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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

U.S. House Appropriations Committee
Fiscal Year 2020 Military Construction-Veterans Affairs
Appropriations Act (H.R. 2745)

As of May 17, 2019

OVERVIEW

On May 9, 2019, the U.S. House Appropriations Committee approved **H.R. 2745**, the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs (MILCON-VA) Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020.*

The Committee recommended **\$217.5 billion** for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It also recommended **\$10.5 billion** in MILCON funding for the Department of Defense (DoD), including **\$210.8 million** for Army National Guard construction projects and **\$115.9 million** for Air National Guard construction projects.

BILL HIGHLIGHTS

All page references below are within the legislation text document unless otherwise noted.

General Provisions

- **\$80.4 billion** for VA medical care to treat approximately 7 million patients in FY20, includes:
 - \$9.4 billion for mental health services and \$221.7 million for suicide prevention outreach (pg. 35, MILCON-VA Report Language)
 - \$270.0 million for the Office of Rural Health (pg. 43, MILCON-VA Report Language)
- **\$1.6 billion** for VA Electronic Health Record implementation (pg. 33)
- **\$60.0 million** in additional funds to address PFOS/PFOA clean-up (pg. 22, MILCON-VA report language)

Army National Guard

- **\$210.8 million** in Army National Guard military construction funding, includes funding for MILCON projects in 12 states (pg. 6)

Air National Guard

- **\$115.9 million** in Air National Guard military construction funding, includes funding for MILCON projects in 3 states (pg. 6)

To view the full text of the legislation, please visit:

<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr2745/BILLS-116hr2745rh.pdf>

To view MILCON-VA Report Language authored by the House Appropriations Committee, please visit:

<https://www.congress.gov/116/crpt/hrpt63/CRPT-116hrpt63.pdf>

* *Funding levels cited in this document are appropriations recommended by the House Appropriations Committee only and are subject to change before final passage.*

FY20 NATIONAL GUARD MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Army National Guard*

Account	FY19 Levels	FY20 Request	FY20 HASC NDAA	FY20 House NDAA	FY20 HAC Mark	FY20 House Approps.	FY20 SASC NDAA	FY20 Senate NDAA	FY20 SAC Mark	FY20 Senate Approps.	Final NDAA Levels	Change from FY19	Final Levels	
Total MILCON Funding	\$190,122	\$210,819			\$210,819									
MILCON By State	Location	Project	FY20 Request	FY20 HASC NDAA	FY20 House NDAA	FY20 HAC Mark	FY20 House Approps.	FY20 SASC NDAA	FY20 Senate NDAA	FY20 SAC Mark	FY20 Senate Approps.	Final NDAA Levels	Change from FY19	Final Levels
Alabama	Foley	National Guard Readiness Center	\$12,000			\$12,000								
California	Camp Roberts	Automated Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range	\$12,000			\$12,000								
Idaho	Orchard Training Area	Railroad Tracks	\$29,000			\$29,000								
Maryland	Havre De Grace	Combined Support Maintenance Shop	\$12,000			\$12,000								
Massachusetts	Camp Edwards	Automated Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range	\$9,700			\$9,700								
Minnesota	New Ulm	Vehicle Maintenance Shop	\$11,200			\$11,200								
Mississippi	Camp Shelby	Automated Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range	\$8,100			\$8,100								
Missouri	Springfield	National Guard Readiness Center	\$12,000			\$12,000								
Nebraska	Bellevue	National Guard Readiness Center	\$29,000			\$29,000								
New Hampshire	Concord	National Guard Readiness Center	\$5,950			\$5,950								
Pennsylvania	Moon Township	Combined Support Maintenance Shop	\$23,000			\$23,000								
Washington	Richland	National Guard Readiness Center	\$11,400			\$11,400								
Worldwide/Various		Minor Construction	\$15,000			\$15,000								
		Planning & Design	\$20,469			\$20,469								

