

# House Armed Services Committee

DEMOCRATS

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Ike Skelton, Ranking Member

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## Unfunded Requirements for Military

**Total \$21.83 Billion**

**Nearly 48% increase over last year**

*Washington D.C.—Today Congressman Ike Skelton (MO), Ranking Member on the House Armed Services Committee, announced that \$21.83 billion in military priorities is not funded in the Administration's Fiscal Year 2007 budget request.*

Skelton released the following statement:

“After reviewing the President’s fiscal year 2007 budget request, I asked each service branch for its list of unfunded requirements. In addition, the National Guard also provided us with their list.

These total:

- \$7.44 billion for the Army
- \$4.58 billion for the Navy
- \$5.64 billion for the Air Force
- \$2.56 billion for the Marine Corps
- \$1.61 billion for the National Guard

**\$21.83 billion Total for FY07**

“The amount of unfunded priorities requested by the services this year is a nearly 48% increase over last year’s request. This is the highest total set of unfunded requirements since our military began operations after 9/11.

“When the President’s budget request for national defense is \$439 billion before including war costs and the Congress is currently considering a new \$67.9 billion emergency supplemental funding request to pay for the war, our military’s unmet needs are at record levels. We are seeing the costs and strains of sustaining a military at war.

“While we cannot expect the administration’s budget to accommodate all of the services’ requests, it must provide for the costs of the war—including the costs of maintaining and replacing the equipment our forces will use to fight this and future

conflicts. The Army is requesting \$450 million for unmet depot maintenance needs to repair the equipment it has broken during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“The Army is stretched so thin that Air Force and Navy personnel have been pressed into jobs ordinarily performed by our ground services. The Air Force’s unfunded requirements list includes \$52 million for up-armored HMMWVs and \$61 million for M-4 carbines. This isn’t a large amount of money by defense standards, but it shows the burden of additional responsibilities the Air Force is being forced to take on.

“I am deeply distressed that the Army’s list does not reflect the funding necessary for the Guard to meet its authorized end-strength of 350,000. The Army has told us the Guard can recruit to this level and when they do, it will be funded. Congress must and will plan ahead to ensure the National Guard has everything they need to continue performing all the missions they so capably do for this nation.”

*To receive copies of the individual services’ unfunded requirements lists, please contact Loren Dealy at 202-226-6339, or [loren.dealy@mail.house.gov](mailto:loren.dealy@mail.house.gov)*

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