

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND
RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2012

MAY 31, 2011.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

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

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2055]

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, 2012, 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. 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 recommendations continue necessary support for servicemembers and veterans, while at the same time the Committee is keenly aware of the dire financial situation the Nation faces. The scale of the Nation's debt and the continuing annual deficit weighed heavily on the Committee as it formulated this bill. A driving force behind the Committee recommendations is the need to do all that we can to reduce the deficit and balance the budget of the United States. Where it was prudent, the Committee recommendation 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. We took the action of deleting planning funds for construction projects that would commit future Congresses to exceedingly large expenses, and we have included provisions which will ensure the funding appropriated is spent in a wise manner. We have included direction to the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to report on the feasibility of structuring contracts in such a way as to encourage

efficiency and economy, by returning to contractors a portion of any savings they are able to generate as they execute construction contracts, while returning a majority of those savings to the Treasury to reduce our dependence on debt.

The Committee recommends \$142,032,269,000 in budget authority for the fiscal year 2012 programs and activities funded in the bill. In addition, advance appropriations of \$52,541,000,000 are provided for fiscal year 2013 medical programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The fiscal year 2012 recommendation is an increase of \$3,308,306,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$1,252,737,000 below the President's request. Included in this amount is \$69,497,269,000 in mandatory budget authority and \$72,535,000,000 in discretionary budget authority.

The recommendation reflects the Committee's continued commitment to our servicemembers and veterans and to their families. The total funding level for military construction is \$14,014,047,000, a 15.7 percent decrease below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level. A significant portion of this decrease is attributed to the reduction in BRAC 2005 appropriation as that program completes its requirements. The overall level of funding supports the servicemen and women and their families who are making sacrifices during this time of war. The programs funded in the bill for the Department of Defense address the numerous challenges we have asked our military to accomplish simultaneously. These funds support continued cleanup of military bases closed during previous Base Realignment and Closure rounds, resource the military's global re-stationing plan, and ensure that our military personnel and their families' quality of life is preserved within these plans.

The total funding level available for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Veterans Affairs is \$127,796,852,000, an increase of 5.8 percent over the fiscal year 2011 enacted level. The recommendation provides funding increases for several mandatory veteran benefits programs, as authorized by current law. In addition to appropriations for fiscal year 2012, the Committee recommendation includes \$52,541,000,000 in advance appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for the three health care accounts of the Department.

The following table compares amounts recommended in the bill to the President's request and amounts appropriated in fiscal year 2011:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2011
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
Military construction, Army.....	3,787,598	3,235,991	3,141,491	-646,107	-94,500
Rescission.....	-263,000	---	-100,000	+163,000	-100,000
Total.....	3,524,598	3,235,991	3,041,491	-483,107	-194,500
Military construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	3,303,611	2,461,547	2,461,547	-842,064	---
Rescission.....	-61,050	---	-25,000	+36,050	-25,000
Total.....	3,242,561	2,461,547	2,436,547	-806,014	-25,000
Military construction, Air Force.....	1,106,995	1,364,858	1,279,358	+172,363	-85,500
Rescission.....	-121,700	---	-32,000	+89,700	-32,000
Total.....	985,295	1,364,858	1,247,358	+262,063	-117,500
Military construction, Defense-Wide.....	2,873,062	3,848,757	3,665,157	+792,095	-183,600
Rescission.....	-148,500	---	-131,400	+17,100	-131,400
Total.....	2,724,562	3,848,757	3,533,757	+809,195	-315,000
Total, Active components.....	10,477,016	10,911,153	10,259,153	-217,863	-652,000
Military construction, Army National Guard.....	873,664	773,592	773,592	-100,072	---
Military construction, Air National Guard.....	194,986	116,246	116,246	-78,740	---
Military construction, Army Reserve.....	318,175	280,549	280,549	-37,626	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Military construction, Navy Reserve.....	61,557	26,299	26,299	-35,258	---
Military construction, Air Force Reserve.....	7,832	33,620	33,620	+25,788	---
Total, Reserve components.....	1,456,214	1,230,306	1,230,306	-225,908	---
Total, Military construction.....	11,933,230	12,141,459	11,489,459	-443,771	-652,000
Appropriations.....	(12,527,480)	(12,141,459)	(11,777,859)	(-749,621)	(-363,600)
Rescissions.....	(-594,250)	---	(-288,400)	(+305,850)	(-288,400)
Emergency appropriations.....	---	---	---	---	---
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.....	258,884	272,611	272,611	+13,727	---
Family housing construction, Army.....	92,369	186,897	186,897	+94,528	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Army.....	518,140	494,858	494,858	-23,282	---
Family housing construction, Navy and Marine Corps....	186,444	100,972	100,972	-85,472	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.....	366,346	367,863	367,863	+1,517	---
Family housing construction, Air Force.....	78,025	84,804	84,804	+6,779	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Air Force....	513,792	404,761	404,761	-109,031	---
Family housing construction, Defense-Wide.....	---	---	---	---	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Defense-Wide	50,464	50,723	50,723	+259	---
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	1,096	2,184	2,184	+1,088	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Homeowners assistance fund.....	16,515	1,284	1,284	-15,231	---
Total, Family housing.....	1,823,191	1,694,346	1,694,346	-128,845	---
Appropriations.....	(1,823,191)	(1,694,346)	(1,694,346)	(-128,845)	---
Rescissions.....	---	---	---	---	---
Emergency appropriations.....	---	---	---	---	---
Chemical demilitarization construction, Defense-Wide..	124,971	75,312	75,312	-49,659	---
Base realignment and closure:					
Base realignment and closure account, 1990.....	360,474	323,543	373,543	+13,069	+50,000
Base realignment and closure account, 2005.....	2,354,285	258,776	258,776	-2,095,509	---
Rescission.....	-232,363	---	-50,000	+182,363	-50,000
Total.....	2,121,922	258,776	208,776	-1,913,146	-50,000
Total, Base realignment and closure.....	2,482,396	582,319	582,319	-1,900,077	---
Rescission (Sec. 126):					
Base Realignment and Closure, 1990	---	---	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000
Total, title I.....	16,622,672	14,766,047	14,014,047	-2,608,625	-752,000
Appropriations.....	(17,449,285)	(14,766,047)	(14,352,447)	(-3,096,838)	(-413,600)
Rescissions.....	(-826,613)	---	(-338,400)	(+488,213)	(-338,400)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2011
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS					
Veterans Benefits Administration					
Compensation and pensions.....	53,978,000	58,067,319	58,067,319	+4,089,319	---
Readjustment benefits.....	10,396,245	11,011,086	11,011,086	+614,841	---
Veterans insurance and indemnities.....	77,589	100,252	100,252	+22,663	---
Veterans housing benefit program fund					
(indefinite).....	19,078	318,612	318,612	+299,534	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(500)	(500)	(500)	---	---
Credit subsidy.....	-165,000	---	---	+165,000	---
Administrative expenses.....	165,082	154,698	154,698	-10,384	---
Guaranteed Transitional Housing Loans for Homeless Veterans.....					
	(750)	---	---	(-750)	---
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account.....					
(Limitation on direct loans).....	29	19	19	-10	---
Administrative expenses.....	(2,298)	(3,019)	(3,019)	(+721)	---
	328	343	343	+15	---
Native American veteran housing loan program account..	664	1,116	1,116	+452	---
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration.....	64,472,015	69,653,445	69,653,445	+5,181,430	---

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AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Veterans Health Administration					
Medical services:					
Advance from prior year.....	(37,136,000)	(39,649,985)	(39,649,985)	(+2,513,985)	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2013.....	39,649,985	41,354,000	41,354,000	+1,704,015	---
Subtotal.....	39,649,985	41,354,000	41,354,000	+1,704,015	---
Medical support and compliance:					
Advance from prior year.....	(5,307,000)	(5,535,000)	(5,535,000)	(+228,000)	---
Fiscal year 2011 payraise rescission.....	(-34,000)	---	---	(+34,000)	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2013.....	5,535,000	5,746,000	5,746,000	+211,000	---
Subtotal.....	5,535,000	5,746,000	5,746,000	+211,000	---
Medical facilities:					
Advance from prior year.....	(5,740,000)	(5,426,000)	(5,426,000)	(-314,000)	---
Fiscal year 2011 payraise rescission.....	(-15,000)	---	---	(+15,000)	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2013.....	5,426,000	5,441,000	5,441,000	+15,000	---
Subtotal.....	5,426,000	5,441,000	5,441,000	+15,000	---
Medical and prosthetic research.....	581,000	508,774	508,774	-72,226	---
Medical care cost recovery collections:					
Offsetting collections.....	-3,393,000	-3,326,000	-3,326,000	+67,000	---

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Appropriations (indefinite).....	3,393,000	3,326,000	3,326,000	-67,000	---
Total, Veterans Health Administration.....	51,142,985	53,049,774	53,049,774	+1,906,789	---
Appropriations.....	(581,000)	(508,774)	(508,774)	+72,226	---
Emergency appropriations.....	---	---	---	---	---
Rescissions.....	-49,000	---	---	+49,000	---
Advance from prior year.....	(48,183,000)	(50,610,985)	(50,610,985)	+2,427,985	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2013.....	(50,610,985)	(52,541,000)	(52,541,000)	+1,930,015	---
National Cemetery Administration					
National Cemetery Administration.....	250,000	250,934	250,934	+934	---
Departmental Administration					
General operating expenses.....	2,534,276	2,466,989	---	-2,534,276	-2,466,989
General administration.....	---	---	422,500	+422,500	+422,500
General operating expenses, VBA.....	---	---	2,020,128	+2,020,128	+2,020,128
Information technology systems.....	3,146,898	3,161,376	3,025,000	-121,898	-136,376
Rescission.....	-147,000	---	---	+147,000	---
Office of Inspector General.....	109,000	109,391	109,391	+391	---
Construction, major projects.....	1,151,036	589,604	589,604	-561,432	---
Rescission.....	-75,000	---	---	+75,000	---
Construction, minor projects.....	467,700	550,091	475,091	+7,391	-75,000
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities.....	85,000	85,000	85,000	---	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2011
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Grants for the construction of veterans cemeteries.....	46,000	46,000	46,000	---	---
Total, Departmental Administration.....	7,317,910	7,008,451	6,772,714	-545,196	-235,737
Appropriations.....	(7,539,910)	(7,008,451)	(6,772,714)	(-767,196)	(-235,737)
Medical Care - Section 225 (Rescission).....	---	-713,000	---	---	+713,000
Medical Care - Section 226.....	---	953,000	---	---	-953,000
Total, title II.....	123,182,910	130,202,604	129,726,867	+6,543,957	-475,737
Appropriations.....	(72,842,925)	(78,374,604)	(77,185,867)	(+4,342,942)	(-1,188,737)
Emergency appropriations.....	---	---	---	---	---
Rescissions.....	(-271,000)	(-713,000)	---	(+271,000)	(+713,000)
Advance from prior year.....	(48,183,000)	(50,610,985)	(50,610,985)	(+2,427,985)	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2013.....	(50,610,985)	(52,541,000)	(52,541,000)	(+1,930,015)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(2,798)	(3,519)	(3,519)	(+721)	---
Discretionary.....	(58,876,998)	(60,705,335)	(60,229,598)	(+1,352,600)	(-475,737)
Mandatory.....	(64,305,912)	(69,497,269)	(69,497,269)	(+5,191,357)	---
American Battle Monuments Commission	64,200	61,100	61,100	-3,100	---
Salaries and expenses.....	20,200	16,000	16,000	-4,200	---
Foreign currency fluctuations account.....	84,400	77,100	77,100	-7,300	---
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission.....					

TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES

American Battle Monuments Commission

Salaries and expenses.....	64,200	61,100	61,100	-3,100	---
Foreign currency fluctuations account.....	20,200	16,000	16,000	-4,200	---
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission.....	84,400	77,100	77,100	-7,300	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2011
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims					
Salaries and expenses.....	27,615	55,770	30,770	+3,155	-25,000
Department of Defense - Civil					
Cemeterial Expenses, Army					
Salaries and expenses.....	45,100	45,800	45,800	+700	---
Armed Forces Retirement Home					
Operation and maintenance.....	69,200	65,700	65,700	-3,500	---
Capital program.....	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home.....	71,200	67,700	67,700	-3,500	---
Total, title III.....	228,315	246,370	221,370	-6,945	-25,000
TITLE IV - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS					
Military Construction, Army.....	981,346	---	---	-981,346	---
Military Construction, Air Force.....	195,006	---	---	-195,006	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2011
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2012
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Military Construction, Defense-Wide.....	46,500	---	---	-46,500	---
Total, title IV.....	1,222,852	---	---	-1,222,852	---
Grand total.....	141,256,749	145,215,021	143,962,284	+2,705,535	-1,252,737
Appropriations.....	(90,520,525)	(93,387,021)	(91,759,684)	(+1,239,159)	(-1,627,337)
Rescissions.....	(-1,097,613)	(-713,000)	(-338,400)	(+759,213)	(+374,600)
Emergency appropriations.....	---	---	---	---	---
Rescission of emergency funding.....	---	---	---	---	---
Advance from prior year.....	(48,183,000)	(50,610,985)	(50,610,985)	(+2,427,985)	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2013.....	(50,610,985)	(52,541,000)	(52,541,000)	(+1,930,015)	---
Overseas contingency operations.....	(1,222,852)	---	---	(-1,222,852)	---
(By transfer).....	---	---	---	---	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(2,798)	(3,519)	(3,519)	(+721)	---

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 2012 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.—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.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).—With the \$127,796,852,000 provided for the VA in this bill and the 1.4 percent 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 as the skills and operating procedures of the VA workforce. The following initiatives demonstrate the Committee's oversight focus:

- *Strengthening contracting oversight.* The bill includes \$20,000,000 to strengthen VA acquisitions management. While VA contract funding has grown substantially since 2001, the capacity of the acquisition workforce has not kept pace, leading to increased risk of higher costs and unsuccessful contract outcomes. This funding supports an increase in acquisition personnel and invests in appropriate training and technology to make the workforce more effective in managing taxpayer dollars.

- *Claims backlog reduction.* The Department's annual claims receipts are expected to grow from 1,192,346 in 2010 to 1,325,953 in 2012, an increase of over 11 percent. While the Department anticipates an initial increase in the average time to process a claim due to increases in the number of claims being filed, as previously hired personnel become more proficient and better trained, the Department expects to meet its strategic target of 125 days to process claims by 2015. Deploying leading-edge, powerful 21st Century IT solutions to create a smart, paperless claims system which simplifies and improves claims processing for timely and accurate decisions the first time is key to achieving this goal, and the Committee has provided the funding necessary to develop these IT solutions.

- *Claims processing review.* In order to address the problems and delays the VA encounters in processing claims, the Committee has directed its Surveys and Investigations staff to review the process the Social Security Administration uses to administer its disability claims processing to determine whether there are efficiencies and best practices that the VA could adapt to improve disability claims processing.

- *Misallocation of medical services funding.* The Committee has heard concerns from numerous Members that the VA retains too much of the funding provided by Congress at headquarters and at the regional health networks instead of allowing it to flow through to the medical centers. The Committee is investigating the allocation process VA uses, mandating that VA provide information annually identifying the use of all funding retained at headquarters, as well as the funding retained by each network and for which purposes.

- *Bid savings control.* The VA has considerable flexibility in allocating funding for major construction projects. Once funding is appropriated for a particular construction project, the Committee has received little or no useful information about the ongoing status of the project, including whether any bid savings have been realized by the VA when contracts are awarded. The Committee includes bill language requiring the VA to notify the Committee of all bid savings totaling \$5,000,000 or more, or five percent, whichever is less, within 14 days of obligation. Additionally, the VA is not permitted to make any change in the scope of major construction projects.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹ (including rescissions)	\$16,622,672,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	14,766,047,000
Committee recommendation in the bill (including rescissions)	14,014,047,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(2,608,625,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(752,000,000)

¹Does not include the effect of a Government-wide .22 percent across the board cut.

