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# DIVISION I--MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Matters Addressed by Only One Committee.--The language and allocations set forth in House Report 113-416 and Senate Report 113-174 should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this explanatory statement. Report language included by the House, which is not changed by the report of the Senate or this explanatory statement, and Senate report language, which is not changed by this explanatory statement, is approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. This explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where the House or the Senate has directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both Houses of Congress. House or Senate reporting requirements with deadlines prior to, or within 15 days after, enactment of this Act shall be submitted no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act. All other reporting deadlines not changed by this explanatory statement are to be met.

### TITLE I

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Incrementally Funded Projects.--The Administration requested several large military construction projects that can be incrementally funded, but were instead submitted as large single-year requests, in accordance with a directive from the Office of Management and Budget to the Department of Defense (DOD) to severely restrict the use of incremental funding for military construction. The Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress (hereinafter, "the Committees") have previously notified the Administration that they reserve the prerogative to provide incremental funding where appropriate, in accordance with authorizing legislation. In general, the agreement supports full funding for military construction projects. In some cases, however, incremental funding makes fiscal and programmatic sense. The agreement therefore incrementally funds the following projects: Fort Bliss Hospital Replacement, Texas, and Rhine Ordnance Barracks Medical Center Replacement, Germany.

*Real Property.*—It is important for DOD to eliminate wasteful spending on unused facilities and properties that have been rated at zero percent utilization. The DOD is urged to manage its facilities and properties in a responsible manner that does not waste taxpayer resources.

Defense Access Roads and Road Improvement Requirements at Military Installations.—Military construction budget constraints are negatively affecting the ability of the Department to address urgent transportation requirements at certain U.S. military installations. This includes both Defense Access Roads (DAR) and internal road improvements that are necessary for the safety and wellbeing of employees, both civilian and military. This problem is particularly acute on growth installations that serve as host commands for a variety of military departments.

Fort George C. Meade in Maryland is illustrative of the seriousness of this situation. Fort Meade is the epicenter of Department of Defense cyber security in the United States, a mission that has grown exponentially over the past few years. As a result, the Army, as the installation host, is tasked with providing the

resources within its budget to support the infrastructure of not only the 6,000 Army personnel assigned to the base, but also of an additional 44,000 military and civilian employees representing other services and Defense agencies, primarily associated with the cyber security missions of the National Security Agency and the U.S. Cyber Command. The recent growth of these affiliated commands has put enormous pressure on the Army to provide necessary road and access improvements at Fort Meade, but as the host command, the Army has been unable to provide the military construction funding within its budget to accommodate these requirements. As a result, access to Fort Meade and traffic congestion on base present increasingly serious problems both on base and on surrounding public roads.

This problem is not unique to Fort Meade. In response to a directive in the report accompanying H.R 4486, the House of Representatives Fiscal Year 2015 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, the Department submitted a list of certified unfunded DAR requirements totaling \$92,900,000. Significantly, the report noted that these requirements do not compete well against other infrastructure requirements for declining military construction dollars and are not included in the current Future Years Defense Program.

There is concern that the Department does not have a coherent strategy to address the growing problem of access and traffic congestion on installations experiencing rapid growth during a time of severe budget constraints. As a result, traffic congestion and safety concerns on both internal base roads and public connecting roads at growth installations are likely to increase.

Therefore, the Department is directed to submit to the congressional defense committees with the fiscal year 2016 military construction budget request the following reports:

- An updated list of certified unfunded Defense Access Road requirements;
- A list of unfunded requirements for internal road improvements at military installations (1) which have experienced a growth rate of 10 percent or more in tenant populations within the past five years, or (2) where tenant organizations comprise more than 50 percent of the workforce; and
- Recommendations of ways in which the Department can facilitate the contribution and coordination of multiple service and Defense agency components of an installation's population to address unfunded base access and internal transportation requirements.

Each of the services is further directed to submit, with the fiscal year 2016 military construction budget request, a list of unfunded internal road improvement requirements on installations that host other service or Defense agency organizations that could be accomplished within the limit for unspecified minor construction as established in the fiscal year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act, and a plan for how those requirements will be incorporated into their minor construction requests for fiscal years 2017 through 2021.

Unfunded Quality of Life Military Construction Requirements.— Increasingly severe budget constraints have resulted in a precipitous decline in funding for essential quality of life (QOL) military construction requirements, including child development centers, physical fitness facilities and troop housing. Both the Department and the services have acknowledged that they are taking risk in their military construction programs, especially QOL requirements, to provide additional funds for operational readiness.

Unfortunately, deferral of needed QOL investment can adversely impact troop readiness and jeopardize the health and safety of service members. Undersized, overcrowded, and poorly equipped physical fitness centers can impede strength, endurance, and agility training, which are key to troop readiness across all services. Deteriorating barracks can harbor health hazards, such as mold and mildew, and pose other safety concerns. Prolonged waiting lists for child care due to unfunded child development center requirements can endanger the well-being of children and create additional stress on military personnel and their families.

In an era in which repeated combat deployments have imposed increased strain on the military, the assurance of adequate QOL facilities on military installations is of paramount importance to the readiness, health, and well-being of military personnel and their families.

The fiscal year 2015 Senate Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill provided additional funding for unfunded QOL military construction requirements identified by the services, subject to authorization. However, no additional funding for QOL projects was authorized in either the fiscal year 2015 Senate or House of Representatives Defense authorization bills.

The Department is therefore directed to provide, with the submission of the fiscal year 2016 budget request, a prioritized list of unfunded QOL requirements to include, but not limited to, troop housing, child development and youth centers, and physical fitness centers, for each of the services, and a plan across the Future Years Defense Program to address these requirements.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

The agreement provides \$528,427,000 for Military Construction, Army. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$51,127,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support.

## MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement provides \$1,018,772,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$33,366,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

## MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

The agreement provides \$811,774,000 for Military Construction, Air Force. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$10,738,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

# MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$1,991,690,000 for Military Construction, Defense-Wide. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$162,240,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services. Within this amount, \$58,704,000 is provided for the Missile Defense Agency planning and design account, which is an increase of \$20,000,000 over the request. The additional funding is to expedite the construction and deployment of urgently needed missile defense assets, including the second Aegis Ashore system in Redzikowo, Poland, and the Long Range Discrimination Radar in the Pacific Region.

*Energy Conservation Investment Program (ECIP).--*The agreement provides \$150,000,000 for ECIP. Additionally, the agreement provides \$10,000,000 in dedicated funding for ECIP planning and design as requested in the budget. The agreement supports the efforts of the Department of Defense to promote energy conservation, green building initiatives, energy security, and investment in renewable energy resources. The Department and the Services are commended for making energy efficiency a key component of construction on military installations. The Department is urged to use the dedicated planning and design funds to invest in innovative renewable energy projects as well as projects that enhance energy security at military installations.

### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement provides \$128,920,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$17,600,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement provides \$92,663,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$7,700,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

The agreement provides \$103,946,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$8,337,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

# MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

The agreement provides \$51,528,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$2,123,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

The agreement provides \$49,492,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$6,892,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

# NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$199,700,000 for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.

### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

The agreement provides \$78,609,000 for Family Housing Construction, Army.

# FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

The agreement provides \$350,976,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army.

### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement provides \$16,412,000 for Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps.

# FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement provides \$354,029,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.

# FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

The agreement does not provide funds for Family Housing Construction, Air Force. The budget request did not propose funds.

## FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

The agreement provides \$327,747,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force.

## FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides \$61,100,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide.

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$1,662,000 for the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.

### CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides \$38,715,000 for Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide.

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$315,085,000 for the Department of Defense Base Closure Account, \$45,000,000 above the request. The additional funding is for the Navy to accelerate environmental remediation at installations closed under previous Base Closure and Realignment rounds.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

### (Including Transfers and Rescissions of Funds)

The agreement includes section 101 limiting the use of funds under a costplus-a-fixed-fee contract.

The agreement includes section 102 allowing the use of construction funds in this title for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

The agreement includes section 103 allowing the use of construction funds in this title for advances to the Federal Highway Administration for the construction of access roads.

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

The agreement includes section 105 limiting the use of funds for the purchase of land or land easements that exceed 100 percent of the value.

The agreement includes section 106 prohibiting the use of funds, except funds appropriated in this title for that purpose, for family housing.

The agreement includes section 107 limiting the use of minor construction funds to transfer or relocate activities.

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

The agreement includes section 109 prohibiting the use of construction or family housing funds to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

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

The agreement includes section 111 as modified, establishing a preference for American architectural and engineering services for overseas projects.

The agreement includes section 112 as modified, establishing a preference for American contractors in United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll and in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf. The Department's military construction program remains key to advancing U.S. security interests in these regions.

The agreement includes section 113 requiring congressional notification of military exercises when construction costs exceed \$100,000.

The agreement includes section 114 limiting obligations in the last two months of the fiscal year.

The agreement includes section 115 allowing funds appropriated in prior years for new projects authorized during the current session of Congress.

The agreement includes section 116 allowing the use of expired or lapsed funds to pay the cost of supervision for any project being completed with lapsed funds.

The agreement includes section 117 allowing military construction funds to be available for five years.

The agreement includes section 118 allowing the transfer of proceeds between BRAC accounts.

The agreement includes section 119 as modified, allowing the transfer of funds from Family Housing Construction accounts to the Family Housing Improvement Fund.

The agreement includes section 120 allowing transfers to the Homeowners Assistance Fund.

