities and schools, and support for critical overseas investments.

The total funding level for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Veterans Affairs is $163,208,416,000, an increase of $4,063,609,000 over the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. Of the total, $94,546,757,000 is provided for mandatory benefit programs and $68,661,659,000 is allocated to discretionary programs such as medical care, claims processing, and construction. In this bill, discretionary funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs is recommended at 5.6 percent over the fiscal year 2015 level. For fiscal year 2016, $58,662,202,000 for medical care has been appropriated in advance, and the recommendation includes an additional $969,554,000 in newly identified needs for VA, focusing on caregiver stipends, homelessness, and hepatitis C treatment. The recommendation fully funds the request for the administrative costs of Veterans Benefits Administration, including funding for paperless claims, centralized mail, and additional staff. In addition, the Committee recommendation includes $63,271,000,000 in advance appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for the three health care accounts of the Department and $106,412,214,000 in advance appropriations for mandatory benefits programs for fiscal year 2017.

The following table compares amounts recommended in the bill to the President's request and amounts appropriated in fiscal year 2015:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2015
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
Military construction, Army	528,427	743,245	663,245	+134,818	-80,000
Military construction, Navy and Marine Corps	1,018,772	1,669,239	1,349,678	+330,906	-319,561
Military construction, Air Force	811,774	1,389,185	1,237,055	+425,281	-152,130
Military construction, Defense-Wide	1,991,690	2,300,767	1,931,456	-60,234	-369,311
Total, Active components	4,350,663	6,102,436	5,181,434	+830,771	-921,002
Military construction, Army National Guard	128,920	197,237	167,437	+38,517	-29,800
Military construction, Air National Guard	92,663	138,738	138,738	+46,075	---
Military construction, Army Reserve	103,946	113,595	104,295	+349	-9,300
Military construction, Navy Reserve	51,528	36,078	36,078	-15,450	---
Military construction, Air Force Reserve	49,492	65,021	65,021	+15,529	---
Total, Reserve components	426,549	550,669	511,569	+85,020	-39,100
Total, Military construction	4,777,212	6,653,105	5,693,003	+915,791	-960,102
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program	199,700	120,000	150,000	-49,700	+30,000
Family housing construction, Army	78,609	99,695	99,695	+21,086	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Army	350,976	393,511	393,511	+42,535	---
Family housing construction, Navy and Marine Corps	16,412	16,541	16,541	+129	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps	354,029	353,036	353,036	-993	---
Family housing construction, Air Force	---	160,498	160,498	+160,498	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Family housing operation and maintenance, Air Force...	327,747	331,232	331,232	+3,485	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Defense-Wide	61,100	58,668	58,668	-2,432	---
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	1,662	---	---	-1,662	---
Total, Family housing.....	1,190,535	1,413,181	1,413,181	+222,646	---
Chemical demilitarization construction, Defense-Wide..	38,715	---	---	-38,715	---
Department of Defense Base Closure Account.....	315,085	251,334	251,334	-63,751	---
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS					
Military Construction - fiscal year 2014 (Sec. 127)...	125,000	---	---	-125,000	---
Military Construction - fiscal year 2015 (Sec. 128)...	117,000	---	---	-117,000	---
Military Construction, Army (Sec. 125).....	-49,533	---	-96,000	-46,467	-96,000
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps (Sec. 130).....	-25,522	---	---	+25,522	---
Defense Access Roads (Sec. 131).....	---	---	30,000	+30,000	+30,000
Military Construction, Air Force (Sec. 126).....	-41,392	---	-52,600	-11,208	-52,600
Military Construction, Defense-Wide (Sec. 127).....	---	---	-134,000	-134,000	-134,000
NATO Security Investment Program (Sec. 132).....	-25,000	---	---	+25,000	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
42 USC 3374 (Sec. 128)	-63,800	---	-103,918	-40,118	-103,918
Total, Administrative Provisions	36,753	---	-356,518	-393,271	-356,518
Appropriations	(242,000)	---	(30,000)	(-212,000)	(+30,000)
Rescissions	(-205,247)	---	(-386,518)	(-181,271)	(-386,518)
Total, title I, Department of Defense	6,558,000	8,437,620	7,151,000	+593,000	-1,286,620
Appropriations	(6,763,247)	(8,437,620)	(7,537,518)	(+774,271)	(-900,102)
Rescissions	(-205,247)	---	(-386,518)	(-181,271)	(-386,518)
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS					
Veterans Benefits Administration					
Compensation and pensions	79,071,000	79,124,675	79,124,675	+53,675	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2017	---	87,146,761	87,146,761	+87,146,761	---
Readjustment benefits	14,997,136	15,344,922	15,344,922	+347,786	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2017	---	16,743,904	16,743,904	+16,743,904	---
Veterans insurance and indemnities	63,257	77,160	77,160	+13,903	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2017	---	91,920	91,920	+91,920	---
Veterans housing benefit program fund:					
(indefinite)	---	---	---	---	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(500)	(500)	(500)	---	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Administrative expenses	160,881	164,558	164,558	+3,677	---
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account	10	31	31	+21	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(2,877)	(2,952)	(2,952)	(+75)	---
Administrative expenses	361	367	367	+6	---
Native American veteran housing loan program account	1,130	1,134	1,134	+4	---
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration	94,293,775	198,695,432	198,695,432	+104,401,657	---
Appropriations	(94,293,775)	(94,712,847)	(94,712,847)	(+419,072)	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2017	---	(103,982,585)	(103,982,585)	(+103,982,585)	---
Veterans Health Administration					
Medical services:					
Advance from prior year	(45,015,527)	(47,603,202)	(47,603,202)	(+2,587,675)	---
Current year request	209,189	1,124,197	969,554	+760,365	-154,643
Advance appropriation, FY 2017	47,603,202	51,673,000	51,673,000	+4,069,798	---
Subtotal	47,812,391	52,797,197	52,642,554	+4,830,163	-154,643
Medical support and compliance:					
Advance from prior year	(5,879,700)	(6,144,000)	(6,144,000)	(+264,300)	---
Current year request	---	69,961	---	---	-69,961
Advance appropriation, FY 2017	6,144,000	6,524,000	6,524,000	+380,000	---
Subtotal	6,144,000	6,593,961	6,524,000	+380,000	-69,961

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	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Medical facilities:					
Advance from prior year	(4,739,000)	(4,915,000)	(4,915,000)	(+176,000)	---
Current year request	---	105,132	---	---	-105,132
Advance appropriation, FY 2017	4,915,000	5,074,000	5,074,000	+159,000	---
Subtotal	4,915,000	5,179,132	5,074,000	+159,000	-105,132
Medical and prosthetic research	588,922	621,813	606,813	+17,891	-15,000
Medical care cost recovery collections:					
Offsetting collections	-2,456,000	-2,445,000	-2,445,000	+11,000	---
Appropriations (indefinite)	2,456,000	2,445,000	2,445,000	-11,000	---
Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (transfers out)	(-276,251)	(-286,000)	(-286,000)	(-9,749)	---
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (by transfer)	(276,251)	(286,000)	(286,000)	(+9,749)	---
DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (Transfer out)	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	---	---
DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (by transfer)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Total, Veterans Health Administration	59,460,313	65,192,103	64,847,367	+5,387,054	-344,736
Appropriations	(798,111)	(1,921,103)	(1,576,367)	(+778,256)	(-344,736)
Advance appropriations, FY 2017	(58,662,202)	(63,271,000)	(63,271,000)	(+4,608,798)	---
Advances from prior year appropriations	(55,634,227)	(58,662,202)	(58,662,202)	(+3,027,975)	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2015
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
National Cemetery Administration					
National Cemetery Administration	256,800	266,220	266,220	+9,420	---
Departmental Administration					
General administration	321,591	346,659	336,659	+15,068	-10,000
Board of Veterans Appeals	99,294	107,884	107,884	+8,590	---
General operating expenses, VBA	2,534,254	2,697,734	2,697,734	+163,480	---
Information technology systems	3,903,344	4,133,363	4,053,363	+150,019	-80,000
Office of Inspector General	126,411	126,766	131,766	+5,355	+5,000
Construction, major projects	561,800	1,143,800	561,800	---	-582,000
Construction, minor projects	495,200	406,200	406,200	-89,000	---
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities	90,000	80,000	80,000	-10,000	---
Grants for the construction of veterans cemeteries	46,000	45,000	45,000	-1,000	---
Total, Departmental Administration	8,177,894	9,087,406	8,420,406	+242,512	-667,000
Administrative Provisions					
Section 226					
Medical services	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	---	---
(Rescission)	-1,400,000	-1,400,000	-1,400,000	---	---
Medical support and compliance	100,000	100,000	100,000	---	---
(Rescission)	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000	---	---
Medical facilities	250,000	250,000	250,000	---	---
(Rescission)	-250,000	-250,000	-250,000	---	---

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Bonus limit rescission (Sec. 233)	-41,000	---	-101,000	-60,000	-101,000
JIF rescission (Sec. 238)	-15,000	---	-15,000	---	-15,000
Contract disability exams	40,000	---	---	-40,000	---
Payraise absorption (Sec. 240 and 241)	---	---	-313,626	-313,626	-313,626
Total. Administrative Provisions	-16,000	---	-429,626	-413,626	-429,626
Total, title II	162,172,782	273,241,161	271,799,799	+109,627,017	-1,441,362
Appropriations	(105,316,580)	(107,737,576)	(106,412,214)	(+1,095,634)	(-1,325,362)
Rescissions	(-1,806,000)	(-1,750,000)	(-1,866,000)	(-60,000)	(-116,000)
Advance Appropriations, FY 2017:					
Mandatory	---	103,982,585	103,982,585	+103,982,585	---
Discretionary	(58,662,202)	(63,271,000)	(63,271,000)	(+4,608,798)	---
Advances from prior year appropriations:					
Mandatory	---	---	---	---	---
Discretionary	(55,634,227)	(58,662,202)	(58,662,202)	(+3,027,975)	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(3,377)	(3,452)	(3,452)	(+75)	---
Discretionary	(68,041,389)	(74,711,819)	(73,270,457)	(+5,229,068)	(-1,441,362)
Advances from prior year less FY 2017 advances	(-3,027,975)	(-4,608,798)	(-4,608,798)	(-1,580,823)	---
Net discretionary	(65,013,414)	(70,103,021)	(68,661,659)	(+3,648,245)	(-1,441,362)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2015
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Mandatory	(94,131,393)	(198,529,342)	(198,529,342)	(+104,397,949)	---
Advances from prior year less FY 2017 advances	---	(-103,982,585)	(-103,982,585)	(-103,982,585)	---
Net mandatory	(94,131,393)	(94,546,757)	(94,546,757)	(+415,364)	---
Total mandatory and discretionary	159,144,807	164,649,778	163,208,416	+4,063,609	-1,441,362
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
American Battle Monuments Commission					
Salaries and expenses	74,100	75,100	75,100	+1,000	---
Foreign currency fluctuations account	1,900	2,000	2,000	+100	---
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission	76,000	77,100	77,100	+1,100	---
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims					
Salaries and expenses	31,386	32,141	32,141	+755	---
Department of Defense - Civil					
Cemeterial Expenses, Army					
Salaries and expenses	65,800	70,800	70,800	+5,000	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Armed Forces Retirement Home - Trust Fund					
Operation and maintenance	62,400	63,300	63,300	+900	---
Capital program	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home	63,400	64,300	64,300	+900	---
Total, title III	236,586	244,341	244,341	+7,755	---
TITLE IV - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS					
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps	---	---	244,004	+244,004	+244,004
Military Construction, Air Force	---	---	75,000	+75,000	+75,000
Military Construction, Defense-Wide	46,000	---	212,996	+166,996	+212,996
European Reassurance Initiative Military Construction	175,000	---	---	-175,000	---
Total, title IV	221,000	---	532,000	+311,000	+532,000
Grand total	169,188,368	281,923,122	279,727,140	+110,538,772	-2,195,982
Appropriations	(112,316,413)	(116,419,537)	(114,194,073)	(+1,877,660)	(-2,225,464)
Rescissions	(-2,011,247)	(-1,750,000)	(-2,252,518)	(-241,271)	(-502,518)
Advance appropriations, FY 2017	(58,662,202)	(167,253,585)	(167,253,585)	(+108,591,383)	---
Overseas contingency operations	(221,000)	---	(532,000)	(+311,000)	(+532,000)
Advances from prior year appropriations	(55,634,227)	(58,662,202)	(58,662,202)	(+3,027,975)	---
(By transfer)	(291,251)	(301,000)	(301,000)	(+9,749)	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
(Transfer out)	(-291,251)	(-301,000)	(-301,000)	(-9,749)	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(3,377)	(3,452)	(3,452)	(+75)	---

MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT INITIATIVES

The Committee believes the effective stewardship of taxpayer dollars is of the highest priority. In the interest of eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal programs, the Committee has and will continue to use public hearings, briefings, and information requests, and reviews by the Government Accountability Office and the Inspectors General to promote strong financial and program management, oversight and leadership at the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other agencies under the jurisdiction of this bill.

The fiscal year 2016 appropriations Act and the accompanying report address management challenges of the Federal agencies funded herein, including directives to strengthen financial and program management, eliminate redundancy, and improve implementation and oversight of initiatives that support the mission of this bill. The Committee will use every means at its disposal to reduce mismanagement that results in waste, fraud, and abuse.

Department of Defense (DOD).—In addition to the notification and reporting requirements for military construction programs contained in Title 10, United States Code, the Committee's recommendations include several provisions requiring the Department of Defense to report on various aspects of military construction programs, or to provide notification to the Committee when certain actions are taken. The Committee also retains prior approval authority for any reprogramming of funds exceeding a specific threshold. In one case, the Committee limits any expenditure of construction funds until information requested in the fiscal year 2015 Appropriations Act, and not yet provided whole or in part, is received.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).—With the $163,208,416,000 provided for the VA in this bill and the increase in the number of veterans seeking VA medical services, the Committee believes it is important to strengthen its tools to monitor spending as well the operating procedures of the VA workforce. The following initiatives demonstrate the Committee's oversight focus:

VA electronic health record.—The Committee continues to feel it is critical to closely track VA's development of its electronic health record. In the aftermath of the DOD and VA decision not to pursue a single integrated health record, it becomes doubly important to ensure that the two health records are designed in a way that permits interoperability between the two in order that computable data from one record can be viewed and used by clinicians with a different electronic record system. The Committee continues the practice of the fiscal years 2013, 2014 and 2015 bills to include language requiring the VA to provide information on cost, timeline, performance benchmarks, and interoperability capacity of the VistA Evolution system before release of 75 percent of the funding provided. The Committee does not intend to delay the progress of developing the health record, but believes continuing oversight is necessary to ensure that the health record will have the capabilities and interoperability that the Committee believes are critical to patient care, as promised by VA leadership and in VA documents.

Disability and appeals claims.—The Committee bill continues the aggressive monthly reporting requirements from each specific regional office on claims processing performance and quarterly re-

ports on remediation efforts at the poorest performing regional offices. The Committee is also concerned about the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA). Despite adding 100 FTE last year, the BVA is falling behind and it faces a tsunami of appeals because so many claims decisions are being made and appeals are proportional to decisions. The Committee requires enhanced reporting on the appeals backlog and directs the Board to report on the status of the appeals backlog on a quarterly basis to include a definition of the backlog, the total number of appeals pending, and the total number of appeals in backlog, and to identify time-specific metrics related to reduction of the backlog. Further, the Committee urges VA to address the status of filling open BVA leadership positions, and the plans for information technology to address the increasing workload.

Information Technology (IT).—The Committee continues to include bill language prohibiting obligation or expenditure of funds for information technology systems development, modernization and enhancement until VA submits to the Committees a certification of the amounts. The bill limits the amount of funds that can be transferred into IT to 10 percent of the total of the IT account. The bill contains language which allows for the reprogramming of funds among development, modernization and enhancement projects upon prior notification to, and approval by, the Committees.

Stricter control of construction funding.—To enhance the Committee's capacity to conduct oversight on VA's facility construction efforts, several administrative provisions are added or strengthened in the bill: (1) no funding greater than $5,000,000 may be reprogrammed between construction projects unless approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both House of Congress; (2) any change to the scope of a construction project is prohibited without the approval of the Committees; and (3) VA must report any bid savings of $5,000,000 or more on projects as soon as they are identified. Additionally, the Committee continues bill language limiting the availability of these funds to five years. The Committee includes additional requirements for the VA as a result of the gross facility construction mismanagement with the VA Aurora, Colorado hospital project, including reporting on program oversight and management controls for current and future VA construction projects.

Access to care for veterans.—In the aftermath of the appointment waitlist scandal in Phoenix and other VA hospital facilities, the Committee has urged VA to increase its use of non-VA contract care in order to provide care to veterans faster. One mechanism the Committee has urged VA to use is the Patient-Centered Community Care Program (PC3) which uses outside contractors to locate appointments for veterans through their networks of providers. The Committee is disappointed that PC3 is not being used extensively throughout the VA health system. As a result, the Committee has established rigorous reporting requirements on the usage of PC3 so that Congress will have the information it needs to facilitate PC3 use to benefit veterans.

Notification of change in use of funds.—To ensure that the Committee is informed of and approves of changes in planned uses of

medical services funds, the bill continues a reprogramming requirement for significant changes in funding of non-model initiatives.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level (including rescissions)	$6,558,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	8,437,620,000
Committee recommendation in the bill (including rescissions)	7,151,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	593,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(1,286,620,000)

Military construction accounts provide funds for new construction, construction improvements, planning and design, and host nation support. Projects funded by these accounts include facilities for operations, training, maintenance, research and development, supply, medical care, and force protection, as well as unaccompanied housing, utilities infrastructure, and land acquisition.

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 reprogramming to an item specifically reduced below the threshold by the Congress is permitted, except that the Department of Defense may seek reprogramming for appropriated increments.

The reprogramming criteria that apply to military construction projects (25 percent of the funded amount or $2,000,000, whichever is less) continue to apply to new housing construction projects and to improvements over $2,000,000. 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, if 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. Planning and design costs associated with military construction and family housing projects may also be excluded from these guidelines. In instances where prior approval to a reprogramming request for a project or account has been received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, the adjusted amount approved becomes the new base for any future increase or decrease via below-threshold reprogramming (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 reprogramming actions and notifications, including the pertinent statutory authorities contained in Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14–R and relevant updates and policy memoranda. The Committee further encourages the Office of the Director of Na-

tional Intelligence to use a format similar to that used by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to submit reprogramming requests.

Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization (FSRM).—The Department of Defense is directed to continue describing on form 1390 the backlog of FSRM requirements at installations with future construction projects. For troop housing requests, form 1391 should describe any FSRM conducted in the past two years. Likewise, future requirements for unaccompanied housing at the corresponding installation should be included. Additionally, the forms should include English equivalent measurements for projects presented in metric measurement. Rules for funding repairs of facilities under the Operation and Maintenance accounts are described below:

(1) components of the facility may be repaired by replacement. Such replacement can be up to current standards or codes;

(2) interior arrangements and restorations may be included as repair;

(3) additions, new facilities, and functional conversions must be performed as military construction projects. Such projects may be done concurrently with repair projects as long as the final conjunctively funded project is a complete and usable facility; and

(4) the appropriate service secretary shall notify the appropriate committees 21 days prior to carrying out any repair project with an estimated cost in excess of $7,500,000. The Committee strongly encourages the services and defense agencies to indicate the plant replacement value of the facility to be repaired on each such notification.

Quarterly summary of notifications.—The Committee directs the services and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (on behalf of itself and defense agencies) to continue to submit a quarterly report listing all notifications that have been submitted to the Committees during the preceding three-month period.

Work in Progress or Planned (WIP) curve.—The Committee directs the services and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (on behalf of itself and defense agencies) to submit a WIP curve for each project requested in a budget submission over $100,000,000 with the 1391 justification to the congressional defense committees.