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.

The Committee recommends a total appropriation of \$14,014,047,000 for Military Construction, a decrease of \$2,608,625,000 from the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and a decrease of \$752,000,000 below the budget request.

Quadrennial Defense Review/Nuclear Posture Review.—The Committee notes that the reports of the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) and the Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) contained a number of new programs and initiatives with potential impact on

military construction requirements. Among these programs and initiatives are:

- The creation of a new U.S. Cyber Command, a sub-unified command under U.S. Strategic Command;
- Increasing the “resiliency” of forward posture and overseas base infrastructure, including the “hardening” of key facilities;
- The full “normalization” of tours for U.S. Forces Korea, requiring infrastructure to accommodate as many as 14,000 military families, compared to less than 2,000 prior to adoption of this policy;
- The implementation of a new phased, adaptive approach to ballistic missile defense;
- The stand-up of two new Army combat aviation brigades, and the conversion of one heavy brigade combat team to a Stryker brigade combat team by 2013;
- The exploration of potential new modes to base the Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile force; and
- The creation of National Guard Homeland Response Forces in each of the ten Federal Emergency Management Agency regions.

The Committee believes it is essential to ensure that the initiatives called for by the QDR/NPR are matched by the necessary resources in DOD budget plans, and therefore directs the Secretary of Defense to include a report along with the fiscal year 2013 military construction budget request describing how proposed QDR/NPR programs and initiatives are funded in the accompanying Future Years Defense Program (FYDP) for military construction, including dollar amounts associated with specific projects. The report shall also include a description of any ongoing studies or reviews specifically concerning military construction that follow directly from QDR/NPR decisions or proposals, including estimated completion dates. This report shall be submitted to the congressional defense committees no later than 15 days following submission of the Administration’s budget request for fiscal year 2013.

Guam.—The Committee recommends \$155,921,000, the budget request for construction in support of the realignment of Marine Corps forces from Okinawa to Guam, in addition to \$147,600,000 in other military construction projects on the island. The Committee remains supportive of the realignment of Marine Corps forces from Okinawa to Guam. At the same time, the Committee has serious concerns about the Department of Defense’s (DOD) ability to adequately fund and complete construction on time and within budget.

The Committee believes that the Defense Environment Impact Study (DEIS) has very limited value with respect to providing a realistic depiction of how the Guam buildup would proceed. The DEIS does not formally consider any alternatives that would extend construction and/or the relocation of personnel and assets past 2014; rather, the DEIS concedes that “Although the desired completion date for Marine forces relocation is by 2014, the construction would likely continue to 2016.” Even this timeline is likely to prove too optimistic; while the DEIS assumes that “2014 is the last year that any new construction would begin”, the Navy’s Future Years Defense Plan (FYDP) clearly shows significant military construction (including unspecified quality of life and base operations

facilities) associated with the Marine forces relocation programmed for fiscal year 2015, likely pushing the completion date for construction to 2017 and beyond. This fundamental disconnect on the target completion date between the U.S.-Japan agreement, the DEIS, and the FYDP leaves doubt regarding the most realistic and feasible timeline for the Guam buildup.

The EPA has raised a number of serious concerns regarding the quality of the DEIS, especially in relation to the cumulative impacts of the complex and interrelated actions needed not only to complete the relocation of Marine forces, but to provide transient berthing for an aircraft carrier and accommodate the expected influx of a large number of construction workers and associated personnel to execute the buildup.

The buildup of Guam is not a “military problem”; its main feature, the relocation of Marine Corps forces from Okinawa, results from a bilateral agreement negotiated between the U.S. and Japan governments, and therefore DOD should not be isolated as the sole source of funding for the necessary improvements to physical and human capital in Guam. The Committee notes with concern that the Administration has sent mixed signals on this issue.

The Committee believes that while DOD should have the greatest share of leadership for identifying and addressing island-wide impacts, non-DOD agencies must also be provided directly with the budgetary resources necessary to assist the people of Guam with “outside the fence line” problems. To date, however, much of the non-DOD work appears to be mired in the “planning” or “under consideration” phase. The Committee agrees with DOD, as expressed through the DEIS, that the rate of military construction execution for the Guam buildup should be seen as a tool to mitigate or avoid harmful and potentially irreparable consequences.

Charter Schools.—Department of Defense installations throughout the United States are struggling with the issue of dependent education for K–12 students. Frequent moves by military families highlight the differences and inequities among various state public school systems. An increasing number of families are opting for private or home schooling to compensate for lack of public education quality and to maintain continuity in their child’s progress. The 2008 Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (Volume II: Deferred and Noncash Compensation) (QRMC) from the U.S. Department of Defense, an assessment of the competitiveness of benefits, notes in a section on education for dependents that parents should be allowed to start charter schools at military installations and initiate them in the “same way that civilians can under state law.” “Offering a charter school option in areas with less desirable local schools would give parents stationed in those locations another choice in addition to the private school or home schooling options,” the report states. The Committee fully supports the QRMC and urges the Services to develop and publicize procedures for establishing Charter Schools at installations that are not supported adequately by the local public school system.

The Committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study of charter schools located on domestic and international military installations. This report shall include a detailed description of charter schools currently in operation on military installations, identify the potential challenges of devel-

oping and implementing charter schools on additional military installations, and examine how oversubscribed enrollment would affect the continuity of education for dependents of members of the Armed Forces. The Comptroller General shall present the report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than December 31, 2011.

Facilities management, life-cycle costs, and construction method alternatives.—The Committee believes that the military construction program best serves both our military personnel and the taxpayers when projects are open to competitive bidding from contractors representing the widest possible range of construction methods. To that end, the Committee urges the Department of Defense and the execution agents for military construction, principally the Army Corps of Engineers and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, to ensure that requests for proposals or qualifications do not arbitrarily foreclose, discourage, or privilege any type of construction method. The Committee continues to encourage a level playing field for both traditional construction methods and alternative methods such as permanent modular construction. The Committee also encourages DOD to evaluate the regular use of carbon fiber grid precast concrete technology in military construction projects.

The Committee believes that the best way to ensure a level playing field is to set and communicate clear standards and expectations regarding life-cycle cost management for military construction, backed by rigorous, objective analysis. The Committee understands that situations may arise in which objectives other than life-cycle cost may take precedence; for example, speed of construction may be a predominant concern in order to meet time-limited goals such as base realignments, force structure growth, new system bed-down, or urgent operational needs. At the same time, the Committee is concerned by the recent report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO-10-436) indicating that varying service attitudes toward the life-cycle costs of different construction methods were based more on pre-formed opinions, personal experiences, and anecdotal evidence rather than quantitative information or analyses. The Committee therefore urges DOD and the services to conduct further research regarding comparative life-cycle costs for differing types of construction, establish clear goals and benchmarks, and ensure these standards are communicated to contracting officials. Until such an empirical basis is established, the Committee urges DOD and the services to carefully reconsider blanket use of any new life-cycle approaches that depart from prior, standard practices.

The Committee also notes that over the past three years, the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment (DUSD I&E) has indicated efforts underway to shift from a measurement of the recapitalization rate of DOD facilities in terms of years to one based on the actual condition of facilities and mission priority. Under the 2007 Defense Installations Strategic Plan, this new methodology was to have been implemented by fiscal year 2010, but recent DUSD I&E testimony indicated this methodology was still under development. The Committee therefore directs the DUSD I&E to provide a status update on the development of this

methodology and its implementation in the military construction program no later than January 30, 2012.

Bid savings.—The Committee has ascertained from cost variation notices required by 10 U.S.C. 2853 that DOD continues to have bid savings on previously appropriated military construction projects. The Committee's recommendations therefore include rescissions to the Army, Navy, Air Force and Defense-Wide military construction accounts. The Committee directs the Government Accountability Office to review all military construction bid savings and report to the Committee by January 29, 2012.

Incremental funding.—The Committee repeatedly has stated that while projects should be fully funded or separated into stand-alone phases where practicable, incremental funding should remain an option when it makes fiscal and programmatic sense. In some cases, the phased approach can drive up costs by requiring inefficient designs and separate bids that leave subsequent phases vulnerable to construction price inflation. However, the Committee will continue to exercise its prerogative to recommend incremental funding when circumstances dictate. The Committee therefore recommends incremental funding for the following five projects included in the Administration's request: Aviation Complex, Fort Wainwright, Alaska; Mountainview Operations Facility, Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado; Ambulatory Care Center, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland; Hospital Replacement, Fort Bliss, Texas; and Guam Strike Fuel Systems Maintenance Hangar, Joint Region Marianas, Guam.

Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization (FSRM).—The Department 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 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.

Transfer of funds to and from the Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense Account.—The Committee directs DOD 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.

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 DOD Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R and relevant updates and policy memoranda. The Committee further encourages the Office of the Director of National Intelligence

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

Test and Training Range Engineering Labs.—The Committee believes funds for the construction of test and training range engineering labs, where possible, should be moved forward in the budgeting process in order to realize cost benefits to fulfill program obligations in a timely, cost-efficient manner. This approach should be used where the current project requirements have exceeded existing facility capability and the lack of proper laboratory space will lead to an inability to meet the Department of Defense's sponsored requirements.

District Energy Systems.—The Committee recognizes that many military installations currently operate district energy systems, which connect multiple buildings through an underground piping network that carries hot and cold water or steam and achieve at least twice the fuel efficiency of traditional heating and cooling systems. The Department of Defense shall conduct a study to inventory which of its current and planned military installations could reduce energy costs or increase security of energy supply by building or expanding district energy systems and by installing combined heat and power technologies. This study shall include a list of priority installations to receive energy infrastructure investments and may include energy life cycle analyses. The results of the foregoing study shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by January 30, 2012. Further, increased investment in district energy systems shall be pursued as a strategy for the Department of Defense to achieve the goals of pollution reduction and environmental sustainability outlined in Executive Order 13514—Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance.

Child Development Centers.—The Committee encourages the Department of Defense to reaffirm its commitment to providing exceptional child care facilities on all domestic and international military installations. The Committee also encourages the Department of Defense to ensure that Child Development Centers located on military installations offer a safe childcare environment and meet professional standards for early childhood education.

Base Realignment and Closure.—The Committee recognizes the unique strain placed upon state and local military communities, municipalities, and jurisdictions through the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. The Committee also recognizes that under U.S. Census rules established in response to the Vietnam War, military personnel stationed overseas were not counted in the 2010 Census as residents of the states and communities in which they were stationed. Consequently, because many federal and state programs use funding formulas tied to the decennial census, this rule could deprive military communities, where servicemembers and their families live a majority of the time, of federal funding they are justly entitled to receive. The Committee encourages the Department of Defense to work closely with local municipalities and jurisdictions to help minimize the impact of both policies on their ability to provide appropriate infrastructure and resources to best meet the needs of U.S. military servicemembers and their families.

Contract Structures and Management.—The Committee believes that structuring contracts and employee compensation with incentives to reduce cost by permitting retention of a share of savings has the potential to generate substantial economies. The Committee directs the Department of Defense to report to the Committee on the structure of its contracts for military construction, including the portion of contracts awarded on a fixed-price basis, those awarded on a cost-plus fixed fee basis, and all other contract structures used by the Department for its construction programs. For all contracts, the Department is directed to report on incentives that are included in the contracts to reduce the cost to the government and any financial incentives included for completion of contracts ahead of schedule or under cost. If such incentives do not currently exist, the Department is to report on the feasibility of beginning such a program.

Missile Defense within U.S. Pacific Command Area of Responsibility.—Obstacles ranging from passive to active hostility are challenges to the efforts by U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) to maintain security across the large Asia-Pacific region. Potential and existing threats from North Korea and China make the command's focus on maintaining security throughout the region a top priority. Security in the region also includes missile defense of our allies. Currently there is a missile defense presence of patriot missile batteries based in South Korea and early warning information is shared with our allies. With Command's responsibility for such a vast region and the planned increase of Marines Corps personnel on Guam, the Committee directs the Department of Defense to submit a report within 60 days after enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on what additional missile defense assets would be required to support continued security of the region from existing threats.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$3,524,598,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	3,235,991,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	3,041,491,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(483,107,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(194,500,000)

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,041,491,000 for Military Construction, Army, a decrease of \$483,107,000 from the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and a decrease of \$194,500,000 below the budget request.

The Committee recommendation includes a reduction that totals \$94,500,000 from three projects: An incremented Aviation Complex Phase III at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska due to lateness of the appropriations FY 2011 process and no funding provided for two commissary type facilities in Germersheim, Germany requested in the fiscal year 2012 submission. The reduction also includes a rescission from prior year appropriations Acts of \$100,000,000.

Tour Normalization, Korea.—The Department of Defense has taken on an arduous and expensive task to normalize deployments to Korea by establishing a two-year tour for single members of the service and three-year tours for married servicemembers to include

their families. The task will require great investment in military construction for schools, family housing and child development centers just to name a few. The Committee is concerned that this investment may be an expense that the United States should not incur. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to report to the Committee on Appropriations within 60 days of enactment of this Act the total cost and plan for Tour Normalization in Korea.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$3,242,561,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	2,461,547,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	2,436,547,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(806,014,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(25,000,000)

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,436,547,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, a decrease of \$806,014,000 from the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and a decrease of \$25,000,000 below the budget request.

The Committee recommendation includes a rescission from prior year appropriations Acts of \$25,000,000.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$985,295,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	1,364,858,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,247,358,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	262,063,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(117,500,000)

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,247,358,000 for Military Construction, Air Force, an increase of \$262,063,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and a decrease of \$117,500,000 below the budget request.

The Committee recommendation includes a reduction that totals \$85,500,000 from two projects: Strike Fuel Maintenance Facility at Andersen AFB, Guam and F-35 AGE Facility at Nellis AFB, Nevada incremented due to lateness of the appropriations FY 2011 process. The reduction also includes a rescission from prior year appropriations Acts of \$32,000,000.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND RESCISSIONS)

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$2,724,562,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	3,848,757,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	3,533,757,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	809,195,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(315,000,000)

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,533,757,000 for Military Construction, Defense-Wide, an increase of \$809,195,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and a decrease of \$315,000,000 below the budget request.

The Committee recommendation includes a reduction that totals \$183,600,000 from three projects: Ft. Bliss Hospital Phase IIIA, Texas; Ambulatory Care Center Phase I at Andrews AFB, Maryland and Mountainview Operations Facility at Buckley AFB, Colorado incremented due to lateness of the appropriations FY 2011 process. The reduction also includes a rescission from prior year appropriations Acts of \$131,400,000 for unobligated balances in planning and design, contingency construction and bid savings.

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.

Department of Defense (DOD) schools recapitalization.—The Committee commends the Department of Defense for its commitment to funding the recapitalization of more than half of its dependent schools by fiscal year 2015. The Committee expects that this funding will contribute greatly to the quality of life of military families. A comprehensive assessment of DOD dependent schools and construction requirements directed by the Committee in House Report 110–775 indicated that 149 of 189 schools had facilities with an overall condition rating of either Q3 (poor) or Q4 (failing) and required significant recapitalization efforts to eliminate space shortfalls and temporary facilities. The Committee recommends \$483,302,000, the same as the budget request, for school construction activities and strongly encourages the Department to sustain and, if possible within the constraints of funding and executability, to accelerate this important initiative.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$873,664,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	773,592,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	773,592,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(100,072,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	— —

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$773,592,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard, a decrease of \$100,072,000 from the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

Energy Security.—The Committee strongly encourages the Army National Guard to increase the energy security and environmental sustainability of its operations to reduce costs and protect mission continuity. The Committee encourages the Army National Guard to establish at least one pilot facility for the purpose of demonstrating the integration of advanced energy security and environmental protection systems, including geothermal, solar, district heating and cooling and water recycling.

