

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND  
RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2014

MAY 28, 2013.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of  
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. CULBERSON, from the Committee on Appropriations,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY AND ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2216]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

CONTENTS

	Page
Purpose of the Bill .....	2
Summary of Committee Recommendation .....	2
Comparative Statement of New Budget Authority .....	4
Management and Oversight Initiatives .....	15
Department of Defense:	
Military Construction .....	16
NATO Security Investment Program .....	25
Family Housing Construction and Operation and Maintenance .....	27
Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide .....	29
Department of Defense Base Closure Account .....	29
Administrative Provisions .....	30
Department of Veterans Affairs:	
Veterans Benefits Administration .....	33
Veterans Health Administration .....	36
National Cemetery Administration .....	46
Departmental Administration .....	47
Administrative Provisions .....	57
Related Agencies:	
American Battle Monuments Commission .....	61

U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims .....	61
Cemeterial Expenses, Army .....	62
Armed Forces Retirement Home .....	63
Administrative Provision .....	64
General Provisions .....	64
House of Representative Report Requirements .....	65
Statement of General Performance Goals and Objectives .....	65
Rescissions .....	65
Transfer of Funds .....	66
Disclosure of Earmarks and Congressionally Directed Spending Items .....	67
Changes in Application of Existing Law .....	67
Appropriations Not Authorized by Law .....	71
Program Duplication .....	73
Directed Rule Making .....	73
Full Committee Votes .....	73
Ramseyer Rule .....	76
Comparison With the Budget Resolution .....	76
Five-Year Projection of Outlays .....	76
Assistance to State and Local Governments .....	76
State Project List .....	77
Minority Views .....	91
Additional Views .....	93

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to support our military and their families and provide the benefits and medical care that our veterans have earned for their service. This is accomplished through the programs funded in the bill, which provide the facilities and infrastructure needed to house, train, and equip our military personnel to defend this Nation, both in the United States and abroad; provide the housing and military community infrastructure that supports a good quality of life for them and their families; and allow the military to maintain an efficient and effective base structure. The bill also funds programs to ensure that all veterans receive the benefits and medical care that they have earned as a result of the sacrifices they have made in their service to our country. Finally, the bill funds four related agencies that provide support to our Nation's heroes: the American Battle Monuments Commission, Cemeterial Expenses, Army (including Arlington National Cemetery), the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

#### SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The scale of the Nation's debt and the continuing annual deficit weighed heavily on the Committee as it formulated this bill. A driving force behind the Committee recommendations is the need to do all that we can to reduce the deficit and balance the budget of the United States. The Committee recommendation continues essential support for servicemembers and veterans but does not provide funds for projects or activities that lacked sufficient justification or amounts in excess of expected obligations for the fiscal year. Where it was prudent, the Committee recommendation rescinds prior year funding that is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was appropriated while leaving sufficient resources to close out contracts. The Committee does not include requested funding for a civilian pay increase. Should the President provide a civilian pay raise for fiscal year 2014, it is assumed that the cost

of such a pay raise will be absorbed within existing appropriations for fiscal year 2014.

The Committee recommends \$157,782,090,000 in budget authority for the fiscal year 2014 programs and activities funded in the bill. In addition, advance appropriations of \$55,634,227,000 are provided for fiscal year 2015 medical programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The fiscal year 2014 recommendation is an increase of \$12,939,319,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level (defined as the amount provided within Public Law 113–6 and excluding emergency funding, disaster relief adjustments, the 251A sequester and the section 3004 Office of Management and Budget adjustment) and \$1,370,117,000 below the President’s request. Included in this amount is \$84,461,636,000 in mandatory budget authority and \$73,320,454,000 in discretionary budget authority.

The recommendation reflects the Committee’s continued commitment to our servicemembers and veterans and to their families. The total funding level for military construction and family housing is \$9,954,887,000, a \$645,868,000 reduction below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$1,056,746,000 below the budget request. The overall level of funding supports the servicemen and women and their families who are making sacrifices during this time of war. The programs funded in the bill for the Department of Defense address the numerous challenges we have asked our military to accomplish simultaneously. These funds support continued cleanup of military bases closed during previous Base Realignment and Closure rounds, resource the military’s global re-stationing and force re-structure plans, and ensure that our military personnel and their families’ quality of life is preserved within these plans.

The total funding level for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Veterans Affairs is \$147,581,766,000, an increase of 10.2 percent over the fiscal year 2013 enacted level. Of the total, \$84,461,636,000 is provided for mandatory benefit programs and \$63,120,130,000 is allocated to discretionary programs such as medical care, claims processing, and construction. Discretionary funding increases by 3.5 percent. In addition to funds for fiscal year 2014, of which \$54,462,000,000 have already been appropriated in advance, the Committee recommendation includes \$55,634,227,000 in advance appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for the three health care accounts of the Department, as authorized by the House-passed fiscal year 2014 budget resolution.

The following table compares amounts recommended in the bill to the President’s request and amounts appropriated in fiscal year 2013:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
(Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
Military construction, Army.....	1,682,639	1,119,875	1,099,875	-582,764	-20,000
Military construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	1,547,615	1,700,269	1,616,281	+68,666	-83,988
Military construction, Air Force.....	322,220	1,156,573	1,127,273	+805,053	-29,300
Military construction, Defense-Wide.....	3,578,841	3,985,300	3,707,923	+129,082	-277,377
Total, Active components.....	7,131,315	7,962,017	7,551,352	+420,037	-410,665
Military construction, Army National Guard.....	613,185	320,815	315,815	-297,370	-5,000
Supplemental (P.L. 113-2) (Emergency).....	24,235	---	---	-24,235	---
Subtotal.....	637,420	320,815	315,815	-321,605	-5,000
Military construction, Air National Guard.....	42,344	119,800	107,800	+65,456	-12,000
Military construction, Army Reserve.....	305,540	174,060	174,060	-131,480	---
Military construction, Navy Reserve.....	49,482	32,976	32,976	-16,506	---
Military construction, Air Force Reserve.....	10,968	45,659	45,659	+34,691	---
Total, Reserve components.....	1,045,754	693,310	676,310	-369,444	-17,000
Total, Military construction.....	8,177,069	8,655,327	8,227,662	+50,593	-427,665
=====					
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.....	253,909	239,700	199,700	-54,209	-40,000
Family housing construction, Army.....	4,636	44,008	44,008	+39,372	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Army.....	529,521	512,871	512,871	-16,650	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
(Amounts in thousands)

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	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Family housing construction, Navy and Marine Corps....	102,080	73,407	73,407	-28,673	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.....	377,852	389,844	389,844	+11,992	---
Family housing construction, Air Force.....	83,740	76,360	76,360	-7,380	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Air Force...	497,331	388,598	388,598	-108,733	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Defense-Wide	52,186	55,845	55,845	+3,659	---
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	1,784	1,780	1,780	-4	---
<b>Total, Family housing.....</b>	<b>1,649,130</b>	<b>1,542,713</b>	<b>1,542,713</b>	<b>-106,417</b>	<b>---</b>
Chemical demilitarization construction, Defense-Wide..	150,849	122,536	122,536	-28,313	---
Base realignment and closure:					
Base realignment and closure account, 1990.....	408,987	---	---	-408,987	---
Base realignment and closure account, 2005.....	126,570	---	---	-126,570	---
Base realignment and closure account.....	---	451,357	451,357	+451,357	---
<b>Total, Base realignment and closure.....</b>	<b>535,557</b>	<b>451,357</b>	<b>451,357</b>	<b>-84,200</b>	<b>---</b>
Military Construction, Army (Sec. 126).....	---	---	-89,000	-89,000	-89,000
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps (Sec.127)	---	---	-49,920	-49,920	-49,920
Military Construction, Defense-Wide (Sec. 128).....	-20,000	---	-358,400	-338,400	-358,400

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(Amounts in thousands)

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	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
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Rescission (P.L. 113-6):					
Base Realignment and Closure, 2005.....	-132,513	---	---	+132,513	---
Military construction, Army, Planning and design FY12 (Sec. 129).....	---	---	-50,000	-50,000	-50,000
Military construction, Defense-Wide, Unspecified minor construction FY09 and FY10 (Sec. 130).....	---	---	-16,470	-16,470	-16,470
Military construction, Air National Guard, Unspecified minor construction FY09 and FY10 (Sec. 131).....	---	---	-45,623	-45,623	-45,623
42 USC 3374 (Sec. 132).....	---	---	-50,000	-50,000	-50,000
Reduction of funds (Sec. 133).....	---	---	-4,668	-4,668	-4,668
Navy Land Transfer (P.L. 113-6).....	10,989	---	---	-10,989	---
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps (Sec. 135).....	---	---	75,000	+75,000	+75,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title I, Department of Defense.....	10,624,990	11,011,633	9,954,887	-670,103	-1,056,746
Appropriations.....	(10,753,268)	(11,011,633)	(10,614,300)	(-138,968)	(-397,333)
Rescissions.....	(-152,513)	---	(-659,413)	(-506,900)	(-659,413)
Emergency appropriations.....	(24,235)	---	---	(-24,235)	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans Benefits Administration

Compensation and pensions.....	60,599,855	71,248,171	71,248,171	+10,648,316	---
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COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
(Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Readjustment benefits.....	12,023,458	13,135,898	13,135,898	+1,112,440	---
Veterans insurance and indemnities.....	104,600	77,567	77,567	-27,033	---
Veterans housing benefit program fund: (indefinite).....	184,859	---	---	-184,859	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(500)	(500)	(500)	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	157,656	158,430	158,430	+774	---
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account.....	19	5	5	-14	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(2,729)	(2,500)	(2,500)	(-229)	---
Administrative expenses.....	346	354	354	+8	---
Native American veteran housing loan program account..	1,088	1,109	1,109	+21	---
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration.....	73,071,881	84,621,534	84,621,534	+11,549,653	---

Veterans Health Administration

Medical services:					
Advance from prior year.....	(41,354,000)	(43,557,000)	(43,557,000)	(+2,203,000)	---
Current year request.....	154,845	157,500	---	-154,845	-157,500
Advance appropriation, FY 2015.....	43,557,000	45,015,527	45,015,527	+1,458,527	---
Supplemental (P.L. 113-2) (Emergency).....	21,000	---	---	-21,000	---
Subtotal.....	43,732,845	45,173,027	45,015,527	+1,282,682	-157,500
Medical support and compliance:					
Advance from prior year.....	(5,746,000)	(6,033,000)	(6,033,000)	(+287,000)	---

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(Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Advance appropriation, FY 2015.....	6,033,000	5,879,700	5,879,700	-153,300	---
Subtotal.....	6,033,000	5,879,700	5,879,700	-153,300	---
Medical facilities:					
Advance from prior year.....	(5,441,000)	(4,872,000)	(4,872,000)	(-569,000)	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2015.....	4,872,000	4,739,000	4,739,000	-133,000	---
Supplemental (P.L. 113-2) (Emergency).....	6,000	---	---	-6,000	---
Subtotal.....	4,878,000	4,739,000	4,739,000	-139,000	---
Medical and prosthetic research.....	582,091	585,664	585,664	+3,573	---
Medical care cost recovery collections:					
Offsetting collections.....	-2,527,000	-2,485,000	-2,485,000	+42,000	---
Appropriations (indefinite).....	2,527,000	2,485,000	2,485,000	-42,000	---
Subtotal.....	---	---	---	---	---
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (transfers out).....	(-279,720)	(-254,257)	(-271,000)	(+8,720)	(-16,743)
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (by transfer).....	(279,720)	(254,257)	(271,000)	(-8,720)	(+16,743)
DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (Transfer out).....	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	---	---

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COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
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	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
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DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (by transfer).....	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
=====					
Total, Veterans Health Administration.....	55,225,936	56,377,391	56,219,891	+993,955	-157,500
Appropriations.....	(736,936)	(743,164)	(585,664)	(-151,272)	(-157,500)
Emergency appropriations.....	(27,000)	---	---	(-27,000)	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2015.....	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	---
=====					
Advances from prior year appropriations.....	(52,541,000)	(54,462,000)	(54,462,000)	(+1,921,000)	---
=====					
National Cemetery Administration					
National Cemetery Administration.....	258,026	250,000	250,000	-8,026	---
Supplemental (P.L. 113-2) (Emergency).....	2,100	---	---	-2,100	---
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Subtotal.....	260,126	250,000	250,000	-10,126	---
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Departmental Administration					
General administration.....	424,312	403,023	403,023	-21,289	---
General operating expenses, VBA.....	2,161,910	2,455,490	2,455,490	+293,580	---
-----					
Information technology systems.....	3,324,117	3,683,344	3,683,344	+359,227	---
Supplemental (P.L. 113-2) (Emergency).....	531	---	---	-531	---
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Subtotal.....	3,324,648	3,683,344	3,683,344	+358,696	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
 (Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of Inspector General.....	114,885	116,411	116,411	+1,526	---
Construction, major projects.....	531,938	342,130	342,130	-189,808	---
Supplemental (P.L. 113-2) (Emergency).....	207,000	---	---	-207,000	---
Subtotal.....	738,938	342,130	342,130	-396,808	---
Construction, minor projects.....	606,922	714,870	714,870	+107,948	---
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities.....	84,915	82,650	82,650	-2,265	---
Grants for the construction of veterans cemeteries....	45,954	44,650	44,650	-1,304	---
Total, Departmental Administration.....	7,502,484	7,842,568	7,842,568	+340,084	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(207,531)	---	---	(-207,531)	---
Administrative Provisions					
FY 2014 Advance Rescission (Sec. 230).....	---	---	-156,000	-156,000	-156,000
FY 2014 Current Reduction (Sec. 230).....	---	---	-24,000	-24,000	-24,000
Section 225					
Medical services.....	1,498,500	1,400,000	1,400,000	-98,500	---
(Rescission).....	-1,500,000	-1,400,000	-1,400,000	+100,000	---
Medical support and compliance.....	199,800	100,000	100,000	-99,800	---
(Rescission).....	-200,000	-100,000	-100,000	+100,000	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014

(Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Medical facilities.....	249,750	250,000	250,000	+250	---
(Rescission).....	-250,000	-250,000	-250,000	---	---
Total. Administrative Provisions.....	-1,950	---	-180,000	-178,050	-180,000
Total, title II.....	136,058,477	149,091,493	148,753,993	+12,695,516	-337,500
Appropriations.....	(83,309,846)	(95,207,266)	(95,025,766)	(+11,715,920)	(-181,500)
Emergency appropriations.....	(236,631)	---	---	(-236,631)	---
Rescissions.....	(-1,950,000)	(-1,750,000)	(-1,750,000)	(+200,000)	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2015.....	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	---
Advances from prior year appropriations.....	(52,541,000)	(54,462,000)	(54,462,000)	(+1,921,000)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(3,229)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(-229)	---
Discretionary.....	(63,145,705)	(64,629,857)	(64,292,357)	(+1,146,652)	(-337,500)
Advances from prior year less FY 2015 advances	-1,921,000	-1,172,227	-1,172,227	+748,773	---
Less emergency appropriations.....	-236,631	---	---	+236,631	---
Net discretionary.....	(60,988,074)	(63,457,630)	(63,120,130)	(+2,132,056)	(-337,500)
Mandatory.....	(72,912,772)	(84,461,636)	(84,461,636)	(+11,548,864)	---
Total mandatory and net discretionary.....	133,900,846	147,919,266	147,581,766	+13,680,920	-337,500

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
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	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
American Battle Monuments Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	61,348	58,200	57,980	-3,368	-220
Foreign currency fluctuations account.....	14,818	14,100	14,100	-718	---
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission.....	76,166	72,300	72,080	-4,086	-220
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims					
Salaries and expenses.....	31,665	35,408	35,272	+3,607	-136
Department of Defense - Civil					
Cemeterial Expenses, Army					
Salaries and expenses.....	64,146	45,800	70,685	+6,539	+24,885
Construction program.....	100,412	---	---	-100,412	---
Total, Cemeterial Expenses, Army.....	164,558	45,800	70,685	-93,873	+24,885
Armed Forces Retirement Home - Trust Fund					
Operation and maintenance.....	63,941	66,800	66,400	+2,459	-400
Capital program.....	1,950	1,000	1,000	-950	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
(Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
-----					
Armed Forces Retirement Home - General Fund					
Capital program.....	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home.....	65,891	67,800	67,400	+1,509	-400
=====					
Total, title III.....	338,280	221,308	245,437	-92,843	+24,129
=====					
TITLE IV - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS					
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	150,768	---	---	-150,768	---
Rescission (P.L. 112-10).....	-150,768	---	---	+150,768	---
=====					
Total, title IV.....	---	---	---	---	---
=====					
Grand total.....	147,021,747	160,324,434	158,954,317	+11,932,570	-1,370,117
Appropriations.....	(94,401,394)	(106,440,207)	(105,885,503)	(+11,484,109)	(-554,704)
Rescissions.....	(-2,102,513)	(-1,750,000)	(-2,409,413)	(-306,900)	(-659,413)
Emergency appropriations.....	(260,866)	---	---	(-260,866)	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2015.....	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	---
Overseas contingency operations.....	---	---	---	---	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2013 AND REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS FOR 2014  
 (Amounts in thousands)

\*Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB

	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Advances from prior year appropriations.....	(52,541,000)	(54,462,000)	(54,462,000)	(+1,921,000)	---
(By transfer).....	(294,720)	(269,257)	(286,000)	(-8,720)	(+16,743)
(Transfer out).....	(-294,720)	(-269,257)	(-286,000)	(+8,720)	(-16,743)
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(3,229)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(-229)	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

## MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT INITIATIVES

The Committee believes the effective stewardship of taxpayer dollars is of the highest priority. In the interest of eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal programs, the Committee has and will continue to use public hearings, briefings and information requests, and reviews by the Government Accountability Office and the Inspectors General to promote strong financial and program management, oversight and leadership at the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other agencies under the jurisdiction of this bill.

The fiscal year 2014 appropriations Act and the accompanying report address management challenges of the Federal agencies funded herein, including directives to strengthen financial and program management, eliminate redundancy, and improve implementation and oversight of initiatives that support the mission of this bill. The Committee will use every means at its disposal to reduce mismanagement that results in waste, fraud, and abuse.

*Department of Defense.*—In addition to the notification and reporting requirements for military construction programs contained in Title 10, United States Code, the Committee's recommendations include several provisions requiring the Department of Defense to report on various aspects of military construction programs, or to provide notification to the Committee when certain actions are taken. The Committee also retains prior approval authority for any reprogramming of funds exceeding a specific threshold.

*Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).*—With the \$147,581,766,000 provided for the VA in this bill and the increase in the number of veterans seeking VA medical services, the Committee believes it is important to strengthen its tools to monitor spending as well as the skills and operating procedures of the VA workforce. The following initiatives demonstrate the Committee's oversight focus:

*VA-DOD integrated electronic health record.*—After years of inaction as the two Departments struggled to develop one unified record or different, but interoperable, systems, the Committee has taken the initiative to require that any electronic health record being developed must be a single, joint, common, integrated health record with an open architecture. Bill language requires both Departments to certify that their chosen system meets these requirements and no more than 25 percent of funding for the electronic health record can be obligated until the Government Accountability Office confirms the Secretaries' certification and a detailed spending plan is submitted to the Committee. With identical language included in this bill and the DOD appropriations bill, the Committee anticipates that the logjam on developing an electronic health record will finally be broken.

