

TITLE III—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations

Authorization of appropriations (sec. 301)

This provision would authorize the appropriations for operation and maintenance activities at the levels identified in section 4301 of division D of this Act.

Subtitle B—Energy and the Environment

Modification of energy management reporting requirements (sec. 311)

The committee recommends a provision that would amend section 2925(a) of title 10, United States Code, by striking a subsection listing renewable energy credits (RECs) and clarifying and strengthening the reporting requirements on commercial and non-commercial utility outages. The committee notes that the Department of Defense (DOD) no longer purchases RECs. The provision would also clarify electricity outage reporting requirements to include non-commercial utility outages and DOD-owned infrastructure.

Report on efforts to reduce high energy costs at military installations (sec. 312)

The committee recommends a provision that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, in consultation with the assistant secretaries responsible for energy installations and environment for the military services and the Defense Logistics Agency, to conduct an assessment of the efforts to achieve cost savings at military installations with high energy costs.

Southern Sea Otter military readiness areas (sec. 313)

The committee recommends a provision that would require the Secretary of the Navy to establish areas, to be known as the Southern Sea Otter Military Readiness Areas, for national defense purposes. The areas are defined by coordinate boundaries in the provision. Sections 4 and 9 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533, 1538) and sections 101 and 102 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1371, 1372) would not apply with respect to the incidental takings of any southern sea otter in the Southern Sea Otter Military Readiness Areas in the course of conducting a military readiness activity. For purposes of military readiness activities, the otters within the readiness areas would be treated, for purposes of section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536), as a member of a species that is proposed

to be listed as an endangered species or threatened species under section 4 of that Act.

The Secretary of the Interior would be able to revise or terminate the exceptions to the Endangered Species Act and the marine Mammal Protection Act if the Secretary were to determine, in consultation with the Secretary of the Navy and the Marine Mammal Commission, that the military activities occurring in the readiness areas were impeding southern sea otter conservation or the return of the sea otters to optimum sustainable population levels.

The provision would also repeal section 1 of Public Law 99-625 (16 U.S.C. 1536 note).

Subtitle C—Logistics and Sustainment

Repeal of limitation on authority to enter into a contract for the sustainment, maintenance, repair, or overhaul of the F117 engine (sec. 321)

The committee recommends a provision that would repeal Section 341 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291; 128 Stat. 3345).

Subtitle D—Reports

Modification of annual report on prepositioned materiel and equipment (sec. 331)

The committee recommends a provision that would amend section 2229a(a) of title 10, United States Code, to update the list of named contingency operations slated for retrograde and subsequent inclusion in the prepositioned stocks.

Subtitle E—Limitations and Extensions of Authority

Modification of requirements for transferring aircraft within the Air Force inventory (sec. 341)

The committee recommends a provision that would amend section 345 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383) to ease administrative burdens and facilitate non-contentious transfers of aircraft from the Air Reserve Components (ARC) to the regular component of the Air Force (RegAF).

The provision would remove uncontentious, routine transfers, and short-term transfers from Section 345 reporting requirements. The provision also would exempt transfers that terminate the reserve component’s interest in the aircraft (due to aircraft retirement or mission transfer) when that transfer has been the subject of prior notification to the defense committees.

Additionally, the provision would direct administrative changes, such as requiring a signature from the Chief of the Air Force Reserve (a staff position) rather than the Commander, Air Force Reserve Command (a command position) and removing references to “ownership” of the aircraft. Because title vests in the United States government, aircraft ownership does not transfer; the components are merely assigned possessory rights.

The provision would clarify that when a written agreement is required, only leaders of the affected components need sign the agreement. For example, an agreement documenting a 180-day transfer of aircraft from the Air National Guard to the Regular Air Force would not require signature by the Chief of the Air Force Reserve.

The provision would not create an oversight vacuum or allow aircraft transfers to occur without coordination and agreement. The Air Force would still be required to comply with Department of Defense Instruction 1225.06, Equipping the Reserve Forces, May 16, 2012, Enclosure 3, which requires coordination, approval, and a written agreement signed by a general officer or civilian equivalent for equipment transfers, including aircraft.

Limitation on use of funds for Department of Defense sponsorships, advertising, or marketing associated with sports-related organizations or sporting events (sec. 342)

The committee recommends a provision that would prohibit the Department of Defense (DOD) from using appropriated funds to procure sponsorships, advertising, or marketing associated with sports-related organizations or sporting events until the Director, Accessions Policy within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness conducts a review of current departmental activities in this area, including those by the active duty, reserve, and guard components to ensure that such activities enable the DOD to achieve recruiting goals and provide an appropriate return on investment. The committee is aware that for fiscal year 2016, DOD has requested \$507.5 million to fund its advertising activities.

While the committee recognizes that sports marketing and advertising activities can help DOD achieve its recruiting and retention goals, the committee is also concerned that in a period of declining budgets, the Department may not be ensuring that it is maximizing its return on investment of sports marketing and advertising funds. In particular, the committee is concerned with the Department's continued use of funds for sports-related sponsorships, advertising and marketing. The committee notes that DOD components do not appear to be utilizing specific metrics, such as leads generated that lead to recruit accessions, in a uniform and consistent way to measure the return on investment associated with these activities. The committee further notes that the approach to managing contracts used to procure these activities differs across DOD components, and in the case of the Army National Guard, is highly decentralized and managed at the individual state level. The committee is concerned that such differences and decentralization hinder the ability to apply best practices, minimize potential duplication, and ensure that appropriate oversight into these activities occurs.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to assess DOD sponsorship, sports marketing and advertising activities, including the active duty, and reserve, and guard components. The assessment shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Whether DOD marketing and advertising activities are achieving their stated goals; (2) How DOD determines whether

its marketing and advertising activities are effective and providing an appropriate return on investment; (3) The extent to which the effectiveness of DOD marketing and advertising activities are consistent with best commercial practices; (4) DOD actions to reduce unnecessary redundancies in its marketing and advertising activities; and (5) an assessment of the activities required under section (a)(1) and (a)(2) in this provision.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to deliver a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 1, 2016.

Temporary authority to extend contracts and leases under ARMS Initiative (sec. 343)

The committee recommends a provision that would amend section 4554(a)(3)(A) of title 10, United States Code, to temporarily extend the authority to extend contracts and leases under the Armament Retooling and Manufacturing Support (ARMS) Initiative.

Subtitle F—Other Matters

Streamlining of Department of Defense management and operational headquarters (sec. 351)

The committee recommends a provision that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a comprehensive review of the management, headquarters, and organization of the Department of Defense (DOD) for purposes of consolidating and streamlining headquarters functions. The provision would require the Secretary, to the extent practicable, to consult with subject matter experts outside of DOD and to submit the required report no later than March 1, 2016. To implement this comprehensive plan, the Secretary of Defense shall make required personnel and budget reductions. Section 904 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66) required the Secretary of Defense to develop a plan for streamlining DOD management headquarters, including the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Joint Staff, the military services, and others that was to be provided to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after passage. The Secretary has yet to provide the required plan. Therefore, the committee initiates the streamlining with a 7.5 percent reduction to these organizations (except Special Operations Command, classified programs, Department of Defense Educational Activities, and programs related to sexual assault prevention and response) in fiscal year 2016 and increasing the reductions 7.5 percent each year for 4 years. Furthermore, the funding reductions should be matched by personnel reductions (military, civilian, and contractor) across the defense agencies, OSD, Service Secretariats, service military staffs, combatant commands, and service subordinate commands with military personnel transferred to operating forces. In executing the plan to reduce the overhead costs, the Secretary is directed to provide details of any personnel or functions that are transferred to any other organization in DOD. Elsewhere in this bill the committee recommends four provisions that would provide the Secretary with the force shaping tools necessary to retain the highest performing workforce when determining which em-

employees should be retained. These provisions will: (1) make performance the key factor when the DOD conducts reductions in force to its civilian and contractor workforce; (2) require employees receiving a less than satisfactory performance evaluation to be held at their current step-level for within-grade increases until they achieve satisfactory job performance; (3) extend the probationary period for new employees of DOD to 2 years; and (4) direct DOD to conduct a study, to be reviewed by the Comptroller General of the United States for sufficiency, of the fully-burdened costs to DOD for civilian and contractor employees at clerical, mid-level manager, and senior management levels. In executing this plan, the committee directs that operating forces and organizations such as depots, shipyards and similar functions not be cut in order to retain headquarter staffing levels.