Transfer of funds to and from the Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense Account.—The Committee directs the Department of Defense to submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the transfer of funds from military construction and family housing accounts to the Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense account. The report shall specify the amount transferred to the Foreign Currency account from each military construction and/or family housing account, and all other accounts for which an appropriation is provided in this Act, during the preceding fiscal quarter, and the amounts transferred from the Foreign Currency account to the above accounts during the same period. This report shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the close of each fiscal quarter. In addition, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 7 days of

transferring any amount in excess of $10,000,000 to or from the Foreign Currency account.

Bid savings.—The Committee has ascertained from cost variation notices required by 10 U.S.C. 2853 that the Department of Defense continues to have bid savings on previously appropriated military construction projects. The Committee's recommendation therefore includes rescissions to the Army, Air Force, and Defense-Wide construction accounts. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to continue to submit 1002 reports on military construction bid savings at the end of each fiscal quarter to the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of both the House and Senate. The Committee further directs the Secretary of Defense to assess planned projects within the services and the defense agencies under a threshold of $10,000,000 in expected costs and report to the congressional defense committees 90 days after enactment of this Act a list of such projects that could be completed with bid savings and subsequent reprogramming actions in lieu of incorporating them into a fiscal year or a future year budget submission.

Defense Access Roads FYDP.—The Committee is concerned about the lack of future planning for Defense Access Roads (DAR) and transportation infrastructure needs around bases beyond fiscal year 2016. The Committee urges the Secretary of Defense to work with the Secretary of Transportation to prioritize all DAR certified roads and projects in the outyears 2017–2021, including examining bases in communities that have contributed to transportation infrastructure that benefits bases and report to the congressional defense committees no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act on its findings.

Defense Access Roads project timeline.—Accompanying Public Law Number 113–235, the below language was included requesting an updated list of certified unfunded Defense Access Road requirements, and a list of unfunded requirements for road improvements surrounding military installations. The Committee still has yet to receive this report and directs the Department of Defense to submit the report 30 days after enactment of this Act.

> The Committee is very concerned about the lack of use of the Defense Access Roads program within the Department of Defense. The Committee has heard of many worthwhile road construction/expansion projects in and around military installations that are in great need of funding. These projects would provide a great benefit to the installations and the surrounding communities. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to review needed projects around military installations as well as a timeline on when those projects will be completed and report back to the Committee not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act. If the Department cannot provide a timeline, they should explain how the program can be changed to meet those requirements.

High Performance and Sustainable Building Requirements.—The Committee notes that in March 2013, the Department of Defense released Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 1–200–02, High Performance and Sustainable Building Requirements. UFC 1–200–02 de-

fines the minimum requirements for planning, design and construction, renovation, repair, maintenance and operations, and equipment installation in new and existing facilities. In a policy memorandum issued in November 2013, military components were authorized to pursue greater energy and water efficiency if such initiatives are shown to reduce total ownership cost of the facility, or preserve or increase mission effectiveness in the face of projected resource scarcity. The Committee regrets that the Department of Defense has done little to increase the use of innovative building materials following the inclusion of similar language in the report accompanying the Howard P. Buck McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, H.R. 4435. The Committee recognizes that innovative technologies have expanded the availability of materials with lower embodied energy for facilities that require tall walls and large open spaces with minimal intermediate supports. In addition, design techniques such as advanced framing contribute to lower material costs, increased energy efficiency, and reduced waste in facilities. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Department of Defense to incorporate the use of innovative renewable building materials, systems, and design techniques that support the requirements of UFC 1–200–02 and the goals of achieving greater efficiency and lower environmental impacts at a lower material cost. Furthermore, the Committee encourages the Department of Defense to collaborate with the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Forest Service to advance its understanding of innovative renewable building materials and systems and jointly develop a plan on expanding their use as appropriate.

Facilities in excess of mission requirements.—The Committee is concerned that Department of Defense officials have stated an estimated 30 percent of Defense facilities are in excess of mission requirements, a fiscally unsustainable diversion of scarce resources from readiness. Therefore the Committee requests, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense is to provide to the congressional defense committees a report detailing each department facility with a utilization rate less than 50 percent of available capacity, the number of uniformed personnel and civilian employees at each of those facilities, and the annual budget for personnel, as well as operations and maintenance costs associated with each identified facility. Finally, the report shall indicate any facility determined to be 100% in excess of mission requirements.

Pre-Engineered/Prefabricated Buildings.—The Committee encourages the Department of Defense to expand utilization of existing GSA Schedule for Pre-Engineered/Prefabricated Buildings and Structures (PEBS). The Committee urges DOD contracting personnel and agency executives to consider the savings in costs and time potentially gained by procuring its facility needs, when possible and practical, through the GSA Schedule. The Committee also encourages DOD policy makers and program managers to streamline the process and eliminate any unnecessary bureaucratic, regulatory or policy impediments to such GSA procurement.

Critical Infrastructure.—In a declining military construction budget climate, the Committee is aware that there is a need to support DOD's requirements to replace or invest the aging infrastruc-

ture at installations deemed critical by current Defense Strategic Guidance and Combatant Commander (COCOM) requirements. Installations deemed critical support missions in support of our nation's military. For example, PACOM's realignment to the Pacific region and our reliance on installations within the area of responsibility to have the ability to execute their assigned missions will undoubtedly increase in the future. The Committee urges DOD to ensure that such installations have the proper investment in infrastructure that is fully capable of supporting COCOM and services' requirements in the future.

Department of Defense (DOD) excess facilities capacity.—DOD is facing long term challenges in maintaining its extensive portfolio of facilities and reducing unneeded infrastructure. The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) has made some improvements, but the military departments' use of their databases to identify consolidation opportunities is still in need of improvement. During the fiscal year 2016 Hearing on Installations, Environment, and BRAC Senior DOD officials testified that DOD continues to have excess infrastructure and that an additional BRAC round is necessary to make further reductions and achieve future cost savings. With BRAC authorization not under the jurisdiction of this Committee, the Committee therefore, directs each Services Assistant Secretary for Installations, Energy and Environment to provide a strategic plan to manage DOD's excess real property efficiently and what opportunities there are to consolidate unutilized or underutilized facilities subsequently reducing operation and maintenance costs for maintaining those facilities. This report shall be submitted no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$528,427,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	743,245,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	663,245,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	134,818,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(80,000,000)

The Committee recommendation includes a rescission of $96,000,000 from bid savings under Administrative Provisions.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,018,772,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	1,669,239,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,349,678,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	330,906,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(319,561,000)

The Committee recommendation includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations which includes $244,004,000 of "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps" projects that were requested in title I for which funding is provided in title IV.

Live-Fire Training Range Complex (NW Field).—The Committee fully supports and applauds the efforts of the Marine Corps to establish the appropriate training ranges on Guam in support of the movement of Marines from Okinawa. The budget request for the live-fire training range is $125,677,000. The Committee is concerned that the projected cost of the live-fire training range itself

is $32,310,000 while the supporting facilities cost is $76,500,000, or double of the cost of the actual range. The Committee therefore has reduced project P715 by $25,000,000 and directs the Secretary of the Navy to certify in writing to the congressional defense committees 60 days after enactment of this Act that the supporting facilities costs of any future training ranges for the Marine Corps will not exceed the actual cost of the range itself.

Shipboard and Base Lighting Systems.—The Committee commends the Navy for its increasing use of tubular light-emitting diode (T–LED) lighting and encourages it to continue these activities. The Committee urges the Navy to consider updating lighting specifications for ships and bases so T–LED use is an option, developing an approved products list for T–LEDs that is broadly available for use in all vessels, as well as bases, using total lifecycle costs to determine the value of T–LEDs, and making the installation of T–LEDs in vessels a priority when appropriate, such as during ship retrofits and new builds. T–LED usage on bases would help the Navy in reaching the goals it has set forth in its Shore Energy Program which seeks to reduce shore energy intensity (energy consumption per square foot) by 30% by 2015 and by 50% in 2020.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$811,774,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	1,389,185,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,237,055,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	425,281,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(152,130,000)

The Committee recommendation includes a rescission of $52,600,000 from bid savings under Administrative Provisions. The bid savings are available based on the first quarter bid savings and unobligated balances update from DOD in which the Air Force listed two projects as "known bills" but also requested funding for the projects in the fiscal year 2016 President's budget submission. Therefore, the Committee has provided funding for Guardian Angel Operations Facility and Low Observation/Corrosion Control/Composite Repair Shop within Military Construction, Air Force within its appropriations therefore making the funds available for rescission.

The Committee recommendation includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations which includes $75,000,000 of "Military Construction, Air Force" projects that were requested in title I for which funding is provided in title IV.

Long Range Strike Bomber.—The Committee is concerned about the procurement of the new Long Range Strike Bomber. The fiscal year 2016 budget submission included funding for the Long Range Strike Bomber Hangar and supporting facilities. The Committee believes that the fiscal year 2016 request is early to need since a decision on the type of aircraft will not occur until June 2015; therefore the recommendation reduces "Military Construction, Air Force" by $77,130,000.

Space launch infrastructure.—The Committee recognizes the national importance of having a safe, secure, reliable, and modern space launch range infrastructure to support the national security

space mission. The Committee is aware that there are a number of aging facilities, with structural and technological deficiencies, that are indispensable hubs for commands, telemetry, and radar support for U.S. space launch capabilities as well as warfighters down-range. The Committee is concerned that the current condition of the aging facilities, such as the Range Communications Facility at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, which is the Air Force Space Command's number one current mission MILCON project for fiscal years 2013–2017 and the impact such conditions may have on the ability of U.S. Air Force Space Command to meet its mission and operational requirements until such facilities are recapitalized. The Committee urges the Air Force to prioritize resources and future requests to Congress, as appropriate, to ensure that U.S. space launch range capabilities are in safe, secure, and reliable condition.

Air Traffic Control Towers.—The Committee is concerned that the Department of the Air Force's Air Traffic Control Towers have been neglected over the years and funding for military construction has been deferred to the out years of budget submissions. Many of the air towers are deteriorating and antiquated, creating significant life, safety, and health concerns. In some cases, towers have developed extensive mold issues and contain health risks related to the use of asbestos and lead-based paint. Additionally, obstructed views in some cases prevent 100% positive visual control of aircraft landing and taxiing on the airfield. Given the safety issues, the Committee urges the Department of the Air Force to prioritize funding for these towers in a much timelier manner. The Committee believes that these towers are valuable national security assets that the Department of the Air Force should maintain in a manner that will ensure their vital role in protecting U.S. national security interests.

Construction of airfield and base camp.—Funds requested for the construction of airfield infrastructure to enable beddown of aircraft to support operations by AFRICOM for the purpose of conducting intelligence gathering on extremist groups in the Sahel Region represents an expansion of the U.S. military footprint on the African continent. The Committee requests quarterly notifications until the facility is operational on the status of construction of infrastructure elements, number of U.S. uniformed, civilian, and contracted personnel on site, and timeline for completion of construction.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,991,690,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	2,300,767,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,931,456,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(60,234,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(369,311,000)

The Committee recommendation includes a rescission of $134,000,000 from bid savings under Administrative Provisions.

The Committee recommendation includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations which includes $212,996,000 of "Military Construction, Defense-Wide" projects that were requested in title I for which funding is provided in title IV.

Transfer of funds.—The accompanying bill provides transfer authority to the Secretary of Defense to allow the transfer of funds to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction or family housing as the Secretary may designate.

DODEA school construction.—The Committee fully supports the fiscal year 2016 request for the construction of ten schools in the United States and overseas. The Committee however, is concerned that the changes that are occurring across the Department of Defense associated with force structure reductions may impact whether funding is needed at an installation or if it is determined not to be an enduring installation. The Committee therefore directs the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) to report on the status of DODEA funding and provide by location any funding that has been placed on hold for any reason to the congressional defense committees 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Behavioral Health/Dental Clinic Add, Project 80412.—The Committee fully supports the two clinic additions contained in this request. However, the Committee is concerned about the parking plan for this project as requested in the budget submission. The fiscal year 2016 budget submission includes $16,275,000 for one-third of the required parking for this two-phased project with no definitive plan for the additional parking requirements. Therefore, the Committee includes a reduction of $16,275,000. Parking at Schofield Barracks writ large is at a premium and with phase II of this project not being requested until fiscal year 2018, the Committee is concerned that there is not a clear path forward and directs the Director of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to provide to the Committee a full parking master plan for project 80412 no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Special Operations Command resiliency and human performance centers.—The Committee's recommendation does not include funding for the Human Performance Center at Pendleton and the embedded facility at Fort Bragg. The Committee is concerned that these facilities are redundant in nature to existing medical facilities, clinics and gymnasiums located at the installations.

SOCOM POTFF military construction requirements.—The Committee remains concerned about the lack of transparency in SOCOM's process of evaluating the military construction requirements for POTFF facilities overall, including the out-years. The Committee is further concerned about the lack of response from the Command on prior fiscal year reporting requirements that were both in enacted law and required in the accompanying reports. Therefore, the Committee directs the SOCOM Commander to report to the congressional defense committees no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the following:

1. The population to be supported to include a breakout of combat operators, combat support operators, combat non-operators and combat service support to include a priority for Service SOF component and USSOCOM.
2. Identify all POTFF physical training requirements and facility square footage by labor category, function and equipment, including outdoor space if needed.

3. What is the current status of all facilities or facility groups by location and installation; the degree to which POTFF requirements are being met; the way ahead if requirements are not being met; and what existing MWR athletic facilities can provide, or not provide to meet POTFF physical performance and embedded staffing requirement.

4. What is the preferred support concept by installation, and unit or regional unit group.

5. Specify the priority of all requested POTFF facility military construction requirements with respect to all SOCOM military priorities to include unfunded requirements.

Concord Naval Weapons Station.—The Committee is pleased by the progress made by the Navy to transfer land at the Concord Naval Weapons Station Inland Area closed under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Authority. The Committee encourages the Navy to continue to work with the United States Fish and Wildlife Services to complete an Environmental Impact Statement as quickly as possible.

GUARD AND RESERVE ITEM OF INTEREST

Enforcement of Border Security.—Recognizing the need to bolster resources for the enforcement of border security, the Committee instructs the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard to explore public-private partnerships with state and local governments, to design, and construct facilities adjacent to our southwestern border that will support National Guard activities and house and support assets used by Customs and Border Protection and other law enforcement agencies for the terrestrial, maritime, and aerial surveillance of those borders, to include aircraft hangars suitable for unmanned aerial systems and report back to the Committee 180 days after the enactment of the this Act.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$128,920,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	197,237,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	167,437,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	38,517,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(29,800,000)

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$92,663,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	138,738,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	138,738,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	46,075,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$103,946,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	113,595,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	104,295,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	349,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(9,300,000)

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$51,528,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	36,078,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	36,078,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(15,450,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$49,492,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	65,021,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	65,021,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	15,529,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$199,700,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	120,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	150,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(−49,700,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	30,000,000

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program (NSIP) consists of annual contributions by NATO member countries. The program finances the costs of construction needed to support the roles of the major NATO commands. The investments cover facilities such as airfields, fuel pipelines and storage, harbors, communications and information systems, radar and navigational aids, and military headquarters, both within NATO nations and for "out of area" operations such as Afghanistan.

The U.S. occasionally has been forced to temporarily delay the authorization of projects due to shortfalls in U.S. obligation authority. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to notify the Committee within 14 days of the U.S. taking action to temporarily delay the authorization of projects, or to temporarily withhold funds from previously authorized projects, due to shortfalls in U.S. obligation authority.

Finally, the bill provides an additional $30,000,000 for NSIP to support fixed and mobile infrastructure necessary for NATO wartime, crisis, peace support and deterrence operations and NATO-unique training requirements as prioritized by the NATO Strategic Commanders. The additional funds will support responses to the challenges posed by Russia and to the risks and threats emanating from the Middle East and North Africa.

FAMILY HOUSING OVERVIEW

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,190,535,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	1,413,181,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,413,181,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	222,646,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

Family housing construction accounts provide funds for new construction, construction improvements, the Federal government costs for family housing privatization projects, and planning and

design. The operation and maintenance accounts provide funds to pay for maintenance and repair, furnishings, management, services, utilities, leasing, interest, mortgage insurance, and miscellaneous expenses.

Family housing privatization progress reports.—The Committee directs the Department of Defense to continue submitting semi-annual progress reports on the family housing privatization program, including a breakout of military tenant satisfaction rates by project.

Foreign currency savings and sub-account transfers.—The Committee directs that savings in family housing operation and maintenance accounts from foreign currency re-estimates be used to maintain and repair existing family housing units. The Comptroller is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on how these savings are allocated 90 days after enactment of this Act. In addition, the Committee directs the services and Defense agencies to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 30 days of a transfer of funds between sub-accounts within the family housing construction and family housing operation and maintenance accounts, if such transfer is in excess of 10 percent of the funds appropriated to the sub-account to which the funds are being transferred. Notifications to the Committees shall indicate the sub-accounts and amounts that are being used to source the transfer.

Leasing reporting requirements.—The Secretary of Defense is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quarterly on the details of all new or renewed domestic leases entered into during the previous quarter that exceed the cost threshold set by 10 U.S.C. 2828(b)(2), including certification that less expensive housing was not available for lease. For foreign leases, the Department is directed to: (1) perform an economic analysis on all new leases or lease/contract agreements where more than 25 units are involved; (2) report the details of new or renewed lease agreements that exceed the cost threshold set by 10 U.S.C. 2828(e)(1) 21 days prior to entering into such an agreement; and (3) base leasing decisions on the economic analysis.

Camp Humphreys housing.—The Committee is concerned that the Department of Defense (DOD) has not yet provided the report on its strategy and associated funding requirements necessary to provide adequate family housing for service members assigned to United States Army Garrison (USAG) Humphreys, Korea. The Committee strongly urges DOD to expeditiously complete and submit its report to the Committee including the resources DOD needs to meet the on-base housing requirements and to improve living conditions for service members and their families in desperate need of a suitable, long-term housing solution at USAG Humphreys.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$78,609,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	99,695,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	99,695,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	21,086,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$350,976,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	393,511,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	393,511,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	42,535,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$16,412,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	16,541,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	16,541,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	129,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$354,029,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	353,036,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	353,036,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(993,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$– – –
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	160,498,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	160,498,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	160,498,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$327,747,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	331,232,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	331,232,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	3,485,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$61,100,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	58,668,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	58,668,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(2,432,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,662,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –
Committee recommendation in the bill	– – –
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(1,662,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$38,715,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –
Committee recommendation in the bill	– – –
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(38,715,000)
Fiscal year 2015 budget request	– – –

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$315,085,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	251,334,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	251,334,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(63,751,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Willow Grove.—The Committee understands that the Navy has completed its Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the disposal and reuse of the former Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) Willow Grove Horsham, PA. The Committee further understands that the Navy is in the process of drafting the Findings of Suitability to Transfer as well as environmental remediation for site cleanup. The Committee is concerned by the slow pace of progress in remediating these properties. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a report to the Committee identifying the remediation requirements as required by the BRAC process and an estimated timeline for completion for making NAS JRB Willow Grove suitable for redevelopment no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

Accountability for BRAC clean up funds.—As the Committee has previously noted in H. Rept. 112–94, and again in H. Rept. 113–416, the Committee remains concerned regarding the current pace of Legacy BRAC site clean-up. Consequently, the committee will ask for and the DOD is instructed to cooperate in and collaborate on a new GAO study updating the study GAO–07–166 on environmental cleanup progress.

Infrastructure Inventory and Assessment of Infrastructure Necessary to Support On-going Defense Activities.—The Committee is concerned about the Department and the Services' frequent reference to the need for another full round of base closures. Though the committee is not endorsing or precluding another BRAC round, it is interested in more detailed information that would help lead Congress to make an informed decision on that question. By no later than December 31, 2015, the Secretary of Defense is directed to provide the following infrastructure and military construction information to the Committee as it might relate to a future BRAC round.

The Secretary of Defense shall provide a comprehensive inventory of military installations, including those overseas, for each military department, with specifications of the number and types of facilities in the active and reserve forces of each military department.

Using this infrastructure inventory the Secretary of Defense shall prepare the following:

- A description of the infrastructure necessary to support ongoing defense activities.