*Disability claims backlog reduction.*—In addition to fully funding the administration request of \$155,000,000 for the Veterans Benefits Management System, the paperless information technology system designed to speed processing, and \$136,440,000 for digital scanning of health and benefits files, the Committee implements aggressive monthly reporting from each specific regional office on claims processing performance and quarterly reports on corrective action efforts at the poorest performing regional offices.

*Excessive overhead in medical services funding.*—The Committee has heard concerns from Members that the VA retains too much of the funding provided by Congress at headquarters and at the regional health networks instead of allowing it to flow through to the medical centers. The Committee is monitoring the allocation process VA uses, mandating that VA provide information annually identifying the use of all funding retained at headquarters, as well as the funding retained by each network and for which purposes. In addition, the Committee is requesting regular budget information to better identify administrative expenses that are hidden in medical services appropriations.

*Stricter control of construction funding.*—The VA historically has allowed billions of dollars for its major construction projects to remain unobligated for years at a time while VA completes designs, negotiates with contractors, and complies with local, State, and Federal paperwork. The Committee continues bill language limiting the availability of these funds to five years, which is the same period of time the Committee makes Military Construction funding available. The Committee understands that this limitation has already forced modifications to the VA construction process and anticipates that it will generate more efficient construction that will better serve veterans.

*Bid savings and project scope control.*—In the past, the VA has been given considerable flexibility in allocating funding for major construction projects. The Committee continues bill language requiring the VA to notify the Committee of all bid savings totaling \$5,000,000 or more, or five percent, whichever is less, within 14 days of the contract, as well as the proposed use of the funds. Additionally, the VA is not permitted to make any change in the scope of major construction projects. With these tools, the Committee expects to gain more control of construction funding that is no longer needed for its original purposes.

*Notification of change in use of funds.*—To ensure that the Committee is informed of and approves of changes in planned uses of medical services funds, the bill continues a reprogramming requirement for significant changes in funding of non-model initiatives.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$10,600,755,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	11,011,633,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	9,954,887,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(645,868,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(1,056,746,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

Military construction accounts provide funds for new construction, construction improvements, planning and design, and host nation support. Projects funded by these accounts include facilities for operations, training, maintenance, research and development, sup-

ply, medical care, and force protection, as well as unaccompanied housing, utilities infrastructure, and land acquisition.

The Committee recommends a total appropriation of \$9,954,887,000 for Military Construction, a decrease of \$645,868,000 from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and a decrease of \$1,056,746,000 below the budget request.

*Reprogramming Guidelines.*—The following reprogramming guidelines apply for all military construction and family housing projects. A project or account (including the sub-elements of an account) which has been specifically reduced by the Congress in acting on the budget request is considered to be a Congressional interest item and as such, prior approval is required. Accordingly, no reprogramming to an item specifically reduced below the threshold by the Congress is permitted, except that the Department of Defense may seek reprogramming for appropriated increments.

The reprogramming criteria that apply to military construction projects (25 percent of the funded amount or \$2,000,000, whichever is less) continue to apply to new housing construction projects and to improvements over \$2,000,000. To provide the services the flexibility to proceed with construction contracts without disruption or delay, the costs associated with environmental hazard remediation such as asbestos removal, radon abatement, lead-based paint removal or abatement, and any other legislated environmental hazard remediation may be excluded, if such remediation requirements could not be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submission. This exclusion applies to projects authorized in this budget year, as well as projects authorized in prior years for which construction has not been completed. Planning and design costs associated with military construction and family housing projects may also be excluded from these guidelines. In instances where prior approval to a reprogramming request for a project or account has been received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, the adjusted amount approved becomes the new base for any future increase or decrease via below-threshold reprogramming (provided that the project or account is not a Congressional interest item as defined above).

In addition to these guidelines, the services are directed to adhere to the guidance for military construction reprogramming actions and notifications, including the pertinent statutory authorities contained in Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14–R and relevant updates and policy memoranda. The Committee further encourages the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to use a format similar to that used by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to submit reprogramming requests.

*Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization (FSRM).*—The Department of Defense is directed to continue describing on form 1390 the backlog of FSRM requirements at installations with future construction projects. For troop housing requests, form 1391 should describe any FSRM conducted in the past two years. Likewise, future requirements for unaccompanied housing at the corresponding installation should be included. Additionally, the forms should include English equivalent measurements for projects presented in metric measurement. Rules for funding repairs of facilities under the Operation and Maintenance accounts are described below:

(1) components of the facility may be repaired by replacement. Such replacement can be up to current standards or codes;

(2) interior arrangements and restorations may be included as repair;

(3) additions, new facilities, and functional conversions must be performed as military construction projects. Such projects may be done concurrently with repair projects as long as the final conjunctively funded project is a complete and usable facility; and

(4) the appropriate service secretary shall notify the appropriate committees 21 days prior to carrying out any repair project with an estimated cost in excess of \$7,500,000. The Committee strongly encourages the services and defense agencies to indicate the plant replacement value of the facility to be repaired on each such notification.

*Quarterly Summary of Notifications.*—The Committee directs the services and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (on behalf of itself and defense agencies) to continue to submit a quarterly report listing all notifications that have been submitted to the Committees during the preceding three-month period.

*Work in Progress or Planned (WIP) Curve.*—The Committee directs the services and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (on behalf of itself and defense agencies) to submit a WIP curve for each project requested in a budget submission over \$100,000,000 with the 1391 justification beginning in fiscal year 2015 and thereafter to the congressional defense committees.

*Transfer of funds to and from the Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense Account.*—The Committee directs the Department of Defense to submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the transfer of funds from military construction and family housing accounts to the Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense account. The report shall specify the amount transferred to the Foreign Currency account from each military construction and/or family housing account, and all other accounts for which an appropriation is provided in this Act, during the preceding fiscal quarter, and the amounts transferred from the Foreign Currency account to the above accounts during the same period. This report shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the close of each fiscal quarter. In addition, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 7 days of transferring any amount in excess of \$10,000,000 to or from the Foreign Currency account.

*Bid savings.*—The Committee has ascertained from cost variation notices required by 10 U.S.C. 2853 that the Department of Defense continues to have bid savings on previously appropriated military construction projects. The Committee's recommendation therefore includes rescissions to the Army, Navy, and Defense-Wide military construction accounts. As a result of bid savings, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to continue to submit 1002 reports on military construction bid savings at the end of each fiscal quarter to the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of both the House and Senate.

*Incremental funding.*—The Committee has stated repeatedly that while projects should be fully funded or separated into stand-alone phases where practicable, incremental funding should remain an option when it makes fiscal and programmatic sense. In some cases, the phased approach can drive up costs by requiring inefficient designs and separate bids that leave subsequent phases vulnerable to construction price inflation. However, the Committee will continue to exercise its prerogative to recommend incremental funding when circumstances dictate. The Committee therefore recommends incremental funding for the Public Health Command Lab Replacement at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland and Ft. Bliss Hospital Replacement, Increment V, El Paso, Texas.

*CYBER Command at Fort Meade.*—The Committee supports the Department of Defense's goal to stand up a Cyber Command. However, the recommendation does not include funding requested by the Navy and the Air National Guard for facilities for their Cyber mission. The Committee is concerned that the Cyber mission is not clearly defined at Fort Meade and could be planned in a more cost efficient manner. Therefore, the Committee directs the Head of U.S. Cyber Command and the director of the National Security Agency to provide a master plan for Fort Meade that incorporates all facilities (to include parking) by service and fiscal year, an explanation of why 148,884 square feet for the three projects requested cannot be incorporated into the CYBERCOM Joint Operations Center also requested in fiscal year 2014 and the number of personnel that will be dedicated to this mission on Fort Meade.

*Drawdown of Facilities in Afghanistan.*—Since decisions to close or transfer facilities in Afghanistan have yet to be determined, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to report to the Committee quarterly on the status of Afghanistan facilities transferred or closed to include: (1) the name of the base closed or transferred, (2) the date and the organization to which the base was transferred, (3) the estimated residual value of the new structures or improvements, (4) identification and rationale for military construction projects planned, cancelled or reduced in scope, and (5) the current estimated dates and estimated cost to complete ongoing projects.

*Guam Relocation.*—To help the Committee better understand the non-Department of Defense (DOD) funding that domestic federal agencies are providing for the Guam relocation, the Office of Management and Budget is directed no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act to identify, through a consolidated budget request, the non-DOD Federal agencies that provide funds specifically for the relocation, and the amount that each agency provided in fiscal years 2010–2013, and the amounts that have been requested for fiscal year 2014. Additionally, the DOD is directed to notify the congressional defense committees when funds are received in the treasury and expended from the Government of Japan.

*Facilities Management, Life-cycle Costs, and Construction Method Alternatives.*—The Committee believes that the military construction program best serves both our military personnel and the taxpayers when projects are open to competitive bidding from contractors representing the widest possible range of construction methods. To that end, the Committee urges the Department of Defense and the execution agents for military construction, principally the

Army Corps of Engineers and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, to ensure that requests for proposals or qualifications do not arbitrarily foreclose, discourage, or privilege any type of construction method. The Committee continues to encourage a level playing field for both traditional construction methods and alternative methods such as permanent modular construction. The Committee also encourages DOD to evaluate the regular use of carbon fiber grid precast concrete technology in military construction projects.

The Committee is also concerned by the recent report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO-10-436) indicating that varying services' attitudes toward the life-cycle costs of different construction methods were based more on pre-formed opinions, personal experiences, and anecdotal evidence rather than quantitative information or analyses. The Committee therefore urges DOD and the services to conduct further research regarding comparative life-cycle costs for differing types of construction, establish clear goals and benchmarks, and ensure these standards are communicated to contracting officials. Until such an empirical basis is established, the Committee urges DOD and the services to carefully reconsider blanket use of any new life-cycle approaches that depart from prior, standard practices.

*Child Development Centers.*—The Committee encourages the Department of Defense to reaffirm its commitment to providing exceptional child care facilities on all domestic and international military installations. The Committee also encourages the Department of Defense to ensure that Child Development Centers located on military installations offer a safe child care environment and meet professional standards for early childhood education.

*Sustainable Buildings Policy.*—The Committee supports the Department of Defense's commitment to green buildings, and its goal to promote cost-effective sustainability. However the Committee is concerned that the Department of Defense's current approach to sustainable construction appears to select one green building certification system over others, particularly for wood products. The Committee expects the Department to ensure equal acceptance of forestry certification systems, and that systems designated as American National Standards are allowed to compete equally for use in the Department of Defense's building construction and major renovations while continuing to follow existing Buy America requirements. The Committee also strongly urges the Department of Defense to incorporate in its Sustainable Buildings Policy energy efficiency standards that are cost-effective, incorporate Energy Star components, and the results of life cycle assessments. The Committee directs the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment to provide a report to the congressional defense committees on the Department's efforts not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

*Facility Window Technologies.*—The Committee supports the Department of Defense's commitment to green buildings and its goal to promote cost-effective sustainability by reducing building energy use. The Committee is aware that advanced window technologies, such as electrochromic windows, can be a key part of achieving such goals. When planning new construction, retrofits or upgrades, the committee recommends the Department perform a life-cycle

cost/benefit assessment on the use of electrochromic windows relative to traditional static EnergyStar windows, in reducing building energy use in such projects, and recommends the Department ensure that the most life-cycle cost effective solutions are deployed in such projects while continuing to follow existing Buy America requirements. The Committee directs the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment to provide a report to the congressional defense committees on the Department’s efforts not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

*Defense Access Roads.*—The Committee is concerned that the Department of Defense has not sufficiently considered the potential impacts of inadequate transportation infrastructure around military installations that experienced significant growth as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure actions. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to prioritize Defense Access Roads projects based on the need for additional transportation infrastructure at impacted military facilities and report to the congressional defense committees no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act the Defense Access Roads budget plan for the outyears 2015–2018.

*Military Construction Project Delivery.*—The Committee is aware that the design-build project delivery method is conducted under one guaranteed contract, offers fast track aspects, cost savings, and decreased litigation claims. The Design-Build method reduces construction costs, speeds up construction time and guarantees quality in all measured categories. Therefore, the Committee encourages the use of this method, when appropriate, in order to provide greater efficiency, lower life cycle costs, and expedite construction, repairs and alterations of Federal buildings.

*Non-cash Payments in Kind.*—In light of recently disclosed information on non-cash payments in kind the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide an explanation of “non-cash payments in kind” to the congressional defense committees no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act to include all facilities by locations, the construction and repair projects performed by Host Nations and the monetary value of the facilities and projects.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$1,682,639,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,119,875,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,099,875,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(582,764,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(20,000,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,099,875,000 for Military Construction, Army, a decrease of \$582,764,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and a decrease of \$20,000,000 below the budget request. The Committee recommendation also includes two rescissions from prior year unobligated balances under Administrative Provisions of title I.

*Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Force Structure Realignment 2020.*—The Committee supports the Army’s need to responsibly decrease the Army’s active duty end-strength from

562,000 at the end of Fiscal Year 2012 to 490,000 by Fiscal Year 2020. The Committee notes that there have been unprecedented increases in military construction taken to support the Army's BRAC 2005 and Grow the Army initiatives, resulting in infrastructure to support 75,000 additional soldiers in the United States. Army planning to potentially add combat maneuver battalions and supporting units at certain installations in support of Army 2020 may result in a sizeable obligation to the Army's budget at the same time the Army is trying to reduce the size of its force structure. The Committee therefore directs the Secretary of the Army to report to the congressional defense committees on the feasibility of implementing the Army 2020 strategy using existing facilities and sustainment, restoration and modernization and minor military construction funding authorities no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS**  
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$1,547,615,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,700,269,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,616,281,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	68,666,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(83,988,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,616,281,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, an increase of \$68,666,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and a decrease of \$83,988,000 below the budget request. The Committee recommendation also includes a rescission from prior year unobligated balances under Administrative Provisions of title I.

*BAMS Consolidation.*—The Committee is concerned that the Navy is consolidating certain entities without providing a detail plan as to cost and timeline. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary of the Navy to provide to the congressional defense committees a detailed report describing the full cost for the complete development of the site, including all communication costs on and off-base, as well as the security risks to the information and communication by 90 days after enactment of this Act.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE**

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$322,220,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,156,573,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,127,273,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	805,053,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(29,300,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,127,273,000 for Military Construction, Air Force, an increase of \$805,053,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$29,300,000 below the budget request.

*US STRATCOM Replacement Facility.*—The Committee is aware of the critical importance nuclear readiness plays in our national security and defense posture. Providing safe, stable, and ever-alert

nuclear readiness requires investment in and dedication to our nuclear infrastructure. The timely completion of projects throughout our nation's nuclear enterprise and our nuclear deterrence itself may be put at risk if this project is delayed due to reductions in funding. As such, the Committee recommends full funding for the US STRATCOM Replacement Facility, Increment 3.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$3,578,841,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	3,985,300,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	3,707,923,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	129,082,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(277,377,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,707,923,000 for Military Construction, Defense-Wide, an increase of \$129,082,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and a decrease of \$277,377,000 below the budget request. The Committee recommendation also includes two rescissions from prior year unobligated balances under Administrative Provisions of title I.

*Reductions.*—The Committee recommendation includes a reduction to the Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System Complex in Romania of \$5,000,000 to the budget request and a rescission of \$20,000,000 from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level. The recommendation also includes a reduction to contingency construction of \$10,000,000 to the budget request, an account that has not been used since 2008.

*Transfer of Funds.*—The accompanying bill provides transfer authority to the Secretary of Defense to allow the transfer of funds to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction or family housing as the Secretary may designate.

*DODEA School Construction.*—The Committee fully supports the fiscal year 2014 request for the construction of 17 schools in the United States and overseas. The Committee however, is concerned that the changes that are occurring across the Department of Defense associated with force structure reductions may impact whether funding is needed at an installation or if it is determined not to be an enduring installation. The Committee therefore directs the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) to report on the status of DODEA funding and provide by location any funding that has been placed on hold for any reason to the congressional defense committees 90 days after enactment of this Act.

*Energy Conservation Investment Program.*—The Committee believes that as new construction and retrofit projects are undertaken at facilities to improve building energy efficiency and achieve the objectives prescribed in statutes, executive orders, and initiatives, the Department of Defense is encouraged to utilize new and underutilized, low-cost energy efficient technologies that provide the best value to taxpayers through minimal lifecycle costs. The Deputy Under Secretary for Installations and Environment shall report to the congressional defense committees on the Department's plan to

implement these technologies across the Department of Defense within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

*Special Operations Command Resiliency and Human Performance Centers.*—The Committee’s recommendation does not include funding for the three Performance Centers. The Committee is concerned that these facilities are redundant in nature to existing medical facilities, clinics and gymnasiums located at the installations. Further, the Committee is concerned that the Special Operations Command leadership has not adequately addressed how to incorporate the treatment received at these centers into the servicemembers’ service treatment records (STR). Finally, the Committee directs the Command Surgeon US Special Operations Command to provide the congressional defense committees a master plan for these facilities by installation and fiscal year including unit cost, square footage and how the treatment received at these facilities is different from treatment received at current facilities and how it will be incorporated into the servicemembers’ STR.

#### GUARD AND RESERVE ITEM OF INTEREST

*Enforcement of Border Security.*—Recognizing the need to bolster resources for the enforcement of border security, the Committee encourages the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard to consider, design, and construct facilities adjacent to our southwestern border that will support National Guard activities and house and support defense assets used by Customs and Border Protection and other law enforcement agencies for the terrestrial, maritime, and aerial surveillance of those borders, to include aircraft hangars suitable for unmanned aerial systems.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$613,185,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	320,815,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	315,815,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(297,370,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(5,000,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$315,815,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard, a decrease of \$297,370,000 from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$5,000,000 less than the budget request.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$42,344,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	119,800,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	107,800,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	65,456,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(12,000,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$107,800,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard, an increase of \$65,456,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and a decrease of \$12,000,000 below the budget request. The Committee rec-

ommendation also includes a rescission from prior year unobligated balances under Administrative Provisions of title I.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$305,540,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	174,060,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	174,060,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(131,480,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$174,060,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve, a decrease of \$131,480,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$49,482,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	32,976,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	32,976,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(16,506,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$32,976,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve, a decrease of \$16,506,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$10,968,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	45,659,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	45,659,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	34,691,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$45,659,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve, an increase of \$34,691,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

#### NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$253,909,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	239,700,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	199,700,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(54,209,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(40,000,000)

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program (NSIP) consists of annual contributions by NATO member countries. The program finances the costs of construction needed to support the roles of the major NATO commands. The investments cover facilities such as airfields, fuel pipelines and storage, harbors, communications and information systems, radar and navigational

aids, and military headquarters, both within NATO nations and for “out of area” operations such as Afghanistan.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$199,700,000 for NSIP, a decrease of \$54,209,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$40,000,000 below the budget request.