To monitor the implementation of this plan, the provision would require the Comptroller General, through the end of fiscal year 2019, to conduct an annual review of DOD's implementation efforts. Finally, to ensure compliance, the provision would limit the availability of funds for contract personnel in OSD should the Secretary fail to achieve the underlying reductions of the provision. In addition, the committee would defer two military construction projects for headquarters-related functions pending the outcome of this review and plan.

The committee remains concerned with the growth in headquarters, administration, and overhead costs of DOD at a time of fiscal austerity and reductions in force structure. According to the Comptroller General, the Army Staff has increased by 60 percent, from 2,272 in 2001 to 3,639 in 2013. This increase in Army staff largely remains intact despite a reduction of the Army's Active-Duty, Reserve, and National Guard end strengths. The Air Force appears to have avoided OSD requirements to reduce unnecessary and duplicative headquarters functions and overhead activity. Instead, the Air Force grew subordinate units by shifting individuals from higher headquarters to two newly created subordinate headquarters (e.g., the Twenty-Fifth Air Force and the Installation and Mission Support Center). The Air Force appears to have made no significant reductions to its overall civilian personnel or obtained any savings to the Air Force wide budget. The budget for DOD Washington Headquarters Service (WHS), whose job it is to support all the growing headquarters and bureaucracy in the National Capital Region, has grown over 40 percent in the last 8 years from \$443.0 million to \$621.0 million. Budget growth in WHS is a clear sign the headquarters and overhead at DOD are getting larger, not smaller. The Joint Staff has also nearly doubled in size in the last five years to over 2,500 military and civilian employees. This growth is primarily attributable to the transfer of personnel from the supposed closure of United States Joint Forces Command. The committee is also concerned that significant duplicative activities may exist between OSD, the Joint Staff, the military services, defense agencies, and other temporary organizations within DOD.

The Defense Business Board estimates DOD could save \$25.0 billion per year if it better managed its civilian and contractor workforce through targeted reductions and contract elimination and other efficiency initiatives. The National Defense Panel (NDP)

noted that “additional changes are required to right size the civilian Defense Department and federal contracting workforces. Pentagon civilians have continued to grow even after the active duty forces have been shrinking for some time. From 2001 to 2012, the active duty military grew by 3.4 percent while at the same time the size of the USG civilian workforce in the Department has grown by 15% to over 800,000. CBO calculates that the rising costs of civilian pay accounts for two-thirds of projected growth in operations and maintenance spending in the next decade. Clearly, controlling or reducing civilian pay costs is essential to ensuring that the operations and maintenance accounts can be effectively leveraged to provide for the readiness of the Joint Force.” The NDP further stated: “The defense contracting workforce is also in need of review. By 2012, the number of civilian contractors working inside the Department of Defense had grown to approximately 670,000. While some of these contractors are performing critical functions in support of the U.S. military, others are a legacy of the tremendous growth in the use of civilian contractors that attended the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. We urge the Department to undertake a detailed examination of both the size of its civilian workforce and its reliance on civilian contractors in an effort to identify and eliminate excess overhead and right-size the civilian workforce.”

Adoption of retired military working dogs (sec. 352)

The committee recommends a provision that would amend section 2583 of title 10, United States Code, to give preference in the adoption of retired military working dogs (MWDs) to their former handlers, consistent with the best interests of the MWDs.

The committee recognizes the value MWDs in support of the various training missions and combat operations of the U.S. Armed Forces. The committee also recognizes the efforts of the 341st Training Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base in their role of training and handling MWDs across the Department of Defense.

Modification of required review of projects relating to potential obstructions to aviation (sec. 353)

The committee recommends a provision that would amend section 358 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 to expand the coverage of the Department of Defense (DOD) Siting Clearinghouse to requests for informal reviews from Indian tribes and landowners. The Siting Clearinghouse is an office in the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Energy Installations and Environment) that serves as the DOD’s point of contact under which the DOD evaluates projects for military mission compatibility and attempts to develop mitigations with developers.

This provision would clarify that information received from private entities, which is frequently confidential business information, is not required to be publicly released, as this reduces the willingness of private developers to seek early consultation with the DOD.

Further, the provision would eliminate an arbitrary and undesirable manner of distinguishing categories of adverse risk impact.

Pilot program on intensive instruction in certain Asian languages (sec. 354)

The committee recommends a provision that would authorize the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the National Security Education Board, to carry out a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of providing scholarships in accordance with the David L. Boren National Security Education Act of 1991 (50 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) to individuals for intensive language instruction in a covered Asian language where deficiencies exist.

Budget Items

Transfer to overseas contingency operations

The budget request included \$210.0 billion in service, component, and defense-wide operation and maintenance accounts. The committee recommends a decrease of \$39.0 billion in operation and maintenance in this title and as specified in the table in section 4301 and a corresponding increase in operation and maintenance accounts in title XV (Overseas Contingency Operations) and as specified in the table in section 4302. Recommended decreases and increases are summarized in the below table.

The Budget Control Act limits national defense discretionary spending to \$523.0 billion for fiscal year 2016. In order to meet the defense funding levels requested by the President and avoid triggering automatic cuts, known as sequestration, the committee recommends transferring funding authority from base budget operation and maintenance in this title to Overseas Contingency Operations in title XV.

The committee believes that the transfer of these funds to title XV should seek to limit any complications for the Department of Defense in the obligations of these funds. The committee notes the Armed Forces has been for the past 13 years, and continues to be today, engaged in overseas operations. Currently, the Armed Forces is expanding their presence abroad. As such, the budget request included significant overseas contingency operation funding in the operation and maintenance account, specifically for the operating forces activities. Therefore, the committee recommends the transfer of title III to title XV funds for the activities itemized below. The Department of Defense has executed both base and overseas contingency operations funding for the activities listed below in the past. In addition, in previous years the President has deemed the operation and maintenance account eligible for overseas contingency operation funding.

TRANSFER OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (OM) FUNDS FROM SECTION 4301 TO SECTION 4302
(\$ millions)

Activity (\$M)	Decrease Sec.4301	Increase Sec. 4302
OM, Army, Maneuver Units, 10	1,094.4
OM, Army, Theater Level Assets, 40	763.3
OM, Army, Land Forces Operations Support, 50	1,054.3
OM, Army, Aviation Assets, 60	1,546.1
OM, Army, Force Readiness Operations Support, 70	3,158.6
OM, Navy, Mission and Other Flight Operations, 10	4,940.4
OM, Navy, Aircraft Depot Maintenance, 60	897.5

TRANSFER OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (OM) FUNDS FROM SECTION 4301 TO SECTION
4302—Continued
(\$ millions)

Activity (\$M)	Decrease Sec.4301	Increase Sec. 4302
OM, Navy, Mission and Other Ship Operations, 90	4,287.7	
OM, Navy, Ship Depot Maintenance, 110	5,961.0	
OM, Marine Corps, Operational Forces, 10		931.1
OM, Marine Corps, Field Logistics, 20		931.8
OM, Air Force, Primary Combat Forces, 10	3,336.9	
OM, Air Force, Combat Enhancement Forces, 20	1,897.3	
OM, Air Force, Depot Maintenance, 40	6,537.1	
OM, Air Force, Depot Maintenance, 160	1,617.6	1,617.6
Total Transfer	38,955.0	38,955.0

Army and Army Reserve readiness unfunded priorities increases

The budget request included \$31.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance (OMA), of which \$1.2 billion was for SAG 123 Land Forces Depot Maintenance, \$2.6 billion was for SAG 132 Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization (FSRM) and \$981.0 million was for SAG 321 Specialized Skill Training. The budget request also included \$2.6 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve (OMAR), of which \$59.5 million was for SAG 123 Land Forces Depot Maintenance.

The Army has identified specific amounts in these readiness accounts that could help accelerate readiness recovery. The committee notes that these recommended increases will restore critical depot maintenance as well as increase both cyber and unmanned aircraft systems training capabilities. Additionally, the committee understands these funds will maintain the operations of strategic missile defense test sites.

Accordingly, the committee recommends the following increases in OMA: \$77.2 million for SAG 123 Land Forces Depot Maintenance, \$34.0 million for SAG 132 FSRM, and \$33.2 million for SAG 321 Specialized Skill Training. The committee also recommends an increase of \$32.4 million in OMAR for SAG 123 Land Forces Depot Maintenance.

Insider threat unfunded priorities increases

The budget request included \$31.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance (OMA), of which \$7.6 billion was for SAG 131 Base Operations Support and \$1.1 billion was for SAG 411 Security Programs.

The Army has identified specific amounts in these readiness accounts that could help reduce the risk of insider threat attacks. The committee notes that these recommended increases will improve physical security and information management.

Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of OMA in SAG 131 Base Operations Support for \$10.5 million and \$5.5 million in SAG 411 Security Programs to help reduce the risk of insider threat attacks.

