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Appropriations Policy Brief

H.R. 2642 — Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations for FY 2008

BY THE NUMBERS:

In Millions of Dollars

	FY07	FY08 Bush Request	FY08 Committee	Cmte v. Request	Cmte v. FY07
Appropriations	49,752	60,745	64,745	4,000	14,993
Emergency Approps	3,136	0	0	0	-3,136
TOTAL	52,888	60,745	64,745	4,000	11,857

Excluding Emergency Appropriations, the Committee Bill is:

- **\$15 billion or 30.1% more than last year**
- **\$4 billion or 6.6% more than the President requested**

Budget Compliance: According to CBO, the bill fits within the 302(b) allocation of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee and thus complies with the Budget Act.

Earmarks:

The Committee Report states: “The Committee provides no recommendation at this time for specific projects contained in either the Administration’s budget or proposed by Members of Congress. Individual project allocations will be considered comprehensively after the Committee has properly analyzed all relevant information.”

By way of comparison, see this RSC analysis of the [FY 2007 Military Quality of Life Appropriations bill](#), and the list of earmarks, as brought before the House last year.

Items of Note:

Military Construction: \$9.7 billion—increase of \$3.7 billion, or 61 percent, compared to FY 2007.

BRAC: \$8.4 billion—increase of \$5.7 billion, or 208 percent, compared to FY 2007.

Veterans Benefits Administration: \$44.6 billion—increase of \$3.2 billion, or 7.7 percent, compared to FY 2007.

Veterans Health Administration: \$37 billion—increase of \$4.4 billion, or 13.6 percent, compared to FY 2007.

Veterans Affairs, Departmental Administration: \$5.9 billion—increase of \$2.3 billion, or 63 percent, compared to FY 2007.

Funding Summaries:

In Thousands

	FY 07 Enacted	FY 08 Request	FY 08 Cmte	Cmte Over FY07	Cmte Over Request	% Over FY07	% Over Request
Department of Defense							
Military Construction, Army	1,973,973	4,039,197	4,070,959	2,096,986	31,762	106.2%	0.8%
Military Construction, Navy	1,103,321	2,104,276	2,119,276	1,015,955	15,000	92.0%	0.7%
Military Construction, Air Force	1,080,306	912,109	922,109	-158,197	10,000	-14.6%	1.1%
Military Construction, Defense-Wide	1,016,771	1,799,336	1,779,336	782,565	0	77.0%	0.0%
Military Construction, Reserve Components	850,871	695,201	795,201	-55,670	100,000	-6.5%	14.4%
NATO Security Investment	204,789	201,400	201,400	-3,389	0	-1.6%	0.0%
Family Housing, Total	4,021,258	2,932,483	2,932,483	-1,088,755	0	27.1%	0.0%
Base Realignment & Closure	2,741,700	8,395,004	8,445,004	5,703,304	50,000	200.8%	0.6%
Chemical Demilitarization Construction	131,000	86,176	86,176	-44,824	0	-34.2%	0.0%
Total, Dept of Defense	13,123,989	21,165,182	21,371,944	8,247,955	206,762	62.8%	1.0%
Department of Veterans Affairs							
Compensation and Pensions	38,007,095	41,236,322	41,236,322	3,229,227	0	8.5%	0.0%
Medical Services	25,518,254	27,167,671	28,906,400	3,388,146	1,738,729	13.3%	6.4%
Medical Administration	3,177,968	3,442,000	3,635,600	457,632	193,600	14.4%	5.6%
Medical Facilities	3,569,533	3,592,000	4,100,000	530,467	508,000	14.8%	14.1%
Medical and Prosthetic Research	413,980	411,000	480,000	66,020	69,000	15.9%	14.3%
General Operating Expenses	1,481,473	1,471,837	1,598,500	117,027	126,663	7.9%	8.6%
National Cemetery Administration	160,747	166,809	170,000	9,253	3,191	5.8%	1.9%
Inspector General	70,641	72,559	76,500	5,859	3,901	8.3%	5.4%
Construction, Major Projects	399,000	727,400	1,410,800	1,011,800	683,400	253.6%	94.0%
Construction, Minor Projects	198,937	233,396	615,000	416,063	381,604	209.1%	163.5%
Grants, Construct State Extended Facilities	85,000	85,000	165,000	80,000	80,000	94.1%	94.1%
Grants, Construct State Veterans Cemeteries	32,000	32,000	37,000	5,000	5,000	15.6%	15.6%
Total, Dept of Veterans Affairs	77,761,944	83,903,751	87,696,839	9,934,895	3,793,088	12.8%	4.5%
Related Agencies							
American Battle Monuments Commission	42,000	53,100	54,470	12,470	1,370	29.7%	2.6%
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims	20,189	21,217	21,397	1,206	180	6.0%	0.8%
Armed Forces Retirement Home	57,227	61,624	56,524	-703	-5,100	1.2%	8.3%
DOD Civil Cemeteries Expenses	30,000	26,892	30,592	592	3,700	2.0%	13.8%

(Army)								
Total, Related Agencies	149,416	162,833	162,983	13,567	150	9.1%	0.1%	