The U.S. occasionally has been forced to temporarily delay the authorization of projects due to shortfalls in U.S. obligation authority. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to notify the Committee within 14 days of the U.S. taking action to temporarily delay the authorization of projects, or to temporarily withhold funds from previously authorized projects, due to shortfalls in U.S. obligation authority.

FAMILY HOUSING OVERVIEW

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$1,649,130,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,542,713,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,542,713,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(106,417,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

Family housing construction accounts provide funds for new construction, construction improvements, the Federal government costs for family housing privatization projects, and planning and design. The operation and maintenance accounts provide funds to pay for maintenance and repair, furnishings, management, services, utilities, leasing, interest, mortgage insurance, and miscellaneous expenses.

The Committee recommends a total appropriation of \$1,542,713,000 for family housing construction, family housing operation and maintenance, and the homeowners assistance program, a decrease of \$106,417,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The decrease below the 2013 enacted level is due partly to the Department of Defense’s success in implementing the Military Housing Privatization Initiative on military installations and the reduced requirement for appropriated construction and operating costs. The Committee encourages the Department, where feasible, to utilize energy efficient, environmentally friendly, and easily deployable composite building materials in new family housing construction.

*Family Housing Privatization Progress Reports.*—The Committee directs the Department of Defense to continue submitting semi-annual progress reports on the family housing privatization program, including a breakout of military tenant satisfaction rates by project.

*Foreign Currency Savings and Sub-account Transfers.*—The Committee directs that savings in family housing operation and maintenance accounts from foreign currency re-estimates be used to maintain and repair existing family housing units. The Comptroller is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on how these savings are allocated 90 days after enactment of this Act. In addition, the Committee directs the services and Defense agencies to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 30 days of a transfer of funds between sub-accounts within the family housing construction and family housing operation and maintenance ac-

counts, if such transfer is in excess of 10 percent of the funds appropriated to the sub-account to which the funds are being transferred. Notifications to the Committees shall indicate the sub-accounts and amounts that are being used to source the transfer.

*Leasing Reporting Requirements.*—The Secretary of Defense is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quarterly on the details of all new or renewed domestic leases entered into during the previous quarter that exceed the cost threshold set by 10 U.S.C. 2828(b)(2), including certification that less expensive housing was not available for lease. For foreign leases, the Department is directed to: (1) perform an economic analysis on all new leases or lease/contract agreements where more than 25 units are involved; (2) report the details of new or renewed lease agreements that exceed the cost threshold set by 10 U.S.C. 2828(e)(1) 21 days prior to entering into such an agreement; and (3) base leasing decisions on the economic analysis.

#### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$4,636,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	44,008,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	44,008,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	39,372,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$44,008,000 for Family Housing Construction, Army, an increase of \$39,372,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

#### FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$529,521,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	512,871,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	512,871,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(16,650,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$512,871,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army, a decrease of \$16,650,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

#### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$102,080,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	73,407,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	73,407,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(28,673,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$73,407,000 for Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, a decrease of \$28,673,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

**FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND  
MARINE CORPS**

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$377,852,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	389,844,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	389,844,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	11,992,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$389,844,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps, an increase of \$11,992,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

**FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE**

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$83,740,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	76,360,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	76,360,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(7,380,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$76,360,000 for Family Housing Construction, Air Force, a decrease of \$7,380,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

**FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE**

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$497,331,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	388,598,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	388,598,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(108,733,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$388,598,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force, a decrease of \$108,733,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

**FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE**

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$52,186,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	55,845,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	55,845,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	3,659,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$55,845,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, an increase of \$3,659,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$1,784,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,780,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,780,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(4,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Family Housing Improvement Fund (FHIF) is authorized by section 2883, title 10, United States Code, and provides the Department of Defense with authority to finance joint ventures with the private sector to revitalize and to manage the Department’s housing inventory. The statute authorizes the Department to use limited partnerships, make direct and guaranteed loans, and convey Department-owned property to stimulate the private sector to increase the availability of affordable, quality housing for military personnel.

The FHIF is used to build or renovate family housing by using various legal authorities, and by utilizing private capital and expertise to the maximum extent possible. The fund is administered as a single account without fiscal year limitations and contains directly appropriated and transferred funds from family housing construction accounts.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,780,000 for the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, a decrease of \$4,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$150,849,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	122,536,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	122,536,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(28,313,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide account provides funds for the design and construction of full-scale chemical disposal facilities and associated projects to upgrade installation support facilities and infrastructures required to support the Chemical Demilitarization program.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$122,536,000 for Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide, a decrease of \$28,313,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$535,557,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	451,357,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	451,357,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(84,200,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$451,357,000 for the Base Realignment and Closure Account, a decrease of

\$84,200,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill includes 35 provisions of which 25 were in effect in fiscal year 2013 and 9 new provisions. The administrative provisions included in the bill are as follows:

The bill includes section 101 prohibiting the use of funds for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction where cost estimates exceed \$25,000. An exception for Alaska is provided.

The bill includes section 102 permitting the use of construction funds for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

The bill includes section 103 permitting funds to be expended on the construction of defense access roads under certain circumstances.

The bill includes section 104 prohibiting construction of new bases in the United States without a specific appropriation.

The bill includes section 105 limiting the use of funds for the purchase of land or land easements that exceed 100 percent of value except under certain conditions.

The bill includes section 106 prohibiting the use of funds to acquire land, prepare sites, or install utilities for family housing except housing for which funds have been appropriated.

The bill includes section 107 limiting the use of minor construction funds to relocate any activity from one installation to another without prior notification.

The bill includes section 108 prohibiting the procurement of steel unless American producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been allowed to compete.

The bill includes section 109 prohibiting the use of funds to pay real property taxes in foreign nations.

The bill includes section 110 prohibiting the use of funds to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification.

The bill includes section 111 establishing a preference for United States architectural and engineering services where the services are in Japan, NATO member countries, or countries bordering the Arabian Sea.

The bill includes section 112 establishing a preference for United States contractors for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll, or countries within the Central Command area of responsibility, except bids by Marshallese contractors for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll.

The bill includes section 113 requiring the Secretary of Defense to give prior notice to Congress of military exercises where construction costs exceed \$100,000.

The bill includes section 114 allowing funds appropriated in prior years to be used for new projects authorized during the current session of Congress.

The bill includes section 115 allowing the use of expired or lapsed funds to pay the cost of supervision for any project being completed with lapsed funds.

The bill includes section 116 providing that funds for military construction projects are available until the end of the fourth fiscal

year following the fiscal year in which funds are appropriated, subject to certain conditions.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 117 allowing for the transfer of proceeds from “Base Realignment and Closure Account, Part I” to the continuing Base Realignment and Closure accounts.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 118 allowing for the transfer of funds from Family Housing Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund and funds from Military Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 119 providing transfer authority to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

The bill includes section 120 requiring that funds in this title be the sole source of all operation and maintenance for flag and general officer quarter houses, and limits the repair on these quarters to \$35,000 per year without notification.

The bill includes section 121 making funds in the Ford Island Improvement Fund available until expended.

The bill includes section 122 prohibiting the use of funds for military construction, family housing, or land acquisition projects at installations closed or realigned under BRAC, except under certain conditions.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 123 allowing the transfer of expired funds to the “Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense” account.

The bill includes section 124 prohibiting the use of funds for any action related to the expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado.

The bill includes section 125 prohibiting the use of funds to relocate a unit of the Army that would impact more than 200 personnel.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 126 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 127 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 128 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 129 rescinding funds from fiscal year 2012 planning and design funds from Military Construction, Army.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 130 rescinding funds from unspecified minor construction funds from Military Construction, Defense-Wide.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 131 rescinding funds from unspecified minor construction funds from Military Construction, Air National Guard.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 132 rescinding funds from prior appropriations Acts.

The bill includes section 133 reducing the funds within this title.

The bill includes section 134 as requested by the Army allowing the use of unobligated military construction funds to complete a prior year project.

The bill includes section 135 that provides funding for projects that were dropped from the fiscal year 2013 future years defense program for fiscal year 2014 and are being requested in the fiscal year 2014 future years defense program for fiscal year 2015.

The bill does not include section 121 as requested to provide authority to the Secretary of the Army to use O&M to supplement repair and renovation at Arlington Cemetery in addition to funds provided in title III.

The bill does not include section 122 as requested to provide authority under a continuing resolution when an authorization bill has been enacted to obligate funds that have not been appropriated.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1 2</sup> .....	\$133,900,846,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request <sup>1</sup> .....	147,919,266,000
Committee recommendation in the bill <sup>1</sup> .....	147,581,766,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	13,680,920,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(337,500,000)
Fiscal year 2015 advance budget request <sup>1</sup> .....	55,634,227,000
Fiscal year 2015 Committee recommendation in the bill <sup>1</sup> .....	55,634,227,000

<sup>1</sup>All funding cited excludes amounts in the Medical Care Collections Fund.

<sup>2</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) serves approximately 49,300,000 people: 22,300,000 veterans and 27,100,000 family members of living veterans or survivors of deceased veterans. This group constitutes 15.5 percent of the United States population. To serve adequately the nation's veterans, the VA employs 311,000 people, making it one of the largest Federal agencies in terms of employment.

The Committee recommends a total of \$147,581,766,000 in budget authority for programs in fiscal year 2014, an increase of \$13,680,920,000 or 10.2 percent above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$337,500,000 below the budget request. In addition, advance appropriations of \$55,634,227,000 are provided for fiscal year 2015.

#### VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

##### COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	\$60,599,855,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	71,248,171,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	71,248,171,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	10,648,316,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

This appropriation will provide funds for service-connected compensation payments to an estimated 4,200,000 veterans, survivors, and dependents. In addition, pension payments will be funded for 517,000 veterans and their survivors. The average cost per compensation case for veterans in 2014 is estimated at \$15,247, and pension payments are projected at \$12,232.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$71,248,171,000 for compensation, pension, and burial benefits, an increase of \$10,648,316,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

The appropriation includes authority to transfer funding not to exceed \$9,232,000, of which \$9,058,000 is for the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefit Administration account and \$174,000 is for the Information Technology Systems account. These funds are for the administrative expenses of implementing cost-saving provisions required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, Public Law 101-508, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992, Public Law 102-568, and the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1994, Public Law 103-446. These cost-saving provisions include verifying pension income against Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Social Security Administration (SSA) data; establishing a match with the SSA to obtain verification of Social Security numbers; and applying the VA pension cap for Medicaid-eligible single veterans and surviving spouses alone in Medicaid-covered nursing homes. The bill also continues to include language permitting this appropriation to reimburse such sums as may be earned to the Medical Care Collections Fund to help defray the operating expenses of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners.

##### READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	\$12,023,458,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	13,135,898,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	13,135,898,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	1,112,440,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

This appropriation finances the education and training of veterans and servicemembers through the Post 9-11 GI Bill and the

All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program. Supplemental education benefits are also provided to certain veteran members of the Selected Reserve and are funded through transfers from the Department of Defense (DOD). In addition, certain disabled veterans are provided with vocational rehabilitation, specially adapted housing grants, and grants for automobiles with approved adaptive equipment. This account also finances educational assistance allowances for eligible dependents of veterans who died from service-connected causes or have a total and permanent service-connected disability, as well as dependents of servicemembers who were captured or are missing in action. More than 75 percent of the funds in the account support the Post 9–11 GI Bill.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$13,135,898,000 for Readjustment Benefits, an increase of \$1,112,440,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	\$104,600,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	77,567,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	77,567,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(27,033,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

The Veterans Insurance and Indemnities appropriation is made up of the former appropriations for military and naval insurance, applicable to World War I veterans; national service life insurance (NSLI), applicable to certain World War II veterans; servicemen’s indemnities, applicable to Korean conflict veterans; and the veterans mortgage life insurance, applicable to individuals who have received a grant for specially adapted housing.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$77,567,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities, a decrease of \$27,033,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The amount provided will enable the Department to transfer funding to the service-disabled veterans insurance fund and transfer additional amounts for payments for policies under the veterans mortgage life insurance program. These policies are identified under the Veterans Insurance and Indemnity appropriation since they provide insurance to service-disabled veterans unable to qualify under basic NSLI.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Limitation on direct loans for specially adapted housing loans	Administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	\$184,859,000	(\$500,000)	\$157,656,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request est. ....	---	(500,000)	158,430,000
Committee recommendation est. in the bill .....	---	(500,000)	158,430,000
Comparison with:			
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(184,859,000)	---	774,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---	---	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The purpose of the home loan guaranty program is to facilitate the extension of mortgage credit on favorable terms by private lenders to eligible veterans. This appropriation provides for all costs, with the exception of the Native American veterans housing

loan program, of the Department's direct and guaranteed loans programs. The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 requires budgetary resources to be available prior to incurring a direct loan obligation or a loan guaranty commitment. In addition, the bill requires all administrative expenses of a direct or guaranteed loan program to be funded through a program account. Loan guaranties are made to servicemembers, veterans, reservists, and single surviving spouses for the purchase of homes, condominiums, and manufactured homes and for refinancing loans. The Department guarantees part of the total loan, permitting the purchaser to obtain a mortgage with a competitive interest rate, even without a down payment if the lender agrees. The Department requires that a down payment be made for a manufactured home. With a Department guaranty, the lender is protected against loss, up to the amount of the guaranty, if the borrower fails to repay the loan.

The Committee recommends such sums as may be necessary for funding subsidy payments, \$500,000 for the limitation on direct loans for specially adapted housing loans, and \$158,430,000 for administrative expenses. This is the same as the budget request and \$774,000 above the fiscal year 2013 level for administrative expenses.

#### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Limitation on direct loans	Administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	\$19,000	(\$2,729,000)	\$346,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	5,000	(2,500,000)	354,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	5,000	(2,500,000)	354,000
Comparison with:			
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(14,000)	(229,000)	8,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---	---	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

This appropriation covers the subsidy cost of direct loans for vocational rehabilitation of eligible veterans and includes administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program. Loans of up to \$1,108 (based on indexed chapter 31 subsistence allowance rate) are available to service-connected disabled veterans enrolled in vocational rehabilitation programs when the veteran is temporarily in need of additional assistance. Repayment is made in monthly installments, without interest, through deductions from future payments of compensation, pension, subsistence allowance, educational assistance allowance, or retirement pay. Most loans are repaid in full in less than one year. The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 requires budgetary resources to be available prior to incurring a direct loan obligation.

The Committee recommends the budget request of \$5,000 for funding subsidy program costs and \$354,000 for administrative expenses, which is a decrease to the fiscal year 2013 level of \$14,000 and an increase of \$8,000, respectively. The administrative expenses may be paid to the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefit Administration account.

In addition, the Committee includes language limiting direct loans to \$2,500,000, which is \$229,000 below the fiscal year 2013 level and the same as the budget request. It is estimated that the

Department will make 2,738 loans in fiscal year 2014, with an average amount of \$913.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

Administrative expenses:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$1,088,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,109,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,109,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	21,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program, as authorized by title 38 United States Code, chapter 37, subchapter V, provides the Secretary with authority to make direct housing loans to Native American veterans for the purpose of purchasing, constructing, or improving dwellings on trust lands. The Committee recommends the budget request of \$1,109,000 for administrative expenses of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program, which is an increase of \$21,000 over the fiscal year 2013 level.

#### VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The Department operates the largest Federal medical care delivery system in the country, with 152 hospitals, 107 domiciliary residential rehabilitation treatment programs, 133 nursing homes, 300 Vet Centers, 70 mobile Vet Centers, and 821 outpatient clinics which include independent, satellite, community-based, and rural outreach clinics. Approximately 6,500,000 patients will be treated in 2014.

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is comprised of four accounts: Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, Medical Facilities, and Medical and Prosthetic Research. For these accounts, the Committee has provided total resources for fiscal year 2015 of \$55,634,227,000 in direct appropriations to fund the three advance appropriations of the VHA. This is an increase of \$1,172,227,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level of \$54,462,000,000 and the same as the budget request. In addition, VA will receive an estimated \$2,485,000,000 in the Medical Care Collections Fund in fiscal year 2014. The Committee also provides \$585,664,000 for medical and prosthetic research, which is \$3,573,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

*Presentation of medical care obligations.*—The Committee continues to have concerns about the display of medical care spending in VA budget justifications. In its ‘obligations by program’ chart, the Department currently separates medical care into: (1) components generated by the VA health care services model (or in some cases manually entered)—health care services, long-term care, and other health care programs; (2) unanticipated expenses generated by Congressional or regulatory action; and (3) what are termed ‘initiatives’, even though the ‘initiatives’ are typically not new and are also generated by the model. The funding levels for ‘initiatives’ are generally displayed in the advance budget year as having zero cost, with the exception of closely watched programs like homelessness. This presentation understates advance year costs in the year the

advance costs are being appropriated, since the ‘initiatives’ are ongoing activities and the model projects advance year costs for them.

The Committee believes that costs for ‘initiatives’ in the advance budget year should be identified rather than being hidden in the modeled health care services lines or creating the need for an additional current appropriation. As a result, for the fiscal year 2015 and future budget submissions, the Committee expects a medical care obligation display showing (1) components generated by the model or manual input; and (2) unanticipated costs due to outside action not incorporated in the model. The unanticipated costs should be displayed in the first year they occur; in subsequent years they should be incorporated into the budget lines generated by the model. The Committee remains interested in the obligations patterns of ‘initiatives’, like homelessness and activations, and proposes their display as non-adds similar to ‘operational improvements’. This approach will result in a more accurate multi-year total budget display and also provide reliable year-to-year information about ‘initiatives’ and medical services funding.

To ensure that it is informed of changes in planned expenditure of medical care ‘initiatives’ during the budget year, the Committee repeats the administrative provision requiring the VA to submit a reprogramming request if, at any point during the fiscal year, the funding allocated for a medical care ‘initiative’ in the fiscal year 2014 expenditure plan is adjusted by more than \$25,000,000 from the allocation shown in the corresponding congressional budget justification. The Committee directs the VA to provide an expenditure plan within 20 days of receiving a full-year appropriation.

#### MEDICAL SERVICES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$41,508,845,000
Fiscal year 2014 enacted level .....	43,557,000,000
Fiscal year 2014 additional request .....	157,500,000
Fiscal year 2015 advance budget request .....	45,015,527,000
Committee 2015 recommendation in the bill .....	45,015,527,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2014 enacted level .....	1,458,527,000
Fiscal year 2015 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

This appropriation provides for medical services for eligible veterans and beneficiaries in Department medical centers, outpatient clinic facilities, contract hospitals, State homes, and outpatient programs on a fee basis. Hospital and outpatient care is also provided by the private sector for certain dependents and survivors of veterans under the civilian health and medical programs for the VA.

The Committee provides an advance appropriation of \$45,015,527,000 for Medical Services for fiscal year 2015, an increase of \$1,458,527,000, or 3.4 percent, above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has not included requested bill language to make available through September 30, 2016, \$1,400,000,000 of the Medical Services appropriation for fiscal year 2015, instead maintaining current policy of providing extended availability on a current year rather than advance funding basis.