Streamlining Combatant Commands

The budget request included \$35.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Army (OMA), of which \$448.6 million was for SAG 138 Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support, \$42.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy (OMN), of which \$73.1 million was for SAG 1CCM Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support, \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$900.6 million was for SAG 015A Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support.

The committee is concerned that duplicative activities may exist between the staff of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, the military services, and many defense agencies. In addition, new regulations and procedures have been implemented over the years that drive many of these costs. The committee recommends a reduction of 7.5 percent to operation and maintenance accounts for Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support.

Accordingly, the committee recommends undistributed decreases to the following: \$12.3 million in OMA to SAG 138 Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support, \$5.4 million in OMN to SAG 1CCM Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support, and \$15.3 million in OMAF to SAG 015A Combatant Commands Direct Mission Support.

Army outreach reduction

The budget request included \$31.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance (OMA), of which \$1.1 billion was for SAG 435 Other Service Support.

The committee understands that within the Other Service Support request was an increase of \$4.5 million to fund two additional cities for the Army's Spirit of America outreach program. The committee believes these funds should be realigned to support higher priority readiness requirements.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$4.5 million in OMA to SAG 435 Other Service Support.

United States Southern Command unfunded priorities increase

The budget request included \$35.1 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army (OMA), of which \$1.1 billion was for Security Programs.

United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) has identified specific amounts in this readiness account that could help offset the negative impacts from sequestration and resource critical mission shortfalls. The committee notes that in written testimony submitted to the committee on March 12, 2015, General John Kelly, Commander of SOUTHCOM, stated that in his area of responsibility the "limited tactical ISR allocation and national technical focus is impairing virtually every one of our assigned missions and exposing the southern approaches to the United States to significant risk." General John Kelly further stated that "we could be talking not high risk anymore, or severe risk, to our plans, but really we could be talking defeat if sequestration happens."

Accordingly, the committee recommends increases in OMA of \$20.0 million for Security Programs for SOUTHCOM, including air-

borne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, and other intelligence and counter-intelligence support.

Streamlining Management Headquarters

The budget request included \$35.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Army (OMA), of which \$7.4 billion was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$2.6 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve (OMAR), of which \$105.8 million was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$6.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard (OMARNG), of which \$430.1 million was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$42.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy (OMN), of which \$4.3 billion was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$6.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps (OMMC), of which \$471.8 million was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$1.0 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve (OMNR), of which \$1.0 billion was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$277.0 million for Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve (OMMCR), of which \$20.5 million was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$5.6 billion was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$3.0 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve (OMAFR), of which \$88.5 million was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, \$6.9 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard (OMANG), of which \$54.2 million was for Administration and Servicewide Activities, and \$32.4 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW), of which \$7.1 billion was for Administration and Servicewide Activities.

The committee is concerned that duplicative activities may exist between the staff of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, the military services, and many defense agencies. In addition, new regulations and procedures have been implemented over the years that drive many of these costs. The committee recommends a reduction of 7.5 percent to the Defense-wide and military service operations and maintenance accounts for Administration and Servicewide Activities.

Accordingly, the committee recommends undistributed decreases to the following Administration and Servicewide Activities accounts: \$238.4 million to OMA, \$6.0 million to OMAR, \$26.6 million to OMARNG, \$209.8 million to OMN, \$32.5 million to OMMC, \$1.3 million to OMNR, \$1.4 to OMMCR, \$276.2 million to OMAF, \$4.6 million to OMAFR, \$3.0 million to OMANG, and \$897.5 million to OMDW for streamlining of headquarters management.

Foreign currency fluctuation deductions

The budget request included \$35.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Army (OMA), \$42.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy (OMN), \$6.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps (OMMC), \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), and \$32.4 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW).

The committee believes that when foreign currency fluctuation (FCF) rates are determined by the Department of Defense, the bal-

ance of the FCF funds should be considered, particularly if the balance is close to the cap of \$970.0 million. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has informed the committee that as of March 2015, the Department has not transferred in any prior year unobligated balances to replenish the account for fiscal year 2015 from a beginning balance of \$970.0 million. GAO analysis projects that the Department will experience a net gain of \$739.8 million in fiscal year 2015 due to favorable foreign exchange rates, of which \$456.1 million is attributed to Operation and Maintenance (O&M). Additionally, GAO analysis projects the Department will experience a net gain of \$891.4 million in fiscal year 2016 in FCF, of which \$587.4 million is attributed to O&M.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of: \$281.5 million to OMA, \$59.9 million to OMN, \$19.8 million to OMMC, \$137.8 million to OMAF, and \$51.9 million to OMDW for FCF.

Bulk fuel savings

The budget request included \$35.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Army (OMA), \$2.6 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve (OMAR), \$6.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard (OMARNG), \$42.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy (OMN), \$6.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps (OMMC), \$1.0 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve (OMNR), \$277 million for Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve (OMMCR), \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), \$3.0 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve (OMAFR), \$6.9 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard (OMANG), and \$32.4 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW).

The committee understands that as of March 2015, the Department has overstated its projected bulk fuel costs for fiscal year 2016 by \$1.7 billion.

Accordingly, the committee recommends the following decreases: \$260.1 million to OMA, \$7.6 million to OMAR, \$25.3 to OMARNG, \$482.3 million to OMN, \$17.0 million to OMMC, \$39.7 to OMNR, \$1.0 million to OMMCR, \$618.3 million to OMAF, \$101.1 to OMAFR, \$162.6 million to OMANG, and \$36.0 million to OMDW for bulk fuel savings.

Army and Air National Guard Operation Phalanx increase

The budget request included \$6.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard (OMARNG), of which \$88.7 million was for SAG 114 Theater Level Assets and \$943.6 million was for SAG 116 Aviation Assets. The budget request also included \$6.9 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard (OMANG), of which \$740.7 million was for SAG 11G Mission Support Operations.

The committee remains concerned that the southern border of the United States remains insecure. The committee notes that in testimony on March 12, 2015, Admiral William Gortney, Commander of U.S. Northern Command stated that “the southern border can be more secure.” At the same hearing General John Kelly, Commander of U.S. Southern Command testified that “with the

amount of drugs and people that move across our southwest border, it doesn't seem all that secure to me."

The committee notes that the Army National Guard has been providing support to the Department of Homeland Security along the southwest border under a program entitled Operation Phalanx since 2010. Since its inception, Operation Phalanx has consisted of ground-based Entry Identification Teams, criminal analyst support, and aerial surveillance support to civil authorities along the southwest border. According to the Army National Guard, since Operation Phalanx began in July of 2010, operations have contributed to the apprehension of over 122,000 individuals and the seizure of over 377,000 pounds of marijuana.

Accordingly, the committee recommends the following increases in OMARNG: \$7.7 million for SAG 114 Theater Level Assets, and \$13.0 million for SAG 116 Aviation Assets. Additionally, the committee recommends an increase of \$2.6 million in OMANG for SAG 11G Mission Support Operations.

Army National Guard portrait cuts

The budget request included \$6.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard (OMARNG), of which \$59.6 million was for SAG 431 Administration.

The committee understands that a portion of the requested increase is for the Chief National Guard Bureau (CNBG) Heritage Paintings, which the CNBG commissions each year. The committee also understands that this increase would be to pay for a backlog of four other paintings at a cost of \$62,500 thousand per painting, which includes personnel and framing associated costs. The committee believes these funds should be realigned to support higher priority readiness requirements.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$250,000 in OMARNG for SAG 431 Administration.

Army National Guard marketing program reduction

The budget request included \$283.6 million in Other Personnel Support within Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard (OMARNG), of which \$283.0 million was for SAG 434 Other Personnel Support.

The committee understands that \$11.5 million is an increase to the Army Marketing Program. The committee believes that these funds should be realigned to support higher priority readiness requirements.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$11.5 million for SAG 434 Other Personnel Support.

Army National Guard readiness funding increase

The budget request included \$6.7 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard (OMARNG), of which \$166.8 million was for \$943.6 million in SAG 116 Aviation Assets and SAG 123 Land Forces Depot Maintenance.

The committee understands that the Army National Guard has identified specific amounts in these readiness accounts that could accelerate readiness recovery while also increasing both actual and simulated flying hour programs increasing aviator readiness.

Accordingly, the committee recommends the following increases in OMARNG: \$39.6 million in Aviation Assets and \$22.5 million for SAG 123 Land Forces Depot Maintenance.

