



Amendments to H.R. 4974: Fiscal Year 2017 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations (Rep. Dent, R-PA) – Part I

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The committee report can be found [here](#), and the text of the bill can be found [here](#). The Legislative Bulletin on the bill can be found [here](#).

This Legislative Bulletin includes summaries of amendments for which votes were requested last night. Additional amendments will be summarized in Legislative Bulletins as they become available.

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF AMENDMENTS:

1. **[First Mulvaney \(R-SC\)](#)**: Would strike \$18.9 million in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding for Army military construction. The projects that would be funded by this account can be found [here](#). Under the bill, these funds would be available for obligation until September 30, 2021.

OCO funding is exempt from the base discretionary spending caps set in place by the Budget Control Act (BCA) and is meant to support ongoing war operations. However, under the FY 2017 National Defense Authorizations Act (NDAA) and appropriations bills reported by the House Appropriations Committee, \$23 billion of the \$59 billion in OCO funding would be used for base defense purposes instead of for war operations. This will leave OCO funding for operations in Afghanistan, against ISIS, and the Global War on Terror exhausted by the end of April, 2017.

2. **[Second Mulvaney \(R-SC\)](#)**: Would strike \$59.8 million in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding for Navy military construction. The projects that would be funded by this account can be found [here](#). Under the bill, these funds would be available for obligation until September 30, 2021.

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3. **[Third Mulvaney \(R-SC\)](#)**: Would strike \$88.3 million in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding for Air Force military construction. The projects that would be funded by this account can

be found [here](#). Under the bill, these funds would be available for obligation until September 30, 2021.

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4. **[Fourth Mulvaney \(R-SC\)](#)**: Would strike \$5 million in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding for Defense-Wide military construction. The projects that would be funded by this account can be found [here](#). Under the bill, these funds would be available for obligation until September 30, 2021.

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5. **[Blumenauer \(D-OR\)](#)**: Would prohibit funds to implement a [VA directive](#) that prohibits VA medical providers from recommending medical marijuana to veterans seeking the drug in states that have legalized medical marijuana. Marijuana is classified as a Schedule 1 drug under the federal Controlled Substances Act. A similar amendment to the FY 2016 bill failed by a [210 - 213](#) vote.
6. **[Fleming \(R-LA\)](#)**: Would prohibit funds for modifying military installations to provide housing for unaccompanied illegal alien children. [According to the Pentagon](#), it is considering six bases for housing illegal aliens.
7. **[Huffman \(D-CA\)](#)**: Would prohibit the display of the Confederate Battle Flag at VA cemeteries by prohibiting funds to implement section 8(d)(2) of the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration Directive 3220 of November 22, 2005.

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