The fiscal year 2014 budget includes a request for an additional \$157,500,000 for Medical Services in fiscal year 2014. The Committee does not provide this additional fiscal year 2014 funding.

The Committee notes that the budget contains very little detail about the purposes and need for this funding. Should any shortfall occur, the Department should utilize funding from administrative expenses for VHA headquarters and the veterans integrated service networks (VISNs).

The Committee expects VA to continue to include in the sufficiency letter required by section 117(d) of title 38, United States Code, that is due to the Congress on July 31 of each year, a description of any changes exceeding \$250,000,000 in funding requirements for the Medical Services account resulting from the spring recalculation of the Enrollee Healthcare Projection Model.

*Allocation of health funding.*—The Committee is concerned that the process the VA uses to allocate the health services appropriation through the VISNs and from them to the medical centers may shortchange the ultimate users because of excessive funding retained at headquarters or at the VISNs. The Committee continues to request a report each year no later than thirty days after VA allocates the medical services appropriation to the VISNs that identifies: (1) the amount of general purpose funding that is allocated to each VISN; (2) the amount of funding that is retained by central headquarters for specific purposes, with amounts identified for each purpose; and (3) the amount of funding that is retained by each VISN before allocating it to the medical centers, identifying separately the amounts retained for purposes such as network operations, network initiatives, and emergencies.

*Homeless assistance.*—The Committee provides the full fiscal year 2015 budget request of \$1,000,000,000 for VA homeless assistance programs, in addition to \$5,216,555,000 for homeless veterans treatment costs. These programs include the Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem, the Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Department of Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD–VASH) programs.

#### *Mental health issues*

The Committee provides the full fiscal year 2015 budget request of \$7,717,270,000 for mental health programs, which is a \$506,369,000, or 7.0 percent, increase over 2014 levels. Of the amounts provided for mental health programs, an additional \$20,000,000 shall be used for suicide prevention outreach. The Department is directed to provide a report to the Committee no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act identifying a detailed expenditure plan for all suicide outreach programs and comparing these levels to the prior year.

*Suicide prevention.*—With the withdrawal of troops in Afghanistan and Iraq, there has been a troubling increase in mental illnesses and suicide rates among our veterans. As noted in House Report 112–491, the Committee remains concerned about the current mental health and suicide prevention services that are readily available to our growing number of veterans and requests that the Department of Veterans Affairs report to the Committee how the VA is: (1) developing methods for tracking veterans with risk factors for suicide; (2) developing a plan to educate all staff who interact with veterans; (3) what mandatory education programs are

available to VA health providers; and (4) how the characteristics of veteran-completed suicides compare to the general population.

*Expanding mental health services through community partnerships.*—To augment its efforts to meet the need for services through the recruitment of additional mental health providers, the VA should also take advantage of the behavioral health infrastructure and capacity of non-VA health care providers that are available in many metropolitan areas. The Committee instructs the Department, within the funding provided for mental health care, to identify major metropolitan locations with (i) substantial veteran populations in need of mental health services and (ii) an existing non-VA behavioral health infrastructure that can support the delivery of additional services to that VA service population and arrange via competitive contracting for the provision of behavioral health services to these underserved veterans populations.

*Future mental health needs.*—Previous wars have shown that the health care needs of a returning service member population reach their highest point a few decades after the population returns home from war. The Committee is concerned that the VHA is not adequately preparing for the future mental health needs of the current veteran population. The Committee requests that VHA prepare a report on what health resources will be needed and the potential cost to serve the needs of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans over the next 30 years.

*Military sexual trauma.*—Recent studies have shown that servicewomen who experience sexual assault while serving in the military are far more likely to develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), compared to other female veterans. The Committee strongly encourages the VA to strengthen the resources provided to veterans who were victims of military sexual assault, particularly the availability of mental health services.

*Affiliations with university-based medical centers.*—The Committee encourages the VA to strengthen collaborations with research universities and teaching hospitals for the treatment and research of mental health disorders, such as PTSD and traumatic brain injury, to improve the psychological health of veterans and train mental health professionals so they will understand the unique needs of veterans. The Committee repeats its request for a report on current VA-university partnerships on mental health research and training no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

#### *Rural health issues*

The Committee provides the full fiscal year 2015 budget request of \$250,000,000 to improve access and quality of care for the 3,400,000 veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas. The Committee directs the Office of Rural Health to submit to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this Act an operating plan for this funding, as well as any changes to that operating plan at the start of the fiscal year for which the funds are provided.

*Non-VA care.*—The Committee encourages the VA to increase its use of local private sector health care facilities and providers when feasible and cost-effective. The increased use of private providers can reduce the cost of per diem and mileage expended by the VA and prevents veterans from traveling long distances to get quality

health care. When using non-VA facilities, VA should establish performance criteria and certify health care facilities to ensure quality control. In particular, the Committee urges the VA to make increased use of the care available to veterans through its Project ARCH (Access Received Closer to Home) pilot. Although very popular with veterans who receive care in the pilot, it appears that VISNs have been slow to refer patients to the pilot's providers.

*Patient-centered community care program.*—The Committee has supported the Department's efforts to provide more efficient medical services to veterans in rural areas through the patient-centered community care program (PC3). The goal of the program is to contract with private insurers who manage a network of healthcare providers. The Committee is disappointed to learn, however, that VA has again extended the contract competition and hopes the delay will not jeopardize the options available to rural veterans for health care.

The Committee has heard concerns that public hospitals may be disadvantaged by PC3. The Committee strongly urges the Department to ensure that PC3 contractors consider public hospitals in their implementation plans, especially when a public hospital is adjacent or proximate to a VA clinic, outpatient facility or long-term care facility.

*Rural access to military sexual trauma counseling.*—The Committee is pleased with the VA's heightened awareness about mental health effects of military sexual trauma (MST). The Committee understands that Readjustment Counseling Centers (Vet Centers) provide qualified individuals at many vet centers to treat victims of military sexual trauma, with VA's goal being to have a qualified MST counselor on staff at each of the vet centers. The Committee is concerned that veterans living in rural areas who are geographically disadvantaged may not be able to access MST-related counseling from Vet Centers or non-VA providers that have contracted with Vet Centers. To that end, the Committee encourages the Readjustment Counseling Centers to ensure that Vet Centers in rural states that contract out mental health services provide the same high quality counseling to MST survivors as their more urban counterparts currently receive.

*Assignment to health care centers.*—The Committee has heard complaints that many veterans travel long distances because of the locations VA directs them for care even though there are closer, more easily accessible health center locations. The Committee repeats its request to the VA to report to the Committee about the method used to assign veterans to VA health care centers. The report should include a description of how often service areas change, what notification is made to veterans of such changes, and what appeal rights veterans have to use a different facility than the one to which they were assigned.

*Mobile medical units.*—The Committee is concerned by the VA's underutilization of mobile medical units. Many of these units serve veterans in rural and highly rural areas, a population that makes up more than 40 percent of all veterans nationwide. Yet, some of these units are being deployed only four days per month and have sat unused in parking lots for months at a time. The Committee believes it is important to learn what obstacles exist, if any, to the full use of the mobile medical units. Therefore, the Committee di-

rects the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to conduct a complete review of VA's use of mobile medical units, identifying what the average monthly usage is per vehicle and what the optimum usage would be; the staffing per vehicle and the extent to which staffing shortages have led to non-use of the vehicles; the average monthly cost per vehicle and any available comparisons between the cost of the units versus health care provided in conventional facilities; the total amount budgeted for the units in fiscal year 2012 and the actual costs incurred in that fiscal year; and VA's long-term plans for the mobile medical units pilot program. The Committee requests that the OIG submit this report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

*Other health issues*

*Hepatitis C virus.*—Nearly four million Americans are living with the Hepatitis C Virus (HVC), the most common blood-borne viral infection and the leading cause of liver cancer in the U.S. Yet four out of every five cases of HVC remain undiagnosed. Chronic hepatitis C infection is curable in most patients. However, left untreated, the virus may lead to advanced liver disease, liver cancer, and liver transplants, placing a greater financial burden on the health care system. Recent studies indicate veterans have disproportionately higher rates of HVC than the general population. Therefore, the Committee encourages the VA to increase hepatitis C testing and work to implement the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's hepatitis C testing recommendations within the VA system. Enhanced testing, care and treatment strategies will not only improve the quality of life for veterans, they will also provide budgetary savings in medical services by reducing the high costs associated with advanced liver disease and its complications.

*Sleep disorders.*—The Committee notes a small study described in the VHA report, "State of VA Research 2012", in which 96 percent of veterans with chronic multi-symptom illnesses experienced sleep-disordered breathing. By using continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), these veterans reported reductions in pain and fatigue and improvements in cognitive function. The Committee encourages VA to continue to prioritize sleep research.

*HIV/AIDS among veterans.*—The Committee is pleased at VA's success in expanding HIV/AIDS testing, but remains concerned that a substantial portion of the veteran population has never been tested for HIV/AIDS. The Committee continues to encourage VHA to implement routine HIV testing and to utilize rapid testing technology to ensure receipt of results.

*Kidney disease.*—The Committee is aware of the development of the VA National Kidney Disease Registry. The registry is tasked with providing incidence and economic trends related to kidney disease and end stage renal disease in the VA patient population. The Committee encourages the VA to include focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, nephrotic syndrome, polycystic kidney disease and other conditions that contribute to chronic kidney disease in its planned monitoring.

*Prescription drug abuse.*—Prescriptions for opioid painkillers administered by VA physicians have quadrupled since the beginning of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars. While this increase can likely be attributed, at least in part, to combat-related injuries and the phys-

ical strains of multiple deployments, the Committee remains concerned about the abuse of prescription medications among veterans, particularly as 1 in 6 veterans returning from these warzones reports symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which is strongly associated with substance abuse and dependence. It is imperative that treatment options are available for those facing possible addiction and that proper steps are taken to prevent overmedication, including adequate education and training for VA physicians prescribing pain medication. The Committee understands that the VA has already implemented a stepwise pain management program to reduce associated risks and has further developed a data set to identify veterans at risk for opioid dependence; however, the Committee urges the Secretary to mandate additional education for every VA physician issuing prescriptions for extended-release and long-acting opioid analgesics. Specifically, the Committee encourages such VA physicians to participate in a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)-compliant education program offered by an accredited provider of continuing education, which are available without charge through the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The Committee directs VA to report to the Committee no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act on the feasibility of such mandatory continuing education and any costs associated with this requirement.

*Impact of obesity on the veteran population.*—The Committee is concerned about the impact on the long-term health of veterans of the growing obesity epidemic, and wishes to ensure that VA physicians and other VA health care professionals receive the most up-to-date and relevant nutrition education possible. The Committee is troubled by recent studies that indicate physicians lack adequate nutrition education, including the fact that in 2010, only 25 percent of U.S. medical schools required a dedicated nutrition course. The Committee encourages the VA to ensure that VA physicians and other VA health care professionals have annual nutrition education, including in areas such as the role of nutrition and lifestyle in preventing obesity and preventing and reversing cardiovascular disease.

*Nursing quality improvements.*—The Committee maintains a long-standing commitment to ensuring that the nation's veterans receive high-quality care, especially in hospital-based settings. Studies have shown that when data are collected about quality of care, patient outcomes, health, and well-being can be improved. The VA has been active in making available quality measurements on its Hospital Compare website and maintains a nursing-specific quality database for VA facilities. The Committee encourages the VA to consider expanding this nursing quality effort by participating in a national data quality measurement system that uses valid and reliable data from all types of inpatient facilities, not just those operated by the VA. The Committee understands that 54 VA hospitals already participate in such a system and encourages wider-scale adoption of national quality measurement systems.

*Guide dogs.*—The Committee understands that the VA supports the use of guide dogs for a small number of veterans who have vision, hearing, and mobility impairments. The Department contributes to the costs of training, equipment and veterinary care; private non-profit organizations supply the guide dogs. The Com-

mittee encourages the VA to take a more active role in assisting veterans who are interested in acquiring guide dogs, helping them through the process of connecting with the organizations who supply dogs and contributing to the associated expenses of on-site training as well as lodging and transportation.

*Medical school affiliations with VA health care facilities.*—The Committee continues to support a closer collaboration between VA health care facilities and the historically black health professions schools. The Committee is pleased with the improved collaboration with community-based outpatient clinics, but is concerned by lower participation of minority institutions with the larger, urban VA hospitals. The Committee repeats its request for a report about the symposium held in 2011 with VA health leaders and leaders of historically black health professions schools who came together to pursue the next steps of collaboration.

*Mental health provider training.*—In 2006, Congress authorized the employment of licensed professional mental health counselors (LPMHCs) and marriage and family therapists (MFTs) by the VA. However, the two professions comprise less than one percent of the VA behavioral health workforce, despite representing almost 20 percent of the overall mental health workforce. To ensure an adequate supply of mental health professionals for the veteran population, the Committee urges the VA to consider providing LPMHCs and MFTs with financial stipends equivalent to those provided to the other mental health professions through the VA trainee support program run by the Office of Academic Affiliations.

*Clinical psychologist supply.*—The Committee is aware that the Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) in September 2012 received recognition and accreditation authority from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation to provide accreditation of PhD programs in psychological clinical science. The Committee understands that the VHA is in the process of modifying its regulations to permit the training and employment of psychologists at the VHA who are graduates of PCSAS-accredited programs, and urges the VHA to promulgate the regulatory changes as soon as possible in order to increase the number of mental health clinicians available to veterans using the VA healthcare system.

*Coordinated health care for American Indian and Alaska Native veterans.*—The Committee supports recent efforts by the VA and the Indian Health Service to develop a memorandum of understanding for improving health care to American Indian and Alaska Native veterans. An April, 2013 Government Accountability Office report (GAO-13-354) recommends further actions that both agencies can take. The Committee encourages the agencies to implement the GAO recommendations to the greatest extent possible, and to report to the Committee on these actions no later than March 1, 2014.

## MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$5,746,000,000
Fiscal year 2014 enacted level .....	6,033,000,000
Fiscal year 2015 advance budget request .....	5,879,700,000
Committee 2015 recommendation in the bill .....	5,879,700,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2014 enacted level .....	(153,300,000)
Fiscal year 2015 advance budget request .....	- - -

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Medical Support and Compliance appropriation funds the expenses of management and administration of the Department's health care system, including financial management, public health and environmental hazard, quality and performance management, medical inspection, human research oversight, training programs and continuing education, security, volunteer operations, and human resources.

The Committee recommends an advance appropriation of \$5,879,700,000 for Medical Support and Compliance for fiscal year 2015, a decrease of \$153,300,000 below the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has not included requested bill language to make available through September 30, 2016, \$100,000,000 of the Medical Support and Compliance appropriation for fiscal year 2015, instead maintaining current policy of providing extended availability on a current year rather than advance funding basis.

## MEDICAL FACILITIES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$5,441,000,000
Fiscal year 2014 enacted level .....	4,872,000,000
Fiscal year 2015 advance budget request .....	4,739,000,000
Committee 2015 recommendation in the bill .....	4,739,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2014 enacted level .....	(133,000,000)
Fiscal year 2014 advance budget request .....	- - -

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Medical Facilities appropriation provides funds for the operation and maintenance of the Department's health care system's capital infrastructure. Included under this heading are provisions for costs associated with utilities, engineering, capital planning, leases, laundry, groundskeeping, garbage, housekeeping, facility repair, and property disposition and acquisition.

The Committee recommends an advance appropriation of \$4,739,000,000 for Medical Facilities for fiscal year 2015, a decrease of \$133,000,000 below the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has not included requested bill language to make available through September 30, 2016, \$250,000,000 of the advance Medical Facilities appropriation for fiscal year 2015, instead maintaining current policy of providing extended availability on a current year rather than advance funding basis.

## MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$582,091,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	585,664,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	585,664,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	3,573,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

This appropriation provides for medical, rehabilitative, and health services research. Medical research is an important aspect of the Department's programs, providing complete medical and hospital services for veterans. The prosthetic research program is also essential in the development and testing of prosthetic, orthopedic, and sensory aids for the purpose of improving the care and rehabilitation of eligible disabled veterans, including amputees, paraplegics, and the blind. The health services research program provides unique opportunities to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the health care delivery system. Budgetary resources from a number of areas, including appropriations from the medical care accounts, reimbursements from DOD, grants from the National Institutes of Health, private proprietary sources, and voluntary organizations, provide support for the Department's researchers. Estimated total research resources from all sources in 2014 are \$1,882,000,000. The VA will support about 2,200 research projects during fiscal year 2014.

The Committee recommends \$585,664,000 for Medical and Prosthetic Research, an increase of \$3,573,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. Funds are available through September 30, 2015.

*Prosthetics.*—The Committee strongly supports the fiscal year 2014 budget request for Medical and Prosthetic Research. Recognizing that approximately six percent of wounded veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are amputees, and the number of veterans accessing VA health care for prosthetics and sensory aids continues to increase, this funding greatly enhances the quality of life of veteran amputees.

Since three percent of military amputees are female, the Committee feels that a proportionate amount of prosthetics research should be focused on prosthetics meant for females. The need for this type of research is acute, as most prostheses are designed to fit male veterans. The Committee repeats its direction that the VA, in collaboration with the Prosthetic Women's Workgroup, issue a comprehensive report on female veteran amputees and their access to prosthetics. This report shall be submitted to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

*Intelligent prostheses.*—The Committee encourages the VA to fund research on the intersection between bioengineering, neuroscience, and rehabilitation to support intelligent prostheses that deliver more functionality to amputees.

*Neurological research.*—The Committee is aware that the Department is conducting innovative research in new neuro-diagnostic techniques, the relationship of TBI to PTSD, and clinical strategies to enhance neuro-rehabilitation of TBI and PTSD that will lead to maximum recovery of function and community reintegration. The Committee encourages efforts to demonstrate the

effectiveness of innovative bench-to-bedside programs to detect and treat cognitive loss that accompany TBI and PTSD in affected veterans.

*Traumatic brain injury research.*—The Committee encourages the VA to support TBI and psychological health research through pilot studies of promising treatments, clinical trials of treatments shown effective in earlier pilot studies, competitively awarded research grants, and the execution of collaborative treatment research plans developed by previously funded VA research.

*End stage renal disease.*—The Committee recognizes that end-stage renal disease (ESRD) impacts veterans at a rate much higher than the national average and is often linked to such conditions as diabetes and hypertension. The Committee encourages continued research in this important area and requests a report on VA’s research activities related to kidney disease and ESRD no later than 60 days following enactment of this Act.

*Colorectal cancer.*—Colorectal cancer is treatable if detected early, yet it is the second leading cause of cancer death in America. The VA has made screening patients for colorectal cancer a priority. The National Cancer Institute estimates the annual cost of colorectal cancer will be almost \$20 billion by 2020. Medicare and the VA will be responsible for much of that cost. The Committee encourages the VA to support additional research and development in the field, including investigation of a less costly blood test for colorectal cancer.