Marine Corps readiness unfunded priorities increases

The budget request included \$42.2 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Navy (OMN) of which \$4.9 billion was for SAG 1A1A Mission and Other Flight Operations, \$376.8 million was for SAG 1A4N Air System Support, \$897.5 million for SAG 1A5A Aircraft Depot Maintenance, \$544.0 million was for SAG 1A9A Aviation Logistics, \$4.4 billion was for BSS1 Base Operating Support, and \$6.4 million for SAG 2B1G Aircraft Activations/Inactivations.

The committee understands that the Marine Corps has identified specific amounts in these readiness accounts that could accelerate readiness recovery. Specifically, the committee understands the Marine Corps has identified aviation readiness gaps in the CH-53E, MV-22, F/A-18, and AV-8B. The committee notes that this recommended increase will improve the Marine Corps' Ready Basic Aircraft goal to meet internal goals for the AV-8B Harrier and improve readiness and availability of the MV-22 aircraft. The committee also notes this recommended increase will reduce expected maintenance time for the AV-8B Harrier, making additional aircraft available to the fleet. Finally, the committee notes that this recommended increase will increase support and counseling services for Marines and their family members.

Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase in OMN of \$3.3 million to SAG 1A1A Mission and Other Flight Operations, \$13.9 million to SAG 1A4N Air System Support, \$17.0 million to SAG 1A5A Aircraft Depot Maintenance, \$5.3 million to SAG 1A9A Aviation Logistics, \$14.0 million to SAG BSS1 Base Operating Support, and \$0.5 million for SAG 2B1G Aircraft Activations/Inactivations.

Criminal Investigative Equipment

The budget request included \$6.2 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps (OMMC), of which \$2.0 billion was for SAG BSS1 Base Operating Support.

The committee is aware the Marine Corps has identified an unfunded requirement that would improve its criminal investigative capabilities.

Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$1.2 million for SAG BSS1 Base Operating Support for criminal investigative equipment.

A-10 to F-15E training transition

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$1.7 billion was for SAG 011D Air Operations Training.

The committee understands that within this budget request is \$79.6 million to be used to transition training resources from the A-10 to the F-15E.

The committee believes that the Air Force is proposing the retirement of the A-10 fleet purely on the basis of the fiscal environment and not on grounds of the ability of the combat air forces to effec-

tively meet the requirements of the combatant commanders and defense strategy. The committee also believes that with the A-10 fleet currently engaged in operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, providing a theater security package in Europe to assure our allies and partners, and continuing rotational deployments operations to Afghanistan, divesting this capability at this time incurs unacceptable risk in the capacity and readiness of the combat air forces without a suitable replacement available.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease in OMAF of \$78.0 million in SAG 011D Air Operations Training.

Air Force readiness unfunded priorities increases

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$1.8 billion was for SAG 011C Combat Enhancement Forces and \$1.7 billion was for SAG 011D Air Operations Training.

The Air Force has identified specific amounts in this readiness account that could help accelerate readiness recovery. The committee notes that this recommended increase will improve training capabilities at 18 ranges as well as improve cyber incident reporting.

Accordingly, the committee recommends the following increases in OMAF: \$4.3 million to SAG 011C Combat Enhancement Forces and \$37.7 million in OMAF for SAG 011D Air Operations Training.

Joint Enabling Capabilities Command

The budget request included \$205.1 million in Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF) for Combatant Commanders Core Operations, of which \$41.0 million was for Joint Enabling Capabilities Command (JECC).

The committee notes that JECC provides deployable units for planning, communications, and public affairs as a subordinate command to the U.S. Transportation Command. However, since the creation and establishment of JECC, combatant commands are now organized with planning, communications, and public affairs assets or can obtain these planning, communications, and public affairs forces through the military services.

The committee believes this funding should be realigned to support high priority readiness requirements.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$41.0 million in OMAF for JECC.

Air Force Headquarters reductions

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$3.3 billion was for SAG 011A Primary Combat Forces, \$1.8 billion was for SAG 011C Combat Enhancement Forces, \$907.4 million was for SAG 012F Tactical Intel and Other Special Activities, and \$1.1 billion was for SAG 043A Security Programs.

The committee is aware of the Air Force's request for increasing civilian end strength within OMAF by 215 full-time employees (FTEs). The committee believes the Air Force has not adequately justified these 215 additional FTEs, and that any unjustified growth in headquarters funding is inconsistent with the 2013 head-

quarter reductions mandated by then-Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and communicated to the military departments and agencies through a July 31, 2013 memorandum (OSD008519-13) sent by then-Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease in OMAF to the following: \$2.1 million to SAG 011A Primary Combat Forces, \$14.0 million to SAG 011C Combat Enhancement Forces, \$3.2 million to SAG 012F Tactical Intel and Other Special Activities, and \$4.9 million to SAG 043A Security Programs.

Remotely piloted aircraft

The budget request included \$35.4 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$359.3 million was for SAG 032A Specialized Skill Training.

The committee is aware that the remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) career field has been under stress due to the high demand of combat operations.

Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$43.1 million in OMAF to SAG 032A Specialized Skill Training to increase RPA training and schoolhouse throughput for pilots.

Air Force acquisition tools reduction

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$862 million was for SAG 041B Technical Support Activities.

The committee understands that the Air Force is requesting a \$32.4 million increase for “Acquisition Tools, Services, and Training” within Technical Support Activities. The committee understands that the Air Force intends to use a portion of these funds for skills training and officer development within the acquisition workforce. The committee believes these efforts are duplicative of the work done by the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease in OMAF of \$10.0 million for SAG 041B Technical Support Activities.

Air Force enterprise information technology systems

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$3.5 billion was for SAG 3400F Logistics Operations, of which \$1.1 billion is for Base Support. The committee recommends a decrease of \$12.0 million to this account to reduce support for redundant enterprise information systems. The committee notes that the Department of Defense and Air Force is working to continue to reduce its computing infrastructure, including data centers and legacy networks, through shutting down of legacy systems, consolidation of redundant systems, and adoption of advanced commercial technologies, such as cloud computing.

Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System reduction

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$689.7 million was for SAG 042A Administration.

The committee understands that within SAG 042A Administration is a \$65.0 million increase request for Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System (DEAMS). The committee is aware of \$12.6 million allocated to “Funds required to develop and deploy DEAMS” and \$8.1 million is for “DEAMS sustainment.” The committee is aware that within the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation funding for DEAMS, separate funds are identified for a similar purpose. The committee also understands that, according to the Office of the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, DEAMS has experienced significant software problems and that the program is not currently mature enough to transition to sustainment.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$20.7 million in OMAF to SAG 042A Administration for DEAMS.

EC-130H Buyback

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF).

The committee believes that the Air Force is proposing the retirement of EC-130H Compass Call aircraft purely on the basis of the fiscal environment and not on grounds of the ability of the Air Force to meet effectively the requirements of the combatant commanders and the national defense strategy.

Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$27.3 million in OMAF for EC-130H buyback.

A-10 Operation and Maintenance Buyback

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), \$3.0 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve (OMAFR), and \$6.9 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard (OMANG).

The committee believes that the Air Force is proposing the retirement of the A-10 fleet purely on the basis of the fiscal environment and not on grounds of the ability of the combat air forces to effectively meet the requirements of the combatant commanders and defense strategy. The committee also believes that with the A-10 fleet currently engaged in operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, providing a theater security package in Europe to assure our allies and partners, and continuing rotational deployments operations to Afghanistan, divesting this capability at this time incurs unacceptable risk in the capacity and readiness of the combat air forces without a suitable replacement available.

Accordingly, the committee recommends the following increases for A-10 buyback: \$235.3 million in OMAF, \$2.5 million in OMAFR, and \$42.2 million in OMANG.

Middle East Assurance Initiative

The budget request included \$495.7 million in Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW) for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, of which \$9.7 million was for the Combatant Commander Exercise Engagement and Training Transformation (CE2T2) program.

The committee recommends an increase of \$20.0 million in OMDW for the CE2T2 program for bilateral and multilateral exercises and activities to build the capability, capacity, and interoper-

ability of allies and partner nations in the Middle East to conduct multilateral contingency operations.

The committee notes the need for enhancements in a region of increasing unrest and the importance of the commitment of the United States to provide leadership in order to continue to develop critical multilateral partner capacity and capability as well as the interoperability of those partners with United States forces.

The committee directs the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in coordination with the Commander of United States Central Command, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate, not later than December 31, 2017, with a summary of the activities conducted with the additional funding.

Department of Defense Rewards Program reduction

The budget request included \$1.9 billion in the Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW) for the Office of the Secretary of Defense (SAG 4GTN), of which \$12.3 million was for the Department of Defense (DOD) rewards program.