The agreement includes section 121 limiting the source of operation and maintenance funds for flag and general officer quarters and allowing for notification by electronic medium.

The agreement includes section 122 extending the availability of funds in the Ford Island Improvement Account.

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

The agreement includes section 124 restricting the obligation of funds for relocating an Army unit that performs a testing mission.

The agreement includes section 125 allowing for the reprogramming of construction funds among projects and activities subject to certain criteria.

The agreement includes section 126 prohibiting the obligation or expenditure of funds provided to the Department of Defense for military construction for projects at Arlington National Cemetery.

The agreement includes section 127 making funds available for previously authorized military construction projects.

The agreement includes section 128 making funds available for accelerated military construction projects requested by the Department of the Army. The agreement provides for Military Construction, Army, the first two projects requested for acceleration; for Military Construction, Army National Guard, the first project requested for acceleration; and for Military Construction, Army Reserve, the first two projects requested for acceleration.

The agreement includes section 129 rescinding unobligated balances from the Military Construction, Army account.

The agreement includes section 130 rescinding unobligated balances from the Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps account.

The agreement includes section 131 rescinding unobligated balances from the Military Construction, Air Force account.

The agreement includes section 132 rescinding unobligated balances from the NATO Security Investment Program.

The agreement includes section 133 rescinding unobligated balances from the fund established by Sec. 1013(d) of 42 U.S.C. 3374 for expenses associated with the Homeowners Assistance Program.

The agreement includes section 134 defining the congressional defense committees.

The agreement includes section 135 prohibiting funds to be used for the closure or abandonment of any facility at Lajes Field.

# INSERT STATE TABLE



	BUDGET Request	FINAL BILL
ALASKA AIR FORCE		
CLEAR AFS EMERGENCY POWER PLANT FUEL STORAGE	11,500	11,500
ARIZONA		
NAVY YUMA		
AVIATION MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COMPLEX AIR FORCE LUKE AFB	16,608	16,608
F-35 AIRCRAFT MX HANGAR - SQDN #2	11,200	11,200
F-35 FLIGHTLINE FILLSTANDS	15,600	15,600
FORT HUACHUCA JITC BUILDING 52120 RENOVATION	1,871	1,871
CALIFORNIA	1,0,1	1,011
ARMY		
CONCORD ACCESS CONTROL POINT	9,900	9,900
GENERAL PURPOSE MAINTENANCE SHOP	5,300	5,300
FORT IRWIN UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR	45,000	45,000
NAVY BRIDGEPORT		
E-LMR COMMUNICATIONS TOWERS	16,180	16,180
F-35C FACILITY ADDITION AND MODIFICATION	16,594	16,594
F-35C OPERATIONAL TRAINING FACILITY San diego	22,391	22,391
STEAM DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DECENTRALIZATION DEFENSE-WIDE CAMP PENDLETON	47,110	47,110
SOF COMM/ELEC MAINTENANCE FACILITY	11,841	11,841
SOF LOGISTICS SUPPORT UNIT 1 OPS FACILITY #1	41,740	41,740
SOF SUPPORT ACTIVITY OPS FACILITY #2	28,600	28,600
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION FAC ARMY RESERVE FRESNO	52,500	52,500
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/ANSA	22,000	22,000
COLORADO		
ARMY FORT CARSON		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	60,000	60,0D0
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR	29,000	29,000
PETERSON AFB DENTAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT	15,200	15,200
ARMY RESERVE	10,200	10,200
FORT CARSON TRAINING BUILDING ADDITION	5,000	5,000
CONNECTICUT		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD Bradley IAP		
CONSTRUCT C-130 FUEL CELL AND CORROSION CONTR	16,306	16,306
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
NAVY		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELECTRONICS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY	31,735	31,735

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#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

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	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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FLORIDA	•	
NAVY		
JACKSONVILLE	0 603	0 500
MH-60 PARKING APRON	8,583 21,652	8,583 21,652
MAYPORT LCS OPERATIONAL TRAINING FACILITY	20,520	20,520
	20,020	20,020
GEORGIA DEFENSE-WIDE		
HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD		
SOF COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITY	7,692	7,692
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM	19,900	19,900
ROBINS AFB AFRC CONSOLIDATED MISSION COMPLEX, PH I	27,700	27,700
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HAWAII		
FORT SHAFTER		
COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY (SCIF)	96,000	85,000
NAVY KANEOHE BAY		
FACILITY MODIFICATIONS FOR VMU, MWSD, & CH-53E	51,182	51,182
ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS	2,200	2,200
PEARL HARBOR SUBMARINE MANEUVERING ROOM TRAINER FACILITY	9,698	9,698
DEFENSE-WIDE	-	
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM REPLACE FUEL TANKS	3,000	3,000
UPGRADE FIRE SUPRESSION & VENTILATION SYS	49,900	49,900
IOWA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
DES MOINES MAP		
REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT AND TARGETING GROUP	8,993	8,993
KANSAS		
AIR FORCE HCCONNELL AFB		
KC-46A ADAL NOBILITY BAG STRG EXPANSION	2,300	2,300
KC-46A ADAL REGIONAL MX TNG FACILITY	16,100	16,100
KC-46A ALTER COMPOSITE MX SHOP	4,100	4,100
KC-46A ALTER TAXIWAY FOXTROT	5,500 6,400	5,500 6,400
KU-40A PUSELAGE TRAINER	0,400	6,400
KENTUCKY		
ARMY FORT CAMPBELL		
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR	23,000	23,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION PH XV	38,715	38,715
FORT CAMPBELL		
SOF SYSTEM INTEGRATION MAINTENANCE OFFICE FAC	18,000	18,000
MAINE		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD Augusta		
NATIONAL GUARD RESERVE CENTER	30,000	32,000

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	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MARYLAND		
NAVY		
ANNAPOLIS CENTER FOR CYBER SECURITY STUDIES BUILDING	120,112	120,112
INDIAN HEAD Advanced Energetics research LAB complex PH 2 Patuxent River	15,346	15,346
ATLANTIC TEST RANGE FACILITY	9,860	9,860
CYBERCOM JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER, INCREMENT 2 DEFENSE-WIDE FORT MEADE	166,000	166,000
NSAW CAMPUS FEEDERS PHASE 1	54,207	54,207
NSAW RECAPITALIZE BUILDING #1/SITE M INC 3 JOINT BASE ANDREWS	45,521	45,521
CONSTRUCT HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM	18,300	18,300
HAVRE DE GRACE NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	12,400	12,400
MASSACHUSETTS		
AIR FORCE		
HANSCOM AFB Dormitory (72 RM)	13,500	13,500
MICHIGAN		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
SELFRIDGE ANGB REPLACE FUEL DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES AIR NATIONAL GUARD	35,100	35,100
W. K. KELLOGG REGIONAL AIRPORT RPA BEDDOWN	6,000	6,000
NISSISSIPPI		
OEFENSE-WIDE		
STENNIS	40.000	10, 207
SOF APPLIED INSTRUCTION FACILITY		10,323 17,224
MONTANA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
HELENA NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT	38,000	38,000
NEBRASKA		
AIR FORCE		
OFFUTT AFB USSTRATCOM REPLACEMENT FACILITY- INCR 4	180,000	180,000
NEVADA		
NAVY		
FALLON AIR WING TRAINING FACILITY	27,763	27,763
FACILITY ALTERATION FOR F-35 TRAINING MISSION	3,499	3,499
NELLIS AFB F-22 FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY	14,000	14,000
F-35 AIRCRAFT MX UNIT - 4 BAY HANGAR	31,000	31,000
F-35 WEAPONS SCHOOL FACILITYDEFENSE-WIDE	8,900	8,900
FALLON SOF TACTICAL GROUND MOB. VEHICLE MAINT FAC	20,241	20,241

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADE PORT		
KC-46A ADAL AIRFIELD PAVEMENTS & HYDRANT SYST	7,100	7,100
KC-46A ADAL FUEL CELL BUILDING 253	16,800	16,800
KC-46A ADAL MAINT HANGAR BUILDING 254	18,002	18,002
	10,001	10,002
NEW JERSEY		
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST	E 000	E 200
FIRE STATION	5,900	5,900
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	26,000	26,000
	20,000	20,000
NEW MEXICO		
EFENSE-WIDE		
CANNON AFB	** ***	~~ ~~~
SOF SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY (STS)	23,333	23,333
NEW YORK		
RMY		
FORT DRUM		
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR	27,000	27,000
U.S. NILITARY ACADEMY	59,000	59,000
CADET BARRACKS, INCR 3	58,000	58,000
RMY RESERVE		
MATTYDALE ARMY RESERVE CENTER/AMSA	23,000	23,000
ARNI RESERVE CENTEN/ANSA	23,000	23,000
NORTH CAROLINA		
CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION		
WATER TREATMENT PLANT REPLACEMENT	41,588	41,588
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
LEJEUNE HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION/RENOVATION	41,306	41,306
SOF INTEL/OPS EXPANSION	11,442	11,442
FORT BRAGG		•
SOF BATTALION OPERATIONS FACILITY	37,074	37,074
SOF TACTICAL EQUIPHENT MAINTENANCE FACILITY	8,000	8,000
SOF TRAINING COMMAND BUILDING	48,062	48,062
SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM	8,500	8,500
IR FORCE RESERVE		
SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB		
KC-135 TANKER PARKING APRON EXPANSION	9,800	9,600
NORTH DAKOTA		
RMY NATIONAL GUARD		
VALLEY CITY		
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	10,800	10,800
OKLAHOMA		
AIR FORCE		
NIR FORCE TINKER AF8		48,000
TINKER AF8	48,000	
	48,000 63,000	63,000
TINKER AF8 KC-46A DEPOT MAINT COMPLEX SPT INFRASTR KC-46A TWO-BAY DEPOT MX HANGAR		
TINKER AF8 KC-46A DEPOT MAINT COMPLEX SPT INFRASTR KC-46A TWO-BAY DEPOT MX HANGAR PENNSYLVANIA		
TINKER AF8 KC-46A DEPOT MAINT COMPLEX SPT INFRASTR KC-46A TWO-BAY DEPOT MX HANGAR		