- A discussion of categories of excess infrastructure and infrastructure capacity, and the Secretary's targets for the reduction of such excess capacity.
- An assessment of the excess infrastructure and the value of retaining certain excess infrastructure to support surge or reversibility requirements.
- An economic analysis of the effect of the closure or realignment of military installations to reduce excess infrastructure.

In determining the level of necessary versus excess infrastructure, the Secretary of Defense shall consider the following:

- The anticipated continuing need for and availability of military installations outside the United States and the potential for future prohibitions or restrictions on the use of such military installations.
- Any efficiencies that may be gained from joint tenancy by more than one branch of the Armed Forces at a military installation or the reorganization or association of two or more military installations as a single military installation.

On the basis of this infrastructure inventory report and its descriptions and economic analysis, the Secretary of Defense shall include a certification regarding whether the need exists for closure or realignment of military installations.

As a condition on the certification above, the Secretary shall include an additional certification that every recommendation for closure or realignment of military installations in a round of closures and realignments will result in annual net savings for each of the military departments within six years after the initiation of a round of closures and realignments.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill includes 31 provisions of which 26 were in effect in fiscal year 2015 and 5 are new or revised provisions. The administrative provisions included in the bill are as follows:

The bill includes section 101 prohibiting the use of funds for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction where cost estimates exceed $25,000. An exception for Alaska is provided.

The bill includes section 102 permitting the use of construction funds for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

The bill includes section 103 permitting funds to be expended on the construction of defense access roads under certain circumstances.

The bill includes section 104 prohibiting construction of new bases in the United States without a specific appropriation.

The bill includes section 105 limiting the use of funds for the purchase of land or land easements that exceed 100 percent of value except under certain conditions.

The bill includes section 106 prohibiting the use of funds to acquire land, prepare sites, or install utilities for family housing except housing for which funds have been appropriated.

The bill includes section 107 limiting the use of minor construction funds to relocate any activity from one installation to another without prior notification.

The bill includes section 108 prohibiting the procurement of steel unless American producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been allowed to compete.

The bill includes section 109 prohibiting the use of funds to pay real property taxes in foreign nations.

The bill includes section 110 prohibiting the use of funds to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification.

The bill includes section 111 establishing a preference for United States architectural and engineering services where the services are in Japan, NATO member countries, or countries bordering the Arabian Sea.

The bill includes section 112 establishing a preference for United States contractors for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll, or countries within the Central Command area of responsibility, except bids by Marshallese contractors for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll.

The bill includes section 113 requiring the Secretary of Defense to give prior notice to Congress of military exercises where construction costs exceed $100,000.

The bill includes section 114 allowing funds appropriated in prior years to be used for new projects authorized during the current session of Congress.

The bill includes section 115 allowing the use of expired or lapsed funds to pay the cost of supervision for any project being completed with lapsed funds.

The bill includes section 116 providing that funds for military construction projects are available until the end of the fourth fiscal year following the fiscal year in which funds are appropriated, subject to certain conditions.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 117 allowing for the transfer of funds from Family Housing Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund and funds from Military Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 118, as amended, providing transfer authority to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

The bill includes section 119, as amended, requiring that funds in this title be the sole source of all operation and maintenance for flag and general officer quarter houses, and limits the repair on these quarters to $15,000 per year without notification.

The bill includes section 120 making funds in the Ford Island Improvement Fund available until expended.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 121 allowing the transfer of expired funds to the "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense" account.

The bill includes section 122 prohibiting the use of funds to relocate a unit of the Army that would impact more than 200 personnel.

The bill includes section 123 allowing the transfer of funds among projects and activities in accordance with the reprogramming guidelines.

The bill includes section 124 prohibiting the use of funds for projects at Arlington National Cemetery.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 125 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 126 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 127 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 128 rescinding funds from 10 U.S.C. 3374.

The bill includes section 129 defining the congressional defense committees.

The bill includes section 130 prohibiting the use of funds for the closure of any facility at Lajes Field.

The bill includes section 131 providing additional funding for Defense Access Roads.

The bill does not include section 121 as requested to provide authority under a continuing resolution when an authorization bill has been enacted to obligate funds that have not been appropriated.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level[1]	$159,144,807,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request[1]	164,649,778,000
Committee recommendation in the bill[1]	163,208,416,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	4,063,609,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(1,441,362,000)
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request[1]	167,253,585,000
Fiscal year 2017 Committee recommendation in the bill[1]	167,253,585,000

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) serves approximately 48,300,000 people or 15 percent of the total estimated resident population of the U.S. and Puerto Rico: 22,000,000 veterans and 26,300,000 family members of living veterans or survivors of deceased veterans. To serve adequately the nation's veterans, VA employs 342,000 people, making it one of the largest Federal agencies in terms of employment.

[1] All funding cited excludes amounts in the Medical Care Collections Fund.

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION (VBA)

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$79,071,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	79,124,675,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	79,124,675,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	53,675,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	87,146,761,000
Fiscal year 2017 Committee recommendation in the bill	87,146,761,000

This appropriation will provide funds for service-connected compensation payments to an estimated 4,701,000 veterans, survivors, and dependents in 2016. In addition, pension payments will be funded for 522,000 veterans and their survivors. The average cost per compensation case for veterans in 2016 is estimated at $16,182 and pension payments are projected at $12,600.

For the first time, the bill provides $87,146,761,000 in fiscal year 2017 advance funding, as authorized in P.L. 113–235.

The appropriation includes authority to transfer funding not to exceed $15,562,000 in 2016 and $16,021,000 in 2017 to the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, and Information Technology Systems accounts. These funds are for the administrative expenses of implementing cost-saving provisions required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, P.L. 101–508, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992, P.L. 102–568, and the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1994, P.L. 103–446. These cost-saving provisions include verifying pension income against Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Social Security Administration (SSA) data; establishing a match with the SSA to obtain verification of Social Security numbers; and applying VA pension cap for Medicaid-eligible single veterans and surviving spouses alone in Medicaid-covered nursing homes. The bill also continues to include language permitting this appropriation to reimburse such sums as may be earned to the Medical Care Collections Fund to help defray the operating expenses of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$14,997,136,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	15,344,922,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	15,344,922,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	347,786,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	16,743,904,000
Fiscal year 2017 Committee recommendation in the bill	16,743,904,000

This appropriation finances the education and training of veterans and servicemembers through the Post 9-11 GI Bill and the All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program. Supplemental education benefits are also provided to certain veteran members of the Selected Reserve and are funded through transfers from the Department of Defense (DOD). In addition, certain disabled veterans are provided with vocational rehabilitation, specially adapted housing grants, and grants for automobiles with approved adaptive

equipment. This account also finances educational assistance allowances for eligible dependents of veterans who died from service-connected causes or have a total and permanent service-connected disability, as well as dependents of servicemembers who were captured or are missing in action. More than 80 percent of the funds in the account support the Post 9-11 GI Bill.

For the first time, the bill provides $16,743,904,000 in fiscal year 2017 advance funding, as authorized in P.L. 113–235.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$63,257,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	77,160,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	77,160,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	13,903,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	91,920,000
Fiscal year 2017 Committee recommendation in the bill	91,920,000

The Veterans Insurance and Indemnities appropriation is made up of the former appropriations for military and naval insurance, applicable to World War I veterans; national service life insurance (NSLI), applicable to certain World War II veterans; servicemen's indemnities, applicable to Korean conflict veterans; and veterans mortgage life insurance, applicable to individuals who have received a grant for specially adapted housing.

For the first time, the bill provides $91,920,000 in fiscal year 2017 advance funding, as authorized in P.L. 113–235.

The amount provided will enable the Department to transfer funding to the service-disabled veterans insurance fund and transfer additional amounts for payments for policies under the veterans mortgage life insurance program. These policies are identified under the Veterans Insurance and Indemnity appropriation since they provide insurance to service-disabled veterans unable to qualify under basic NSLI.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Limitation on direct loans for specially adapted housing loans	Administrative expenses
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	– – –	($500,000)	$160,881,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request est.	– – –	(500,000)	164,558,000
Committee recommendation est. in the bill	– – –	(500,000)	164,558,000
Comparison with:			
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	– – –	– – –	3,677,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –	– – –	– – –

The purpose of the home loan guaranty program is to facilitate the extension of mortgage credit on favorable terms by private lenders to eligible veterans. This appropriation provides for all costs, with the exception of the Native American veterans housing loan program, of the Department's direct and guaranteed loans programs. The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 requires budgetary resources to be available prior to incurring a direct loan obligation or a loan guaranty commitment. In addition, the bill requires all administrative expenses of a direct or guaranteed loan program to be funded through a program account. Loan guaranties are made to servicemembers, veterans, reservists, and single surviving

spouses for the purchase of homes, condominiums, and manufactured homes and for refinancing loans. The Department guarantees part of the total loan, permitting the purchaser to obtain a mortgage with a competitive interest rate, even without a down payment if the lender agrees. The Department requires that a down payment be made for a manufactured home. With a Department guaranty, the lender is protected against loss, up to the amount of the guaranty, if the borrower fails to repay the loan.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Limitation on direct loans	Administrative expenses
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$10,000	($2,877,000)	$361,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	31,000	(2,952,000)	367,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	31,000	(2,952,000)	367,000
Comparison with:			
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	21,000	75,000	6,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –	– – –	– – –

This appropriation covers the subsidy cost of direct loans for vocational rehabilitation of eligible veterans and includes administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program. Loans of up to $1,108 (based on indexed chapter 31 subsistence allowance rate) are available to service-connected disabled veterans enrolled in vocational rehabilitation programs 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. Most loans are repaid in full in less than one year. The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 requires budgetary resources to be available prior to incurring a direct loan obligation.

It is estimated that the Department will make 3,129 loans in fiscal year 2016, with an average amount of $943.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

Administrative expenses:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,130,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	1,134,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,134,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	4,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program, as authorized by title 38 United States Code, chapter 37, subchapter V, provides the Secretary with authority to make direct housing loans to Native American veterans for the purpose of purchasing, constructing, or improving dwellings on trust lands.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (VHA)

The Department operates the largest Federal medical care delivery system in the country, with 150 hospitals, 107 domiciliary residential rehabilitation treatment programs, 136 nursing homes, 300 Vet Centers, 80 mobile Vet Centers, and 830 outpatient clinics which include independent, satellite, community-based, and rural

outreach clinics. Approximately 6,895,000 patients will be treated in 2016.

The VHA is comprised of four accounts: Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, Medical Facilities, and Medical and Prosthetic Research. For the first three accounts, the Administration has requested total resources for fiscal year 2017 of $63,271,000,000 in direct appropriations to fund the three advance appropriations of VHA. In addition, VA will receive an estimated $2,445,000,000 in Medical Care Collections Fund in fiscal year 2016. The Committee also provides $606,813,000 for medical and prosthetic research.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$45,224,716,000
Fiscal year 2016 enacted level	47,603,202,000
Fiscal year 2016 additional request	1,124,197,000
Committee 2016 additional recommendation	969,554,000
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	51,673,000,000
Committee 2017 recommendation in the bill	51,673,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2016 enacted level	4,069,798,000
Fiscal year 2017 budget request	– – –

This appropriation provides for medical services of eligible veterans and beneficiaries in Department medical centers, outpatient clinic facilities, contract hospitals, State homes, and outpatient programs on a fee basis. Hospital and outpatient care is also provided by the private sector for certain dependents and survivors of veterans under the civilian health and medical programs for VA.

The bill includes $969,554,000 of the $1,124,197,000 current year budget request, which is in addition to the advance appropriation that has already been provided. The Committee notes that the current year budget request is unusually large and has worked to provide more than 85 percent of the request. Within the funds provided, the Committee expects the resources to be used for unbudgeted costs of Hepatitis C treatment, higher than anticipated usage of Caregivers program stipends, and projected utilization of homelessness programs. With the recent announcement by the Department of a new interpretation of the 40-mile distance rule and the Department's prediction that the policy change would double the number of veterans using the Choice Act option for their health care, the demands on the traditional VA health care program will drop and the need for the current year budget request is likely to decrease.

The Committee has not included requested bill language to make available through September 30, 2018, $1,400,000,000 of the Medical Services appropriation for fiscal year 2017, instead maintaining current policy of providing extended availability on a current year rather than advance funding basis.

Funding identified in the bill is in addition to the anticipated $4,829,807,000 for medical services from the Veterans Choice Act in fiscal year 2016 or the estimated $2,831,456,000 from the Act in fiscal year 2017.

Changes in funding requirements due to modeling.—The Committee expects VA to continue to include in the sufficiency letter required by section 117(d) of title 38, United States Code, that is due to the Congress on July 31 of each year, a description of any

changes exceeding $250,000,000 in funding requirements for the Medical Services account resulting from the spring recalculation of the Enrollee Healthcare Projection Model.

Allocation of health funding.—The Committee continues to be concerned that the process VA uses to allocate the health services appropriation through the Veterans Integrated Services Networks (VISNs) and from them to the medical centers may shortchange the ultimate users because of excessive funding retained at headquarters or at the VISNs. The Committee continues to request a report each year no later than thirty days after VA allocates the medical services appropriation to the VISNs that identifies: (1) the amount of general purpose funding that is allocated to each VISN; (2) the amount of funding that is retained by central headquarters for specific purposes, with amounts identified for each purpose; and (3) the amount of funding that is retained by each VISN before allocating it to the medical centers, identifying separately the amounts retained for purposes such as network operations, network initiatives, and emergencies.

Homeless assistance

The Committee provides the full fiscal year 2017 budget request of $1,393,000,000 for VA homeless assistance programs, in addition to $5,496,909,000 for homeless veterans treatment costs. These programs include the Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem, the Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans, the Supportive Services for Low Income Veterans and Families, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Department of Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD–VASH) programs.

Female homeless veterans.—The Committee remains committed to helping homeless veterans and commends VA for its efforts in reducing homelessness among the veteran population. However, the Committee is concerned about VA's efforts to reduce homelessness among female veterans and female veterans with minor children. To that end, the Committee directs VA to compile statistics on the number of homeless female veterans and the number of female Veterans with minor children. This report should detail what actions VA is taking to deal with this particular population and what transition services are being utilized. This report shall be submitted to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

HUD–VASH program.—The Committee recognizes the important contributions the HUD–VASH program has made in reducing the number of homeless veterans and commends VA for implementing a case management system that keeps veterans housed longer by providing the supportive care many of them require. The Committee encourages VA to more creatively and collaboratively work with local social service agencies to ensure that HUD–VASH voucher recipients are receiving the most comprehensive services available to them. Many jurisdictions around the country are implementing their own coordinated care initiatives alongside public housing programs, and in the interest of maximizing public investment and providing the best, most comprehensive care available, VA should seek to partner with local and State governments when possible and in the best interest of veterans.

Mental health issues

The Committee provides the full fiscal year 2017 budget request of $7,715,357,000 for mental health programs. Of the amounts provided for mental health programs in fiscal year 2016, $143,680,000 shall be used for suicide prevention outreach. In fiscal year 2017, the Committee expects $159,246,000 to be used for this purpose. The Department is directed to provide a report to the Committee no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act identifying a detailed expenditure plan for all suicide prevention outreach programs.

Public-private partnership.—The Committee is concerned by the alarming number of suicides committed by veterans each day. While the Committee appreciates the important work being done by the Department to combat suicide and improve mental health among veterans, more can and must be done. The Committee recommends the Department actively seek out public-private partnerships, in particular with research universities, teaching hospitals, and other partners, to expand upon its existing efforts related to suicide prevention, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and substance use disorders. The Secretary shall report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the status of creating public-private partnerships related to suicide prevention, PTSD, TBI, and substance use disorders.

Mental health provider training.—The Committee is concerned about the impact of VA's accreditation process which excludes marriage and family therapists (MFTs) graduating from regionally accredited schools from employment at VA. This limitation causes unnecessary vacancies in mental health provider positions within the VHA system at a time when these services are in critical need. Therefore, the Committee urges VHA to develop a pilot program focusing on hiring MFTs who (1) hold at least a master's degree in marriage and family therapy, or a related field, from a regionally accredited program; (2) are licensed as a MFT in a U.S. jurisdiction and possess the highest level of licensure offered by the State in which they are licensed; and (3) have passed the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Board Examination in Marital and Family Therapy.

Clinical psychology training.—The Committee understands that VHA is in the process of modifying its regulations to permit the training and employment of psychologists who are graduates of the Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS), which now accredits 25 university-based Ph.D. clinical psychology programs. The Committee urges VHA to complete this regulatory process to help increase the number of mental health clinicians available to the VA health care system.

Clay Hunt SAV Act.—The Committee encourages VA to implement the community-oriented veteran peer support network pilot program established by the Clay Hunt SAV Act. The pilot program requires no less than five (VISNs) that have a large population of veterans to include in their pilot: a community-oriented veteran peer support network carried out in partnership with an entity that has experience in peer support programs, and a community outreach team for each medical center in each selected VISN. The

Committee requests a report on these efforts no later than 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Law enforcement partnerships.—The Committee recommends that VA initiate a pilot program that would offer targeted training to local law enforcement officials in effective methods to assist veterans who are considered an immediate threat to themselves and others. The Committee also directs VA to implement a program that would designate a VA liaison to work with local law enforcement to ensure that the subsequent needs of these veterans are immediately addressed.

Relationships with outside voluntary organizations.—The Committee urges VA to establish and bolster existing relationships with Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) that are working closely with veterans suffering mental health issues. In particular, the Committee encourages VA to partner with organizations that work with both male and female survivors of sexual assault.

Magnetic resonance therapy pilot study.—The Committee understands that outside studies indicate that magnetic resonance therapy (MRT) has successfully treated veterans with PTSD and TBI. The Committee understands that VA is currently conducting a large multi-site trial of MRT for the treatment of depression, and encourages VA to use this study to review the effectiveness of MRT on PTSD since the study includes veterans with PTSD as well as depression.

Insomnia.—Insomnia is a common health issue that veterans face and is associated with PTSD. The Committee understands that new technologies using cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) have produced promising results in the treatment of insomnia in recent clinical trials. The Committee requests VA to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act about whether it uses internet-delivered CBT to treat insomnia, and if not, whether it would be appropriate to conduct a study on the use of this technology.

Access issues

Veterans Choice Program.—The Committee appreciates VA's expedited processing of regulations to implement the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, P.L. 113–146, and the establishment of the Veterans Choice Program, which provides a new non-VA care option for eligible veterans. Further, the Committee welcomed the recent decision by VA to expand the eligibility criteria for the Veterans Choice Program by changing the calculation used to determine the distance between a veteran's residence and the nearest VA medical facility from a straight line distance to driving distance. The Committee encourages VA to continue exploring options to open the aperture for the Veterans Choice Program so that more veterans can utilize non-VA care options. Specifically, the Committee requests the Department to consider including travel time and total distance to a medical service offered at a VA medical facility when determining eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program.

Patient-Centered Community Care Program (PC3).—The Committee believes that the PC3 initiative can provide an effective method for improving convenience of care and decreasing costs when patients require services not readily available at local VA

medical centers. However, the Committee is concerned that PC3 has been bypassed as a possible source of non-VA care, as most VA attention has focused on non-VA care being provided through the Choice program. A concerted effort is needed to educate veterans and to fully train VA medical center staff, including clinicians, non-VA care staff, and appointment schedulers on PC3. The Committee urges a single, clear set of guidance for all medical centers to follow, including mandatory use of the hierarchy of care provided in non-VA settings in the following order: other federal facilities, if available; affiliates; PC3; and finally direct agreements, but only if they offer services that PC3 agreements do not. Many medical centers are still sending most of their non-VA care out through local agreements or individual authorizations, instead of using PC3. In most of those cases, the standards and requirements are much different—no credentialing; often no requirement for return of medical documentation, and if they do require medical documentation, no timeliness standard. In many of these cases VA is paying rates higher than PC3 and, in many cases, more than Medicare. When PC3 began, the intent was for medical centers to be required to use PC3 before local agreements or individual authorizations. Because of the low utilization of the PC3 program, the Committee has continuing concern over VA's ability to effectively manage the cost of non-VA care. To better understand the fiscal impact of continued reliance on local contracts and fee basis authorizations, the Committee requests a report within 60 days of enactment of this Act outlining the general rate structure associated with health care claims for PC3, local contracts, and fee basis authorizations, as well as the usage of PC3 in fiscal year 2015.

