



## **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 \$337.909 billion in funding for the Department of Defense (Military Construction and Family Housing), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and related agencies. Of the total, \$170.627 billion is provided as discretionary funding, and \$167.282 billion is provided for mandatory programs. Of the discretionary total, \$17.674 billion is for Department of Defense military construction projects, nearly \$1 billion above the Budget Request, and \$152.481 billion is for the Department of Veterans Affairs discretionary programs, which is **nearly \$18 billion above fiscal year 2023. Overall, the bill fully funds the Budget Request for the VA.** 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 \$1 billion above the 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**

- Fully funds costs identified in the President’s Request to address veterans affected by toxic exposures by providing 100% of PACT Act incremental implementation costs in the mandatory Toxic Exposures Fund, consistent with Appropriations Committee direction in Fiscal Year 2023. All other VA needs identified in the President’s Request are fully funded through the discretionary budget.
- 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 \$17.674 billion for Department of Defense military construction and family housing, \$999.1 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 \$319.763 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is equal to the FY24 Budget Request and \$16.481 billion above the FY23 enacted level.

- \$138.127 billion for veterans' medical care, matching the FY24 Budget Request.
- Fully funds veterans' health care for FY24.
  - Fully funds costs identified in the President's Request to address veterans affected by toxic exposures by providing 100% of PACT Act incremental implementation costs in the mandatory Toxic Exposures Fund, consistent with Appropriations Committee direction in Fiscal Year 2023. All other VA needs identified in the President's Request are fully funded through the discretionary budget.

### **Arlington National Cemetery**

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

HOUSE  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
REPUBLICANS

**Community Project Funding**

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