

Committee Requests Information on Pentagon's \$125 Billion in Waste

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Members Send Bipartisan Letter to Defense Secretary

Washington, D.C. – Today, a group of 31 bipartisan members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee sent a [letter](#) to U.S. Department of Defense Secretary Ashton Carter requesting information on the Defense Business Board (DBB) Study and the Department's response to its findings.

Recent [news reports](#) suggest the DBB Study recommended \$125 billion in savings which were ignored by the Department. Specifically the letter states:

"... we question why learning about potential savings that would be enough to 'cover the operational costs for 50 Army brigades, or 3,000 F-35 Joint Strike Fighters for the Air Force, or 10 aircraft-carrier strike groups for the Navy,' would not also be a priority."

In addition to a briefing, the Committee requested all documents or communications referring or relating to:

- any meetings with Deputy Secretary of Defense Work related to the DBB Study;
- the Defense Business Board's, or any of its members', efforts to discuss the DBB Study with you;
- your decision to replace Robert Stein with Michael Bayer as Chairman of the Defense Business Board;
- costs and potential savings of back-office operations at the Department, including any cost data or assumptions generated or considered by the DBB.
- any of the recommendations from the Study the Pentagon is considering adopting; and
- a complete copy of the DBB Study; and
- a copy of the 77-page summary report that was made public and subsequently removed from the Pentagon's website.

In addition to Chairman Chaffetz and Ranking Member Cummings, letter signatories include:

Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI)
Rep. Rod Blum (R-IA)
Rep. Brendan F. Boyle (D-PA)
Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay (D-MO)
Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ)
Rep. Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA)
Rep. Jim Cooper (D-TN)
Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL)
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)
Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
Rep. Blake Farenthold (R-TX)
Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM)
Rep. Paul A. Gosar (R-AZ)
Rep. Trey Gowdy (R-SC)
Rep. Glenn Grothman (R-WI)
Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH)
Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D-IL)
Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA)
Rep. Brenda L. Lawrence (D-MI)
Rep. Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA)
Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY)
Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY)
Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC)
Rep. Elanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Rep. Stacey E. Plaskett (D-VI)
Rep. Steve Russell (R-OK)
Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI)
Rep. Mark Walker (R-NC)
Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT)

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