

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE
REFLECTING LEVELS FOR THE CONFERENCE
AGREEMENT**

Period of the current fiscal year, the budget year, and the four fiscal years following the budget year: \$0.

Period of the current fiscal year, the budget year, and the nine fiscal years following the budget year: \$0.

HOUSE RULE XXVII

The adoption of this conference agreement by the two houses would result in the engrossment of a House Joint Resolution changing the statutory limit on the public debt pursuant to House Rule XXVII, clause 3. The rule requires a joint resolution in the following form:

Resolved, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, that subsection (b) of section 3101 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking out the dollar limitation contained in such subsection and inserting in lieu thereof \$9,815,000,000,000.

Legislative jurisdiction over the public debt remains with the Finance Committee in the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means in the House.

KENT CONRAD,
PATTY MURRAY,
RON WYDEN,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.,
ROSA DELAURIO,
CHET EDWARDS,

Managers on the Part of the House.

**REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1593**

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be withdrawn as a cosponsor on H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act of 2007.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

**NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 403 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1585.

□ 1301

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1585) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes, with Mr. ROSS in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) each will control 45 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, today the House begins consideration of H.R. 1585, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008. This bill is a collective effort in the bipartisan tradition of the House Armed Services Committee, which approved the bill in markup last week by a vote of 58-0.

I want to thank our committee members, particularly our subcommittee chairmen and ranking members, for their outstanding work. And special thanks go to the ranking member, DUNCAN HUNTER, and I appreciate his working so hard in a very bipartisan manner to make this bill come to the floor. He's been a partner in this, and I appreciate it. I am proud that we're always able to work together in our efforts to enhance our Nation's defense.

Mr. Chairman, the polestar of this year's Defense authorization is readiness. Continued reports on the state of readiness for our ground forces, particularly our nondeployed and next-to-deploy forces, are of deep concern. To restore readiness and ensure our forces will be ready if they are called upon for the next fight, this bill fully funds the budget request for the Army and Marine Corps reset of equipment at \$13.6 billion and \$8.4 billion respectively.

They add some \$1 billion in a strategic readiness fund to meet critical readiness requirements identified by a new Defense Readiness Production Board.

It increases training by \$250 million so that our units may get more training time.

It requires a plan and a timeline for replenishing prepositioned stocks.

And it strengthens the National Guard by adding \$1 billion for National Guard and Reserve equipment from their unfunded requirements list, ensuring that the National Guard is able to meet its homeland and civil support missions, and also adding a range of authorities through the National Guard Empowerment Act.

This bill looks out for our troops in harm's way by dedicating substantial resources to improve protection, including \$4.6 billion for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, known as MRAPs, and providing funds for personal body armor and up-armored Humvees.

To reduce the strain on our force and in keeping with the House Armed Services Committee's long advocacy of the need to boost end strength, that is, the number of troops, the bill has authorized an increase in the size of the Army by 36,000 Army troops and Marines by 9,000.

Our servicemembers and their families make countless sacrifices and our pride in them knows no bounds. We express our thanks to them through a 3.5 percent pay raise, by blocking TRICARE and pharmacy program fee increases, by expanding special compensation for combat-related disabled retirees, and establishing a special sur-

vivor indemnity allowance to begin to address the offset to the survivor benefit plan and the dependents indemnity plan.

Provisions also include the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act, which addresses many of the problems identified at Walter Reed Army Medical Center; and, Mr. Chairman, you will recall we passed that as a stand-alone bill just a few weeks ago.

Accountability with respect to our own ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan is also an important component of the measure. The bill requires General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker to report on the implementation of the Joint Campaign Plan for Iraq, as well as on efforts made by the Iraqi Government to achieve political reconciliation.

Secretary Gates is also required to report on the proposed force levels for the 6 months following September, to discuss the missions of our forces, and to inform Congress about contingency planning. The information from this report will help us ask the right questions, the tough questions, and make frank judgments about how we are going to pass the baton on to the Iraqis. I am convinced that the sectarian violence will only be overcome by Iraqi political progress, and thus far, I haven't seen much of that since then.

September's report will be an opportunity for General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker to lay out the straight facts. Time is short with the American people, and the Iraqis must act soon. This report will provide real and substantial information.

Calling attention to the forgotten war in Afghanistan, the bill provides funds for the Afghanistan security forces and requires a long-term sustainment plan so that the Afghans can build the logistics and other capabilities they need for long-term security.

The bill establishes a new Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction to ensure accountability in contracting there and extends the authority of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction.

The bill also brings more contracting accountability to both Afghanistan and Iraq by forcing the Departments of Defense and State to work together in assigning responsibility for overseeing the thousands of contractors in these places, particularly those who do carry weapons.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, the bill requires that the Secretary of Defense undertake an analysis of the Department's roles and missions. In 1947, a similar effort helped shape the Pentagon through the National Security Act. After 60 years, it is time for a new analysis to help eliminate duplication among the services, identify core competencies, and strengthen the Department of Defense and the military while helping us spend money much more wisely.

Before I close, let me spend just a moment talking about something that is not in this bill. The Military Commissions Act, which was made into law by the last Congress, precludes detainees in Guantanamo from petitioning courts under habeas corpus. This bill does not include a provision to restore the principle of habeas corpus for detainees at Guantanamo, even though I feel strongly it should.

My judgment is that the most promising course of action will be for this House to take up this issue as a separate bill. To that end, I have prepared legislation to address the habeas corpus issue, and I intend to work with the leadership, members of our committee and with the Judiciary Committee on that issue.

