

2006. Additionally, the committee expects the Army to include the procurement of M1A2 Abrams SEP tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicle A3s in the funding requirements for modularity. The cost estimate for equipment requirements for modularity stated in this section includes this additional requirement.

The committee also considers the requirement for the reconstitution of Army Prepositioned Stocks (APS) to be consistent with the materiel configuration outlined in APS Strategy 2012 or a subsequent strategy created in accordance with section 2229 of title 10, United States Code, a section added to title 10 in another section of this Act.

## TITLE IV—MILITARY PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATIONS

### OVERVIEW

The committee continues to believe that the manpower levels in the budget request for the active components of the Army and the Marine Corps are too low for the requirements placed on those services by the national security strategy. Beginning with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003, as passed by the House of Representatives, the committee has recommended active end strength levels, especially for the Army, greater than those requested. Similarly, the committee's recommendations for fiscal year 2007 increase the active Army end strength by six percent, and the Marine Corps end strength by nearly three percent above the budget request. In recognition of the integral roles and missions performed by the reserve components, the committee commends and supports the decision by the Secretary of the Army and the chief of staff of the Army to request an Army National Guard end strength of 350,000, and recommends an increase of \$789.0 million in Army National Guard personnel, operations and maintenance, defense health and procurement accounts to support the Army leadership's request.

### LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

#### SUBTITLE A—ACTIVE FORCES

##### Section 401—End Strengths for Active Forces

This section would authorize the following end strengths for active duty personnel of the armed forces as of September 30, 2007:

Service	FY 2006 authorized	FY 2007		Change from	
		Request	Committee recommendation	FY 2007 request	FY 2006 authorized
Army .....	512,400	482,400	512,400	30,000	0
Navy .....	352,700	340,700	340,700	0	– 12,000
USMC .....	179,000	175,000	180,000	5,000	1,000
Air Force .....	357,400	334,200	334,200	0	– 23,200
DOD .....	1,401,500	1,332,300	1,367,300	35,000	– 34,200

The authorizations contained in this section for the Army and Marine Corps exceed by 30,000 and 5,000 respectively the end

strengths for those services requested in the budget because the committee does not believe that the budget request provided adequate manning levels for the Army and Marine Corps. Additional funding for these increases is provided in title XV of the bill.

#### Section 402—Revision in Permanent Active Duty End Strength Minimum Levels

This section would establish new minimum active duty end strengths for the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force as of September 30, 2007. The committee recommends 504,400 as the minimum active duty end strength for the Army. The minimum strengths of the Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force are identical to the committee recommendations for those services shown in section 401.

#### Section 403—Additional Authority for Increases of Army and Marine Corps Active Duty End Strengths for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009

This section would authorize additional increases of active duty end strength for the Army and for the Marine Corps in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 above the strengths authorized for those services in fiscal year 2007. Over the two-year period, the Army would be authorized to increase active duty end strength up to a total of 532,400, and the Marine Corps would be authorized to increase active duty end strength to 184,000.

### SUBTITLE B—RESERVE FORCES

#### Section 411—End Strengths for Selected Reserve

This section would authorize the following end strengths for selected reserve personnel, including the end strength for reserves on active duty in support of the reserves, as of September 30, 2007:

Service	FY 2006 authorized	FY 2007		Change from	
		Request	Committee recommendation	FY 2007 request	FY 2006 authorized
Army National Guard .....	350,000	350,000	350,000	0	0
Army Reserve .....	205,000	200,000	200,000	0	- 5,000
Navy Reserve .....	73,100	71,300	71,300	0	- 1,800
Marine Corps Reserve .....	39,600	39,600	39,600	0	0
Air National Guard .....	106,800	107,000	107,000	0	200
Air Force Reserve .....	74,000	74,900	74,900	0	900
DOD Total .....	848,500	842,800	842,800	0	- 5,700
Coast Guard Reserve .....	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0

The committee notes that subsequent to the receipt of the budget request, which proposed a fiscal year 2007 end strength for the Army National Guard of 332,900, the Secretary of Defense submitted a revised Army National Guard end strength authorization of 350,000 for fiscal year 2007. The committee recommendation supports that higher authorization and provides the required additional funding of \$471.0 million in the authorizations of appropriations for military personnel, operations and maintenance and defense health. Title I of this Act also recommends an additional

\$318.0 million for Army National Guard procurement to support the recommended end strength.

#### Section 412—End Strengths for Reserves on Active Duty in Support of the Reserve Components

This section would authorize the following end strengths for reserves on active duty in support of the reserves as of September 30, 2007:

Service	FY 2006 authorized	FY 2007		Change from	
		Request	Committee recommendation	FY 2007 request	FY 2006 authorized
Army National Guard .....	27,396	27,441	28,165	724	769
Army Reserve .....	15,270	15,416	15,416	0	146
Naval Reserve .....	13,392	12,564	12,564	0	-828
Marine Corps Reserve .....	2,261	2,261	2,261	0	0
Air National Guard .....	13,123	13,206	13,291	85	168
Air Force Reserve .....	2,290	2,707	2,707	0	417
DOD Total .....	73,732	73,595	74,404	809	672

The committee's recommendation in section 411 would support the Secretary of Defense's revised request for an end strength higher than what was initially requested for fiscal year 2007 for the Army National Guard. Consistent with that recommendation, the committee also recommends an increase in the end strength of Army National Guard personnel on active duty in support of that component. Furthermore, the committee recommends an increase of 85 Air National Guard personnel to improve the capability of the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (Joint STARS) to support the combatant commanders. In title XV of this Act, the committee recommends the funding for this Air National Guard increase.

