

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 2647)

Summary as passed by the House Armed Services Committee

June 16, 2009

On June 16, 2009, the House Armed Services Committee approved the 2010 defense authorization act, H.R. 2647. This annual bill makes critical policy decisions for our national security, invests in key equipment and programs needed by our military, and supports our men and women in uniform, as well as their families.

The bill is expected to be considered on the floor of the House next week; in addition, the money authorized in the bill must also be funded by the defense funding bill, expected to be considered this summer.

Congressman Courtney is a member of the House Armed Services Committee, and help craft many of the measure's provisions. On the committee, he serves on the Seapwoer and Expeditionary Forces Subcommittee, which oversees Navy shipbuilding and aviation programs, as well as the Readiness Subcommittee, which oversees military construction and improvements at military facilities around the world.

Below you will find a summary of the bill's key provisions.

Major CT Programs:

- **Virginia Class Submarines.** The bill authorizes the procurement of one Virginia class submarine in 2010, and provides advanced procurement authorization for two submarines in 2011. This plan supports Rep. Courtney's two year effort on the committee to increase submarine production to two a year in 2011, which will reduce the future shortfall in attack submarines and support the workforce at Electric Boat.
- **Development of the replacement Ohio-Class SSBN.** The bill authorizes the President's request for \$495 million to being research and development of the replacement of the Ohio-class SSBN, which serves as a key part of our nation's strategic deterrent. Start of this work in 2010 will focus on the development of the nuclear reactor and the missile compartment, which the US is working on jointly with the UK. Designers and engineers at Electric Boat will be put to work on this critical program.
- **F-22 Raptor.** During committee debate, Rep. Courtney helped pass an amendment to add \$380 million to support the purchase of long lead materials for additional F-22s. While the President's budget recommended ending the F-22 program, bipartisan concern has been raised on the committee and in Congress over the impact to our national security and our domestic defense industrial base.
- **F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.** The bill provides \$6 billion for 28 F-35s, two less than the budget request but double the number of aircraft authorized in 2009. Of

the total, fifteen F-35Bs are for the Marine Corps, four F-35Cs for the Navy, and nine F-35As for the Air Force.

- **Presidential Helicopter.** The bill supports the administration's decision to cancel the costly VH-71 Marine One replacement program. The committee also expressed its support for a new acquisition plan, which is currently being considered by the DOD following the termination of the program earlier this month.
- **C-27J Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA).** The bill authorizes \$319 million for eight Air Force JCAs, matching the President's budget request. This year, the administration proposed significant changes to the JCA program, shifting it from a joint Army-Air Force program to one controlled only by the Air Force, as well as reducing the total number of aircraft from 78 to 38. The Connecticut Air National Guard is expected to be assigned the C-27J as its future flying mission, to replace the A-10s they lost in BRAC 2005. In its report to accompany the bill, the committee expresses support for basing the planes in Connecticut and directs the DOD to provide a report on where it expects to allocate the planes.

Rep. Courtney Amendments Approved During Consideration:

- **Foreign Sales of the F-22.** Rep. Courtney passed an amendment would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Air Force, to provide Congress with an evaluation of the potential sale of the F-22A to Japan. The report would detail the cost and feasibility of developing an export version of the aircraft, the strategic implications of providing the aircraft to Japan, and the impact to the aerospace and aviation industry.
- **Review of overtime ban for National Guard military technicians.** Dual-status military technicians, like those who work at the 1109th AVRAD in Groton and must maintain their national guard membership in order to keep their civilian job as a technician, are banned under a 30 year old law from receiving overtime pay. Instead, they are supposed to receive compensatory time off for their overtime hours worked – however, due to high workloads, many technicians find it difficult to actually use that time off. The Courtney Amendment requires DOD to undertake a review of policies relating to overtime compensation for military technicians, including an analysis of how much comp time military technicians are earning compared to how much they are using, and the cost for providing overtime pay in lieu of comp time.
- **Preservation of NR-1.** During mark-up in the Seapower Subcommittee, Rep. Courtney offered and passed an amendment expressing the Sense of Congress that the NR-1, the nation's only nuclear-powered research submarine that was decommissioned last year, should be preserved at the Submarine Force Museum & Library in Groton.

Rep. Courtney Funding Requests Approved:

- **MK-48 Torpedo Magazine, Subase New London, \$6.57 million.** Funding will be used to construction a new magazine capable of storing up to 36 MK 48 torpedoes. The FY09 Future Years Defense Plan (FYDP) scheduled this project for 2012; however, acceleration to 2010 is urgently needed to improve SUBASE New London's ability to support the needs of our submarine force. This project will increase the capability of the base to provide direct operation support to attack submarines homeported at the facility, as well as ensure that ordinance handling is done in a safe and efficient way. (requested with Reps. John Larson, Rosa DeLauro, Chris Murphy and Jim Himes)
- **TFI -cNAF BEDDOWN- UPGRADE FACILITIES, Connecticut Air National Guard, \$9.1 million.** Requested funding would be used to build the facilities needed to support the 103rd Airlift Wing's Component Numbered Air Force (cNAF) Air Operations Command Center. This mission, assigned to the 103AW following the removal of their A-10s through the 2005 BRAC process, will engage the CT Air National Guard in high tech, highly-skilled work that will support the planning operations, intelligence, logistics, combat service support, and communications-electronics needs of air combat operations around the globe. While this project is currently planned for 2011, acceleration to 2010 is needed to adequately support the training of personnel to meet the needs of their new mission - and without acceleration, there will be a gap in the 103AW's ability to adequately accomplish this important mission.
- **150 Shaft Horse Power Scalable UAV Engine, United Technologies Corporation (UTC), \$5 million.** Requested funding would develop a 500 horsepower Unmanned Air Vehicle (UAV) engine that burns logistic/heavy fuel, has high power to weight, low fuel consumption and high durability/reliability. This project would provide the Department of Defense with a UAV engine with reduced support costs increased durability, thereby ensuring that these critical assets are better able to support the needs of our commanders in the field.
- **Common Command and Control System Module (CCCS), General Dynamics Electric Boat, Groton; \$9 million.** Requested funding would begin development of a common command and control system module for use on Virginia Class (Block IV/V) submarines, SSGN, and Ohio Replacement submarines. This project would enable the Navy to maximize savings opportunities through common construction, test and maintenance processes among three classes of submarines.
- **Continuous Active Sonar (CAS) for Torpedo DCL Systems, Alion Science and Technology, Inc, Mystic; \$5 million.** The requested funding is for initial development, demonstration and evaluation of a Continuous Active Sonar (CAS) system, which would provide the military with a high-performance sonar system

that operates with lower power and smaller size. Successful development of this system would provide US Navy vessels with a previously unachievable self-defense capability against high threat torpedoes.

- **Hybrid Projectile Program, University of Hartford, West Hartford; \$3 million.** Requested funding would be used to develop and test a hybrid unmanned aerial systems (UAS) projectile. Work on this effort would be conducted by several Connecticut partners, including the University of Connecticut, the University of Bridgeport, GKN Composites, Kaman Fuzing and Ensign-Bickford Aerospace and Defense, and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technologies (CCAT). Currently there is a gap in the ability of soldiers to fire projectiles providing combined functionalities such as target identification, battlefield assessment and surveillance, and provide a scalable lethality to enemy targets of opportunity. Project would meet the Army's requirement to provide low cost multi-functional projectiles that have guidance capabilities to hit targets with low collateral damage from line-of-sight and beyond line of sight. (requested with Rep. John Larson)
- **Optical Fiber Assembly Manufacturing, Fiberoptics Technology Inc., Pomfret; \$1 million.** Requested funding will develop and implement core technologies for production of optical fiber assemblies with very precise diameter control at reduced cost. If funded, this project would reduce costs of fiber optical assemblies for APKWS munitions systems and other critical military applications, ultimately reducing the cost to the Department of Defense and the taxpayer.

Other Policy Provisions:

- **Pay Raise for our Troops.** The bill authorizes a 3.4 percent across-the-board pay raise for our military, a 0.5 percent increase over the President's budget.
- **Impact Aid.** The measure authorizes \$50 million for the Impact Aid program, which helps towns and schools with the cost of educating children of military families.
- **Supporting the National Guard.** The bill adds \$600 million, for a total of \$6.9 billion, to address critical shortfalls in National Guard and reserve equipment shortfalls resulting from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition, the bill extends TRICARE eligibility from 90 days to 180 days before they go on active duty to ensure that they are ready to deploy.
- **Iraq.** The committee requires the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the responsible redeployment of U.S. forces out of Iraq. The report will assist the committee in monitoring the status of the redeployment by including the number of military personnel in Iraq; how much equipment has been removed; and any changes to the pace of the redeployment out of Iraq. The bill also directs GAO to review DOD's approach to balancing the dueling requirements of troop

deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan with training needs of troops back home. Finally, the bill continues a prohibition on the establishment of permanent bases in Iraq.

- **Afghanistan/Pakistan.** The committee requires the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the responsible redeployment of U.S. forces out of Iraq. The report will assist the committee in monitoring the status of the redeployment by including the number of military personnel in Iraq; how much equipment has been removed; and any changes to the pace of the redeployment out of Iraq. The bill requires the president to develop goals, timelines and measure the effectiveness of our strategy in Afghanistan. IN addition, the bill requires the president to measure the effectiveness of our strategy in Pakistan and progress towards a stable nation there.
- **Procurement Reform.** Continuing the committee's efforts to reign in the high cost of buying new weapons systems, the bill increases the DOD's acquisition workforce by 9,000, so that we have an expert, skilled workforce to oversee procurement decisions.
- **Nuclear Non-Proliferation.** The bill fully supports the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) and other nonproliferation programs. The nearly \$3 billion provided for these efforts will address the rising threat of chemical, nuclear and biological weapons of mass destruction, and improve our ability to prevent, deter and track these weapons.
- **Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP).** The bill increases the authorization for PTAP by \$9 million, to \$30 million in 2010, to provide additional assistance to small businesses seeking contracting opportunities with the DOD and the federal government. The Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (SECTER) coordinates this program in Connecticut.
- **Closure of Guantanamo Bay.** As passed by the committee, detainees from the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, are prohibited from being transferred without the President first presenting a plan on what danger the detainees pose to the U.S., its territories, and possessions, how the President plans to mitigate this risk and what will happen to individual detainees. The President must also consult with state governors, the Mayor of D.C., or the chief executives of the territories or possessions on the proposed transfers to their localities.