The committee continues to be concerned that the DOD Rewards Program has been hampered by historical under-execution.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$4.0 million in OMDW for the DOD Rewards Program (SAG 4GTN). Additionally, the committee is encouraged by the DOD Rewards Program as an effective tool against counterterrorism worldwide. The committee is also encouraged by the prospect of DOD developing a budgeting forecasting tool to help improve the use of future resources.

Combating Terrorism Fellowship Program

The budget request included \$32.4 billion in Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide (OMDW), of which \$32.6 million is for the Combating Terrorism Fellowship Program (CTFP). While the committee remains supportive of the CTFP, the committee is concerned about the expanding activities and increased operating costs of the CTFP at a time of fiscal challenges. The committee encourages the CTFP to focus its activities on its core counterterrorism training and education mission and a limited number of regions where the threat posed by terrorism is most significant.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$7.0 million in OMDW for the CTFP.

Funding for impact aid

The amount authorized to be appropriated for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide, includes the following changes from the budget request. The provisions underlying these changes in funding levels are discussed in greater detail in title V of this committee report.

(Changes in millions of dollars)

Impact aid for schools with military dependent students	+25.0
Impact aid for children with severe disabilities	+5.0
Total	+30.0

Defense-wide funding decreases for Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA)

The budget request included \$110.6 million in Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW) for the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), of which \$33.1 million was for the Defense Industry Adjustment (DIA) program and \$20.0 million was for water and civilian water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.

The committee believes this funding should be realigned to support high priority readiness and modernization requirements.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$53.1 million in OMDW for the OEA.

Defense-wide funding decrease for base realignment and closure planning and support

The budget request included \$32.4 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW), of which \$1.3 billion was for SAG 4GTN Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The committee understands that \$10.5 million was to be used for base realignment and closure (BRAC) planning and support. The bill recommended by the committee would prohibit the expenditure of funds for a new BRAC round.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$10.5 million in OMDW for SAG 4GTN Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Studies of fleet platform architectures for the Navy

The budget request included \$1.4 million for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide (OMDW) for SAG 4GTN Admin Service-wide Activities.

This Act includes a provision that would direct the Secretary of Defense to commission three studies to be submitted to the congressional defense committees on potential future fleet architectures no later than May 1, 2016. These studies would provide competing visions and alternatives for future fleet architectures. One study would be performed by the Department of the Navy, with input from the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division. The second study would be performed by a federally funded research and development center. The third study would be conducted by a qualified independent, non-governmental institute, as selected by the Secretary of Defense.

Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$1.0 million in OMDW for SAG 4GTN Admin Service-wide Activities for the performance of these studies.

A-10 retirement manpower transfer

The budget request included \$38.1 billion for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force (OMAF), of which \$3.3 billion was for SAG 011A Primary Combat Forces (PCF).

The committee believes that the Air Force is proposing the retirement of the A-10 fleet purely on the basis of the fiscal environment, despite concerns that the retirement of the A-10 fleet could adversely impact the ability of the combat air forces to effectively meet the requirements of the combatant commanders and defense strategy. The committee also believes that with the A-10 fleet currently engaged in operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and

the Levant (ISIL), providing a theater security package in Europe to assure our allies and partners, and continuing rotational deployments operations to Afghanistan, divesting this capability at this time incurs unacceptable risk in the capacity and readiness of the combat air forces without a suitable replacement available. Additionally, in fiscal year 2015 the Air Force implemented the move of 18 primary mission aircraft inventory A-10s to backup aircraft inventory status, reducing all but 2 of the A-10 fleet's combat squadrons to 18 primary assigned aircraft each.

The committee understands that a portion of the requested increase for PCF was for the transfer of manpower towards retirement of the A-10.

Accordingly, the committee recommends a decrease of \$1.4 million for SAG 011A PCF.

Items of Special Interest

Army and Air Force full spectrum training requirements

The committee notes that for more than a decade, the Army and Air Force have focused the training of their forces in support of counterinsurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Department of Defense established a range of resource-intensive training requirements deemed necessary to conduct missions in these locations while deprioritizing training in other areas. The committee notes that in the coming years, both the Army and the Air Force will confront an increasingly complex security environment that will demand a full spectrum of missions, ranging from additional counterinsurgency operations to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. To accomplish a broader set of missions, the committee is encouraged by both services having established plans to refocus their training to conduct the full spectrum of military operations.

However, the committee notes that under the Budget Control Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-25), the Department faces an environment of constrained budgetary resources until at least 2021. For example, in fiscal year 2013, the Department's operation and maintenance accounts—which fund the military services' training programs—were reduced by approximately \$20.0 billion. Due to these sequestration-level budget caps, the Army curtailed training for all units except those deployed, preparing to deploy, or stationed overseas. Meanwhile, the Air Force ceased flight operations from April through June 2013 for about one third of its active duty combat units and reduced the number of its larger training exercises.

Unless the Budget Control Act of 2011 is amended, the Department faces another adverse impact to training and readiness in fiscal year 2016. The committee remains concerned that under sequestration, the Department will be unable to balance necessary training investments with available resources. Additionally, if sequestration persists until 2021, the committee notes that the Department may have to fundamentally reexamine the requirements for training its forces. Finally, the committee notes that the Department should continue to explore how to best achieve additional efficiencies and cost savings during training, while preparing for mission requirements.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to provide the committee with an assessment of the Army and Air Force training plans and requirements. This assessment shall include, but not be limited to: the extent to which the Army and Air Force have established full-spectrum readiness goals, plans, and timeframes to train their forces; have adjusted training plans and identified resource requirements in light of prepare ready units for counterinsurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan; have considered options for increasing the use of simulated training and other technologies to achieve efficiencies or other cost savings, while meeting training requirements; and any other issues the Comptroller General determines relevant and appropriate with respect to Army and Air Force training.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 15, 2016.

Body armor modernization

The committee continues to monitor the Department of Defense's plans and actions to ensure the continued availability and improvement of the best possible body armor and other protective equipment for our troops serving in harm's way. The committee has received the interim technical study and business case analysis of body armor plates required by the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291).

The committee looks forward to receiving the final report no later than March 1, 2016 which will evaluate the full range of options for body armor modernization and sustainment. The committee directs that the final report shall include a strategy to address body armor demand and sustainment in light of the current industry consolidation and potential restructuring, to ensure that the Department can respond to future warfighter requirements.

The committee expects the Department to continue to ensure that those who fight to protect our nation have the best available equipment and protection to meet mission requirements, including body armor specifically designed for women. Additionally, the Department is strongly encouraged to apply appropriate resources to ensure the modernization of body armor occurs through the appropriate research, development, test, and evaluation.

Care of stock in storage

The committee notes that the military services have established several locations of pre-positioned stock and equipment around the globe in support of combatant commanders' requirements for operational plans, training, and contingencies. The committee is concerned such military equipment suffers varying degrees of degradation and corrosion while being stored outdoors for extended periods of time. Such degradation and corrosion is caused by weatherization and equipment being stored in a stagnant state without minimal levels of care of stock in storage (COSIS). The Government Accountability Office has estimated that the Department of Defense incurs over \$20.0 billion every year in corrosion costs for its weapon systems and infrastructure.

The committee is concerned that minimal funding has been allocated to COSIS, historically, and instead has gone to other priorities, which ultimately leads to higher costs in the long-term. Furthermore, the committee believes that moving equipment under basic COSIS and cover—even indoor facilities that are not necessarily climate-controlled or using equipment covers—could generate significant cost avoidance for pre-positioned stock and military equipment.

The committee is aware of a recent effort by the Army in Kuwait to move some pre-positioned equipment to indoor storage, but the committee is concerned that such a move was merely a target of opportunity and not part of a broad strategy backed by effective planning and resources.

Accordingly, the committee strongly urges the Department and the military services to identify and implement opportunities to improve the COSIS and covered storage of its pre-positioned stock, and to notify the committee of potential opportunities where additional resources could be applied to improve COSIS.

Additionally, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 1, 2016 on specific locations and opportunities where COSIS could improve for outdoor pre-positioned stock to ensure equipment is stored in a way that minimizes weatherization and weapon system degradation. The report shall include an estimate of the return on investment of storing pre-positioned equipment indoors.