Enforcement of Border Security.—Recognizing the need to bolster resources for the enforcement of border security, the Committee encourages the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard to consider, design, and construct facilities adjacent to our southwestern border that will support National Guard activities and house and support defense assets used by Customs and Border Protection and other law enforcement agencies for the terrestrial, mar-

itime, and aerial surveillance of those borders, to include aircraft hangars suitable for unmanned aerial systems.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$194,986,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	116,246,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	116,246,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(78,740,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$116,246,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard, a decrease of \$78,740,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$318,175,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	280,549,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	280,549,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(37,626,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$280,549,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve, a decrease of \$37,626,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$61,557,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	26,299,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	26,299,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(35,258,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$26,299,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve, a decrease of \$35,258,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$7,832,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	33,620,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	33,620,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	25,788,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$33,620,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve, an increase of \$25,788,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT
PROGRAM

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$258,884,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	272,611,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	272,611,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	13,727,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	--

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 Committee recommends an appropriation of \$272,611,000 for NSIP, an increase of \$13,727,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

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.

FAMILY HOUSING OVERVIEW

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$1,823,191,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	1,694,346,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,694,346,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(128,845,000)
Fiscal year 2012 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.

The Committee recommends a total appropriation of \$1,694,346,000 for the family housing construction, family housing operation and maintenance, and homeowners assistance accounts, a decrease of \$128,845,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The decrease below the 2011 enacted level is due partly to the Department of Defense's success in implementing the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, which has generated approximately \$27,000,000,000 in family housing development on military installations and reduced the requirement for appropriated construction and operating costs. The Committee encourages the Department, where feasible, to utilize energy efficient, environmentally friendly, and easily deployable composite building materials in new family housing construction.

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 by December 1, 2011. 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 subaccounts 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.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$92,369,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	186,897,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	186,897,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	94,528,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$186,897,000 for Family Housing Construction, Army, an increase of \$94,528,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$518,140,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	494,858,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	494,858,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(23,282,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$494,858,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army, a decrease of \$23,282,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$186,444,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	100,972,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	100,972,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(85,472,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$100,972,000 for Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, a decrease of \$85,472,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$366,346,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	367,863,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	367,863,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	1,517,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$367,863,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps, an increase of \$1,517,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$78,025,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	84,804,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	84,804,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	6,779,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$84,804,000 for Family Housing Construction, Air Force, an increase of \$6,779,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$513,792,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	404,761,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	404,761,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(109,031,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$404,761,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force, a decrease of \$109,031,000 from the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$50,464,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	50,723,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	50,723,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	259,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$50,723,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, an increase of \$259,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$1,096,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	2,184,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	2,184,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	1,088,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Family Housing Improvement Fund (FHIF) is authorized by section 2883, title 10, United States Code, and provides the Department of Defense with authority to finance joint ventures with the private sector to revitalize and to manage the Department's housing inventory. The statute authorizes the Department to use limited partnerships, make direct and guaranteed loans, and convey Department-owned property to stimulate the private sector to increase the availability of affordable, quality housing for military personnel.

The FHIF is used to build or renovate family housing by using various legal authorities, and by utilizing private capital and expertise to the maximum extent possible. The fund is administered as a single account without fiscal year limitations and contains directly appropriated and transferred funds from family housing construction accounts.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,184,000 for the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, an increase of \$1,088,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE FUND

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$16,515,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	1,284,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,284,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(15,231,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Homeowners Assistance Fund account finances the Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP), which provides assistance to individual military and Federal civilian homeowners who sustain losses on the sales of their primary residences due to declining real estate markets attributable to the closure or realignment of military installations, as well as the temporary expansion of the program to include military homeowners adversely affected by the housing crisis and the permanent extension of benefits to wounded warriors and surviving spouses. This non-expiring revolving fund receives funding from several sources, including appropriations, borrowing authority, reimbursable authority, prior fiscal year unobligated balances, appropriation transfers, revenue from sale of acquired properties, and recovery of prior year obligations.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,284,000 for the Department of Defense Homeowners Assistance Fund, a decrease of \$15,231,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$124,971,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	75,312,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	75,312,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(49,659,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide account provides funds for the design and construction of full-scale chemical disposal facilities and associated projects to upgrade installation support facilities and infrastructures required to support the Chemical Demilitarization program.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$75,312,000 for Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide, a decrease of \$49,659,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT 1990

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$360,474,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	323,543,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	373,543,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	13,069,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	50,000,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$373,543,000 for the Base Realignment and Closure Account 1990, an increase of \$13,069,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$50,000,000 above the fiscal year 2012 budget request.

BRAC 1990.—According to the GAO (GAO-10-457T) there are 1492 BRAC sites awaiting clean up—sites that have not reached response complete status. There are another 440 BRAC sites that require long-term management to effectively remediate contamination. The estimated cost of clean up at these sites is in excess of \$3 billion. It is critical that hazards present on these ranges be identified and removed yet the pace of clean up remains painfully slow, with some bases predicted not to be fully cleaned for upwards of 300 years or more. The Committee is concerned that, despite regular funding for clean up activities in the 1990 BRAC Account, DOD consistently underspends appropriated money in this account. The Committee directs the Department of Defense to report back to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 90 days of enactment of this Act its plan to expedite and expand clean up activities of BRAC legacy bases and how it will fully utilize the funds appropriated to it annually for that purpose.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT 2005

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$2,354,285,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	258,776,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	208,776,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(2,145,509,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(50,000,000)

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$208,776,000 for the Base Realignment and Closure Account 2005, a decrease of \$2,145,509,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$50,000,000 below the fiscal year 2012 budget request. This fund-

ing supports the most recent base realignment and closure round which affects over 800 installations and locations through 24 major closures, 24 major realignments, and 765 other actions.

Base Realignment and Closure 2005.—The Committee is disappointed that the Department of the Army has refused to implement the recommendations offered by the Inspector General in its report entitled, “Assessment of BRAC 133 Final Environmental Assessment of July 2008 and Transportation Management Plan of July 2010.” The Inspector General’s findings that the proposed traffic mitigation measures in the BRAC 133 Environmental Assessment may not be sufficient to support the finding of no significant impact are troubling. Further, the IG’s conclusion that the Army’s goal of reducing single occupancy vehicle trips to the Mark Center site by 40 percent may not be achievable and may impose further adverse impacts on the roadway network are distressing. The Committee therefore directs the Army to perform a traffic impact analysis and to document its findings in a supplemental environmental assessment within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

Transportation Infrastructure Improvements.—The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to determine the magnitude of impacts, with particular emphasis on mission accomplishment, as a result of ongoing and future Base Realignment and Closure actions on transportation infrastructure at and in the vicinity of each affected military installation and consider expanded use of and additional funding sources for the Defense Access Roads program to mitigate such impacts through multi-modal transportation improvements and report to the Committee on the findings by January 30, 2012.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

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 within the Central Command area of responsibility.

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 bordering the Arabian Sea 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 limiting obligations of funds made available for one fiscal year to no more than 20 percent during the last two months of the fiscal year.

The bill includes section 115 allowing funds appropriated in prior years to be used for new projects authorized during the current session of Congress.

The bill includes section 116 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 117 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 118 allowing for the transfer of proceeds from "Base Realignment and Closure Account, Part I" to the continuing Base Realignment and Closure accounts.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 119 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 120 providing transfer authority to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

The bill includes section 121 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 \$35,000 per year without notification.

The bill includes section 122 making funds in the Ford Island Improvement Fund available until expended.

The bill includes section 123 prohibiting the use of funds for military construction, family housing, or land acquisition projects at installations closed or realigned under BRAC, except under certain conditions.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 124 allowing the transfer of expired funds to the “Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense” account.

The bill includes section 125 allowing for the reprogramming of construction funds among projects and activities subject to certain guidelines.

(RESCISSIONS)

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

The bill includes section 127 limiting the number of parking spaces that may be occupied at the BRAC office complex in Alexandria, Virginia, until certain conditions are met.

The bill includes section 128 prohibiting the use of funds for any action related to the expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado.

The bill includes section 129 prohibiting the use of funds to relocate a unit of the Army that would impact more than 200 personnel.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ^{1 2}	\$121,873,076,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request ¹	130,202,604,000
Committee recommendation in the bill ¹	129,726,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	7,853,791,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(475,737,000)
Fiscal year 2013 advance budget request ¹	52,541,000,000
Fiscal year 2013 Committee recommendation in the bill ¹	52,541,000,000

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

²Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) serves nearly 58 million people: 22,700,000 veterans and 35,100,000 family members of living veterans or survivors of deceased veterans. This group constitutes more than 18 percent of the United States population. To serve adequately the nation’s veterans, the VA employs 285,000 people, making it one of the largest Federal agencies in terms of employment.

The Committee recommends a total of \$129,726,000,000 in budget authority for programs in fiscal year 2012, an increase of \$7,853,791,000 or 6.4 percent above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$475,737,000 below the budget request. In addition, advance appropriations of \$52,541,000,000 are provided for fiscal year 2013.

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION
 COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS
 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$53,978,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	58,067,319,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	58,067,319,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	4,089,319,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

This appropriation provides funds for service-connected compensation payments to an estimated 4,000,000 veterans, survivors, and dependents. In addition, pension payments are funded for 507,000 veterans and their survivors. The average cost per compensation case for veterans in 2012 is estimated at \$13,226, and pension payments are projected at a unit cost of \$9,739.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$58,067,319,000 for compensation, pension, and burial benefits, an increase of \$4,089,319,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

The appropriation includes authority to transfer funding not to exceed \$32,187,000, of which \$10,766,000 is for the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefit Administration account, \$20,843,000 is for the Medical Support and Compliance account, and \$578,000 is for the Information Technology Systems account. These funds are for the administrative expenses of implementing cost-saving provisions required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, Public Law 101-508, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992, Public Law 102-568, and the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1994, Public Law 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 the 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 2011 enacted level	\$10,396,245,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	11,011,086,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	11,011,086,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	614,841,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

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. 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. Almost 75 percent of the funds in the account support the Post 9–11 GI Bill.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$11,011,086,000 for Readjustment Benefits, an increase of \$614,841,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$77,589,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	100,252,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	100,252,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	22,663,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

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 the veterans mortgage life insurance, applicable to individuals who have received a grant for specially adapted housing.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$100,252,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities, an increase of \$22,663,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request. 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 2011 enacted level	\$19,078,000	\$500,000	\$165,082,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	318,612,000	500,000	154,698,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	318,612,000	500,000	154,698,000
Comparison with:			
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	299,534,000	---	(10,384,000)
Fiscal year 2012 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.

The Committee recommends such sums as may be necessary (currently estimated to total \$318,612,000) for funding subsidy payments, \$500,000 for the limitation on direct loans for specially adapted housing loans, and \$154,698,000 for administrative expenses.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

	Program account	Limitation on direct loans	Administrative expenses
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$29,000	\$2,298,000	\$328,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	19,000	3,019,000	343,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	19,000	3,019,000	343,000
Comparison with:			
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(10,000)	721,000	15,000
Fiscal year 2012 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.

The Committee recommends \$19,000 for funding subsidy program costs and \$343,000 for administrative expenses. The administrative expenses may be paid to the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefit Administration account.

In addition, the Committee includes language limiting direct loans to \$3,019,000. It is estimated that the Department will make 3,215 loans in fiscal year 2012, with an average amount of \$939.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Administrative expenses:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$664,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	1,116,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	1,116,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	452,000
Fiscal year 2012 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. The Committee recommends the budget request of \$1,116,000 for administrative expenses of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program.

GUARANTEED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOANS FOR HOMELESS
VETERANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

No funds have been provided for this program, which was funded as a pilot in fiscal year 2000 to expand the supply of transitional housing for homeless veterans. This is the same as the budget request. No new loans will be executed and no additional program account funds are required to service the one existing loan. Up to \$750,000 was made available in fiscal year 2011 to service the loan.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The Department operates the largest Federal medical care delivery system in the country, with 152 hospitals, 101 domiciliary residential rehabilitation treatment programs, 133 nursing homes, 300 Vet Centers, 50 mobile Vet Centers, and 807 outpatient clinics which include independent, satellite, community-based, and rural outreach clinics. Approximately 6,184,000 patients will be treated in 2012.

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is comprised of four accounts: Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, Medical Facilities, and Medical and Prosthetic Research. For these accounts, the Administration has requested total resources for fiscal year 2013 of \$52,541,000,000 in direct appropriations to fund the three advance appropriations of the VHA, as well as \$3,326,000,000 in Medical Care Collections Fund appropriations. This is an increase of \$1,930,015,000 above the fiscal year 2012 enacted level of \$50,610,985,000 and the same as the budget request. The Committee also provides the 2012 budget request of \$508,774,000 for medical and prosthetic research.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$37,136,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 enacted level	39,649,985,000
Fiscal year 2012 additional request	240,000,000
Fiscal year 2013 advance budget request	41,354,000,000
Committee 2013 recommendation in the bill	41,354,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2012 enacted level	1,663,015,000
Fiscal year 2013 budget request	(41,000,000)

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across-the-board reduction.

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 the VA.

The Committee provides an advance appropriation of \$41,354,000,000 for Medical Services for fiscal year 2013, an increase of \$1,663,015,000, or 4.2 percent, above the fiscal year 2012 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2014, \$1,000,000,000 of the Medical Services appropriation for fiscal year 2013. \$248,000,000 is included to implement the new programs created by the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010. The Committee provides sufficient resources to fully implement VA homeless assistance programs, including the Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem, the Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Department of Veterans Affairs Supported Housing programs.

The FY 2012 budget includes a request for an additional \$240,000,000 for Medical Services in fiscal year 2012, derived from a rescission of \$713,000,000 from the Medicare care accounts due to the cancellation of the 2011 and 2012 pay raises and a “contingency fund” of \$953,000,000, to be made available by the administration if economic conditions warrant additional funding. The Committee does not provide this additional FY 2012 funding. As the economy begins to recover, it seems unlikely that economic conditions will generate unmet medical services needs, particularly since the account has weathered the worst of the recession without budget shortfalls. The Committee’s recommendation does not include rescission of \$664,000,000 of FY 2011 and FY 2012 funding that remains in the medical care accounts from the cancelled pay raises. Rather, the Committee permits the funding to remain in the account to cover any unanticipated medical service costs. The bill includes language indicating that the \$664,000,000 will be available only in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year upon approval of the Appropriations Committees of a request from the VA to release the funding due to unanticipated needs related to economic conditions.

Operational improvements.—The budget request is built on the assumption of substantial savings from what are called “operational improvements”. These savings are estimated at \$745,200,000 in fiscal year 2011, \$1,216,800,000 in fiscal year 2012, and \$1,264,000,000 in fiscal year 2013. The operational improvements vary from fee care payment savings to clinical staff and resource “realignment” to real property cost savings. The Committee is concerned that these savings estimates are uncertain at best and depend in part on regulatory changes and hiring policies that may not materialize. Given this uncertainty, coupled with the unfortunate record the VA has had in the past with budgets based on similar “savings”, the Committee requests that the VA provide an operating plan identifying the timeframe and benchmarks used in generating the estimates and the metrics to be used to validate

the savings. This report should be generated on a semi-annual basis, with the first report due on September 30, 2011.

