



# FY23 House Appropriations Committee Defense Appropriations Act

*(Subcommittee Bill Report)*



*As of June 22, 2022*

***Bill Status***

	Passed in Committee	Passed in Chamber	Final Passage	Signed into Law
House	22 June 22			
Senate				

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### Executive Summary

This guide provides a short summary of the subcommittee markup for the House of Representatives Fiscal Year 2023 Defense Appropriations Act. To obtain a complete understanding of any particular provision, users are encouraged to review the actual legislative language. Bill text and report language can be found on the LL website:

<https://www.nationalguard.mil/leadership/joint-staff/personal-staff/legislative-liaison/>.

### Status:

On June 22nd, 2022, the House Appropriations Committee passed the FY23 Defense Appropriations Act. The bill appropriates \$761.681 billion, an increase of \$32.207 billion above 2022.

### Highlights:

- Funds a 4.6% military pay raise
- Funds an end strength of 336,000 for the ARNG and 108,400 (100 above FY22) for the ANG
- Appropriates \$349M for the ARNG and \$290M for the ANG in NAREA
- \$9.324B for ARNG Personnel, a decrease of \$600K from the FY23 PBR
- \$5.123B for ANG Personnel, a decrease of \$4.1M from the FY23 PBR
- \$8.095B for ARNG O&M, a decrease of \$62.3M from the FY23 PBR
- \$6.9B for ANG O&M, an increase of \$8.3M from the FY23 PBR
- \$194.211M for National Guard Counter-Drug Program, an increase of \$93.895M from the FY23 PBR
- Funds \$5.878M for National Guard Counter-Drug Schools

- Provides \$210 million above the request for National Guard Youth Challenge
- Provides \$47 million above the request for Starbase.
- Provides \$120M for additional modernized ARNG HMMWVs

# National Guard Accounts Overview

(All Dollars in Thousands)

Army National Guard	FY23 President's Budget Request	FY23 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 Conference
ARNG Personnel	\$9,324,813	\$9,324,213	-\$600			
ARNG O&M	\$8,157,237	\$8,094,937	-\$62,300			
NGREA	--	\$349,000	\$349,000			

Air National Guard	FY23 President's Budget Request	FY23 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 Conference
ANG Personnel	\$5,127,335	\$5,123,235	-\$4,100			
ANG O&M	\$6,900,679	\$6,908,979	\$8,300			
NGREA	--	\$290,000	\$290,000			



# Army National Guard

## Army National Guard Personnel

(All Dollars in Thousands)

ARNG Personnel Appropriation	FY23 President's Budget Request	FY23 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 Conference
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	\$2,657,734	\$2,657,734	--			
PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	\$552,298	\$552,298	--			
PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	\$47,941	\$47,941	--			
SCHOOL TRAINING	\$587,537	\$587,537	--			
SPECIAL TRAINING	\$757,064	<b>\$766,764<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$9,700</b>			
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	\$4,642,452	\$4,642,452	--			
THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS	\$70,700	\$70,700	--			
EDUCATION BENEFITS	\$9,087	\$9,087	--			
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1 (BAC-01)</b>	<b>\$9,324,813</b>	<b>\$9,334,513</b>	<b>\$9,700</b>			
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	--	<b>-\$20,000</b>	<b>-\$20,000</b>			
ADVANCED TRAUMA AND PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECT TRAINING SERVICES	--	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>			
EXERCISE NORTHERN STRIKE	--	<b>\$8,500</b>	<b>\$8,500</b>			
<b>TOTAL, TITLE I, ARNG PERSONNEL</b>	<b>\$9,324,813</b>	<b>\$9,324,213</b>	<b>-\$600</b>			
HEALTH CARE CONTRIBUTION (RC)	\$873,000	\$873,000	--			
TOTAL TRICARE ACCRUAL PAYMENTS	\$873,000	\$873,000				
<b>TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>	<b>\$10,197,813</b>	<b>\$10,197,213</b>	<b>-\$600</b>			

1. Special Training; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$9,700

## Army National Guard Operations & Maintenance

ARNG O&M Appropriation	FY23 President's Budget Request	FY23 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 Conference
MANEUVER UNITS	\$964,237	<b>\$960,737<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>-\$3,500</b>			
MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	\$214,191	\$214,191	--			
ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	\$820,752	\$820,752	--			
THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	\$97,184	\$97,184	--			

LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	\$54,595	<b>\$52,595<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>-\$2,000</b>			
AVIATION ASSETS	\$1,169,826	<b>\$1,160,826<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>-\$9,000</b>			
FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	\$722,786	\$722,786	--			
LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	\$46,580	\$46,580	--			
LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	\$259,765	\$259,765	--			
BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	\$1,151,215	<b>\$1,146,215<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>-\$5,000</b>			
FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION, & MODERNIZATION	\$1,053,996	\$1,053,996	--			
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HQ	\$1,148,286	\$1,148,286	--			
CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES – CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	\$8,715	\$8,715	--			
CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES – CYBERSECURITY	\$8,307	\$8,307	--			
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1 (BAC-01)</b>	<b>\$7,720,437</b>	<b>\$7,700,937</b>	<b>-\$19,500</b>			
SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	\$6,961	\$6,961	--			
ADMINISTRATION	\$73,641	<b>\$81,841<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>\$8,2000</b>			
SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	\$100,389	\$100,389	--			
MANPOWER MANAGEMENT	\$9,231	\$9,231	--			
OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	\$243,491	\$243,491	--			
REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	\$3,087	\$3,087	--			
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4 (BAC-04)</b>	<b>\$436,800</b>	<b>\$445,000</b>	<b>\$8,200</b>			
HISTORICAL UNOBLIGATION	--	<b>-\$54,000</b>	<b>-\$54,000</b>			
TRAUMA TRAINING	--	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>			
<b>TOTAL, ARNG O&amp;M</b>	<b>\$8,157,237</b>	<b>\$8,094,937</b>	<b>-\$62,300</b>			

1. Maneuver Units; Program increase – Northern Strike \$11,500

2. Maneuver Units; Unjustified growth -\$15,000

3. Land Forces Operations Support; Unjustified growth -\$2,000

4. Aviation Assets; Unjustified growth -\$9,000

5. Base Operations Support; Unjustified growth -\$5,000

6. Administration; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$8,200



# Air National Guard

## Air National Guard Personnel

(All Dollars in Thousands)

ANG Personnel Appropriation	FY23 President's Budget Request	FY23 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 Conference
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	\$934,473	\$934,473	--			
PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	\$147,492	\$147,492	--			
PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	\$5,808	\$5,808	--			
SCHOOL TRAINING	\$380,343	\$380,343	--			
SPECIAL TRAINING	\$267,431	<b>\$270,931<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$3,500</b>			
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	\$3,363,168	\$3,363,168	--			
THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS	\$19,559	\$19,559	--			
EDUCATION BENEFITS	\$9,061	\$9,061	--			
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1 (BAC-01)</b>	<b>\$5,127,335</b>	<b>\$5,130,835</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>			
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	--	<b>-\$12,000</b>	<b>-\$12,000</b>			
ADVANCED TRAUMA AND PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECT TRAINING SERVICES	--	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>			
EXERCISE NORTHERN STRIKE	--	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>			
<b>Total, Title I National Guard Personnel, Air Force</b>	<b>\$5,127,335</b>	<b>\$5,123,235</b>	<b>-\$4,100</b>			
HEALTH CARE CONTRIBUTION (RC)	\$336,000	\$336,000	--			
TOTAL, TRICARE ACCRUAL PAYMENTS	\$336,000	\$336,000	--			
<b>Total, National Guard Personnel, Air Force</b>	<b>\$5,463,335</b>	<b>\$5,459,235</b>	<b>-\$4,100</b>			

1. Program Increase – State Partnership Program \$3,500

## Air National Guard Operations & Maintenance

ANG O&M Appropriation	FY23 President's Budget Request	FY23 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY23 Conference
AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	\$2,301,784	<b>\$2,294,784<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>-\$7,000</b>			
MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	\$587,793	<b>\$598,193<sup>3-5</sup></b>	<b>\$10,400</b>			
DEPOT MAINTENANCE	\$1,193,699	<b>\$1,201,699<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>\$8,000</b>			
FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT,	\$437,042	<b>\$471,042<sup>7,8</sup></b>	<b>\$34,000</b>			

RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION						
CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND SYSTEM SUPPORT	\$1,284,264	<b>\$1,269,264<sup>9</sup></b>	<b>-\$15,000</b>			
BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	\$967,169	<b>\$969,569<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>\$2,400</b>			
CYBERSPACE SUSTAINMENT	\$12,661	\$12,661	--			
CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	\$15,886	\$15,886	--			
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1 (BAC-01)</b>	<b>\$6,800,298</b>	<b>\$6,833,098</b>	<b>\$32,800</b>			
ADMINISTRATION	\$52,075	\$52,075	--			
RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	\$48,306	\$48,306	--			
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4 (BAC-04)</b>	<b>\$100,381</b>	<b>\$100,381</b>				
HISTORICAL UNOBLIGATION	--	<b>-\$30,000</b>	<b>-\$30,000</b>			
TRAUMA TRAINING	--	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>			
DENY CLOSURE OF COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTER	--	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>			
<b>TOTAL, O&amp;M, AIR NATIONAL GUARD</b>	<b>\$6,900,679</b>	<b>\$6,908,979</b>	<b>\$8,300</b>			

1. Aircraft Operations; Program increase – Northern Strike \$1,000
2. Aircraft Operations; Unjustified growth -\$8,000
3. Mission Support Operations; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$5,100
4. Mission Support Operations; Program increase – ANG JTAC contractor support \$8,000
5. Mission Support Operations; Transfer to OP AF PE 52831F -\$2,700
6. Depot Purchase Equipment Maintenance; Program increase – KC-135 \$8,000
7. Real Property Maintenance; Program increase – runway renovation projects \$16,000
8. Real Property Maintenance; Program increase – facility enhancements for future foreign military training sites \$18,000
9. Contractor Logistics Support and System Support; Unjustified growth -\$15,000
10. Base Operations Support; Program Increase – MQ-9 dissemination hub \$2,400

## General Provisions

### National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account

The Committee recommends \$1,000,000,000 for the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account. Of that amount, \$349,000,000 is for the Army National Guard; \$290,000,000 is for the Air National Guard; \$137,000,000 is for the Army Reserve; \$66,000,000 is for the Navy Reserve; \$24,000,000 is for the Marine Corps Reserve; and \$134,000,000 is for the Air Force Reserve to meet urgent equipment needs in the coming fiscal year. This funding will allow the National Guard and reserve components to procure high priority equipment used by these components for both their military missions and missions in support of State governors. The funding within this account is not to be used to procure equipment designated as high-density critical equipment, major weapon systems, aircraft, and other equipment central to a unit's ability to perform its doctrinal mission. The funding within this account is not to be used to procure equipment purchased by the senior Service, to expand or accelerate current Service procurement plans, to purchase expendable items, or to purchase facilities or equipment for any requirement able to be satisfied elsewhere.

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account is executed by the Chiefs of the National Guard and reserve components with priority consideration

given to the following items: .acoustic hailing devices; containerized ice making systems; aviation status dashboard; crash-worthy, ballistically tolerant auxiliary fuel systems; degraded visual environment systems; gamma radiation protection; integration of aluminum mesh secondary combustion ignition prevention technology for combat and logistics vehicle fuel tanks; KC-135 aircraft emergency response refuel equipment kits; land surveying systems; lightweight, rapidly deployable, computer-based artillery call for fire training and simulation; modular small arms ranges and small arms training simulators and tools; radiological screening portals; small unmanned aerial systems and tethered drones; software defined radios; UH-72AJB mission equipment modernization; and upgraded commercial-off-the-shelf ground mapping for C-130 aircraft.

## Legislative Provisions

**Sec. 8048** prohibits funds made available in this Act from being used to reduce authorized positions for military technicians (dual status) of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, and Air Force Reserve unless such reductions are a direct result of a reduction in military force structure.

**Sec. 8050** provides for reimbursement to the National Guard and reserve when members of the National Guard and reserve provide intelligence or counterintelligence support to the combatant commands, defense agencies, and joint intelligence activities.

**Sec. 8057** provides conditions for the use of equipment of the National Guard Distance Learning Project, on a space available, reimbursable basis.

**Sec. 8063** provides for the use of National Guard personnel to support ground-based elements of the National Ballistic Missile Defense System.

**Sec. 8065** provides for a waiver by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau or his designee for all or part of consideration in cases of personal property leases of less than one year.