PC3 data reporting.—The Committee understands that the initial usage data VA has collected on the PC3 program indicates some disappointing results. In calendar year 2014, PC3 authorizations for PC3 care totaled 193,000, while non-PC3 contract care authorizations were more than 2,400,000. Several medical centers had no PC3 care authorizations at all. In addition, more than 30 percent of the PC3 authorizations were returned to VA without care being provided. The reasons for return are not clear—whether the contractor was not able to provide a physician or the veteran declined the offered provider. The Committee urges VA to strengthen its data collection efforts so that Congress and the agency will have information to judge how the PC3 program is working and what changes may need to be made, both in VA headquarters policy and in contractor capacity, to make PC3 a viable source of non-VA care. In addition, the Committee urges VA to develop a publicly available reporting system comparable to the VBA Monday Morning Workload reports that displays program outcome data on a VISN- or medical center-specific basis.

Care through multi-specialty clinics.—The Committee remains concerned about VA's ability to provide high quality, reliable, accessible, timely and efficient health care to veterans in rural States. The Committee strongly encourages VA to pursue multi-specialty clinics (MSC), giving special consideration to future MSCs that have the possibility of partnering with private medical institutions or medical teaching facilities. These partnerships could provide benefits to current and future veteran patients by significantly increasing the services delivered to veterans. Furthermore, these af-

filiations can significantly enhance VHA research and education missions. The Committee requests a report within 60 days of enactment of this Act identifying whether VA presently operates any multi-specialty clinics and any future plans to establish such clinics.

Office of Rural Health.—The Committee provides the full fiscal year 2017 budget request of $250,000,000 to improve access and quality of care for the more than 3,000,000 veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas. The Committee directs the Office of Rural Health to submit to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this Act an operating plan for this funding, as well as any changes to that operating plan at the start of the fiscal year for which the funds are provided.

Rural transportation.—The Committee encourages VA to propose authorizing legislation to permit including considerations of a veteran's distance from a VA facility as a criterion in addition to the number of veterans in a given area in implementing recent statutory changes providing transportation grants to veterans service agencies and VSOs.

Mobile health technologies.—The Committee is encouraged by VA's utilization of mobile, interim and fixed-site medical solutions that can reach veterans in both urban and rural areas. The Committee encourages VA to consider incorporating leasing options for mobile and telemedicine enabling solutions to support hard-to-reach veteran populations and to offset the burden on large VA facilities with long wait times.

Impact of personnel shortages.—The Committee is concerned about the negative effects that personnel shortages and recruitment issues at some VA medical facilities are having on patient care. The VA's inability to hire and maintain required staffing have led to delays in opening certain treatment centers at clinics, which has in turn forced veterans to go long distances to receive care they could be getting locally. To address the inefficiencies and wasted resources associated with staff shortages, the Committee urges VA to promptly address hiring and recruitment issues to ensure that funds are used more effectively. The Committee expects VA to report within 60 days of enactment of this Act whether it collects periodic data on the reasons that providers choose to leave the VA system, and to establish such a data collection if it does not currently exist. The Committee expects that the report will also describe how VA plans to address and mitigate the principal reasons providers leave. The Committee requests an update every six months on the number of medical staff who have left the VA system and a summary of the principal reasons explaining their departure.

Other health issues

Prescription drug abuse.—The Committee is pleased with the VA Opioid Safety Initiative and the results it is producing in reducing the dependence of veterans on prescription opioids. The Committee notes the development of the Opioid Safety Initiative Toolkit as a useful tool to disseminate across the VA medical system national taskforce findings on issues such as drug dosages, interactions and adverse events; pain management strategies; and patient counseling. The Committee notes, however, that the opioid prescription

abuses discovered at the Tomah, Wisconsin VA hospital indicate that work remains to be done within VA to ensure that physicians are not ignoring guidance on appropriate opioid prescribing practices. The Committee urges VA to increase its efforts in opioid prescription control and directs VA to submit a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on VA's ongoing reviews of prescription practices in specific VISNs.

Hepatitis C virus.—The Committee supports VA's efforts to control Hepatitis C in the veteran population and understands that VA is allocating substantial resources to provide the newly improved Hepatitis C drugs to veterans. The Committee requests a report 90 days after enactment of this Act detailing the number of veterans currently in the VA medical system who have Hepatitis C and are eligible to receive the new medications, the number of veterans currently receiving the new medications, the length of time this cohort will be taking the drug before being cured of the infection, and future year projections for VA hepatitis C caseload and treatment cost.

Locum tenens physicians.—The Committee recognizes that VA facilities across the nation often rely upon assistance from temporarily assigned locum tenens physicians. Further, the Committee understands that VA locum tenens professionals enable a flexible staffing structure among VA facilities, responsive to the changing demands of the VA patient population, and that VA's locum tenens system, in which a physician with a current license in at least one state may work in any VA facility, has been a normal and necessary staffing practice of VA for decades. The Committee understands the importance of locum tenens professionals within VA and urges VA and the Drug Enforcement Administration to resolve regulatory issues concerning prescription privileges for VA locum tenens physicians so that veterans have access to high quality local VA health care.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy.—The Committee recognizes that one of the most important aspects of improving VA is to ensure that our nation's veterans have access to the treatments they need in order to stem the unacceptable tide of veteran suicides. The Committee is aware that some private clinical studies have demonstrated that hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) has provided significant improvement to patients suffering from PTSD and TBI. The Committee takes note that the Israeli Defense Forces have recently approved HBOT in treating PTSD and a variety of other brain conditions for its personnel. The Committee urges the Secretary to take steps to approve HBOT as a treatment option if the Secretary determines that such an approval would benefit veterans with PTSD and TBI.

Medical school affiliations with VA health care facilities.—The Committee continues to prioritize collaboration between VA and medical schools. The Committee acknowledges the improved collaboration, particularly with smaller community-based sites. However, the Committee continues to be concerned by the lack of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) medical school participation and collaboration with the local VA hospitals in areas where HBCU and HSI medical schools are located. The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report on VA's plan for expansion of HBCU and

HSI medical school participation with local VA medical facilities. The report should be submitted to the Committee no later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.

Pharmacy dispensing process for specialized medicines.—In circumstances where VA is unable to use commercially packaged or pre-mixed volumes that can be administered directly to the patient without further preparation, the Committee encourages VA to enhance its use of specialized automated pharmacy workflow systems that manage the entire intravenous and oral liquid dose preparation and dispensing process. These systems promote safety, reduce waste, and improve health system pharmacy productivity.

Nursing handbook.—The Committee understands that the VHA Nursing Handbook is currently under review. The Committee encourages VHA to seek input from internal VA program offices and external professional stakeholders, prior to possible regulatory action and submission to the Under Secretary for Health for final approval. The Committee believes all possible outreach efforts should be used to communicate the proposed changes, to gather public comment, and to collaborate with Congress, stakeholders, VA nursing staff, and external organizations. Finally, the Committee requests that VHA ensure that any changes to handbooks within VHA do not conflict with other handbooks already in place within VHA.

Hepatitis B virus (HBV).—The Committee is aware that HBV, if left untreated, may lead to advanced liver disease, liver cancer and the need for liver transplants, placing a greater financial burden on the veterans health care system. The Committee is also aware that the rates of viral hepatitis infections among Vietnam era veterans and the baby boomer birth cohort is disproportionately high, and the testing rate among U.S. veterans is very low, with only 15 percent of veterans having been tested for HBV infection. Among those who tested positive, just one-quarter have received antiviral treatment. Therefore, the Committee urges an aggressive and targeted outreach program, consistent with CDC's viral hepatitis testing and treatment recommendations, to identify veterans with Hepatitis B and to facilitate and encourage treatment for those identified with the disease.

Medical waste.—At the request of Congress, VA has previously provided information that compared cost estimates between handling the treatment of infectious medical waste on-site versus off-site. VA studies indicated that there are cost savings as well as beneficial environment impacts and utility savings associated with on-site medical waste treatment. Last year, VA completed a blanket purchase agreement (BPA) that was intended to streamline the future purchasing of medical waste sterilization equipment by VA hospitals. The Committee requests VA to provide a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act describing what steps VA has taken or intends to take to use this new BPA to achieve overall cost savings at VA hospitals through on-site medical waste treatment equipment. The report should also indicate whether there are certain types of facilities that are more likely to achieve cost savings than others from on-site medical waste treatment.

Alternative treatments.—The Committee urges the Department to more strongly consider proven healthcare industry strategies that improve the underlying health of the veteran populations and pro-

vide alternative treatment options—strategies such as individual wellness and prevention programs and non-opiate complementary therapies. These healthcare strategies have been widely adopted by private healthcare coverage providers to improve the health and quality of life of patient populations while reducing short and long-term costs to healthcare systems.

Wound therapies.—The Committee seeks to ensure that our veterans have access to the most cutting-edge wound therapies in the world. As such, the Committee asks VA to report to the Committee no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act on the types of alternative therapies for wound treatment that are available to veterans through the VA system.

Non-healing pressure ulcers.—Veterans with spinal cord injuries (SCI) often suffer from non-healing, chronic wounds such as pressure ulcers, which are the second most frequent and significant complication of SCI. According to a 2011 study published by the Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine, researchers found that the use of autologous platelet-rich plasma (PRP) therapy appeared to stimulate acceleration of wound healing with SCI. The Committee encourages VA to explore the use of PRP therapy/treatment for veterans who suffer from chronic wounds.

Exoskeleton technologies.—VA is encouraged to enhance its use of exoskeleton technology for the rehabilitation of individuals with weakness or paralysis of the lower limbs, such as from spinal cord injury, stroke, and TBI, especially those technologies specifically designed to provide overground ambulation.

Interactive patient care.—The Committee understands that a number of VA medical centers have employed an interactive patient care model to help empower patients and educate them on the care they receive. This system uses in-room televisions, iPads or the myHealtheVet patient portal to educate veterans on services, medications, patient safety and pain management. The system has been shown to increase patient satisfaction and to improve quality and safety outcomes. The Committee encourages the expanded use of interactive patient care in VA medical centers.

Sleep disorders.—Sleep disturbances are often a warning sign of many physiological ailments commonly faced by military veterans. They are strongly linked to PTSD, anxiety, and depression, which can prohibit military veterans from readjusting to civilian life. The Committee supports efforts to improve the health and well-being of military veterans, and encourages the Department to issue a report to the Committee no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act detailing the state of sleep health among military veterans. The report should indicate current sleep trends among veterans, their connection with any health concern, and treatments to provide adequate sleep.

Hospital-acquired infections.—The Committee recognizes that hospital-acquired infections result in up to $4.5 billion in additional healthcare expenses annually and that healthcare workers have the highest rates of exposure and infection. Healthcare worker and patient safety and infection prevention are a growing problem in healthcare facilities, as evidenced by the recent CRE superbug outbreak in hospitals throughout the United States. The Committee encourages the Department to incorporate for use by healthcare workers and patients current commercially available active barrier

technologies that have been proven to be effective in a patient care setting.

Antibiotic resistance.—The Committee recognizes the importance of antibiotic resistance as a public health priority and appreciates the work of the Department to implement antimicrobial stewardship programs per VHA Directive 1031. Therefore, within the funds provided, the Committee directs VA to fully carry out these stewardship efforts, and to conduct a comprehensive assessment of efforts to implement the Directive, including coordination between facilities and progress in standardizing stewardship approaches across the Department. This assessment shall be shared with the Committee no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

Infectious diseases screening.—The Committee applauds VHA for developing electronic clinical reminders for recommended HIV/AIDs and viral hepatitis screening and urges VHA to implement these reminders in all appropriate settings. To further improve screening rates, the Committee urges VHA to offer support to VISNs to implement recommended screening, including innovative strategies like point-of-care testing.

Blast injury treatment.—The nature of the current military conflict and increasing use of improvised explosive devices has left some servicemembers with blast injuries that include spinal cord injury and trauma to the reproductive and urinary tracts. The Committee is concerned about the care of these injured servicemembers after they return home, and notes that there is not parity between the DOD and VA treatment of servicemembers with these injuries. The Committee directs VA to provide a report to the Committee that details the scope and the extent of veterans facing infertility issues due to military service during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). This report shall be submitted no later 180 days after enactment of this Act.

Chapel regulations.—The Committee understands that national guidelines from the VA National Chaplain Service regarding the display of religious symbols in VA medical center chapels have resulted in disruptive changes at some VA facilities with chapels that were constructed decades ago. VA chapels provide important spiritual and contemplative space for veterans and their families. As such, the Committee urges the National Chaplain Service to work with local communities when issues on display of religious symbols arise to ensure that any changes are minimally disruptive to the spiritual needs of veterans.

Religious tolerance.—The Committee notes that there have been several instances in the past few years where VA staff have misinterpreted VA guidance that ensures appropriate sensitivity to different religious faiths. Those cases have been resolved through court action or mediation. The Committee requests the VA Inspector General to review VA guidance with respect to funeral services, chaplain ministries in VA hospitals, and religious holiday celebrations at VA hospitals to determine whether current guidance appropriately protects the religious beliefs of VA employees as well as veterans and their family members. The IG should submit its findings to the Committee no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

Inpatient rehabilitation programs.—In anticipation of the findings of the Inspector General report due to the Committee in August 2015 about VA's actions integrating mental health and substance abuse inpatient treatment for patients with co-morbidities, the Secretary is directed to report to the Committee by April 1, 2016 how the Department is working to integrate these services and what changes it has made and plans to make to its inpatient rehabilitation programs.

Air cleaning technology.—The Committee requests VA to submit a report to the Committee no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act detailing the rates of readmission to VA hospitals due to surgically related infections during the past 10 years, VA's current use of air filtration systems in its facilities' operating rooms, and the potential cost and safety benefits of utilizing advanced air cleaning technology with an air change rate of at least 500 times per hour in its operating rooms.

MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$5,879,700,000
Fiscal year 2016 enacted level	6,144,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 additional request	69,961,000
Committee 2016 additional recommendation	– – –
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	6,524,000,000
Committee 2017 recommendation in the bill	6,524,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2016 enacted level	380,000,000
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	– – –

The Medical Support and Compliance appropriation funds the expenses of management and administration of the Department's health care system, including financial management, public health and environmental hazard, quality and performance management, medical inspection, human research oversight, training programs and continuing education, security, volunteer operations, and human resources.

The bill does not include the current year budget request of $69,961,000, which would be in addition to the advance appropriation that has already been provided. If additional current funding is required, it can be transferred from Medical Services under the authority of section 202.

The Committee has not included requested bill language to make available through September 30, 2018, $100,000,000 of the Medical Support and Compliance appropriation for fiscal year 2017, instead maintaining current policy of providing extended availability on a current year rather than advance funding basis.

Funding identified in the bill is in addition to the anticipated $201,854,000 for medical support and compliance from the Veterans Choice Act in fiscal year 2016.

Employee ratios.—The Committee directs the Secretary to provide an annual report on the ratio of administrator-to-frontline workers at each VA medical center throughout the country. This report shall include an assessment of the most effective ratio as well as an explanation of those facilities that fall outside of that assessment.

Grow Our Own Initiative (GOO).—House Report 113–416 included language urging VA to create a pilot program to pipeline veteran medics into positions as physician assistants, which VA en-

dorsed. However, the Committee is concerned that the GOO initiative lacks adequate coordination with HBCUs. In its work to expand the GOO initiative, the Committee directs VA to collaborate closely with HBCUs to channel a diverse group of Armed Forces medics and Navy Corpsmen, particularly veteran medics who already have met the qualifications for health provider admissions, into physician assistant training programs. The Committee directs VA to report to the Committee within 180 days of enactment on the progress of expanding GOO and its coordination with HBCUs.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$4,739,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 enacted level	4,915,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 additional request	105,132,000
Committee 2016 additional recommendation	– – –
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	5,074,000,000
Committee 2017 recommendation in the bill	5,074,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2016 enacted level	159,000,000
Fiscal year 2017 advance budget request	– – –

The Medical Facilities appropriation provides funds for the operation and maintenance of the VA health care system's capital infrastructure. Included under this heading are provisions for costs associated with utilities, engineering, capital planning, leases, laundry, groundskeeping, garbage, housekeeping, facility repair, and property disposition and acquisition.

The bill does not include the current year budget request of $105,132,000, which would be in addition to the advance appropriation that has already been provided. If additional current funding is required, it can be transferred from Medical Services under the authority of section 202.

The Committee has not included requested bill language to make available through September 30, 2018, $250,000,000 of the advance Medical Facilities appropriation for fiscal year 2017, instead maintaining current policy of providing extended availability on a current year rather than advance funding basis.

Funding identified in the bill is in addition to the anticipated $755,000,000 for medical facilities from the Veterans Choice Act in fiscal year 2016.

Scope change process.—The Committee requests clarification regarding the process used by the VA to make scope changes to planned projects with respect to evaluating costs and benefits. The Committee is concerned that recent scope changes to the Rochester, NY Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) to not include the Ambulatory Surgery Suite may lead to the eventual construction of two separate facilities at a substantially higher cost while inconveniencing local veterans. The Committee believes that VA must improve its long term planning for facility construction to avoid costly mistakes and unnecessarily increasing travel times for patients. The Committee is concerned that this is another example of VA's lack of control over design, cost, and ability to deliver planned projects on time. The Committee requests a report on the status of the Rochester, NY CBOC no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$588,922,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	621,813,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	606,813,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	17,891,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(15,000,000)

This appropriation provides for medical, rehabilitative, and health services research. The bill makes this account funding available through September 30, 2017. Medical research is an important aspect of the Department's programs, providing complete medical and hospital services for veterans. The prosthetic research program is also essential in the development and testing of prosthetic, orthopedic, and sensory aids for the purpose of improving the care and rehabilitation of eligible disabled veterans, including amputees, paraplegics, and the blind. The health services research program provides unique opportunities to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the health care delivery system. Budgetary resources from a number of areas, including appropriations from the medical care accounts, reimbursements from DOD, grants from the National Institutes of Health, private proprietary sources, and voluntary organizations, provide support for the Department's researchers. Estimated 2016 research resources beyond the research account are $1,210,000,000.

Advanced prosthetics.—The Committee encourages VA to fund research at the intersection of bioengineering, neuroscience, and rehabilitation to support neural interfaces to peripheral nerves and advanced prosthetics that deliver more functionality to amputees.

Prosthetics for females.—The Committee feels that a proportionate amount of prosthetics research should be focused on prosthetics meant for females. The Committee is disappointed in reports of VA providers sanding down prosthetics that were made for men in order to fit female patients, and requests that VA ensure the availability of prosthetic equipment proportionate to the amount of female veterans in need.

Service dogs.—The Committee is aware that canine therapy for treatment of PTSD and TBI symptoms is an emerging alternative therapy to pharmaceutical treatments. While still experimental, canine therapy has demonstrated effectiveness in treating PTSD and other psychological disorders, from hospitalized psychiatric patients to children with developmental disorders, patients with substance abuse problems, and victims of trauma. The Committee notes that canine therapy is a promising area for further research as a complementary or alternative treatment for the signature wounds of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Committee continues to encourage VA to expand its research on canine therapy to validate its therapeutic effectiveness in the treatment of PTSD and TBI.

Respiratory disease.—The Committee notes studies documenting an unexpected number of OEF and OIF veterans exhibiting unexplained respiratory diseases. The Committee encourages VA to partner with VSOs and concerned medical organizations to develop a research plan to address these conditions. Noting the growing burden of chronic obstructive lung disease and lung cancer among veteran populations, the Committee also encourages VA to expand its research portfolio to address these conditions.

Assistive technology.—The Committee encourages VA to develop a comprehensive user-oriented methodology to assess, design, build, and test assistive technology with a focus on tailored solutions rather than a one-size fits all approach to product development. In this work, the Committee encourages VA to work with research institutions with a multi-disciplinary approach that includes rehabilitation specialists, industrial designers, computer engineers, clinical specialists, and disability-specific support organizations.