Category I ammunition items in OCONUS environments

The committee continues to note that Category I ammunition items, including certain man-portable missiles and rockets, are highly explosive, extremely lethal, and a potential threat if they were to be used by unauthorized individuals or groups. To help protect these items and minimize the risk of loss or theft, it is critical that the Department of Defense (DOD), among other security measures, have sound inventory controls and accountability while transferring custody of Category I ammunition items in outside the contiguous United States (OCONUS) environments. The committee notes that recent Government Accountability Office reports on inventory management have found that DOD information systems used to facilitate inventory management have some limitations that prevent DOD's ability to have Department-wide visibility of its inventory, including Category I ammunition items in OCONUS environments.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate the extent to which the military Services, in accordance with policies and procedures, have: (1) Have conducted physical inventories of Category I ammunition items in OCONUS locations and compared the results to records and adjusted the records as needed; (2) Are able to maintain accountability and track Category I ammunition items while they are being shipped to OCONUS locations and between OCONUS locations, as well as shipments back to the continental United States; and (3) Adhere to policies and procedures for maintaining account-

ability over the process for how Category I ammunition items are distributed, expended, and turned-in in OCONUS locations.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to deliver a report to the committee no later than March 15, 2016.

Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF)

The committee notes the vital national security contribution of the Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) to Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn as well as its essential role for the military in quickly responding to crisis situations such as humanitarian and disaster relief operations.

The National Airlift Policy of 1987 established clear policy regarding the Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF). The committee directs the Department to continue to comply with the National Airlift Policy to maintain the effectiveness of the Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) through appropriate peacetime cargo airlift augmentation and training within the military airlift system.

The committee encourages the Department to continue coordination with the Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) on matters of long-range planning, capability, training, and readiness.

Commercial innovation in energy technologies

The committee notes that innovation in advanced energy technologies by the commercial sector is frequently generating both significant revenues for industry, as well as enhancing the energy efficiency of organizations that are adopting novel technical solutions. Similarly, technologies ranging from more energy efficient engines to micro-grids to information technology-based intelligent management of energy and power systems can have significant impacts on defense missions, both improving combat capability and reducing costs.

The committee believes that the Department of Defense (DOD) has had limited success in engaging innovative small businesses and university researchers in the development and maturation of these types of technologies to meet DOD needs. One example of a successful endeavor to identify, develop, and potentially adopt innovative energy technology solutions, especially those being developed in the commercial sector is the Marine Corps' Experimental Forward Operating Base, currently run by the Expeditionary Energy Office. The committee believes that this type of effort should be replicated by other DOD organizations that have a mission to develop and adopt advanced energy technologies to support military missions.

The committee further notes that DOD has a wide range of authorities that can be used to engage with and potentially invest in commercial technologies and non-traditional industry partners to develop next generation, game-changing technologies. Specifically, the committee notes that DOD makes limited use of the authorities to award advanced technology prizes (as codified in section 2374 of title 10, United States Code, and in the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, Public Law 111-358), funding under Small Business Innovation Research program, transition activities supported by the Rapid Innovation Program, and other flexible and agile acquisition processes.

Accordingly, the committee strongly encourages the Department to consider using these types of authorities to identify and engage innovation companies.

Defense Logistics Agency and military services' integrated demand planning for spare parts

The committee recognizes that the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and the military services have jointly worked to integrate demand planning for consumable items to enhance materiel support at shipyards, depots and industrial operation sites. The committee continues to be concerned about DLA's ability to ensure the timely delivery and availability of spare parts to the depots and industrial sites, such as the Navy's Shipyards and Fleet Readiness Centers, Air Force's Air Logistics Centers (ALC), and the Army and Marine Corps' depots. While DLA has provided shipyards and depots with 80 percent of required parts in a timely and effective manner, our military services need 100 percent of the parts delivered on time to have combat/mission ready equipment.

Reports by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Department of Defense have identified shortages of spare parts at depots and shipyards, which affected maintenance operations and weapon system availability and overall readiness. In one report, the GAO analysis of Air Force data showed that the average monthly backorders and part shortages at the ALCs had grown significantly in recent years. The GAO also identified issues between DLA and the Air Force and Navy in support of their depot operations. Specifically, efforts to improve demand forecast accuracy for items needed to support the workload at the depots were not managed through a comprehensive framework and were not producing the intended outcomes.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate the extent to which: (1) DLA and the military services have established a framework for monitoring DLA's supply support depots and industrial operations while meeting performance targets for improving materiel availability, reducing backorders, and minimizing the accumulation of excess inventory; (2) backorders for DLA-managed items at the depots and industrial operation sites have affected the availability and readiness of weapon systems; (3) DLA and the military services implemented and measured collaborative forecasting efforts—like demand data exchange or gross demand planning—to integrate demand planning and improve materiel availability in support of efficient operations at the depots and industrial sites; and (4) DLA and the military services identified and applied leading best practices for integrating demand planning that could be used to enhance the availability of DLA-managed consumable items, decrease the likelihood of excess inventory, and improve depot and industrial operations.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to provide a report to the committee no later than March 15, 2016.

Department of Defense airfield reflective pavement markings

The committee commends the Department of Defense (DOD) for its continued safe execution of airfield operations to include main-

taining and sustaining the airfield environment. The committee understands the Air Force has been assessing its airfield markings to include reflective airfield, runway, and taxiway markings. The assessment includes factors such as reflectivity, friction coefficient, durability, and life cycle costs. This committee encourages all DOD services to assess the different types of reflective materials to maximize safety and ensure Unified Facilities Guide Specifications for pavement markings (UFGS 32 17 23.00 20 Pavement Markings, UFGS 32 17 24.00 10 Pavement Markings) are adequate for minimum reflective marking requirements for continued safe nighttime and low visibility conditions.

Department of Defense energy security and efficiency technologies

The committee is aware that new energy security and efficiency technology is being tested by the military services at Department of Defense (DOD) installations and is supported by the Department. The committee applauds DOD's efforts to find efficiencies in its energy programs. The committee encourages the types of technology that can provide energy infrastructure protections, maintain vital energy supplies during man-made and natural disasters and achieve energy efficiencies and cost savings. As such, the committee also encourages DOD's continued testing and evaluation of energy security and efficiency technologies and recommends all military services and DOD continue to look for additional evaluation and testing opportunities. Lastly, the committee notes that microgrid demonstrations that specifically target highest reliability of critical infrastructure at low implementation costs will be imperative in today's fiscally constrained environment.

Department of Defense fuel consumption estimates

The committee remains concerned that the Department of Defense (DOD) actual fuel costs have differed considerably from budget estimates. For example, the Department underestimated its fuel costs by about \$3.0 billion for fiscal years 2010 through 2012. The committee notes the inherent challenge the DOD faces in having to plan real-time fuel prices well in advance of execution, and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found in 2014 that fluctuations in global fuel prices accounted for a large portion of the differences between estimated and actual fuel costs. However, the GAO also found that differences between the military services' estimated and actual fuel consumption levels accounted for, on average, 26 percent of the difference between the DOD's estimated and actual fuel costs for fiscal years 2009 through 2013.

The committee notes that when developing annual operation and maintenance budget requests, the military services develop fuel funding requirements based on their estimated activity levels, such as flying hours, steaming days, tank miles, and base operations, along with the standard price of fuel provided to them by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

The committee believes that as the DOD transitions from large-scale contingency operations in Afghanistan, the services' consumption estimates should be more consistent as full spectrum training resumes. The committee also believes that given recent fuel price

fluctuations due to changes in the global oil market, accurate fuel consumption estimates become even more important in trying to adequately determine budget requests, particularly in times of fiscal constraints.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to provide the committee with an assessment of the military services' approaches to estimating fuel consumption in annual budget requests. This assessment shall include, but not be limited to: the processes the military services use to estimate their fuel consumption requirements each fiscal year, the factors that contribute to any differences between actual and estimated fuel consumption, and the extent to which DOD and the services have considered options for adjusting the approach to estimating fuel consumption in light of any differences in recent years between estimated and actual fuel use.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 15, 2016.

Department of Defense investment in community relations activities

The committee notes that the Department of Defense (DOD) engages in a variety of community relations activities and programs, such as aircraft flyovers and musical performances, which have a goal of increasing the understanding and mission of the DOD. The committee understands that some of these activities are also intended to support recruiting and retention programs. According to the DOD Directive 5410.18, the planning and execution of community relation programs are decentralized because of the variety of local conditions and environments in which they are used. However, because of their decentralized nature, it is difficult to determine the cost or effectiveness of these activities across the Department.

For instance, the committee understands the budget request included \$37.0 million in Military Construction, Army for an instruction building for the U.S. Army band, which does not include the costs of sustainment and operation of the facility. While the committee recognizes that community relations are needed and important, it also is interested in understanding the extent of investment in these activities and their benefits.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to identify the personnel, facilities, and other support costs associated with community relations activities in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, and evaluate the extent to which the military services determine requirements for these activities.

The committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 15, 2016.