Rural health issues

The Committee provides the budget request of \$250,000,000 to improve access and quality of care for the 3,300,000 veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas. The Committee remains concerned, however, about the management of the substantial funding that has been provided over the last several years to the Office of Rural Health (ORH) at the VA. The VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a report in April 2011 indicating that the ORH did not adequately manage the use of fee funds and the proposal selection process. Additionally, ORH did not monitor project obligations and performance measures, and some funds lapsed. Funds were awarded to projects that did not meet ORH's review criteria. Perhaps most importantly, the OIG recommended that the ORH re-assess the fiscal year 2012 budget to align the planned use of resources to the greatest rural health needs. The Committee expects to receive a report by July 1, 2011 describing the ORH's strategic plan for rural health activities for the fiscal year 2012 advance funding already received and the fiscal year 2013 request.

The Committee is concerned about the health care needs of elderly veteran populations in rural areas. These veterans have difficulty obtaining access to quality health care and disability services, due to having to travel long distances to healthcare facilities and the lack of specialty providers working in rural areas. While the VA has made strides in expanding access to rural veterans, it is clear that the VA continues to struggle to find an adequate and effective strategy to reach these men and women. The Committee requests a detailed report by March 31, 2012, on the feasibility of offering mobile health services, home-based primary care, telemedicine, and other enhanced home-based services in these underserved areas.

The Committee encourages the VA to clarify for VA clinics and hospitals their ability to use local private sector health care assets and facilities when appropriate and cost-effective. The increased use of private providers can reduce the cost of per diem and mileage expended by the VA and prevents veterans from traveling long distances from home to get quality health care.

The Committee encourages the VA to continue to provide health care to veterans through community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). Due to the increasing number of veterans located in rural areas, this creates additional challenges in providing access to quality health care. Community-based outpatient clinics address this challenge by providing essential care to veterans in rural areas. The Committee encourages the VA to build upon existing programs and develop new programs within community-based outpatient clinics in order to provide veterans access to quality health care.

The Committee recognizes the unique needs of the homeless veteran population in states with rural veteran needs. The Committee encourages the VA to conduct pilot programs to address these needs, giving priority to the states with the highest number of veterans per capita.

Allocation of health funding.—The Committee is concerned that the process the VA uses to allocate the health services appropriation through the veterans integrated service 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 requests 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.

Respiratory care program.—The Inspector General's 2007 audit of the VA's home respiratory care program (HRCP) indicated a need for greater oversight and improvements to the quality of care. The Committee is concerned that despite the recommendations contained in the audit, the HRCP continues to suffer from a lack of appropriate oversight and from problems with quality of care provided by some vendors providing durable medical equipment and services under the program. The Committee understands that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) deemed accredited organizations (DAO) for suppliers of durable medical equipment dictate industry best practices in this field. Presently, the VA does not require that suppliers be accredited by one of the DAO to provide equipment and services under the home respiratory care program. The Committee is concerned that the VA may lack the capacity to ensure compliance with applicable industry standards for the HRCP. The Committee believes that the VA should place greater emphasis on DAO accreditation and compliance with best practices among HRCP vendors. The Committee urges that all future contract solicitations for services under HRCP require that bidders must be accredited by a CMS-approved DAO and meet all State and Federal licensing requirements relevant to the services requested.

Prostate cancer.—The Committee is concerned by the incidence rates of prostate cancer in the veteran population. The Committee requests that VA conduct a pilot project using individual patient treatment plans developed by a multidisciplinary care team that includes an oncologist to assess the appropriate management of patients recently diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Broadening VA relationships with academia.—The Committee encourages the VA to strengthen its partnership with the academic community by developing local or regional strategic alliances and joint ventures with academic medical centers to promote the delivery of comprehensive, cost-effective health care to veterans. Medical research, health professions training, and clinical care are all areas in which the VA would benefit from a synergistic relationship with its academic partners. The Blue Ribbon Panel on VA–Medical School Affiliations developed wide-ranging recommendations to broaden the VA's partnership with the academic community, and the Committee urges the VA to move to adopt these recommendations.

Medical scholarships.—The Committee requests that VA prepare a report describing the feasibility, costs, and implementation time-frame for establishing, in collaboration with a university medical school, a program to recruit and retain qualified physicians into the VA. The Committee proposes that the program offer medical students Federally-funded, full four-year scholarships at the medical school in exchange for service in the VA for a minimum of six years upon conclusion of their residency and fellowship training. The university medical school should have a residency affiliation with a proximate VA medical center and use a specialized curriculum designed by the VA for the cohort of scholarship students.

Infectious disease transmission among veterans.—The Committee remains concerned by unsafe sterilization practices at several VA medical centers, which have raised the threat of transmission of hepatitis and HIV. While the VHA has published new guidance and directed site visits of medical facilities, there continue to be incidents where veterans are exposed to unsanitary conditions. The Committee believes that the VHA should work to ensure that all its medical facilities do not deviate from recommended sanitization procedures. The Committee urges the VHA to review its training and sterilization practices to ensure that these types of incidents are avoided.

Infectious disease status.—The Committee believes that the VA should work to establish knowledge of hepatitis and HIV status among its constituents. The Committee encourages VA to continue the implementation of routine HIV testing, particularly at the local facility level, and continues to urge the VA to utilize computerized patient records as a tool in the implementation of the VA HIV testing directive issued in August, 2009.

Colonoscopy equipment problems.—The Committee is concerned about the implementation of the regulations and procedures regarding the sterilization of colonoscopy equipment used in VA facilities. While the Committee applauds the VA effort to expeditiously inform, test and treat veterans who were exposed to unclean colonoscopy equipment, the Committee fears that the VA has not sufficiently strengthened adherence to safe and sanitary cleaning procedures for colonoscopies. The Committee requests that the VA submit a report on the performance of each medical center in meeting the standards set to ensure the cleanliness of colonoscopy equipment by March 1, 2012.

Companion animals.—The Committee is aware that the VA is considering regulations to provide veterans with service animals for treatment of post traumatic stress disorder, either as companion animals or for training as therapy. The Committee urges the VA to permit the veterans who receive service animals as companions to retain the animals on a permanent basis.

Affiliations with university-based medical centers.—The Committee encourages the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish innovative public-private partnerships for the treatment and research of post-traumatic stress disorder in teaching hospitals across the country.

Minority health professions graduate schools.—The Committee has heard repeated testimony on the need for the VA to increase its affiliations with minority health professions graduate schools. Although progress has been made, improvement is required at the

local level to achieve full affiliation. Therefore, the Committee suggests that the VA convene a symposium of VA health leaders and minority health professions graduate school leaders to pursue the next steps to strengthen these relationships.

Dialysis facilities.—The Committee understands that the VA is planning to increase its in-house capacity for dialysis care by leasing offsite facilities and expanding existing medical center dialysis suites. The VA is currently running a pilot demonstration at four sites to measure how VA-provided dialysis compares in cost and quality of care to contract-provided dialysis. The Committee directs the VA not to convert dialysis service from contract-provided care to in-house care until after the completion and evaluation of the four-site pilot demonstration. The Committee requests a report by January 1, 2012 describing the cost metric being used at each site of the pilot—whether the cost comparison of VA-provided care is to the Medicare rate or the current negotiated contract price or some other measure. The report should also include projections of the ten-year VA patient caseload requiring dialysis and the share of the population that is expected to be served by in-house VA dialysis versus contract care.

MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$5,307,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 enacted level	5,535,000,000
Fiscal year 2013 advance budget request	5,746,000,000
Committee 2013 recommendation in the bill	5,746,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2012 enacted level	211,000,000
Fiscal year 2013 advance budget request	---

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across-the-board reduction.

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 Committee recommends an advance appropriation of \$5,746,000,000 for Medical Support and Compliance for fiscal year 2013, an increase of \$211,000,000 above the fiscal year 2012 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2014, \$100,000,000 of the Medical Support and Compliance appropriation for fiscal year 2013.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$5,725,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 enacted level	5,426,000,000
Fiscal year 2013 advance budget request	5,441,000,000
Committee 2013 recommendation in the bill	5,441,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2012 enacted level	15,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 advance budget request	---

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across-the-board reduction.

The Medical Facilities appropriation provides funds for the operation and maintenance of the Department’s 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 Committee recommends an advance appropriation of \$5,441,000,000 for Medical Facilities for fiscal year 2013, an increase of \$15,000,000 above the fiscal year 2012 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2014, \$100,000,000 of the advance Medical Facilities appropriation for fiscal year 2013.

Medical waste treatment.—The Committee requests the VA review the possible cost-savings associated with utilizing on-site equipment at medical facilities to treat infectious medical waste rather than contracting with outside waste disposal companies to remove, process and dispose of it. This review should include consideration of all costs associated with handling, transporting and disposing medical waste with both alternatives. The Committee expects a report of this review by March 1, 2012.

Leases for community-based outpatient clinics.—The Committee provides the budget request for the VA’s national lease program for new and expanded VA community-based outpatient clinics. These clinics ensure that veterans in communities throughout the country have access to VA medical services, particularly those who do not live in close proximity to regional VA hospital centers.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$581,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	508,774,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	508,774,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(72,226,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across-the-board reduction.

This appropriation provides for medical, rehabilitative, and health services research. 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 the Department of Defense, grants from the National Institutes of Health, private proprietary sources, and voluntary organizations provide support for the Department’s researchers. Estimated total research resources from all sources in 2012 are \$1,728,000,000. The VA will support about 2,100 research projects during fiscal year 2012.

The Committee recommends \$508,774,000 for Medical and Prosthetic Research, a decrease of \$72,226,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request. Funds are available through September 30, 2013.

Gambling study.—The Committee requests that the VA conduct a study to assess the extent of problem gambling among VHA pa-

tients, and subsequently develop assessment and treatment approaches for problem gambling in VHA patients.

Vietnam veterans longitudinal study.—The Committee understands that the VA has issued a contract to reinstitute the National Vietnam Veterans Longitudinal Study. The Committee urges the VA to proceed as quickly as possible with the study. The longer the study takes, the harder it becomes to locate study subjects and develop representative sample populations. The Committee directs the VA to submit a report by January 1, 2012 detailing the progress made with identification of sample populations; development of study protocol and research questions; and timeframes for completion of research, data analysis, and publication of results. In addition, the Secretary is urged to conduct epidemiological studies of existing VA medical data to determine if there are anomalies and differences that become apparent based on location of different duty stations or periods of service. Results of these studies shall be made public by means of submission of articles to recognized peer-reviewed scientific and medical publications.

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 Congressional Budget Office estimate of fees that will be collected in fiscal year 2012 is \$3,326,000,000.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$250,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	250,934,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	250,934,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	934,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across-the-board reduction.

The National Cemetery Administration (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 and 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 131 operational national cemeteries and 33 other cemeterial installations.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$250,934,000 for the National Cemetery Administration, an increase of \$934,000

above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The bill includes language making \$25,100,000 available until September 30, 2013.

Rural access.—The Committee is concerned that the NCA is not adequately serving the nation’s veterans in rural areas. According to the fiscal year 2012 budget submission, the NCA anticipates that 10 percent of all veterans will not have access to a burial option in a national, State or tribal government veteran’s cemetery within 75 miles of their home. The Committee understands the majority of this unserved veterans population lives in rural areas. The Committee finds this unacceptable and directs the NCA to develop a strategy to serve rural veterans, to be submitted not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act. The Committee recommendation includes bill language restricting the availability of any funding for the NCA Urban Initiative until this rural strategy is developed and implemented.

Plot allowances.—While acknowledging the increase provided in 2010, the Committee remains concerned about the eroding value of the plot allowance and burial benefits provided to our nation’s veterans by the VA. Because the benefits are not indexed to inflation, their value diminishes each year. As a result, families and State veterans’ cemeteries have been left to cover the increasing costs. The Committee urges the Department to assess the viability of increasing the plot allowance and burial benefits to cover the same percentage of veterans’ burial costs that they covered in 1973, when they were initiated.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$2,534,276,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	2,466,989,000
Committee recommendation in the bill ²	— — —
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(2,534,276,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(2,466,989,000)

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across-the-board reduction.

² Funding for General Operating Expenses is provided in the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, and General Administration accounts.

The Administration’s budget request proposes that funding for the administrative expenses associated with the Veterans Benefits Administration and all Department-wide offices be included within one single appropriation account. The Committee recommendation includes funding for these functions in two separate accounts: General operating expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, and General administration. The Committee believes that differences in the mission and purpose of the Department’s executive offices and the Veterans Benefits Administration justify providing funding in two separate accounts. Further, separating these two broad categories will provide the Congress with greater visibility of budgetary resources and oversight of expenditures for these two vital missions.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	---
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---
Committee recommendation in the bill ²	\$422,500,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	422,500,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	422,500,000

¹\$397,500,000 was provided for general administration under the General Operating Expenses account in fiscal year 2011.

²The budget request includes \$448,225,000 for general administration within the General Operating Expenses account.

The general administration account provides funds for the Office of the Secretary, six Assistant Secretaries, and three independent staff offices. The Committee provides \$422,500,000 for fiscal year 2012 for the account. This amount is the equivalent of being \$25,000,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$25,725,000 below the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2013, up to \$22,144,000 of these funds and to permit the transfer of funds in this account to the General operating expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account.

The Committee freezes funding for headquarters offices at the fiscal year 2011 level, except for a \$5,000,000 increase for the Board of Veterans Appeals, to accommodate an increasing caseload and backlog, and a \$20,000,000 increase for the Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction to implement the government-wide initiative to improve the quality of the large volume of contracting and acquisitions performed by the VA. The Committee recommendation includes bill language setting aside the \$20,000,000 for acquisitions improvements and permitting the transfer of these funds to any other account in the Department to carry out these activities.

Energy systems.—The Committee recognizes that many facilities operated by the VA utilize district energy systems, which connect multiple buildings through an underground piping network that carries hot and cold water or steam and achieves at least twice the fuel efficiency of traditional heating and cooling systems. The Committee requests the VA to conduct a study to inventory which of its current and planned facilities could achieve reduced energy costs and increased security of energy supply by building or expanding district energy systems and by installing combined heat and power technologies. This study should include a list of priority facilities to receive energy infrastructure investments and may include energy life cycle analyses. The results of the foregoing study shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by January 30, 2012. Further, the Committee encourages the VA to pursue increased investment in district energy systems as a strategy for the VA to achieve the goals of pollution reduction and environmental sustainability outlined in Executive Order 13514—Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance.

Veteran-owned small businesses.—The Committee appreciates the unique buying authority (Public Law 109–461) that permits the VA to have set-aside requirements for veteran-owned small businesses (VOSB). The Committee is concerned that proper moni-

toring and verification of veteran-owned businesses needs to be done and therefore requests a report by March 1, 2012 accounting for: the number of self-representing businesses and the number of businesses that have submitted for verification that are at least 51 percent owned and controlled by veterans or service-disabled veterans; the number of self-representing businesses and the number of businesses that have submitted for verification that meet Federal small business size standards, which should include ownership and size of any parent and/or subsidiaries; what is being done to achieve the three percent service disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) prime contract goal; what is being done to promote the formation and expansion of verified veteran-owned businesses, including service disabled veteran-owned small businesses; and what is being done to verify ownership and control of other veteran-owned businesses, including verifying the accuracy of other contractor databases that have VOSB/SDVOSB information. The Committee requests that the report disaggregate the data to include separately demographics of VOSBs and SDVOSBs.

Environmental sustainability goals.—The Department currently submits information to Congress through the Department of Energy and the Office of Management and Budget on its progress in meeting several environmental sustainability goals established by Executive Order 13514, including the:

- (1) 2020 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
- (2) 30 percent reduction in vehicle fleet petroleum use by 2020;
- (3) 26 percent improvement in water efficiency by 2020;
- (4) 50 percent recycling and waste diversion by 2015; and
- (5) goal that 95 percent of all applicable contracts will meet sustainability requirements.

Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Committee directs that the Department report to the Committee information on the Department's progress in meeting the other requirements of the Executive Order:

- (1) implementation of the 2030 net-zero-energy building requirement;
- (2) implementation of the stormwater provisions of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, section 438; and
- (3) development of guidance for sustainable Federal building locations in alignment with the Livability Principles put forward by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Hard of hearing access.—The Committee encourages the Secretary to ensure that VA toll-free telecommunications device for the deaf phone numbers are accessible from all locations in the United States, its territories and possessions.

Quarterly full-time equivalents (FTE) reports.—The Committee requests that the 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 appreciates the changes the VA has made to its budget justifications in response to Committee requests for fiscal year 2011, but believes that the budget justifications submitted each year with the Administration’s budget should be further expanded to include the following information which would help inform Congressional decisions:

- A brief explanation of each proviso in an account’s appropriation bill language and any proposed bill language changes.
- A consolidated administrative expenses chart for the entire Department.
- A section identifying each piece of directive report language from the previous year’s House, Senate and conference reports and the VA response/action taken for each item.
- An organization chart for the VA as well as the individual Administrations with the names of the occupant of each position on the chart.
- A program narrative for the medical facilities section.
- A narrative describing each of the programs in the readjustment benefits programs rather than only a description of increases and decreases.

The Committee directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to include in the Fiscal Year 2013 budget submission a detailed summary of the VA marketing campaign budget. This summary shall include the amounts expended on VA advertising campaigns and a detailed list of outreach methods. In addition, the VA should also submit a detailed summary of previous advertising campaigns initiated during the fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS
ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	---	
Fiscal year 2012 budget request ²	---	
Committee recommendation in the bill	\$2,020,128,000	
Comparison with:		
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	2,020,128,000	
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	2,020,128,000	

¹\$2,148,776,000 was provided for the Veterans Benefits Administration’s administrative expenses under the General Operating Expenses account in fiscal year 2011.
²The budget request includes \$2,018,764,000 for the Veterans Benefits Administration’s administrative expenses within the General Operating Expenses account.

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

The Committee recommends \$2,020,128,000 for General operating expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration. The Committee has proposed creating this new account to provide increased visibility and oversight of expenditures associated with VBA. This amount is the equivalent of \$128,648,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$1,364,000 above the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2013, up to \$105,856,000 of these funds.

Claims processing delays.—A new generation of heroes has sacrificed on behalf of the country with their service in Afghanistan, Iraq and other outposts in the global war on terror. This service creates an undeniable responsibility to care for them when they re-

turn home. The Committee urges the Department to refocus its efforts on the growing backlog of disability benefit claims and develop and incorporate new information technology and customer service enhancements to put the VA on a path to achieving the ultimate goal of no claims being more than 125 days old by 2015. In an effort to understand the scope of the difficulty in achieving this goal, the Committee directs the VA to produce a plan no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act designed to eliminate the current backlog of veterans' claims by December 31, 2013. This plan should include estimates of the funding necessary for its implementation.

Education transition programs.—The Committee is encouraged by the budget request's expansion of the VetSuccess on Campus initiative that provides outreach and transition services to veterans during their transition from the military to college. The program provides on-campus vocational rehabilitation counselors and Vet Center outreach coordinators to ensure the coordinated delivery of health, education and benefit services to Veteran-students.

Access in remote areas.—The Committee encourages the Veteran Benefits Administration to work to increase the presence of staff in remote or underserved areas such as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Making sure that veterans in remote and underserved areas receive access to veterans services is essential to honoring their sacrifices.

Vet Center placement.—The Committee requests the Department to submit a report not later than February 1, 2012, describing the criteria currently used for selection of the location of Veteran Centers; the number of veterans annually served at the existing centers, including veterans who have served in Afghanistan and Iraq; and the share of the veteran population by region that is within existing Vet Center service areas.

Disabled veterans home modification.—The Committee encourages the Secretary to provide specially adapted housing assistance under subsection (b) of section 2101 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans described in paragraph (2) of that subsection who reside in residences owned by family members in accordance with paragraph (3) of that subsection. Current regulations prevent veterans from receiving assistance if they live in a home owned by a family member; however, territorial law in some areas prevents non-natives from owning property.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$2,999,898,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	3,161,376,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	3,025,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	25,102,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(136,376,000)

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

The Information Technology Systems account was established in P.L. 109–114. The account previously encompassed the entire non-pay information technology portfolio for the Department of Veterans Affairs, including all automation efforts in all Administrations. Starting in fiscal year 2007, and reflected for the first time in the budget request for fiscal year 2008, this account also includes pay and associated costs for information technology staff.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,025,000,000 for Information Technology Systems, which is \$25,102,000 above the fiscal year 2011 appropriation and \$136,376,000 below the budget request. These funds are available until September 30, 2013.

The Committee continues to include bill language requiring the Department to submit an expenditure plan for the total amount provided, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, before the expenditure of any funding. The bill also includes a proviso requiring that, not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Appropriations Committees a reprogramming base letter which sets forth, by project, the operations and maintenance costs, with salary expenses separately designated, and development costs to be carried out utilizing amounts made available under this heading. In addition, an administrative provision is included in the bill which allows for the reprogramming of funds in this account among projects upon prior notification to, and approval by, the Committee.

Obligations report.—The Committee expects the Office of Information Technology to continue to provide an IT expenditure report to the Committees on Appropriations on a monthly basis. This report shall include a comparison to the project costs included in the base reprogramming letter submitted to the Congress, and provide an explanation for any differences in excess of \$1,000,000.

Lifetime electronic records.—When a member of the armed forces leaves the military, he or she has had to physically walk paperwork from a military duty station to a local VA health center. For years, the Committee has been encouraging and funding efforts by VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) to develop interoperable technology to facilitate the rapid exchange of patient and beneficiary information that will yield consolidated, coherent and consistent access to electronic records between VA and DoD. Lifetime electronic health records would significantly improve the delivery of care to servicemembers transitioning from military to civilian life. The Committee provides \$70,000,000 as requested in the budget for the ongoing effort to create the virtual lifetime electronic record (VLER). The Committee requests a report identifying the total cost of the VLER project, the benchmarks and timeframes the project must meet to qualify for future funding, and the types of information that is envisioned to be made available electronically through VLER.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$109,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	109,391,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	109,391,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	391,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	391,000

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

The Office of Inspector General was established by the Inspector General Act of 1978 and is responsible for the audit, investigation, and inspection of all Department of Veterans Affairs programs and operations. 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 Committee recommends an appropriation of \$109,391,000 for the Office of Inspector General, an increase of \$391,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The bill makes \$6,000,000 of the total funding available until September 30, 2013.

Fraud, waste and abuse.—The Committee remains concerned by reports by the Office of Inspector General and the General Accountability Office (GAO) that the VA continues to have endemic problems in management and financial controls in areas such as disability claims and fee-based care. In its 2011 listing of 30 high-risk government areas, the GAO includes VA claims processing activities. The VA OIG reported in its testimony to the subcommittee that:

- Of approximately 45,000 benefit claims requiring rating decisions reviewed by the IG, 23 percent were processed incorrectly.
- VA staff did not adequately process total disability evaluations for about 15 percent of approximately 181,000 veterans, resulting in overpayments of \$943 million since 1993. Without further action to adjust the benefits, VBA will overpay these veterans a projected \$1.1 billion over the next 5 years.
- In 2009, VA improperly paid 28 percent of inpatient medical fee claims by not properly authorizing fee care, and not correctly determining payment rates, resulting in \$120 million in overpayments. Without corrective actions, the VA could make \$600 million in improper payments over the next 5 years.

The Committee believes that efforts by the OIG to identify and report financial mismanagement of this scale and severity must be redoubled in order to protect obligations to veterans and to the taxpayers financing their benefits.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$1,076,036,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	589,604,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	589,604,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(486,432,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

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 recommends an appropriation of \$589,604,000 for Construction, Major Projects, a decrease of \$486,432,000 from the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request. VA has identified \$381,614,000 in prior year appropriations that are also available to address VA construction priorities, making the program level for fiscal year 2012 under the Committee recommendation \$971,218,000. The Committee recommendation makes these funds available for a five-year period rather than until expended, reflecting concern about the lengthy period that VA has taken to

design and build major construction projects. The Committee hopes that limiting the time period during which these funds may be used will motivate the VA to better plan and design projects before funding is requested.

The Committee recommendation provides funding for 7 continuing major construction projects, 5 of which would be completed, but 2 that would require an additional \$680,423,000 to complete in future years. The Committee also provides requested first year funding for 3 new projects totaling \$94,650,000. This action creates continuing unfunded obligations of \$1,371,850,000 to complete the projects. This new commitment is in addition to an unfunded obligation of \$3,459,789,000 for 16 projects that were started in previous years, but neglected in the fiscal year 2012 budget request. With the enormous pressures the Congress faces to reduce the deficit and the debt, the Committee believes the VA should end its practice of partially funding projects and creating future unfunded obligations. The Committee expects future major construction project requests to completely fund any requested projects in the first year of availability.

The Committee recommendation includes language in administrative provisions which requires the Department to notify the Congress of bid savings on contracts for construction projects and prohibits any changes from the original scope of work identified in the justification material submitted with the budget for each project.

The specific amounts recommended by the Committee are as follows:

[In thousands of dollars]

Location	Description	2012 request	Committee recommendation
Veterans Health Administration (VHA):			
New Orleans, LA	New Medical Facility	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000
Denver, CO	New Medical Facility	42,000,000	42,000,000
San Juan, PR	Seismic Corrections	100,720,000	100,720,000
St. Louis, MO	Med Facility Improvements	80,000,000	80,000,000
Palo Alto, CA	Polytrauma/Ambulatory Care	75,900,000	75,900,000
Bay Pines, FL	Inpatient/Outpatient Improvements	43,970,000	43,970,000
Seattle, WA	Seismic Deficiencies	47,500,000	47,500,000
Reno, NV	Expand Clinical Services	21,380,000	21,380,000
W. Los Angeles, CA	New Tower/Renovation	50,790,000	50,790,000
San Francisco, CA	Seismic Deficiencies	22,480,000	22,480,000
Advance Planning Fund .....	.....	59,145,000	59,145,000
Asbestos .....	.....	40,000,000	40,000,000
Facility Security .....	.....	8,000,000	8,000,000
CFM Staff .....	.....	24,200,000	24,200,000
Judgment Fund .....	.....	5,000,000	5,000,000
Total VHA .....	.....	681,085,000	681,085,000
National Cemetery Administration (NCA):			
Natl Mem Cemetery of Pacific	Columbarium/Admin Bldg	23,700,000	23,700,000
Advance Planning Fund .....	.....	4,500,000	4,500,000
NCA Land Acquisition Fund .....	.....	10,000,000	10,000,000
Total NCA .....	.....	38,200,000	38,200,000
General Administration—Staff Offices .....	.....	6,000,000	6,000,000
Dept. APF for Major .....	.....	.....	.....
Available from existing projects .....	.....	(135,681,000)	(135,681,000)
Major construction total .....	.....	589,604,000	589,604,000

Joint Veterans Administration/Department of Defense facilities.—The Committee has long expressed an interest in the construction of joint Veterans/Army medical facilities. With the construction of new medical facilities such as the Martin Army Hospital at Ft. Benning, joint medical facilities that can serve both active duty servicemembers and veterans could be a cost-savings strategy, for both the Department of Defense (DoD) and the VA. Therefore, the Committee requests the VA and DoD to provide to the Committee a complete analysis and review of the Ft. Benning facility and other joint facilities, like the former Ft. Ord site, and report its findings no later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act. Further, the Committee requests the GAO to conduct a review of effectiveness and cost-efficiency of joint VA/military medical facilities currently in operation and identify other facilities where a joint VA/DoD project could be successful. The GAO report also should be submitted not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Lexington, KY Leestown Road VA Medical Center.—The VA is directed to report to the Committee by February 15, 2012 on its plans and completion date for a new facility at Leestown Road.

Health care center expansions.—Recognizing the lack of accessible VA services in many regions of the country, the Committee urges the Secretary to include in the VA Strategic Capital Improvement Plan the expansion of existing VA health care centers to include inpatient accommodations, urgent care services, and the full range of services required by women veterans when the absence of such services locally requires veterans to make round trips of more than five hours to access such services at a VA facility.

Contract Structures and Management.—The Committee believes that structuring contracts and employee compensation with incentives to reduce cost by permitting retention of a share of savings has the potential to generate substantial economies. The Committee directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to report to the Committee on the structure of its contracts for construction, both major and minor projects, and facilities repair projects with a value of greater than \$2 million. The report shall include the portion of contracts awarded on a fixed-price basis, those awarded on a cost-plus fee basis, and all other contract structures used by the Department for its construction programs. For all contracts, the Department is directed to report on incentives that are included in the contracts to reduce the cost to the government and any financial incentives included for completion of contracts ahead of schedule or under cost. If such incentives do not currently exist, the Department is to report on the feasibility of beginning such a program.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$467,700,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	550,091,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	475,091,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	7,391,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(75,000,000)

¹ Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

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

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$475,091,000 for Construction, Minor Projects, an increase of \$7,391,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$75,000,000 below the budget request. As with the major construction account, the Committee recommendation makes these funds available for a five year period rather than until expended, reflecting concern about the long period that VA has taken to design and build construction projects.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$85,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	85,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	85,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	---
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

¹Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

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 Committee recommends an appropriation of \$85,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities, available until expended, which is the same as the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the budget request.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level ¹	\$46,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	46,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	46,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	---
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

¹Does not include the effect of the government-wide 0.22 percent across the board cut.

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 Committee recommends an appropriation of \$46,000,000 for Grants for Construction of Veterans Cemeteries to be available until expended, which is the same as the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the budget request.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill includes 26 provisions that were in effect in fiscal year 2011 and 4 new provisions. The administrative provisions included in the bill are as follows:

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 201 allows for the transfer of funds among three mandatory appropriations. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 202 allows the Department to transfer funding among the three medical appropriations accounts in fiscal year 2012. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

Section 203 allows for salaries and expenses funds to be used for hire of passenger vehicles, lease of facilities or land, and purchase of uniforms.

Section 204 provides that only funding in the "Construction, major projects" and "Construction, minor projects" accounts can be used for the purchase of any site for any new hospital or home or to construct any new hospital or home.

Section 205 requires 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.

Section 206 allows for the use of funds appropriated in fiscal year 2012 for "Compensation and pensions", "Readjustment benefits", and "Veterans insurance and indemnities" for payment of accrued obligations recorded in the last quarter of fiscal year 2011.

Section 207 allows for the use of fiscal year 2012 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)

Section 208 allows 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.

Section 209 allows the Department to cover the administrative expenses of enhanced-use lease services and provides authority to obligate these reimbursements in the year funds are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 210 limits 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.

Section 211 requires the Secretary to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations to approve new leases of real property if the estimated annual rental cost is more than \$1,000,000. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

Section 212 requires the Department to collect current and accurate third-party reimbursement information for the purposes of

third-party insurance collections. If persons receiving 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)

Section 213 allows the Department to use enhanced-use leasing funds for construction and alteration of medical facilities.

Section 214 allows the Department to use the “Medical services” appropriation for expenses related to the broader mission of medical care to veterans.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 215 allows 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.

Section 216 allows 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 the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 217 allows 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 and makes those funds available for five years, instead of until expended as proposed by the Administration.

Section 218 provides that no funds may be used to prohibit Directors of the Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN) from conducting outreach or marketing programs. The Administration proposed to delete this provision.

