

Section 2001—Short Title

This section would cite Division B of this Act as the “Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.”

TITLE XXI—ARMY

SUMMARY

The budget request contained \$4,039,197,000 for Army military construction and \$1,162,320,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2008. The committee recommends authorization of \$3,977,497,000 for military construction and \$1,156,320,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2008.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Advanced Individual Training Barracks

The committee believes that there is a direct correlation between the service members’ quality of life and the condition of facilities service members use on a frequent basis. This correlation is especially true in the support provided by unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing. The committee is concerned that insufficient resources are provided in the budget submission for the maintenance and recapitalization of Army unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing. The committee urges the Secretary of the Army to accelerate projects, such as the programming and construction of an Advanced Individual Training Barracks at Fort Meade, Maryland, in the next Future Years Defense Plan.

Explanation of Funding Adjustments

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

(1) \$46,000,000 from the funding amount requested for Phase II of an Operations Complex at Eglin Air Force Base. The budget request contained \$66,000,000 for Phase II, the construction of a modified standard design complex for two Special Forces Battalions. The committee understands that an environmental impact statement is currently under review and is expected to be completed in September 2008. This will cause a delay on the award of this project. The committee supports authorizing for appropriations an amount equivalent to the ability of a military department to execute in the year of authorization for appropriations. For this project, the committee believes that the Department of Defense has exceeded their ability to fully expend the funding in fiscal year 2008. Accordingly, the committee recommends \$20,000,000 to expedite support for this critical mission.

(2) \$65,000,000 from the funding amount requested for construction of a joint/coalition/interagency headquarters U.S. Southern Command. The budget request contained \$237,000,000; however, the committee believes that the Department has exceeded their ability to fully expend the funding in fiscal year 2008. Accordingly, the committee recommends \$172,000,000 to support this project.

(3) \$11,000,000 from the funding amount requested for Family Housing Operations. The budget request contained \$743,000,000 for Family Housing Operations to support general family housing management of existing assets. The committee notes that the Army continues to aggressively pursue privatization initiatives and intends to continue this effort until almost 99 percent of the on-post, family housing inventory has been privatized. This trend continues in fiscal year 2008. Continued reliance on Residential Communities Initiative should result in a decrease in fiscal support associated with Family Housing Operations, yet the budget request includes unsubstantiated growth of \$67,000,000. Furthermore, additional funding was also requested to support grow the force initiatives that appears unjustified. Accordingly, the committee recommends \$732,000,000 to support Family Housing Operations.

Planning and Design

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

- (1) \$1,000,000—Medical Parking Garage, Fort Bliss, Texas;
- (2) \$1,513,000—Aviation Maintenance Hangar (Phase I), Fort Rucker, Alabama;
- (3) \$800,000—Component Rebuild Shop, Anniston, Alabama;
- and
- (4) \$2,500,000—Research Support Operations Center, Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Unspecified Minor Construction

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

- (1) \$2,900,000—Community Emergency Services Facility, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and
- (2) \$1,300,000—Fire and Movement Range, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Wounded Warrior Accessibility Requirements

The committee is dedicated to ensuring accessible medical installations are available to service members that need additional medical care and services. Unfortunately, there are a multitude of medical facilities that do not meet the minimum accessibility requirements required in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336). The committee is also committed to the anti-terrorism/force protection building standards that require a strict offset requirement. In some instances, these anti-terrorism/force protection standards have reduced general and handicapped parking for medical facilities. It is critical for the Department of Defense to provide the best available care to our wounded warriors, and accessible medical facilities are a critical component of this capability. The committee urges the Department to accelerate projects, such as programming to support accessible parking, for the Fort Bliss William Beaumont Army Medical Center, Texas, in the next Future Years Defense Plan.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 2101—Authorized Army Construction and Land Acquisition Projects

This section would contain the list of authorized Army construction projects for fiscal year 2008. 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 2008.

Section 2103—Improvements to Military Family Housing Units

This section would authorize improvements to existing units of family housing for fiscal year 2008.

Section 2104—Authorization of Appropriations, Army

This section would authorize specific appropriations for each line item contained in the budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Army. This section would also provide an overall limit on the amount the Army may spend on military construction projects.

Section 2105—Modification of Authority to Carry Out Certain Fiscal Year 2006 Project

This section would increase the authorization for a fiscal year 2006 military construction project at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and appropriate conforming military construction amendments.

TITLE XXII—NAVY

SUMMARY

The budget request contained \$2,104,276,000 for Navy military construction and \$669,733,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2008. The committee recommends authorization of \$2,087,516,000 for military construction and \$669,733,000 for family housing for fiscal year 2008.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Explanation of Funding Adjustments

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

(1) \$10,100,000 (Inc 5–7) to acquire land interests and construct an outlying landing field. The committee notes that the acquisition of an outlying landing field at the Navy's preferred outlying landing field location in Washington County, North Carolina, has been opposed by Washington County, and Beaufort County, North Carolina delegations and will present a number of local concerns, including the loss of a significant tax base, the reduction of high