**Sec. 8111** None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to transfer any element of the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, or a Department of Defense agency to the Space Force unless, concurrent with the fiscal year 2024 budget submission (as submitted to congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code), the Secretary of Defense, not to be delegated, provides a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, detailing any plans to transfer appropriate space elements of the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, or a Department of Defense agency to the Space Force and certifies in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that such transfer is consistent with the mission of the Space Force and will not have an adverse impact on the Department or agency from which such element is being transferred: Provided, That such report shall include fiscal year 2024 budget and future years defense program adjustments associated with such planned transfers.

## Items of Interest

### TRAUMA TRAINING PROGRAM

The Committee recognizes the valuable support that universities, hospitals, and other military partners provide by offering civilian based emergency response trauma and critical care training including public health, bio-environmental, and biomedical instruction to sustain capabilities of the National Guard Enhanced Response Forces Packages, National Guard Homeland Response Forces, and Army Reserve Consequence Management Response Forces. The Committee encourages the Director of the National Guard Bureau and the Chiefs of the reserve components to continue pursuing advanced trauma and public health training with these civilian partners in order to maintain unit readiness. The Committee also encourages the development of enhanced medical and critical care preparedness programs. The Committee directs the National Guard to continue pursuing state-of-the-art trauma training, critical care, behavioral health, public health training and other ancillary, direct training with these civilian partners, thus maintaining unit readiness postures at optimum levels as individual members maintain their skills to provide effective mitigation, intervention and prevention responses, and successful medical outcomes to trauma incidents on the homeland and abroad.

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE**

Sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military and at the Service academies have reached crisis proportions. The Fort Hood Independent Review Committee Report details the failures of senior leaders to create a safe and professional environment for all servicemembers and the failure at the command level to prevent and punish sexual harassment and assault at the most basic level. While specific to Fort Hood, the report describes deficiencies in command climate that pervade all the Services. The report findings are emblematic of the broader culture in the military where systemic leadership failures have led to a permissive environment, resulting in higher rates of sexual assaults and harassment.

The Committee notes the President's Budget provides \$479,000,000 to fully implement the recommendations of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment. The Committee recommendation includes full funding for this effort.

In addition, the Committee recommendation includes \$47,000,000 for the Special Victims' Counsel program for transfer to the Services, including the National Guard and reserve components.

## **MILITARY FAMILIES AND FOOD INSECURITY**

The Committee is concerned by the alarming rate of food insecurity faced by military families. While servicemembers and their families may have access to government food assistance, their ability to qualify can vary by program and location, forcing servicemembers to seek charitable food assistance or limit the ability to eat healthy or nutritious food. The coronavirus pandemic and its economic repercussions have only magnified the problem of food insecurity experienced by military families. For National Guard and reserve personnel, the past year of near constant deployments to respond to the pandemic, civil unrest, and natural disasters has exacerbated the problem of food insecurity. Recent data from the United States Census Bureau found hunger among the Guard and reserve military personnel is more than double the national rate. The Committee notes the Secretary of Defense is required to submit a report providing an assessment of the current extent of food insecurity among servicemembers and their dependents as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide the report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees in conjunction with its submission to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees and to provide a briefing to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 30 days after the submission of the report.

## **NATIONAL DISASTERS**

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to provide a briefing to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act on how the Department of Defense may more effectively and efficiently apportion National Guard forces when faced with domestic wildfires, floods and hurricanes, especially those that may place a heightened risk to highly populated areas prone to such disasters. The briefing shall focus on whether the number of members of the National Guard is sufficient to meet the requirements of their domestic responses and shifting populations.

## **NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM**

To conform to Section 516 of P.L. 117-81, funding in this Act may be made available to allow the Department of Defense to issue non-state matched funding in limited circumstances; however, before any unmatched funds are disbursed, funding requirements for current programs must be met. Any funds used under this new authority shall be reported in the annual reporting requirement found in 32 USC 509(k).

## **COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTER**

The Committee acknowledges the need for the Services to manage their facilities and installations that meet readiness training requirements. The Committee, however, does not support decisions by the Department of Defense or the Services, either by the Active or Reserve Components, to invest in upgrades for installations, bases, or training centers, only to be followed by the closure of these facilities. This seems to be a waste of taxpayer funds. The Committee includes \$2,500,000 under the Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard account to review policies and procedures for closing any combat readiness training center.