Section 219 requires the Secretary to submit quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 220 requires the Department to notify and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of any proposed transfer of funding to or from the “Information technology systems” account. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 221 requires the Department to notify and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of any proposed transfer of funding in excess of \$1,000,000 between information technology system projects. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

Section 222 limits 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)

Section 223 permits the transfer of \$241,666,000 appropriated for medical accounts, minor construction, 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. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 224 permits 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)

Section 225 directs that a minimum of \$15,000,000 shall be transferred from three medical appropriations to the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, to be available until expended.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Section 226 rescinds fiscal year 2012 funds from three medical accounts and appropriates them for fiscal year 2012 with two-year availability. The amounts provided are the same as those with two-year availability in the fiscal year 2011 appropriation rather than the amounts requested by the Administration in the fiscal year 2011 budget.

Section 227 requires the Secretary to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of all bid savings in Major Construction projects that total at least \$5,000,000, or five percent of the programmed amount, whichever is less. Such notification must occur within 14 days of a contract. The Secretary is required to notify the Committees 14 days prior to the obligation of such bid savings and shall describe the anticipated use of such savings.

Section 228 prohibits 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 as part of the request for appropriations.

Section 229 gives the Secretary the authority for and mandates disclosure of controlled substance prescriptions to State controlled substance monitoring programs to the extent necessary to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines.

Section 230 prohibits the VA from spending more than \$250,000 on any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign prior to submitting a request to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress and an approval is issued, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$64,200,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	61,100,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	61,100,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(3,100,000)
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The American Battle Monuments Commission 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 24 permanent American military cemetery memorials and 31 monuments, memorials, markers, and offices in 15 foreign countries, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the British dependency of Gibraltar. In addition, six memorials are located in the United States: the East Coast Memorial in New York; the West Coast Memorial, The Presidio in San Francisco; the Honolulu Memorial in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii; and the American Expeditionary Forces Memorial, the World War II, and Korean War Veterans Memorials in Washington, DC.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$61,100,000 for the American Battle Monuments Commission's salaries and expenses account, the same as the budget request.

Language is included allowing up to \$7,500 to be used for official reception and representation expenses.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$20,200,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request est.	16,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill est.	16,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(4,200,000)
Fiscal year 2012 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 for salaries and expenses because of fluctuations in currency exchange rates of foreign countries occurring after a budget request for the Commission is submitted to the 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 \$16,000,000.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$27,615,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	55,770,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	30,770,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	3,155,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	(25,000,000)

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 Committee recommends an appropriation of \$30,770,000 for the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, an increase of \$3,155,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and \$25,000,000 below the budget request. Of the amount provided, \$2,726,363 is to be used for the pro bono representation program.

The Committee notes that the President's budget request includes \$25,000,000, which shall be transferred to the General Services Administration, for design and site acquisition of a Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center. The Committee recommendation does not include the amount requested. The Committee is concerned with the potential location of the facility and the projected cost to the taxpayers. The Committee encourages the General Services Administration and the Court to explore other options to provide the Court with better space, such as creative financing options to minimize or eliminate initial capital investment by the United States through the use of public-private partnerships or non-governmental sources of financing. Such an option was selected for the construction of the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building near Union Station with outstanding results.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$45,100,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	45,800,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	45,800,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	700,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Secretary of the Army is responsible for the administration, operation and maintenance of Arlington National Cemetery and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery. In addition to its principal function as a national cemetery, Arlington is the site of approximately 3,100 non-funeral ceremonies each year and has approximately 4,000,000 visitors annually.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$45,800,000 for Cemeterial Expenses, Army, salaries and expenses, an increase of \$700,000 above the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

The Committee understands Arlington National Cemetery is undertaking a cultural and natural resources plan to identify properties that could be placed on the National Register of Historic

Places. The Committee strongly encourages Arlington National Cemetery to recognize the unique historic nature of the cemetery, to work expeditiously to get the cemetery placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and to report to the Committee on the status of the listing no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

The Committee is encouraged that, with the changes in management for the Army National Cemeteries Program and Arlington National Cemetery, past lapses and errors will not recur. The Committee believes the current management structure will ensure sound operations and will ensure that Arlington National Cemetery maintains its unique character and place in the hearts of all Americans.

The Committee remains concerned about human resources management at Arlington National Cemetery. In nine of the last eleven years the Congress has provided more funding than requested in the President’s budget for Arlington National Cemetery. Despite this fact, personnel resources were stretched too thin to meet the most pressing needs of the cemetery according to the Army Inspector General report issued last June. The Committee directs the Executive Director to provide periodic updates to the staffing plan for the cemetery, including updates on the status of hiring key personnel necessary to maintain orderly cemetery operations. In addition, the Committee directs the Executive Director to conduct a financial review and identify for the Committee unobligated funds from prior years which will be used to satisfy current operations and construction needs.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$69,200,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	65,700,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	65,700,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	(3,500,000)
Fiscal year 2012 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 established in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1811, and was relocated to Gulfport, Mississippi almost a century and a half later.

The Committee recommendation provides authority to expend \$65,700,000 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi. The amount recommended is \$3,500,000 below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

CAPITAL PROGRAM

Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	\$2,000,000
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	2,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill	2,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2011 enacted level	---
Fiscal year 2012 budget request	---

The Committee recommendation provides authority to expend \$2,000,000 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund for construction and renovations. The amount recommended is the same as the fiscal year 2011 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The bill includes eight provisions that are effective in fiscal year 2011 and eight new provisions as follows:

Section 401 prohibits the obligation of funds beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided.

Section 402 prohibits the use of funds for programs, projects or activities not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

Section 403 prohibits the use of funds to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress.

Section 404 encourages all departments and agencies funded in this Act to expand the use of E-Commerce technologies and procedures.

Section 405 specifies the Congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifications.

Section 406 prohibits 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.

Section 407 requires all reports submitted to the Congress to be posted on official websites of the submitting agency.

Section 408 prohibits funds in this Act for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now.

Section 409 prohibits 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.

Section 410 prohibits the use of funds for payment of first-class travel by an employee of the executive branch.

Section 411 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to exercise the power of eminent domain without just compensation.

Section 412 prohibits 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.

Section 413 prohibits the use of funds in this Act for any contract where the contractor has not complied with E-Verify requirements.

Section 414 prohibits the use of funds in this Act for any contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with any corporation convicted of a felony criminal violation within the preceding 24 months.

Section 415 prohibits the use of funds in this Act for enforcement of Executive Order 13502 relating to project labor agreements.

Section 416 establishes 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.

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 limit funding obligations for certain appropriations in the last two months of the fiscal year to 20 percent.

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 for the transfer of BRAC proceeds to the BRAC account.

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 limit funds for projects at closed or realigned installations under certain circumstances.

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 to allow funds to be transferred among projects or activities within accounts under certain circumstances.

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

Language is included limiting the number of parking spaces that may be occupied at the BRAC office complex in Alexandria, Virginia, until certain conditions are met.

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 projects of 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 prohibiting the VA from spending more than \$250,000 on any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign prior to submitting a request to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress and an approval is issued, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

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 notification of new lease agreements, 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, and limiting the obligation of non-recurring maintenance funds during the last two months of the fiscal year.

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 IV to limit the use of funds for architect and engineer contracts under certain circumstances.

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

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

Language is included under Title IV 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 IV to prohibit funding being distributed to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now or its subsidiaries.

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

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.....	2011	3,954,998	3,524,598	3,041,491
Military Construction, Navy.....	2011	3,516,173	3,242,561	2,436,547
Military Construction, Air Force.....	2011	1,293,295	985,295	1,247,358
Military Construction, Defense-Wide.....	2011	3,048,062	2,724,562	3,533,757
Military Construction, Army National Guard.....	2011	873,664	873,664	773,592
Military Construction, Air National Guard.....	2011	194,986	194,986	116,246
Military Construction, Army Reserve.....	2011	318,175	318,175	280,549
Military Construction, Navy Reserve.....	2011	61,557	61,557	26,299
Military Construction, Air Force Reserve.....	2011	7,832	7,832	33,620
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.....	2011	258,884	258,884	272,611
Family Housing Construction, Army.....	2011	92,369	92,369	186,897
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army.....	2011	518,140	518,140	494,858
Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	2011	146,569	186,444	100,972
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.....	2011	368,540	366,346	367,863
Family Housing Construction, Air Force.....	2011	78,025	78,025	84,804
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force.....	2011	513,792	513,792	404,761
Family Housing Construction, Defense-Wide.....	2011	-	-	-
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide.....	2011	50,464	50,464	50,723
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	2011	1,096	1,096	2,184
Homeowners Assistance Program.....	2011	16,515	16,515	1,284
Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide.....	2011	124,971	124,971	75,312
Base Realignment and Closure, 1990.....	2011	360,474	360,474	373,543
Base Realignment and Closure, 2005.....	2011	2,354,285	2,354,285	208,776
Department of Veteran Affairs, Construction, Major Projects.....	2009	464,130	407,157	398,770

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 Military Construction, Defense-Wide funds to be transferred to other military construction and family housing appropriations to be merged with and available for the same purpose and same time period.

Language is included to allow BRAC proceeds to be transferred to the BRAC account to be merged with and available for the same purpose and same time period.

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 \$32,187,000 from Compensation and Pensions to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, Medical Support and Compliance, 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 permitting necessary sums to be transferred to the medical facilities revolving fund to augment funding of medical centers for nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized by the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992.

Language is included to provide authority for the Department of Veterans Affairs for any funds appropriated in 2012 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 transfer of funds from General Administration to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration.

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 \$42,904,000 to be transferred to General Administration and Information Technology Systems from any funds appropriated in fiscal year 2012 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 Medical Services.

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 subject to approval by the Committee.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds within Information Technology Systems between projects subject to approval by the Committee.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds 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.

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:

<i>Department / activity</i>	<i>Amounts recommended for rescission</i>
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Army	\$100,000,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Air Force	32,000,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps	25,000,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Defense-Wide	131,400,000
Department of Defense, BRAC 1990	100,000,000
Department of Defense, BRAC 2005	50,000,000

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Pursuant to section 6(e) of the Committee Rules, the following statement is submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States" Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to

determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

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
Discretionary	\$72,535	\$78,492	\$72,535	\$78,492
Mandatory	67,916	67,726	67,916	67,726

FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION OF OUTLAYS

Pursuant to 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:

Budget Authority	<i>Millions</i> \$72,535
Outlays:	
2012	76,415
2013	7,414
2014	5,475
2015	2,175
2016	1,546

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Pursuant to 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:

Budget Authority	<i>Millions</i> \$178
Fiscal Year 2012 outlays resulting therefrom	32

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.

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 (new matter is printed in italic and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE

* * * * *

PART IV—GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

* * * * *

CHAPTER 57—RECORDS AND INVESTIGATIONS

* * * * *

SUBCHAPTER I—RECORDS

§ 5701. Confidential nature of claims

(a) * * *

* * * * *

(1)(1) The Secretary shall disclose to a State controlled substance monitoring program, including a program under section 3990 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-3), the name and address of a veteran or a dependent of a veteran to the extent necessary to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines.

(2) In this subsection, the terms "State" and "controlled substance" have the meaning given such terms in section 3990(m) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-3(m)).

* * * * *

PART V—BOARDS, ADMINISTRATIONS, AND SERVICES

* * * * *

CHAPTER 73—VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION-ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS

* * * * *

§ 7332. Confidentiality of certain medical records

(a) * * *

(b)(1) * * *

(2) Whether or not any patient or subject, with respect to whom any given record referred to in subsection (a) is maintained, gives written consent, the content of such record may be disclosed by the Secretary as follows:

(A) * * *

* * * * *

(G)(i) To a State controlled substance monitoring program, including a program under section 3990 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-3), to the extent necessary to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines.

(ii) In this subparagraph, the terms "State" and "controlled substance" have the meanings given such terms in section 3990(m) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-3(m)).

* * * * *

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. 1

Date: May 24, 2011

Measure: Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2012

Motion by: Mr. LaTourette

Description of Motion: An amendment to strike section 413, which prohibits funds to implement Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements.

Results: Adopted 24 yeas to 23 nays.

Members Voting Yea

Mr. Alexander
 Mr. Bishop
 Ms. DeLauro
 Mr. Diaz-Balart
 Mr. Dicks
 Mrs. Emerson
 Mr. Farr
 Mr. Fattah
 Mr. Hinchey
 Mr. Honda
 Ms. Kaptur
 Mr. LaTourette
 Ms. Lee
 Mrs. Lowey
 Ms. McCollum
 Mr. Moran
 Mr. Olver
 Mr. Price
 Mr. Rehberg
 Mr. Rothman
 Ms. Roybal-Allard
 Mr. Schiff
 Mr. Serrano
 Mr. Visclosky

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aderholt
 Mr. Austria
 Mr. Bonner
 Mr. Calvert
 Mr. Carter
 Mr. Cole
 Mr. Crenshaw
 Mr. Culberson
 Mr. Dent
 Mr. Flake
 Ms. Granger
 Mr. Graves
 Mr. Kingston
 Mr. Latham
 Mr. Lewis
 Mrs. Lummis
 Mr. Nunnelee
 Mr. Rogers
 Mr. Simpson
 Mr. Wolf
 Mr. Womack
 Mr. Yoder
 Mr. Young

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.

STATE LIST

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

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

ALABAMA		
ARMY		
FORT RUCKER		
COMBAT READINESS CENTER.....	11,600	11,600
DEFENSE-WIDE		
REDSTONE ARSENAL		
VON BRAUN COMPLEX PHASE IV.....	58,800	58,800
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT MC CLELLAN		
READINESS CENTER PH2.....	16,500	16,500
ALASKA		
ARMY		
FORT WAINWRIGHT		
AVIATION COMPLEX, PH 3A.....	114,000	57,000
JB ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON		
BRIGADE COMPLEX, PH 2.....	74,000	74,000
ORGANIZATIONAL PARKING.....	3,600	3,600
PHYSICAL FITNESS FACILITY.....	26,000	26,000
AIR FORCE		
EIELSON AFB		
DORMITORY (168 RM).....	45,000	45,000
JB ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON		
BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM (LIGHT) COMPLEX, (480 RM).....	97,000	97,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ANCHORAGE		
SOF COLD WEATHER MARITIME TRAINING FACILITY.....	18,400	18,400
EIELSON AFB		
UPGRADE RAIL LINE.....	14,800	14,800
ARIZONA		
NAVY		
YUMA		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	39,515	39,515
DOUBLE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	81,897	81,897
JSF AUXILIARY LANDING FIELD.....	41,373	41,373
AIR FORCE		
DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB		
EC-130H SIMULATOR/TRAINING OPERATIONS.....	20,500	20,500
HC-130J JOINT USE FUEL CELL.....	12,500	12,500
LUKE AFB		
F-35 ADAL AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT.....	6,000	6,000
F-35 SQUAD OPS/AMU 2.....	18,000	18,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	23,000	23,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PAPAGO MILITARY RESERVATION		
READINESS CENTER.....	17,800	17,800
ARKANSAS		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT CHAFFEE		
CONVOY LIVE FIRE/ENTRY CONTROL POINT RANGE.....	3,500	3,500
CALIFORNIA		
ARMY		
FORT IRWIN		
INFANTRY SQUAD BATTLE COURSE.....	7,500	7,500
QUALIFICATION TRAINING RANGE.....	15,500	15,500
PRESIDIO MONTEREY		
GENERAL INSTRUCTION BUILDING.....	3,000	3,000
NAVY		
BARSTOW		
DIP TANK CLEANING FACILITY.....	8,590	8,590