Applied research in emerging technology.—The Committee recognizes VA medical centers' efforts in implementing continuum of care concepts focused on quality patient outcomes. As such, the Committee believes VA medical centers have the unique ability to serve as a site for rehabilitation and training supporting integration of wounded veterans into the community. The Committee encourages VA medical centers to continue to conduct applied research in emerging prosthetics, physical performance, biomechanics, sports medicine, and transcranial direct current stimulation research for patient populations. The applied research should leverage emerging technology simulation environments providing the opportunity for tele-rehabilitation and training.

Colorectal cancer.—Colorectal cancer is treatable if detected early, yet it is the second leading cause of cancer death in America. VA has made screening patients for colorectal cancer a priority. The National Cancer Institute estimates the annual cost of colorectal cancer will be almost $20 billion by 2020. Medicare and VA will be responsible for much of that cost. The Committee encourages VA to support additional research and development in the field, including investigation of a less costly blood test for colorectal cancer.

Long-term effects of exposure to toxic chemicals.—The Committee understands that wounds from exposure to toxic chemicals can have lifelong and generational effects, the impacts of which are still being determined. The Committee recognizes that the generational effects of toxic exposure have not been studied enough to determine what conditions children and grandchildren of exposed veterans face on a daily basis. The Committee urges VA to explore options for addressing this problem.

Access to research findings.—The Committee is pleased that VA has developed a public access policy to make publicly available the research findings that are financed through VA and that its research is now being posted on the National Institutes of Health PubMed Central site. The Committee requests a report 90 days after enactment of this Act describing articles that were posted in fiscal year 2015 and an estimate of how many will be posted in fiscal year 2016.

MEDICAL CARE COLLECTIONS FUND

The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Care Collections Fund (MCCF) was established by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–33). The Department deposits first-party and pharmacy 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 Department uses these funds for medical care and

services to veterans. The estimate of fees that will be collected in fiscal year 2016 is $2,445,000,000.

Third party health billing information.—The Committee requests VA to submit an annual report identifying the amount of third party health billings that are owed to VA and the annual amount collected. The report should describe VA's plan to capture the third party billings that currently go uncollected.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION (NCA)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$256,800,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	266,220,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	266,220,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	9,420,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The NCA was established in accordance with Public Law 93–43, the National Cemeteries Act of 1973. It has a fourfold mission: to provide for the interment of, in any national cemetery with available grave space, the remains of eligible deceased servicemembers and discharged veterans, together with their spouses and certain dependents, and to permanently maintain their graves; to provide headstones for, and to mark graves of eligible persons in national, State, tribal, and private cemeteries; to administer the grant program for aid to States and tribal governments in establishing, expanding, or improving State and tribal government veterans' cemeteries; and to administer the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program. This appropriation will provide for the operation and maintenance of 134 operational national cemeteries, two rural National Veterans Burial Grounds, and 33 other cemeterial installations.

The bill includes language making up to $26,600,000 of the total available until September 30, 2017.

Rural areas.—The Committee continues to be concerned by the NCA's response to Committee direction to develop a strategic plan for access to national cemeteries in rural areas. The conference report for the fiscal year 2015 appropriation instructed the Department to report why its strategic plan lacked all eight elements mandated by Congress and why it has ignored the recommendation of the Government Accountability Office on using census tract data to calculate veteran population served. The Committee expects the Department to respond to these issues within 30 days of this report being filed.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$321,591,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	346,659,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	336,659,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	15,068,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(10,000,000)

The General Administration account provides funds for the Office of the Secretary, six Assistant Secretaries, and three independent staff offices. The Committee has included bill language to make

available through September 30, 2017, up to $10,100,000 of these funds and to permit the transfer of funds in this account to the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account.

MyVA program.—The Committee realizes that the Secretary is dedicated to his initiative called "MyVA" that focuses on customer service from the veteran's perspective. The Committee has some concerns with the funding of the new program. The budget includes $3,500,000 to establish the MyVA program office. But, in addition, the budget request taps the operating divisions of VA for $76,300,000 and 204 FTE for activities to support planned customer data integration and Department-wide reorganization. This "tap" on ongoing VA activities seems excessive, especially given the paucity of information about what the MyVA office will do. The Committee expects a quarterly report detailing the activities of the MyVA office and its detailed employees, specifically addressing the possible reconfiguration of offices at the regional and State levels and the cost of such reconfiguration.

Leadership at the Board of Veterans Appeals.—The Committee fails to understand why the Board of Veterans Appeals has not had a chairman for the past four years and why no candidate has been identified. The Committee urges the Secretary to work with the White House and identify a candidate for the vacant chairman of the Board position without delay. With the coming surge in appeals of disability claims, the Board needs full strength in its leadership positions to guide development of the Board's master plan to handle the influx.

VA budget office communication.—The Committee has traditionally channeled most of its inquiries and requests for information and assistance through VA budget office. The Committee reiterates its longstanding position that, while the Committee reserves the right to call upon all VA offices, the primary communication between the Committee and VA should normally be through the budget office. Responses to Committee inquiries, regardless of whether they concern funding or policy, are to be transmitted without delay by other offices within VA, unless otherwise requested by the Committee. In addition, to facilitate the work of the Committee, it expects that the Department will make available to all personal and committee staff of Members of the Committee the same direct contact with the budget office. The Committee also expects that a staff member of VA budget office will be present at every meeting held between the chairman and ranking member of the Full Committee and Subcommittee and the Secretary or other senior VA officials.

Quarterly full-time equivalents (FTE) reports.—The Committee continues to request that VA provide, on a quarterly basis, the total current FTE by appropriation account and, in the case of General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, by program. The Committee feels it needs to have current staffing information throughout the year in order to monitor the use of salaries and expenses resources.

Additional budgetary information.—The Committee continues its request that items described in the fiscal year 2015 House report 113–416 continue to be included in the budget justifications submitted each year. These items include: displaying a current year

estimate for all accounts and for the budget year and the advance year; providing a reimbursable FTE summary chart for the General Administration account; providing an FTE by grade and regional/central office totals chart for the Information Technology Systems account; and providing the appeals caseload information requested for the Board of Veterans Appeals. The Committee would also like a quarterly report identifying the total amount the Department obligates for outreach and awareness marketing campaigns, with a description of each campaign supported.

Staff relocations within VA.—The bill continues the administrative provision requiring written notification 15 days prior to organizational changes which result in the transfer of 25 or more full-time equivalent staff from one organizational unit of the Department to another.

Small business outreach efforts.—The Committee encourages VA to provide increased outreach efforts to small businesses located in parts of the country that have experienced severe job losses and, in particular, those areas of the country that have been designated as Promise Zones.

Equitable relief.—The Committee understands that VA is working to implement new systems and protocols to eliminate instances of administrative error. However, the Committee recognizes that as VA enacts system-wide reforms, ending equitable relief for veterans who were deemed eligible for benefits in error would place an unfair burden on veterans and their families. The Committee urges the Secretary to continue to grant or extend equitable relief to veterans initially deemed eligible in instances of administrative error. No later than April 1 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee a report containing a statement as to the disposition of each case recommended to the Secretary for equitable relief under 38 U.S.C 503 during the preceding calendar year.

Tribal nation representation.—Despite VA efforts to address the burdens across Indian Country to access earned care and benefits, challenges continue to exist. The Committee is concerned that the current framework for recognizing organizations and appointed VSO representatives has required tribal communities to rely on non-tribal third parties to advocate on behalf of tribal veterans. The Committee encourages the Secretary to consider utilizing existing authority to recognize Tribal Nations and their representatives to directly prepare, present, and prosecute claims under the laws administered by the Secretary.

BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS (BVA)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$99,294,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	107,884,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	107,884,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	8,590,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The bill makes up to $10,788,000 of this funding available through September 30, 2017.

The BVA is the component of VA responsible for making final decisions on behalf of the Secretary for the thousands of claims for veterans benefits that are presented to BVA for appellate review. The majority of the BVA's workload derives from the benefit claims

initiated at the VBA 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 a regional office determination, he or she may appeal to BVA for a final agency decision. BVA adjudicates appeals covering all areas of veterans benefits, but most of the workload concerns appeals for veterans' disability compensation or pension benefits. Appeals received by BVA are projected to increase from 49,611 in 2012 to 81,640 cases in 2016.

Reporting on the appeals backlog.—The Committee directs the Board to report on the status of the appeals backlog, on a quarterly basis, starting within 120 days of enactment of this Act. The report should include a definition of the backlog, the total number of appeals pending, and the total number of appeals in backlog, and should identify time-specific metrics related to reduction of the backlog.

In addition, the Board should provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this Act identifying what policy, organizational and structural changes are necessary to eliminate the backlog and outlining the resources necessary to accomplish that task.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$2,534,254,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	2,697,734,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	2,697,734,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	163,480,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) account provides funding for VBA to administer entitlement programs such as service-connected disability compensation, education benefits, and vocational rehabilitation services.

The bill makes available through September 30, 2017, up to $134,800,000 of these funds.

The Committee provides the full request for the General Operating Expenses, VBA account. Despite the funding constraints faced by the Committee, the Committee believes that one of its top priorities must be to support the activities in this request—hiring 770 additional FTE to increase the workforce for appeals claims processors, fiduciary field examiners, and non-rating claims processors. These staff are needed to handle the increasing workloads in appeals, non-rating claims, and fiduciary field examinations that result from VBA's increase in processed claims, as it further reduces the disability claims backlog. The bill also supports the full request of $18,300,000 for the centralized mail initiative to consolidate inbound paper mail from the regional offices to a centralized intake site and the $140,800,000 request for the Veterans Claim Intake Program (VCIP) to scan paper claims and convert them into digital format. The Committee provides the full request ($36,800,000 from VBA and $253,000,000 from IT) for the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS), the paperless claims processing system. VBMS allows VBA to centrally manage the claims workload at the national level and direct cases electronically across its network of regional offices to match claims demand with available processing capacity. The Committee urges VA to allocate the

maximum funding available for VCIP because of its importance in speeding the claims decision process.

Claims backlog.—The Committee believes VA should have no higher priority than to reach its goal by the end of 2015 of no pending disability claim being more than 125 days old, while continuing to process all other claims to avoid recurrence of any backlog. While the Committee supports VBA's use of technology to improve performance, the Committee is somewhat skeptical that the new VBMS procedures will ensure timely processing of the backlog by the end of 2015. For the last five years, the Committee has fully funded the President's budget request for additional FTEs and increased IT funding, yet the claims backlog remains. The Committee is concerned that VBA is not planning to mitigate a predictable influx of new claims from DOD downsizing. Therefore, in addition to maintaining the current reporting requirements as listed in House Report 113–416, the Department is instructed to provide a report no later than 6 months after enactment of this Act outlining future staffing requests based on anticipated separation numbers as provided by DOD. While this report is for the use of the Appropriations Committee, it may be made available by the VA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to any Member of the House of Representatives upon request. In addition, VA is requested to display in the annual budget justification documents for each year the amount of funding allocated for staff overtime for claims processing, both voluntary and mandatory.

Claims processing deficiencies.—Because the backlog at the Oakland VA regional office was among the worst in the nation, the VBA is requested to submit a report no later than 30 days after this report is filed for calendar year 2014 outlining the number of claims received and processed at the Oakland regional office, and the accuracy scores for those claims; the average time to complete a claim; the employee scores on speed and quality of rating; the amount of employee training that was conducted; the amount of overtime that was used; and the number of claims that were brokered to another regional office. Lastly, the report should outline the lessons learned and new protocols used from working with higher efficiency regional offices where Oakland's claims were brokered.

Appeals claims processing.—The Committee has provided the full request to hire 200 additional FTE for processing appeals claims in the regional offices. It is essential that the growing backlog in veteran appeals claims be addressed by VA. VA has neglected the appeals of veteran claims in its effort to reduce the disability claims backlog and has lost sight of the appeals process. VA should produce an annual report on its actions to lower the backlog in appeals.

Appeals decision team.—The Appeals Decision Team was created in 2011 to improve processing times for appeals in the VBA regional offices. One recommendation of the team was the pilot in the Houston, Texas regional office, which decreased processing time from 1,445 days to 293 days. Despite congressional encouragement, VBA has not disseminated the best practices identified in the Houston pilot to other regional offices or expanded the pilot project. The Committee directs VBA to report to the Committee no later than 30 days after filing of this report the reason why the Houston

pilot best practices, which resulted in such a dramatic decrease in processing time, have not been put in place in other regional offices. In addition, the report should include a description of other activities and recommendations of the Appeals Decision Team in the last two years and the actions taken in response to those recommendations by VBA.

Military sexual assault claims.—The Committee understands VBA is developing and implementing new training initiatives and procedures for PTSD claims related to military sexual trauma (MST). The Committee is pleased with the increased focus on this area and encourages VA to continue to build on strides that have been made, to include intensive training and identifying specialized claims employees for MST-related claims. VA should continue tracking key data sets including: a) the number of MST-related claims submitted in the previous fiscal year; b) of the submitted claims, the number and percentage of claims submitted by each sex; c) the number of the approved claims, and the number and percentage, listed by sex, of claims assigned to each rating percentage; d) of the denied claims, the three most common reasons given by the Secretary under section 5104(b)(1) of this title for such denials; e) the number of denials that were based on the failure of the veterans to report for a medical examination; f) the number of claims that are pending at the end of the fiscal year (including claims on appeal); g) the average days to complete MST claims; and h) a description of the training the Secretary provides to employees of VBA specifically with respect to covered claims, including the frequency, length, and content of such training. The Committee also directs VA to conduct veteran outreach initiatives and publicize benefits veterans may be entitled to as a result of MST. The Committee looks forward to receiving a report describing this data no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Transitioning from the Armed Services.—The Committee is concerned about the difficulties men and women face transitioning from the Armed Services to the civilian sector. The transition can be difficult, even though a recent survey revealed that nearly 90 percent of transitioning personnel believe they possess marketable general skills such as problem solving, leadership, ethics, and time management and most believe they possess specific marketable skills, such as information technology, health care, mechanical, and aviation. One of the major challenges transitioning veterans face in securing suitable employment in the civilian sector is the difficulty in translating to employers the value of the skills they learned in the military. In particular, the Committee urges VA to refine and upgrade its Military Skills Translator tool to better reflect the transferable skills of transitioning military veterans. Additionally, the Committee instructs VA to increase public awareness of and ensure access to the Military Skills Translator tool for civilian employers.

National security concerns and benefits.—The Committee appreciates the need to safeguard information concerning classified military activities. However, it has come to the Committee's attention that some veterans have been challenged to access the benefits that they have earned through service because of national security concerns. The Committee encourages the Secretary to work collaboratively with the Secretary of Defense to identify a process to ease

the procedure for veterans to obtain benefits and care from the Department without compromising national security.

Enhancing state and local partnerships.—The Committee strongly supports VBA's collaboration with accredited VSOs, County VSOs, and State Veterans Affairs agencies. The Committee directs VBA to continue to prioritize flexible partnerships designed to expand the number of fully developed benefit claims submitted electronically through the eBenefits portal, and supports VBA's implementation of the Digits-2-Digits direct data exchange initiative. As VA continues its efforts to streamline, standardize and modernize the claims process, the Committee encourages VBA to support similar partnerships that leverage VSOs' capacity to assist claimants in preparing and submitting the newly-prescribed standard forms for initiating and filing claims and appeals. Additionally, in order to help improve the quality of VBA's disability compensation claim decisions, the Committee urges VBA to take steps to enable Quality Review Teams (QRTs) to partner with accredited VSOs to assist in processing reviews before claims are finalized and in identifying specific types of common errors to better track error trends. Finally, the Committee encourages VBA to ensure that any future upgrades to local data systems allow QRTs to pause the claims process when such errors are detected.

Filipino veterans.—The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (P.L. 111–5) established a benefit for Filipino veterans who aided American troops in World War II. In the fiscal year 2014 appropriations act, the Committee directed VA to consider all forms of evidence of service and not just those originally considered. The Committee looks forward to VA execution of this directive and requests a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act detailing the total number of claims, the number adjudicated, and the number appealed or awaiting appeal.

Independent living program.—The Independent Living program provides services to maximize independence in daily living for veterans who are too severely disabled to pursue employment. It allows eligible veterans to live independently and participate in family and community life. The program has been highly successful. It began as a pilot program for 500 disabled veterans in 1980. In 2010, the program was extended and the cap increased to allow up to 2,700 veterans to enroll in the program. The Committee urges the Department of Veterans Affairs to propose legislation eliminating the cap on the Independent Living Program.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS (IT)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$3,903,344,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	4,133,363,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	4,053,363,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	150,019,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(80,000,000)

The IT account supports information technology services such as systems development and performance, operations and maintenance, information protection, and customer support. The program permits the effective and efficient delivery of veterans' healthcare services and benefits programs.

Within the account total, the Committee allocates in bill language $1,115,757,000 for pay and associated costs, which is the same as the budget request; $2,432,863,000 for operations and maintenance, which is $80,000,000 below the request but $116,854,000 above fiscal year 2015; and $504,743,000 for development, modernization, and enhancement, which is the same as the request. The bill makes available up to $34,800,000 of pay and associated costs and up to $167,900,000 of operations and maintenance funds until September 30, 2017. All development, modernization, and enhancement funds are available until September 30, 2017.

Funding identified in the bill is in addition to the anticipated $173,400,000 for information technology from the Veterans Choice Act in fiscal year 2016.

Although funding constraints require the Committee to provide a funding level below the request, the level provided includes a $150,019,000, or a 3.8 percent, increase over fiscal year 2015, which will permit investment in high priority areas. The Committee identifies in particular as high priorities: $253,000,000 for the Veterans Benefits Management System; $19,100,000 for the appeals modernization effort; $15,000,000 for Section 508 compliance efforts; $182,600,000 for VistA Evolution, the modernization of the electronic health record (EHR); and $50,000,000 for interoperability and Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) health.

An administrative provision limits the funding for the electronic health record provided by the Veterans Health Administration to $159,596,000—$5,000,000 from the Medical Services account and $154,596,000 from the Medical Support and Compliance account.

The Committee continues to feel it is critical to closely track VA's development of its electronic health record. In the aftermath of the DOD and VA decision not to pursue a single integrated health record, it becomes doubly important to ensure that the two health records are designed in a way that permits interoperability between the two in order that computable data from one record can be viewed and used by clinicians with a different electronic record system. In the fiscal year 2013, 2014 and 2015 bills, Congress included bill language requiring VA to provide information on the cost, timeline, performance benchmarks, and interoperability capacity of the VistA Evolution system before release of 75 percent of the funding provided. The Committee believes it remains important to track the implementation of the VA system, particularly as the Department of Defense finalizes its choice of contractor to develop a new system. Accordingly, the Committee includes fiscal year 2016 bill language limiting expenditure of IT development funds for VistA Evolution to 25 percent of funds provided until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and such Committees approve, a report that describes: (1) the status of and any changes to the VistA Evolution program plan (Plan), the revised VistA 4 product roadmap (Roadmap), and the VistA 4 Incremental Life Cycle Cost Estimate; (2) any changes to the scope or functionality of projects within the VistA Evolution program as established in the Plan; (3) actual program costs incurred to date; (4) progress in meeting the schedule milestones that have been established in the Plan; (5) a Project Management Accountability System (PMAS) Dashboard Progress

report that identifies each VistA Evolution project being tracked through PMAS, what functionality it is intended to provide, and what evaluation scores it has received throughout development; (6) the definition being used for interoperability between the electronic health record systems of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, the metrics to measure the extent of interoperability, the milestones and timeline associated with achieving interoperability, and the baseline measurements associated with interoperability; (7) progress toward developing and implementing all components and levels of interoperability, including semantic interoperability; (8) the change management tools in place to facilitate the implementation of VistA Evolution and interoperability; and (9) any changes in the governance structure for the VistA Evolution program and its chain of decisionmaking authority.

The Committee wishes to emphasize that the Joint Legacy Viewer, which permits DOD and VA users to see the electronic health record of the other Department, does not constitute interoperability, except as an intermediate stage to achieve semantic interoperability.

The Committee does not intend to delay the progress of developing the health record, but believes continuing oversight is necessary to ensure that the health record will have the capabilities and interoperability that the Committee believes are critical to patient care, as promised by VA leadership and in VA documents.