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	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NAVY PHLADELPHIA OHIO REPLACEMENT POWER & PROPULSION FACILITY AIR NATIONAL GUARD	23,985	23,985
WILLOW GROVE ARF RPA OPERATIONS CENTER	5,662	5,662
PITTSBURGH RESERVE TRAINING CENTER	17,650	17,650
SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY FORT JACKSON		
TRAINEE BARRACKS COMPLEX 3, PH1NAVY	52,000	52,000
CHARLESTON NUCLEAR POWER OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FACILITY DEFENSE-WIDE	35,716	35,716
BEAUFORT REPLACE FUEL DISTIBUTION FACILITIES	40,600	40,600
SOUTH OAKOTA DEFENSE-WIDE		
ELLSWORTH AFB CONSTRUCT HYDRANT SYSTEM	8,000	8,000
TEXAS		
AIR FORCE JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO FIRE STATION DEFENSE-WIDE	5,800	5,800
FORT BLISS HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT INCR 6	131,500	131,500
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO MEDICAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT AIR FORCE RESERVE	38,300	38,300
FORT WORTH EOD FACILITY	3,700	3,700
VERMONT		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD NORTH HYDE PARK NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	4,400	4,400
VIRGINIA		
ARMY JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS TACTICAL VEHICLE HARDSTAND NAVY	7,700	7,700
DAHLGREN MISSILE SUPPORT FACILITY	27,313	27,313
NORFOLK EOD CONSOLIDATED OPS & LOGISTICS FACILITIES	39,274	39,274
PORTSMOUTH SUBMARINE MAINTENANCE FACILITY	9,743	9,743
QUANTICO AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT EXPANSION	12,613	12,613
YORKTOWN BACHELDR ENLISTED QUARTERS FAST COMPANY TRAINING FACILITY DEFENSE-WIDE	19,152 7,836	19,152 7,836
CRANEY ISLAND REPLACE & ALTER FUEL DISTIBUTION FACILITIES	36,500	36,500
DEF DISTRIBUTION DEPOT RICHMOND REPLACE ACCESS CONTROL POINT	5,700	5,700

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# MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
7,239	7,239
41,200	41,200
11,200	
	14,898 13,500
	13,000
15,100	15,100
16,000	16,000
16,401	18,401
83,778	83,778
20,638	20,638
24,390	24,390
27,755	27,755
9,600	9,600
27,826	27,826
41,626 37,918	41,626 37,918
12,000	12,000
11,800	11.800
11,100 65,190	11,100 65,190
9,923	9,923
259,695	189,695
	7,239 41,200 11,200 14,888 13,500 15,100 16,000 16,401 83,778 20,638 24,390 27,755 9,600 27,825 41,626 37,918 12,000 11,800 11,100 65,190

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# MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
GUAM		
NAVY		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS GSE SHOPS AT NORTH RANP	21,880	21,860
MWSS FACILITIES AT NORTH RAMP	28,771	28,771
AIR FORCE		
JDINT REGION MARIANAS GUAM STRIKE FUEL SYSTEMS MAINT.HANGAR INC 2	64.000	64,000
PRTC - CONBAT COMM INFRASTR FACILITY	3,750	3,750
PRTC - RED HORSE LOGISTICS FACILITY	3,150	3,150
PRTC - SATELLITE FIRE STATION	6,500	6,500
JAPAN		
KADENA AB		
MISSILE MAGAZINE,,,	10,600	10,600
IWAKUNI SECURITY MODS DPRI NC167-T (CVW-5 E2D EA-18G)	6,415	6,415
KADENA AB		
AIRCRAFT MAINT HANGAR ALTERATIONS AND SAP-F	19,411	19,411
HANGAR & RINSE FACILITY MODERNIZATIONS	4,639	4,639
LHD PRACTICE SITE IMPROVEMENTS	35,685	35,685
DEFENSE-WIDE		
MISAWA AB EDGREN HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION	37,775	37,775
OKINAWA	57,775	37,775
KILLIN ELEMENTARY REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION	71,481	71,481
KUBASAKI HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION	99,420	99,420
E.J. KING HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION	37,681	37,681
SPAIN		
NAVY ROTA		
SHIP BERTHING POWER UPGRADES	20,233	20,233
UNITED KINGDOM		
AIR FORCE		
CROUGHTON RAF JIAC CONSOLIDATION - PHASE 1	92,223	01 122
STAC CONSOLIDATION - PRASE TERMINISTATION	34,423	92,223
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM	199,700	199,700
CONUS CLASSIFIED		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED LOCATION		
SOF SKILLS TRAINING FACILITY	53,073	53,073
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
ARMY		
HOST NATION SUPPORT	33,000	33,000
NINOR CONSTRUCTION	25,000 18,127	25,000 18,127
NAVY PLANNING AND DESIGN	33,366	33,366
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	7,163	7,163
AIR FORCE PLANNING AND DESIGN,,	10,738	10,738

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	22,613	22,613
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION.	9,000	
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM PLANNING AND DESIGN	150,000	
DEFENSE-WIDE DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY	24,425	24,425
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION	745 42,387	745 42,387
MISSLE DEFENSE AGENCY	38,704	58,704
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.	599	599
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	24,197	24,197
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE	1,183	1,183
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM DESIGN	10,000	10,000
SUBTCTAL, PLANNING AND DESIGN		
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
DEFENSE-WIDE	2,700	2,700
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCYDEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION	5,932 6,846	5,932 6,846
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY	2,000	2,000
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY	2,994	2,994
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	8,581	8,581
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	10,334	10,334
DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY		4,100
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SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	43,487	43,487
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN		17,600
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	13,720	13,720
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	7,700	7,700
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	8,100	6,100
ARMY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN		8,337
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	3,609	3,609
NAVY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN		2,123
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	4,000	4,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN		6,892
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	1,400	1,400
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY		
ILLINQIS		
ROCK ISLAND FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (33 units)	19,500	19,500
CALLS ADDING HER CONSTRUCTION (SO diff(s),	10,000	10,000
KOREA		
CAMP WALKER		
FAMILIY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (90 units)	57,800	57,800
PLANNING AND DESIGN	1,309	1,309
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	78,609	78,609

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#### NILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

		BILL
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	82,686	82,686
SERVICES ACCOUNT.	9,108	9,108
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	46,597	46,597
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	700	700
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	14,136	14,136
LEASING	112,504	112,504
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	65,245	65,245
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	20,000	20,000
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	350,976	
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS	15,940	15,940
PLANNING AND DESIGN	472	472
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SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	16,412	16,412
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	71,092	71,092
SERVICES ACCOUNT	18,079	18,079
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	55,124	55,124
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	366	366
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	17,881	17,881
LEASING.	65,999 97,612	65,999 97,612
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTYPRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	27,876	27, B76
 SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	354,029	
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.	42,322	42,322
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.	47,834	47,834
SERVICES ACCOUNT.	12,709	12,709
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	38,543	38,543
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	1, <del>9</del> 93	1,993
LEASING	43,651	43,651
MAINTENANCE	99,934	99,934
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	40,761	40,761
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	327,747	327,747
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY		
UTILITIES	659	659
FURNISHING	746	746
LEASING	11,179	11,179
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTYDEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	2,128	2,128
FURNISHINGS	3,362	3,362
LEASING	42,083	42,083
UTILITIES	170	170
FURNISHINGS.	20	20
SERVICES	31	31
MANAGEMENT	378	378
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	344	344
- SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	61,100	61,100

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#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

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	REQUEST	FINAL 8ILL
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND	1,662	1,662
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE		
DOD BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT	270,085	315,085
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS		
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION - FISCAL YEAR 2014 (SEC. 127)		125,000
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION - FISCAL YEAR 2014 (SEC. 127) MILITARY CONSTRUCTION - FISCAL YEAR 2015 (SEC. 128)		117,000
TOTAL, ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS		• • • • • • • • • • • • •
RESCISSIONS FROM PRIOR YEAR UNOBLIGATED BALANCES		
ARMY (SEC. 129)		-49,533
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS (SEC. 130)		-25,522
AIR FORCE (SEC. 131)		
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (SEC. 132)		•
42 USC 3374 (SEC. 133)	•	-63,800

# TITLE II DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

# VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$79,071,000,000 for Compensation and Pensions, reflecting new estimates provided in the Administration's mid-session review. Of the amount provided, not more than \$15,430,000 is to be transferred to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Information Technology Systems for reimbursement of necessary expenses in implementing provisions of title 38.

### **READJUSTMENT BENEFITS**

The agreement provides \$14,997,136,000 for Readjustment Benefits, reflecting new estimates provided in the Administration's mid-session review.

### VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

The agreement provides \$63,257,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

### VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

The agreement provides such sums as may be necessary for costs associated with direct and guaranteed loans for the Veterans Housing Benefit Program Fund. The agreement limits obligations for direct loans to not more than \$500,000 and provides that \$160,881,000 shall be available for administrative expenses.

### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$10,000 for the cost of direct loans from the Vocational Rehabilitation Loans Program Account, plus \$361,000 to be paid to the appropriation for General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration. The agreement provides for a direct loan limitation of \$2,877,000.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$1,130,000 for administrative expenses of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program Account.

# VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL SERVICES

The agreement provides \$47,603,202,000 in advance for fiscal year 2016 for Medical Services. The agreement also provides \$209,189,000 for fiscal year 2015 in addition to the advance appropriation provided last year.

In an effort to address the severe crisis of access to medical care at many Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals and clinics across the country, Congress took the unusual step of creating as part of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACAA) a new contract care program designed for veterans who live more than 40 miles from a VA facility or who have to wait an unreasonable time for medical appointments, funding this effort with a total of \$10,000,000,000 over three years. In addition, section 801(a) of VACAA provided an additional \$5,000,000,000 to increase veterans access to healthcare and improve VA's physical infrastructure. This funding is in addition to the funds appropriated in this Act or the advance funding provided in the fiscal year 2014 appropriations Act, although the appropriated funds are used for many of the same purposes as those provided in VACAA. At this time, the VA is developing the programs to administer the new VACAA authority, and there are many uncertainties about which activities can be funded with which authority, and whether there are significant unfunded liabilities created by the new legislation. To address this uncertainty, the agreement includes bill language permitting the transfer of funding from various VA appropriations accounts to Medical Services to address any unfunded needs.

*Rural Healthcare.--*The agreement includes \$250,000,000 for rural healthcare, as requested. This funding continues the Rural Health Initiative established by Congress in fiscal year 2009 to ensure that the VA dedicates sufficient resources to reach veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas who do not have immediate access to a veterans medical center or community-based outpatient clinic. The VA is strongly encouraged to continue to improve the accessibility, efficiency and effectiveness of care for rural veterans.

The funds provided for the Rural Health Initiative include support for Project Access Received Closer to Home (Project ARCH). Section 104 of the VACAA extended the authorization of Project ARCH for an additional two years. The Project ARCH pilot program has been successful for veterans who are enrolled in VA healthcare in five rural and highly rural Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs). Prior to program reauthorization, the Senate bill included an administrative provision (section 237) directing the Department of Veterans Affairs to utilize existing authorities to continue the program at no less than \$35,000,000 in fiscal year 2015. This level of funding was intended to allow the VA to continue the program so that veterans depending on the services provided by Project ARCH did not experience any lapse in service until follow-on programs were proven adequate. In addition, the funding level was intended to provide for the expansion of the program to other rural and highly rural areas. Since the Project ARCH authorization has been extended, this agreement does not include the Senate proposed administrative provision. However, the VA is directed to continue funding the program at no less than the estimated fiscal year 2015 funding level and to consider utilizing existing authorities to provide contract care for veterans in other rural and highly rural areas.

The agreement incorporates directions in the House and Senate reports regarding providing an operating plan for the Office of Rural Health, including information on full-time equivalent (FTE) requirements and future requirements for initiatives and programs. As directed in the Senate report, the VA is instructed to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of veterans in rural and highly rural areas who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The agreement incorporates the Senate direction regarding filling healthcare professional

vacancies, especially in rural areas, and Health Professional Shortage Areas with the greatest need. The agreement also reflects the Senate direction to the VA to conduct a full assessment of all community-based outpatient clinics in rural and highly rural areas.

The agreement includes \$7,448,900,000 for mental health programs in fiscal year 2016 and \$436,700,000 for gender-specific healthcare for women veterans in fiscal year 2016.

Concerns continue to be raised in Congress about vacant mental health provider positions at VA clinics, especially in locations where the VA does not receive suitable applications for published job notices. There are several positions in high cost rural and highly rural areas that continue to be vacant for many months after a previous provider's departure, and the VA is not offering competitive salaries. In addition to the elements of the report already requested in House Report 113-416, the VHA is instructed to detail the steps the VA will take to hire replacements after no more than 120 days of a vacancy. The VA is to provide a comprehensive list of current vacant mental health positions, highlighting vacancies in rural and highly rural areas and how long those positions have been vacant. Further, VHA is instructed to provide the VA proposed salary range as well as the salary range of a private provider in the same city.

Women Veterans.--Despite efforts over the past few years, the VA must make better progress at addressing the needs of women veterans. Toward this end, the advance appropriation for fiscal year 2015 provided last year and the fiscal year 2016 advance appropriation included in this Act fully fund gender-specific healthcare. Access to and utilization of VA benefits and services by women

veterans remain low, with women often encountering cultural roadblocks in a system that was largely designed to meet the needs of male veterans. As part of an effort to better address access, the Department is currently undertaking a system-wide review to determine what type and number of healthcare workers the system should have to address current and future demand. The Department is directed to include in this review whether VHA's current number of healthcare professionals providing gender-specific care is adequate. This review will help the VA properly staff hospitals and clinics with healthcare professionals providing gender-specific care is for women veterans.

Understanding demand is key to providing high-quality services, yet the VA does not collect, analyze, and publish data by gender or minority status. This type of data is essential for the VA and Congress to enhance services for women veterans by developing programs and ensuring adequate funding levels of those programs. The stratification of data would also allow the VA to better understand the demand mix in the system, how it is being met, and what changes need to be implemented to the system to meet current and future trends. The Department is directed through the Women's Health Service and the Center for Women Veterans to collect and analyze gender-specific data and to develop programs and funding recommendations based on this data.

To better assist women veterans and increase their knowledge of the services and benefits to which they are entitled, the Department is directed to continue the Women Veterans Call Center (WVCC). The WVCC answers questions and responds to concerns from women veterans, their families, and caregivers across the Nation about VA services and resources. Additionally, in an effort to leverage the VA's existing local community partnerships, such as those for homeless

veterans, the VA should establish support networks for women veterans to assist in accessing healthcare, employment services, financial counseling, and housing.

None of the VA's partnerships is more important than that with the DOD. High priority collaboration and resource sharing between the VA and the DOD are governed by the Joint Executive Committee (JEC). The JEC allows senior leadership at both Departments a forum to develop policies and programs to address overlapping priorities, including transition programs for veterans. While the JEC, through its subordinate committees and working groups, has made tremendous progress in addressing several pressing issues facing active duty military and veterans, there is currently no working group focused solely on the transition of women from active duty to veteran status. The VA, in consultation with the DOD, is encouraged to establish a women's working group within the JEC aimed at creating or strengthening transition programs which address female concerns and cultural roadblocks so that more women veterans access VA benefits and services.

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 VA must be prepared to provide these veterans with mental health services designed to treat the effects of military sexual trauma (MST). The Department is directed to maximize the availability of mental health services available to veterans who were victims of MST.

*Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans Program*.--In some communities non-VA physicians have encountered difficulties when seeking to volunteer

time at VA medical facilities. Under existing authority, Section 7405(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary may appoint on a without compensation basis such personnel found necessary for the provision of healthcare for veterans. At medical facilities exhibiting staffing shortages and appointment backlogs due to waiting time issues, the VA is urged to utilize this existing authority to appoint physicians on a volunteer basis to serve veterans' healthcare needs at VA medical facilities.

To further understand the benefit to the Department of the utilization of volunteer physicians, the VA is directed to establish a three-year pilot program, under the authorities contained in Section 7405(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, entitled the "Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans Program." The Secretary is directed to establish this pilot program in no fewer than two medical facilities in two distinct VISNs. The Secretary is urged to select medical facilities for this pilot program that have a demonstrated need for additional physicians in any practice area or specialty, yet have been unable to expeditiously fill such vacancies and/or continue to exceed VA's appointment waiting time goals in any area of practice.

Each pilot location shall establish a volunteer coordinator who shall develop relationships with local medical associations to educate non-VA physicians in the area about the program. The volunteer coordinator shall be the initial point of contact for physicians seeking to volunteer at the medical facility.

Due to the cost and effort exerted to credential and educate physicians for such volunteer opportunities, the Department, as part of this pilot program, shall establish a required number of hours per year physician ambassadors must

commit to serving at a facility that is cost beneficial to the Department. This metric should be no fewer than 60 hours a year and no more than 100 hours a year, though there is no limit to the total number of hours a physician ambassador may volunteer a year. The medical facility shall enter into agreement with the physician ambassadors regarding the minimum number of hours required before beginning the credentialing or privilege granting process.

The Department is directed to provide a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations and the Veterans Affairs Committees of both Houses of Congress detailing the current credentialing process for volunteer physicians, the current cost of credentialing volunteer physicians, and the current utilization rate of volunteer physicians. This report shall also outline the parameters of the pilot program and the reasons for choosing the participating VISNs and facilities.

The Department is also directed to report quarterly, beginning with the first quarter after enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Appropriations and the Veterans Affairs Committees of both Houses of Congress the number of physician ambassadors participating in the pilot program; the number of hours per week physician ambassadors volunteer; the process of bringing on board physician volunteers, to include the amount of time elapsed from the date a physician contacts the facility expressing interest in volunteering, to the time the volunteer and the medical facility enter into an agreement regarding the minimum number of hours required, to the date of completion of the credentialing process; and the appointment waiting times and staffing shortages at each facility. This report shall also include a comparison to an equal number of medical facilities not participating in the pilot program to determine if mandating a minimum
number of hours required improves volunteer participation and increases the costbenefit to the Department.

