

AMENDMENT TO DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL
OFFERED BY MR. VISCLOSKY OF INDIANA

In the Bill:

On page 9, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert
“(reduced by \$17,500,000)”.

On page 31, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert
“(reduced by \$96,995,000) (increased by \$96,995,000)”.

On page 32, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert
“(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

On page 32, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert
“(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$20,000,000)”.

On page 33, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert
“(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

On page 34, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert
“(increased by \$12,500,000)”.

On page 34, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert
“(increased by \$2,500,000)”.

On page 34, line 14, after the dollar amount insert
“(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

On page 34, line 25, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

On page 35, line 3, insert before the period the following:

1 “: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall
2 submit to the House and Senate Appropriations Commit-
3 tees quarterly reports on the current status of the deploy-
4 ment of the electronic health record: *Provided further*,
5 That the Secretary of Defense shall provide notice to the
6 House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later
7 than 10 business days after delaying the proposed timeline
8 of such deployment if such delay is longer than one week:
9 *Provided further*, That the Comptroller General of the
10 United States shall perform quarterly performance reviews
11 of such deployment”.

In the Report:

On page 65, under the header “INDIAN FINANCING ACT”, at the end of the paragraph, insert the following:

“The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to comply with section 8122 of this Act which requires the Department of Defense to conduct regular and meaningful consultations and coordination between the Depart-

ment and Indian Tribal Governments on issues of mutual interest.”

On page 66, before the header “OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY”, insert the following:

“WIND ENERGY

The Committee is aware of the ongoing development of offshore wind energy arrays on the United States Outer Continental Shelf as well as the ongoing leasing of wind energy areas. The Committee recognizes that wind turbine structures, particularly when arranged in large arrays, may cause interference to radars and that vibrations generated by the operation of turbines may cause sonic interference to underwater sonar. As such, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 365 days after the enactment of this Act that addresses any potential national security concerns with respect to the construction of offshore wind arrays, to include an examination of legacy and new turbines, and any appropriate mitigation measures that should be implemented to address these concerns.”

On page 120, under the header “GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON”, strike the second instance of “granular activated carbon” in the paragraph and insert “addi-

tional remediation technologies, including plasma generation,”.

On page 138, before the header “PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY”, insert the following:

“MACHINE GUN MOUNT UPGRADES

The Committee supports the MK93 machine gun mount upgrade program and encourages the Secretary of the Army to include additional detail in its budget request for fiscal year 2021 regarding its plans to develop and deploy the softmount upgrade.”

On page 280, before the header “RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE”, insert the following:

“PERSISTENT CYBER ENGAGEMENT

The Committee recognizes U.S. Cyber Command’s emphasis on persistent engagement as part of the evolving strategy to secure the cyber domain. The Committee understands that efforts currently are underway at the Air Force Research Laboratory to establish a center for persistent cyber engagement to provide training and skills development for cyber security. The Committee understands that there is a continuing need for investment in technical platforms, manpower, access to networks and software, and acquisition of technology, and that such a

center could aid the integration of investment across these areas. The Committee encourages the Secretary of the Air Force and the Commander of U.S. Cyber Command to continue and enhance efforts to support persistent cyber engagement.

DATA TRANSMISSION IN CONTESTED ENVIRONMENTS

The Committee is aware of increasing data transmission challenges in the multi-domain battlespace with the rising demand for high-definition full motion video, voice, geolocation, and intelligence data requests. Data transmission is particularly difficult in contested environments where shared information may be susceptible to capture, corruption, or disruption. The Committee encourages the Secretary of the Air Force to develop and mature data transmission technologies including next generation multi-beam arrays, encrypted data transmission waveforms, high data capacity, and the ability to pass both tactical data link and common data link full motion imagery. The Committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on encrypted data transmission technology advancements and plans for demonstration and acquisition.”