Mr. Chairman, this is a critical time in the defense and security of our Nation. This is a very important bill. I urge the Members in this House to support this Defense authorization bill. It does so much to restore readiness, to support our men and women in uniform, and to protect the American people.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, as legislators, we meet once again to address the wide range of important national security activities undertaken by the Departments of Defense and Energy. We all take our legislative responsibilities very seriously, and this is especially true during a time of war.

And it's always true of my good friend and colleague, IKE SKELTON, the great gentleman from Missouri, our chairman. I want to thank Chairman SKELTON for the excellent job that he's done in putting this bill together, and also thank all of our subcommittee chairmen and ranking members who have put together a composite that very strongly meets the needs of our men and women in uniform.

As a result of Mr. SKELTON's efforts to put forward this bill, our committee reported out the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 last Wednesday. The vote was unanimous, 58-0.

I support this bill. It reflects our committee's continued strong support for the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces, and in many ways this bill is a very good bill.

It authorizes the President's request for \$503.8 billion for the fiscal year 2008 base budget of the Department of Defense and national security programs of the Department of Energy. This amount provides for end-strength growth in both the Army and Marine Corps, continuing initiatives started several years ago by the Armed Services Committee.

In fiscal year 2008, the Army would be authorized 525,400, which is 3,000 more than authorized last year, and the Marine Corps would be authorized 189,000, 9,000 more than last year. The

bill also includes \$142 billion to cover fiscal year 2008 war costs, as requested by the President.

Some of the initiatives in this legislation continue or build upon successful programs or reinforce good legislation that the House has already passed. For example, this legislation has provisions that are essential to maintain a robust defense industrial base. Last year, the Defense authorization bill tried to strike a fair balance between requiring the use of domestic specialty metals for our weapons systems and offering a waiver process in case sufficient metals are not available. H.R. 1585 establishes a formal rulemaking process for waivers that apply to multiple contracts to facilitate transparency and the gathering of broad industry input. In this way, the market will be able to respond to supply shortages, fostering investment in domestic industries.

Other initiatives in this bill modify existing authorities or establish promising new programs and policies, such as adding \$4.1 billion for the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, so-called MRAPs. Separately, H.R. 1585 levels the playing field between U.S. companies and foreign countries with which we have free trade agreements. It rectifies a critical flaw in the U.S. Code that effectively penalizes U.S. companies for complying with U.S. law, while allowing foreign manufacturers to provide noncompliant components and systems.

These and other sections go a considerable way in ensuring that our brave men and women in uniform have the best available tools to protect our national security interests, but this bill is not a perfect bill. We can and we should improve it.

This legislation cuts missile defense programs by almost \$800 million. In 2006, there were about 100 foreign ballistic missile launches around the world, including from North Korea with short-range missiles and a longer-range TD-2 missile; and from Iran with its development and testing of short- and medium-range ballistic missiles. I wonder whether in the face of this growing threat we should be slowing down the development and fielding of a robust, layered ballistic missile defense system that would prove critical to our Nation's defenses.

This bill recommends a reduction of more than \$860 million for the Army's Future Combat Systems program. In the past, our committee made smaller cuts to drive behaviors that would lead to a successful system. With the magnitude of this cut, I worry about the long-term impact on the capability of the U.S. Army and wonder whether we should not restore some of this funding to ensure that the Army is as prepared as possible to meet future challenges.

And finally, this bill provides significant resources for shipbuilding. I am concerned, however, that we have not fully funded two of the three additional ships that the language purports to

have added. The bill is approximately \$145 million less than the amount the Navy needs to buy and take delivery of an additional dry cargo ship, which was number two on the Navy's unfunded priority list. Also, the bill provides \$588 million for advanced procurement for an additional ship-set of reactive plant heavy components for a Virginia-class submarine in 2008, but it remains up to future Congresses to complete the funding and turn these components into an additional submarine before 2012.

□ 1315

As in years past, I believe that this legislation reflects many of the Armed Services Committee's priorities in supporting our Nation's dedicated and courageous servicemembers.

I want to thank again Chairman SKELTON for putting together an excellent bill and helping us stay focused on delivering a bill that helps us protect, sustains and builds our forces.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to improve and pass H.R. 1585.

Mr. Chairman, at this point, I would like to yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for his commitment and for his wisdom and for his leadership on America's security.

MOTION TO RISE OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from California yield for purposes of that motion?

Mr. HUNTER. Yes, I yielded for purposes of the motion.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the motion to rise.

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for an electronic vote, if ordered, on the pending question following this quorum call. Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 354]

Abercrombie	Barrow	Blackburn
Akin	Bartlett (MD)	Blumenauer
Alexander	Barton (TX)	Boehner
Allen	Bean	Bonner
Altmire	Becerra	Bono
Andrews	Berkley	Boren
Arcuri	Berry	Boswell
Baca	Biggert	Boustany
Bachmann	Bilbray	Boyd (KS)
Bachus	Bilirakis	Brady (PA)
Baker	Bishop (GA)	Brady (TX)
Baldwin	Bishop (NY)	Braley (IA)
Barrett (SC)	Bishop (UT)	Brown (SC)

