

**H.R. 1735—FY16 NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION BILL**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER AND
PROJECTION FORCES**

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SUMMARY OF BILL LANGUAGE

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DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE I—PROCUREMENT

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE C—NAVY PROGRAMS

Section 121—Modification to Multiyear Procurement Authority for Arleigh Burke Class Destroyers and Associated Systems

This section would amend section 123(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239) and provide authority to the Secretary of the Navy to enter into a multiyear contract for a Flight III destroyer, in addition to the existing multiyear authority for a Flight IIA destroyer.

The committee supports the changes proposed by the Secretary of the Navy to integrate the Air and Missile Defense Radar in the Arleigh Burke class destroyer and the inclusion of the Flight III guided missile destroyer into the current multiyear authority. However, the committee is concerned about the Secretary of the Navy's strategy to implement an Engineering Change Proposal to fundamentally change integral elements of the Arleigh Burke class destroyer multiyear procurement without congressional authorization. When the initial multiyear procurement was authorized by section 123 of Public Law 112-239, the authorization was limited to an "Arleigh Burke class Flight IIA guided missile destroyer." The committee includes this provision because it believes that implementation of a Flight III destroyer without an explicit congressional authorization would violate section 123 of Public Law 112-239, by constituting a cardinal change in the scope of the initial authorization.

Section 122—Procurement Authority for Aircraft Carrier Programs

This section would provide economic order quantity authority for the construction of two Ford class aircraft carriers and incremental funding authority for the nuclear refueling and complex overhaul of five Nimitz class aircraft carriers.

SUBTITLE D—AIR FORCE PROGRAMS

Section 131—Limitation on Availability of Funds for Executive Communications
Upgrades for C-20 and C-37 Aircraft

This section would limit the obligation and expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2016 to upgrade the executive communications of C-20 and C-37 aircraft unless the Secretary of the Air Force certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that such upgrades do not cause such aircraft to exceed any weight limitations or reduce the operational capability of such aircraft. This section would also allow the Secretary of the Air Force to waive the limitation if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is necessary for the national security of the United States and notifies the congressional defense committees of such waiver.

SUBTITLE E—DEFENSE-WIDE, JOINT, AND MULTISERVICE MATTERS

Section 143—Independent Assessment of United States Combat Logistic Force
Requirements

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an assessment of the anticipated future demands of the combat logistics force ships of the Navy and the challenges these ships may face when conducting and supporting future naval operations in contested maritime environments. This section would also require the Secretary of Defense to submit the assessment to the congressional defense committees by April 1, 2016.

TITLE VIII—ACQUISITION POLICY, ACQUISITION
MANAGEMENT, AND RELATED MATTERS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE D—INDUSTRIAL BASE MATTERS

Section 836—Requirement that Certain Ship Components be Manufactured in the
National Technology and Industrial Base

This section would amend section 2534(a) of title 10, United States Code, and would require certain auxiliary ship components to be procured from a manufacturer in the national technology and industrial base.

TITLE X—GENERAL PROVISIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE C—NAVAL VESSELS AND SHIPYARDS

Section 1023—Availability of Funds for Retirement or Inactivation of Ticonderoga Class Cruisers or Dock Landing Ships

This section would limit the obligation and expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2016 for the retirement, inactivation, or storage of Ticonderoga-class cruisers and Whidbey Island-class amphibious ships. This section would also require the modernization of two Ticonderoga-class cruisers to begin in fiscal year 2016 only after sufficient materials are available to begin the modernization period. Finally, the modernization period would be limited to 2 years with the ability of the Secretary of the Navy to extend the period for another 6 months.

Section 1024—Limitation on the Use of Funds for Removal of Ballistic Missile Defense Capabilities from Ticonderoga Class Cruisers

This section would prohibit the removal of ballistic missile capabilities from any of the Ticonderoga class cruisers until the Secretary of the Navy certifies to the congressional defense committees that the Navy has obtained the ballistic missile capabilities required by the most recent Navy Force Structure Assessment or determined to upgrade such cruisers with an equal or improved ballistic missile defense capability.

SUBTITLE E—MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITIES AND LIMITATIONS

Section 1051—Enhancement of Authority of Secretary of Navy to Use National Sea-Based Deterrence Fund

This section would amend section 1022 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) by expanding the transfer authority provided to the National Sea-Based Deterrence Fund from the Department of the Navy to the Department of Defense; providing authority to enter into economic order quantity contracts for ballistic missile submarines and other nuclear powered vessels; and providing incremental funding and facilities funding authority. This section further requires the Secretary of the Navy to submit a report on the Fund to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2016, and annually through the year 2025.

SUBTITLE G—REPEAL OR REVISION OF NATIONAL DEFENSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Section 1073—Repeal or Revision of Reporting Requirements Related to Naval Vessels and Merchant Marine

This section would repeal or revise certain reporting requirements that are overly burdensome, duplicative, or outdated, to include:

(a) Amending section 7292 of title 10, United States Code, to strike subsection (d) that required a 30 day congressional notice before the Secretary of the Navy names a naval vessel;

(b) Amending section 7306 of title 10, United States Code, to strike subsection (d) that required a 30 day congressional notice before Secretary of the Navy can transfer any vessel from the Naval Vessel Register to any State or not-for-profit entity;

(c) Amending section 126 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239) to delete a requirement for a quarterly report on Mission Modules of the Littoral Combat Ship;

(d) Deleting section 124 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) that required an assessment prior to the start of construction on the first ship of a shipbuilding program;

(e) Amending section 122 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-364) to delete a quarterly reporting requirement associated with the Ford class carrier;

(f) Amending section 50111 of title 46, United States Code, to request the Secretary of Transportation to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate the Maritime Administration authorization request for that fiscal year; and

(g) Deleting a monthly reporting mandate that is provided by the Secretary of the Navy to the congressional defense committees on open architecture, and a monthly report on the USS Ford-class carrier.