MEDICAL CARE COLLECTIONS FUND

The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Care Collections Fund (MCCF) was established by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–33). The Department deposits first-party and pharmacy co-payments, third-party insurance payments and enhanced-use collections, long-term care co-payments, Compensated Work Therapy Program collections, Compensation and Pension Living Expenses Program collections, and Parking Program fees into the MCCF. The Department uses these funds for medical care and services to veterans. The estimate of fees that will be collected in fiscal year 2014 is \$2,485,000,000.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$258,026,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	250,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	250,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(8,026,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— —

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) was established in accordance with Public Law 93–43, the National Cemeteries Act of 1973. It has a fourfold mission: to provide for the interment of, in any national cemetery with available grave space, the remains of eligible deceased servicemembers and discharged veterans, together with their spouses and certain dependents, and to permanently maintain their graves; to provide headstones for, and to mark graves of eligible persons in national, State and tribal, and private cemeteries; to administer the grant program for aid to States and

tribal governments in establishing, expanding, or improving State and tribal government veterans' cemeteries; and to administer the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program. This appropriation will provide for the operation and maintenance of 131 operational national cemeteries and 33 other cemeterial installations.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$250,000,000 for the National Cemetery Administration, a decrease of \$8,026,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The bill includes language making \$25,000,000 of the total available until September 30, 2015.

*Rural needs.*—In the explanatory statement that accompanied the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–6), the Committees expressed concern that the NCA is not adequately serving the Nation's veterans in rural areas. The Act included legislative language requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide a report outlining a strategy to address the shortcomings identified in House Report 112–491, with proposed policies and an implementation timeframe no later than six months after enactment of Public Law 113–6. The Committee reiterates its support of this request and expects the Department to submit this report on time, with each directive fully satisfied as prescribed by the Committees. The Committee reminds the Department that any report on this matter received by the Committee that does not meet the mandates described in House Report 112–491 will lead to further action by the Committee.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION  
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$424,312,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	403,023,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	403,023,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(21,289,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	- - -

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The general administration account provides funds for the Office of the Secretary, six Assistant Secretaries, and three independent staff offices. The Committee recommends \$403,023,000, \$21,289,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2015, up to \$20,151,000 of these funds and to permit the transfer of funds in this account to the General operating expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account.

*VA contracting issues.*—The Committee continues to be concerned about the contracting practices of the Department of Veteran Affairs. The Committee believes that the VA should work to ensure it is contracting with reputable contractors who fulfill their contracts on time, within scope and with full payment to sub-contractors. The Committee repeats its request for a report due not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act that describes the number of active, ongoing contracts with contractors who are cur-

rently involved in litigation or legal disputes regarding non-payment of their obligations related to VA contracts.

*VA budget office communication.*—The Committee has traditionally channeled most of its inquiries and requests for information and assistance through the VA budget office. The Committee reiterates its longstanding position that while the Committee reserves the right to call upon all VA offices, the primary communication between the Committee and the VA should normally be through the budget office. Responses to Committee inquiries, regardless of whether they concern funding or policy, are to be transmitted without delay by other offices within the VA, unless otherwise requested by the Committee. In addition, to facilitate the work of the Committee, it expects that the Department will make available to all personal and committee staff of Members of the Committee the same direct contact with the budget office. The Committee also expects that a staff member of the VA budget office will be present at every meeting held between the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee and the Secretary or other senior VA officials.

*Quarterly full-time equivalents (FTE) reports.*—The Committee continues to request that the VA provide, on a quarterly basis, the total current FTE by appropriation account and, in the case of General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, by program. The Committee feels it needs to have current staffing information throughout the year in order to monitor the use of salaries and expenses resources.

*Additional budgetary information.*—The Committee repeats its request that the budget justifications submitted each year with the Administration's budget should be expanded to include the following information which would help inform Congressional decisions:

- a brief explanation of any proposed change in each account's appropriation bill language;
- a consolidated administrative expenses chart for the entire Department;
- a chart displaying annual FTE counts by appropriation account for the prior, current, and budget years and transfers between accounts in all three years, with brief explanations of reasons for functional transfers;
- a section identifying each piece of directive report language from the previous year's House, Senate and conference reports and the VA action taken for each item;
- a table breaking out the funding and FTE supported within the "administration" object classification for Medical Services by headquarters, VISN, and medical center categories;
- a table breaking out the funding and FTE-equivalents within the "administrative contract services" object classification for Medical Services into headquarters, VISN, and medical center categories;
- a table breaking out the number of FTE in the "all other" category in the 'FTE by Type' Medical Services chart in the Program Resource Data section of the Congressional Submission by headquarters, VISN, and medical center categories;
- a listing of the major occupational series supported in the "all other" category, with the number of FTE in these major categories;

- a table identifying the number and percentage of total FTE by occupational series listed in the ‘FTE by Type’ chart who spend 50 percent or more of their time on medical care;
- a detailed summary of the VA marketing campaign budget, including the amounts expended on VA advertising campaigns and a detailed list of outreach methods; and
- the amount of funding contained in the major construction working reserve at the beginning and end of the current year, budget year and prior year, and the purposes for which the reserve fund was used in the prior year.

*Staff relocations within VA.*—The Committee believes it should be notified prior to organizational changes that shift FTE from one organizational unit of VA to another. For example, the fiscal year 2014 budget was the first notice to the Committee that in 2012 the Department created a separate Pensions, DIC, Burial, and Fiduciary unit within VBA, shifting 1,015 FTE. The Committee was also not notified that 165 FTE were transferred in 2012 from Disability Compensation to Education to support the workload of the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP). The Committee requires notification 15 days prior to any future staff reassignments of 25 or more FTE.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS  
ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$2,161,910,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	2,455,490,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	2,455,490,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	293,580,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	-- --

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account provides funding for the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) to administer entitlement programs such as service-connected disability compensation, education benefits, and vocational rehabilitation services.

The Committee recommends \$2,455,490,000 for General operating expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration, which is \$293,580,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee has included bill language to make available through September 30, 2015, up to \$123,000,000 of these funds. Language proposed in the budget relating to a limitation on purchase of vehicles for the Manila, Philippines regional office is no longer necessary and is not included in the bill.

*Claims processing backlog.*—The Committee finds the VBA backlog in processing disability compensation claims unacceptable. Although for years the Committee has fully funded the President’s budget request for additional staffing and increased information technology funding for the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS), the claims backlog continues to grow. Backlog as defined by the Department is the number of claims taking more than 125 days to process. The most recent data indicate that the average number of days to process a claim is 292, with averages in some regional offices exceeding 450 days. Currently, 69 percent of the VA compensation caseload is backlogged, although VA estimated in its 2013 budget the percentage in backlog would be 40 percent in

2013. The Committee understands the VA believes the agency will be able to process claims within 125 days by 2015 when the VBMS is fully operational. While the Committee supports the use of technology to improve performance, the Committee is highly skeptical that the VBMS system will be able to eliminate these enormous backlogs by 2015. Therefore, the Committee intends to initiate a new level of oversight to ensure that it has monthly information identifying the changes in timeliness occurring at each of the 56 regional offices. As of the date of the publication of this House report, the Department is instructed to provide the Committee each month, ten days after the prior month has ended, a report that identifies for each month cumulatively throughout the fiscal year, both nationally and for each regional office: (1) the average number of days disability compensation claims are pending; (2) the share of the rating inventory that has been pending more than 125 days; (3) the rating claims accuracy on a three-month average; and (4) the month-to-month change in these indices, both by numeric value and percentage. The report may be in spreadsheet format. In addition, for each regional office with an average number of days pending for disability claims in excess of 200 days, the Department shall report to the Committee on a quarterly basis the actions taken, such as increases in claims processor FTE, staffing transfers, additional training, and technology adaptations, within the last quarter to reduce the backlog. While these reports are for the use of the Appropriations Committee, they are to be made available by the VA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs to any Member of the House of Representatives upon request.

*Expedited claims initiative.*—The Committee is pleased that the VA has taken the corrective step of expediting claims decisions for veterans who have waited one year or longer for a decision by providing provisional ratings based on all evidence collected to date. Since this new approach is untested, the Committee requests a report by January 1, 2014 indicating: how many veterans previously in limbo have received provisional approval or been denied; what share of the total claims inventory these claims constitute; how many additional days were added to the claims review for these applications on average to conclude their consideration; the initiative's impact on the average length of time to complete a compensation claim overall and the average age of a claim in the inventory; and estimates of the average increase in the number of days required to process claims for those veterans who prior to the initiative had waited less than 100 days for a decision.

*Career counseling.*—The Committee is concerned that a majority of veterans receiving education benefits provided by the Department are not requesting career counseling services available to them pursuant to section 3697A of title 38, U.S.C. The Committee urges the VA to perform outreach activities to better inform veterans about this benefit in order to achieve higher rates of post-graduation employment. In addition, the Committee requests the VA to submit a report to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act detailing the Department's career counseling services provided to veterans. This report should include: (1) the number of veterans requesting this counseling in fiscal years 2011, 2012 and 2013; (2) the specific information that is provided to veterans in a counseling session, including any data provided on ca-

reer options; and (3) an outreach plan to better inform veterans about the availability of career counseling.

*Job training coordination with the Labor Department.*—The Committee understands there is a nationwide shortage of clinical laboratory technologists and technicians, and the vacancies in this occupation may be a good fit for the large number of veterans who are seeking employment. The Committee urges the VA to work with the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) within the Department of Labor (DOL) to align some portion of previously appropriated funds, or from funds that VETS may receive in fiscal year 2014, for programs specifically aimed at training for this occupational specialty. Authorized recipients for certain VETS training grants include community colleges and vocational schools, which are the sites that provide this type of training. The Committee hopes that the VA and DOL will give preferences in the award of VETS training grants to institutions that provide training for clinical lab technologists and technicians. In addition, the Committee encourages the VA to highlight the choice of training for these professions to veterans receiving counseling about the use of VA educational benefits, including post-9-11 G.I. bill benefits. The Committee requests the two Departments to report within 180 days of enactment of this Act the actions taken to comply with this directive.

*Disability ratings schedule.*—It has come to the Committee's attention that the Veterans Affairs Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD) does not consistently reflect, with up-to-date medical accuracy, the level of disability some veterans face. The Committee requests that the VA provide periodic updates to the VASRD based on current, medically-accurate information. The Committee requires the Department to submit a report on the adoption of a medically accurate update to its VASRD system no later than nine months after the adoption of this bill.

*Military sexual trauma (MST)-related claims.*—The Committee is pleased with the VA's increased focus on disability claims based on in-service personal assault, including intensive training and identification of specialized employees for MST-related claims. However, the Committee continues to be informed about inconsistencies in the ratings process for MST victims and a lack of sufficient VA data identifying weaknesses and what strides have been made. Accordingly, the Committee requests the VA to report to the Committee certain information regarding MST-related claims to ensure veterans across the country receive consistent, timely and accurate decisions based on these claims. The VA should include in the report: (a) the number of MST-related claims submitted in the previous fiscal year; (b) the number and percentage of claims submitted by gender; (c) the number of denied claims, including number and percentage by gender; (d) the number of approved claims, including number and percentage by gender; (e) the number of claims assigned to each rating percentage; (f) the three most common reasons given for denial of such claims under section 5104(b)(1) of title 38, U.S.C.; (g) the number of denials that were based on the failure of the veteran to report for a medical examination; (h) the number of claims that were pending at the end of the fiscal year (including claims on appeal); (i) the average number of days to complete MST claims; and (j) a description of the training

provided to employees of VBA specifically with respect to covered claims, including the frequency, length and content of such training.

*Filipino war veteran claims.*—In 2009, Congress established a compensation benefit for Filipino veterans who aided American troops in World War II. The Committee commends the VA for having processed over 40,000 Filipino veterans’ claims to date, resulting in 18,764 individuals awarded benefits. The Committee urges the VA to consider all forms of evidence of service, and not only those originally considered, for claims that are still pending. The Committee requests that the VA submit a report on the number and status of awarded, pending, and denied Filipino war veteran claims by December 1, 2013.

*Access in remote areas.*—The Committee encourages the VBA to work to increase the presence of staff in remote or underserved areas, such as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Making sure veterans in remote and underserved areas receive access to veterans services is essential to honoring their sacrifices.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$3,324,117,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	3,683,344,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	3,683,344,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	359,227,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Information Technology Systems account supports information technology (IT) services such as systems development and performance, operations and maintenance, information protection, and customer support. The program permits the effective and efficient delivery of veterans’ healthcare services and benefits programs.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,683,344,000 for Information Technology Systems, which is \$359,227,000 above the fiscal year 2013 appropriation and the same as the budget request. Within the account total, as requested in the budget, the Committee allocates in bill language \$1,026,400,000 for pay and associated costs; \$2,161,653,000 for operations and maintenance; and \$495,291,000 for development, modernization, and enhancement. \$30,792,000 of pay and associated costs funds and \$151,316,000 of operations and maintenance funds are available until September 30, 2015. All development, modernization, and enhancement funds are available until September 30, 2015. The budget requested that five percent and ten percent, respectively, of pay and operations funds be made available for two years.

*Integrated electronic health record.*—The Committee has grown increasingly frustrated with the protracted negotiations to produce an integrated electronic health record (iEHR). Going back to at least 1996, when the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans’ Illnesses identified the problems created by incompatible DOD and VA medical records, the two agencies have made half-hearted efforts to move to interoperable systems. Despite the mandate for full interoperability in the 2008 National Defense Act Au-

thorization, it was not until 2011 that the Secretaries of DOD and VA committed to a plan to create a single integrated health record. Two years of peripatetic activity passed, but earlier this year, the two Secretaries announced that they would no longer seek to create a single, common health record, instead falling back to a goal of interoperability.

The Committee has received testimony indicating that it would be far better for servicemembers and veterans, as well as taxpayers, for DOD and VA to maintain one integrated electronic health record. In addition, the Secretary of VA confirmed in testimony that there is no technical reason one system could not be adapted to meet the needs of both Departments. The Secretary of DOD also recently indicated he was rethinking the fallback plan of an interoperable record and would make a decision within 30 days. In response, the Committee believes it is necessary to direct the two Departments toward one, integrated system by including bill language restricting the availability of funds for the development of an electronic health record unless the system meets the requirements of being single, joint, common, and integrated, with an open architecture, and is the sole system used by both DOD and VA. The Committee's action does not mandate the adoption of a particular system, only that it be a single system used by both Departments—not a patchwork of multiple, interoperable systems. Identical language will be included in the Department of Defense appropriations bill. The bill language requires written certification by both Secretaries that the integrated electronic health record that is chosen meets those requirements. It also restricts funding for development and procurement of the system to 25 percent of the total until the General Accountability Office validates the Secretaries' certification and the Committees approve an expenditure plan.

The budget request includes \$343,614,000 for the electronic health record—\$251,882,000 for development and \$91,732,000 for sustainment. The Committee expects these estimates to change once DOD and VA reach agreement on a single integrated electronic record and anticipates a reprogramming request from the Department to properly reallocate information technology resources. As part of the certification by the two Departments that they are developing one integrated electronic health record, the Committee expects an explanation of the anticipated future role, if any, of the DOD-VA Interagency Program Office and the uses of the funds spent to date by that office.

The Committee continues to include bill language prohibiting obligation or expenditure of funds for information technology systems development, modernization and enhancement until the VA submits to the Committee a certification of the amounts. In addition, the Committee continues bill language permitting the transfer of funding among the three subaccounts upon approval of the Committees. The bill contains language which allows for the reprogramming of funds among development, modernization and enhancement projects upon prior notification to, and approval by, the Committee. The budget proposes a similar provision as an administrative provision. The bill continues to include language indicating that funds for development, modernization and enhancement are available only for the projects and in the amounts specified in the report accompanying the bill.

The chart below reflects the Administration's budget request for development projects and includes the Committee recommendation for each. This chart will serve as the Department's approved list of development projects, and all requested changes are subject to the reprogramming guidelines as outlined in the accompanying Act.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

(\$ in 000s)

Project	Budget request	Committee recommendation
Integrated Electronic Health Record (IEHR) and VLER Health .....	\$251,882	\$251,882
Veterans Relationship Management (VRM) .....	120,157	120,157
Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) .....	32,834	32,834
New Models of Care .....	32,647	32,647
Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) .....	11,352	11,352
Health Informatics .....	7,774	7,774
International Classification of Diseases-10 .....	4,600	4,600
Access to Healthcare .....	3,645	3,645
Other .....	30,400	30,400
<b>Total All Development .....</b>	<b>495,291</b>	<b>495,291</b>

*Obligations report.*—The Committee expects the Office of Information Technology to continue to provide an IT expenditure report to the Committees on Appropriations on a monthly basis. This report shall include a comparison to the project costs included in the development, modernization, and enhancement project funding chart included in the House report, and provide an explanation for any differences in excess of \$1,000,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$114,885,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	116,411,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	116,411,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	1,526,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Office of Inspector General was established by the Inspector General Act of 1978 and is responsible for the audit, investigation, and inspection of all Department of Veterans Affairs programs and operations. The overall operational objective is to focus available resources on areas which would help improve services to veterans and their beneficiaries, assist managers of Department programs to operate economically in accomplishing program goals, and to prevent and deter recurring and potential fraud, waste, and inefficiencies.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$116,411,000 for the Office of Inspector General, an increase of \$1,526,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The bill makes \$6,000,000 of the total funding available until September 30, 2015.

## CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$531,938,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	342,130,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	342,130,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(189,808,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Construction, Major Projects appropriation provides for constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning, architectural and engineering services, assessments, and site acquisition where the estimated cost of a project is \$10,000,000 or more.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$342,130,000 for Construction, Major Projects, a decrease of \$189,808,000 from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. The Committee recommendation makes all but \$20,000,000 of these funds available for a five-year period rather than until expended as requested in the budget, reflecting concern about the lengthy period that VA has taken to design and build major construction projects. The Committee hopes that limiting the time period during which these funds may be used will motivate the VA to better plan and design projects before funding is requested.

The Committee recommendation provides requested funding to complete one major construction project and three VA national cemeteries. The Committee recommendation repeats an administrative provision which requires the Department to notify the Committee of all bid savings on contracts for construction projects that total at least \$5,000,000 or 5 percent of the programmed amount of the project and prohibits any changes from the original scope of work identified in the justification material submitted with the budget for each project.

The specific amounts recommended by the Committee are as follows:

[In thousands of dollars]

Location	Description	2014 request	Committee recommendation
Veterans Health Administration (VHA):			
Seattle, WA .....	Mental Health Bldg .....	\$149,130	\$149,130
Advance Planning Fund .....	Various Stations .....	33,000	33,000
Asbestos .....	Various Stations .....	5,000	5,000
Major Construction Staff .....	Various Stations .....	21,000	21,000
Claims Analysis .....	Various Stations .....	2,000	2,000
Hazardous Waste .....	Various Stations .....	5,000	5,000
Total VHA .....	.....	215,130	215,130
National Cemetery Administration (NCA):			
Central East FL .....	New Cemetery .....	40,000	40,000
Tallahassee, FL .....	New Cemetery .....	40,000	40,000
Omaha, NE .....	New Cemetery .....	36,000	36,000
Advance Planning Fund .....	Various Stations .....	5,000	5,000
Total NCA .....	.....	121,000	121,000
Veterans Benefits Administration— Dept Advance Planning Funding for Major.	.....	1,000	1,000

(In thousands of dollars)

Location	Description	2014 request	Committee recommendation
General Administration—Staff Offices Advance Planning Fund.	.....	5,000	5,000
Major Construction total .....	.....	342,130	342,130

*Facilities for female veterans.*—The Committee has received reports that the VA lacks adequate inpatient facilities for female veterans. The Committee requests a report no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act describing the availability of inpatient facilities for female veterans, an inventory of available resources, and recommendations from the Department on areas for improvement.

## CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$606,922,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	714,870,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	714,870,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	107,948,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Construction, Minor Projects appropriation provides for constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department, including planning, assessment of needs, architectural and engineering services, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is less than \$10,000,000.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$714,870,000 for Construction, Minor Projects, which is \$107,948,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request. As with the major construction account, the Committee recommendation makes these funds available for a five-year period rather than until expended as requested in the budget, reflecting concern about the long period that VA has taken to design and build construction projects.

*Health care center expansions.*—Recognizing the lack of accessible VA services in many regions of the country, the Committee requested in the fiscal year 2013 report that the VA include in the VA Strategic Capital Improvement Plan (SCIP) the expansion of existing VA health care centers to include inpatient accommodations, urgent care services, and the full range of services required by women veterans when the absence of such services locally requires veterans to make round trips of more than five hours to access such services at a VA facility. The Committee instructs the VA to report within 180 days of enactment of this Act whether any health care center facilities currently in the SCIP include inpatient accommodations and urgent care. If such facilities are not currently included in the SCIP, the report should provide an explanation of why this is not the Department's preferred mechanism to address veterans' access problems.

## GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$84,915,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	82,650,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	82,650,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(2,265,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

This appropriation provides grants to assist States to construct State home facilities, for furnishing domiciliary or nursing home care to veterans, and to expand, remodel, or alter existing buildings for furnishing domiciliary, nursing home, or hospital care to veterans in State homes. A grant may not exceed 65 percent of the total cost of the project.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$82,650,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities, to be available until expended, which is \$2,265,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

## GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$45,954,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	44,650,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	44,650,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(1,304,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

This program provides grants to assist States and tribal governments with the establishment, expansion, and improvement of veterans cemeteries which are operated and permanently maintained by the States and tribal governments. Grants under this program fund up to 100 percent of construction costs and the initial equipment expenses when the cemetery is established. The States and tribal governments remain responsible for providing the land and for paying all costs related to the operation and maintenance of the State cemeteries, including the costs for subsequent equipment purchases.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$44,650,000 for Grants for Construction of Veterans Cemeteries, to be available until expended, which is \$1,304,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and the same as the budget request.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill includes 29 provisions that were in effect in fiscal year 2013 and 1 new provision. The administrative provisions included in the bill are as follows:

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 201 allowing for the transfer of funds among three mandatory appropriations. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 202 allowing the Department to transfer funding among the three medical appropriations accounts in fiscal

year 2014. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 203 allowing for salaries and expenses funds to be used for hire of passenger vehicles, lease of facilities or land, and purchase of uniforms.

The bill includes section 204 providing that only funding in the “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor Projects” accounts can be used for the purchase of any site for any new hospital or home or to construct any new hospital or home.

The bill includes section 205 requiring the Department to be reimbursed for medical services it provides to any person not defined as a beneficiary to ensure the Department is receiving payment for all medical services provided.

The bill includes section 206 allowing for the use of funds appropriated in fiscal year 2014 for “Compensation and Pensions”, “Re-adjustment Benefits”, and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” for payment of accrued obligations recorded in the last quarter of fiscal year 2013.

The bill includes section 207 allowing for the use of fiscal year 2014 funds to pay prior year obligations resulting from implementation of sections 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 208 allowing the Department to use surplus earnings from the national service life insurance, U.S. Government life insurance, and veterans special life insurance program to administer these programs.

The bill includes section 209 allowing the Department to obligate enhanced-use lease proceeds for administrative expenses that were incurred in a prior fiscal year during the year funds are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 210 limiting the amount of reimbursement the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication can charge other offices and accounts of the Department for services provided.

The bill includes section 211 prohibiting the Secretary from approving new leases of real property with estimated annual rental cost of more than \$1,000,000 unless the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress approve a report on such lease within 30 days of receipt. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 212 requiring the Department to collect current and accurate third-party reimbursement information for the purposes of third-party insurance collections. If persons receiving care or medical services do not disclose this information, the Department is allowed to bill them reasonable charges for services provided.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 213 allowing the Department to use enhanced-use lease funds for construction and alteration of medical facilities.

The bill includes section 214 allowing the Department to use the “Medical Services” appropriation for expenses related to the broader mission of medical care to veterans.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 215 allowing the Department to transfer Medical Care Collections to the “Medical Services” appropriation to be used for veterans medical care and makes those funds available until expended.

The bill includes section 216 allowing veterans who reside in Alaska to obtain medical services from medical facilities supported by the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations, and provides for reimbursement for those services from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 217 allowing the Department to transfer the proceeds received from the transfer of real property deposited into the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund to the major and minor construction appropriations accounts and makes those funds available until expended.

The bill includes section 218 providing that no funds may be used to prohibit Directors of the Veterans Integrated Service Networks from conducting outreach or marketing programs. The Administration proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 219 requiring the Secretary to submit quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration. The Administration proposed to delete this provision.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 220 requiring the Department to notify and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of any proposed transfer of funding to or from the “Information Technology Systems” account. The Administration proposal to modify this provision is not adopted.

The bill includes section 221 limiting the amount of funding made available under the “Medical Facilities” account for non-recurring maintenance that may be obligated during the last two months of the fiscal year. The Administration proposal to delete this provision is not adopted.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 222 permitting the transfer of \$254,257,000 appropriated for medical accounts, minor construction, and information technology systems to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for the operation of facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 223 permitting the transfer of funds deposited in the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Joint Medical

Facility Demonstration Fund for facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 224 directing that a minimum of \$15,000,000 shall be transferred from the three medical care appropriations to the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, to be available until expended.

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 225 rescinding and reappropriating a portion of already appropriated fiscal year 2014 medical care account funding, as requested in the budget.

The bill includes section 226 requiring the Secretary to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of all bid savings in Major Construction projects that total at least \$5,000,000, or five percent of the programmed amount, whichever is less. Such notification must occur within 14 days of a contract. The Secretary is required to notify the Committees 14 days prior to the obligation of such bid savings and shall describe the anticipated use of such savings. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 227 prohibiting the original scope of work for a Major Construction project from being increased above the scope specified for that project in the original justification data provided to the Congress as part of the request for appropriations. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

The bill includes section 228 requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress notification of any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign in which obligations exceed \$2,000,000.

The bill includes section 229 requiring the Department to submit a reprogramming request if it wishes to change fiscal year 2014 spending on Health Services initiatives identified in the budget justification by more than \$25,000,000. The budget request proposed to delete this provision.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes section 230 reducing the current-funded discretionary appropriations accounts by \$24,000,000 and rescinds \$156,000,000 of funding already appropriated in Medical Care 2014 advance appropriations. Bill language gives the Secretary discretion to allocate these reductions. The budget request did not include this provision.

The bill does not include a provision requested in the budget limiting contracting out of functions performed by more than ten employees without a fair competition process. This limitation is unnecessary because it has already been enacted into law.

## TITLE III

## RELATED AGENCIES

## AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$61,348,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	58,200,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	57,980,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(3,368,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(220,000)

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The American Battle Monuments Commission is responsible for the administration, operation and maintenance of cemetery and war memorials to commemorate the achievements and sacrifices of the American Armed Forces where they have served since April 6, 1917. In performing these functions, the Commission maintains 24 permanent American military cemetery memorials and 25 monuments, memorials, and markers.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$57,980,000 for the American Battle Monuments Commission's salaries and expenses account, which is \$3,368,000 less than the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$220,000 less than the budget request.

Language is included allowing up to \$7,500 to be used for official reception and representation expenses.

## FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$14,818,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request est. ....	14,100,000
Committee recommendation in the bill est. ....	14,100,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(718,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Commission's Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account is authorized pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2109 to pay the costs of salaries and expenses that exceed the amount appropriated because of fluctuations in currency exchange rates of foreign countries occurring after a budget request for the Commission is submitted to Congress. The account may not be used for any other purpose.

The Committee recommendation includes bill language as proposed which makes "such sums as may be necessary" available to the Commission to cover unanticipated foreign currency fluctuations, currently estimated at \$14,100,000.

## UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$31,665,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	35,408,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	35,272,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	3,607,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(136,000)

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Veterans' Judicial Review Act established the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The Court reviews appeals from claimants seeking review of a benefit denial. The Court has the authority to overturn findings of fact, regulations, and interpretations of law.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$35,272,000 for the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, an increase of \$3,607,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$136,000 less than the budget request.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$64,146,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	45,800,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	70,685,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	6,539,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	24,885,000

<sup>1</sup> FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Secretary of the Army is responsible for the administration, operation and maintenance of Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery. In addition to its principal function as a national cemetery, ANC is the site of approximately 3,000 non-funeral ceremonies each year and has approximately 4,000,000 visitors annually.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$70,685,000 for Cemeterial Expenses, Army. The Committee notes that the budget request, once again, proposed \$25,000,000 to be provided through Operation and Maintenance, Army for the maintenance backlog at ANC instead of requesting all funds within the Cemeterial Expenses, Army account. This request is particularly troubling given the significant fiscal year 2013 shortfall in the Operation and Maintenance, Army account and this shortfall's potential impact on fiscal year 2014 requirements. Equally disturbing is the disingenuous use of this gimmick to undermine federal budgeting principles requiring expenditures to be charged against the same account each year, once an account has been identified for such purpose. This budget request instead proposes to fund the same purpose between two separate appropriations causing confusion of purpose and weakening accountability. The Committee rejects this proposal and instead provides all funds within the Cemeterial Expenses, Army account.

*Concession services.*—The Committee is aware that the budget request for Arlington National Cemetery proposes language that would authorize ANC to contract for concession services such as transit services within ANC. The Committee is concerned that these concession services may impact the services currently provided by the National Park Service (NPS). The Committee directs ANC to meet with NPS and provide a report to the Committee no later than 60 days after the date of the publication of this report on the issues raised by NPS and the actions that ANC will take to address them, should Congress provide concession authority.

*Cemetery capacity.*— The Committee supports the efforts of the ANC Advisory Commission to identify solutions for when ANC inevitably reaches capacity. Accurately identifying the burial needs of

our service members, veterans, and their families from all 50 states is critical to ensuring that the future plans for ANC meet those needs. The Committee recommends the ANC Advisory Commission establish metrics to determine whether the Department of the Army should establish a new national cemetery of the same stature as ANC.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$100,412,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	---
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(100,412,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommendation does not include funds for the Construction account. The budget request did not propose any additional funds for this purpose.

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$63,941,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	66,800,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	66,400,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	2,459,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	(400,000)

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) consists of two retirement communities, one in Washington, D.C. and the other in Gulfport, Mississippi. The Washington, D.C. facility was established in 1851 as a soldiers' home for elderly and disabled veterans. The original home for Navy officers, sailors, and Marines was established in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1811, and was relocated to Gulfport, Mississippi almost a century and a half later.

The Committee recommendation provides authority to expend \$66,400,000 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi. The amount recommended is \$2,459,000 above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$400,000 less than the budget request.

##### CAPITAL PROGRAM

Fiscal year 2013 enacted level <sup>1</sup> .....	\$1,950,000
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	1,000,000
Committee recommendation in the bill .....	1,000,000
Comparison with:	
Fiscal year 2013 enacted level .....	(950,000)
Fiscal year 2014 budget request .....	---

<sup>1</sup>FY13 Enacted level does not include the 251A sequester or Sec. 3004 OMB ATB.

The Committee recommendation provides authority to expend \$1,000,000 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund for construction and renovations. The amount recommended is \$950,000 less than the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The bill includes 1 provision that was in effect in fiscal year 2013. The administrative provision included in the bill is as follows:

The bill includes section 301 permitting Arlington National Cemetery to provide funds to Arlington County to relocate a water main.

## TITLE IV

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

The bill includes 15 provisions that are effective in fiscal year 2013 and three new provisions as follows:

The bill includes section 401 prohibiting the obligation of funds beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided.

The bill includes section 402 prohibiting the use of funds for programs, projects or activities not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

The bill includes section 403 prohibiting the use of funds to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress.

The bill includes section 404 encouraging all departments and agencies funded in this Act to expand the use of "E-Commerce" technologies and procedures.

The bill includes section 405 specifying the Congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifications.

The bill includes section 406 prohibiting the transfer of funds to any instrumentality of the United States Government without authority from an appropriations Act.

The bill includes section 407 prohibiting any funds in this Act to be used for a project or program named for an individual serving as a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

The bill includes section 408 requiring all reports submitted to the Congress to be posted on official websites of the submitting agency.

The bill includes section 409 prohibiting the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography, except for law enforcement investigation, prosecution or adjudication activities.

The bill includes section 410 prohibiting funds in this Act for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now.

The bill includes new section 411 prohibiting the use of funds made available in this Act to exercise the power of eminent domain without just compensation.

The bill includes section 412 prohibiting the use of funds for payment of first-class travel by an employee of the executive branch.

The bill includes section 413 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for the renovation, expansion, or construction of any facility in the continental United States for the purpose of housing any individual who has been detained at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The bill includes section 414 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for any contract where the contractor has not complied with E-Verify requirements.

The bill includes section 415 limiting the use of funds to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, corporations convicted of a felony criminal violation of Federal law within the preceding 24 months. The Department shall provide an annual report to the Committee, due within 30 days of the end of each fiscal year, detailing its implementation of this provision, including a list of affected corporations and a justification for any cases in which the Department has determined that the limitation should not apply.

The bill includes section 416 limiting the use of funds to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, corporations with certain unpaid Federal tax liabilities. The Department shall provide an annual report to the Committee, due within 30 days of the end of each fiscal year, detailing its implementation of this provision, including a list of affected corporations and a justification for any cases in which the Department has determined that the limitation should not apply.

The bill includes new section 417 prohibiting the use of funds to alter the implementation of a program, project, or activity in anticipation of any change proposed in a budget request before its enactment.

The bill includes new section 418 establishing a “Spending Reduction Account” in the bill.

The bill does not include section 503 as requested, instead report language is included that states that the cost of any pay raise will be absorbed within the funds provided.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT REQUIREMENTS

The following items are included in accordance with various requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

#### STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is a statement of general performance goals and objectives for which this measure authorizes funding:

The Committee on Appropriations considers program performance, including a program’s success in developing and attaining outcome-related goals and objectives, in developing funding recommendations.

#### RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the rescissions in the accompanying bill:

## DEPARTMENT/ACTIVITY

## AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED FOR RESCISSION

Department of Defense, Military Construction, Army .....	\$139,000,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps .....	49,920,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Defense-Wide .....	374,870,000
Department of Defense, Military Construction, Air National Guard .....	45,623,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services .....	1,400,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Support and Compliance .....	100,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Facilities .....	250,000,000
Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, and Medical Facilities .....	156,000,000

## TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the transfer of funds provided in the accompanying bill.

Language is included to allow Military Construction, Defense-Wide funds to be transferred to other military construction and family housing appropriations to be merged with and available for the same purpose and same time period.

Language is included to allow BRAC proceeds to be transferred to the BRAC account to be merged with and available for the same purpose and same time period.

Language is included to allow for the transfer of funds from Family Housing, Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund and funds from Military Construction accounts to the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund.

Language is included to provide transfer authority from the BRAC account to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

Language is included to allow the transfer of expired funds to the "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense" account.

Language is included to transfer not to exceed \$9,232,000 from Compensation and Pensions to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and Information Technology Systems. These funds are for the administrative costs of implementing cost-savings proposals required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 and the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992. Language is also included transferring funds to the medical care collections fund to augment funding of medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners.

Language is included to permit the transfer of funds from General Administration to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration.

Language is included to permit the transfer of funds between Information Technology Systems development projects and among the three sub-accounts identified in bill language subject to the approval of the Committee.

Language is included to provide authority for the Department of Veterans Affairs for any funds appropriated in 2014 for Compensation and Pensions, Readjustment Benefits, and Veterans Insurance and Indemnities to be transferred among those three accounts.

Language is included to transfer funds among the Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, and Medical Facilities accounts.

Language is included to permit the funds from three life insurance funds to be transferred to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and Information Technology Systems for the costs of administering such programs.

Language is included to permit up to \$46,264,000 to be transferred to General Administration and Information Technology Systems from any funds appropriated in fiscal year 2014 to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment and Discrimination Complaint Adjudication for services provided.

Language is included to transfer certain funds derived from enhanced-use leasing activities to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts.

Language is included to transfer funds from the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Medical Services account.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds from the Capital Asset Fund to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds from various accounts to the Information Technology Systems account subject to approval by the Committee.

Language is included to allow the transfer of funds provided for the Department of Veterans Affairs to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

Language is included permitting funds deposited to the Medical Care Collections Fund for health care provided at a combined Federal medical facility to be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

Language is included under the Department of Veterans Affairs that would transfer no less than \$15,000,000 for the DOD/VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38, United States Code.

#### DISCLOSURE OF EARMARKS AND CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Neither the bill nor the report contains any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

#### CHANGES IN APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(A) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill that directly or indirectly change the application of existing law.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to continue ongoing activities that require annual authorization or additional legislation, which to date have not been enacted.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to place limitations on the use of funds in the bill or change existing limitations

and which might, under some circumstances, be construed as changing the application of existing law.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to allow the Secretary of Defense to exceed certain limitations upon notification to the Committee.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to allow funding to be used for official reception and representation expenses.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to enable various appropriations to remain available for more than one year for some programs for which the basic authority legislation does not presently authorize such extended availability.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to permit the transfer of funds to other accounts.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit payments for cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contracts under certain circumstances.

Language is included in various parts of the bill to allow funds to be used for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

Language is included under Title I to allow advances to the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds to begin construction of new bases without specific appropriations.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds for purchase of land or land easements under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds for land acquisition, site preparation, and utility installation for family housing unless funds have been made available in annual appropriations Acts.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of minor construction funds to transfer an activity between installations without prior notification.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds for the procurement of steel for any activity if American steel producers have been denied the opportunity to compete for such steel procurements.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

Language is included under Title I to prohibit the use of funds to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification.

Language is included under Title I to limit the use of funds for architect and engineer contracts under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to limit the use of funds for awarding contracts to foreign contractors under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to require the Department of Defense to notify the appropriate committees of Congress of any proposed military exercises under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow prior year construction funding to be available for currently authorized projects.

Language is included under Title I to allow payment for the cost associated with supervision, inspection, overhead, engineering and design on family housing or military construction projects that are being completed with expired or lapsed funds.

Language is included under Title I to allow funds to be expended on military construction projects for four fiscal years after enactment under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow for the transfer of BRAC proceeds to the BRAC account.

Language is included under Title I to allow construction funds to be transferred to Housing Improvement Funds.