*All Dollars in Thousands

Air National Guard*

Account			FY19 Levels	FY20 Request	FY20 HASC NDAA	FY20 House NDAA	FY20 HAC Mark	FY20 House Approps.	FY20 SASC NDAA	FY20 Senate NDAA	FY20 SAC Mark	FY20 Senate Approps.	Final NDAA Levels	Change from FY19	Final Levels
Total MILCON Funding			\$129,126	\$165,971			\$115,971								
MILCON By State	Location	Project	FY20 Request	FY20 HASC NDAA	FY20 House NDAA	FY20 HAC Mark	FY20 House Approps.	FY20 SASC NDAA	FY20 Senate NDAA	FY20 SAC Mark	FY20 Senate Approps.	Final NDAA Levels	Change from FY19	Final Levels	
Georgia	Savannah/Hilton Head Int'l Airport	Consolidated Joint Air Dominance Hangar/Shops	\$24,000			\$24,000									
Missouri	Rosecrans Memorial Airport	C-130 Flight Simulator Facility	\$9,500			\$9,500									
Puerto Rico	Luis Munoz IAP (Hurricane Maria)	Comms. Facility	\$12,500			N/A									
		Maintenance Hangar	\$37,500			N/A									
Wisconsin	Truax Field	F-35 Simulator Facility	\$14,000			\$14,000									
		Flight Alert Shelters	\$20,000			\$20,000									
Worldwide/Various		Minor Construction	\$31,471			\$31,471									
		Planning & Design	\$17,000			\$17,000									

**All Dollars in Thousands*

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

Military Construction, Army National Guard.

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$210,819,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024: Provided, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$20,469,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Army National Guard determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

Military Construction, Air National Guard.

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$115,971,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024: Provided, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$17,000,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Air National Guard determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

SEC. 124.

For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified, to remain available until September 30, 2024:

Military Construction, Army, \$79,500,000;
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, \$546,800,000;
Military Construction, Air Force, \$230,400,000;
Military Construction, Army National Guard, \$155,000,000;
Military Construction, Air National Guard, \$57,000,000; and
Military Construction, Air Force Reserve, \$24,800,000

Provided, That such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction projects identified in the respective military department's unfunded priority list for fiscal year 2020 submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such projects are subject to authorization prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to carry out construction: Provided further, That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or his or her designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

Military Construction, Army National Guard (Emergency Funding)

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Army National Guard,” \$50,000,000: Provided, That such amounts may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: Provided further, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

REPORT LANGUAGE

Offutt Air Force Base

The Committee continues to have concerns on the impacts of recent flooding at Offutt Air Force Base. The Committee is committed to ensuring United States Strategic Command, the 55th Wing, and the Nebraska National Guard receive the necessary funding to return Offutt Air Force Base to fully mission capable. The unique facilities and assets at Offutt Air Force Base are a cornerstone of our national security and provide many one-of-a-kind capabilities, thereby guaranteeing the Nation’s airborne intelligence gathering superiority, survivable nuclear command and control, and the effectiveness of our strategic deterrent.

Army National Guard Readiness Centers Investment

The Committee remains concerned by the failure of the Army to prioritize investment in Army National Guard Readiness Centers. These facilities are critical infrastructure in the protection of the homeland and in responding to domestic emergencies. Their deteriorating conditions are detrimental to the readiness of the Army Guard and present significant safety concerns. The Committee encourages the Army to accelerate investments in Readiness Centers within the fiscal year 2020 FYDP to include the \$1,200,000,000 for the Army National Guard Transformation Plan.

Puerto Rico Construction

The Committee is concerned that the Department has yet to obligate supplemental funding provided by Congress to assist Puerto Rico in recovering from the devastating Hurricane Maria. The Committee believes hurricane-related damage should be addressed prior to new construction, and as such, the recommendation does not include funding for Air National Guard projects at the Luis Munoz-Marin International Airport. However, the Committee expects the Department to submit these projects for consideration in the future.

Dannelly Field Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD)

The Committee encourages the Department to maintain its schedule for finalizing the EIS and ROD for Dannelly Field and to ensure future projects are not delayed.

Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)

The Committee is concerned about the extent of PFOS/PFOA contamination at United States military installations. While this bill only covers military installations funded through the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) account that are affected by PFOS/PFOA, the issue is not limited to the Defense Department and affects many communities across the Nation. The Committee is encouraged by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) announced plan to evaluate the need for a maximum contaminant level, as provided by the Safe Drinking Water Act, as well as designate these chemicals as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, and urges the Department and affected communities to work closely with EPA. The Committee directs the Department to keep it apprised of new findings of PFOS/PFOA at BRAC sites and provides additional funds in this bill for the continued review of sites contaminated by PFOS/PFOA. Furthermore, the recommendation provides an additional \$60,000,000 above the budget request to address PFOS and PFOA cleanup.

Military Construction, Army National Guard (Emergency Funding)

The recommendation includes \$50,000,000 for Army National Guard military construction and planning and design for damages related to Hurricanes Florence and Michael.