The agreement reiterates the language in the Senate report directing the VA to provide regular updates on its efforts to rebalance institutional and home-based care, including what metrics have been developed to track implementation.

The agreement incorporates the direction in the Senate report for the VA to provide more detailed explanations within its budget justifications about data that have been modified for the updated actuarial model. The agreement also incorporates the House direction to the VA to provide a healthcare expenditure plan within 20 days of receiving a full-year appropriation.

#### MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

The agreement provides \$6,144,000,000 in advance for fiscal year 2016 for Medical Support and Compliance.

The Office of the Medical Inspector (OMI) of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is directed to provide the Committees a semi-annual report describing the problems or deficiencies in the VHA identified by the OMI; whether the General Counsel of the Department has reviewed these OMI findings; any violations of law by an employee of the Department identified in the OMI review, with identity redacted; and what legal or administrative action was taken.

#### MEDICAL FACILITIES

The agreement provides \$4,915,000,000 in advance for fiscal year 2016 for Medical Facilities.

The agreement incorporates the House directive requiring the VA to provide a report explaining how non-recurring maintenance projects are rated, scheduled, and budgeted.

#### MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

The agreement provides \$588,922,000 for Medical and Prosthetic Research, available until September 30, 2016.

#### NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$256,800,000 for the National Cemetery Administration. Of the amount provided, \$25,600,000 is available until September 30, 2016.

Public Law 113-6 required the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) to develop a strategy that included eight elements to serve the burial needs of veterans residing in rural areas and mandated the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review the strategy. The GAO review of the VA strategy was completed in September 2014. The Department is instructed to report to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act explaining why it has not included in its strategy all eight elements mandated by Congress and why it has not accepted the GAO recommendation to use census tract level data to calculate the veteran population served, since the GAO analysis demonstrates that the VA's use of county level data understates the number and location of unserved veterans.

## DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$321,591,000 for General Administration. Of the amount provided, \$9,660,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2016. The agreement continues to include language permitting the transfer of funds from this account to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration.

The agreement includes the following funding levels:

(in thousands of dollars)

Office	<u>Amount</u>
Office of the Secretary	\$10,032
Office of General Counsel	80,365
Office of Management	44,098
Office of Human Resources and Administration	62,064
Office of Policy and Planning	25,009
Office of Operations, Security and Preparedness	17,901
Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs	22,279
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs	5,969
Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction	53,874

Total	\$321,591
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The Department is required to submit an annual report identifying the amount of third party health billings owed to the VA, the annual amount collected, and efforts underway to increase the efficiency and accuracy in the collections process. The report should describe the VA's contingency plan to ensure that the provision of healthcare does not suffer should there be a failure to meet billing and collection expectations.

In an effort to improve management and reduce redundancy, the Department has undertaken a review of its organizational structure and will potentially reorganize many functions within the VA. The Department is directed to report on a monthly basis to the Committees the status of reorganization within the Department. The Department is also reminded that while the Committees reserve the right to call upon all offices for information, the primary point of communication should be through the Office of Management. The Committees require timely access to the Department's professional budget staff in order to effectively and efficiently evaluate resource requirements and proposals requested by the Administration. Any reorganization with regard to budgetary matters should take this into consideration. In addition to concerns about the principal point of contact in the VA, Department leadership should be aware that there are continuing problems with the Department's lack of responsiveness to the Committees' information requests, as well as lack of detail in responses when finally received.

#### **BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS**

The agreement provides \$99,294,000 for the Board of Veterans Appeals, of which not to exceed \$9,429,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016. Bill language is included in section 239 permitting the VA to transfer funding between this account and the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account if needed to align funding with the appropriate account to hire staff to address the appeals backlog. The agreement also includes the Senate report directive to the VA to refresh the Department's strategic plan to transform the appeals process.

## GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$2,534,254,000 for General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and makes available not to exceed \$124,000,000 of this funding until the end of fiscal year 2016.

Disability Claims Processing.--The backlog of veterans compensation claims for service-connected disabilities remains one of the most pressing problems at the VA. Despite progress made over the past year and the efforts of the VA to improve its processes, increase staffing, and increase automation, it is clear that problems persist, and more needs to be done to ensure that veterans are receiving timely access to the benefits they have earned. To that end, the agreement includes provisions to give the VA additional tools to address the backlog and strengthen accountability. This effort is focused not only on production but also on accuracy in an effort to ensure veterans receive fair compensation at the outset and do not encounter additional delays by having to appeal decisions. To further the reforms instituted by the Committees in response to the backlog, the agreement:

-- Includes \$40,000,000 above the budget request to hire additional claims and support personnel at the regional offices; to expand the Veterans Claims Intake Program records scanning system; and to implement the centralized mail initiative. The VA is instructed to provide a spending plan for this funding within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

--Directs the VA to continue to provide quality review teams and to conduct spot audits at regional offices to assess the performance of claims processing operations and flag any management or operational weaknesses.

--Includes bill language in section 239 permitting the transfer of funding between this account and the Board of Veterans Appeals if necessary to permit the hiring of staffing at the appropriate stage of the appeals process to address mounting claims appeals workload.

--Continues the requirement first enacted for fiscal year 2014 to provide rigorous, publicly available Web-based monthly reports to the Committees on performance measures for each regional office, including the number of backlogged claims, the average number of days to complete a claim, and error rates.

--Continues the fiscal year 2014 requirement to submit quarterly reports that include the number of claims personnel in each regional office, corrective action taken to remedy any problems at poorly performing offices, training programs undertaken by regional offices, and quality review team audits performed during the quarter.

--Requires the VA to report whether it is feasible to conduct a study to analyze data regarding the statistical progression of disabilities over time and whether this data could be used to more quickly adjudicate claims for increased compensation.

--Directs the VA to develop a plan to execute a uniform mail processing and scanning system throughout all regional offices.

-- Directs the VA to contract with the National Academy of Public Administration to review the Department's planned claims processing activities and strategies to prevent future claims processing backlogs.

Eradicating the veterans benefits claims backlog must remain a top priority of the VA, and the agency will continue to be closely monitored to assess progress on this front.

To inform the Committees of its progress in resolving issues of paper claims record retention, the VA is directed to report the status of its work with the Department of Defense (DOD): in obtaining certification of the Veterans Benefits Management System's (VBMS) compliance with DOD data storage requirements; in finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement with DOD allowing DOD appropriate access to electronic records maintained by the VA; and in developing a plan and timeline for selecting courses of action for resolving the storage of paper service treatment records and the associated costs. The report should also include VA plans to brief the various veterans service organizations on the improvements made in the scanning process and its approach and safeguards for transferring the documents to DOD, as well as the VA plan for the most efficient utilization of its office and storage warehouse space once the records are transferred back to DOD.

The VBA has begun to develop and implement new training initiatives and procedures for PTSD claims related to military sexual trauma (MST). The Department is directed to continue to publicize benefits veterans may be entitled to as a result of MST. As stipulated in Senate Report 113-174, the Department is directed to submit a report on the current standard of proof for service-connection under chapter 11 of title 38, U.S.C., for covered mental health conditions based on military sexual trauma. The agreement also incorporates the House direction regarding reporting data sets of information regarding military sexual trauma-related claims.

The agreement incorporates the House direction prohibiting a change in the location of VBA regional offices without providing the Committees a cost-benefit analysis and information on benefits to veterans and operational efficiency.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$3,903,344,000 for Information Technology (IT) Systems. The agreement identifies separately the funding available for pay (\$1,039,000,000); operations and maintenance (\$2,316,009,000); and systems development, modernization, and enhancement (\$548,335,000). The agreement makes \$30,792,000 of pay funding available until the end of fiscal year 2016; \$160,000,000 of operations and maintenance funding available until the end of fiscal year 2016; and all IT systems development, modernization and enhancement funding available until the end of fiscal year 2016. The agreement includes \$137,000,000 in information technology funding for VBMS; \$99,614,000 in information technology funding for the Veterans Relationship Management System; and \$343,614,000 for total funding of the interoperable electronic health record (both VHA and IT funding).

The agreement assumes an additional \$20,000,000 above the request will be used for additional hardware upgrades at regional offices to ensure that increased VBMS functionality can be supported in the field. The Secretary is directed to report to the Committees within 30 days after enactment of this Act how the Department is implementing this directive.

The agreement includes language prohibiting the obligation of IT development, modernization, and enhancement funding until the VA submits a certification of the amounts to be obligated, in part or in full, for each development project.

The agreement includes language permitting funding made available for the three IT subaccounts to be transferred among them after the VA requests and receives approval from the Committees.

The agreement includes language providing that funding may be transferred between development projects or to new projects subject to the Committees' approval.

The agreement provides \$269,406,000 for the VistA Evolution interoperable health record and \$74,208,000 for the interoperability actions taking place within the Interagency Program Office (IPO) and the execution of the Virtual Lifetime

Electronic Health Record (VLER Health). As with the fiscal year 2014 bill, the fiscal year 2015 agreement includes a prohibition on obligation or expenditure of more than 25 percent of fiscal year 2015 funds provided for development, modernization, and enhancement of the Department's VistA electronic health record until the Department meets reporting and accountability requirements that are similar to those in the House and Senate bills.