Language is included under Title I to allow for the transfer of BRAC funds to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

Language is included under Title I to limit funds for the operation and maintenance of family housing to those provided in this appropriation and to limit amounts expended on repairs of general and flag officer quarters under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow funds in the Ford Island Improvement Account to be available until expended for certain purposes.

Language is included under Title I to limit funds for projects at closed or realigned installations under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I to allow for the transfer of expired funding to the Foreign Currency Fluctuation Account under certain circumstances.

Language is included under Title I limiting funds available for expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado.

Language is included under Title I limiting movement of an Army unit with a testing mission.

Language is included under Title I that rescinds funds from prior year appropriations Acts.

Language is included under Title I to allow the Secretary of the Army to use additional funds to complete a prior year project.

Language is included under Title II to require that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs establish a priority for treatment of veterans who are service-connected disabled, lower income, or have special needs.

Language is included under Title II to require that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs give priority funding of basic medical benefits to priority groups 1 through 6.

Language is included under Title II to allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to dispense prescription drugs from VHA facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions.

Language is included under Title II providing for the reimbursement to the Department of Defense for the costs of overseas employee mail.

Language is included under Title II to require approval of a transfer between development, modernization, and enhancement projects in the information technology systems account.

Language is included under Title II establishing time limitations and reporting requirements concerning the obligation of major construction funds, limiting the use of funds, and allowing the use of funds for program costs.

Language is included under Title II to allow minor construction funds to be used to repair non-medical facilities damaged by natural disaster or catastrophe.

Language is included under Title II permitting transfers between mandatory and discretionary accounts, limiting and providing for the use of certain funds, funding administrative expenses associ-

ated with life insurance programs from excess program revenues, allowing reimbursement from enhanced-use leases and for certain services, requiring notification of new lease agreements, requiring disclosure of insurance and income information, allowing a recovery audit collection program, allowing veterans in the State of Alaska to use Indian Health Service facilities under certain conditions, allowing medical services funds for recreational and funeral expenses, limiting the obligation of non-recurring maintenance funds during the last two months of the fiscal year, and requiring approval of a reprogramming prior to any major reallocation of medical services initiatives funding.

Language is included under Title II that rescinds funds from prior year appropriations Acts.

Language is included under Title III for the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, Salaries and Expenses, to permit the use of funds for a pro bono program.

Language is included under Title III for Cemeterial Expenses, Army, Salaries and Expenses, to permit the use of funds for parking maintenance and repairs.

Language is included under Title III for Cemeterial Expenses, Army, Salaries and Expenses, to permit the use of funds to relocate a water main.

Language is included under Title IV to limit the use of funds for Federal entities when they are not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

Language is included under Title IV to limit the use of funds for publicity or propaganda designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress.

Language is included under Title IV to prohibit the use of funds for a project or program named for a serving Member of the United States Congress.

Language is included under Title IV prohibiting funds from being used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

Language is included under Title IV to prohibit funding being distributed to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now or its subsidiaries.

Language is included under Title IV prohibiting funds from being used to exercise the power of eminent domain without just compensation.

Language is included under Title IV prohibiting funds from being used to pay for first class travel in violation of federal regulations.

Language is included under Title IV prohibiting funds from being used to execute a contract for goods or services where a contractor has not complied with Executive Order 12989.

Language is included under Title IV prohibiting funds from being provided to any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation.

Language is included under Title IV prohibiting funds from being provided to a corporation with an unpaid Federal tax liability.

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(B) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill which are not authorized by law for the period concerned:

[dollars in thousands]

Agency/program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level	Appropriations in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
Military Construction, Army.....	2013	1,684,323	1,682,639	1,099,875
Military Construction, Navy.....	2013	1,573,884	1,547,615	1,616,281
Military Construction, Air Force.....	2013	322,543	322,220	1,127,273
Military Construction, Defense-Wide.....	2013	3,432,423	3,578,841	3,707,923
Military Construction, Army National Guard.....	2013	613,799	637,420	315,815
Military Construction, Air National Guard.....	2013	42,386	42,344	107,800
Military Construction, Army Reserve.....	2013	305,846	305,540	174,060
Military Construction, Navy Reserve.....	2013	49,532	4,982	32,976
Military Construction, Air Force Reserve.....	2013	10,979	10,968	45,659
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.....	2013	254,163	253,909	199,700
Family Housing Construction, Army.....	2013	4,641	4,636	44,008
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army.....	2013	530,051	529,521	512,871
Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	2013	102,182	102,080	73,407
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.....	2013	378,230	377,852	389,844
Family Housing Construction, Air Force.....	2013	83,824	83,740	76,360
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force.....	2013	497,829	497,331	388,598
Family Housing Construction, Defense-Wide.....	2013	-	-	-
Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide.....	2013	52,238	52,186	55,845
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	2013	1,786	1,784	1,780
Homeowners Assistance Program.....	2013	-	-	-
Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide.....	2013	151,000	150,849	122,536
Base Realignment and Closure, 1990.....	2013	349,396	408,987	-
Base Realignment and Closure, 2005.....	2013	126,697	126,570	-
Base Realignment and Closure Account.....	-	-	-	451,357
Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Hsing Supportive Svcs.....	2013	300,000	300,000	300,000
Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Major Leases.....	done each yr.	---	---	246,558
Cemeterial Expenses, Army.....	2013	173,800	164,558	70,685
Armed Forces Retirement Home.....	2013	67,590	65,891	67,400

## PROGRAM DUPLICATION

No provision of this bill establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111-139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

## DIRECTED RULE MAKING

The bill does not direct any rule making.

## FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

## ROLL CALL NO. 1

Date: May 21, 2013

Measure: Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill, FY 2014

Motion by: Mr. Moran

Description of Motion: Increasing the rescission of funds for Military Construction, Army and Military Construction, Defense-Wide by \$92,769,500 each to provide increased funding for a pay increase as proposed in the budget request.

Results: Defeated 23 yeas to 25 nays.

*Members Voting Yea*

Mr. Bishop  
 Mr. Cuellar  
 Ms. DeLauro  
 Mr. Farr  
 Mr. Fattah  
 Mr. Honda  
 Ms. Kaptur  
 Ms. Lee  
 Mrs. Lowey  
 Ms. McCollum  
 Mr. Moran  
 Mr. Owens  
 Mr. Pastor  
 Ms. Pingree  
 Mr. Price  
 Mr. Quigley  
 Ms. Roybal-Allard  
 Mr. Ryan  
 Mr. Schiff  
 Mr. Serrano  
 Mr. Visclosky  
 Ms. Wasserman Schultz  
 Mr. Wolf

*Members Voting Nay*

Mr. Aderholt  
 Mr. Alexander  
 Mr. Bonner  
 Mr. Calvert  
 Mr. Carter  
 Mr. Crenshaw  
 Mr. Culberson  
 Mr. Dent  
 Mr. Fleischmann  
 Mr. Fortenberry  
 Mr. Frelinghuysen  
 Ms. Granger  
 Mr. Graves  
 Mr. Harris  
 Mr. Joyce  
 Mr. Kingston  
 Mr. Latham  
 Mr. Nunnelee  
 Mr. Rogers  
 Mr. Rooney  
 Mr. Simpson  
 Mr. Valadao  
 Mr. Womack  
 Mr. Yoder  
 Mr. Young

## ROLL CALL NO. 2

Date: May 21, 2013

Measure: Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill, FY 2014

Motion by: Ms. DeLauro

Description of Motion: An amendment to replace 2013/2014 sequester with revenue increases and spending reductions.

Results: Defeated 22 yeas to 26 nays.

*Members Voting Yea*

Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Cuellar  
Ms. DeLauro  
Mr. Farr  
Mr. Fattah  
Mr. Honda  
Ms. Kaptur  
Ms. Lee  
Mrs. Lowey  
Ms. McCollum  
Mr. Moran  
Mr. Owens  
Mr. Pastor  
Ms. Pingree  
Mr. Price  
Mr. Quigley  
Ms. Roybal-Allard  
Mr. Ryan  
Mr. Schiff  
Mr. Serrano  
Mr. Visclosky  
Ms. Wasserman Schultz

*Members Voting Nay*

Mr. Aderholt  
Mr. Alexander  
Mr. Bonner  
Mr. Calvert  
Mr. Carter  
Mr. Crenshaw  
Mr. Culberson  
Mr. Dent  
Mr. Fleischmann  
Mr. Fortenberry  
Mr. Frelinghuysen  
Ms. Granger  
Mr. Graves  
Mr. Harris  
Mr. Joyce  
Mr. Kingston  
Mr. Latham  
Mr. Nunnelee  
Mr. Rogers  
Mr. Rooney  
Mr. Simpson  
Mr. Valadao  
Mr. Wolf  
Mr. Womack  
Mr. Yoder  
Mr. Young

## COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, Cl. 3(e) (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee notes that the accompanying bill does not propose to repeal or amend a statute of part thereof.

## COMPARISON WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the following table compares the levels of new budget authority provided in the bill with the appropriate allocation under section 302(b) of the Budget Act.

[In millions of dollars]

	302(b) allocation		This bill	
	Budget authority	Outlays	Budget authority	Outlays
Comparison of amounts in the bill with Committee allocations to its subcommittee: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs:				
Mandatory .....	79,465	79,219	79,465	179,219
Discretionary .....	73,320	76,206	73,320	76,206

<sup>1</sup> Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

## FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION OF OUTLAYS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the following table contains five-year projections prepared by the Congressional Budget Office of outlays associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

[In millions of dollars]

Outlays:		
2014 .....		<sup>2</sup> 86,772
2015 .....		5,795
2016 .....		4,252
2017 .....		1,879
2018 and future years .....		1,410

<sup>2</sup> Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

## ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amount of financial assistance to State and local governments is as follows:

Budget Authority .....	<i>Millions</i>
	\$146
Fiscal Year 2014 outlays resulting therefrom .....	-4

## STATE LIST

The following is a complete listing, by title, State and country, of the Committee's recommendations for military construction and family housing projects:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
-----		
ALABAMA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
DECATUR		
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	4,000	4,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BIRMINGHAM IAP		
ADD TO AND ALTER DISTRIBUTED GROUND STATION F.....	8,500	8,500
ALASKA		
ARMY		
FORT WAINWRIGHT		
AVIATION BATTALION COMPLEX.....	45,000	45,000
AVIATION STORAGE HANGAR.....	58,000	58,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLEAR AFS		
BMDS UPGRADE EARLY WARNING RADAR.....	17,204	17,204
FORT GREELY		
MECHANICAL-ELECTRICAL BLDG MISSILE FIELD #1.....	82,000	82,000
ARIZONA		
AIR FORCE		
LUKE AFB		
F-35 FIELD TRAINING DETACHMENT.....	5,500	5,500
F-35 SQ OPS/AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT #3.....	21,400	21,400
ARKANSAS		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT CHAFFEE		
SCOUT/RECCE GUNNERY COMPLEX.....	21,000	21,000
CALIFORNIA		
NAVY		
BARSTOW		
ENGINE DYNAMOMETER FACILITY.....	14,998	14,998
CAMP PENDLETON		
AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT UPGRADE.....	13,124	13,124
CORONADO		
H-60 TRAINER FACILITY.....	8,910	8,910
POINT HUGO		
AIRCRAFT ENGINE TEST PADS.....	7,198	7,198
BAMS CONSOLIDATED MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	17,469	17,469
PORT HUENEME		
UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING CONVERSION.....	33,600	33,600
SAN DIEGO		
STEAM PLANT DECENTRALIZATION.....	34,331	34,331
TWENTYNINE PALMS		
CAMP WILSON INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES.....	33,437	33,437
AIR FORCE		
BEALE AFB		
DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND STATION OPS BLDG.....	62,000	62,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BRAWLEY		
SOF DESERT WARFARE TRAINING CENTER.....	23,095	23,095
DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT-TRACY		
GENERAL PURPOSE WAREHOUSE.....	37,554	37,554
MIRAMAR		
REPLACE FUEL PIPELINE.....	6,000	6,000
ARMY RESERVE		
CAMP PARKS		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	17,500	17,500
FORT HUNTER LIGGETT		
TASS TRAINING CENTER (TTC).....	16,500	16,500
NAVY RESERVE		
MARCH AFB		
NOSC MORENO VALLEY RESERVE TRAINING CENTER.....	11,086	11,086



MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD REPLACE FUEL ISLAND.....	13,500	13,500
MOODY AFB REPLACE GROUND VEHICLE FUELING FACILITY.....	3,800	3,800
HAWAII		
ARMY		
FORT SHAFTER COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY - ADMIN.....	75,000	65,000
NAVY		
KANEIHE BAY		
3RD RADIO BN MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS COMPLEX.....	25,336	25,336
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE EXPANSION.....	16,968	16,968
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR UPGRADES.....	31,820	31,820
ARMORY ADDITION AND RENOVATION.....	12,952	12,952
AVIATION SIMULATOR MODERNIZATION/ADDITION.....	17,724	17,724
MV-22 HANGAR.....	57,517	57,517
MV-22 PARKING APRON AND INFRASTRUCTURE.....	74,665	74,665
PEARL CITY		
WATER TRANSMISSION LINE.....	30,100	30,100
PEARL HARBOR		
DRYDOCK WATERFRONT FACILITY.....	22,721	22,721
SUBMARINE PRODUCTION SUPPORT FACILITY.....	35,277	35,277
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM C-17 MODERNIZE HGR 35, DOCKS 1&2.....	4,800	4,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORD ISLAND		
DISA PACIFIC FACILITY UPGRADES.....	2,615	2,615
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM ALTER WAREHOUSE SPACE.....	2,800	2,800
ILLINOIS		
NAVY		
GREAT LAKES		
UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING.....	35,851	35,851
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
KANKAKEE		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	28,000	28,000
READINESS CENTER.....	14,000	14,000
INDIANA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
HULMAN REGIONAL AIRPORT ADD/ALTER BLDG 37 FOR DIST COMMON GROUND STA.....	7,300	7,300
KANSAS		
ARMY		
FORT LEAVENWORTH SIMULATIONS CENTER.....	17,000	17,000
KENTUCKY		
ARMY		
FORT CAMPBELL		
BATTLEFIELD WEATHER SUPPORT FACILITY.....	4,800	4,800
AIR FORCE		
FORT CAMPBELL 19TH AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS SQDRN EXPANSION.....	8,000	8,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT		
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION FACILITY, PH XIV.....	122,536	122,536
FORT CAMPBELL		
FORT CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	59,278	59,278
MARSHALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	38,591	38,591
SOF GROUP SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION.....	26,342	26,342

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
-----		
FORT KNOX		
AMBULATORY HEALTH CENTER.....	265,000	265,000
CONSOLIDATE/REPLACE VAN VOORHIS-MUDGE ES.....	38,023	38,023
MAINE		
NAVY		
BANGOR		
NCTAMS VLF COMMERCIAL POWER CONNECTION.....	13,800	13,800
KITTERY		
STRUCTURAL SHOPS CONSOLIDATION.....	11,522	11,522
MARYLAND		
ARMY		
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND		
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES.....	21,000	21,000
FORT DETRICK		
ENTRY CONTROL POINT.....	2,500	2,500
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL STORAGE BUILDING.....	4,600	4,600
NAVY		
FORT MEADE		
MARFORCYBERCOM HQ-OPS BUILDING.....	83,988	---
AIR FORCE		
FORT MEADE		
CYBERCOM JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER, INCREMENT 1.....	85,000	85,000
JOINT BASE ANDREWS		
HELICOPTER OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	30,000	30,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND		
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMAND LAB REPLACEMENT.....	210,000	110,000
BETHESDA (WRNMMC)		
MECH & ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS BLDG C.....	46,800	46,800
PARKING GARAGE.....	20,000	20,000
FORT DETRICK		
USAMRIID REPLACEMENT STAGE 1, INCR 8.....	13,000	---
FORT MEADE		
HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING CAPACITY INC 3.....	431,000	431,000
NSAW RECAPITALIZE BUILDING #1/SITE M INC 2.....	58,000	58,000
JOINT BASE ANDREWS		
AMBULATORY CARE CENTER INC 2.....	76,200	63,800
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT MEADE		
175TH NETWORK WARFARE SQUADRON FACILITY.....	4,000	---
MARTIN STATE AIRPORT		
CYBER/ISR FACILITY.....	8,000	---
ARMY RESERVE		
BOWIE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	25,500	25,500
MASSACHUSETTS		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HANSCOM AFB		
HANSCOM PRIMARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	36,213	36,213
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP EDWARDS		
ENLISTED BARRACKS, TRANSIENT TRAINING ADD.....	19,000	19,000
MICHIGAN		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP GRAYLING		
ENLISTED BARRACKS, TRANSIENT TRAINING.....	17,000	17,000
MINNESOTA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
STILLWATER		
READINESS CENTER.....	17,000	17,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
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MISSISSIPPI		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP SHELBY		
WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT BUILDING, POTABLE.....	3,000	3,000
PASCAGOULA		
READINESS CENTER.....	4,500	4,500
MISSOURI		
ARMY		
FORT LEONARD WOOD		
ADV INDIVIDUAL TRAINING BARRACKS CPLX, PH1.....	86,000	86,000
SIMULATOR BUILDING.....	4,700	4,700
AIR FORCE		
WHITEMAN AFB		
WSA MOP IGLOOS AND ASSEMBLY FACILITY.....	5,900	5,900
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
MACON		
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	9,100	9,100
WHITEMAN AFB		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	5,000	5,000
NAVY RESERVE		
KANSAS CITY		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER - BELTON, MISSOURI.....	15,020	15,020
MONTANA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
GREAT FALLS IAP		
INTRA-THEATER AIRLIFT CONVERSION.....	22,000	22,000
NEBRASKA		
AIR FORCE		
OFFUTT AFB		
USSTRATCOM REPLACEMENT FACILITY, INCR 3.....	136,000	136,000
NEVADA		
NAVY		
FALLON		
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.....	11,334	11,334
AIR FORCE		
NELLIS AFB		
ADD RPA WEAPONS SCHOOL FACILITY.....	20,000	20,000
DORMITORY (240 RM).....	35,000	35,000
F-35 ALT MISSION EQUIP (AME) STORAGE.....	5,000	5,000
F-35 FUEL CELL HANGAR.....	9,400	9,400
F-35 PARTS STORE.....	9,100	9,100
NEW JERSEY		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST		
REPLACE FUEL DISTRIBUTION COMPONENTS.....	10,000	10,000
ARMY RESERVE		
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST		
AUTOMATED MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN (MPMG).....	9,500	9,500
CENTRAL ISSUE FACILITY.....	7,900	7,900
CONSOLIDATED DINING FACILITY.....	13,400	13,400
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE.....	5,400	5,400
NEW MEXICO		
AIR FORCE		
CANNON AFB		
AIRMEN AND FAMILY READINESS CENTER.....	5,500	5,500
DORMITORY (144 RM).....	22,000	22,000
SATELLITE DINING FACILITY.....	6,600	6,600
HOLLOMAN AFB		
F-16 AIRCRAFT COVERED WASHRACK AND PAD.....	2,250	2,250