## **F-15EX**

The Committee's recommendation includes \$1,880,908,000 for the procurement of 18 F-15EX aircraft, a decrease of \$541,440,000 and six aircraft below the request and an increase of six aircraft above the fiscal

year 2022 level. The Committee continues to support the F-15EX effort as the best means to recapitalize the deteriorating F-15C/D fleet while providing significant and relevant capability with its large weapons capacity and an upgraded electronic warfare system. However, the Committee notes that since the initial appropriation for F-15EX in fiscal year 2020, the Air Force continually has awarded funds using undefinitized contractual actions (UCAs) and that these UCAs have been subject to prolonged delays to their definitization as required by defense acquisition regulations. As of the submission of the President's budget request, all previous funds provided for F-15EX procurement are on outstanding UCAs. The Air Force has informed the Committee that it intends to place fiscal year 2022 funds for F-15EX on yet another UCA, with the goal of definitizing the contract in calendar mid-2023.

The Committee finds this unacceptable. As the Committee noted in House Report 111-230, UCAs "are to be used as the exception not as the rule". On the F-15EX program they have become the rule. The repeated use of UCAs and the delays to their definitization hinder congressional oversight by depriving the Committee of insight into accurate pricing and other contractual matters, as well as distorting program financial execution data. In addition to the reduction for fiscal year 2023, the Committee's recommendation includes a provision in this account that prohibits the Air Force from awarding the fiscal year 2023 aircraft through a UCA. At the same time, the Committee notes that the fiscal year 2023 request proposes to accelerate F-15EX procurement toward a truncated program of just 80 aircraft, versus the up to 144 aircraft envisioned by the Air Force at the program's outset, ending procurement with another 24 aircraft to be requested in fiscal year 2024. The reduction in the program leaves in doubt the status and future of F-15C/D units, several of which are housed in the Air National Guard. The Air Force has yet to provide the Committee with the specific impacts this reduction will have to the Air Force's strategic basing laydown. The Committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a report on these impacts to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days after the submission of the fiscal year 2024 President's budget request.

#### **MOBILE APPLICATION TO ENABLE PERIODIC HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FOR RESERVISTS**

The Committee understands that adoption of a mobile application developed by the Department of Defense's Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC), piloted in several states by the National Guard, has resulted in enhanced medical readiness. The Committee recommends an increase of \$2,000,000 for TATRC to expand implementation of a mobile application that would enable Reservists to complete the Periodic Health Assessment on a smartphone, tablet, computer, or other handheld mobile device and connect directly with providers. The Committee recommends that the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs coordinate with the Chief of the Navy Reserve, Chief of the Army Reserve, and the Chief of the Air Force Reserve to implement this effort and ensure full compliance with Department of Defense cybersecurity protocols.

#### **REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNTS**

The Secretary of Defense is directed to use normal prior approval reprogramming procedures when implementing transfers in excess of \$10,000,000 into the following budget sub-activities:

Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard:

Base operations support

Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard:

Aircraft operations

Contractor logistics support and systems support

#### **TRANSITION OF MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM TO THE DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY**

The Committee is dismayed by what appears to be a de-prioritization of healthcare programs that had been included in Service core budgets in previous years. With the transition of resources and management of health care services from the Military Departments to the Defense Health Agency (DHA), the Committee is concerned that, in many cases, investments that the Services had made to best serve their soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, guardians, and their families, may not transfer to DHA and maybe terminated without executing option years with little explanation. If there were successful programs in the Services, there should be good justification for why those programs would not continue at DHA. As such, in order to increase oversight of these decisions and subsequent funding implications, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, along with the Director of the DHA and Service Secretaries, shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act detailing the factors

that are being used to evaluate medical and health contracts that had been funded within the Services for fiscal years 2021 and/or fiscal year 2022 to determine whether such contracts should be retained.

#### **TAIWAN**

The Committee notes that Section 1249 of the NDAA for FY2022 (P.L. 117-81) required the Secretary of Defense to provide the congressional defense committees with a briefing on the feasibility and advisability of enhanced cooperation between the National Guard and Taiwan. The Committee understands that the Secretary of Defense Continues to assess the feasibility of enhancing the relationship between the National Guard and Taiwan. Given the possible impact of this decision, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to brief the congressional defense committees with an update on these determinations not later than September 30, 2022.