Brown, Corrine	Graves	McCrery	Shuler	Thompson (CA)	Watson	Walsh (NY)	Westmoreland	Wilson (SC)
Buchanan	Green, Al	McDermott	Shuster	Thompson (MS)	Watt	Wamp	Whitfield	Wolf
Burgess	Green, Gene	McGovern	Simpson	Thornberry	Waxman	Weldon (FL)	Wicker	
Burton (IN)	Grijalva	McHenry	Skelton	Tiahrt	Weiner	Weller	Wilson (NM)	
Butterfield	Gutierrez	McHugh	Slaugther	Tiberi	Welch (VT)			
Buyer	Hall (NY)	McIntyre	Smith (NE)	Tierney	Weldon (FL)			
Calvert	Hall (TX)	McKeon	Smith (NJ)	Towns	Weller		NOES—219	
Camp (MI)	Hare	McNerney	Smith (TX)	Turner	Westmoreland	Abercrombie	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Campbell (CA)	Harman	McNulty	Smith (WA)	Udall (CO)	Wexler	Allen	Hare	Oberstar
Cannon	Hastert	Meehan	Snyder	Udall (NM)	Whitfield	Altmire	Harman	Obey
Cantor	Hastings (WA)	Meek (FL)	Solis	Upton	Wicker	Andrews	Herseth Sandlin	Oliver
Capito	Hayes	Meeks (NY)	Space	Van Hollen	Wilson (NM)	Arcuri	Hill	Ortiz
Capps	Heller	Melancon	Spratt	Velázquez	Wilson (OH)	Baca	Hinchey	Pallone
Capuano	Hensarling	Mica	Stearns	Visclosky	Wilson (SC)	Baldwin	Hinojosa	Pascarell
Cardoza	Herger	Michaud	Stupak	Walberg	Wolf	Barrow	Hodes	Pastor
Carnahan	Herseth Sandlin	Miller (MI)	Sullivan	Walden (OR)	Woolsey	Barton (TX)	Holden	Payne
Carney	Hill	Miller (NC)	Sutton	Walsh (NY)	Wu	Bean	Holt	Perlmutter
Carson	Hinchey	Miller, Gary	Tancredo	Walz (MN)	Wynn	Becerra	Honda	Peterson (MN)
Carter	Hinojosa	Miller, George	Tanner	Wamp	Yarmuth	Berkley	Hookey	Pomeroy
Castle	Hobson	Mitchell	Tauscher	Wasserman	Young (AK)	Berry	Hoyer	Price (NC)
Castor	Hodes	Mollohan	Taylor	Schultz	Young (FL)	Bishop (GA)	Inslee	Rahall
Chabot	Hoekstra	Moore (KS)	Terry	Waters		Bishop (NY)	Israel	Ramstad
Chandler	Holden	Moore (WI)				Blumenauer	Jackson (IL)	Rangel
Clarke	Holt	Moran (KS)				Bono	Jackson-Lee	Reyes
Clay	Honda	Murphy (CT)				Boren	(TX)	Rodriguez
Cleaver	Hookey	Murphy, Patrick				Boswell	Jefferson	Ross
Clyburn	Hoyer	Murphy, Tim				Brady (PA)	Johnson (GA)	Rothman
Coble	Hulshof	Murtha				Brady (IA)	Johnson, E. B.	Roybal-Allard
Cohen	Hunter	Myrick				Brown, Corrine	Jones (OH)	Ruppersberger
Cole (OK)	Inglis (SC)	Napolitano				Butterfield	Kagen	Rush
Conyers	Inslee	Neal (MA)				Capps	Kanjorski	Ryan (OH)
Cooper	Israel	Neugebauer				Capuano	Kaptur	Salazar
Costa	Issa	Nunes				Cardoza	Kennedy	Sanchez, Linda
Costello	Jackson (IL)	Oberstar				Carnahan	Kildee	T.
Courtney	Jackson-Lee	Obey				Carney	Kilpatrick	Sanchez, Loretta
Cramer	(TX)	Oliver				Carson	Kind	Sarbanes
Crowley	Jefferson	Ortiz				Castle	Klein (FL)	Schakowsky
Cuellar	Jindal	Pallone				Castor	Kucinich	Schiff
Culberson	Johnson (GA)	Pascarell				Chandler	LaHood	Scott (GA)
Cummings	Johnson (IL)	Pastor				Christensen	Lampson	Scott (VA)
Davis (AL)	Johnson, E. B.	Payne				Clarke	Langevin	Serrano
Davis (CA)	Johnson, Sam	Pearce				Clay	Lantos	Sestak
Davis (IL)	Jones (NC)	Pence				Cleaver	Larsen (WA)	Shea-Porter
Davis (KY)	Jones (OH)	Perlmutter				Clyburn	Larson (CT)	Sherman
Davis, David	Jordan	Peterson (MN)				Cohen	Lee	Shuler
Davis, Lincoln	Kagen	Petri				Conyers	Levin	Skelton
Davis, Tom	Kanjorski	Pitts				Cooper	Lewis (GA)	Slaughter
Deal (GA)	Kaptur	Pomeroy				Costa	Lipinski	Smith (WA)
DeFazio	Keller	Porter				Costello	Loebach	Snyder
DeGette	Kennedy	Price (GA)				Courtney	Loftgren, Zoe	Solis
DeLauro	Kildee	Price (NC)				Dent	Lowe	Space
Dent	Kilpatrick	Pryce (OH)				Diaz-Balart, L.	Lynch	Spratt
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kind	Putnam				Diaz-Balart, M.	Mack	Stupak
Dingell	King (IA)	Rahall				Doggett	Mahoney (FL)	Sutton
Doggett	King (NY)	Ramstad				Donnelly	Maloney (NY)	Tanner
Donnelly	Kingston	Rangel				Doolittle	Markey	Tauscher
Doolittle	Kirk	Regula				Doyle	Marshall	Taylor
Doyle	Klein (FL)	Rehberg				Drake	Matheson	Thompson (CA)
Drake	Kline (MN)	Reichert				Dreier	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (MS)
Dreier	Knollenberg	Renzi				Duncan	McCollum (MN)	Tierney
Duncan	Kucinich	Reyes				Edwards	McDermott	Towns
Edwards	Kuhl (NY)	Reynolds				Ehlers	McGovern	Udall (CO)
Ehlers	LaHood	Rodriguez				Ellison	McIntyre	Udall (NM)
Ellison	Lamborn	Rogers (AL)				Ellsworth	McNerney	Van Hollen
Ellsworth	Lampson	Rogers (KY)				Emanuel	McNulty	Velázquez
Emanuel	Langevin	Rogers (MI)				Eshoo	Meehan	Visclosky
Emerson	Lantos	Rohrabacher				Etheridge	Meek (FL)	Walz (MN)
English (PA)	Larsen (WA)	Ros-Lehtinen				Farr	Meeks (NY)	Wasserman
Eshoo	Larson (CT)	Roskam				Filner	Melancon	Schultz
Etheridge	Latham	Ross				Giffords	Michaud	Waters
Everett	LaTourette	Rothman				Gonzalez	Miller (NC)	Watson
Fallin	Lee	Roybal-Allard				Gordon	Miller, George	Watt
Farr	Levin	Royce				Green, Al	Mitchell	Waxman
Farr	Lewis (CA)	Ruppersberger				Green, Gene	Frank (MA)	Weiner
Fattah	Lewis (GA)	Rush				Grijalva	Giffords	Wexler
Feeney	Lewis (KY)	Ryan (OH)				Gutierrez	Moore (WI)	Wilson (OH)
Ferguson	Linder	Ryan (WI)					Murphy (CT)	Woolsey
Filner	Lipinski	Salazar					Murphy, Patrick	Wu
Flake	LoBiondo	Sali					Murtha	Wynn
Forbes	Loebach	Sánchez, Linda					Napolitano	Yarmuth
Fortenberry	Loftgren, Zoe	T.						Young (AK)
Fortuno	Lowey	Sanchez, Loretta						
Fossella	Lucas	Sarbanes						
Fox	Lungren, Daniel	Saxton						
Franks (AZ)	E.	Schakowsky						
Frelinghuysen	Lynch	Schiff						
Gallegly	Mack	Schmidt						
Garrett (NJ)	Mahoney (FL)	Schwartz						
Gerlach	Maloney (NY)	Scott (GA)						
Giffords	Manzullo	Scott (VA)						
Gilchrest	Marchant	Sensenbrenner						
Gillmor	Markey	Serrano						
Gingrey	Marshall	Sessions						
Gohmert	Matheson	Sestak						
Gonzalez	McCarthy (CA)	Shadegg						
Goode	McCarthy (NY)	Shays						
Goodlatte	McCaul (TX)	Shea-Porter						
Gordon	McCollum (MN)	Sherman						
Granger	McCotter	Shimkus						