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
-----		
KIRTLAND AFB		
NUCLEAR SYSTEMS WING & SUSTAINMENT CENTER (PH.....)	30,500	30,500
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HOLLOMAN AFB		
MEDICAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT.....	60,000	60,000
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	21,400	21,400
NEW YORK		
ARMY		
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY		
CADET BARRACKS, INCR 2.....	42,000	42,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NEW YORK		
READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	31,000	31,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT DRUM		
MQ-9 FLIGHT TRAINING UNIT HANGAR.....	4,700	4,700
ARMY RESERVE		
BULLVILLE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	14,500	14,500
NORTH CAROLINA		
ARMY		
FORT BRAGG		
COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY.....	5,900	5,900
NAVY		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
LANDFILL - PHASE 4.....	20,795	20,795
OPERATIONS TRAINING COMPLEX.....	22,515	22,515
STEAM DECENTRALIZATION - BEQ NODES.....	18,679	18,679
STEAM DECENTRALIZATION - CAMP JOHNSON.....	2,620	2,620
STEAM DECENTRALIZATION - HADNOT POINT.....	13,390	13,390
NEW RIVER		
CH-53K MAINTENANCE TRAINING FACILITY.....	13,218	13,218
CORROSION CONTROL HANGAR.....	12,547	12,547
REGIONAL COMMUNICATION STATION.....	20,098	20,098
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
SOF PERFORMANCE RESILIENCY CENTER.....	14,400	---
SOF SUSTAINMENT TRAINING COMPLEX.....	28,977	28,977
FORT BRAGG		
CONSOLIDATE/REPLACE POPE HOLBROOK ELEMENTARY.....	37,032	37,032
SOF CIVIL AFFAIRS BATTALION ANNEX.....	37,689	37,689
SOF COMBAT MEDIC SKILLS SUSTAIN. COURSE BLDG.....	7,600	7,600
SOF ENGINEER TRAINING FACILITY.....	10,419	10,419
SOF LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER.....	64,606	64,606
SOF UPGRADE TRAINING FACILITY.....	14,719	14,719
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT BRAGG		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	24,500	24,500
NORTH DAKOTA		
AIR FORCE		
MINOT AFB		
B-52 ADAL AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT.....	15,530	15,530
B-52 MUNITIONS STORAGE IGLOOS.....	8,300	8,300
DEFENSE-WIDE		
MINOT AFB		
REPLACE FUEL PIPELINE.....	6,400	6,400
OHIO		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
RAVENNA ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT		
SANITARY SEWER.....	5,200	5,200



MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
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TEXAS		
ARMY		
FORT BLISS		
CONTROL TOWER.....	10,800	10,800
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE COMPLEX.....	36,000	36,000
AIR FORCE		
FORT BLISS		
F-16 BAK 12/14 AIRCRAFT ARRESTING SYSTEM.....	3,350	3,350
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT BLISS		
HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT INCR 5.....	252,100	152,100
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
SAMMC HYPERBARIC FACILITY ADDITION.....	12,600	12,600
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT WORTH		
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER ADD.....	14,270	14,270
UTAH		
AIR FORCE		
HILL AFB		
F-35 AIRCRAFT MX UNIT HANGAR 45E OPS #1.....	13,500	13,500
FIRE CRASH RESCUE STATION.....	18,500	18,500
VIRGINIA		
ARMY		
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS		
ADV INDIVIDUAL TRAINING BARRACKS CPLX, PH3.....	50,000	50,000
NAVY		
DAM NECK		
AERIAL TARGET OPERATION CONSOLIDATION.....	10,587	10,587
NORFOLK		
PIER 11 POWER UPGRADES FOR CVN-78.....	3,380	3,380
QUANTICO		
ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION FACILITY TECOM SCHOOLS.....	25,731	25,731
ATC TRANSMITTER/RECEIVER RELOCATION.....	3,630	3,630
FULLER ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.....	9,013	9,013
YORKTOWN		
SMALL ARMS RANGES.....	18,700	18,700
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS		
4-BAY CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS INSPECTION BLDG.....	4,800	4,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DAM NECK		
SOF HUMAN PERFORMANCE CENTER.....	11,147	---
DEF DISTRIBUTION DEPOT RICHMOND		
OPERATIONS CENTER PHASE 1.....	87,000	87,000
JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE LITTLE CREEK-STORY		
SOF LOGSU TWO OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	30,404	30,404
PENTAGON		
PENTAGON SOUTH PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROJECT.....	1,850	1,850
BOUNDARY CHANNEL ACCESS CONTROL POINT.....	6,700	6,700
PFPA SUPPORT OPERATIONS CENTER.....	14,800	14,800
RAVEN ROCK ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITY UPGRADE.....	32,000	32,000
RAVEN ROCK EXTERIOR COOLING TOWER.....	4,100	4,100
QUANTICO		
QUANTICO MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	40,586	40,586
WASHINGTON		
ARMY		
JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	79,000	79,000
AIRFIELD OPERATIONS COMPLEX.....	37,000	37,000
AVIATION BATTALION COMPLEX.....	28,000	28,000
YAKIMA		
AUTOMATED MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE.....	9,100	9,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
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NAVY		
BREMERTON		
INTEGRATED WATER TREATMENT SYS DRY DOCKS 3&4.....	18,189	18,189
KITSAP		
EXPLOSIVES HANDLING WHARF #2 (INC).....	24,880	24,880
WHIDBEY ISLAND		
EA-18G FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.....	32,482	32,482
P-8A HANGAR AND TRAINING FACILITIES.....	85,167	85,167
DEFENSE-WIDE		
WHIDBEY ISLAND		
REPLACE FUEL PIER BREAKWATER.....	10,000	10,000
WISCONSIN		
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT MCCOY		
ACCESS CONTROL POINT/MAIL/FREIGHT CENTER.....	17,500	17,500
NCO ACADEMY DINING FACILITY.....	5,900	5,900
WYOMING		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
AFTON		
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER.....	10,200	10,200
BAHRAIN ISLAND		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
SW ASIA		
MEDICAL/DENTAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT.....	45,400	45,400
BELGIUM		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BRUSSELS		
NATO HEADQUARTERS FACILITY.....	38,513	38,513
NATO HEADQUARTERS FIT-OUT.....	29,100	29,100
DJIBOUTI		
NAVY		
CAMP LEMONIER		
ARMORY.....	6,420	6,420
UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING.....	22,580	22,580
GERMANY		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
KAISERLAUTERN AB		
KAISERSLAUTERN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	49,907	49,907
RAMSTEIN AB		
RAMSTEIN HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	98,762	98,762
RHINE ORDNANCE BARRACKS		
MEDICAL CENTER REPLACEMENT, INCR 3.....	151,545	151,545
WIESBADEN		
HAINERBERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	58,899	58,899
WIESBADEN MIDDLE SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	50,756	50,756
GREENLAND		
AIR FORCE		
THULE AB		
THULE CONSOLIDATION, PHASE 2.....	43,904	43,904
GUAM		
NAVY		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR - NORTH RAMP.....	85,673	85,673
BAHS FORWARD OPERATIONAL & MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	61,702	61,702
DEHUMIDIFIED SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY.....	17,170	17,170
EMERGENT REPAIR FACILITY EXPANSION.....	35,860	35,860
MODULAR STORAGE MAGAZINES.....	63,382	63,382
SIERRA WHARF IMPROVEMENTS.....	1,170	1,170

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
X-RAY WHARF IMPROVEMENTS.....	53,420	53,420
AIR FORCE		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
PAR - FUEL SYS HARDENED BLDGS.....	20,000	20,000
PAR - STRIKE TACTICAL MISSILE MXS FACILITY.....	10,530	10,530
PAR - TANKER GP MX HANGAR/AMU/SQD OPS.....	132,600	132,600
PRTC RED HORSE AIRFIELD OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	8,500	8,500
PRTC SF FIRE RESCUE & EMERGENCY MGT.....	4,600	4,600
JAPAN		
NAVY		
CAMP BUTLER		
AIRFIELD SECURITY UPGRADES.....	5,820	5,820
YOKOSUKA		
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM UPGRADE.....	7,568	7,568
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ATSUGI		
REPLACE GROUND VEHICLE FUELING FACILITY.....	4,100	4,100
IWAKUNI		
CONSTRUCT HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	34,000	34,000
KADENA AB		
KADENA MIDDLE SCHOOL ADDITION/RENOVATION.....	38,792	38,792
TORRI COMMO STATION		
SOF FACILITY AUGMENTATION.....	71,451	63,621
YOKOSUKA		
UPGRADE FUEL PUMPS.....	10,600	10,600
KOREA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP WALKER		
DAEGU MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	52,164	52,164
KWAJALEIN		
ARMY		
KWAJALEIN ATOLL		
PIER.....	63,000	63,000
MARIANA ISLANDS		
AIR FORCE		
SAIPAN		
PAR - AIRPORT POL/BULK STORAGE AST.....	18,500	---
PAR - HAZARDOUS CARGO PAD.....	8,000	---
PAR - MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	2,800	---
PUERTO RICO		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP SANTIAGO		
MANEUVER AREA TRAINING & EQUIPMENT SITE ADDIT.....	5,600	5,600
ROMANIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DEVESELU		
AEGIS ASHORE MISSILE DEF SYS CMLPX, INCREM. 2.....	85,000	80,000
UNITED KINGDOM		
AIR FORCE		
RAF CROUGHTON		
MAIN GATE COMPLEX.....	12,000	12,000
RAF LAKENHEATH		
GUARDIAN ANGEL OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	22,047	22,047
DEFENSE-WIDE		
RAF LAKENHEATH		
LAKENHEATH HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	69,638	69,638
RAF MILDENHALL		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE.....	17,732	17,732
SOF AIRFILED PAVEMENTS AND HANGAR/AMU.....	48,448	48,448

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
SOF MRSP AND PARTS STORAGE.....	6,797	6,797
SOF SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	11,652	11,652
WORLDWIDE CLASSIFIED		
ARMY		
CLASSIFIED LOCATION		
COMPANY OPERATIONS COMPLEX.....	33,000	33,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED LOCATION		
AN/TPY-2 RADAR SITE.....	15,000	15,000
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM.....	239,700	199,700
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
ARMY		
HOST NATION SUPPORT.....	33,000	23,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	25,000	25,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	41,575	41,575
NAVY		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	89,830	89,830
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	19,740	19,740
AIR FORCE		
KC-46A FTU FACILITY PROJECTS.....	63,000	63,000
KC-46A MOB #1 FACILITY PROJECTS.....	192,700	192,700
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	11,314	11,314
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	20,448	20,448
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION.....	10,000	---
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM.....	150,000	150,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN		
DEFENSE-WIDE.....	50,192	50,192
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION.....	75,905	75,905
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.....	57,053	57,053
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	36,866	36,866
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE.....	6,931	6,931
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY.....	10,891	10,891
SUBTOTAL, PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	237,838	237,838
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
DEFENSE-WIDE.....	3,000	3,000
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY.....	7,430	7,430
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION.....	5,409	5,409
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY.....	2,000	2,000
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.....	1,500	1,500
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.....	9,730	9,730
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	5,170	5,170
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY.....	9,578	9,578
SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	43,817	43,817
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	29,005	24,005
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	12,240	12,240
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	13,400	13,400
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	13,000	13,000
ARMY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	14,212	14,212
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	1,748	1,748

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
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NAVY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	2,540	2,540
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	---	---
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	2,229	2,229
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	1,530	1,530
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY		
WISCONSIN		
FT. MCCOY		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (56 UNITS).....	23,000	23,000
GERMANY		
SOUTH CAMP VILSECK		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (29 UNITS).....	16,600	16,600
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	4,408	4,408
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	44,008	44,008
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	96,907	96,907
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	13,536	13,536
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	54,433	54,433
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	646	646
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	33,125	33,125
LEASING.....	180,924	180,924
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	107,639	107,639
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	25,661	25,661
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	512,871	512,871
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS.....	68,969	68,969
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	4,438	4,438
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	73,407	73,407
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	94,313	94,313
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	20,596	20,596
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	60,782	60,782
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	362	362
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	21,073	21,073
LEASING.....	74,962	74,962
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	90,122	90,122
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	27,634	27,634
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	389,844	389,844
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS.....	72,093	72,093
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	4,267	4,267
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	76,360	76,360
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	70,532	70,532
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	53,044	53,044
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	16,862	16,862
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	39,470	39,470
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	1,954	1,954
LEASING.....	54,514	54,514
MAINTENANCE.....	110,786	110,786

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	HOUSE
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	41,436	41,436
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	388,598	388,598
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY		
UTILITIES.....	12	12
FURNISHING.....	67	67
LEASING.....	10,994	10,994
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	74	74
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY		
FURNISHINGS.....	3,196	3,196
LEASING.....	40,433	40,433
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY		
UTILITIES.....	288	288
FURNISHINGS.....	20	20
SERVICES.....	32	32
MANAGEMENT.....	418	418
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	311	311
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	55,845	55,845
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND.....	1,780	1,780
HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.....	---	---
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE		
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT.....	451,357	451,357
RESCISSIONS FROM PRIOR YEAR UNOBLIGATED BALANCES		
ARMY.....	---	-89,000
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.....	---	-49,920
DEFENSE-WIDE.....	---	-358,400
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY, PLANNING AND DESIGN FY12.....	---	-50,000
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION FY09 AND FY10.....	---	-16,470
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION FY09 AND FY10.....	---	-45,623
42 USC 3374 (Sec. 132).....	---	-50,000
REDUCTION OF FUNDS (SEC. 133).....	---	-4,668
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS (SEC. 135).....	---	75,000

## MINORITY VIEWS

The fiscal year 2014 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies appropriations bill sufficiently funds critical military construction, family housing and quality of life improvements and enhancements for our brave men and women in uniform and their families. In addition, this bill provides adequate funding for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs, and it provides a satisfactory amount of funding for our heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice and are honored in the battle monuments and cemeteries funded in this bill.

We are pleased that the bill takes several steps related to the shameful veterans' claims backlog. First, the bill fully funds General Operating Expenses for the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA) that will support 20,851 claims processors, 94 more than fiscal year 2013 to work on disability claims. Second, the bill fully funds the Veterans Benefit Management System (VBMS) and the Veterans Claims Intake Program (VCIP). VBMS and VCIP are paperless claims processing systems designed to streamline the claims process and reduce processing times by converting existing paper-based claims into electronic claims. This allows VBA employees electronic access to claims and evidence for expedited information retrieval and processing. Third, the accompanying report includes strenuous monthly reporting requirements for VA to provide Congress with claims backlog statistics. Finally, the bill directs VA and Department of Defense (DOD) to develop one integrated electronic health record system and prohibits the use of funds for the development of any system that does not meet the requirements of being single, joint, common, and the sole system used by both DOD and VA. We believe this initiative more than any other will speed up VAs' efforts to permanently transition old claims filed on paper and convert them into digital files. Electronic access to health records makes all files easily searchable, ultimately leading to faster processing times and reducing the backlog. The bill reported out of the Committee represents a good, reasonable approach and continues our long commitment to our veterans and our military facilities, and continues a bipartisan tradition of providing funding levels that Members on both sides agree are appropriate, while avoiding contentious legislative riders that complicate passage.

While the allocation for the fiscal year 2014 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations bill is adequate, we are dismayed by the House Majority's refusal to go to conference to forge a bipartisan agreement on the budget resolution to address sequestration and provide a workable 302(a) allocation. This failure of the House Leadership imperils this year's appropriations process, making it nearly impossible to move all twelve Appropriations bills.

If the lower allocation stays in effect, we will likely pass only a few bills, including the Milcon/VA bill, which was given a reasonable allocation, while the remaining bills are left in purgatory, unable to pass due to low allocations. Using the Ryan budget numbers, it is inevitable that a continuing resolution, or a series of them, will be needed to keep the government running past October 1st.

While we are pleased with the Milcon/VA bill's allocation, it is interesting that the \$73.3 billion provided in the bill largely mirrors the Administration's request and does not reflect sequestration, even for the portions of the bill that were not exempted. In fact, the differences between this bill and the Administration's request are relatively small: an adjustment of \$1.05 billion due to bid-savings and other project adjustments and the misguided decision not to provide \$185 million for the requested 2014 civilian pay raise.

In conclusion, we commend the Chairman for the funding levels within the bill and his receptiveness to Democratic Members' concerns. However, we are extremely disappointed in the 302(a) allocation provided to this Committee under the Ryan budget resolution. We believe that those numbers are completely unworkable and render the work of this Committee all but impossible.

NITA M. LOWEY.  
SANFORD D. BISHOP, Jr.

#### ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF THE HONORABLE ROSA L. DELAURO

I want to acknowledge the work Chairmen Rogers and Culberson have put in to produce a bipartisan military construction and veterans administration appropriations bill. That being said, in voting down my amendment to replace the indiscriminate sequestration cuts for fiscal years 2013 and 2014 with a more balanced, targeted, and common-sense approach to the budget, while cutting \$30 billion from the deficit, the committee has in effect ratified the extraordinary amount of damage to our economy and to American families that will occur as a result of these deep cuts.

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that sequestration will cost us 750,000 jobs this year alone. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke has argued it will slow down our economic recovery and cause less, rather than more, deficit reduction. And, in a joint statement, 350 of America's leading economists have urged the repeal of sequestration.

The Congress has already voted on a bipartisan basis to exempt the FAA from these disastrous cuts—a recognition of the severe damage that sequestration is causing. But the impact on airport travel is only the beginning of the damage these cuts will cause.

If we do not replace the sequester, 800,000 National Security civilian employees will be furloughed. Small Businesses will lose up to \$900 million in guaranteed SBA loans. Thousands of educators will be laid off. Despite roughly 12 million unemployed, people across the country in need of job training will be turned away. 20,000 jobs and \$3 billion in economic activity will be lost because of cuts to life-saving medical research. Thousands of cancer patients will be turned away by clinics because of cuts to Medicare provider payments. Four million fewer meals will be given to low-income seniors. 70,000 children will lose access to Head Start.

All of these cuts are just for this fiscal year. They will be compounded for next fiscal year. These across-the-board cuts are not responsible budgeting. We know that unemployment is unacceptably high. We also know that deficit estimates have decreased dramatically—by \$200 billion in the last three months alone. If we allow these sequestration cuts to remain in effect, we will be causing more job losses, less economic growth, and less deficit reduction.

That is not the right way forward. My amendment replaced sequestration with a balanced approach to budgeting. Instead of dramatically further slashing vital programs already being cut in this and future years, it repealed oil and gas subsidies at a time of extraordinary profits. Instead of hurting small businesses and the most vulnerable families in America, it took steps to ensure that millionaires are paying the same effective tax rate as hard-working middle-class families. And it cut \$30 billion more from the deficit.

Sequestration this year and next amounts to a \$123 billion cut, taken out of our economy at a moment of fragile recovery. If we do not act soon, these cuts will drag ever more strongly on our economic growth. We need to show leadership for our kids, our seniors, our military industrial base, our security, our health, and our environment. I hope we will take up this question again as we address the other appropriations bills before the committee.

ROSA L. DELAURO.