Depot maintenance core workload capability

The committee recognizes that the Department of Defense (DOD) maintains many complex weapon systems and equipment that re-

quire regular and emergency maintenance in order to be available for DOD to meet the National Military Strategy. To sustain these weapon systems and equipment, at the depot level, DOD uses both organic depots and contractors. The committee notes that the military services are constantly in the process of assessing the critical skills and competencies necessary by the depot maintenance civilian workforce to support current and future national security requirements, along with projecting trends in the workforce based on expected losses due to retirement and other attrition.

The committee continues to recognize the key role the depots, arsenals, and ammunition plants serve, along with industry. Section 2464 of title 10 United States Code, required DOD to maintain a core maintenance capability—a combination of personnel, facilities, equipment, processes, data, and technology that is government-owned and government-operated—needed to meet mobilization, contingency, and emergency requirements. The committee notes that as DOD continues to operate in a fiscally-constrained environment, DOD will need to prioritize available funds to support the depots to ensure core capabilities are sustained.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate the extent to which DOD: uses core capability requirements to manage the current and future depot maintenance workloads, is able to provide information that identifies trends in core capability workloads at selected military depots, and the effects, if any, they are having on capability; and agreements such as public private partnerships with industry and the impact they have on DOD meeting core capability requirements.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 15, 2016.

Effects of operation and maintenance funding levels

The committee notes that the operation and maintenance (O&M) accounts provide the resources for military readiness and fund programs and activities such as training, maintenance, and base operations. The committee also notes that as a result of sequestration-level budget caps in fiscal year 2013, the Department of Defense's O&M accounts were reduced by approximately \$20.0 billion. Due to these sequestration reductions, the military services took a variety of actions, such as curtailing training, reducing the number of large training exercises, and ceasing flight operations for many combat units. As a result of these actions, and given the time required to retrain personnel and perform deferred maintenance, the military services have faced challenges in restoring their units to pre-sequestration levels of readiness. While the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-67) provided some relief to the Department by increasing discretionary spending caps, established under the Budget Control Act of 2011, for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the committee is concerned that the readiness and cost impacts associated with lower levels of O&M funding over time could lead to a high level of risk in the near future, with significant shortfalls in both present and future capabilities.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate the effects of budgetary constraints

on the O&M accounts, including an assessment of, but not limited to the following: the trends in funding provided for the Department's O&M accounts since fiscal year 2009 and a comparison of how O&M resources compared with funding plans; how the Department has identified immediate and long-term readiness and cost impacts resulting from any reductions in O&M resources; and how the Department assessed any degradation, if any, on core mission readiness and identified plans to mitigate such degradation.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than March 15, 2016.

Encouraging the Use of the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Program

The committee is aware of the readiness challenges facing the Armed Forces due to the constraints put forth by sequestration. Additionally, the committee is aware of the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program, which contributes to military readiness and provides realistic training in a joint environment for National Guard, Reserve, and Active-Duty members, preparing them to serve during a national crisis at home or abroad.

The committee understands the IRT program offers complex and challenging training opportunities for domestic and international crises, opportunities which can seldom be replicated outside of these crises. The committee is also aware that states that utilize the IRT program include, Alabama, Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, and South Dakota.

The committee encourages the Department of Defense to continue to utilize the IRT programs as well as the other training opportunities that also provide hands-on and mission-essential training and are available to Active, Reserve, and National Guard forces.

Enhanced Performance Round and Special Operations Science and Technology review

The committee believes that the Army and Marine Corps have taken duplicative courses of action to improve its 5.56mm small arms ammunition. While the committee recognizes and supports the requirement for an improved small arms round against both hard and soft targets, the committee also believes that the Department may be incurring unnecessary costs to procure, store, and field almost identically-capable small arms ammunition. The committee is also concerned regarding a recent court case alleging that the Army infringed upon a patent in developing the enhanced performance round (EPR).

Additionally, the committee is concerned that an independent comparison of the EPR, or M855A1, and Special Operations Science and Technology (SOST), round has not been completed, leaving both the Army and Marine Corps to develop separate ammunition procurement strategies.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate

and the House of Representatives no later than March 1, 2016. The report shall include a comparison and analysis of the EPR and SOST rounds to include but not limited to: (1) cost; (2) performance including range, accuracy, and lethality; and (3) effects on the weapon. The report may include a classified annex, as appropriate.

Fabric-based respiratory protective equipment

The committee is aware of emerging technologies in fabrics and respiratory protection that are designed to minimize service member exposure to inhalation of sand, dust, smoke, and pollutants. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the relevant military departments and their research, development, test, and evaluation directorates, to submit a report to the committee no later than March 1, 2016 on fabric-based respiratory protective equipment. The report shall evaluate the technology, and document any efforts underway to develop, design, and test wearable fabric-based respiratory protection solutions, and any potential applications for service members and military civilians. The report shall also include an assessment of the commercial availability of any fabric-based respiratory protection.

Foreign language training

The committee believes that foreign language proficiency, particularly for slang and other colloquialisms in target languages, is an essential component of military readiness. Additionally, the committee understands that foreign language proficiency education materials are utilized by numerous agencies and services, to include but not limited to the Defense Language Institute, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Defense Intelligence Agency, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, members of the intelligence community as well as the Department of State and other non-defense customers. The committee is concerned that reductions to such capabilities may have a far reaching impact on the ability of civilian and military personnel of the Department of Defense, and possibly also the cryptanalytic personnel of other agencies, to support combatant commanders and major commands of the military services.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act that identifies capability gaps in advanced foreign language proficiency within the military services and other relevant U.S. federal government agencies that support Department of Defense and military operations. The committee further directs the Secretary of Defense to consult with such agencies, including the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, in the preparation of this report, providing these agencies with an opportunity to submit additional views to the congressional defense committees as they deem necessary. The committee directs that this report should propose a plan for eliminating shortfalls in advanced foreign language proficiency and include a recommendation as to the most appropriate budget function, such as within a military service, other government agencies that support military operations, or the Office of the Secretary of Defense, for advanced foreign language training. The committee further directs that this re-

port should propose a plan for the aforementioned agencies to identify and reduce duplicative services that could reduce costs while increasing information and skill sharing.

Installation access programs and systems

The committee continues to be concerned about the lack of coordination among the efforts of the military services and defense agencies to support credentialing at defense installations. The Senate report accompanying S. 2410 (S. Rept. 113–176) of the Carl Levin National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 directed the Department of Defense (DOD) to provide a report concurrent with the budget submission for fiscal year 2016 that identified DOD credentialing and physical access control programs and systems, including commercially contracted services and other commercially provided services. While DOD delivered an interim report, the final report on physical access control systems has not been received.

The committee directs Secretary of Defense to immediately provide the required report on its efforts to deploy physical access control systems. As directed by the committee, this report should cover all programs and systems intended to provide credentials and/or manage installation access, include all programs and systems the services and DOD have operationally deployed, are in research and development, or in pilot or prototype demonstration, and include both direct and indirect costs.

Major test range and test facility bases reimbursement

The committee notes that the Department of Defense (DOD) established the major range and test facility bases (MRTFBs) management concept to provide effective coordination among military installations, promote multi-service use, and reduce unnecessary duplication of assets.

The committee is aware that MRTFBs in the United States currently are reimbursed for training activities by the training units upon completion of a training event. The committee understands that some training units do not routinely encounter this type of reimbursement process, which may create unnecessary difficulty and confusion for reimbursement at MRTFBs.

Accordingly, the committee urges DOD to examine the current reimbursement process for MRTFBs and, where appropriate, simplify the reimbursement process in order to maximize effectiveness and efficiency for training units.

Medical textile apparel for healthcare workers and patients

The committee is aware of emerging technologies in textiles and medical apparel that are designed to minimize unanticipated exposures to blood and bodily fluids, by reducing the amount of pathogens on garments and decreasing the risk of infectious disease transmission in healthcare settings. Accordingly, the committee encourages the Department of Defense to incorporate the effective use of such emerging technologies, including innovative textile products designed to reduce the chances of spreading infections in healthcare settings, where appropriate.

Mentor Protégé program

The congressionally-mandated Mentor Protégé program is intended to support efforts of small and disadvantaged businesses to partner with established defense suppliers in order to improve their ability to deliver needed technologies and services to the Department of Defense. The committee is concerned that the program may not always be currently executed to most efficiently achieve mandated goals. For example, the committee's analysis of this program indicates that in some cases, protégé firms participating in this program had received millions of dollars in federal prime contract awards prior to the establishment of their Mentor-Protégé agreements. This raises questions as to whether appropriate criteria are in place to ensure that the companies participating as protégés truly require the developmental assistance that is being provided under this program. In addition, the committee is concerned that in some cases the developmental assistance provided by mentors and reimbursed by the Department under this program may not be targeted to those activities most critical to enhancing the capabilities of the supplier base that the Department needs.

