



## **FISCAL YEAR 2024 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

The Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies bill includes a total of \$317.441 billion in funding for the Department of Defense (Military Construction and Family Housing), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and related agencies. Of the total, \$155.701 billion is provided as discretionary funding, and \$161.740 billion is provided for mandatory programs. Of the discretionary total, \$17.474 billion is for Department of Defense military construction projects, nearly \$800 million above the President’s Budget Request. The bill also fully funds the Department of Veterans Affairs for Fiscal Year 2024 by appropriating \$137.755 billion in discretionary funding in addition to the \$20.268 billion included in the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 for the Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund. It also includes a total of \$471.7 million for the four related agencies.

### **TOP LINE MESSAGING**

- Honors our commitment to veterans by:
  - **Fully funding veterans’ health care programs;** and
  - Fully funding veterans’ benefits and VA programs, including the electronic health record modernization initiative.
- Supports a strong national security by:
  - Providing nearly \$800 million above the President’s Budget Request for military construction, focusing investments in the Pacific theater, barracks, and other quality-of-life projects; and
  - Maintaining two provisions prohibiting the closure or realignment of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- Focuses the Executive Branch on its core responsibilities by:
  - Including new provisions prohibiting funds to lobby Congress, promote or advance critical race theory, and carry out divisive Executive Orders.



## **BILL HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Cuts to Wasteful Spending**

- Prohibits the use of funds to promote or advance critical race theory.
- Prohibits the implementation, administration, or enforcement of the Biden Administration's executive orders on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Eliminates funding for the VA's Office of Public Affairs in response to the VA's inaccurate and politically motivated press releases making false claims about budget cuts.

### **Conservative Priorities**

- Keeps America's promise to its veterans by fully funding the needs identified in the President's Budget Request for the VA.
- Adds a specific provision to the bill that reiterates existing law prohibiting the use of funds by the Departments and agencies funded in the bill to lobby Congress or to advocate for or against pending legislation.
- Retains prohibition on the closure of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the use of military construction funds to build facilities for detainees on U.S. soil.



## DETAILED FUNDING SUMMARY

### **Department of Defense (Military Construction and Family Housing)**

Provides \$17.474 billion for Department of Defense military construction and family housing, \$799.1 million above the FY24 Budget Request.

- \$1.425 billion for infrastructure related to the Pacific Deterrence Initiative and \$131 million for U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.
- \$480.8 million for U.S. Special Operations Command:
  - \$436.4 million for 10 projects;
  - \$25.1 million for planning and design; and
  - \$19.3 million for minor construction.
- \$362.3 million for 9 barracks projects and an additional \$195 million for planning and design.
- \$293.8 million for 7 child development center projects and an additional \$75 million for planning and design.
- \$80 million above the Budget Request across the active and reserve components to address important small-scale infrastructure deficiencies.

### **Department of Veterans Affairs**

Provides \$299.496 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs, which when combined with amounts provided in the Fiscal Responsibility Act is equal to the FY24 Budget Request and \$16.481 billion above the FY23 enacted level.

- Provides for a full year funding level of \$138.127 billion for veterans' medical care, matching the FY24 Budget Request.
- Fully funds veterans' health care and toxic exposure-related needs for FY24.

### **Arlington National Cemetery**

- Includes \$88.6 million to complete the southern expansion of the Arlington National Cemetery.

### **Community Project Funding**

- Includes \$294.6 million in Community Project Funding for 24 projects requested by 14 Members.