



ASSOCIATION OF OLD CROWS ADVOCACY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 17, 2020

A Closer Look: HR 7617, the FY 2021 Defense Appropriations Act

A last order of business by the House of Representatives before the August District Work period was to pass HR 7617, the second FY 2021 Appropriations Minibus, which included Defense Appropriations as its base bill. The House passed the bill by a party line vote of 217-197. The minibus also included ap-proriations bills for Commerce-Justice-State, Energy & Water, Financial Services, Labor-HHS-Education, and Transportation-HUD.

Table 1: Defense Appropriations Funding (in thousands)

Category	2021 President's Request	% Change PY	2021 House Total	House Change PY	FY 2020 Total
MILPER	\$150,524,104	5.7%	\$149,355,652	4.6%	\$142,446,067
O&M	\$196,630,496	-1.4%	\$196,703,001	-1.4%	\$199,415,415
Procurement	\$130,866,091	-2.3%	\$133,633,757	-0.2%	\$133,879,995
R&D	\$106,224,793	1.7%	\$104,348,089	-0.1%	\$104,431,232
Revolving and Management Funds	\$1,348,910	-13.8%	\$1,348,910	-16.0%	\$1,564,211
Other DoD Programs	\$34,720,940	-4.4%	\$35,321,321	-2.8%	\$36,316,176
Related Agencies	\$1,177,000	10.0%	\$1,133,728	5.6%	\$1,070,000
General Provisions (net)	\$276,000	-107.3%	-\$3,556,766	-6.9%	-\$3,803,211
OCO	\$68,650,238	-2.9%	\$68,435,000	-3.3%	\$70,665,000
Subtotal, DoD	\$690,418,572	0.6%	\$686,722,692	0.1%	\$685,984,885
Scorekeeping adjustments	\$8,416,000	6.6%	\$8,416,000	6.6%	\$7,858,815
TOTAL, Mandatory and Discretionary	\$698,834,572	0.7%	\$695,138,692	0.2%	\$693,843,700

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A Closer Look (cont)

HR 7617 provides a total of \$695.12 billion, which includes \$68.4 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). The House bill comes in \$3.7 billion less the President's request, but \$1.3 billion above FY 2020. The Senate has yet to consider any appropriations legislation, which means that it is likely Congress will not reach a final agreement on FY 21 Defense Appropriations until spring 2021 (see Advocacy Newsletter, August 10, [here](#)).

While the President's Budget Request represents only small increase over the previous year (0.7 per-cent), and the House bill comes in at 0.2 percent increase over FY 2020, the past five years has seen the defense budget has grow \$120.5 billion, or 21 percent. Specifically, for FY 2021, the House bill re-duces funding for O&M, Procurement, and R&D accounts by 1.4 percent, 0.2 percent, and 0.1 percent, respectively. While not significant, it does reflect some "belt-tightening" that will likely continue in future years, especially in the aftermath of the COVID pandemic.

Furthermore, in its Committee Report introduction, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense (HAC-D) noted that the President's OCO request includes \$16 billion in base budget funding, which by-passes the Budget Control Act cap on defense spending. Since the BCA ends in FY 2021, the HAC-D hints at an expectation that future OCO funding in FY 2022-FY 2025 may be assumed in the base budg-et request, thereby ending the practice of taking military operations funding off-budget. This would instill more accountability in defense spending, but also increase pressure on DoD and Congress to find addi-tional savings to make room for up to \$20 billion in OCO funding next year. Congress has appropriated war supplemental or OCO funding since FY 2002 following September 11 terrorist attacks. While this practice has provided much needed resources for ongoing military operations, it has also been used to circumvent spending caps or uphold notions of a balanced federal budget.

Procurement Funding

HR 7617 provides \$133.6 billion in funding for procurement, which would be \$246.2 million less than FY 2020 (see Table 2 below).

The AOC is tracking 36 procurement lines in the budget, totaling approximately \$3 billion in spending (see EW Items of Interest - Procurement, [here](#)). While not all inclusive of programs related to electro-magnetic spectrum operations, the list provides a good indication of the Administration and Congress' support for EMSO-relevant programs. The following are some notable

Procurement Funding (cont)

initiatives and adjustments:

- \$37.5 million in additional funding for the Army’s Tactical EW System (TEWS).
- \$1.24 billion for 12 F-15X aircraft that features an enhanced electronic warfare suite of increased survivability.
- \$14 million add for Link 16 communications upgrade to the Army’s Gray Eagle.
- \$791.1 million for the Navy’s E2-D Hawkeye, including an increase of \$178.5 million for one (1) additional aircraft. The E2-D Hawkeye is the Navy’s tactical airborne early warning and control (AEW/C) aircraft that will provide one of the most capable airborne sensor systems (see AOC Issue Brief, [here](#)).
- \$125.6 million for the Navy’s Next Generation Jammer (Mid-Band), but reduces funding from the President’s Request by \$51.1 million for cost and support reductions (see AOC Issue Brief, [here](#)).
- \$161.1 million for the Compass Call mission, which fully funds the President’s Request and in-cludes funding for the transition to the new the EC-37B platform. The AOC strongly supports accelerating the procurement of this next generation aircraft and system (see AOC Issue Brief, [here](#)).
- \$353.9 million for the Navy’s SEWIP program, but reduces funding from the President’s Request by \$30 million due to Blk 3 early to need designation.
- \$32 million for the F-15 EPAWSS programs, which fully funds the President’s Request.