□ 1342

The CHAIRMAN. On this quorum call, 397 have responded, a quorum.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. Pending is the demand of the gentleman from Georgia for a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 177, noes 219, not voting 41, as follows:

[Roll No. 355]

AYES—177

Aderholt	Fortuno	McHugh
Akin	Fossella	McKeon
Alexander	Franks (AZ)	Mica
Bachmann	Frelinghuysen	Miller (MI)
Bachus	Gallegly	Miller, Gary
Baker	Garrett (NJ)	Moran (KS)
Barrett (SC)	Gerlach	Musgrave
Bartlett (MD)	Gilchrest	Myrick
Biggart	Gillmor	Neugebauer
Bilbray	Gingrey	Nunes
Bilirakis	Gohmert	Pearce
Bishop (UT)	Goode	Pence
Blackburn	Goodlatte	Petri
Boehner	Granger	Pickering
Bonner	Graves	Pitts
Boozman	Hastert	Porter
Boustany	Hastings (WA)	Price (GA)
Brady (TX)	Hayes	Putnam
Brown (SC)	Heller	Regula
Buchanan	Hensarling	Rehberg
Burgess	Herger	Reichert
Burton (IN)	Hobson	Renzi
Buyer	Hoekstra	Reynolds
Calvert	Hulshof	Rogers (AL)
Camp (MI)	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (KY)
Campbell (CA)	Issa	Rogers (MI)
Cannon	Jindal	Rohrabacher
Cantor	Johnson (IL)	Ros-Lehtinen
Capito	Johnson, Sam	Roskam
Carter	Jones (NC)	Royce
Chabot	Jordan	Ryan (WI)
Coble	Keller	Sali
Cole (OK)	King (IA)	Saxton
Conaway	King (NY)	Schmidt
Crenshaw	Kingston	Sensenbrenner
Culberson	Kirk	Sessions
Davis (KY)	Kline (MN)	Shadegg
Davis, David	Knollenberg	Shays
Davis, Tom	Kuhl (NY)	Shimkus
Deal (GA)	Lamborn	Shuster
Dent	Latham	Simpson
Diaz-Balart, L.	LaTourette	Smith (NE)
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lewis (CA)	Smith (NJ)
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Smith (TX)
Drake	Linder	Souder
Dreier	LoBiondo	Stearns
Duncan	Lucas	Sullivan
Ehlers	Lungren, Daniel	Tancredo
Emerson	E.	Terry
English (PA)	Manzullo	Thornberry
Everett	Marchant	Tiahrt
Fallin	McCarthy (CA)	Tiberi
Feeney	McCaul (TX)	Turner
Ferguson	McCotter	Upton
Flake	McCrery	Walberg
Forbes	McHenry	Walden (OR)

NOT VOTING—41

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Nadler
Baird	Fattah	Norton
Berman	Fortenberry	Paul
Blunt	Fox	Peterson (PA)
Bordallo	Gillibrand	Platts
Boucher	Hall (TX)	Poe
Boyd (FL)	Hastings (FL)	Pryce (OH)
Boyda (KS)	Higgins	Radanovich
Brown-Waite,	Hirono	Schwartz
Ginny	Hunter	Sires
Cubin	Matsui	Stark
Davis, Jo Ann	McMorris	Welch (VT)
Delahunt	Rodgers	Young (FL)
Dicks	Miller (FL)	
Engel	Moran (VA)	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1351

So the motion to rise was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Readiness.