SUBTITLE H—OTHER MATTERS

Section 1087—Mine Countermeasures Master Plan

This section would require the Secretary of the Navy to submit a mine countermeasures master plan to the congressional defense committees along with the annual budget request of each fiscal year from 2018 through 2023. The master plan shall include an assessment of the current and future capabilities, capacities, requirements, and readiness levels associated with mine countermeasure assets required to meet operational plans and contingency requirements. This section would also require the Secretary of the Navy to submit a one-time report to the congressional defense committees within 1 year of enactment of this Act as to current and future mine countermeasure force structure based on current mine countermeasure capabilities, including an assessment as to whether certain decommissioned ships should be retained in reserve operating status.

**DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL
SECURITY AUTHORIZATIONS AND OTHER
AUTHORIZATIONS**

TITLE XXXV—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

**Section 3501—Authorization of Appropriations for National Security Aspects of the
Merchant Marine for Fiscal Year 2016**

This section would authorize appropriations for the national security aspects of the merchant marine for fiscal year 2016.

Section 3502—Sense of Congress Regarding Maritime Security Fleet Program

This section would express the sense of Congress that dedicated and enhanced support is necessary to stabilize and preserve the Maritime Security Fleet program.

The committee notes that declines in the U.S.-flag international fleet have diminished the pool of U.S. civilian mariners critical to crewing not only commercial U.S.-flag vessels but also national defense surge sealift. The drop in the number of U.S.-flag vessels in the international trades is in part a result of reductions in government-impelled cargoes, both Department of Defense cargoes and food aid cargoes. The committee is concerned that future reductions in U.S.-flag commercial vessels, especially militarily useful vessels in the Maritime Security Program, could put at risk the Nation's ability to fully activate, deploy, and sustain Armed Forces around the globe.

**Section 3503—Update of References to the Secretary of Transportation Regarding
Unemployment Insurance and Vessel Operators**

This section would update sections 3305 and 3306(n) of title 26, United States Code, to reflect the Maritime Administration's transfer from the Department of Commerce to the Department of Transportation that occurred in 1981.

BILL LANGUAGE

1 **Subtitle C—Navy Programs**

2 **SEC. 121.[Log 60731] MODIFICATION TO MULTIYEAR PRO-**
3 **CUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR ARLEIGH**
4 **BURKE CLASS DESTROYERS AND ASSOCI-**
5 **ATED SYSTEMS.**

6 Section 123(a) of the National Defense Authorization
7 Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat.
8 1655) is amended by inserting “or Flight III” after
9 “Flight IIA”.

1 **SEC. 122.[Log 60184] PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR AIR-**
2 **CRAFT CARRIER PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY IN SUPPORT OF CON-
4 STRUCTION OF FORD CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIERS.—

5 (1) AUTHORITY FOR ECONOMIC ORDER QUAN-
6 TITY.—The Secretary of the Navy may procure ma-
7 teriel and equipment in support of the construction
8 of the Ford class aircraft carriers designated CVN-
9 80 and CVN-81 in economic order quantities when
10 cost savings are achievable.

11 (2) LIABILITY.—A contract entered into under
12 paragraph (1) shall provide that any obligation of
13 the United States to make a payment under the con-
14 tract is subject to the availability of appropriations
15 for that purpose, and that total liability to the Gov-
16 ernment for termination of any contract entered into
17 shall be limited to the total amount of funding obli-
18 gated at time of termination.

19 (b) REFUELING AND COMPLEX OVERHAUL OF NIM-
20 ITZ CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIERS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Navy
22 may carry out the nuclear refueling and complex
23 overhaul of each of the following Nimitz class air-
24 craft carriers:

25 (A) U.S.S. George Washington (CVN-73).

26 (B) U.S.S. John C. Stennis (CVN-74).

1 (C) U.S.S. Harry S. Truman (CVN-75).

2 (D) U.S.S. Ronald Reagan (CVN-76).

3 (E) U.S.S. George H.W. Bush (CVN-77).

4 (2) USE OF INCREMENTAL FUNDING.—With re-
5 spect to a contract entered into under paragraph (1)
6 for the nuclear refueling and complex overhaul of a
7 Nimitz class aircraft carrier, the Secretary may use
8 incremental funding for a period not to exceed six
9 fiscal years beginning on the date on which the Sec-
10 retary first obligates funds for the advance procure-
11 ment of such nuclear refueling and complex over-
12 haul.

13 (3) CONDITION FOR OUT-YEAR CONTRACT PAY-
14 MENTS.—A contract entered into under paragraph
15 (1) shall provide that any obligation of the United
16 States to make a payment under the contract for a
17 fiscal year after fiscal year 2016 is subject to the
18 availability of appropriations for that purpose for
19 that later fiscal year.

1 **Subtitle D—Air Force Programs**

2 **SEC. 131.[Log 60927] LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF**
3 **FUNDS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS**
4 **UPGRADES FOR C-20 AND C-37 AIRCRAFT.**

5 (a) **LIMITATION.**—Except as provided by subsection
6 (b), none of the funds authorized to be appropriated by
7 this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2016
8 for the Air Force may be obligated or expended to upgrade
9 the executive communications of C-20 and C-37 aircraft
10 until the date on which the Secretary of the Air Force
11 certifies in writing to the congressional defense commit-
12 tees that such upgrades do not—

13 (1) cause such aircraft to exceed any weight
14 limitation; or

15 (2) reduce the operational capability of such
16 aircraft.