Table 2: Procurement Funding (in thousands)

Service	FY 2020	FY 2021 President's Request	FY 2021 HAC-D Funding
Army	\$21,590,698	\$21,665,763	\$21,861,929
Navy	\$61,415,441	\$56,651,226	\$57,821,925
Air Force	\$43,123,933	\$44,596,620	\$46,049,818
Space Force	\$2,353,383	\$2,446,064	\$2,289,934
DoD-wide	\$5,332,147	\$5,324,487	\$5,418,220
Defense Production Act Purchase	\$64,393	\$181,931	\$191,931
Total	\$133,879,995	\$130,866,091	\$133,633,757

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RDT&E Funding

Like Procurement, the AOC is monitoring 48 PEs totaling \$5 billion in RDT&E spending and covering more than 100 activities (see EW Items of Interest - RDT&E, [here](#)). Notable initiatives and adjustments include the following:

- \$2,318,864,000 for the Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared Enterprise Architecture for the Space Force.
- \$75.3 million for Air and Missile Defense Technology (0602150A), and increase of \$20 million for beam control systems and enabling and support technology for High Energy Lasers.
- \$35.9 million for Aircraft Survivability Development (0605051A).
- \$292.2 million for the E2-D Hawkeye (0604234N), a slight decrease of \$17 million for excess cost growth of sensor activities.
- \$126.9 million for Directed Energy and Electric Systems activities (0603925N).
- \$447.2 million for the Navy's Next Generation Jammer, a slight decrease of \$30 million from the President's Request.
- \$128.1 million for USAF Directed Energy Technology (0602605F).
- \$170.7 million for the F-15 EPAWSS development, which fully funds the President's Request.
- \$128.1 million for Airborne SIGINT Enterprises (0304260F).
- \$233.3 million for Airborne Sensors Activities (0602204F), an increase of \$22 million for various activities.

Table 3: RDT&E Funding (in thousands)

Service	FY 2020	FY 2021 President's Request	FY 2021 HAC-D Funding
Army	\$12,543,435	\$12,587,343	\$13,126,499
Navy	\$20,155,115	\$21,427,048	\$20,165,874
Air Force	\$45,566,955	\$37,391,826	\$36,040,609
Space Force	\$0	\$10,327,595	\$10,187,840
DoD-wide	\$25,938,027	\$24,280,891	\$24,617,177
Test and Evaluation, Defense	\$227,700	\$210,090	\$210,090
Total	\$104,431,232	\$106,224,793	\$104,348,089

HAC-D Pushes Back on USAF Realignment of PEs Supporting EW Activities

In the President's Budget Request, the USAF sought to realign several PEs relating to electronic warfare, cyber operations, and other electromagnetic activities. Many PEs including but not limited to Electronic Combat Technology, Advanced Aerospace Sensors, and Advanced Weapons Technology, were consolidated under Next Gen Effects Dev/Demos, Next Gen Platform Dev/Demo, and Persistent Knowledge and C2 Tech PEs. According to the Committee Report, the USAF intention was to improve integration and provide "cross-domain solutions to problem sets." The HAC-D noted the merits of the effort, but believed such a consolidation could negatively affect transparency and accountability across activities within the consolidated PE. Thus, the Committee restored the original PEs and dispersed funding accordingly.

Army Release RFI for Next Generation RCIED Electronic Warfare (CREW) System

On July 20, the Army released a request for information (RFI) for a Next Generation Counter Radio-Controlled Improvised Explosive Device (RCIED) Electronic Warfare (CREW) System. According to the solicitation, the Army is interested in vendors that have invested IR&D resources to design C4ISR/EW CMOSS- and MORA-compliant mounted CREW system or can integrate mature subsystems into a partially compliant system. This will be an 18-24 month effort with demonstrations occurring at 12 and 18 months of start. Deadline for submission is September 3, 2020.

Deadline nears for AFMC solicitation for Software Defined User Equipment (SDUE)

The US Air Force Life Cycle Management Center at Robins AFB, GA, released a solicitation on July 2, 2020 to identify sources that possess prototype development and limited production background, data, expertise, capabilities, and experience necessary to design, develop, produce, test, qualify, and field prototype aviation form factor Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) Software Defined Radio (SDR) cards with residual operational capability cards to be employed as Software Defined User Equipment (SDUE) by the United States Air Force. This solicitation aligns with the USAF focus on improved PNT capabilities that can provide cross-domain solutions to PNT threat environments. The deadline to submit is next week, August 22, 2020.

OUSD(R&E) releases RFI on Technologies Advancing Electronic and Cyber Warfare Capabilities

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering released an RFI on July 22. The solicitation requests information on EW and Cyber technologies and capabilities to advance “1) current operational and supporting capabilities in EW-Cyber in all domains; 2) integrated EW-Cyber operations; 3) visualization of Radio Frequency (RF), Cyber and Communications signals in all domains; 4) allow rapid analysis of large volumes of disparate data/information from many sources to include: natural language processing in various languages, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), super computing, parallel processing and related technologies; 5) technical support to operational decision making from the tactical through the strategic level of warfare; and finally 6) technical support to course of action development, optimization and prioritization.” Pre-RFP response is due August 21, 2020. The official RFP will be released by the end of September 2020.

For questions, comments, or additional information on any of the above topics, please contact Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach, at kmiller@crowds.org.