National Guard Bureau Office of Legislative Liaison



# Fiscal Year 2025 House Military Construction Appropriations Act

# Summary of H.R. 8580 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

As of 12 June 2024

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#### **Executive Summary**

This guide provides a summary and analysis of the many provisions in the bill. To obtain a complete understanding of any particular provision, users are encouraged to review the actual legislative language. The bill and accompanying report are available on the NGB-LL web page at https://www.nationalguard.mil/leadership/joint-staff/personal-staff/legislative-liaison/.

#### Summary:

On June 05, 2024, the House voted and passed the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 8580). In total, the legislation would provide \$378.6 billion in funding the Department of Defense (DoD). Of the total, \$147.5 billion is provided as discretionary funding, and \$231.1 billion is provided for mandatory programs. Of the discretionary total, \$18 billion is for DoD military construction projects, nearly \$411.3 million above the President's budget request. Of this, \$367.1 million is provided for Army National Guard military construction and \$195.8 million for Air National Guard military construction.



#### **Army National Guard**

Army National Guard	FY25 President's Budget Request	HAC-M Mark	Delta from FY25 Request
MILCON Total	\$362,129	\$367,129	\$5,000
Minor Construction	\$45,000	\$45,000	
Planning & Design	\$25,529	\$30,529	\$5,000
Sec. 124 <sup>1</sup>		\$44,000	\$44,000
1. Section 124 provides funds for FY25 unfunded priority projects			

#### (All Dollars in Thousands)



#### **Air National Guard**

#### (All Dollars in Thousands)

Air National Guard	FY25 President's Budget Request	HAC-M Mark	Delta from FY25 Request
MILCON Total	\$190,792	\$195,792	\$5,000
Minor Construction	\$40,200	\$40,200	
Planning & Design	\$10,792	\$15,792	\$5,000
Sec. 124 <sup>2</sup>		\$33,000	\$33,000
2. Section 124 provides funds for FY25 unfunded priority projects			

#### **House Provisions of Interest**

**<u>Sec. 104.</u>** None of the funds made available in this title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the United States for which specific appropriations have not been made.

<u>Sec. 107.</u> None of the funds made available in this title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relocate any activity from one base or installation to another, without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

**Sec. 114.** Funds appropriated to the Department of Defense for construction in prior years shall be available for construction authorized for each such military department by the authorizations enacted into law during the current session of Congress.

**<u>Sec. 124.</u>** This section provides funds for certain projects identified in the respective military department's unfunded priority list for fiscal year 2025.

#### House Report Language of Interest

<u>Unfunded Priority List (UPL) and Future Years Defense Program (FYDP).</u> The Committee directs the Department of Defense and Military Services, active and reserve components as well as Combatant Commanders, as required by law, to submit a UPL and FYDP to the congressional defense committees for military construction projects no later than 10 days and 5 days, respectively, after the President's budget is submitted to Congress.

**Barracks.** The Committee remains concerned about the inadequate conditions of the Department of Defense (DOD) unaccompanied housing and continues to direct the Department to expeditiously address the findings of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report entitled, "Military Barracks: Poor Living Conditions Undermine Quality of Life and Readiness" (GAO–23–105797).

**Demolition of Excess Infrastructure.** The bill includes \$75,000,000 for unspecified minor military construction for demolition across the active and reserve components. The Committee is concerned about the amount of excess and obsolete infrastructure found on installations. While the Committee understands the need to balance demolition with other infrastructure needs, excess infrastructure can be costly to maintain and diverts resources away from current requirements. The Committee understands that recent technological advancements of non-nuclear soil and asphalt density gauges conform to American Society for Testing and Materials standards and encourages the DOD to continue exploring the application of these innovative technologies in future military construction projects.

**Resilient Military Installations.** The Committee supports the Department's continued efforts to build lasting and resilient military installations. These efforts include using methods that update hurricane-resistant building codes for bases, barracks, hospitals, and airfields and reviewing the effect of severe drought and desertification and how these two hazards affect installations and missions. The Committee encourages the Department to continue investing in innovative infrastructure projects to increase infrastructure resiliency and reduce costs.