17 (b) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary may waive the limita-
18 tion in subsection (a) if the Secretary—

19 (1) determines that such waiver is necessary for
20 the national security interests of the United States;
21 and

22 (2) notifies the congressional defense commit-
23 tees of such waiver.

1 **SEC. 143.[Log 60766] INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF**
2 **UNITED STATES COMBAT LOGISTIC FORCE**
3 **REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
6 shall seek to enter into an agreement with a feder-
7 ally funded research and development center with
8 appropriate expertise and analytical capability to
9 conduct an assessment of the anticipated future de-
10 mands of the combat logistics force ships of the
11 Navy and the challenges such ships may face when
12 conducting and supporting future naval operations
13 in contested maritime environments.

14 (2) ELEMENTS.—The assessment under para-
15 graph (1) shall include the following:

16 (A) An assessment of the programmed
17 ability of the United States Combat Logistic
18 Force to support the Navy and the naval forces
19 of allies of the United States that are operating
20 in a dispersed manner and not concentrated in
21 carrier or expeditionary strike groups, in ac-
22 cordance with the concept of distributed
23 lethality of the Navy.

24 (B) An assessment of the programmed
25 ability of the United States Combat Logistic
26 Force to support the Navy and the naval forces

1 of allies of the United States that are engaged
2 in major combat operations against an adver-
3 sary possessing maritime anti-access and area-
4 denial capabilities, including anti-ship ballistic
5 and cruise missiles, land-based maritime strike
6 aircraft, submarines, and sea mines.

7 (C) An assessment of the programmed
8 ability of the United States Combat Logistic
9 Force to support distributed and expeditionary
10 air operations from an expanded set of alter-
11 native and austere air bases in accordance with
12 concepts under development by the Air Force
13 and the Marine Corps.

14 (D) An assessment of gaps and deficiencies
15 in the capability and capacity of the United
16 States Combat Logistic Force to conduct and
17 support operations of the United States and al-
18 lies under the conditions described in subpara-
19 graphs (A), (B), and (C).

20 (E) Recommendations for adjustments to
21 the programmed ability of the United States
22 Combat Logistic Force to address capability
23 and capacity gaps and deficiencies described in
24 subparagraph (D).

1 (F) Any other matters the federally funded
2 research and development center considers ap-
3 propriate.

4 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1,
6 2016, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the
7 congressional defense committees a report that in-
8 cludes the assessment under subsection (a) and any
9 other matters the Secretary considers appropriate.

10 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-
11 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
12 but may include a classified annex.

13 (c) SUPPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall pro-
14 vide the federally funded research and development center
15 that conducts the assessment under subsection (a) with
16 timely access to appropriate information, data, resources,
17 and analyses necessary for the center to conduct such as-
18 sessment thoroughly and independently.

1 **SEC. 836 [Log 60196]. REQUIREMENT THAT CERTAIN SHIP**
2 **COMPONENTS BE MANUFACTURED IN THE**
3 **NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL**
4 **BASE.**

5 (a) **ADDITIONAL PROCUREMENT LIMITATION.**—Sec-
6 tion 2534(a) of title 10, United States Code, is amended
7 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

8 “(6) **COMPONENTS FOR AUXILIARY SHIPS.**—
9 Subject to subsection (k), the following components:

10 “(A) Auxiliary equipment, including
11 pumps, for all shipboard services.

12 “(B) Propulsion system components, in-
13 cluding engines, reduction gears, and propellers.

14 “(C) Shipboard cranes.

15 “(D) Spreaders for shipboard cranes.”.

16 (b) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—Such section is further
17 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 section:

19 “(k) **IMPLEMENTATION OF AUXILIARY SHIP COMPO-**
20 **NENT LIMITATION.**—Subsection (a)(6) applies only with
21 respect to contracts awarded by the Secretary of a military
22 department for new construction of an auxiliary ship after
23 the date of the enactment of the National Defense Author-
24 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 using funds available for
25 National Defense Sealift Fund programs or Shipbuilding
26 and Conversion, Navy.”.

1 **SEC. 1023 [Log 59558]. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR RE-**
2 **TIREMENT OR INACTIVATION OF TICON-**
3 **DEROGA CLASS CRUISERS OR DOCK LAND-**
4 **ING SHIPS.**

5 (a) LIMITATION ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—
6 Except as otherwise provided in this section, none of the
7 funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or other-
8 wise made available for the Department of Defense for
9 fiscal year 2016 may be obligated or expended to retire,
10 prepare to retire, inactivate, or place in storage a cruiser
11 or dock landing ship.

12 (b) CRUISER MODERNIZATION.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—As provided by section 1026
14 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
15 Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291; 128 Stat. 3490),
16 the Secretary of the Navy shall begin the moderniza-
17 tion of two cruisers during fiscal year 2016 only
18 after the receipt of the materiel required to begin
19 such modernization. Such modernization shall in-
20 clude—

21 (A) hull, mechanical, and electrical up-
22 grades; and

23 (B) combat systems modernizations.

24 (2) DURATION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
2 subparagraph (B), the time period for such
3 modernization shall not exceed two years.