The committee will continue to work with the Department to ensure that the program meets the policy goals of enhancing the defense supplier base, in the most effective and efficient manner, and to determine if there are better ways to incentivize participation in the program other than direct reimbursement as well as program metrics that would better convey the actual impact of the development assistance on the protégé's business.

Obstructions on or near military installations

The committee is concerned that the installation of renewable energy projects on or near military bases may cause unacceptable interference with military operations or safety. The committee strongly encourages the Department of Defense to ensure the Siting Clearinghouse process appropriately takes into account the views of senior military officers of the uniformed services for the military compatibility of renewable energy projects. The committee believes senior military officials can best assess potential impacts to the safety or readiness of military servicemembers as well as the effectiveness of mitigation strategies proposed for renewable energy projects.

Operational Energy

The committee is encouraged by the Department of Defense (DOD)'s fiscal year 2016 commitment to improving military capability, decrease tactical risk, and reduce cost through efforts to improve energy security and to better manage both operational and installation energy.

The committee understands that generators used by the military services consume a large percentage of the fuel used in overseas contingency operations and the Department should continue to examine ways to increase fuel efficiency, improve combat capability, decrease tactical risk, and reduce cost of generators.

Additionally, the committee understands that the Army's planned Abrams tank auxiliary power unit will use 92 percent less fuel idling and 9 percent less fuel during maneuvers. Similarly, the

improved turbine engine program for Army Blackhawk and Apache helicopters is expected to extend combat range by 85 percent.

The committee is also encouraged by the Navy's focus on enhancing combat capability, increasing endurance and range, and using energy investments to increase readiness. The committee understands that planned technologies such as improved ship hull coatings, stern flaps, lighting, and bow bulbs may create an additional week of steaming days on the same amount of fuel. Hybrid electric drives, currently installed in amphibious assault ships, can add 10 steaming days which would allow the Navy and Marine Corps more presence on station and to spend less time refueling and replenishing at sea.

Consequently, the committee encourages DOD to continue the progress made towards improving combat capabilities through appropriate investments in operational and installation energy.

Personal protection equipment

The committee notes that section 141 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (P.L. 113-66) required the Secretary of Defense to submit, as part of the defense budget materials for each fiscal year, a consolidated budget justification display that covers all programs and activities associated with the procurement of personal protection equipment (PPE).

While the Department of Defense's fiscal year 2016 budget display for PPE is a positive step, the submission did not provide many of the required details regarding body armor components, combat helmets, and combat protective eyewear. The committee expects the Department to comply with section 141 of the fiscal year 2014 NDAA and strongly encourages the Department to consider including similar budget displays for environmental and fire resistant clothing, footwear, and organizational clothing and individual equipment as well.

Red Hill underground fuel storage facility

The committee is aware that the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) has stated that the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility "serves as a critical asset supporting United States Pacific Command operations in peacetime and contingency" and will "remain vitally important to our security interests for the next thirty years." The committee is also aware that PACOM, the Department of the Navy, and the Defense Logistics Agency have determined the storage requirement at the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility to remain between 13 and 15 operational storage tanks to support the most demanding scenario within the Pacific theater, with the ability to bring additional tanks online at the end of the repair and modernization cycle should future requirements warrant. Additionally, the committee is aware that the Naval Facilities Engineering Command is currently conducting an engineering assessment to determine the best available practicable technological (BAPT) solutions for the recapitalization of the storage tanks to ensure long-term integrity and environmental compliance in a cost effective manner. The committee is further aware that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has drafted a proposed rule to amend Title 40 Code of Federal Regulation (Parts 280

and 281) to regulate field-constructed underground storage tanks, such as those at the facility, and directs the Naval Facilities Engineering Command to factor in these potential regulations in their BAPT solutions.

Report on those at-risk of exposure to perfluorochemicals from the Haven Well in Portsmouth, New Hampshire

The committee notes that in April 2014, the Air Force in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, and the City of Portsmouth—discovered the presence of perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in the Haven Well in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The presence of the chemicals in the well in Portsmouth is likely due to the Air Force's use of fire-fighting foam at Pease Air National Guard Base.

Research has associated exposure to these chemicals with certain types of cancer. Portsmouth residents who believe they were at risk of exposure have requested tests to check their blood serum levels of PFCs. The committee is unaware of any affirmative steps by the Air Force to identify and notify everyone at risk of contamination from the Haven Well—including the service members and civilians who may have been exposed while stationed at the Pease Air Base.

The committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to submit a report to the defense committees no later than September 30, 2015, detailing the Air Force's efforts to identify and notify the servicemembers and Department of Defense civilian employees who may have been exposed while stationed at Pease. If such notification is not complete by the completion of the report, the Secretary shall include the Air Force's plan to complete the notification within 90 days of submission of the report.

Resilience of Department of Defense-owned utility infrastructure

The committee notes that Department of Defense (DOD) installations serve as platforms from which the Department deploys forces across the full spectrum of military operations. To accomplish their missions, DOD installations, inside and outside the continental United States, must have assurance that they can continue to operate in the face of man-made and weather-induced utility disruptions that affect electricity, potable water, wastewater, and natural gas utility service. The committee notes that threats—such as cyberattacks—and hazards—such as severe weather events—pose significant risks to the utility infrastructure that provides military installations with utility services. The committee also notes that DOD installations rely upon utility infrastructure owned by non-DOD entities, such as commercial utility companies, and on-installation infrastructure owned by the Department.

The committee believes that the condition of the utility infrastructure can play a significant role in a military installation's resilience to utility disruptions, either by threat or hazard. For example, aging infrastructure is more likely to fail when subjected to extreme weather conditions.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate, (1) from fiscal years 2009 to 2015, utility disruptions on DOD installations that have been caused by

the failure of DOD-owned infrastructure and what have been the operational and fiscal impacts of such disruptions, (2) how DOD has assessed the condition of its utility infrastructure on military installations and invested in the sustainment of its utility infrastructure, (3) to what extent, if any, is information on the condition of DOD-owned utility infrastructure used by the Department when it makes utility resilience or other resources decisions; and (4) any other issues identified by the Comptroller General.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to provide a briefing or deliver a report to the committee no later than March 15, 2016.

Tubular light-emitting diode technology

The committee recognizes that the Department of the Navy is replacing fluorescent light bulbs aboard U.S. Navy vessels with tubular light-emitting diodes (T-LEDs). The committee notes that these fixtures may consume less energy, realize life-cycle cost savings, and provide a return on investment. Should the Secretary of the Navy determine that further investment in this technology will lead to consistent return on investments across the fleet and ashore, the committee encourages the Secretary to fully develop an approved products list for T-LEDs that is broadly available for use in vessels and facilities. In addition, the committee encourages the Secretary of the Navy to request updates to the Unified Facilities Criteria and other related Department of Defense regulations, to include new lighting technologies as an option for vessels and facilities.

Utah Test and Training Range

The committee recognizes the important role Air Force test and training ranges play in maintaining and improving the readiness, proficiency, safety, and cost effectiveness of Department of Defense personnel and equipment. The committee further recognizes the need for the Air Force to enhance and modernize their ranges to test and train units on fifth-generation weapons systems to maintain the United States Armed Forces' technological advantage over prospective adversaries. Fifth-generation weapons such as the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and F-22 Raptor are approaching or already attained benchmarks in operational capacity and use. The Long Range Strike Bomber and other advanced weapons continue into planning and development stages. The Department must retain and sustain the capability to test and train appropriately on these technologically advanced weapons systems.

The Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR) provides the largest overland safety footprint available in the Department for aircrew training and weapons testing, to include fifth-generation and future weapons systems. The UTTR provides a realistic and similar terrain to actual combat locations. Each year, the Department submits a Sustainable Ranges Report to Congress, outlining the Department's position on military training range needs, resources, and constraints. Identified in these reports are three needed areas of improvement for UTTR: inability to accommodate fifth-generation aircraft and weapons testing, encroachment through natural community expansion and environmental constraints, and conges-

tion with increased unmanned aerial vehicle testing at U.S. Army Dugway Proving Grounds.

To maintain current UTTR mission capability and meet future mission requirements, the committee recommends the Air Force, Bureau of Land Management, Congress, the State of Utah, local governments, and community leaders continue efforts to create buffer areas surrounding the range to prevent against encroachment, and provide the Department with the necessary capabilities needed to fulfill future mission requirements.