The agreement for the DOD appropriations bill includes similar electronic health record requirements.

The agreement requires the VA to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees regarding schedule, milestones, and obligations for the VistA Evolution program, as directed in the Senate report. It also requires quarterly briefings from the IPO on the electronic health record interoperability project and monthly updates to the Federal Chief Information Officer of the United States, as directed in the Senate report. In addition, the agreement requires the VA to report on the process the VA and DOD will follow to establish security standards and identify technology to secure data, as directed in the Senate report.

Bill language is included making funds available for IT development, modernization, and enhancement for the projects and in the amounts specified in the following table:

> Information Technology Development Projects (in thousands of dollars)

Project

Access to Healthcare

<u>Amount</u> \$9,686

Healthcare Efficiency IT Development	10,723
Electronic Health Record Interoperability/VLER Health	49,208
VistA Evolution	179,922
New Models of Care	30,551
Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS)	63,500
Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER)	18,600
Veterans Relationship Management (VRM)	76,600
Health Management Platform	5,746
Other IT Systems Development	103,799

Total All Development

\$548,335

This table is intended to serve as the Department's approved list of development projects; any requested changes are subject to reprogramming guidelines.

The agreement directs the Department to continue to provide an IT expenditure plan to the Committees within 30 days of enactment of this Act and on a monthly basis thereafter, as indicated in both the House and Senate reports. This plan should be in the same format as the table above.

The pending Transformation Twenty-One Total Technology Next Generation (T4NG) draft request for proposals will be the principal information technology procurement vehicle for the VA for up to ten years, with potential total funding of \$23,000,000,000. With the complexity and magnitude of VA expenditures on information technology in areas such as electronic health records and appointment scheduling, it is important that the VA permit proposals from a wide range of firms, both large and small, veteran-owned and disabled veteranowned, in order to benefit from the broad array of IT services that exist. The VA is urged to expand the number of awards under T4NG that are not reserved for particular categories of vendors in order to maximize its consideration of emerging technologies.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement appropriates \$126,411,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Of the amount provided, \$12,141,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2016. The increase above the budget request is intended to be used for ongoing responsibilities associated with the waitlist/appointment scheduling audits as well as the two reviews described below.

The OIG is instructed to review a complaint to the Montana Board of Psychologists reprimanding a VA psychologist in Ft. Harrison, Montana, for practicing outside the scope of his professional qualifications when performing a Compensation and Pensions examination for traumatic brain injury (TBI). The OIG review should address the specific Montana case, but also the protocols the VA uses for examinations for TBI throughout the VA medical system to judge whether the VA needs to revise its protocols nationwide.

Due to questions about VA residential substance abuse treatment in Miami, Florida, that have been raised by the VA OIG (Report No. 13-03089-104, March 27, 2014), the OIG is requested to conduct a broader review of the operations and effectiveness of VA substance abuse inpatient rehabilitation programs and report back to the Committees by August 1, 2015, on the following: the current number of VA inpatient rehabilitation programs; the annual number of veterans who participate and their average length of treatment; the average length of time for VA treatment compared to that of non-VA residential treatment programs; the rate of recidivism for both types of programs; the process used to refer patients to VA inpatient treatment; the degree of supervision of patients in VA programs and how often drug tests are performed; and how well mental health and substance abuse treatment are integrated for veterans with comorbidities.

#### CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

The agreement provides \$561,800,000 for Construction, Major Projects. The agreement makes this funding available for five years, except that \$34,000,000 is made available until expended.

As requested in the House and Senate reports, the agreement requires an annual report on the process used to identify construction project priority listing and directs the VA to work collaboratively with other executive branch agencies with substantial construction portfolios, private sector contractors and other nongovernmental experts to explore the feasibility of new funding mechanisms, such as private development lease-backs.

The agreement directs the VA to increase its use of design-build contracting processes and off-site construction methods, including prefabricated components and panelized structures.

The agreement funds the following items as requested in the budget submission:

# Construction, Major Projects (in thousands of dollars)

## Location and description

#### <u>Amount</u>

Veterans Health Admin. (VHA):	
West Los Angeles, CA seismic corrections	\$35,000
Long Beach, CA seismic corrections, mental health and	
community living replacements	101,900
Canandaigua, NY community living center, outpatient	
clinic, and domiciliary	122,400
San Diego, CA spinal cord injury and seismic corrections	187,500
Advance Planning Fund – various locations	69,000
Major Construction Staff various locations	24,000
Claims Analysis – various locations	2,000
Hazardous Waste – various locations	6,000
Total VHA	547,800
National Cemetery Admin. (NCA):	
Advance Planning Fund – various locations	2,500
	-
NCA Land Acquisition Fund	7,500
Total NCA	10,000

#### General Admin.:

Staff Offices Advance Planning Fund	4,000
Major Construction total	\$561,800

The agreement acknowledges the inclusion of the prospectuses of two NCA projects – Ohio Western Reserve and National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Pennsylvania -- in the 2015 budget request so that these projects may be funded in the future if monies should become available through reprogramming.

#### CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

The agreement provides \$495,200,000 for Construction, Minor Projects. The agreement makes this funding available for five years.

The agreement includes the directive to provide an expenditure plan within 30 days of enactment, as provided in the Senate report.

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GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

The agreement provides \$90,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities, to remain available until expended.

#### **GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES**

The agreement provides \$46,000,000 for Grants for Construction of Veterans Cemeteries, to remain available until expended.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (Including Transfers and Rescissions of Funds)

The agreement includes section 201 allowing for transfer of funds among the three mandatory accounts.

The agreement includes section 202 allowing for the transfer of funds among the three medical accounts.

The agreement includes section 203 allowing salaries and expenses funds to be used for related authorized purposes.

The agreement includes section 204 restricting the accounts that may be used for the acquisition of land or the construction of any new hospital or home.

The agreement includes section 205 limiting the use of funds in the Medical Services account only for entitled beneficiaries unless reimbursement is made to the Department.

The agreement includes section 206 allowing for the use of certain mandatory appropriations accounts for payment of prior year accrued obligations for those accounts.

The agreement includes section 207 allowing the use of appropriations available in this title to pay prior year obligations.

The agreement includes section 208 allowing the Department to use surplus earnings from the National Service Life Insurance Fund, the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund, and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund to administer these programs.

The agreement includes section 209 allowing the Department to cover the administrative expenses of enhanced-use leases and provides authority to obligate these reimbursements in the year in which the proceeds are received.

The agreement 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 of the Department for services provided.

The agreement includes section 211 limiting the use of funds for any lease with an estimated annual rental cost of more than \$1,000,000 unless approved by the Committees.

The agreement includes section 212 requiring the Department to collect third-party payer information for persons treated for a non-service connected disability.

The agreement includes section 213 allowing for the use of enhanced-use leasing revenues for Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects.

The agreement includes section 214 outlining authorized uses for Medical Services funds.

The agreement includes section 215 allowing for funds deposited into the Medical Care Collections Fund to be transferred to the Medical Services account.

The agreement includes section 216 which allows Alaskan veterans to use medical facilities of the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations.

The agreement includes section 217 permitting the transfer of funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts and makes those funds available until expended.

The agreement includes section 218 prohibiting the use of funds for any policy prohibiting the use of outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans.

The agreement includes section 219 requiring the Secretary to submit quarterly reports on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration.

The agreement includes section 220 requiring the Department to notify and receive approval from the Committees of any proposed transfer of funding to or from the Information Technology Systems account.

The agreement includes section 221 limiting the obligation of non-recurring maintenance funds during the last two months of the fiscal year.

The agreement does not include Senate section 221. The provision is carried as a government-wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement includes section 222 providing up to \$259,251,213 for transfer to the Joint DOD-VA Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

The agreement includes section 223 which permits \$245,398,000 of fiscal year 2016 medical care funding to be transferred to the Joint DOD-VA Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

The agreement includes section 224 which authorizes transfers from the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Joint DOD-VA Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

The agreement includes section 225 which transfers at least \$15,000,000 from VA medical accounts to the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund.

The agreement includes section 226 which rescinds fiscal year 2015 medical account funding and re-appropriates it to be available for two years. The provision rescinds and re-appropriates \$1,400,000,000 for Medical Services, rescinds and re-appropriates \$100,000,000 for Medical Support and Compliance, and rescinds and re-appropriates \$250,000,000 for Medical Facilities.

The agreement includes section 227 requiring that the Department notify the Committees of bid savings in major construction projects of at least \$5,000,000 or five percent within 14 days of a contract identifying the programmed amount.

The agreement includes section 228 which prohibits the VA from increasing the scope of work for a major construction project above the scope specified in the original budget request.

The agreement includes section 229 requiring a quarterly report from each VBA regional office on pending disability claims, error rates, the number of claims processing personnel, corrective actions taken, training programs and review audit results.

The agreement includes section 230 requiring the VA to submit a reprogramming request whenever funding allocated in the expenditure plan for a Medical Care initiative differs by more than \$25,000,000 from the allocation shown in the 2015 congressional budget justification.

The agreement includes section 231 limiting the funding from the Medical Services and Medical Support and Compliance accounts for the VistA Evolution and electronic health record interoperability projects.

The agreement includes section 232 requiring the VA to notify the Committees 15 days prior to any staff office relocations within the VA of 25 or more FTE.