(Mr. ORTIZ asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.

The bill before us today begins to address our growing concerns about the readiness posture of our Armed Forces.

I would like to thank the ranking member from my subcommittee, Mrs. DAVIS from Virginia, for her help in bringing together this excellent bill. I thank Chairman SKELTON and Mr. HUNTER.

Mr. Chairman, our troops and their equipment have been stretched by extended combat operations, and the strain is evident in declining readiness, shortfalls in training and difficulties equipping our forces. These problems have grown to immense proportions, and this bill is a significant step to reverse the decline and rebuild our military.

Included in this bill are some significant readiness policy initiatives and investments that will help restore the readiness and posture of our military.

First, this bill establishes a Defense Readiness Production Board to identify critical readiness requirements and to mobilize the defense industrial base to speed up the production of military equipment. This board will bridge the gap between readiness needs and resources to help repair our worn out equipment that has been used time and time and time again.

The bill also creates a \$1 billion Strategic Readiness Fund to give the board and the Department of Defense the ability to rapidly attend to pressing readiness needs.

This bill begins to address other shortfalls in maintenance and training by providing \$250 million for unfunded training requirements and an additional \$150 million to restore aviation maintenance shortfalls.

We are very concerned about the readiness of our National Guard. Our bill requires the Department of Defense to begin measuring the readiness of the National Guard units to support emergencies in their home States, such as the recent tragic tornadoes in Kansas. These readiness reports will allow the Congress and each State's Governor to evaluate the need of each State and address problems before a disaster occurs. To help restore the shortfalls, the bill includes a \$1 billion investment in National Guard equipment.

We also included provisions that require plans and reports to Congress on reconstituting our prepositioned war stocks.

Mr. Chairman, we also authorized more than \$21 billion for military construction, family housing and to implement base realignment and closure. Those funds include money to support growth in force initiatives for the Army and the Marine Corps and to provide facilities to accommodate new recruits and missions.

Other significant provisions include proposed changes to the National Security Personnel System and the depot initiatives.

Mr. Chairman, this is a very, very good bill, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008. The bill before us today begins to address our growing concerns about the readiness posture of our armed forces. I would like to thank the ranking member from my subcommittee, Mrs. DAVIS from Virginia, for her help in bringing together this excellent bill.

Our troops—and their equipment—have been stretched by extended combat operations . . . and the strain is evident in declining readiness, shortfalls in training and difficulties equipping our forces. These problems have grown to immense proportions, and this bill is a significant step to reverse the decline . . . and rebuild our military. Included in the bill are some significant readiness policy initiatives and investments that will help restore the readiness posture of our military.

First, this bill establishes a Defense Readiness Production Board to identify critical readiness requirements and to mobilize the defense industrial base to speed up the production of military equipment. This board will bridge the gap between readiness needs and resources to help repair our worn out equipment.

The bill also creates a \$1 billion Strategic Readiness Fund to give the board and the Department of Defense the ability to rapidly attend to pressing readiness needs. This bill begins to address other shortfalls in maintenance and training by providing \$250 million for unfunded training requirements . . . and an additional \$150 million to restore aviation maintenance shortfalls.

We are very concerned about the readiness of our National Guard. Our bill requires the Department of Defense to begin measuring the readiness of National Guard units to support emergencies in their home states—such as the recent tragic tornadoes in Kansas.

These readiness reports will allow the Congress and each State's Governor to evaluate the needs of each State and address problems before a disaster occurs. To help restore the shortfalls, the bill includes a \$1 billion investment in National Guard equipment. We also included provisions that require plans and reports to Congress on reconstituting our prepositioned war stocks.

We authorized more than \$21 billion for military construction, family housing, and to implement base realignment and closure. Those funds include money to support "grow-the-force" initiatives for the Army and Marine Corps . . . and to provide facilities to accommodate new recruits and missions. Other sig-

nificant provisions include proposed changes to the National Security Personnel System, depot initiatives, and numerous important policy initiatives for the Department of Defense.

This is a good bill, and I am pleased to have helped write it. It reflects our bipartisan desire to improve readiness and provide for our men and women in uniform.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 4 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, the process that we've gone through to bring this bill to the floor has been an extensive one. We started under the leadership of Chairman SKELTON in January, and as we moved through the days and the weeks, there were numerous, both full committee and subcommittee hearings.

There were visits here on Capitol Hill in our office and in other places by military leaders. There were visits by us to the Pentagon and to bases around the continental United States and, I might add, there were visits by us to our soldiers, marines, airmen and sailors who are serving overseas.

There were briefings too numerous to count, and a good process. And I want to just take this opportunity to congratulate and thank Chairman SKELTON for the orderliness and the fairness with which this process was conducted.

This is a good bill, and I intend to support it. It provides for some new things, provides for some force protection measures that are so important in the war that we're now engaged in. It provides for additional money for the Stryker system. It provides for additional resources for up-armored Humvees, and it provides for steps forward in the new Joint Tactical Vehicle program.

We added 10 more aircraft known as C-17s, which are strategic airlifters to get us to the fight. We took care of some personnel issues, including a significant pay raise for military personnel. And, because we're at war, and because we're using our military equipment, it wears out. It's a tough terrain that we're involved in in Iraq and Afghanistan, and so we included \$3.6 billion for Army reset and \$8.2 billion for Marine Corps reset.