4 (B) EXTENSION.—If the Secretary of the
5 Navy determines that the scope of the mod-
6 ernization cannot be reasonably completed in
7 two years, the Secretary may extend the time
8 period under subparagraph (A) for an addi-
9 tional six months. If the Secretary issues such
10 an extension, the Secretary shall submit to the
11 congressional defense committees notice of the
12 extension and the reasons the Secretary made
13 such determination.

14 (3) DELAY.—The Secretary of the Navy may
15 delay the modernization required under paragraph
16 (1) if the materiel required to begin the moderniza-
17 tion has not been received.

1 **SEC. 1024 [Log 59935]. LIMITATION ON THE USE OF FUNDS**
2 **FOR REMOVAL OF BALLISTIC MISSILE DE-**
3 **FENSE CAPABILITIES FROM TICONDEROGA**
4 **CLASS CRUISERS.**

5 None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by
6 this Act or otherwise made available for the Department
7 of Defense may be used to remove ballistic missile defense
8 capabilities from any of the 5 Ticonderoga class cruisers
9 equipped with such capabilities until the Secretary of the
10 Navy certifies to the congressional defense committees
11 that the Navy has—

12 (1) obtained the ballistic missile capabilities re-
13 quired by the most recent Navy Force Structure As-
14 sessment; or

15 (2) determined to upgrade such cruisers with
16 an equal or improved ballistic missile defense capa-
17 bility.

1 **Subtitle E—Miscellaneous**
2 **Authorities and Limitations**

3 **SEC. 1051 [Log 60245]. ENHANCEMENT OF AUTHORITY OF**
4 **SECRETARY OF NAVY TO USE NATIONAL SEA-**
5 **BASED DETERRENCE FUND.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2218a of title 10, United
7 States Code, is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “national
9 sea-based deterrence vessels” and inserting “a class
10 of twelve national sea-based deterrence vessels, and
11 cross-program coordinated procurement efforts with
12 other nuclear powered vessels”;

13 (2) in subsection (d), by inserting before the pe-
14 riod at the end the following: “and cross program
15 coordinated procurement efforts with other nuclear
16 powered vessels”;

17 (3) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as
18 subsection (j) and (m), respectively;

19 (4) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
20 lowing new subsections:

21 “(f) **AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO ECONOMIC ORDER**
22 **QUANTITY CONTRACTS.**—(1) The Secretary of the Navy
23 may use funds deposited in the Fund to enter into con-
24 tracts known as ‘economic order quantity contracts’ with
25 private shipyards and other commercial or government en-

1 titles to achieve economic efficiencies based on production
2 economies for major components or subsystems. The au-
3 thority under this subsection extends to the procurement
4 of parts, components, and systems (including weapon sys-
5 tems) common with and required for other nuclear pow-
6 ered vessels under joint economic order quantity contracts.

7 “(2) A contract entered into under paragraph (1)
8 shall provide that any obligation of the United States to
9 make a payment under the contract is subject to the avail-
10 ability of appropriations for that purpose, and that total
11 liability to the Government for termination of any contract
12 entered into shall be limited to the total amount of funding
13 obligated at time of termination.

14 “(g) AUTHORITY TO BEGIN MANUFACTURING AND
15 FABRICATION EFFORTS PRIOR TO SHIP AUTHORIZA-
16 TION.—(1) The Secretary of the Navy may use funds de-
17 posited into the Fund to enter into contracts for advance
18 construction of national sea-based deterrence vessels to
19 support achieving cost savings through workload manage-
20 ment, manufacturing efficiencies, or workforce stability, or
21 to phase fabrication activities within shipyard and manage
22 sub-tier manufacturer capacity.

23 “(2) A contract entered into under paragraph (1)
24 shall provide that any obligation of the United States to
25 make a payment under the contract is subject to the avail-

1 ability of appropriations for that purpose, and that total
2 liability to the Government for termination of any contract
3 entered into shall be limited to the total amount of funding
4 obligated at time of termination.

5 “(h) AUTHORITY TO USE INCREMENTAL FUNDING
6 TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR CERTAIN ITEMS.—(1)
7 The Secretary of the Navy may use funds deposited into
8 the Fund to enter into incrementally funded contracts for
9 advance procurement of high value, long lead time items
10 for nuclear powered vessels to better support construction
11 schedules and achieve cost savings through schedule re-
12 ductions and properly phased installment payments.

13 “(2) A contract entered into under paragraph (1)
14 shall provide that any obligation of the United States to
15 make a payment under the contract is subject to the avail-
16 ability of appropriations for that purpose, and that total
17 liability to the Government for termination of any contract
18 entered into shall be limited to the total amount of funding
19 obligated at time of termination.

20 “(i) FACILITIES FUNDING.—The Secretary of the
21 Navy may use funds deposited into the Fund to provide
22 incentives for investments in critical infrastructure at nu-
23 clear capable shipyards and critical sub-tier vendors. Addi-
24 tionally, the Secretary of the Navy may use such funds
25 for certain cancellation costs in the event of significant

1 changes to the Long Range Shipbuilding Strategy for nu-
2 clear powered vessels.”;

3 (5) by inserting after subsection (j), as redesign-
4 nated under paragraph (3), the following new sub-
5 section:

6 “(k) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—(1) The Secretary of
7 the Navy shall submit to the congressional defense com-
8 mittees, by March 1, 2016, and annually through the year
9 2025, a report on the Fund. Each such report shall iden-
10 tify separately the amount allocated by ship for programs,
11 projects, and activities for construction (including design
12 of vessels), purchase, alteration, and conversion. At a min-
13 imum, each such report shall include—

14 “(A) information about the activities carried
15 out using funds deposited into the Fund during the
16 fiscal year covered by the report, including the sta-
17 tus of class design and construction efforts, includ-
18 ing programmatic schedules, procurement schedules,
19 and funding requirements.