#### Section 413—End Strengths for Military Technicians (Dual Status)

This section would authorize the following end strengths for military technicians (dual status) as of September 30, 2007:

Service	FY 2006 authorized (floor)	FY 2007		Change from	
		Request	Committee recommendation (floor)	FY 2007 request	FY 2006 authorized
Army National Guard .....	25,563	26,050	27,615	1,565	2,052
Army Reserve .....	7,649	7,912	7,912	0	263
Air National Guard .....	22,971	23,255	23,255	0	284
Air Force Reserve .....	9,852	10,124	10,124	0	272
DOD Total .....	66,035	67,341	68,906	1,565	2,871

The committee's recommendation in section 411 would support the Secretary of Defense's revised request for an end strength higher than what was initially requested for fiscal year 2007 for the Army National Guard. Consistent with that recommendation, the committee also recommends an increase in the end strength of Army National Guard military technicians (dual status). The committee's recommendation would provide for a 4.3 percent growth in the strength of military technicians above the levels authorized in fiscal year 2006.

### Section 414—Fiscal Year 2007 Limitation on Number of Non-Dual Status Technicians

This section would establish the maximum end strengths for the reserve components of the Army and Air Force for non-dual status technicians as of September 30, 2007:

Service	FY 2005 authorized	FY 2006		Change from	
		Request	Committee recommendation	FY 2006 request	FY 2005 authorized
Army National Guard .....	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Army Reserve695 .....	595	595	595	0	-100
Air National Guard .....	350	350	350	0	0
Air Force Reserve .....	90	90	90	0	0
DOD Total .....	2,735	2,635	2,635	0	-100

### Section 415—Maximum Number of Reserve Personnel Authorized To Be on Active Duty for Operational Support

This section would authorize, as required by section 115(b) of title 10, United States Code, the maximum number of reserve component personnel who may be on active duty or full-time national guard duty during fiscal year 2007 to provide operational support. The personnel authorized here do not count against the end strengths authorized by sections 401 or 412.

Service	FY 2006 authorized	FY 2007		Change from	
		Request	Committee recommendation	FY 2007 request	FY 2006 authorized
Army National Guard .....	17,000	17,000	17,000	0	0
Army Reserve .....	13,000	13,000	13,000	0	0
Naval Reserve .....	6,200	6,200	6,200	0	0
Marine Corps Reserve .....	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0
Air National Guard .....	16,000	16,000	16,000	0	0
Air Force Reserve .....	14,000	14,000	14,000	0	0
DOD Total .....	69,200	69,200	69,200	0	0

## SUBTITLE C—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

### Section 421—Military Personnel

This section would authorize \$1,098.2 million to be appropriated for military personnel. This authorization of appropriations reflects both reductions and increases to the budget request for military personnel that are itemized below:

#### *Military personnel*

	<i>Amount (in thousands of dollars)</i>
H411 ARNG: Restore funding to support 350,000 end strength .....	189,000
H411 ARNG: Restore TRICARE accrual funding .....	62,000
H601 Additional 0.5% basic pay raise .....	300,000
H615 Expanded eligibility of dental officers for special pay .....	4,000
H623: Incentives for high-demand, low density skills .....	5,000
H632 Ship second privately owned vehicle to non-foreign overseas areas .....	30,000
Army: Recruiting and retention bonuses .....	100,000
Army: Expanded Army early commissioning program (Skelton) .....	3,500
USAR: Army-wide office basic course funding .....	39,200

*Military personnel—Continued*

	<i>Amount (in thousands of dollars)</i>
Navy: Deferred PCS (CNO UFR) .....	100,000
Air Guard: Recruiting and retention bonuses .....	59,000
Leg. proposal not adopted: Extend basic pay table to 40 years of service .....	- 4,000
Targeted pay raise savings due to 0.5% basic pay increase .....	- 5,000
Unexpended MILPERS balances .....	- 1,839,000

## Section 422—Armed Forces Retirement Home

This section would authorize \$54.8 million to be appropriated for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home during fiscal year 2007.

## TITLE V—MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY

## OVERVIEW

The committee's recommendations reflect heavily the views and issues raised by servicemembers to committee Members and staff during oversight visits in the United States, in the combat zones of Southwest Asia, and across the world. Furthermore, the recommendations in this title represent the committee's continuing commitment to support the dedicated, exceptional Americans who serve in the armed forces. The committee recognizes that the active duty, national guard, and reserve members serving today are performing superbly, notwithstanding the many stresses of the global war on terrorism. The committee trusts that the recommendations made here will help to relieve some of that stress and also recognize the significant sacrifices that take place each day in the lives of the men and women who serve in uniform, and in the lives of the families that support them.

A major focus of this title involves not only servicemembers who have been wounded or injured, but also the surviving family members of those who have died or been seriously injured in service. Such focus continues the committee's initiatives enacted in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109-163) to improve programs that directly affect the injured, the wounded and the survivors. Therefore, the committee recommends the following:

(1) The remains of military personnel who die during combat operations or who die of non-combat related injuries in the theater of combat, would be moved by dedicated aircraft, from Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, to the military airfield nearest to the servicemember's place of interment and would be accompanied by military personnel who would render military honors at the destination airfield.

(2) The military services' physical evaluation board (PEB) process would be reformed to address concerns of military members, particularly reserve component members, about the consistency and timeliness of PEB decisions, the ability of members to gain information about PEB procedures, and the rationale supporting board decisions.

(3) The Secretary of Defense would be authorized to provide computer/electronic assistive technology, devices, and tech-