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

BRIDGEPORT		
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING - ADDITION.....	19,238	19,238
CAMP PENDLETON		
ARMORY, 1ST MARINE DIVISION.....	12,606	12,606
INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT ISSUE WAREHOUSE.....	16,411	16,411
INFANTRY SQUAD DEFENSE RANGE.....	29,187	29,187
INTERSECTION BRIDGE AND IMPROVEMENTS.....	12,476	12,476
MV-22 AVIATION FUEL STORAGE.....	6,163	6,163
MV-22 AVIATION PAVEMENT.....	18,530	18,530
MV-22 DOUBLE HANGAR REPLACEMENT.....	48,345	48,345
NEW POTABLE WATER CONVEYANCE.....	113,091	113,091
NORTH AREA WASTE WATER CONVEYANCE.....	78,271	78,271
CORONADO		
FITNESS CENTER NORTH ISLAND.....	46,763	46,763
ROTARY AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINT FAC (NORTH IS.).....	61,672	61,672
POINT MUGU		
E-2D AIRCREW TRAINING FACILITY.....	15,377	15,377
TWENTYNINE PALMS		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER.....	23,743	23,743
LAND EXPANSION.....	8,665	8,665
MULTI-USE OPERATIONAL FITNESS AREA.....	18,819	18,819
TRACKED VEHICLE MAINTENANCE COVER.....	15,882	15,882
AIR FORCE		
TRAVIS AFB		
DORMITORY (144 RM).....	22,000	22,000
VANDENBERG AFB		
EDUCATION CENTER.....	14,200	14,200
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP PENDLETON		
SOF MILITARY WORKING DOG FACILITY.....	3,500	3,500
SOF RANGE 130 SUPPORT PROJECTS.....	8,641	8,641
CORONADO		
SOF SUPPORT ACTIVITY OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	42,000	42,000
DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT-TRACY		
REPLACE PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER.....	15,500	15,500
POINT LOMA ANNEX		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES INCR 4.....	27,000	27,000
SAN CLEMENTE		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE TANKS & PIPELINE.....	21,800	21,800
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP ROBERTS		
TACTICAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM FACILITY.....	6,160	6,160
UTILITIES REPLACEMENT PH1.....	32,000	32,000
CAMP SAN LUIS OBISPO		
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	8,000	8,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BEALE AFB		
WING OPERATIONS AND TRAINING FACILITY.....	6,100	6,100
MOFFETT FIELD		
REPLACE PARARESCUE TRAINING FACILITY.....	26,000	26,000
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT HUNTER LIGGETT		
AUTOMATED MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN (MPMG).....	5,200	5,200
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
MARCH AFB		
AIRFIELD CONTROL TOWER/BASE OPS.....	16,393	16,393
COLORADO		
ARMY		
FORT CARSON		
AIRCRAFT LOADING AREA.....	34,000	34,000
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	63,000	63,000
BARRACKS.....	67,000	67,000
BARRACKS.....	46,000	46,000
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.....	14,400	14,400
CONTROL TOWER.....	14,200	14,200

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

AIR FORCE		
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY		
CONSTRUCT LARGE VEHICLE INSPECTION FACILITY.....	13,400	13,400
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BUCKLEY AIR FORCE BASE		
MOUNTAINVIEW OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	140,932	70,932
PUEBLO DEPOT		
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION FACILITY, PH XIII.....	15,338	15,338
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ALAMOSA		
READINESS CENTER.....	6,400	6,400
AURORA		
TACTICAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM FACILITY.....	3,600	3,600
FORT CARSON		
BARRACKS COMPLEX (ORTC).....	43,000	43,000
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT COLLINS		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	13,600	13,600
DELAWARE		
AIR FORCE		
DOVER AFB		
C-5M FORMAL TRAINING UNIT FACILITY.....	2,800	2,800
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BOLLING AFB		
COOLING TOWER EXPANSION.....	2,070	2,070
DIAC PARKING GARAGE.....	13,586	13,586
ELECTRICAL UPGRADES.....	1,080	1,080
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ANACOSTIA		
US PROPERTY & FISCAL OFFICE ADD/ALT.....	5,300	5,300
FLORIDA		
NAVY		
JACKSONVILLE		
BAMS UAS OPERATOR TRAINING FACILITY.....	4,482	4,482
P-8A HANGAR UPGRADES.....	6,085	6,085
P-8A TRAINING FACILITY.....	25,985	25,985
MAYPORT		
MASSEY AVENUE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS.....	14,998	14,998
WHITING FIELD		
APPLIED INSTRUCTION FACILITIES, EOD COURSE.....	20,620	20,620
AIR FORCE		
PATRICK AFB		
AIR FORCE TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS CTR - INCR 2....	79,000	79,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
EGLIN AFB		
MEDICAL CLINIC.....	11,600	11,600
SOF COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITY (GSB).....	21,000	21,000
SOF COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITY (GSTB).....	19,000	19,000
EGLIN AUX 9		
SOF ENCLOSED ENGINE NOISE SUPPRESSORS.....	3,200	3,200
SOF SIMULATOR FACILITY.....	6,300	6,300
MACDILL AFB		
SOF ACQUISITION CENTER (PHASE II).....	15,200	15,200
WHITING FIELD		
TRUCK LOAD/UNLOAD FACILITY.....	3,800	3,800
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP BLANDING		
CONVOY LIVE FIRE/ENTRY CONTROL POINT RANGE.....	2,400	2,400
LIVE FIRE SHOOT HOUSE.....	3,100	3,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

GEORGIA		
ARMY		
FORT BENNING		
LAND ACQUISITION.....	5,100	5,100
LAND ACQUISITION.....	25,000	25,000
RAIL LOADING FACILITY.....	13,600	13,600
TRAINEE BARRACKS COMPLEX, PH 3.....	23,000	23,000
FORT GORDON		
HAND GRENADE FAMILIARIZATION RANGE.....	1,450	1,450
FORT STEWART		
DOG KENNEL.....	2,600	2,600
NAVY		
KINGS BAY		
CRAB ISLAND SECURITY ENCLAVE.....	52,913	52,913
WRA LAND/WATER INTERFACE.....	33,150	33,150
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT BENNING		
REPLACE MCBRIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.....	37,205	37,205
FORT GORDON		
WHITELAW WEDGE BUILDING ADDITION.....	11,340	11,340
FORT STEWART		
HOSPITAL ADDITION/ALTERATION PHASE 2.....	72,300	72,300
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ATLANTA		
READINESS CENTER.....	11,000	11,000
HINESVILLE		
MANEUVER AREA TRAINING & EQUIPMENT SITE PH1.....	17,500	17,500
MACON		
READINESS CENTER PH1.....	14,500	14,500
HAWAII		
ARMY		
FORT SHAFTER		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER.....	17,500	17,500
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS		
CENTRALIZED WASH FACILITY.....	32,000	32,000
COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE COMPLEX, PH 1.....	73,000	73,000
NAVY		
BARKING SANDS		
NORTH LOOP ELECTRICAL REPLACEMENT.....	9,679	9,679
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM		
NAVY INFORMATION OPERATIONS COMMAND FES FAC.....	7,492	7,492
KANEHOE BAY		
MCAS OPERATIONS COMPLEX.....	57,704	57,704
DEFENSE-WIDE		
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM		
ALTER WAREHOUSE SPACE.....	9,200	9,200
UPGRADE REFULER TRUCK PARKING AREA.....	5,200	5,200
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
KALAELOA		
READINESS CENTER PH1.....	33,000	33,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM		
TFI - F-22 COMBAT AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON.....	12,721	12,721
TFI - F-22 FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY.....	19,800	19,800
TFI - F-22 WEAPONS LOAD CREW TRAINING FACILIT.....	7,000	7,000
ILLINOIS		
NAVY		
GREAT LAKES		
DECENTRALIZE STEAM SYSTEM.....	91,042	91,042
DEFENSE-WIDE		
GREAT LAKES		
HEALTH CLINIC DEMOLITION.....	16,900	16,900

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NORMAL		
READINESS CENTER.....	10,000	10,000
ARMY RESERVE		
HOMEWOOD		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	16,000	16,000
ROCKFORD		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/LAND.....	12,800	12,800
INDIANA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP ATTERBURY		
DEPLOYMENT PROCESSING FACILITY.....	8,900	8,900
OPERATIONS READINESS TRAINING CMLX 2.....	27,000	27,000
OPERATIONS READINESS TRAINING COMPLEX 1.....	25,000	25,000
RAILHEAD EXPANSION & CONTAINER FACILITY.....	21,000	21,000
INDIANAPOLIS		
JFHQ ADD/ALT.....	25,700	25,700
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT WAYNE IAP		
A-10 FACILITY CONVERSION - MUNITIONS.....	4,000	4,000
ARMY RESERVE		
LAWRENCE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	57,000	57,000
KANSAS		
ARMY		
FORBES AIR FIELD		
DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT FACILITY.....	5,300	5,300
FORT RILEY		
CHAPEL.....	10,400	10,400
PHYSICAL FITNESS FACILITY.....	13,000	13,000
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	60,000	60,000
AIR FORCE		
FORT RILEY		
AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS CENTER.....	7,600	7,600
ARMY RESERVE		
KANSAS CITY		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/LAND.....	13,000	13,000
KENTUCKY		
ARMY		
FORT CAMPBELL		
BARRACKS.....	23,000	23,000
BARRACKS COMPLEX.....	65,000	65,000
PHYSICAL FITNESS FACILITY.....	18,500	18,500
SCOUT/RECCE GUNNERY RANGE.....	18,000	18,000
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	67,000	67,000
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	16,000	16,000
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	40,000	40,000
FORT KNOX		
AUTOMATED INFANTRY PLATOON BATTLE COURSE.....	7,000	7,000
BATTALION COMPLEX.....	48,000	48,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT		
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION PH XII.....	59,974	59,974
FORT CAMPBELL		
HOSPITAL ADDITION/ALTERATION.....	56,600	56,600
SOF MH47 AVIATION FACILITY.....	43,000	43,000
SOF ROTARY WING HANGAR.....	38,900	38,900
FORT KNOX		
REPLACE KINGSOLVER-PIERCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.....	38,845	38,845

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

LOUISIANA		
ARMY		
FORT POLK		
BRIGADE COMPLEX.....	23,000	23,000
FIRE STATION.....	9,200	9,200
LAND ACQUISITION.....	27,000	27,000
MILITARY WORKING DOG FACILITY.....	2,600	2,600
MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE.....	8,300	8,300
AIR FORCE		
BARKSDALE AFB		
MISSION SUPPORT GROUP COMPLEX.....	23,500	23,500
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BARKSDALE AFB		
HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	6,200	6,200
MAINE		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
BANGOR		
READINESS CENTER.....	15,600	15,600
BRUNSWICK		
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER.....	23,000	23,000
MARYLAND		
ARMY		
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND		
AUTO TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION FAC, PH 3.....	15,500	15,500
COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY.....	63,000	63,000
FORT MEADE		
APPLIED INSTRUCTION FACILITY.....	43,000	43,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX.....	36,000	36,000
NAVY		
INDIAN HEAD		
DECENTRALIZE STEAM SYSTEM.....	67,779	67,779
PATUXENT RIVER		
AIRCRAFT PROTOTYPE FACILITY PHASE 2.....	45,844	45,844
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND		
USAMRIID REPLACEMENT, INC 4.....	22,850	22,850
BETHESDA NAVAL HOSPITAL		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER ADDITION/ALTERATION.....	18,000	18,000
FORT DETRICK		
USAMRIID STAGE I, INC 6.....	137,600	137,600
FORT MEADE		
HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING CAPACITY INC 1.....	29,640	29,640
JOINT BASE ANDREWS		
AMBULATORY CARE CENTER.....	242,900	179,300
DENTAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT.....	22,800	22,800
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
DUNDALK		
READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	16,000	16,000
LA PLATA		
READINESS CENTER.....	9,000	9,000
WESTMINSTER		
READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	10,400	10,400
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
MARTIN STATE AIRPORT		
TFI - C-27 CONVERSION - SQUADRON OPERATIONS.....	4,900	4,900
MASSACHUSETTS		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HANSCOM AFB		
REPLACE HANSCOM MIDDLE SCHOOL.....	34,040	34,040
WESTOVER ARB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	23,300	23,300

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NATICK		
READINESS CENTER.....	9,000	9,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
OTIS ANGB		
TFI - CNAF BEDDOWN - UPGRADE FACILITY.....	7,800	7,800
ARMY RESERVE		
ATTLEBORO		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/LAND.....	22,000	22,000
MINNESOTA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP RIPLEY		
MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE.....	8,400	8,400
ARMY RESERVE		
SAINT JOSEPH		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	11,800	11,800
MISSISSIPPI		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
COLUMBUS AFB		
REPLACE REFUELER PARKING FACILITY.....	2,600	2,600
GULFPORT		
MEDICAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT.....	34,700	34,700
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP SHELBY		
DEPLOYMENT PROCESSING FACILITY.....	12,600	12,600
OPERATIONAL READINESS TRAINING CMLPX PH1.....	27,000	27,000
TROOP HOUSING (ORTC) PH1.....	25,000	25,000
MISSOURI		
ARMY		
FORT LEONARD WOOD		
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	49,000	49,000
AIR FORCE		
WHITEMAN AFB		
WSA SECURITY CONTROL FACILITY.....	4,800	4,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ARNOLD		
DATA CTR WEST #1 POWER & COOLING UPGRADE.....	9,253	9,253
ARMY RESERVE		
WELDON SPRINGS		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	19,000	19,000
NEBRASKA		
AIR FORCE		
OFFUTT AFB		
STRATCOM REPLACEMENT FACILITY INCR 1.....	150,000	150,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
GRAND ISLAND		
READINESS CENTER.....	22,000	22,000
MEAD		
READINESS CENTER.....	9,100	9,100
NEVADA		
AIR FORCE		
NELLIS AFB		
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK CONTROL CENTER.....	11,600	11,600
F-35 ADD/ALTER ENGINE SHOP.....	2,750	2,750
F-35A AGE FACILITY.....	21,500	---
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
LAS VEGAS		
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	23,000	23,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