20 “(B) a plan detailing forecasted obligations and
21 expenditures for construction (including design of
22 vessels), purchase, alteration, and conversion of ves-
23 sels by ship for the fiscal year following the fiscal
24 year during which the report is submitted; and

1 “(C) the identification of the stable need and
2 design for items, together with a description of any
3 savings associated with the authorities provided in
4 subsections (e) and (f), as documented in cost esti-
5 mates.

6 “(2) The Secretary of the Navy shall provide to the
7 congressional defense committees notice in writing at least
8 30 days before executing any significant deviation to the
9 annual plan required under paragraph (1)(B).”; and

10 (6) in subsection (m), as so redesignated, by
11 adding at the end the following new paragraph:

12 “(3) The term ‘advance construction’ means
13 shipyard manufacturing and fabrication activities
14 (including sub-tier manufacturing of major compo-
15 nents or subsystems).”.

16 (b) AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN UNOBLIGATED
17 FUNDS FOR TRANSFER.—Section 1022(b)(1) of the Na-
18 tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015
19 (Public Law 113–291; 128 Stat. 3487) is amended by
20 striking “for the Navy for the Ohio Replacement Pro-
21 gram” and inserting “to the Department of Defense”.

1 **SEC. 1073 [Log 60664] REPEAL OR REVISION OF REPORTING**
2 **REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO NAVAL VES-**
3 **SELS AND MERCHANT MARINE.**

4 (a) REPORT ON NAMING OF NAVAL VESSELS.—Sec-
5 tion 7292 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by
6 striking subsection (d).

7 (b) REPORT ON TRANSFER OF VESSELS STRICKEN
8 FROM NAVAL VESSEL REGISTER.—Section 7306 of title
9 10, United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) by striking subsection (d); and

11 (2) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as
12 subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

13 (c) REPORTS ON MISSION MODULES OF LITTORAL
14 COMBAT SHIP.—Section 126 of the National Defense Au-
15 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-
16 239; 126 Stat. 1657) is amended—

17 (1) by striking “(a) DESIGNATION RE-
18 QUIRED.—”; and

19 (2) by striking subsection (b).

20 (d) REPORT ON ASSESSMENTS OF FIRST SHIP OF A
21 SHIPBUILDING PROGRAM.—Section 124 of the National
22 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public
23 Law 110-181; 10 U.S.C. 7291 note) is repealed.

24 (e) REPORT ON COST ESTIMATE OF CVN-79.—Sec-
25 tion 122 of the John Warner National Defense Authoriza-
26 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-364; 120

1 Stat. 2104), as most recently amended by section 121 of
2 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
3 2014 (Public Law 113–66), is amended by striking sub-
4 section (f).

5 (f) ANNUAL REPORT OF MARITIME ADMINISTRA-
6 TION.—

7 (1) ELIMINATION OF REPORT AND REVISION
8 REMAINING REQUIREMENT.—Section 50111 of title
9 46, United States Code, is amended to read as fol-
10 lows:

11 **“§ 50111. Submission of annual MARAD authorization**
12 **request**

13 “(a) SUBMISSION OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL.—Not
14 later than 30 days after the date on which the President
15 submits to Congress a budget for a fiscal year pursuant
16 to section 1105 of title 31, the Secretary of Transpor-
17 tation shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services
18 and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
19 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
20 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate the
21 Maritime Administration authorization request for that
22 fiscal year.

23 “(b) MARITIME ADMINISTRATION REQUEST DE-
24 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘Maritime Administra-

1 tion authorization request’ means a proposal for legisla-
2 tion that, for a fiscal year—

3 “(1) recommends authorizations of appropria-
4 tions for the Maritime Administration for that fiscal
5 year, including with respect to matters described in
6 subsection 109(j) of title 49 or authorized in subtitle
7 V of this title; and

8 “(2) addresses any other matter with respect to
9 the Maritime Administration that the Secretary de-
10 termines is appropriate.”.

11 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
12 tions at the beginning of chapter 501 of title 46,
13 United States Code, is amended by striking the item
14 relating to section 50111 and inserting the following
15 new item:

“50111. Submission of annual MARAD authorization request.”.

16 (g) DISCRETIONARY REPORTS NO LONGER NEED-
17 ED.—The Secretary of the Navy is not required to submit
18 to the congressional defense committees—

19 (1) a report, or updates to such a report, on
20 open architecture as described in Senate Report
21 110–077; or

22 (2) a monthly report on Ford class aircraft car-
23 riers not otherwise required by law.

1 **SEC. 1087 [Log 59948]. MINE COUNTERMEASURES MASTER**
2 **PLAN.**

3 (a) PLAN REQUIRED.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—At the same time the budget
5 is submitted to Congress for each of fiscal years
6 2018 through 2023, the Secretary of the Navy shall
7 submit to the congressional defense committees a
8 mine countermeasures (hereinafter in this section re-
9 ferred to as “MCM”) master plan. Each such plan
10 shall include each of the following:

11 (A) An evaluation of the capabilities, ca-
12 pacities, requirements, and readiness levels of
13 the defensive capabilities of the Navy for MCM,
14 including an assessment of the dedicated MCM
15 force as well as the capabilities of ships, air-
16 craft, and submarines that are not yet dedi-
17 cated to MCM but could be modified to carry
18 mine warfare capabilities.