The agreement includes section 233 rescinding \$41,000,000 in VA discretionary funds to be allocated from fiscal year 2015 funding provided in this Act or in advance in other appropriations Acts. These funds constitute the savings created by section 705 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, which limits the aggregate amount of awards and bonuses paid by the

Secretary in fiscal year 2015 to \$360,000,000. The Secretary is directed to allocate the rescission in alignment with the amount of funding allocated for awards in each appropriation account and to report this allocation to the Committees within  $10^{----}(20^{--})$  days of enactment of this Act.

The agreement includes section 234 requiring the Secretary to report to the Committees each quarter about any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign exceeding \$2,000,000.

The agreement includes section 235 prohibiting the closing of VA medical facilities in VISN 23 as part of a planned realignment of VA services until the Secretary meets a series of reporting requirements.

The agreement includes section 236 prohibiting funds available to the Department in this or any other Act from being used to replace the current system by which VISNs select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

The agreement includes section 237 prohibiting funding provided in this Act or prior years to duplicate the capacity of contractor-provided dialysis care until the later of September 30, 2105, or the full independent evaluation of the four-site dialysis pilot program being conducted by the VA. The agreement includes section 238 permitting the transfer to the Medical Services account of fiscal year discretionary 2015 funds appropriated in this Act or available from advance fiscal year 2015 funds already appropriated, except for funds appropriated to General Operating Expenses, VBA, to address possible unmet, high priority needs in Medical Services. Such unanticipated demands may result from circumstances such as increased utilization of Caregiver program benefits, newly available hepatitis C medications, or VACAA requirements. Any such transfer requires the approval of the Committees.

The agreement includes section 239 permitting the transfer of funding between the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account and the Board of Veterans Appeals account if necessary to permit the hiring of staffing at the appropriate stage of the appeals process to address mounting claims appeals workload. Any such transfer requires the approval of the Committees.

The agreement includes section 240 rescinding \$15,000,000 in unobligated balances in the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund.

The agreement includes section 241 expanding the contract disability examinations pilot program authorized in section 504 of the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 to not more than twelve regional offices in 2015; fifteen in 2016; and the number considered appropriate by the Secretary in 2017 and beyond. The agreement includes section 242 clarifying that the payment rates used by the VA for VA medical care in the State of Alaska and in those States with an all-payer model agreement under the Social Security Act that became effective on January 1, 2014, should also be used in implementation of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014.

The agreement includes section 243 changing the eligibility period for VA health benefits under the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (P.L. 112-154) from a minimum 30-day presence at Camp Lejeune during the period of January 1, 1957, through December 31, 1987 to the period from August 1, 1953, to December 31, 1987. This date change conforms to more recent contamination information from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

The agreement includes section 244 creating the authority to provide advance appropriations for three mandatory VA programs within the Veterans Benefits Administration – Compensation and Pensions, Readjustment Benefits, and Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

#### TITLE III

#### **RELATED AGENCIES**

#### AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$74,100,000 for Salaries and Expenses of the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC). The agreement provides an additional \$4,000,000 above the budget request to support ABMC's interpretive program and nonrecurring maintenance needs.

#### FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

The agreement includes such sums as necessary, estimated at \$1,900,000 for the Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account.

#### UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$31,386,000 for Salaries and Expenses. The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (Court) is the last step in the VA claims process and has exclusive jurisdiction to review decisions made by the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA). The number of appeals filed with the Court is generally affected by the number of claims processed by the BVA. For the past two years, Congress has increased funding for BVA to hire additional staff and attorneys to address the BVA appeals backlog, and the Court needs to prepare for an increase in appeals as this backlog is resolved. The Court is directed to undertake a five year strategic analysis to determine whether staffing, including the number of judges, will need to grow to handle future demand. The Court is directed to submit this analysis to Congress with the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE--CIVIL

#### CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$65,800,000 for Salaries and Expenses, which includes \$20,000,000 to address the maintenance and infrastructure repairs proposed for funding through the Operation and Maintenance, Army account. The Committee directs that future budget requests will include all funding proposed for Arlington National Cemetery, to include any funding required for cemetery expansion, within the Cemeterial Expenses, Army account. Language is included to make \$3,000,000 available until September 30, 2016.

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME TRUST FUND

The agreement includes \$63,400,000 for the Armed Forces Retirement Home, to be derived from the Trust Fund. Standardization of Healthcare Delivery.—The Committee is in receipt of DOD IG Report, DODIG-2014-093, "Inspection of the Armed Forces Retirement Home" (AFRH) and notes this report makes numerous recommendations regarding the health and well-being of our Nation's veterans currently served by the AFRH. The Chief Operating Officer of the AFRH is directed to submit a report to the Committees not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, on the status and implementation of recommendations 3.a, 7.b, and 14b. The report should include specific actions taken to implement the recommendations.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement includes section 301 permitting funds to be provided to Arlington County, Virginia, for the relocation of a water main located on the Arlington National Cemetery property.

#### Title IV

#### **Overseas Contingency Operations**

Department of Defense

The agreement includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations, for military construction projects related to the Global War on Terrorism and the European Reassurance Initiative that were requested by the Administration in the FY 2015 Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) budget request. The OCO request was submitted to Congress subsequent to congressional consideration of the FY 2015 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations bills.

#### Military Construction, Defense-Wide

The agreement includes \$46,000,000 for "Military Construction, Defense-Wide", as requested in the FY 2015 Overseas Contingency Operations budget amendment, for a classified project at a classified location.

#### European Reassurance Initiative Military Construction

The agreement includes \$175,000,000 for military construction projects associated with the European Reassurance Initiative (ERI). The ERI proposal included a provision to allow the use of up to \$175,000,000 in Operation and Maintenance funds for unspecified military construction projects associated with the initiative. Subsequent to the initial request, the Department of Defense identified and provided to the Committees line-item ERI military construction requirements. Military construction projects should be funded within the Military Construction appropriations bill, and thus the agreement provides funding in this division for specific ERI military construction projects as identified by the Department.



	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	•••••	
TITLE IV		
FY 2015 OVERSEAS CONTIGENCY OPERATIONS		
WORLDWIDE CLASSIFIED		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED PROJECT	46,000	46,000
EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION		
BULGARIA		
AIR FORCE GRAF IGNATIEVO		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS	•••	3,200
ESTONIA		
AIR FORCE AMARI		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS		24,780
ITALY		
AIR FORCE CAMP DARBY		
WEAPONS STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT		44,45D
LATVIA		
AIR FORCE LIELVARDE AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS		10,710
LITHUANIA		
AIR FORCE SIAULIAI AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS		13,120
POLAND		
AIR FORCE LASK AIR BASE		
SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS	•••	22,400
ROHANIA		
ARNY NIHAIL KOGALNICEANU		
HAZARDOUS CARGO RAMP		5,000
MULTI-MODAL IMPROVENENTS		17,000
FUEL STORAGE CAPACITY		15,000
AIR FORCE CAMP TURZII AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS		2,900
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
AIR FORCE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN FOR AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS	•••	11,500

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#### OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
		******
DEFENSE-WIDE		
UNSPECIFIED MINDR CONSTRUCTION		
NAVY EUROPEAN HULTINATIONAL EXERCISE INFRASTRUCTURE.		2,940
STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF NATO & NATO PARTNERS		2,000
TOTAL	46,000	221,000

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NOTE: FUNDING FOR MILITARY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATED WITH THE EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE WAS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED IN THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL AS AN ADDITIONAL TRANSFER AUTHORITY WITHIN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNTS.

#### TITLE V

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The agreement includes section 501 prohibiting the obligation of funds in this Act beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided.

The agreement includes section 502 prohibiting the use of the funds in this Act 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 agreement includes section 503 encouraging all Departments to expand their use of "E-Commerce."

The agreement includes section 504 specifying the congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifications.

The agreement includes section 505 prohibiting the transfer of funds to any instrumentality of the United States Government without authority from an appropriations Act.

The agreement includes section 506 prohibiting the use of funds for a project or program named for a serving Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

The agreement includes section 507 requiring all reports submitted to the Congress to be posted on official Web sites of the submitting agency.

The agreement includes section 508 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 agreement includes section 509 prohibiting the use of funds for the payment of first-class travel by an employee of the executive branch.

The agreement includes section 510 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for any contract where the contractor has not complied with E-Verify requirements.