And I might add that quality of life remains extremely important to the chairman, to the ranking member, and to all of us who serve on the committee, and so military construction dollars were added to provide the quality of life that is important to our military personnel.

Now, it's a good bill, and I'm going to support it. If I were the person sitting at the desk writing the bill all by myself, I would have done some things differently. But that being said, it continues to be a bill that is worthy of everyone's support.

I would have tried to find a way to include more money for the Future Combat System. We cut it by almost 25 percent. This is the Army's modernization program, and the first modernization program anything like it since World War II. It combines the use of technology that's available today with

some more traditional combat equipment, but it's good for the future. It's good for urban combat, it's good for being able to see the enemy who now has found ways to hide on our conventional systems. And it's a big cut.

□ 1400

I would have also tried to add back the 9 percent that was reduced from the missile defense system. Today we have a missile defense system that actually will work once it is deployed, but we reduced it by 9 percent.

So, Mr. Chairman, once again I hope that the majority of our colleagues on this side of the aisle will support this bill. I think it is a good bill. It is one that is needed, particularly in these times when the United States of America is at war.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his kind and supportive remarks.

Madam Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Arkansas, Dr. Snyder, who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Chairman, let me begin by thanking Chairman IKE SKELTON for the work that he has done on this bill.

As we can tell by the tone already, there has been a strong spirit of bipartisanship in putting this bill together. Both Ranking Member DUNCAN HUNTER and Chairman IKE SKELTON have worked very closely together to make this the kind of bill we want in time of war.

And, IKE, I just want to say Susie would be proud of the work that you have done on this bill.

I also want to thank my colleague, JOHN MCHUGH, the Congressman from New York, for the work that he has done and continues to do year after year. And as many of you know, his district includes Fort Drum that has done more than its fair share of sacrifice in this war in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the war on terrorism.

And, finally, a note about the staff. We all can talk about working together in a bipartisan manner, but for us it might mean just shaking hands as we go up and down the aisles. For the staff it is day in and day out, and I think they have done a great job of working together and trying to understand each other's concerns as this bill has come together; and I think the product reflects their great, great work.

As somebody who spent 12 months and 20 days in Vietnam a long, long time ago at a time then also of a great foreign policy debate in our country, what I see in this body and in America today is something that a lot of us felt was lacking those 35 or 40 years ago. There is just this strong love of our troops and their families by the American people and by this Congress. And we recognize the need for a strong, well-trained, well-equipped military.

And we have never forgotten the importance of families, the importance of families to our men and women in uniform.

I think of one of my employees, who spent a year in Iraq, and he told me when he came home the first time for R&R and he had two young children, he came off the plane and he had about a 150-yard walk down the aisle there in the airport, and he could not stop himself. He ran that last 150 yards so he could see his children that he had not seen in several months. And yet we know the sacrifices that our families bear.

So because of that, I think we have a lot of good things in this bill, whether it is dealing with medical care, TRICARE, the GI bill. I think it is a good, strong, bipartisan bill, and I appreciate all the work that the staff and Members have done.

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Chairman, at this time, I would like to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. EVERETT), the ranking member of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee.

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Chairman, I thank my good friend Mr. HUNTER for yielding to me and thank him for his work and leadership on this legislation. And I would be remiss if I didn't thank the chairman of the committee, my good friend, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 1585, the fiscal year 2008 National Defense Authorization Act. I would like to congratulate the chairman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER), on her first mark as chairman. She has been cooperative and straightforward, and that I appreciate. The effort has resulted in a product where we agree on far more than we disagree.

This subcommittee tackles complex and often partisan issues, such as ballistic missile defense and nuclear weapons policy. This year's process has been further complicated due to the fact that our subcommittee allocation was cut by over \$1 billion from the administration's request.

In the area of missile defense, the bill continues a policy set forth by this committee last year that places a priority on near-term missile defense capabilities. The bill increases the request for Patriot PAC-3 by \$11.8 million to buy four additional interceptors and adds \$78 million to the President's request for Aegis ballistic missile defense and fully funds the request for THAAD.

The measure also contains a reduction in funding for the proposed Third Site in Europe. I understand the chairman's rationale and her concern about moving forward without formal agreements with the host nations in place. However, I am pleased that my amendment was accepted during the full committee markup, which encourages DOD to seek a reprogramming request in the event that we reach agreements with the host nations in fiscal year 2008.

While I support most of the provisions in this legislation, like many on my side of the aisle, I remain concerned about the \$776 million top-line cut levied on the Missile Defense Agency, especially when progress is being made in so many areas of these programs. Now is not the time to have a further reduction in funding or slow down the development and fielding of these missile defense elements that are critical to our Nation's defense and the protection of our deployed forces and allies.

In the time since last year's bill, we have seen a clear demonstration of the threat to our Nation, including North Korea's test of several short-range missiles and a longer-range Taepo-Dong-2 missile; Iran's continued development and test of short- and medium-range ballistic missiles; North Korea's nuclear test; and Iran's effort to continue uranium enrichment in the face of international criticism.

I understand the need to focus on near-term capabilities, but as we move the bill forward, we need to work together to identify the right balance between investments in our near-term systems and our future capabilities.

In the area of space, the legislation contains a provision I strongly support which places a priority on protecting our space assets and increases funding for space situational awareness and operationally responsive space capabilities. Consistent with previous bipartisan efforts to improve space acquisition, H.R. 1585 continues its emphasis on program execution. The bill reflects a measured approach to space acquisition that overlaps new modernization programs with continuing legacy programs.