19 (B) An evaluation of the ability of units to
20 properly command and control air and surface
21 MCM forces from fleet level down through to
22 element level and to provide necessary oper-
23 ational and tactical control and awareness of
24 such forces to facilitate mission accomplishment
25 and defense.

1 (C) An assessment of technologies having
2 promising potential for use for improving mine
3 warfare and of programs for transitioning such
4 technologies from the testing and evaluation
5 phases to procurement.

6 (D) A fiscal plan to support the master
7 plan through the Future Years Defense Plan.

8 (E) A plan for inspection of each asset
9 with mine warfare responsibilities, require-
10 ments, and capabilities, which shall include pro-
11 posed methods to ensure the material readiness
12 of each asset and the training level of the force,
13 a general summary, and readiness trends.

14 (2) FORM OF SUBMISSION.—Each plan sub-
15 mitted under paragraph (1)(E) shall be in unclassi-
16 fied form, but may include a classified annex ad-
17 dressing the capability and capacity to meet oper-
18 ational plans and contingency requirements.

19 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
21 of the Navy shall submit to the congressional defense com-
22 mittees a report containing the recommendations of the
23 Secretary regarding the force structure and ensuring the
24 operational effectiveness of the surface mine warfare force
25 through 2025 based on current capabilities and capacity,

1 replacement schedules, and service life extensions or re-
2 tirement schedules. Such report shall include an assess-
3 ment of the MCM vessels, including the decommissioned
4 MCM-1 and MCM-2 ships and the potential of such ships
5 for reserve operating status.

1 **SEC. 3501 [Log59636]. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS**
2 **FOR NATIONAL SECURITY ASPECTS OF THE**
3 **MERCHANT MARINE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.**

4 Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for
5 fiscal year 2016, to be available without fiscal year limita-
6 tion if so provided in appropriations Acts, for the use of
7 the Department of Transportation for Maritime Adminis-
8 tration programs associated with maintaining national se-
9 curity aspects of the merchant marine, as follows:

10 (1) For expenses necessary for operations of the
11 United States Merchant Marine Academy,
12 \$96,028,000, of which—

13 (A) \$71,306,000 shall remain available
14 until expended for Academy operations;

15 (B) \$24,722,000 shall remain available
16 until expended for capital asset management at
17 the Academy.

18 (2) For expenses necessary to support the State
19 maritime academies, \$34,550,000, of which—

20 (A) \$2,400,000 shall remain available until
21 expended for student incentive payments;

22 (B) \$3,000,000 shall remain available until
23 expended for direct payments to such acad-
24 emies;

1 (C) \$1,800,000 shall remain available until
2 expended for training ship fuel assistance pay-
3 ments;

4 (D) \$22,000,000 shall remain available
5 until expended for maintenance and repair of
6 State maritime academy training vessels;

7 (E) \$5,000,000 shall remain available until
8 expended for the National Security Multi-Mis-
9 sion Vessel Design; and

10 (F) \$350,000 shall remain available until
11 expended for improving the monitoring of grad-
12 uates' service obligation.

13 (3) For expenses necessary to support Maritime
14 Administration operations and programs,
15 \$54,059,000.

16 (4) For expenses necessary to dispose of vessels
17 in the National Defense Reserve Fleet, \$8,000,000,
18 to remain available until expended.

19 (5) For expenses to maintain and preserve a
20 United States-flag merchant marine to serve the na-
21 tional security needs of the United States under
22 chapter 531 of title 46, United States Code,
23 \$186,000,000.

24 (6) For the cost (as defined in section 502(5)
25 of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C.

1 661a(5)) of loan guarantees under the program au-
2 thorized by chapter 537 of title 46, United States
3 Code, \$3,135,000, of which \$3,135,000 shall remain
4 available until expended for administrative expenses
5 of the program.

1 **SEC. 3502 [Log60788]. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING**
2 **MARITIME SECURITY FLEET PROGRAM.**

3 It is the sense of Congress that dedicated and en-
4 hanced support is necessary to stabilize and preserve the
5 Maritime Security Fleet program, a program that provides
6 the Department of Defense with on-demand access to
7 world class, economical commercial sealift capacity,
8 assures a United States-flag presence in international
9 commerce, supports a pool of qualified United States mer-
10 chant mariners needed to crew United States-flag vessels
11 during times of war or national emergency, and serves as
12 a critical component of our national security infrastruc-
13 ture.

1 **SEC. 3503 [Log60330]. UPDATE OF REFERENCES TO THE**
2 **SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION REGARD-**
3 **ING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND VES-**
4 **SEL OPERATORS.**

5 Sections 3305 and 3306(n) of the Internal Revenue
6 Code of 1986 are each amended by striking “Secretary
7 of Commerce” each place that it appears and inserting
8 “Secretary of Transportation”.

DIRECTIVE REPORT LANGUAGE

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DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE I—PROCUREMENT

SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

Items of Special Interest

Air and Missile Defense Radar Testing Evaluation

The committee notes that the Navy plans to use the Arleigh Burke-class destroyers (DDG 51) hull form as the platform for the Air and Missile Defense Radar (AMDR), which will provide integrated air and ballistic missile defense capability for the fleet. The committee further notes that the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation has disagreed with the Navy's plans for AMDR

testing and believes that in order to achieve full end-to-end test results, testing must be performed aboard the self-defense test ship. Considering the central role that AMDR and DDG 51 Flight III will play in sea-based ballistic missile defense and the magnitude of the Navy's planned investment, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2016, as to the potential use of AMDR on the self-defense test ship. This report should include, but is not limited to, an analysis of the following:

(1) Maturity of AMDR and the Navy's plans for developing, testing, and integrating AMDR, to include a cost benefit of performing AMDR testing aboard the self-defense test ship versus a manned ship;

(2) Risks associated with the Navy's planned acquisition strategy for the DDG 51 class and AMDR; and

(3) Any additional items the Comptroller General deems relevant to the report.