The Committee notes that oversight entities have registered concern about the VA electronic health record. The Government Accountability Office has listed the VA electronic health record in its 2015 High Risk Report, saying that "the quality of care may be adversely affected if important clinical information is not promptly communicated" and that the "lack of interoperability limits VA clinicians' ability to readily access information from DOD records, potentially impeding their ability to make the most informed decision on treatment options".

The Committee continues to include bill language prohibiting obligation or expenditure of funds for information technology systems development, modernization and enhancement until VA submits to the Committees a certification of the amounts. In addition, the Committee continues bill language permitting the transfer of funding among the three subaccounts upon approval of the Committees. The bill contains language which allows for the reprogramming of funds among development, modernization and enhancement projects upon prior notification to, and approval by, the Committees. The bill continues to include language indicating that funds for development, modernization and enhancement are available only for the projects and in the amounts specified in the report accompanying the bill.

The chart below reflects the Administration's budget request for development projects and includes the Committee recommendation for each. This chart will serve as the Department's approved list of development projects, and all requested changes are subject to the reprogramming guidelines as outlined in the accompanying Act.

Information Technology Development Projects		
($ in 000s)		
Project	**Budget Request**	**Committee Recommendation**
Access to Healthcare	28,970	28,970
Healthcare Efficiency IT Development	6,660	6,660
EHR Interoperability and VLER Health	25,000	25,000
VistA Evolution	81,900	81,900
New Models of Care	25,430	25,430
Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS)	86,000	86,000
Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER)	10,000	10,000
Veterans Relationship Management (VRM)	73,333	73,333
VHA Research IT Support Development	12,250	12,250
Other IT Systems Development	155,200	155,200
Total All Development	**504,743**	**504,743**

The Committee expects the Office of Information Technology to continue to provide an IT expenditure report to the Committees on a monthly basis. This report shall include a comparison to the project costs included in the development, modernization, and enhancement project funding chart included in the House report, and provide an explanation for any differences in excess of $1,000,000.

Technology to modernize processing of appeals.—The Committee is very concerned about the lack of capacity at the Board of Veterans Appeals to handle the incoming surge of claims appeals resulting from progress in reducing the disability claims backlog. The Committee is very supportive of information technology solutions that would help the Board to manage the surge in claims appeals, but is concerned that the $19,100,000 requested for the IT solution is not well supported. The Committee requests that VA provide an integrated master plan no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act for the appeals systems modernization, including the plan to replace the Veterans Appeals Control and Locator System and to ensure interoperability with the Veterans Benefits Management System.

Common DOD–VA data standards.—When the Secretaries of the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs announced in February 2013 that the two Departments would move forward in modernizing their respective electronic health records (EHR) instead of developing a single, integrated system, they provided assurances that the systems would be interoperable. In order for interoperability between the Departments to be successful there must be a common standard, and while the Committee is aware that the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) is making progress towards developing national standards, such standards currently do not exist for certain health domains. In light of this lack of standards, the fiscal year 2014 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) directed the Departments to use the Health Data Dictionary (HDD), a tool that promotes interoperability by aiding interpretation of disparate terminologies across EHR systems when no national standard exists. The Committee understands that if an ONC-approved data standard exists, that is used by both departments. The default is the DOD HDD for VA and DOD if no other source is available. Accordingly, the Committee encourages VA to continue its efforts to use the same standard as DOD as it expands the number of common domains and looks forward to the ONC completing national data standards for health IT.

Support of cloud computing.—The Committee supports the Administration's initiative to transform the government IT portfolio through cloud computing, giving agencies the ability to purchase IT services in a utility-based model, paying for only the IT services consumed. The expedited transition to cloud computing could offer significant savings and more agility for Federal agencies. The Committee requests VA to provide a report to the Committee not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on the status of expanding the adoption of cloud computing within VA. The report should include an update on the use of commercial cloud computing services, current plans for the expansion of cloud computing to leverage the utility-based model, security impacts of transitioning to cloud computing, any factors delaying or inhibiting the expansion

of cloud computing usage, and the cost savings achieved in fiscal year 2015 by the utilization of commercial cloud computing services.

Wireless technology.—In recognizing the importance of advancing technology and the role it plays in patient care, the Committee is cognizant of the technologies that have the potential to wirelessly transmit patient vitals from the point of care directly to a patient's electronic medical record. The Committee is pleased that VA already uses secure cloud technology in transmitting data to and from its electronic health record and is expanding existing interfaces for continuous and routine vital signs monitoring.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL (OIG)

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$126,411,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	126,766,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	131,766,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	5,355,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	5,000,000

The OIG was established by the Inspector General Act of 1978 and is responsible for the audit, investigation, and inspection of all VA programs and operations. The overall operational objective is to focus available resources on areas which would help improve services to veterans and their beneficiaries, assist managers of Department programs to operate economically in accomplishing program goals, and to prevent and deter recurring and potential fraud, waste, and inefficiencies.

The bill makes up to $12,600,000 of this funding available until September 30, 2017.

Transparency.—The Committee is concerned by recent accounts alleging a lack of independence displayed by the OIG. Even the appearance of hiding evidence or shielding VA from public criticism undermines OIG credibility and brings its independence into question. The Committee acknowledges the recent policy change announced by the OIG to shift decision-making authority for closing reports to senior staff. While this is a positive change, the OIG must demonstrate that this policy shift will result in a fully transparent accounting of OIG investigations. The Committee directs the OIG to develop a standard for closing reports that is consistent with the OIG's legal responsibility to keep Congress fully and timely informed.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$561,800,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	1,143,800,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	561,800,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	– – –
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	(582,000,000)

The Construction, Major Projects appropriation provides for constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning, architectural and engineering services, assessments, and site acquisition where the estimated cost of a project is $10,000,000 or more.

The Committee recommendation makes all but $34,000,000 of these funds available for a five-year period.

Recognizing that the funding amount provided by the Committee is different than the administration request, the Committee makes clear its intention that the funding provided be used for the projects requested in the budget for new hospital construction and seismic corrections. The Department is directed to provide for approval of the Appropriations Committees of both Houses of Congress a proposed spending plan for the Major Construction account within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

The Committee is seriously disturbed by recent findings of gross facility construction mismanagement with the VA Aurora, Colorado hospital project, in particular, the cost overruns that are now estimated at $930,000,000. The Committee expects a detailed explanation from the administration within 30 days from the filing of this appropriations report about: (1) whether there is justification to continue the project, as opposed to re-scoping the project, renovating the existing hospital, or pausing to recompete the project; (2) how the administration proposes to finance further costs for the hospital in a deficit-neutral way; (3) what personnel actions have been taken against those responsible for the project's mismanagement; and (4) what program oversight and management controls have been installed for current and future VA construction projects.

To enhance the Committee's capacity to conduct oversight on VA's facility construction efforts, several administrative provisions are added or strengthened in the bill: (1) no funding greater than $5,000,000 may be reprogrammed between construction projects unless approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both House of Congress; (2) any change to the scope of a construction project is not permitted without the approval of the Committees; and (3) VA must report any bid savings of $5,000,000 or more on projects as soon as they are identified.

Alternative financing.—The Committee is concerned about meeting the need for access to high quality veterans health care facilities, including in rural areas where access to facilities, including clinics and hospitals, is more limited. The Committee repeats its direction to VA to work collaboratively with the Office of Management and Budget, the United States General Services Administration, and the Government Accountability Office to explore the feasibility of employing new funding mechanisms to meet the need for such facilities, including, but not limited to, private development lease-back arrangements, and to provide a report on their conclusions to the Committee not later than 30 days after filing of this report.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$495,200,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	406,200,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	406,200,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(89,000,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The Construction, Minor Projects appropriation provides for constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department, including planning, assessment of needs, architectural and engineering serv-

ices, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is less than $10,000,000.

As with the Major Construction account, the Committee recommendation makes these funds available for a five-year period.

Funding identified in the bill is in addition to the anticipated $128,000,000 for minor construction from the Veterans Choice Act in fiscal year 2016.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$90,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	80,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	80,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(10,000,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

This appropriation provides grants to assist States to construct 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. A grant may not exceed 65 percent of the total cost of the project. The bill makes this funding available until expended.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$46,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	45,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	45,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	(1,000,000)
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

This program provides grants to assist States and tribal governments with the establishment, expansion, and improvement of veterans cemeteries which are operated and permanently maintained by the States and tribal governments. Grants under this program fund up to 100 percent of construction costs and the initial equipment expenses when the cemetery is established. The States and tribal governments remain responsible for providing the land and for paying all costs related to the operation and maintenance of the State cemeteries, including the costs for subsequent equipment purchases. The bill makes this funding available until expended.

Public-private partnerships.—In order to provide a burial option to those veterans who may not have reasonable access to a national cemetery or State cemetery, the Committee encourages VA to prioritize funding under the State veterans cemetery grant program for the establishment of veterans cemeteries in rural and highly rural areas. Additionally, States and local governments are encouraged to utilize public-private partnerships that are currently available to help defray the cost of operation and maintenance of a State veterans' cemetery.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill includes 41 administrative provisions, 33 of which were included in the fiscal year 2015 bill and eight of which are new or revised.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 201 allowing for the transfer of funds among three mandatory appropriations. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 202 allowing the Department to transfer funding among the three medical appropriations accounts in fiscal year 2016. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 203 allowing for salaries and expenses funds to be used for hire of passenger vehicles, lease of facilities or land, and purchase of uniforms.

The bill includes section 204 providing that only funding in "Construction, Major Projects" and "Construction, Minor Projects" can be used for the purchase of any site for any new hospital or home or to construct any new hospital or home.

The bill includes section 205 requiring the Department to be reimbursed for medical services it provides to any person not defined as a beneficiary to ensure the Department is receiving payment for all medical services provided.

The bill includes section 206 allowing for the use of funds appropriated in fiscal year 2016 for "Compensation and Pensions", "Readjustment Benefits", and "Veterans Insurance and Indemnities" for payment of accrued obligations recorded in the last quarter of fiscal year 2015.

The bill includes section 207 allowing for the use of fiscal year 2016 funds to pay prior year obligations resulting from implementation of sections 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 208 allowing the Department to use surplus earnings from the national service life insurance, U.S. Government life insurance, and veterans special life insurance program to administer these programs.

The bill includes section 209 allowing the Department to obligate enhanced-use lease proceeds for administrative expenses that were incurred in a prior fiscal year during the year funds are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 210 limiting the amount of reimbursement the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication can charge other offices and accounts of the Department for services provided.

The bill includes section 211 prohibiting the Secretary from approving new leases of real property with estimated annual rental cost of more than $1,000,000 unless the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress approve the lease within 15 days of receipt. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 212 requiring the Department to collect current and accurate third-party reimbursement information for the purposes of third-party insurance collections. If persons receiv-

ing care or medical services do not disclose this information, the Department is allowed to bill them reasonable charges for services provided.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 213 allowing the Department to use enhanced-use lease funds for construction and alteration of medical facilities.

The bill includes section 214 allowing the Department to use the Medical Services appropriation for expenses related to the broader mission of medical care to veterans.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 215 allowing the Department to transfer Medical Care Collections to the "Medical Services" appropriation to be used for veterans medical care and makes those funds available until expended.

The bill includes section 216 allowing veterans who reside in Alaska to obtain medical services from medical facilities supported by the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations, and provides for reimbursement for those services from VA.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 217 allowing the Department to transfer the proceeds received from the transfer of real property deposited into the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund to the major and minor construction appropriations accounts and makes those funds available until expended.

The bill includes section 218 providing that no funds may be used to prohibit Directors of the VISNs from conducting outreach or marketing programs. The Administration proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 219 requiring the Secretary to submit quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration. The Administration proposed to delete this provision.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 220 permitting the Secretary to transfer amounts made available in certain accounts to or from the Information Technology Systems account, provided that such transfer do not result in a more than 10 percent aggregate increase for the Information Technology Systems account and that both Committees approve such transfer.

The bill includes section 221 limiting the amount of funding made available under the Medical Facilities account for non-recurring maintenance that may be obligated during the last two months of the fiscal year. The Administration proposal to delete this provision is not adopted.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 222 permitting the transfer of $266,303,000 appropriated for medical accounts, minor construc-

tion, and information technology systems to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for the operation of facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 223 permitting the transfer of $265,675,000 of fiscal year 2017 advance funding appropriated for medical accounts to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for the operation of facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 224 permitting the transfer of funds deposited in the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Joint Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 225 directing that a minimum of $15,000,000 shall be transferred from the three medical care appropriations to the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, to be available until expended.

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 226 rescinding and reappropriating fiscal year 2016 funding—$1,400,000,000 from "Medical Services", $100,000,000 from "Medical Support and Compliance", and $250,000,000 from "Medical Facilities".

The bill includes section 227 requiring the Secretary to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of all bid savings when identified in Major Construction projects that total at least $5,000,000 or 5 percent of the programmed amount of the project. The Administration proposal to delete this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 228 prohibiting the original scope of work for a Major Construction project from being increased above the scope specified for that project in the original justification data provided to the Congress unless approved by the Committees. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 229 requiring quarterly reports on VA regional office performance on disability claims processing. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 230 requiring VA to submit a reprogramming request if the funding allocation for a program that is not calculated through the actuarial model changes by more than $25,000,000. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 231 identifying the maximum funding that may be obligated for VHA VistA Evolution and electronic health record interoperability activities. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 232 requiring advance written notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 15 days prior to organizational changes which result in the transfer of 25 or more full-time equivalent staff from one organizational unit to another. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 233 reducing $101,000,000 from VA discretionary accounts to implement the limit on performance bonuses that was passed by the House of Representatives in H.R. 294.

The bill includes section 234 requiring the Secretary to provide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress notification of any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign in which obligations exceed $2,000,000. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 235 that prohibits funding to be used to replace the current system by which the VISNs select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 236 permitting the transfer to "Medical Services" from any discretionary program except "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" upon approval of both Appropriations Committees. This provision is intended to give VA flexibility as it administers the changes to its traditional health care program and the new Choice Act. The budget request to modify this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 237 permitting the transfer of funds between the "Board of Veterans Appeals" and "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" upon approval of both Appropriations Committees. The budget request to modify this provision is not adopted.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 238 rescinding $15,000,000 of unobligated balances within the "DOD–VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund".

The bill includes section 239 prohibiting the reprogramming of funds exceeding $5,000,000 among major construction projects unless both Appropriations Committees approve the request.

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes sections 240 and 241 which rescind Medical Care advance funding and reduce funding in current year-funded accounts to incorporate assumed absorption of the proposed 1.3 percent payraise. The Department has authority to use whatever appropriated funds are available to support the payraise if it chooses to do so.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$74,100,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	75,100,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	75,100,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	1,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) is responsible for the administration, operation and maintenance of cemetery and war memorials to commemorate the achievements and sacrifices of the American Armed Forces where they have served since April 6, 1917. In performing these functions, the Commission maintains 25 permanent American military cemetery memorials and 26 monuments, memorials, and markers.

The Committee includes additional funds to support the interpretive program and nonrecurring maintenance needs. Language is included allowing up to $7,500 to be used for official reception and representation expenses.

The Committee is concerned that ABMC has significant needs for nonrecurring maintenance, as it also pursues developing necessary interpretive programs and building visitors' centers to "tell the story" of our heroes to a new generation. The Committee is highly supportive of ABMC's goals and interested in ABMC's multi-year plan for meeting its requirements. However, ABMC's estimates for construction and major maintenance have been grossly inadequate for past projects, and cost overruns have made management of ABMC's priorities challenging. Therefore, the Committee directs that ABMC's budget justification materials include a multi-year plan for construction, development, and operation and maintenance. The submitted plan should be current, and should include a description of multi-year facilities and infrastructure projects and the expected costs and timeline for such projects, prioritization of the projects, and an estimate of sustainment and operating costs once construction is complete.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,900,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request est.	2,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill est.	2,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	100,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The Commission's Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account is authorized pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2109 to pay the costs of salaries and expenses that exceed the amount appropriated because of fluctuations in currency exchange rates of foreign countries occurring after a budget request for the Commission is submitted to Congress. The account may not be used for any other purpose.

The Committee recommendation includes bill language as proposed which makes "such sums as may be necessary" available to

the Commission to cover unanticipated foreign currency fluctuations, currently estimated at $2,000,000.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$31,386,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	32,141,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	32,141,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	755,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The Veterans' Judicial Review Act established the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The Court reviews appeals from claimants seeking review of a benefit denial. The Court has the authority to overturn findings of fact, regulations, and interpretations of law.

The recommended funding level for the Court includes funding for nine judges, although the Court is permanently authorized to have only seven. The authority for two of the nine judges is temporary and does not allow for replacement. The Committee recommendation includes funding for all nine judges and their staff in the event that the authority is extended, with the understanding that if the authority is not extended, the funding associated with the two unauthorized judge positions, including staff, will be eliminated.

The Committee notes that the Court has historically experienced an increase in appeals a year after the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) has an increase in claims, which has been the case in fiscal year 2015. This expectation of an increase in claims is part of the rationale for funding the full slate of nine judges, and fully funding the Court's other information technology and staffing requests as presented in the budget request. The Committee directs the Court to continue to monitor BVA's claims workload and to anticipate the resulting requirements on the Court so that future Court budget requests can accommodate caseloads in order to avoid a backlog.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$65,800,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	70,800,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	70,800,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	5,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

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, ANC is one of the most visited sites in the Washington, D.C. area. ANC hosts approximately 3,000 non-funeral ceremonies and up to 4,000,000 visitors annually.

The Committee appreciates that this year the budget proposal for ANC is properly requested within the Cemeterial Expenses, Army account. The Committee directs that future budget requests for all

ANC requirements be included in this account. Further, the Committee directs that budget justification materials include an updated Capital Investment Strategy for ANC and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery. The submitted plan should be current, and should include a description of multi-year facilities and infrastructure projects and the expected costs and timeline for such projects, prioritization of the projects, and an estimate of sustainment and operating costs after completion.

Arlington National Cemetery—The bill provides an additional $30,000,000 within title I to enable relocation of roads and utilities to improve traffic flow, access to Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, and increase the amount of land available for burials and interments at ANC. The project uses the Defense Access Roads (DAR) authority granted to the Secretary of Defense, which allows for transfers of funds to the Federal Highway Administration. The Army requested this project as part of the Army unfunded requirements list for fiscal year 2016. The Committee notes that this DAR project at the requested funding level is a one-time exception to the prohibition on using any title I funding for ANC. Further, the Committee directs that all funding associated with ANC expansion be requested in this account and not in military construction accounts. If the necessary land exchange for road relocation does not occur, the funds will be rescinded. Additionally, the Committee requires, at a minimum, quarterly reports on the status of the project. The Committee notes that providing the DAR funding so that roads can be properly realigned is a necessary precursor to the southern expansion of Arlington National Cemetery that is slated to begin in 2017 and the construction of the Pentagon Memorial 9/11 Visitors Education Center.

New National Cemetery.—The Committee continues to support the efforts of the ANC Advisory Commission on their effort to identify solutions for the time when ANC reaches capacity, presently projected for the mid-2050s. With the influx of veterans returned from conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan alone, it is clear a new national cemetery of the same stature as ANC will be necessary. The Committee recommends the ANC Advisory Commission develop metrics to determine whether the Department of the Army should establish a new national cemetery, giving full consideration to West Coast sites, comparable to that of ANC. The Committee requests that the ANC Advisory Commission develop those metrics in consultation with the Committee.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME TRUST FUND

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$62,400,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	63,300,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	63,300,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	900,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) consists of two retirement communities: one in Washington, D.C. and the other in Gulfport, Mississippi. The Washington, D.C. facility was established in 1851 as a soldiers' home for elderly and disabled veterans. The original home for Navy officers, sailors, and Marines was es-

tablished in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1811, and was relocated to Gulfport, Mississippi almost a century and a half later.

