

Section 2001—Short Title

This section would cite division B of this Act as the “Joel Hefley Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.”

TITLE XXI—ARMY

SUMMARY

The budget request contained \$2,059,762,000 for Army military construction and \$1,271,820,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2007. The committee recommends authorization of \$2,135,598,000 for military construction and \$1,253,448,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2007.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Explanation of Funding Adjustments

The committee has recommended reduction or elimination of funding for several projects contained within the budget request for Army military construction and family housing. These reductions include:

(1) \$1,644,000 from the funding amount requested for a barracks complex at Fort Richardson, Alaska. This project, as requested, includes funds for demolition of facilities at installations other than Fort Richardson. While the committee appreciates the Department of Defense’s efforts to offset construction with demolition during recapitalization, the committee believes that demolition should not be included within a military construction project request unless it is necessary to support construction of that project.

(2) \$31,000,000 for the purchase of temporary administrative buildings at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The Department of the Army leased these facilities in January 2003 for up to five years in order to house Army Materiel Command (AMC). However, AMC will soon be moved to Redstone Arsenal, Alabama as a result of 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions. While the Department has asserted that Fort Belvoir currently has a deficit of administrative space, the committee is not convinced that expending \$31,000,000 to purchase temporary facilities which have only 20 years remaining in their anticipated lifespan is an effective use of funds. If the Department has a validated requirement for additional administrative space that is not related to BRAC 2005 moves, the committee urges the Secretary of the Army to request in future budgets funding for construction of permanent facilities.

(3) \$27,000,000 for construction of a museum support center at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The committee notes that the National Museum of the Marine Corps (NMMC) is scheduled to open in Quantico, Virginia in the fall of 2006. According to the Navy’s Future Years Defense Program, the NMMC will also require museum support facilities. Given the close proximity of Fort Belvoir to Quantico, the committee believes that a joint facility to support both the NMMC and the National Museum of the United States Army could yield significant efficiencies

over separate facilities, while enhancing efforts to preserve, conserve, and restore historic artifacts. As such, the committee urges the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Army to consider joint construction of a single museum support facility in a future year.

Future Year Programming

The committee is concerned that changes to military construction budget projections resulted in the removal of several important projects from the Army's Future Years Defense Program (FYDP), including a special operations free fall simulator at Yuma Proving Grounds, Arizona and a community dining facility at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah. The committee believes that these projects are critical to enhancing training, reducing costs, and improving quality of life. As such, the committee directs the Secretary of the Army to include the free fall simulator and the community dining facility in the next FYDP.

Planning and Design

The committee recommends that, within authorized amounts for planning and design, the Secretary of the Army complete planning and design activities for the following projects:

- (1) \$365,000—Special Operations Free Fall Simulator, Yuma Proving Grounds, Arizona
- (2) \$243,000—Community Dining Facility, Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah
- (3) \$1,260,000—Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility, National Ground Intelligence Center, Virginia

Safety-Critical Projects

The committee encourages the Secretary of the Army to ensure that construction projects that are necessary to eliminate safety hazards to personnel receive priority funding in the Future Years Defense Program (FYDP). As such, the committee urges the Secretary of the Army to accelerate projects, such as the programmed effort to address safety hazards at the Advanced Training Support Center at Fort Eustis, Virginia, within the next FYDP.

Unspecified Minor Construction

The committee recommends that, within authorized amounts for unspecified minor construction, the Secretary of the Army complete planning and design activities for the following project:

- (1) \$930,000—Combat Pistol Qualification Course, Fort Benning, Georgia

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 2101—Authorized Army Construction and Land Acquisition Projects

This section contains the list of authorized Army construction projects for fiscal year 2007. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis. The state list contained in this

report is intended to be the binding list of the specific projects authorized at each location.

Section 2102—Family Housing

This section would authorize new construction and planning and design of family housing units for the Army for fiscal year 2007.

Section 2103—Improvements to Military Family Housing Units

This section would authorize improvements to existing units of family housing for fiscal year 2007.

Section 2104—Authorization of Appropriations, Army

This section would authorize specific appropriations for each line item contained in the Army's budget for fiscal year 2007. This section would also provide an overall limit on the amount the Army may spend on military construction projects.

TITLE XXII—NAVY

SUMMARY

The budget request contained \$1,162,038,000 for Navy military construction and \$814,197,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2007. The committee recommends authorization of \$1,219,871,000 for military construction and \$818,082,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2007.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Explanation of Funding Adjustments

The committee is troubled by the January 10, 2006, guidance from the Office of Management and Budget to cease use of incremental funding of military construction projects except for the purposes of base realignment and closure activities and projects that have "major national security impacts."

Due to the implementation of this guidance during the fiscal year 2007 budget process, Department of Defense components were forced to cut a number of important projects from the fiscal year 2007 program. As a result, several construction projects that are critical to military readiness, important to the effective conduct of military operations, or necessary to enhance quality of life have been indefinitely deferred. In at least one such case, incremental execution would likely be the more efficient means of funding and constructing the project.

The committee notes that the Department has a record of effective management while utilizing incremental funding for military construction projects. As such, the committee recommends "re-incrementing" two projects contained in the budget request, including recapitalization of hangar 5 at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington. While this would result in a funding reduction in fiscal year 2007 of \$31,153,000, the committee recommends full authorization for the project of \$57,653,000 and expects the Secretary of the Navy to execute the project under proven incremental funding practices.