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{ REPORT
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2024

JULY 27, 2023.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2587]

The Committee on Appropriations reports an original bill (S. 2587) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

New obligational authority

Total of bill as reported to the Senate	\$831,751,268,000
Amount of 2023 appropriations	833,994,228,000
Amount of 2024 budget estimate	826,648,377,000
Bill as recommended to Senate compared to—	
2023 appropriations	– 2,242,900,000
2024 budget estimate	+ 5,102,891,000

strategies, and to encourage greater industry co-investment, the Committee recommends adjustments to facilitization investments.

The Committee directs the Department to negotiate multi-year procurement contracts which yield unit cost savings commensurate with the stabilizing effect of economic order quantities, and industry commitments in facilitization with a particular focus on sub-contractors in line with best practices including the ongoing approach to the VIRGINIA and COLUMBIA-class, as well as other shipbuilding programs. The Committee further directs the Secretary of Defense to provide reports on each munitions multi-year procurement award on a semi-annual basis until all such munitions have been delivered, to include projected and realized cost savings; impact of government and industry investment on capacity and associated supply chain, identifying potential risks and weaknesses; and analysis of whether the multi-year procurement has created stability in the supply chain.

HOMELAND DEFENSE CAPABILITY ACCELERATION

As detailed at a Committee briefing on February 9, 2023, the Committee is concerned by the incursion into U.S. airspace of a high altitude surveillance balloon from the People's Republic of China in January and February 2023. It is imperative to ensure homeland defense systems are fully capable to provide situational awareness so similar incidents do not occur in the future. Recognizing the critical role of the Over-the-Horizon Radar [OTHR] program in detecting airborne and surface targets of interest, the Committee recommends an additional \$55,000,000 over the fiscal year 2024 President's budget request to procure a testbed to integrate OTHR with space-based sensors. The Committee also recommends an additional \$211,500,000 over the fiscal year 2024 President's budget request to acquire three additional radars for the Three-Dimensional Expeditionary Long Range Radar program. Finally, the Committee recommends a total of \$27,000,000 for the ARCHER program. These additions fully fund the top three unfunded priorities of U.S. Northern Command. The Committee encourages the Department to act expeditiously in executing these improvements to homeland defense networks.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The Committee is supportive of efforts by the Department of Defense [DOD] to develop clear policies and governance structures for the ethical use of artificial intelligence, to strengthen its internal technical expertise, and to leverage the benefits of artificial intelligence for more effective outcomes in support of the National defense. The Committee notes that the Department of Defense established the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office [CDAO] in February 2022 to break down stovepipes within the DOD, and provide a common policy and technical foundation for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the military services, combatant commands, and defense agencies. The Committee remains supportive of the CDAO and sees its maturation as a key enabler to further adoption of artificial intelligence throughout the Department of Defense.