The Committee provides authority for the AFRH to use funds from a Trust Fund. The Trust Fund, which is replenished from a variety of sources, including fines and forfeitures and Active Duty Withholding, is diminishing. Annual outlays have exceeded revenue since 2011, and revenue continues to decline, due primarily to a large drop in fines and forfeitures. The Committee appreciates the proactive approach that the AFRH is taking to keep the Trust Fund solvent so that the AFRH can continue to properly care for its residents into perpetuity. The Committee expects the AFRH to regularly report on the status of efforts to stabilize the Trust Fund, including efforts to lease property for redevelopment at the Washington, D.C. facility.

CAPITAL PROGRAM

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	$1,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	1,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level	– – –
Fiscal year 2016 budget request	– – –

The Committee recommendation provides authority to expend $1,000,000 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund for construction and renovations.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill includes one provision that was in effect in fiscal year 2015 and one new provision. The administrative provisions included in the bill are as follows:

The bill includes section 301 permitting Arlington National Cemetery to provide funds to Arlington County to relocate a water main.

The bill includes section 302 permitting funds from concessions at Army National Military Cemeteries to be used to support activities at the Cemeteries.

TITLE IV

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Fiscal year 2015 enacted level (title IV)	$221,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request (title IV)	– – –
Committee recommendation in the bill (title IV)	532,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2015 enacted level (title IV)	311,000,000
Fiscal year 2016 budget request (title IV)	532,000,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The Committee recommendation includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations. Title IV provides $244,004,000 for Navy and Marine Corps military construction projects in the Central Command and European Command Areas of Responsibility that were requested in title I, Military Construction, in the budget submission for fiscal year 2016. The Committee agrees that the

projects transferred to title IV are necessary to support the war on terrorism and should be designated as overseas contingency operations functions.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

The Committee recommendation includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations. Title IV provides $75,000,000 for Air Force military construction projects in the Central Command and Africa Command Areas of Responsibility that were requested in title I, Military Construction, in the budget submission for fiscal year 2016. The Committee agrees that the projects transferred to title IV are necessary to support the war on terrorism and should be designated as overseas contingency operations functions.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The Committee recommendation includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations. Title IV provides $212,996,000 for one Missile Defense Agency project and one Defense Logistics project in the European Command and Africa Command Areas of Responsibility that was requested in title I, Military Construction, in the budget submission for fiscal year 2016. The Committee agrees that the projects transferred to title IV are necessary to support the war on terrorism and should be designated as overseas contingency operations functions.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The bill includes 12 provisions that are effective in fiscal year 2015 and a new provision as follows:

The bill includes section 501 prohibiting the obligation of funds beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided.

The bill includes section 502 prohibiting 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.

The bill includes section 503 encouraging all departments and agencies funded in this Act to expand the use of "E-Commerce" technologies and procedures.

The bill includes section 504 specifying the Congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifications.

The bill includes section 505 prohibiting the transfer of funds to any instrumentality of the United States Government without authority from an appropriations Act.

The bill includes section 506 prohibiting any funds in this Act to be used for a project or program named for an individual serving as a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

The bill includes section 507 requiring all reports submitted to the Congress to be posted on official websites of the submitting agency.

The bill includes section 508 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.

The bill includes section 509 prohibiting the use of funds for payment of first-class travel by an employee of the executive branch.

The bill includes section 510 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for any contract where the contractor has not complied with E-Verify requirements.

The bill includes section 511 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purchase or lease of a new vehicle except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

The bill includes section 512 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for the renovation, expansion, or construction of any facility in the continental United States for the purpose of housing any individual who has been detained at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The bill includes a new provision, section 513, establishing a "Spending Reduction Account" in the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT REQUIREMENTS

The following items are included in accordance with various requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is a statement of general performance goals and objectives for which this measure authorizes funding:

The Committee on Appropriations considers program performance, including a program's success in developing and attaining outcome-related goals and objectives, in developing funding recommendations.

RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the rescissions in the accompanying bill:

DEPARTMENT/ACTIVITY

AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED FOR RESCISSION

Department of Defense, Military Construction, Army (Sec. 125)	96,000,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Air Force (Sec. 126)	52,600,000
Department of Defense, Defense-Wide (Sec. 127)	134,000,000
42 USC 3374 (Sec. 128)	103,918,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services (Sec. 226)*	1,400,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Support and Compliance (Sec. 226)*	100,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Facilities (Sec. 226)*	250,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, all FY 2016 discretionary funding (Sec. 233)	101,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services (Sec. 240)	197,923,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Support and Compliance (Sec. 240)	42,272,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Facilities (Sec. 240)	15,353,000
DOD–VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (Sec. 238)	15,000,000

*Reappropriated in the bill.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the transfer of funds provided in the accompanying bill.

Language is included to allow for the transfer of funds from Family Housing, Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund and funds from Military Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund.

Language is included to provide transfer authority from the BRAC account to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

Language is included to allow the transfer of expired funds to the "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense" account.

Language is included to transfer not to exceed $15,562,000 in fiscal year 2016 and $16,021,000 in fiscal year 2017 from Compensation and Pensions to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and Information Technology Systems. These funds are for the administrative costs of implementing cost-savings proposals required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 and the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992. Language is also included transferring funds to the medical care collections fund to augment funding of medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners.

Language is included to permit the transfer of funds from General Administration to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration.

Language is included to permit the transfer of funds between Information Technology Systems development projects and among the three sub-accounts identified in bill language subject to the approval of the Committee.

Language is included to provide authority for the Department of Veterans Affairs for any funds appropriated in 2016 for Compensation and Pensions, Readjustment Benefits, and Veterans Insurance and Indemnities to be transferred among those three accounts.

Language is included to transfer funds among the Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, and Medical Facilities accounts.

Language is included to permit the funds from three life insurance funds to be transferred to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and Information Technology Systems for the costs of administering such programs.

Language is included to permit up to $47,100,000 to be transferred to General Administration and Information Technology Systems from any funds appropriated in fiscal year 2016 to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication for services provided.

Language is included to transfer certain funds derived from enhanced-use leasing activities to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts.

Language is included to transfer funds from the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Medical Services account.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds from the Capital Asset Fund to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds from various accounts to the Information Technology Systems account in an aggregate amount not to exceed ten percent of the account appropriation, subject to approval by the Committee.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 provided for the Department of Veterans Affairs to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

Language is included permitting funds deposited to the Medical Care Collections Fund for health care provided at a combined Federal medical facility to be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

Language is included under the Department of Veterans Affairs that would transfer no less than $15,000,000 for the DOD/VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38, United States Code.

Language is included that permits the transfer from all discretionary accounts except General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, to Medical Services, subject to approval by the Committee.

Language is included that permits transfer of funds between General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and the Board of Veterans Appeals, subject to approval by the Committee.

DISCLOSURE OF EARMARKS AND CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Neither the bill nor the report contains any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

CHANGES IN APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(A) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill that directly or indirectly change the application of existing law.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to continue ongoing activities that require annual authorization or additional legislation, which to date have not been enacted.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to place limitations on the use of funds in the bill or change existing limitations and which might, under some circumstances, be construed as changing the application of existing law.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to allow the Secretary of Defense to exceed certain limitations upon notification to the Committee.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to allow funding to be used for official reception and representation expenses.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to enable various appropriations to remain available for more than one year for some programs for which the basic authority legislation does not presently authorize such extended availability.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to permit the transfer of funds to other accounts.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit payments for cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contracts under certain circumstances.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to allow funds to be used for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

Language is included under Title I to allow advances to the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds to begin construction of new bases without specific appropriations.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds for purchase of land or land easements under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds for land acquisition, site preparation, and utility installation for family housing unless funds have been made available in annual appropriations Acts.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of minor construction funds to transfer an activity between installations without prior notification.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds for the procurement of steel for any activity if American steel producers have been denied the opportunity to compete for such steel procurements.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification.

Language is included under Title I to limit the use of funds for architect and engineer contracts under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to limit the use of funds for awarding contracts to foreign contractors under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to require the Department of Defense to notify the appropriate committees of Congress of any proposed military exercises under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow prior year construction funding to be available for currently authorized projects.

Language is included under Title I to allow payment for the cost associated with supervision, inspection, overhead, engineering and design on family housing or military construction projects that are being completed with expired or lapsed funds.

Language is included under Title I to allow funds to be expended on military construction projects for four fiscal years after enactment under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow construction funds to be transferred to Housing Improvement Funds.

Language is included under Title I to allow for the transfer of BRAC funds to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

Language is included under Title I to limit funds for the operation and maintenance of family housing to those provided in this appropriation and to limit amounts expended on repairs of general and flag officer quarters under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow funds in the Ford Island Improvement Account to be available until expended for certain purposes.

Language is included under Title I to allow for the transfer of expired funding to the Foreign Currency Fluctuation Account under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I limiting movement of an Army unit with a testing mission.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit funds to be used for projects at Arlington Cemetery.

Language is included under Title I that rescinds funds from prior year appropriations Acts.

Language is included under Title I defining the congressional defense committees.

Language is included under Title I that prohibits the use of funds for closure of Lajes Field.

Language is included under Title I providing additional funds for Defense Access Roads.

Language is included under Title II to require that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs establish a priority for treatment of veterans who are service-connected disabled, lower income, or have special needs.

Language is included under Title II to require that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs give priority funding of basic medical benefits to priority groups 1 through 6.

Language is included under Title II to allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to dispense prescription drugs from VHA facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions.

Language is included under Title II providing for the reimbursement to the Department of Defense for the costs of overseas employee mail.

Language is included under Title II to require approval of a transfer between development, modernization, and enhancement projects in the Information Technology Systems account.

Language is included under Title II establishing time limitations and reporting requirements concerning the obligation of Major Construction funds, limiting the use of funds, and allowing the use of funds for program costs.

Language is included under Title II to allow Minor Construction funds to be used to repair non-medical facilities damaged by natural disaster or catastrophe.

Language is included under Title II permitting transfers between mandatory and discretionary accounts, limiting and providing for the use of certain funds, funding administrative expenses associated with life insurance programs from excess program revenues, allowing reimbursement from enhanced-use leases and for certain services, requiring approval of new lease agreements, requiring notification of construction bid savings, limiting reprogramming amount major construction projects, restricting changes in the scope of major construction projects, requiring disclosure of insurance and income information, allowing a recovery audit collection program, allowing veterans in the State of Alaska to use Indian Health Service facilities under certain conditions, allowing medical services funds for recreational and funeral expenses, limiting the obligation of non-recurring maintenance funds during the last two months of the fiscal year, requiring notification of organizational changes that transfer 25 or more employees from one VA organizational unit to another, and requiring approval of a reprogramming prior to any major reallocation of medical services initiatives funding.

Language is included under the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, Salaries and Expenses, to permit the use of funds for a pro bono program.

Language is included under Cemeterial Expenses, Army, Salaries and Expenses, to permit the use of funds for parking maintenance and repairs.

Language is included under title V to permit the use of funds to relocate a water main.

Language is included under title V to allow for the use of concession fees.

Language is included under Title V to limit the use of funds for Federal entities when they are not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

Language is included under Title V to limit the use of funds for publicity or propaganda designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress.

Language is included under Title V to prohibit the use of funds for a project or program named for a serving Member of the United States Congress.

Language is included under Title V prohibiting funds from being used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

Language is included under Title V prohibiting funds from being used to pay for first class travel in violation of federal regulations.

Language is included under Title V prohibiting funds from being used to execute a contract for goods or services where a contractor has not complied with Executive Order 12989.

Language is included under Title V prohibiting funds from being used by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purchase or lease of a new vehicle except in accord-

ance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(B) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill which are not authorized by law for the period concerned:

[dollars in thousands]

Agency/program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level	Appropriations in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
Military Construction, Army	2015	539,427	528,427	663,245
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps	2015	993,199	1,018,772	1,349,678
Military Construction, Air Force	2015	846,174	811,774	1,237,055
Military Construction, Defense-Wide	2015	1,962,890	1,991,690	1,931,456
Military Construction, Army National Guard	2015	133,920	128,920	167,437
Military Construction, Air National Guard	2015	105,863	92,663	138,738
Military Construction, Army Reserve	2015	128,946	103,946	104,295
Military Construction, Navy Reserve	2015	99,397	51,528	36,078
Military Construction, Air Force Reserve	2015	63,992	49,492	65,021
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program	2015	174,700	199,700	150,000
Family Housing Construction, Army	2015	78,609	78,609	99,695
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army	2015	350,976	350,976	393,511
Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps	2015	16,412	16,412	16,541
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps	2015	354,029	354,029	353,036
Family Housing Construction, Air Force	2015	-	-	160,498
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force	2015	327,747	327,747	331,232
Family Housing Construction, Defense-Wide	2015	-	-	-
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide	2015 2015	61,100	61,100	58,668
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund	2015 2015	1,662	1,662	-
Homeowners Assistance Program	2015	-	-	-
Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide	2015	38,715	38,715	-
Base Realignment and Closure Account	2015	270,085	315,085	251,334
Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Caregiver program	2015	1,542,000*	478,000	551,000
Dept. of Veterans Affairs, VA-DoD Joint Incentive Fund	2015	15,000	15,000	15,000
Dept. of VA, VA-DoD Medical Facility Demo Fund	2015	**	276,251	286,000
Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Major Construction	done each yr.	---	---	561,800
Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Major Leases	done each yr.	---	---	190,962
Cemeterial Expenses, Army	2015	61,881	65,800	70,800
Armed Forces Retirement Home	2015	63,400	63,400	64,300

*authorization for FY11-15

** amount determined jointly by DOD and VA

PROGRAM DUPLICATION

No provision of this bill establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

DIRECTED RULE MAKING

The bill does not direct any rule making.

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

ROLL CALL NO.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, CL. 3(e) (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 223 OF THE CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

(Public Law 113–235, title II of division I)

[(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

[SEC. 223. Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs which become available on October 1, 2015, for "Medical Services", "Medical Support and Compliance", and "Medical Facilities", up to $245,398,000, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 3571) and may be used for operation of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*, That additional funds may be transferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.**]**

COMPARISON WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional

Budget Act of 1974, the following table compares the levels of new budget authority provided in the bill with the appropriate allocation under section 302(b) of the Budget Act.

[In millions of dollars]

	302(b) allocation		This bill	
	Budget authority	Outlays	Budget authority	Outlays
Mandatory				[1]
Discretionary				

[1] Includes outlays from prior-year authority.

FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION OF OUTLAYS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the following table contains five-year projections prepared by the Congressional Budget Office of outlays associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

	Millions
Budget Authority	
Outlays:	
2015	[2]
2016	
2017	
2018	
2019 and future years	

[2] Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amount of financial assistance to State and local governments is as follows:

	Millions
Budget Authority	
Fiscal Year 2015 outlays resulting therefrom	

STATE LIST

The following is a complete listing, by title, State and country, of the Committee's recommendations for military construction and family housing projects:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
ALABAMA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT RUCKER		
FORT RUCKER ES/PS CONSOLIDATION/REPLACEMENT	46,787	46,787
MAXWELL AFB		
MAXWELL ES/MS REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION	32,968	32,968
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
DANNELLY FIELD		
TFI - REPLACE SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	7,600	7,600
ALASKA		
ARMY		
FORT GREELY		
PHYSICAL READINESS TRAINING FACILITY	7,800	7,800
AIR FORCE		
EIELSON AFB		
F-35A FLIGHT SIM/ALTER SQUAD OPS/AMU FACILITY	37,000	37,000
RPR CENTRAL HEAT & POWER PLANT BOILER PH3	34,400	34,400
ARIZONA		
NAVY		
YUMA		
AIRCRAFT MAINT. FACILITIES & APRON (SO. CALA)	50,635	50,635
AIR FORCE		
DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB		
HC-130J AGE COVERED STORAGE	4,700	4,700
HC-130J WASH RACK	12,200	12,200
LUKE AFB		
F-35A ADAL FUEL OFFLOAD FACILITY	5,000	5,000
F-35A AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR/SQ 3	13,200	13,200
F-35A BOMB BUILD-UP FACILITY	5,500	5,500
F-35A SQ OPS/AMU/HANGAR/SQ 4	33,000	33,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT HUACHUCA		
JITC BUILDINGS 52101/52111 RENOVATIONS	3,884	3,884
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB		
GUARDIAN ANGEL OPERATIONS	18,200	18,200
ARKANSAS		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT SMITH MAP		
CONSOLIDATED SCIF	15,200	15,200
CALIFORNIA		
ARMY		
CONCORD		
PIER	98,000	98,000
NAVY		
CAMP PENDLETON		
RAW WATER PIPELINE PENDLETON TO FALLBROOK	44,540	44,540
CORONADO		
COASTAL CAMPUS UTILITIES	4,856	4,856
LEMOORE		
F-35C HANGAR MODERNIZATION AND ADDITION	56,497	56,497
F-35C TRAINING FACILITIES	8,187	8,187
RTO AND MISSION DEBRIEF FACILITY	7,146	7,146
POINT MUGU		
E-2C/D HANGAR ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS	19,453	19,453
TRITON AVIONICS AND FUEL SYSTEMS TRAINER	2,974	2,974
SAN DIEGO		
LCS SUPPORT FACILITY	37,366	37,366
TWENTYNINE PALMS		
MICROGRID EXPANSION	9,160	9,160

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP PENDLETON		
SOF COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT FACILITY	10,181	10,181
SOF PERFORMANCE RESILIENCY CENTER-WEST	10,371	---
CORONADO		
SOF LOGISTICS SUPPORT UNIT ONE OPS FAC. #2	47,218	---
FRESNO YOSEMITE IAP ANG		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE AND DISTRIB. FACILITIES	10,700	10,700
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
MOFFETT FIELD		
REPLACE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY	6,500	6,500
ARMY RESERVE		
MIRAMAR		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	24,000	24,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
MARCH AFB		
SATELLITE FIRE STATION	4,600	4,600
COLORADO		
ARMY		
FORT CARSON		
ROTARY WING TAXIWAY	5,800	5,800
AIR FORCE		
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY		
FRONT GATES FORCE PROTECTION ENHANCEMENTS	10,000	10,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT CARSON		
SOF LANGUAGE TRAINING FACILITY	8,243	8,243
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BUCKLEY AIR FORCE BASE		
ASE MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE FACILITY	5,100	5,100
CONNECTICUT		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP HARTELL		
READY BUILDING (CST-WMD)	11,000	11,000
DELAWARE		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DOVER AFB		
CONSTRUCT HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM	21,600	21,600
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
DAGSBORO		
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	10,800	---
FLORIDA		
NAVY		
JACKSONVILLE		
FLEET SUPPORT FACILITY ADDITION	8,455	8,455
TRITON MISSION CONTROL FACILITY	8,296	8,296
MAYPORT		
LCS MISSION MODULE READINESS CENTER	16,159	16,159
PENSACOLA		
A-SCHOOL UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING (CORRY STATION)	18,347	18,347
WHITING FIELD		
T-6B JPATS TRAINING OPERATIONS FACILITY	10,421	10,421
AIR FORCE		
CAPE CANAVERAL AFS		
RANGE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY	21,000	21,000
EGLIN AFB		
F-35A CONSOLIDATED HQ FACILITY	8,700	8,700
HURLBURT FIELD		
ADAL 39 INFORMATION OPERATIONS SQUAD FACILITY	14,200	14,200