On page 297, before the header “OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE”, insert the following:

“AUTONOMOUS DISTRIBUTION FOR CRITICAL SUPPLIES

The Committee is aware that the 2015 Joint Concept for Logistics 2.0 noted that the tension between increasingly demanding logistics requirements and constrained and degraded logistics resources within the context of globally integrated operations creates a dilemma that will be the essential challenge joint logistics will have to overcome for the foreseeable future. The Committee also is aware that the Defense Innovation Unit, through the Army Contracting Command, has been prototyping commercial, autonomous drone services to deliver critical supplies, such as life-saving blood and medical products, to military members in combat. The Committee supports the continued development and expansion of autonomous distribution systems for these efforts in real-world operations to move faster, reduce costs, and ultimately save lives.”

On page 307, strike all language after the header “ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS” and before the header “MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION” on page 308, and insert the following:

“The Committee continues to support the efforts that the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs are undertaking with regard to electronic health records and the health record system. It is the Committee’s ongoing expectation that the Departments’ electronic health record systems must be completely and meaningfully interoperable with seamless compatibility. The Committee is encouraged that the Department of Veterans Affairs has decided to adopt the same electronic health record system as the Department of Defense; however, the Committee remains frustrated over the amount of time it will take before both Departments’ systems are fully deployed to all military treatment facilities and Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities.

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to expeditiously implement the Electronic Health Record Modernization Joint Commitment, which includes the prompt establishment of an accountable and coordinated decision making and oversight entity. The Committee understands that the Department, in coordination with the Department of Veterans Affairs, continues its organizational process for the Interagency Program Office (IPO). The Committee is concerned that the Director of the IPO is currently planned to be subordinate to both the Deputy

Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs and does not have a singular supervisory entity. The Committee is concerned that the proposed structure could present challenges with decision making and accountability. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to work with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a reporting structure that ensures the Director of the IPO has a single supervisory entity.

The Committee also acknowledges that one of the determining factors in the timeline for the deployment of the electronic health record is the need to improve informational technology and related infrastructure at military medical treatment facilities. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on the total cost of the installation of all remaining information technology and related infrastructure required to complete the deployment of the electronic health record, and the timeline to complete this installation.

Lastly, it should be noted that the Committee recommendation includes legislative language directing the Secretary of Defense to provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on the sta-

tus of the deployment of the electronic health record. These reports shall include the cost and schedule of the program, to include milestones, knowledge points, and acquisition timelines, as well as quarterly obligation reports. It is expected that the House and Senate Appropriations Committees continue to receive briefings on a quarterly basis, coinciding with the report submission. Also, the recommendation includes legislative language requiring the Secretary to notify the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on any delays to the proposed timeline for deployment. Finally, legislative language is included directing the Comptroller General to continue quarterly performance reviews of the deployment of MHS GENESIS so that the Committee can further monitor implementation of the system and whether it is meeting predicted cost assumptions.”

On page 310, under the header “CREATIVE ARTS THERAPIES”, at the end of the paragraph insert the following:

“The Committee further directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to submit a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on the funding provided by the Department of Defense for creative arts therapies at the National Intrepid Centers and

the available options, along with associated funding requirements, for expanding the use of such therapies.”

On page 312, before the header “CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE”, insert the following:

“HEARING CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The Committee is concerned that the current formatting of records in the Department of Defense’s Hearing Center of Excellence Joint Hearing Loss and Auditory System Injury Registry (JHASIR) hinders partnerships with the Department of Veterans Affairs, institutions of higher education, and other public and private entities. The Committee directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to review the feasibility of the digital transformation of audiograms, legacy records, and other data maintained in the JHASIR, and to submit a report on the review to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.”

On page 315, after the section under the heading “INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT”, insert the following:

“CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The Committee remains concerned about the costs, complexity, and timeliness of the current security clearance process across the federal government. The National Center for Credibility Assessment (NCCA) has been exploring less expensive technologies and methods that may help target which individuals require a polygraph. These technologies require rigorous testing to evaluate their relative utility compared to the polygraph. In fiscal year 2019, the Committee directed the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), acting as the federal government’s Security Executive Agent, and the NCCA, to provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of the Act on the effectiveness of alternative technologies to the polygraph credibility. The Committee is disappointed that the report remains outstanding and directs the DNI, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, to submit it as soon as practicable.”