NEW JERSEY		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
LAKEHURST		
ARMY AVIATION SUPORT FACILITY.....	49,000	49,000
NEW MEXICO		
AIR FORCE		
CANNON AFB		
ADAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.....	7,598	7,598
DORMITORY (96 RM).....	15,000	15,000
HOLLOMAN AFB		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER.....	11,200	11,200
F-16 ACADEMIC FACILITY.....	5,800	5,800
F-16 SEAD TRAINING FACILITY.....	4,200	4,200
PARALLEL TAXIWAY 07/25.....	8,000	8,000
KIRTLAND AFB		
AFNWC SUSTAINMENT CENTER.....	25,000	25,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CANNON AFB		
SOF ADAL SIMULATOR FACILITY.....	9,600	9,600
SOF AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON FACILITY.....	15,000	15,000
SOF APRON AND TAXIWAY.....	28,100	28,100
SOF C-130 SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	10,941	10,941
SOF C-130 WASH RACK HANGAR.....	10,856	10,856
SOF HANGAR AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT.....	41,200	41,200
SOF SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	17,300	17,300
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
SANTA FE		
READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	5,200	5,200
NEW YORK		
ARMY		
FORT DRUM		
AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT.....	5,700	5,700
CHAPEL.....	7,600	7,600
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT DRUM		
DENTAL CLINIC ADDITION/ALTERATION.....	4,700	4,700
MEDICAL CLINIC.....	15,700	15,700
ARMY RESERVE		
SCHENECTADY		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	20,000	20,000
NORTH CAROLINA		
ARMY		
FORT BRAGG		
ACCESS ROADS, PH 2.....	18,000	18,000
BATTLE COMMAND TRAINING CENTER.....	23,000	23,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX FACILITIES.....	49,000	49,000
NCO ACADEMY.....	42,000	42,000
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	54,000	54,000
NAVY		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
2ND COMBAT ENGINEER MAINTENANCE/OPS COMPLEX.....	75,214	75,214
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - WALLACE CREEK.....	27,439	27,439
BASE ENTRY POINT AND ROAD.....	81,008	81,008
SQUAD BATTLE COURSE.....	16,821	16,821
CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION		
H-1 HELICOPTER GEARBOX REPAIR & TEST FACILITY.....	17,760	17,760
NEW RIVER		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR AND APRON.....	69,511	69,511
ORDNANCE LOADING AREA ADDITIION.....	9,419	9,419
AIR FORCE		
POPE AFB		
C-130 FLIGHT SIMULATOR.....	6,000	6,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
PENNSYLVANIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DEF DISTRIBUTION DEPOT NEW CUMBERLAND		
ENCLOSE OPEN-SIDED SHED.....	3,000	3,000
REPLACE GENERAL PURPOSE WAREHOUSE.....	25,500	25,500
UPGRADE ACCESS CONTROL POINTS.....	17,500	17,500
PHILADELPHIA		
UPGRADE HVAC SYSTEM.....	8,000	8,000
NAVY RESERVE		
PITTSBURGH		
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER (PITTSBURGH).....	13,759	13,759
SOUTH CAROLINA		
ARMY		
FORT JACKSON		
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE.....	4,900	4,900
TRAINEE BARRACKS COMPLEX, PH 2.....	59,000	59,000
NAVY		
BEAUFORT		
VERTICAL LANDING PADS.....	21,096	21,096
DEFENSE-WIDE		
JOINT BASE CHARLESTON		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION FACILITY.....	24,868	24,868
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ALLENDALE		
READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	4,300	4,300
ARMY RESERVE		
ORANGEBURG		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/LAND.....	12,000	12,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
CHARLESTON AFB		
TFI RED HORSE READINESS & TRNG CENTER.....	9,593	9,593
TENNESSEE		
NAVY RESERVE		
MEMPHIS		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER.....	7,949	7,949
TEXAS		
ARMY		
FORT BLISS		
APPLIED INSTRUCTION BUILDING.....	8,300	8,300
BARRACKS COMPLEX.....	13,000	13,000
ELECTRONICS MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	14,600	14,600
INFRASTRUCTURE.....	14,600	14,600
JLENS TACTICAL TRAINING FACILITY.....	39,000	39,000
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	24,000	24,000
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	14,600	14,600
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	19,000	19,000
WATER WELL, POTABLE.....	2,400	2,400
FORT HOOD		
OPERATIONAL READINESS TRAINING COMPLEX.....	51,000	51,000
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	47,000	47,000
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	15,500	15,500
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	18,500	18,500
JB SAN ANTONIO		
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	10,400	10,400
RED RIVER ARMY DEPOT		
MANEUVER SYSTEMS SUSTAINMENT CTR, PH 3.....	44,000	44,000
AIR FORCE		
JB SAN ANTONIO		
BMT RECRUIT DORMITORY 4, PHASE IV.....	64,000	64,000
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
ADV INDIV TRAINING (AIT) BARRACKS (300 RM).....	46,000	46,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT BLISS		
HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT INCR 3.....	136,700	86,700
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
AMBULATORY CARE CENTER PHASE 3.....	161,300	161,300
HOSPITAL NUTRITION CARE DEPARTMENT ADD/ALT.....	33,000	33,000
UTAH		
ARMY		
DUGWAY PROVING GROUND		
LIFE SCIENCES TEST FACILITY ADDITION.....	32,000	32,000
AIR FORCE		
HILL AFB		
F-22 SYSTEM SUPPORT FACILITY.....	16,500	16,500
F-35 ADAL HANGAR 45E/AMU.....	6,800	6,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP WILLIAMS		
IC CNCI DATA CENTER 1 INC 3.....	246,401	246,401
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP WILLIAMS		
MULTI PURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE.....	6,500	6,500
VIRGINIA		
ARMY		
FORT BELVOIR		
INFORMATION DOMINANCE CENTER, PH 1.....	52,000	52,000
ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.....	31,000	31,000
JB LANGLEY EUSTIS		
AVIATION TRAINING FACILITY.....	26,000	26,000
NAVY		
NORFOLK		
BACHELOR QUARTERS, HOMEPORT ASHORE.....	81,304	81,304
DECENTRALIZE STEAM SYSTEM.....	26,924	26,924
PORTSMOUTH		
CONTROLLED INDUSTRIAL FACILITY.....	74,864	74,864
QUANTICO		
ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION FACILITY.....	75,304	75,304
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS.....	31,374	31,374
EMBASSY SECURITY GROUP FACILITIES.....	27,079	27,079
ENLISTED DINING FACILITY.....	5,034	5,034
REALIGN PURVIS RD/RUSSELL RD INTERSECTION.....	6,442	6,442
THE BASIC SCHOOL STUDENT QUARTERS - PHASE 6.....	28,488	28,488
WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT - UPSHUR.....	9,969	9,969
AIR FORCE		
JB LANGLEY EUSTIS		
AIT BARRACKS COMPLEX, PH 2.....	50,000	50,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CHARLOTTESVILLE		
REMOTE DELIVERY FACILITY.....	10,805	10,805
DAHLGREN		
DAHLGREN E/MS SCHOOL ADDITION.....	1,988	1,988
DAM NECK		
SOF BUILDING RENOVATION.....	3,814	3,814
SOF LOGISTIC SUPPORT FACILITY.....	14,402	14,402
SOF MILITARY WORKING DOG FACILITY.....	4,900	4,900
FORT BELVOIR		
TECHNOLOGY CENTER THIRD FLOOR FIT-OUT.....	54,625	54,625
JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE LITTLE CREEK - STORY		
SOF SEAL TEAM OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	37,000	37,000
PENTAGON		
HELIPORT CONTROL TOWER/FIRE STATION.....	6,457	6,457
PENTAGON MEMORIAL PEDESTRIAN PLAZA.....	2,285	2,285
QUANTICO		
DEFENSE ACCESS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS-TELEGRAPH RD.....	4,000	4,000
DSS HEADQUARTERS ADDITION.....	42,727	42,727

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

BAHRAIN ISLAND		
NAVY		
SW ASIA		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS.....	55,010	55,010
WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PHASE 4.....	45,194	45,194
BELGIUM		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BRUSSELS		
NATO HEADQUARTERS FACILITY.....	24,118	24,118
DIEGO GARCIA		
NAVY		
DIEGO GARCIA		
POTABLE WATER PLANT MODERNIZATION.....	35,444	35,444
DJIBOUTI		
NAVY		
CAMP LEMONIER		
AIRCRAFT LOGISTICS APRON.....	35,170	35,170
BACHELOR QUARTERS.....	43,529	43,529
TAXIWAY ENHANCEMENT.....	10,800	10,800
GERMANY		
ARMY		
GERMERSHEIM		
CENTRAL DISTRIBUTION FACILITY.....	21,000	---
INFRASTRUCTURE.....	16,500	---
GRAFENWOEHR		
BARRACKS.....	17,500	17,500
CHAPEL.....	15,500	15,500
CONVOY LIVE FIRE RANGE.....	5,000	5,000
LANDSTUHL		
SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.....	24,000	24,000
SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.....	39,000	39,000
OBERDACHSTETTEN		
AUTOMATED RECORD FIRE RANGE.....	12,200	12,200
STUTT GART		
ACCESS CONTROL POINT.....	12,200	12,200
VILSECK		
BARRACKS.....	20,000	20,000
AIR FORCE		
RAMSTEIN AB		
DORMITORY (192 RM).....	34,697	34,697
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ANSBACH		
ANSBACH MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION.....	11,672	11,672
BAUMHOLDER		
REPLACE WETZEL-SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.....	59,419	59,419
GRAFENWOEHR		
NETZABERG MS SCHOOL ADDITION.....	6,529	6,529
RHINE ORDNANCE BARRACKS		
MEDICAL CENTER REPLACEMENT INCR 1.....	70,592	70,592
SPANGDAHLEM AB		
REPLACE BITBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.....	41,876	41,876
REPLACE BITBURG MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL.....	87,167	87,167
STUTT GART-PATCH BARRACKS		
DISA EUROPE FACILITY UPGRADES.....	2,434	2,434
GREENLAND		
AIR FORCE		
THULE AB		
DORMITORY (72 PN).....	28,000	28,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

GUAM		
NAVY		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
FINEGAYAN WATER UTILITIES.....	77,267	77,267
NORTH RAMP UTILITIES - ANDERSON AFB (INC).....	78,654	78,654
AIR FORCE		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
AIR FREIGHT TERMINAL COMPLEX.....	35,000	35,000
GUAM STRIKE CLEAR WATER RINSE FACILITY.....	7,500	7,500
GUAM STRIKE CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS MAINTENANC.....	11,700	11,700
GUAM STRIKE FUEL SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	128,000	64,000
PRTC COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS COMBAT SUPPORT.....	9,800	9,800
PRTC COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMISSION SYST.....	5,600	5,600
PRTC RED HORSE CANTONMENT OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	14,000	14,000
HONDURAS		
ARMY		
HONDURAS VARIOUS		
BARRACKS.....	25,000	25,000
ITALY		
AIR FORCE		
SIGONELLA		
UAS SATCOM RELAY PADS AND FACILITY.....	15,000	15,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
VICENZA		
REPLACE VICENZA HIGH SCHOOL.....	41,864	41,864
JAPAN		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
YOKOTA AB		
REPLACE TEMP CLASSRM/JOAN K. MENDEL ES.....	12,236	12,236
REPLACE YOKOTA HIGH SCHOOL.....	49,606	49,606
KOREA		
ARMY		
CAMP CARROLL		
BARRACKS.....	41,000	41,000
CAMP HENRY		
BARRACKS COMPLEX.....	48,000	48,000
AIR FORCE		
OSAN AB		
DORMITORY (156 RM).....	23,000	23,000
PUERTO RICO		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT BUCHANAN		
READINESS CENTER.....	57,000	57,000
QATAR		
AIR FORCE		
AL UDEID		
BLATCHFORD PRESTON COMPLEX, PHASE IV.....	37,000	37,000
UNITED KINGDOM		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
MENWITH HILL STATION		
MHS PSC CONSTRUCTION GENERATOR PLANT.....	68,601	68,601
ROYAL AIR FORCE ALCONBURY		
REPLACE ALCONBURY HIGH SCHOOL.....	35,030	35,030
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM.....	272,611	272,611
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
ARMY		
HOST NATION SUPPORT.....	25,500	25,500

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	20,000	20,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	229,741	229,741
NAVY		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	84,362	84,362
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	21,495	21,495
AIR FORCE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	81,913	81,913
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	20,000	20,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION.....	10,000	10,000
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM.....	135,000	135,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN		
DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE.....	1,993	1,993
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION.....	66,974	66,974
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.....	52,974	52,974
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	31,468	31,468
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY.....	227,498	227,498
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE.....	5,277	5,277
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY.....	8,368	8,368
DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY.....	6,000	6,000
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.....	3,043	3,043
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY.....	3,000	3,000
DEFENSE LEVEL ACTIVITIES.....	48,007	48,007
SUBTOTAL, PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	454,602	454,602
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY.....	6,571	6,571
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.....	6,365	6,365
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.....	8,417	8,417
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	8,876	8,876
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY.....	6,100	6,100
DEFENSE LEVEL ACTIVITIES.....	3,000	3,000
SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	39,329	39,329
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	20,671	20,671
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	11,700	11,700
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	9,000	9,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	12,225	12,225
ARMY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	28,924	28,924
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	2,925	2,925
NAVY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	2,591	2,591
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	2,000	2,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	2,200	2,200
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	5,434	5,434
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY		
BELGIUM		
BRUSSELS		
LAND PURCHASE FOR GFOQ (10 ACRES).....	10,000	10,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE

GERMANY		
GRAFENWOEHR		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (26 UNITS).....	13,000	13,000
ILLESHEIM		
FAMILY HOUSING REPLACEMENT CONSTRUCTION (80 UNITS)	41,000	41,000
VILSECK		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (22 UNITS).....	12,000	12,000
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS (276 UNITS).....	103,000	103,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	7,897	7,897
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SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	186,897	186,897
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	73,637	73,637
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	15,797	15,797
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	54,728	54,728
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	605	605
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	14,256	14,256
LEASING.....	204,426	204,426
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	105,668	105,668
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	25,741	25,741
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	494,858	494,858
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS.....	97,773	97,773
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	3,199	3,199
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SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	100,972	100,972
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	70,197	70,197
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	14,510	14,510
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	61,090	61,090
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	476	476
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	15,979	15,979
LEASING.....	79,798	79,798
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	97,231	97,231
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	28,582	28,582
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	367,863	367,863
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS.....	80,596	80,596
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	4,208	4,208
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SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	84,804	84,804
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	67,639	67,639
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	57,391	57,391
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	13,675	13,675
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	35,290	35,290
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	2,165	2,165
LEASING.....	80,897	80,897
MAINTENANCE.....	100,133	100,133
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	47,571	47,571
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	404,761	404,761
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY		
UTILITIES.....	10	10
FURNISHING.....	70	70
LEASING.....	10,100	10,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	70	70
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY		
FURNISHINGS.....	2,699	2,699
LEASING.....	36,552	36,552
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY		
UTILITIES.....	280	280
FURNISHINGS.....	19	19
SERVICES.....	30	30
MANAGEMENT.....	347	347
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	546	546
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	50,723	50,723
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND.....	2,184	2,184
HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.....	1,284	1,284
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE		
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT, 1990.....	323,543	373,543
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT, 2005.....	258,776	208,776
SUBTOTAL, BRAC.....	582,319	582,319

MINORITY VIEWS

The Fiscal Year 2012 Military Construction, Veterans' Administration and Related Agencies appropriations bill sufficiently funds critical military construction, family housing and quality of life improvements for our brave men and women in uniform and their families. The Committee fully funded the Administration's request for critical military construction, which includes the construction/replacement of Department of Defense Education Activity schools. A total of 15 schools, six schools in the United States and nine schools at overseas installations will be refurbished with this funding. In addition the bill also provides funding for the Medical Center Replacement in Germany where a large proportion of serious casualties from the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters are treated. We are pleased to see that the bill is making this important investment.

This bill also provides adequate funding for VA programs such as medical care and the National Cemetery Administration. Funding is also included for VA programs to address potential hazardous seismic, life safety and infrastructure issues at VA facilities to deliver quality care. There is no greater way to honor the Veterans who have served our country than to make sure that they have the best medical care and facilities with which to treat them.

The Administration's request for our nation's cemeteries and battle monuments to honor those soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation is also funded.

Unfortunately, the Committee adopted an amendment to eliminate funding to implement Executive Order 13502, issued in February 2009, which addresses Project Labor Agreements (PLA). The order encourages executive agencies to consider the use of project labor agreements in connection with large-scale construction projects in order "to promote economy and efficiency in Federal procurement." Executive Order 13502 does not mandate use of a PLA but simply encourages federal officials to consider whether a PLA is the most appropriate labor agreement for a particular construction project.

Importantly, the Executive Order requires any PLA to contain requirements aimed at ensuring federal contracts are awarded fairly and openly. Among other things, it provides for an open competition for all contracts and subcontracts; contains guarantees against strikes, lockouts, and similar job disruptions; provides binding procedures for resolving labor disputes and encourages cooperation on productivity and health and safety issues. This important rule benefits both the labor force and management.

It is surprising that the Committee adopted an amendment that opposes economy in federal procurement, open competition, and guarantees against strikes and job disruptions.

While the Fiscal Year 2012 Military Construction, Veterans' Administration and Related Agencies appropriations bill meets the needs of our military and veterans' communities for the coming year, we continue to oppose the language prohibiting the use of funds to encourage economy and efficiency in federal procurement.

NORMAN D. DICKS.
SANFORD D. BISHOP, Jr.