Naval electric weapons systems fielding plan

The committee is aware that the Navy has been pursuing development and operational demonstration of a number of electric weapons systems, including both directed energy systems and electromagnetic railguns. This class of electric weapons has the potential to provide revolutionary new capabilities for Navy platforms, including increased range, increased safety, and deeper magazines than conventional weapons. The committee believes that such systems will be important in the future to counter cost-imposing strategies in an anti-access environment where swarms of low-cost weapons could be used to overwhelm higher-cost, limited numbers of defensive weapons. However, as the Navy continues to pursue increasing power and decreasing size for such weapons, the committee believes that the Navy should also be considering how to field and integrate such systems into future naval platforms in order to facilitate successful transition from the laboratory to the fleet.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Navy to develop a plan for fielding electric weapon systems within the Department of the Navy for both the current and future fleet, and to provide a briefing on the results of this plan to the House Committee on Armed Services by March 1, 2016. As part of this plan, the Secretary of the Navy shall detail proposals for the allocation of the requisite power and space for the fielding of electric weapons systems, such as the Laser Weapons System, electromagnetic railgun, or other similar systems currently in development for the current and future fleet.

Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine replacement

The Navy's Ohio-class replacement program is intended to replace the current fleet of existing Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines. The Navy plans to procure 12 submarines to replace the 14 existing Ohio-class submarines, at an

estimated total program cost of over \$95.00 billion in fiscal year 2015 dollars. The Navy plans to begin procuring the lead ship in the class starting in fiscal year 2021, with detail design planned for 2017. The Navy has recognized that given the investment requirements associated with the Ohio-class replacement program, it will face serious resource challenges starting in fiscal year 2020. The Navy is currently in the early design phase of this program and is investigating various cost reduction efforts, such as an early reduction of requirements and ongoing efforts to identify mature technologies that can be leveraged from other submarine and ship programs. The Government Accountability Office has reported in the past on the importance of attaining key knowledge early in shipbuilding programs in order to reduce the risk of future cost growth and schedule delays.

Therefore, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to provide a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2016, on the Ohio-class replacement program, which should include the following specific elements:

(1) The feasibility of the Navy's planned technical approaches to meeting identified performance requirements;

(2) The maturity of the technologies identified for the Ohio-class replacement, including the development of a new nuclear reactor;

(3) The status of prototyping efforts to reduce technical risk in advance of lead ship construction;

(4) The readiness and capacity of the industrial base to design and build the submarines and the availability of any unique materials necessary for submarine construction; and

(5) Any risk in the Navy's planned acquisition strategy for the class.

USS John F. Kennedy two-phase acquisition strategy

The committee notes that the Secretary of the Navy has prepared a two-phase acquisition strategy to support the delivery of the USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) that would be concurrent with the inactivation of the USS Nimitz (CVN 68). This strategy would complete the hull, mechanical and electrical construction work (phase I) and then after a planned incremental availability, would install relevant shipboard combat systems and electronics during another availability (phase II). The Navy has indicated that this two-phase acquisition strategy will reduce construction costs, increase flexibility in the schedule, provide an opportunity to install a lower-cost radar solution, and preempt required obsolescence management in the first planned incremental availability. The committee is concerned, however, that this two-phase strategy may unnecessarily extend the USS John F. Kennedy fleet induction timeline by 18 months and increase costs as a result of extended overhead and inflationary losses.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Navy to submit a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2016, about the two-phase acquisition strategy. The report shall include an assessment of conducting

the proposed phase II work concurrent with the phase I USS John F. Kennedy effort, and assess the cost and inflationary implications associated with the proposed and concurrent work options.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

Items of Special Interest

Air and Missile Defense Radar

The committee understands that the Navy Air and Missile Defense Radar (AMDR) is designed to be fully scalable and modular to support a variety of shipboard radar applications on a variety of platforms. The committee further understands that the flexibility in the design of AMDR could also provide the foundation for land based applications.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by February 1, 2016, on the Department of the Navy's plan to utilize the AMDR investment across existing and future platforms in the fleet. The briefing shall also include options that the Secretary is considering to exploit AMDR scalability in other service radar acquisitions to realize greater affordability through economies of scale.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

Items of Special Interest

Air National Guard Wildfire Assistance

The committee notes that the U.S. Global Change Research Program has determined that the frequency of large wildfires and the length of the fire season have increased substantially in recent decades. The committee acknowledges that the U.S. Geological Survey Federal Fire Occurrence Database indicates that the occurrences of catastrophic wildfires in the United States are more prevalent in the western half of the country. Air National Guard units flying C-130 aircraft equipped with Modular Airborne Firefighting System (MAFFS) have been an integral part of wildfire suppression, saving not only property but lives. The committee acknowledges that as catastrophic wildfires continue to grow in severity, it is important to provide the assistance of our Air National Guard. The committee believes that MAFFS should be located in positions that maximize the effectiveness of MAFFS units consistent with the highest probability of risk for the United States.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to prepare a brief to the House Committee on Armed Services by September 1, 2015 that assess the locations of C-130 MAFFS units. Such a briefing should provide a listing of the

current United States Air Force units, their utilization rates, and a future force allocation determination that most efficiently utilizes the MAFFS units. This briefing shall specifically assess opportunities to expand coverage of MAFFS units in the western United States.

