

Thornberry Amendment: Modernizing to Face Russia and China

The Chairman's Mark makes a number of unwise cuts from the President's Budget Request to modernization programs that will hamper America's ability to maintain our competitive edge over Russia and China. It also makes unsafe and unwise cuts to nuclear modernization programs, including NNSA programs, designed to keep our deterrent credible and safe.

The Thornberry Amendment would restore the 3-5% growth senior commanders have testified is needed to maintain our competitive edge over near peer adversaries, matching the NDAA topline with the President's Budget Request. As General Dunford Testified, "[W]hen we say 3 to 5 percent, that's to maintain the current competitive advantage... Obviously more resources would result in a more decisive competitive advantage, but we actually identified that as the minimal necessary to make sure we could do what must be done by 2025."

Examples of Conventional Modernization (In Millions)

2 F-35B and 4 F-35C Aircraft (6 total)	\$748.8
Air Force NextGen Air Dominance Program	\$400.0
Navy Hypersonic Development	\$80.0
New Construction Aircraft Carriers	\$395.0
New construction for a fleet oiler	\$447.0
38 LCS Over the Horizon Missiles	\$62.0
LCS Mission Modules for mine countermeasures, anti-submarine warfare, and surface warfare modules	\$155.3
Unmanned surface vessel program	\$246.3
5G Test locations and other critical technology efforts, AI, and other critical technology	\$261.0
Rapid Innovation Fund	\$250.0
Defense Innovation Unit Commercialization and Investment Activities	\$75.0
Other Service Unfunded Requirements	\$604.2

America's Nuclear Deterrent is the cornerstone of our national security. Modernizing that deterrent has long been a bipartisan priority. Russia plans to spend \$28 billion by 2020 to modernize each leg of its nuclear triad. As Ash Carter, President Obama's Defense Secretary, said, "it is essential to recapitalize the nuclear Triad, because it is the bedrock of deterrence. During the past 25 years, the United States has made no major new investments in its nuclear forces, yet other countries have conducted vigorous buildups..."

Examples of Nuclear Modernization (In Millions)

Nuclear Modernization, including GBSD Minuteman III replacement	\$120.0
NNSA Activities that ensure a safe, secure, and credible deterrent	\$707.0
Ballistic Missile Defense	\$441.2
Hypersonic Investments	\$147.0

Thornberry Amendment: Restoring Readiness and Rebuilding Infrastructure

Between 2013 and 2017, military aviation accidents rose 40%, and military aviation deaths hit a six-year high in 2018. Following sustained, focused oversight from the Armed Services Committee and a significant targeted increase in resources, the Committee received testimony that the degradation in readiness has been arrested and accident rates have begun to decline. The Chairman's Mark makes significant cuts from the President's Budget Request to readiness programs- including to infrastructure and facilities funding- that Ranking Member Thornberry believes could slow recovery efforts

Examples of Restoring Readiness (In Millions)

Personnel Accounts for Service Member Pay, Retirement, Housing Allowance and Subsistence Payments	\$1,230.0
Depot repairs and upgraded parts for the F-15C Fleet	\$100.0
Degraded Visual Environment capability for helicopters deploying to CENTCOM	\$49.5
Army mounted Assured, Position, Navigation, and Timing systems for U.S. Army Europe formations	\$28.0
Ammunition Programs including AMRAAM, JDAM, general purpose bombs, conventional ammo, hellfires, GMLRs, and ATACM	\$329.3
USS Stennis (CVN 74) Overhaul	\$211.0
One Additional E-2D Hawkeye	\$173.0
Training For Reserve Components, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines	\$338.0
Aviation Operations and Training for Navy, Air Force, and Army	\$385.0
Logistics and Base Operations Funding	\$330.0
Depot Maintenance Support for Army and Air National Guard, Navy, and Air Force Reserve	\$34.2
Training and Recruiting for Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps	\$21.3

The Chairman's Mark does not support DOD's request for emergency funding to restore Tyndall AFB, Offutt AFB, Cherry Point MCAS, or Camp Lejeune MCB. Nor does it restore funding for military construction projects diverted to border barriers. Ranking Member Thornberry does not believe that our troops should have to pay the price for Washington politics. His amendment restores this funding.

Examples of Infrastructure Restoration: (In Millions)

Replace critical training and ground system equipment for the RC-135 Fleet at Offutt Air Force Base	\$230.0
Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization for the Army, Navy, Army National Guard, and Air Guard	\$460.0
Disaster Relief for Tyndall AFB, Offutt AFB, Cherry Point MCAS, and Camp Lejeune MCB.	\$2,300.0
Replenish Military Construction Accounts Diverted for Border Barriers	\$3,600.0