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HURLBURT FIELD		
SOF FUEL CELL MAINTENANCE HANGAR	17,989	17,989
MACDILL AFB		
SOF OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FACILITY	39,142	39,142
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PALM COAST		
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	18,000	18,000
ARMY RESERVE		
MACDILL AFB		
AR CENTER/ AS FACILITY	55,000	55,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PATRICK AFB		
AIRCREW LIFE SUPPORT FACILITY	3,400	3,400
GEORGIA		
ARMY		
FORT GORDON		
COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY	90,000	90,000
NAVY		
ALBANY		
GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS	7,851	7,851
KINGS BAY		
INDUSTRIAL CONTROL SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE	8,099	8,099
TOWNSEND		
TOWNSEND BOMBING RANGE EXPANSION PHASE 2	48,279	48,279
DEFENSE-WIDE		
MOODY AFB		
REPLACE PUMPHOUSE AND TRUCK FILLSTANDS	10,900	10,900
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
SAVANNAH/HILTON HEAD IAP		
C-130 SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	9,000	9,000
HAWAII		
NAVY		
BARKING SANDS		
PMRF POWER GRID CONSOLIDATION	30,623	30,623
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM		
UEM INTERCONNECT STA C TO HICKAM	6,335	6,335
WELDING SCHOOL SHOP CONSOLIDATION	8,546	8,546
KANEOHE BAY		
AIRFIELD LIGHTING MODERNIZATION	26,097	26,097
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS	68,092	68,092
P-8A DETACHMENT SUPPORT FACILITIES	12,429	12,429
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM		
F-22 FIGHTER ALERT FACILITY	46,000	46,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
KANEOHE BAY		
MEDICAL/DENTAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT	122,071	122,071
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS		
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/DENTAL CLINIC ADDITION	123,838	107,563
ILLINOIS		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
SPARTA		
BASIC 10M-25M FIRING RANGE (ZERO)	1,900	1,900
IOWA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
DES MOINES MAP		
AIR OPERATIONS GRP/CYBER BEDDOWN-RENO BLG 430	6,700	6,700

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
KANSAS		
AIR FORCE		
MCCONNELL AFB		
KC-46A ADAL DEICING PADS	4,300	4,300
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
SALINA		
AUTOMATED COMBAT PISTOL/MP FIREARMS QUAL COUR	2,400	2,400
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	4,300	4,300
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
SMOKEY HILL ANG RANGE		
RANGE TRAINING SUPPORT FACILITIES	2,900	2,900
KENTUCKY		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT CAMPBELL		
SOF COMPANY HQ/CLASSROOMS	12,553	12,553
FORT KNOX		
FORT KNOX HS RENOVATION/MS ADDITION	23,279	23,279
LOUISIANA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
NEW ORLEANS		
REPLACE SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	10,000	10,000
MAINE		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BANGOR IAP		
ADD TO AND ALTER FIRE CRASH/RESCUE STATION	7,200	7,200
MARYLAND		
NAVY		
PATUXENT RIVER		
UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING	40,935	40,935
AIR FORCE		
FORT MEADE		
CYBERCOM JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER, INCREMENT 3	86,000	86,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT MEADE		
NSAW CAMPUS FEEDERS PHASE 2	33,745	33,745
NSAW RECAPITALIZE BUILDING #2 INCR 1	34,897	34,897
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
EASTON		
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	13,800	13,800
MISSISSIPPI		
ARMY RESERVE		
STARKVILLE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	9,300	---
MISSOURI		
AIR FORCE		
WHITEMAN AFB		
CONSOLIDATED STEALTH OPS & NUCLEAR ALERT FAC	29,500	29,500
MONTANA		
AIR FORCE		
MALMSTROM AFB		
TACTICAL RESPONSE FORCE ALERT FACILITY	19,700	19,700
NEBRASKA		
AIR FORCE		
OFFUTT AFB		
DORMITORY (144 RM)	21,000	21,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
NEVADA		
AIR FORCE		
NELLIS AFB		
F-35A AIRFIELD PAVEMENTS	31,000	31,000
F-35A LIVE ORDNANCE LOADING AREA	34,500	34,500
F-35A MUNITIONS MAINTENANCE FACILITIES	3,450	3,450
DEFENSE-WIDE		
NELLIS AFB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM	39,900	39,900
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
RENO		
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP ADD/A	8,000	8,000
NAVY RESERVE		
FALLON		
NAVOPSPTCEN FALLON	11,480	11,480
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADE PORT		
KC-46A ADAL FLIGHT SIMULATOR BLDG 156	2,800	2,800
NEW JERSEY		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
ATLANTIC CITY IAP		
FUEL CELL AND CORROSION CONTROL HANGAR	10,200	10,200
NEW MEXICO		
AIR FORCE		
CANNON AFB		
CONSTRUCT AT/FP GATE - PORTALES	7,800	7,800
HOLLOMAN AFB		
MARSHALLING AREA ARM/DE-ARM PAD D	3,000	3,000
KIRTLAND AFB		
SPACE VEHICLES COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT LAB	12,800	12,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CANNON AFB		
CONSTRUCT PUMPHOUSE AND FUEL STORAGE	20,400	20,400
SOF SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	11,565	11,565
SOF ST OPERATIONAL TRAINING FACILITIES	13,146	13,146
NEW YORK		
ARMY		
FORT DRUM		
NCO ACADEMY COMPLEX	19,000	19,000
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY		
WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT	70,000	70,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
WEST POINT		
WEST POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT	55,778	55,778
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
NIAGARA FALLS IAP		
REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT BEDDOWN BLDG 912	7,700	7,700
ARMY RESERVE		
ORANGEBURG		
ORGANIZATIONAL MAINTENANCE SHOP	4,200	4,200
NAVY RESERVE		
BROOKLYN		
RESERVE CENTER STORAGE FACILITY	2,479	2,479
NORTH CAROLINA		
NAVY		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
2ND RADIO BN COMPLEX OPERATIONS CONSOLIDATION	50,557	---
SIMULATOR INTEGRATION/RANGE CONTROL FACILITY	54,849	54,849

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION		
KC 130J ENLISTED AIR CREW TRAINER FACILITY	4,769	4,769
UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM FACILITIES	29,657	29,657
NEW RIVER		
OPERATIONAL TRAINER FACILITY	3,312	3,312
RADAR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FACILITY ADDITION	4,918	4,918
AIR FORCE		
SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB		
AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER/BASE OPS FACILITY	17,100	17,100
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
SOF COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT FACILITY	14,036	14,036
SOF MARINE BATTALION COMPANY/TEAM FACILITIES	54,970	54,970
FORT BRAGG		
BUTNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT	32,944	32,944
SOF 21 STS OPERATIONS FACILITY	16,863	14,334
SOF BATTALION OPERATIONS FACILITY	38,549	38,549
SOF INDOOR RANGE	8,303	8,303
SOF INTELLIGENCE TRAINING CENTER	28,265	28,265
SOF SPECIAL TACTICS FACILITY (PH 2)	43,887	43,887
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
CHARLOTTE/DOUGLAS IAP		
REPLACE C-130 SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	9,000	9,000
NORTH DAKOTA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
HECTOR IAP		
INTEL TARGETING FACILITIES	7,300	7,300
OHIO		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB		
SATELLITE PHARMACY REPLACEMENT	6,623	6,623
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP RAVENNA		
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	3,300	3,300
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
YOUNGSTOWN		
INDOOR FIRING RANGE	9,400	9,400
OKLAHOMA		
ARMY		
FORT SILL		
RECEPTION BARRACKS COMPLEX PH2	56,000	56,000
TRAINING SUPPORT FACILITY	13,400	13,400
AIR FORCE		
ALTUS AFB		
DORMITORY (120 RM)	18,000	18,000
KC-46A FTU ADAL FUEL CELL MAINT HANGAR	10,400	10,400
TINKER AFB		
AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER	12,900	12,900
KC-46A DEPOT MAINTENANCE DOCK	37,000	37,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
WILL ROGERS WORLD AIRPORT		
MEDIUM ALTITUDE MANNED ISR BEDDOWN	7,600	7,600
OREGON		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
KLAMATH FALLS IAP		
REPLACE FUEL FACILITIES	2,500	2,500
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
SALEM		
NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE CENTER BLDG ADD/ALT (JFHQ)	16,500	16,500

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
IR NATIONAL GUARD		
KLAMATH FALLS IAP		
REPLACE FIRE CRASH/RESCUE STATION	7,200	7,200
PENNSYLVANIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
PHILADELPHIA		
REPLACE HEADQUARTERS	49,700	49,700
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT INDIANTOWN GAP		
TRAINING AIDS CENTER	16,000	16,000
ARMY RESERVE		
CONNEAUT LAKE		
DAR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT	5,000	5,000
SOUTH CAROLINA		
NAVY		
PARRIS ISLAND		
RANGE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS & MODERNIZATION	27,075	27,075
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT JACKSON		
PIERCE TERRACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT	26,157	26,157
SOUTH DAKOTA		
AIR FORCE		
ELLSWORTH AFB		
DORMITORY (168 RM)	23,000	23,000
TEXAS		
ARMY		
CORPUS CHRISTI		
POWERTRAIN FACILITY (INFRASTRUCTURE/METAL)	85,000	85,000
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
HOMELAND DEFENSE OPERATIONS CENTER	43,000	---
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
BMT CLASSROOMS/DINING FACILITY 3	35,000	35,000
BMT RECRUIT DORMITORY 5	71,000	71,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT BLISS		
HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT INCR 7	239,884	189,884
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
AMBULATORY CARE CENTER PHASE 4	61,776	61,776
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
CONSOLIDATE 433 MEDICAL FACILITY	9,900	9,900
UTAH		
AIR FORCE		
HILL AFB		
F-35A FLIGHT SIMULATOR ADDITION PHASE 2	5,900	5,900
F-35A HANGAR 40/42 ADDITIONS AND AMU	21,000	21,000
HAYMAN IGLOOS	11,500	11,500
VERMONT		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NORTH HYDE PARK		
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP ADDIT	7,900	7,900
VIRGINIA		
ARMY		
FORT LEE		
TRAINING SUPPORT FACILITY	33,000	33,000
JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON		
INSTRUCTION BUILDING	37,000	---

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
NAVY		
DAM NECK		
MARITIME SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FACILITY	23,066	23,066
NORFOLK		
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER	75,289	75,289
ELECTRICAL REPAIRS TO PIERS 2,6,7, AND 11	44,254	44,254
MH-60 HELICOPTER TRAINING FACILITY	7,134	7,134
PORTSMOUTH		
WATERFRONT UTILITIES	45,513	45,513
QUANTICO		
ATFP GATE	5,840	5,840
ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION UPGRADE	8,418	8,418
EMBASSY SECURITY GUARD BEQ & OPS FACILITY	43,941	43,941
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT BELVOIR		
CONSTRUCT VISITOR CONTROL CENTER	5,000	5,000
REPLACE GROUND VEHICLE FUELING FACILITY	4,500	4,500
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS		
REPLACE FUEL PIER AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITY	28,000	28,000
JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE LITTLE CREEK - STORY		
SOF APPLIED INSTRUCTION FACILITY	23,916	23,916
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
RICHMOND		
NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE CENTER BUILDING (JFHQ)	29,000	29,000
NAVY RESERVE		
DAM NECK		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER COMPLEX	18,443	18,443
WASHINGTON		
NAVY		
BANGOR		
REGIONAL SHIP MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FACILITY	12,753	12,753
WRA LAND/WATER INTERFACE	34,177	34,177
BREMERTON		
DRY DOCK 6 MODERNIZATION & UTILITY IMPROVE	22,680	22,680
INDIAN ISLAND		
SHORE POWER TO AMMUNITION PIER	4,472	4,472
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
YAKIMA		
ENLISTED BARRACKS, TRANSIENT TRAINING	19,000	---
WEST VIRGINIA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
YEAGER AIRPORT		
FORCE PROTECTION- RELOCATE COONSKIN ROAD	3,900	3,900
WYOMING		
AIR FORCE		
F. E. WARREN AFB		
WEAPON STORAGE FACILITY	95,000	95,000
CONUS CLASSIFIED		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED LOCATION		
OPERATIONS SUPPORT FACILITY	20,065	---
BAHRAIN ISLAND		
NAVY		
SW ASIA		
MINA SALMAN PIER REPLACEMENT	37,700	---
SHIP MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FACILITY	52,091	---

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
DJIBOUTI		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEMONIER		
CONSTRUCT FUEL STORAGE & DISTRIB. FACILITIES.....	43,700	---
GERMANY		
ARMY		
GRAFENWOEHR		
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	51,000	51,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
GARMISCH		
GARMISCH E/MS-ADDITION/MODERNIZATION.....	14,676	14,676
GRAFENWOEHR		
GRAFENWOEHR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	38,138	38,138
RHINE ORDNANCE BARRACKS		
MEDICAL CENTER REPLACEMENT INCR 5.....	85,034	85,034
SPANGDAHLEM AB		
CONSTRUCT FUEL PIPELINE.....	5,500	5,500
MEDICAL/DENTAL CLINIC ADDITION.....	34,071	34,071
STUTTGART-PATCH BARRACKS		
PATCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	49,413	49,413
GREENLAND		
AIR FORCE		
THULE AB		
THULE CONSOLIDATION PH 1.....	41,965	41,965
GUAM		
NAVY		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
LIVE-FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX (NW FIELD).....	125,677	100,677
MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL CLOSURE.....	10,777	10,777
SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM RECAPITALIZATION.....	45,314	45,314
AIR FORCE		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
APR - DISPERSED MAINT SPARES & SE STORAGE FAC.....	19,000	19,000
APR - INSTALLATION CONTROL CENTER.....	22,200	22,200
APR - SOUTH RAMP UTILITIES PHASE 2.....	7,100	7,100
PAR - LO/CORROSION CONTROL/COMPOSITE REPAIR.....	34,400	34,400
PRTC ROADS.....	2,500	2,500
ITALY		
NAVY		
SIGONELLA		
P-8A HANGAR AND FLEET SUPPORT FACILITY.....	62,302	---
TRITON HANGAR AND OPERATION FACILITY.....	40,641	---
JAPAN		
NAVY		
CAMP BUTLER		
MILITARY WORKING DOG FACILITIES (CAMP HANSEN).....	11,697	11,697
IWAKUNI		
E-2D OPERATIONAL TRAINER COMPLEX.....	8,716	8,716
SECURITY MODIFICATIONS - CVW5/MAG12 HQ.....	9,207	9,207
KADENA AB		
AIRCRAFT MAINT. SHELTERS & APRON.....	23,310	23,310
YOKOSUKA		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER.....	13,846	13,846
AIR FORCE		
YOKOTA AB		
C-130J FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY.....	8,461	8,461
DEFENSE-WIDE		
KADENA AB		
AIRFIELD PAVEMENTS.....	37,485	37,485

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
NIGER		
AIR FORCE		
AGADEZ		
CONSTRUCT AIRFIELD AND BASE CAMP	50,000	---
OMAN		
AIR FORCE		
AL MUSANNAH AB		
AIRLIFT APRON	25,000	---
POLAND		
NAVY		
REDZIKOWO BASE		
AEGIS ASHORE MISSILE DEFENSE COMPLEX	51,270	---
DEFENSE-WIDE		
REDZIKOWO BASE		
AEGIS ASHORE MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM COMPLEX	169,153	---
SPAIN		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ROTA		
ROTA ES AND HS ADDITIONS	13,737	13,737
UNITED KINGDOM		
AIR FORCE		
CROUGHTON RAF		
CONSOLIDATED SATCOM/TECH CONTROL FACILITY	36,424	36,424
JIAC CONSOLIDATION - PH 2	94,191	94,191
WORLDWIDE CLASSIFIED		
AIR FORCE		
CLASSIFIED LOCATION		
LONG RANGE STRIKE BOMBER	77,130	---
MUNITIONS STORAGE	3,000	3,000
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM	120,000	150,000
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
ARMY		
HOST NATION SUPPORT	36,000	36,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	25,000	25,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN	73,245	73,245
NAVY		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	91,649	91,649
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	22,590	22,590
AIR FORCE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	89,164	89,164
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	22,900	22,900
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION	10,000	---
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM	150,000	150,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN		
DEFENSE-WIDE	23,500	23,500
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION	42,183	42,183
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	31,772	31,772
NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	27,202	27,202
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY	1,078	1,078
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	31,628	31,628

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE	3,041	3,041
SUBTOTAL, PLANNING AND DESIGN	160,404	160,404
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
DEFENSE-WIDE	3,000	3,000
DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY	5,000	5,000
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	8,687	8,687
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	15,676	15,676
SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	32,363	32,363
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	20,337	20,337
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	15,000	15,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	5,104	5,104
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	7,734	7,734
ARMY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	9,318	9,318
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	6,777	6,777
NAVY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	2,208	2,208
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	1,468	1,468
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	13,400	13,400
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	6,121	6,121
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY		
GERMANY		
WIESBADEN		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS (12 UNITS)	3,500	3,500
FLORIDA		
CAMP RUDDER		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (15 UNITS)	8,000	8,000
ILLINOIS		
ROCK ISLAND		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (38 UNITS)	20,000	20,000
KOREA		
CAMP WALKER (DAEGU)		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (90 UNITS)	61,000	61,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN	7,195	7,195
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	99,695	99,695
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	65,600	65,600
SERVICES ACCOUNT	10,928	10,928
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	48,515	48,515
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	840	840
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	25,552	25,552
LEASING	144,879	144,879
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	75,197	75,197
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	22,000	22,000
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	393,511	393,511

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS		
VIRGINIA		
WALLOPS ISLAND		
HOUSING SERVICE CENTER	438	438
SKEETER LANE RENOVATION AND CONVERSION	3,658	3,658
JAPAN		
IWAKUNI		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 3	7,857	7,857
PLANNING AND DESIGN	4,588	4,588
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	16,541	16,541
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	67,692	67,692
SERVICES ACCOUNT	19,149	19,149
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	56,189	56,189
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	373	373
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	17,534	17,534
LEASING	64,108	64,108
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	99,323	99,323
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	28,668	28,668
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	353,036	353,036
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE		
GERMANY		
RAMSTEIN		
FAMILY HOUSING MANAGEMENT FACILITY	5,700	5,700
JAPAN		
KADENA		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 4	35,776	35,776
KADENA		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 5	33,000	33,000
MISAWA		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 3	44,373	44,373
YOKOTA		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 7	31,800	31,800
PLANNING AND DESIGN	9,849	9,849
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	160,498	160,498
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	40,811	40,811
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	52,153	52,153
SERVICES ACCOUNT	12,940	12,940
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	38,746	38,746
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	2,032	2,032
LEASING	28,867	28,867
MAINTENANCE	114,129	114,129
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	41,554	41,554
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	331,232	331,232

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY		
UTILITIES	474	474
FURNISHING	781	781
LEASING	10,679	10,679
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	1,104	1,104
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY		
FURNISHINGS	3,402	3,402
LEASING	41,273	41,273
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY		
UTILITIES	172	172
FURNISHINGS	20	20
SERVICES	31	31
MANAGEMENT	388	388
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	344	344
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	58,668	58,668
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND	---	---
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE		
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT	251,334	251,334
DEFENSE ACCESS ROADS (SEC. 131)	---	30,000
RESCISSIONS FROM PRIOR YEAR UNOBLIGATED BALANCES		
ARMY (SEC. 125)	---	-96,000
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS	---	---
AIR FORCE (SEC. 126)	---	-52,600
DEFENSE-WIDE (SEC. 127)	---	-134,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD	---	---
42 USC 3374 (SEC. 128)	---	-103,918

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
TITLE IV		
FY 2016 OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS		
BAHRAIN ISLAND		
NAVY		
SW ASIA		
MINA SALMAN PIER REPLACEMENT	---	37,700
SHIP MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FACILTIY	---	52,091
DJIBOUTI		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEMONIER		
CONSTRUCT FUEL STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES	---	43,700
ITALY		
NAVY		
SIGONELLA		
P-8A HANGAR AND FLEET SUPPORT FACILITY	---	62,302
TRITON HANGAR AND OPERATION FACILITY	---	40,641
NIGER		
AIR FORCE		
AGADEZ		
CONSTRUCT AIRFIELD AND BASE CAMP	---	50,000
OMAN		
AIR FORCE		
AL MUSANNAH AB		
AIRLIFT APRON	---	25,000
POLAND		
NAVY		
REDZIKOWO		
AEGIS ASHORE MISSILE DEFENSE COMPLEX	---	51,270
DEFENSE-WIDE		
REDZIKOWO		
AEGIS ASHORE MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM COMPLEX	---	169,296
TOTAL	---	532,000

NOTE: FUNDING FOR THESE PROJECTS WAS REQUESTED AND IS DISPLAYED IN TITLE I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION. THE BILL PROVIDES THE REQUESTED LEVEL OF FUNDING FOR THESE PROJECTS IN TITLE IV