H.R. 1585 fully funds Transformational Satellite, or TSAT, which has made significant progress in measuring and maturing critical technologies and following GAO's knowledge-based approach. It also supports Space Radar. Though the program details are classified, I believe Space Radar's all-weather, day-and-night, 24/7 surveillance and reconnaissance capability is vital for the protection of our forces and supporting intelligence users.

The measure reflects a bipartisan agreement on the Atomic Energy Defense Activities, particularly on RRW, the Reliable Replacement Warhead program. RRW has the potential to increase the reliability, safety, and security of our nuclear weapons stockpile and reduce the likelihood of testing. RRW funding is reduced but maintained at a level to allow NNSA to take a measured, knowledge-based approach by focusing on detailed design and cost estimates.

This is a good bill. We agree on more than we disagree, and I would urge Members on my side to support the bill.

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) for purposes of a motion.

MOTION TO RISE OFFERED BY MR.
WESTMORELAND

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Ms. ESHOO). The question is on the motion to rise.

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair will count for a quorum. Does the gentleman withdraw his point of order?

Mr. WESTMORELAND. No.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for an electronic vote, if ordered, on the pending question following this quorum call. Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 356]

Abercrombie	Carney	Filner
Ackerman	Carter	Flake
Aderholt	Castle	Forbes
Akin	Castor	Fortenberry
Alexander	Chabot	Fortuño
Allen	Chandler	Fossella
Altmire	Clarke	Foxx
Andrews	Clay	Franks (AZ)
Arcuri	Cleaver	Frelinghuysen
Baca	Clyburn	Gallely
Bachmann	Coble	Garrett (NJ)
Bachus	Cohen	Gerlach
Baird	Cole (OK)	Giffords
Baker	Conaway	Gilchrest
Baldwin	Conyers	Gillibrand
Barrett (SC)	Cooper	Gillmor
Barrow	Costa	Gohmert
Bartlett (MD)	Costello	Gonzalez
Barton (TX)	Courtney	Goode
Bean	Cramer	Goodlatte
Becerra	Crenshaw	Gordon
Berkley	Crowley	Granger
Berman	Cuellar	Graves
Berry	Culberson	Green, Al
Biggert	Davis (AL)	Grijalva
Bilbray	Davis (CA)	Gutierrez
Billirakis	Davis (IL)	Hall (NY)
Bishop (GA)	Davis (KY)	Hall (TX)
Bishop (NY)	Davis, David	Hare
Bishop (UT)	Davis, Lincoln	Harman
Blackburn	Davis, Tom	Hastings (FL)
Blumenauer	Deal (GA)	Hastings (WA)
Boehner	DeFazio	Hayes
Bonner	DeGette	Heller
Bono	DeLauro	Hensarling
Boozman	Dent	Herger
Boren	Diaz-Balart, L.	Herseth Sandlin
Boswell	Diaz-Balart, M.	Higgins
Boucher	Dicks	Hill
Boustany	Doggett	Hinche
Boyd (FL)	Donnelly	Hinojosa
Boyda (KS)	Doolittle	Hirono
Brady (PA)	Doyle	Hobson
Brady (TX)	Drake	Hodes
Braley (IA)	Dreier	Hoekstra
Brown (SC)	Duncan	Holden
Brown, Corrine	Edwards	Holt
Brown-Waite,	Ehlers	Honda
Ginny	Ellison	Hooley
Buchanan	Ellsworth	Hoyer
Burgess	Emanuel	Hulshof
Burton (IN)	Emerson	Hunter
Butterfield	Eshoo	Inglis (SC)
Buyer	Etheridge	Inslee
Calvert	Everett	Israel
Campbell (CA)	Fallin	Issa
Cannon	Farr	Jackson (IL)
Capito	Fattah	Jackson-Lee
Capuano	Feeney	(TX)
Carnahan	Ferguson	Jefferson

Jindal	Meeks (NY)	Scott (GA)
Johnson (GA)	Mica	Scott (VA)
Johnson (IL)	Michaud	Sensenbrenner
Johnson, E. B.	Miller (MI)	Sessions
Johnson, Sam	Miller (NC)	Sestak
Jones (NC)	Miller, Gary	Shadegg
Jones (OH)	Mitchell	Shays
Jordan	Mollohan	Shea-Porter
Kagen	Moore (KS)	Sherman
Kanjorski	Moore (WI)	Shimkus
Kaptur	Moran (KS)	Shuler
Keller	Murphy (CT)	Shuster
Kennedy	Murphy, Patrick	Simpson
Kildee	Murphy, Tim	Sires
Kilpatrick	Murtha	Slaughter
Kind	Musgrave	Smith (NE)
King (IA)	Napolitano	Smith (NJ)
King (NY)	Neal (MA)	Smith (TX)
Kingston	Nunes	Smith (WA)
Kirk	Oberstar	Snyder
Klein (FL)	Obey	Solis
Kline (MN)	Oliver	Souder
Knollenberg	Ortiz	Space
Kucinich	Pallone	Spratt
Kuhl (NY)	Pascrell	Stearns
LaHood	Pastor	Sullivan
Lamborn	Paul	Sutton
Lampson	Payne	Tancredo
Langevin	Pearce	Tanner
Lantos	Pence	Tauscher
Larsen (WA)	Peterson (MN)	Taylor
Larson (CT)	Petri	Terry
Latham	Pickering	Thompson (CA)
LaTourette	Pitts	Thompson (MS)
Lee	Pomeroy	Thornberry
Levin	Porter	Tiahrt
Lewis (CA)	Price (CA)	Tiberi
Lewis (GA)	Price (NC)	Tierney
Lewis (KY)	Pryce (OH)	Towns
Linder	Putnam	Turner
Lipinski	Radanovich	Udall (CO)
LoBiondo	Rahall	Udall (NM)
Loebach	Ramstad	Upton
Lofgren, Zoe	Rangel	Van Hollen
Lowey	Regula	Velázquez
Lucas	Rehberg	Walberg
Lungren, Daniel	Reichert	Visclosky
E.	Renzi	Walden (OR)
Lynch	Reyes	Walsh (NY)
Mack	Rodriguez	Walsh (MN)
Mahoney (FL)	Rogers (AL)	Wamp
Maloney (NY)	Rogers (KY)	Wasserman
Manzullo	Rogers (MI)	Schultz
Marchant	Rohrabacher	Waters
Markey	Ros-Lehtinen	Watson
Marshall	Roskam	Watt
Matheson	Ross	Weiner
Matsui	Rothman	Welch (VT)
McCarthy (CA)	Roybal-Allard	Weldon (FL)
McCarthy (NY)	Royce	Weller
McCaul (TX)	Ruppersberger	Westmoreland
McCollum (MN)	Ryan (OH)	Wexler
McCotter	Ryan (WI)	Wicker
McDermott	Salazar	Wilson (NM)
McGovern	Sali	Wilson (OH)
McHenry	Sánchez, Linda	Wilson (SC)
McHugh	T.	Woolsey
McIntyre	Sanchez, Loretta	Wu
McKeon	Sarbanes	Wynn
McNerney	Saxton	Yarmuth
McNulty	Schiff	Young (AK)
Meehan	Schmidt	Young (FL)
Meek (FL)	Schwartz	

