



# Advocacy Update

Association of Old Crows | April 2018

## Rep. Bacon Introduces JEMSO Bill

This week, Rep. Don Bacon (NE-02) introduced the Joint Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations (JEMSO) Readiness Act, or JEMSORA, along with Reps. Austin Scott (GA-08), Salud Carbajal (CA-24), and Jimmy Panetta (CA-20). The AOC strongly endorses this legislation as it represents a tremendous opportunity to advance innovative EMSO capability that is a prerequisite for successful military operations in the twenty-first century.

The Department of Defense (DoD) and the military services are making strides in this area, but as the bill states, we must “accelerate” this effort and provide for “the unified governance framework necessary to optimize” every aspect of JEMSO - from concept to integrated fielded systems to warfighter training to a fully interoperable capability. The bill calls for Joint Campaign Modeling, a thorough assessment of JEMSO capabilities and capacity, and a meaningful, sustainable and resourced governance enterprise that will go a long way toward addressing persistent gaps and align DoD and Congress on reforms necessary to our technology acquisition, tactics, techniques, and procedures. [Click here for a copy of the bill.](#)

JEMSORA puts warfighter readiness first. It will help ensure the United States has a decisive advantage over adversaries and peer competitors when it comes to controlling the EMS. It is imperative we find new ways to work together to accelerate development of EW systems and technologies, balance investment to serve both near-term requirements and long-term vision, and strengthen leadership at every level in DoD and our military services.

The AOC is actively encouraging Members of Congress to become cosponsors of this legislation. We are hopeful for the inclusion of this legislation in the FY 19 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). It is time for DoD and Congress to work together to advance JEMSO. Contact Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach, at [kmiller@crows.org](mailto:kmiller@crows.org) to learn more about JEMSORA. [You can view Rep Bacon's press release here.](#)

## NDAA Season Heating Up

Last month, Congress agreed on a spending plan to raise the Budget Control Act caps and finally completed on the FY 18 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which funds the government through the end of the fiscal year (September 30). These actions cleared the way for the congressional defense committees to dive into FY 19 defense spending, both the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and FY 19 Defense Appropriations Act, with much less controversy standing in the way.

Both the House and Senate Armed Services Committees (HASC and SASC, respectively) are currently holding a series of oversight hearings with Committee attention turning to NDAA Committee mark-ups. The HASC will begin its mark-up process of H.R. 5515, the FY19 NDAA, during the last week of April, while the SASC reportedly begins mark-up the week of May 7. According to Bloomberg Government, there are a few issues that could heat up during the committee process, including an authorization on the use of force (AUMF), the future of JSTARS, the size of the Navy fleet, and border security; however, agreement on overall spending should ease passage. In the... (cont)

## NDAAs Season Heating Up cont.

coming weeks, the AOC will release more information on EW-related issues in the NDAA.

The remainder of the year is somewhat of a giant question mark. The House is scheduled to be in session for only 16 more weeks (Senate, 20 weeks) before Election Day, but only 14 and 16 weeks, respectively, before the end of the fiscal year. During this window, Congress has a long list of legislative priorities and expiring authorizations to consider. The NDAA will likely move through House and Senate consideration relatively smoothly in the coming weeks, but the defense appropriations bill likely take time and move into the next fiscal year. It is all but certain that FY 19 will begin under a Continuing Resolution (CR) until the Lame Duck session takes place following the election.

## Important Dates to Watch

Date	Event / Happening
April 26	HASC Subcommittee Mark-up of FY 19 NDAA
May 7	SASC to begin FY 19 NDAA Mark-Up
July 30	House begins August Recess
Aug. 4	Senate begins August Recess
Sept. 3	Congress (House and Senate) return to session
Sept. 30	End of Fiscal Year 2018
Oct. 1	Start of Fiscal Year 2019
Oct. 15	House begins election recess
Oct. 27	Senate begins election recess
Nov. 6	Election Day
Nov. 13	Congress returns for lame-duck session
Dec. 13	Scheduled House adjournment
Dec. 14	Scheduled Senate adjournment

## Select Remarks from SecDef James Mattis

The remarks below are of Secretary of Defense James Mattis at the April 12, 2018 House Armed Services Committee Hearing on FY 2019 NDAA Budget Request from the Department of Defense

**On technological innovation:** " Our 2018 national defense strategy also prioritizes investing in technological innovation to increase lethality. Cyber, advanced computing, big data analytics, artificial intelligence, autonomy, robotics, miniaturization, additive manufacturing, directed energy and hypersonics are the very technologies that we need to fight and win wars of the future."

"So innovation has now become something that we have got to unleash in a much more focused way, and we have got to have outputs from our innovative efforts that keep us from building a ship that, five years later, we'll say, "Well, that class does not look so good after all."... (cont)

## Select Remarks from SecDef James Mattis cont

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**On who owns artificial intelligence R&D, bureaucratically:** "Right now, it's our new under-secretary of research and engineering, Michael Griffin. And I would tell you that we're looking at a joint office where we would concentrate all of DOD's efforts, since we have a number of A.I. efforts underway right now. We're looking at pulling them all together."

**On who is the lead for cyber:** "Inside the Department of Defense, Congresswoman, we have U.S. Cyber Command and they are responsible for defending our networks and attacking the adversaries. We also have NSA and Cyber Command, National Security Administration and Cyber Command connected. We are going to, per the congressional guidance, we are going to separate those two, but keep them in a synergistic role together and I -- we need to figure this out. And once we have it figured out, we'll come back to the Congress. But there will be most of America's offense and defensive capability."

**On prototyping:** "My predecessor set up DIUx out in Silicon Valley for a reason. And we have embraced it, and actually strengthened it. We are looking to prioritize these various efforts due to the Congress that broke our acquisition technology and logistics under secretariat (ph) in to two parts. One is acquisition and sustainment, the other is research and engineering. We've brought in varsity level players there and defense testing and evaluation. And we are going to move things in to production, prototyping. We're not going to have more papers; we're going to move on hypersonic, move on A.I. What do I mean by move? Joint program officers, not a bunch of different organizations all feeling their way forward. And you just listed in the list you gave me -- right just in the question, you just listed exactly where we're going. And we can give you a brief on this sir, but I've got a varsity level player as the under secretary of research and engineering with NASA background, DOD background, (inaudible). He's really got what we needs in terms of experience to drive this forward. Not for theory, not for experiments, but putting something out for test and moving it in to a capability."

## In Case You Missed It

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"We need to assess the ideal methods for the training and deployment of the directed energy programs, electronic warfare and artificial intelligence programs. All of these concepts, which are called for and this country desperately needs, needs to have a basic infrastructure that will allow us to be able to deploy -- train them effectively."

- **Lucian Niemeyer, Assistant Defense Secretary for Energy, Installations, and Environment**, speaking at the House Appropriations Committee, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Hearing on Budget Oversight of Energy, Installations, and Environment, FY 2019

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