**Energy Resilience and Conservation Investment Program (ERCIP).** The Committee provides \$636,000,000 for ERCIP construction, the same as the budget request. The Committee supports the Department's efforts to improve energy resilience, contribute to mission assurance, save energy, and reduce energy costs through ERCIP. The Committee encourages the Department to continue using all available tools and authorities to ensure the timely execution of ERCIP projects. Additionally, as the Department works to achieve base energy independence, the Committee encourages the Department to leverage new energy technologies.

<u>Air National Guard Infrastructure.</u> The Committee recognizes that some Aviation Support Facilities are not configured to protect and maintain modern airframes and encourages the Air National Guard to upgrade these facilities using unspecified minor military construction funds, as appropriate, to ensure current facilities are upgraded to adequately support current airframes.

<u>Military Sexual Trauma (MST).</u> The Committee is frustrated by the findings of the August 2021 Office of Inspector General Report titled "Improvements Still Needed in Processing Military Sexual Trauma Claims" which found Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) has failed to ensure all claims processors handling MST-related claims have received specialized MST training. The Committee urges VBA to prioritize specialized MST training for

claims processors, and to continue to involve MST survivors in the development of specialized training. The Committee additionally remains concerned that veterans suffering from a mental health disorder as a result of sexual trauma during service have different standards of evidence based on their diagnosis. The Committee recognizes that evidence in personnel files is rare, no matter the resulting condition following MST, and therefore, the Committee urges VA to support the extension of the relaxed evidentiary standard to all those suffering from mental health disorders as a result of MST. The Committee requests that the Secretary submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, outlining the status of MST backlogs. Further, the Committee urges VA to continue to report to Congress on information relating to claims for disabilities incurred or aggravated by MST, as provided by section 113 of the Jeff Miller and Richard Blumenthal Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–315).

<u>Military Sexual Assault.</u> The Committee recommends that all veterans seeking treatment services are screened for sexual assault using an evidence-based screening tool in order to successfully treat those who have experienced assault.



#### Army National Guard Project List

State	ARNG Military Construction Project Description	President's Budget Request	HAC-M Mark
AK	Fort Richardson, NG RC	\$67,000	\$67,000
IA	Sioux City Armory, NG Vehicle Maintenance Shop	\$13,800	\$13,800
LA	Lafayette RC, NG RC	\$33,000	\$33,000
MS	Southaven RC, NG RC	\$33,000	\$33,000
МТ	Malta RC, NG Vehicle Maintenance Shop	\$14,800	\$14,800
NV	Hawthorne Army Depot, Automated Qualification/Training Range (QTR)	\$18,000	\$18,000
NJ	Vineland, NG Vehicle Maintenance Shop	\$23,000	\$23,000
OK	Shawnee RC, NG RC	\$29,000	\$29,000
UT	Nephi RC, NG Vehicle Maintenance Shop	\$20,000	\$20,000
WA	Camp Murray, NG/Reserve Center Building	\$40,000	\$40,000

#### (All Dollars in Thousands)



## Air National Guard Project List

### (All Dollars in Thousands)

State	ANG Military Construction Project Description	President's Budget Request	HAC-M Mark
AK	Eielson AFB, Combat Rescue Helicopter Simulator	\$19,300	\$19,300
AR	Ebbing ANG Base, Academic Training Center <sup>1</sup>		\$70,000
CA	Moffett Field, Combat Rescue Helicopter Simulator	\$12,600	\$12,600
FL	Jacksonville IAP, F-35 Consolidated Weapons Training	\$26,200	\$26,200
н	Hickam AFB, Space Control Center	\$36,600	\$36,600
NJ	Atlantic City IAP, F-16 Mission Training Center	\$18,000	\$18,000
NY	Francis S. Gabreski Airport, Combat Rescue Helicopter Simulator	\$14,000	\$14,000
тх	Fort Worth, C-130J ADAL Fuel Cell Building 1674	\$13,100	\$13,100

1. Congressional Add - \$70M for Academic Training Center at Ebbing ANG Base.