The agreement includes section 511 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purchase or lease of a new vehicle except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum – Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

The agreement includes section 512 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 agreement does not include House section 403/Senate section 404. The provision is carried as a government –wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include House section 413. The provision is carried as a government –wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include House section 414. The provision is carried as a government –wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include Senate section 411. The provision is carried as a government –wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include Senate section 412. The provision is carried as a government –wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

## INSERT CSBA



## DIVISION I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

	(Amounts	1n	thousands)	
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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
Military construction, Army	1,104,875	539,427	528,427	-576,448	-11,000
Military construction, Navy and Marine Corps	1,629,690	1,018,772	1,018,772	-610,918	
Military construction, Air Force	1,052,796	811,774	811,774	-241,022	
Military construction, Defense-Wide	3,445,423	2,061,890	1,991,690	-1,453,733	-70,200
Total, Active components	7,232,784	4,431,863	4,350,663	-2,882,121	-81,200
Military construction, Army National Guard	314,740	126,920	128,920	-185,820	+2,000
Military construction, Air National Guard	119,800	94,663	92,663	- 27 , 137	-2,000
Military construction, Army Reserve	156,560	103,946	103,946	-52,614	
Military construction, Navy Reserve	29,000	51,528	51,528	+22,528	
Military construction, Air Force Reserve	45,659	49,492	49,492	+3,833	
Total, Reserve components	665,759	426,549	426,549	-239,210	•••
Total, Military construction	7,898,543	4,858,412	4,777,212	-3,121,331	-81,200
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment					
Program	199,700	199,700	199,700		
Family housing construction, Army	27,408	78,609	78,609	+51,201	
Family housing operation and maintenance, Army	512,871	350,976	350,976	-161,895	•••
Family housing construction, Navy and Marine Corps	73,407	16,412	16,412	- 56 , 995	

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Family housing operation and maintenance, Navy and					
Marine Corps	379,444	354,029	354.029	-25,415	
Family housing construction, Air Force	76 360			-76,360	·
Family housing operation and maintenance, Air Force	388 598	327,747	327,747	-60,851	•
Family housing operation and maintenance, Defense-Wide	55,845	61,100	61,100	+5,255	
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement					
Fund	1,780	1,662		-118	
Total, Family housing	1,515,713	1,190,535	1.190.535	-325,178	
	•		1		
Chemical demilitarization construction, Defense-Wide	122.536	38,715	38.715	-83,821	
Department of Defense Base Closure Account	451,357	270,085	315,085	-136,272	+45.000
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS					
Military Construction - fiscal year 2014 (Sec. 127)			125,000	+125,000	+125,000
Military Construction - fiscal year 2015 (Sec. 128)			117,000	+117,000	+117,000
Military Construction, Army (Sec. 129)	-200,000		- 49, 533	+150,467	-49,533
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps (Sec.					
130)	-12,000		-25,522	-13,522	-25,522
Military Construction, Air Force (Sec. 131)	- 39 , 700	•	-41,392	-1,692	-41,392
Military Construction, Defense-Wide	-1 <b>4,00</b> 0			+14,000	• • •
Military Construction, Air National Guard	-14,200			+14,200	• • •
NATO Security Investment Program (Sec. 132)			-25,000	- 25 , 000	- 25 , 000

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
42 USC 3374 (Sec. 133)	-99,949 =========		-63,800 ============	+36,149	-63,800 =========
Total, Administrative Provisions, Appropriations Rescissions	- 379, 849 ( - 379, 849) 	  	36,753 (242,000) (-205,247)	+416,602 (+242,000) (+174,602)	+36,753 (+242,000) (-205,247)
Total, title I, Department of Defense Appropriations Rescissions	9,808,000 (10,187,849) (-379,849)	6,557,447 (6,557,447)	6,558,000 (6,763,247) (-205,247)	-3,250,000 (-3,424,602) (+174,602)	+553 (+205,800) (-205,247)
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS					
Veterans Benefits Administration					
Compensation and pensions Readjustment benefits Veterans insurance and indemnities	71,476,104 13,135,898 77,567	78,687,709 14,761,862 63,257	79,071,000 14,997,136 63,257	+7,594,896 +1,861,238 -14,310	+383,291 +235,274
Veterans housing benefit program fund: (Limitation on direct loans) Administrative expenses	(500) 158,430	(500) 160,881	(500) 160,881	+2,451	
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account (Limitation on direct loans) Administrative expenses	5 (2,500) 354	10 (2,877) 361	10 (2,877) 361	+5 (+377) +7	

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final B111	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Native American veteran housing loan program account	1,109	1,130	1,130	+21	
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration	84,849,467	93,675,210	94,293,775	+9,444,308	+618,565
Veterans Health Administration					
Medical services: Advance from prior year Current year request Advance appropriation, FY 2016	40,000	(45,015,527) 367,885 47,603,202	(45,015,527) 209,189 47,603,202	(+1,458,527) +169,189 +2,587,675	-158,696
Subtotal	45,055,527	47,971,087	47,812,391	+2,756,864	-158,696
Medical support and compliance: Advance from prior year Advance appropriation, FY 2016		(5,879,700) 6,144,000	(5,879,700) 6,144,000	(-153,300) +264,300	
Subtota1	5,879,700	6,144,000	6,144,000	+264,300	
Medical facilities: Advance from prior year Current year request Advance appropriation, FY 2016	(4,872,000) 85,000 4,739,000	(4,739,000)  4,915,000	(4,739,000)  4,915,000	(-133,000) -85,000 +176,000	  
Subtotal	4,824,000	4,915,000	4,915,000	+91,000	

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Medical and prosthetic research	585,664	588,922	588,922	+3,258	
Medical care cost recovery collections: Offsetting collections Appropriations (indefinite)	-2,485,000 2,485,000	-2,456,000 2,456,000	-2,456,000 2,456,000	+29,000 -29,000	
Subtotal			••••		
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (transfers out) DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (by transfer)	(-254,257) (254,257)	(-269,366) (269,366)	(-276,251) (276,251)	(-21,994) (+21,994)	(-6,885) (+6,885)
DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (Transfer out) DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (by	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	(-15,000)		•
transfer)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)		
Total, Veterans Health Administration Appropriations Advance appropriations, FY 2016	56,344,891 (710,664) (55,634,227)	59,619,009 (956,807) (58,662,202)	59,460,313 (798,111) (58,662,202)	+3,115,422 (+87,447) (+3,027,975)	-158,696 (-158,696) 
Advances from prior year appropriations	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227) ===================================	
National Cemetery Administration					
National Cemetery Administration	250,000	256,800	256,800	+6,800	

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final É Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Departmental Administration					
General administration	327,591	321,591	321,591	-6,000	
Board of Veterans Appeals	88 294	94,294	99,294	+11,000	+5,000
General operating expenses, VBA	2,465,490	2,494,254	2,534,254	+68,764	+40,000
Information technology systems	3,703,344	3,903,344	3,903,344	+200,000	
Office of Inspector General	121,411	121,411	126,411	+5,000	+5,000
Construction, major projects	342,130	561,800	561,800	+219,670	
Construction, minor projects Grants for construction of State extended care	714,870	495,200	495,200	-219,670	
facilities	85,000	80,000	90,000	+5,000	+10,000
Grants for the construction of veterans cemeteries	46,000	45,000	46,000		+1,000
Total, Departmental Administration	7,894,130	8,116,894	8,177,894	+283,764	+61,000
Administrative Provisions					
Section 226					
Medical services	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000		
(Rescission)	-1,400,000	-1,400,000	-1,400,000		•••
Medical support and compliance	100,000	100,000	100,000		
(Rescission)	-150,000	- 100 , 000	-100,000	+50,000	
Medical facilities	250,000	250,000	250,000	•	
(Rescission)	-250,000	- 250 , 000	-250,000	•••	• • -
General VA rescission (Sec. 233)	-182,000	<b>.</b>	-41,000	+141,000	-41,000
JIF rescission (Sec. 240)			- 15,000	-15,000	-15,000

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Contract disability exams (Sec. 241)			40 , 000	+40,000	+40,000
Total. Administrative Provisions	- 232,000		-16,000	+216,000	- 16 , 000
Total, title II Appropriations Rescissions Advance appropriations, FY 2016	(95,454,261) (-1,982,000)	161,667,913 (104,755,711) (-1,750,000) (58,662,202)	162,172,782 (105,316,580) (-1,806,000) (58,662,202)	+13,066,294 (+9,862,319) (+176,000) (+3,027,975)	+504,869 (+560,869) (-56,000)
Advances from prior year appropriations		(55,634,227) (3,377)	(55,634,227) (3,377)	(+1,172,227) (+377)	•••
Discretionary Advances from prior year less FY 2016 advances		(68,155,085) -3,027,975	(68,041,389) -3,027,975	(+3,624,470) -1,855,748	(-113,696)
Net discretionary	(63,244,692)	(65,127,110)	(65,013,414)	(+1,768,722)	(-113,696)
Mandatory	(84,689,569)	(93,512,828)	(94,131,393)	(+9,441,824)	(+618,565)
Total mandatory and net discretionary	147,934,261	158,639,938	159,144,807 =======	+11,210,546	+504,869
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
American Battle Monuments Commission					
Salaries and expenses	63,200	70,100	74,100	+10,900	+4,000

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Foreign currency fluctuations account	14,100	1,900	1,900	-12,200	
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission	77,300	72,000	76,000	- 1,300	+4,000
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims					
Salaries and expenses	35,408	31,386	31,386	-4,022	
Department of Defense - Civil					
Cemeterial Expenses, Army					
Salaries and expenses	65,800	45,800	65,800		+20,000
Armed Forces Retirement Home - Trust Fund					
Operation and maintenance Capital program		62,400 1,000	62,400 1,000	-4,400	
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home	67,800	63,400	63,400	-4,400	
Total, title III	================= 246,308	======================================	======= 236,586	-9,722	+24,000

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS					
Military Construction, Defense-Wide European Reassurance Initiative Military Construction.	 	46,000	46,000 175,000	+46,000 +175,000	+175,000
Total, title IV		46,000	221,000	+221,000	+175,000
Grand total Appropriations Rescissions Advance appropriations, FY 2015	(105,888,418) (-2,361,849)	(-1,750,000)	(-2,011,247)	+10,027,572 (+6,427,995) (+350,602) (+3,027,975)	+704,422 (+790,669) (-261,247)
Advances from prior year appropriations	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	
(By transfer) (Transfer out)	(-269,257)	,	(-291,251)	(+21,994) (-21,994) (+377)	(+6,885) (-6,885) 

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