KC-46A quarterly report

The committee supports the current acquisition strategy associated with the KC-46A aircraft. Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics to discontinue the quarterly reporting associated with the KC-46A aircraft required in the committee report (H. Rept. 112-78) accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

TITLE II—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, NAVY

Items of Special Interest

Anti-surface warfare missile capability for Littoral Combat Ship

The committee is aware of the complex close combat environments that Navy surface combatants encounter when operating in the littorals. Characteristic of this environment is the irregular threat posed by clusters of swarming small boats intermingled with non-combatant vessels. As a result, the anti-surface warfare mission for vessels, such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Patrol Coastal (PC) ships, must possess positive-control missile capabilities that enable agile rules of engagement for applying decisive defensive countermeasures while minimizing the risks of collateral damage. Furthermore, it is critical that this balance of capabilities be fielded to the fleet as rapidly as possible.

The committee is also aware of the Navy's efforts to field an anti-surface warfare missile capability for the LCS that meets these criteria; however, the committee is concerned that the current development path will require significant engineering/test and integration work that impacts the initial operating capability. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Navy to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 1, 2016, detailing the cost and schedule of current development efforts on anti-surface warfare missile capability for the LCS and PC ships. The briefing should evaluate comparative systems' speed of integration to the fleet, range, weight, In-Flight Target Update capability, and ability to leverage existing fielded systems.

Unmanned carrier aviation

The committee notes that the Secretary of Defense has initiated an intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) portfolio review to assess the merits of the entirety of Department of Defense assets that may be available to support combat operations. This review is being augmented by a U.S. Navy tactical aviation analysis to determine the characteristics and quantities of carrier based ISR unmanned aviation systems (UAS) necessary to optimize the overall carrier air wing. The committee also notes that section 217 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) included:

(1) A limitation on funding associated with the Unmanned Carrier-Launched Airborne Surveillance and Strike (UCLASS) air vehicle until the Secretary of Defense certifies that a review of requirements associated with the UCLASS air vehicle is complete and submits the results of such a review to the congressional defense committees; and

(2) A requirement for the Secretary of the Navy to prepare a report to assess the overall carrier air wing composition to include UCLASS, the support offered by non-organic naval aviation forces such as MQ-4C Triton, and the intended capabilities offered by FA-XX, which is the replacement aircraft for the F/A-18 E/F aircraft.

The committee believes that sea-based, long-range strike capabilities have incontrovertible merit and have been an integral element of U.S. carrier air wings in the past. Looking ahead, this capability may be the most important capability that the aircraft carrier can provide in contested environments and anti-access/area-denial scenarios. The committee believes that pursuit of a long-range penetrating strike capability should therefore be a critical focus of naval investments. The committee also believes that the capabilities offered by unmanned aviation may be the only capability that can support this mission requirement.

The committee notes that the majority of naval aviation missions do not require the same high-end characteristics required for long-range penetrating strike missions. The committee recognizes that an unmanned aircraft with not all of the attributes of a high-end UAS may be a more economical and sustainable means of conducting persistent ISR, aerial refueling, and strike missions in low-to-medium threat environments. The committee also recognizes that the Navy has a validated capability gap in regard to ISR and encourages the Department of Defense to meet this requirement in an economical and efficient manner.

Considering all of the options available to the Navy to augment the future carrier air wing, the committee believes that the continued development of the UCLASS program as a long-range penetrating strike capability best meets the future carrier air wing requirements and will address a much needed capability deficiency in the current carrier strike design.

Finally, the committee notes that the budget request included continued development of the UCLASS program, but does not include funds for the air vehicle. The committee encourages the Secretary of Defense to expeditiously complete the

ISR portfolio analysis review and provide the proposed UCLASS Capabilities Development Document (CDD) to the congressional defense committees. If the CDD is not provided by August 31, 2015, the committee directs the Secretary of the Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by September 1, 2015, as to the terms of reference and an assessment that the Navy has the resources available and a strategy to deliver those required UCLASS capabilities. At a minimum, this brief should also include:

- (1) An updated cost estimate;
- (2) A schedule for holding a milestone B review and establishing an acquisition program baseline before initiating system development;
- (3) Plans for new preliminary design reviews or delta preliminary design reviews and technology maturation if more demanding requirements are validated; and
- (4) What consideration is being given to adopting an evolutionary acquisition approach.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

Items of Special Interest

Long-range strike bomber

The Department of Defense has indicated that it intends to pursue the acquisition of future long-range strike capabilities for operating in anti-access/area denial environments. According to the budget request for fiscal year 2016, the Secretary of Defense expects to significantly increase annual investments in long-range strike development over the next 5 years, with investments from fiscal year 2016-20 projected to total nearly \$14.00 billion. The acquisition of a new bomber is one of the key elements in the Department's planned long-range strike investments.

Given the size of the planned investments and the strategic importance of successfully acquiring a new bomber, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review of the U.S. Air Force bomber acquisition program and to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by March 1, 2016, on the findings of the review. Specifically, the Comptroller General shall include an examination of the bomber program's technology maturity in comparison with other Air Force acquisition programs at similar milestone events. This brief should also include an examination of the Air Force's: (1) overall acquisition strategy; (2) technology, design, and production readiness; (3) development, testing, and fielding progress; (4) cost and schedule implications; and (5) technical performance.

The committee expects the Secretary of the Air Force shall ensure timely access to the necessary program information including, but not limited to, cost and budget information, detailed schedules, contractor data, program management reports, decision briefings, risk and technology readiness assessments, and technical performance measures.