



Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen

House Committee on Appropriations

FY 2018 Defense Appropriations Bill – Subcommittee Markup
Monday, June 26
Opening Statement As Prepared

Thank you, Madam Chairwoman, for the time and for all your hard work and that of members of the Subcommittee and this excellent staff to make this mark-up possible.

Given the lateness of the hour, I will reserve my more expansive remarks for full committee. But I am pleased to be here this evening to consider legislation that moves us toward our goal of rebuilding our military and ensuring our nation is ready to meet any threat - existing or emerging.

After years of ill-advised cuts to our national security budget under the last Administration, it is our responsibility to ensure that the men and women of our Armed Forces and their families, have all the resources they need to accomplish their missions.

The package before us does that by including funding for additional troops, aircraft, and ships; restoring vital stocks of missiles, bombs and other munitions; providing for more robust training and greater readiness; funding a 2.4 percent pay raise; and including significant dollars for our defense health programs/

I urge its adoption.

Once again, I want to thank the Chair, the Ranking Members, all members of the Subcommittee and this excellent staff for producing such a strong bill on such short notice.

Madam Chair, thanks for the time and let's get on with in.

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