□ 1433

The Acting CHAIRMAN. On this quorum call, 393 have responded, a quorum.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Chairman, on rollcall No. 356, had I been present, I would have voted "present."

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pending is the demand of the gentleman from Georgia for a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 184, noes 222, not voting 31, as follows:

[Roll No. 357]

AYES—184

Aderholt	Foxx	Musgrave
Akin	Franks (AZ)	Neugebauer
Alexander	Frelinghuysen	Nunes
Bachmann	Gallely	Paul
Bachus	Garrett (NJ)	Pearce
Baker	Gerlach	Pence
Barrett (SC)	Gillmor	Petri
Bartlett (MD)	Gingrey	Pickering
Barton (TX)	Gohmert	Pitts
Biggert	Goode	Porter
Bilbray	Goodlatte	Price (GA)
Billirakis	Granger	Pryce (OH)
Bishop (UT)	Graves	Putnam
Blackburn	Hall (TX)	Radanovich
Blunt	Hastings (WA)	Ramstad
Boehner	Hayes	Regula
Bonner	Heller	Rehberg
Bono	Hensarling	Reichert
Boozman	Herger	Renzi
Boustany	Hobson	Rogers (AL)
Brady (TX)	Hoekstra	Rogers (KY)
Brown (SC)	Hulshof	Rogers (MI)
Brown-Waite,	Inglis (SC)	Rohrabacher
Ginny	Issa	Ros-Lehtinen
Buchanan	Jindal	Roskam
Burgess	Johnson (IL)	Royce
Burton (IN)	Johnson, Sam	Ryan (WI)
Butterfield	Jones (NC)	Sali
Buyer	Jordan	Saxton
Calvert	Keller	Schmidt
Campbell (CA)	King (IA)	Sensenbrenner
Cannon	King (NY)	Sessions
Capito	Kingston	Shadegg
Capuano	Kirk	Shays
Carnahan	Kline (MN)	Shimkus
	Knollenberg	Shuster
	Kuhl (NY)	Simpson
	LaHood	Smith (NE)
	Lamborn	Smith (NJ)
	Latham	Smith (TX)
	LaTourette	Souder
	Lewis (CA)	Stearns
	Lewis (KY)	Sullivan
	Linder	Tancredo
	LoBiondo	Terry
	Lucas	Thornberry
	Lungren, Daniel	Tiahrt
	E.	Tiberi
	Mack	Turner
	Manzullo	Upton
	Marchant	Walberg
	McCarthy (CA)	Walden (OR)
	McCaul (TX)	Walsh (NY)
	McCotter	Wamp
	McHenry	Weldon (FL)
	McHugh	Weller
	McKeon	Westmoreland
	Mica	Wicker
	Miller (MI)	Wilson (NM)
	Miller, Gary	Wilson (SC)
	Mollohan	Young (AK)
	Moran (KS)	Young (FL)

NOES—222

Abercrombie	Castor	Etheridge
Ackerman	Chandler	Farr
Allen	Clarke	Fattah
Altmire	Clay	Filner
Andrews	Cleaver	Frank (MA)
Arcuri	Clyburn	Giffords
Baca	Cohen	Gilchrest
Baird	Conyers	Gillibrand
Baldwin	Cooper	Gonzalez
Becerra	Costello	Gordon
Berkley	Courtney	Green, Al
Berman	Cramer	Green, Gene
Berry	Crowley	Grijalva
Bishop (GA)	Cuellar	Gutierrez
Bishop (NY)	Cummings	Hall (NY)
Blumenauer	Davis (AL)	Hare
Boren	Davis (CA)	Harman
Boswell	Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)
Boucher	Davis, Lincoln	Herseth Sandlin
Boyd (FL)	DeFazio	Higgins
Boyda (KS)	DeGette	Hill
Brady (PA)	Dicks	Hinche
Braley (IA)	Dingell	Hinojosa
Brown, Corrine	Doggett	Hirono
Butterfield	Donnelly	Hodes
Buyer	Doyle	Holden
Calvert	Edwards	Holt
Campbell (CA)	Ellison	Honda
Cannon	Ellsworth	Hooley
Capito	Emanuel	Hunter
Capuano	Eshoo	Inslee
Carnahan		Israel