

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 18, 2023 (Senate)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

S. 2226 – National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024

(Sen. Reed, D-RI)

The Administration is grateful for and commends the strong, bipartisan work of the Senate Armed Services Committee (Committee) on behalf of America's national defense. The annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) is an essential step in securing the Nation and the Administration supports ultimate passage of an NDAA for the 63rd consecutive year.

The Administration looks forward to continuing to work with the Congress to set appropriate and responsible levels of defense and non-defense spending to support the security of the Nation consistent with the Fiscal Responsibility Act. Alongside a strategically sound defense budget, a strong economy and investments in diplomacy, development, and economic statecraft are critical to ensuring that the Nation is positioned to respond to the myriad of national security challenges we face today and in the future. The Department of Defense's (DoD) Fiscal Year 2024 budget request was informed by the 2022 National Defense Strategy, which calls on DoD to advance four key priorities: defend the homeland, deter strategic attacks, deter aggression while being prepared to prevail in conflict when necessary, and build a resilient Joint Force and defense ecosystem. To that end, the Administration appreciates the Committee's support for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, the Pacific Deterrence Initiative, the European Deterrence Initiative, and the security partnership with Australia and the United Kingdom.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of America's All-Volunteer Force. It also marks the 75th anniversaries of the military's desegregation and women's integration into the Armed Forces. Taking care of the health, safety, and economic security of the Total Force – including the All-Volunteer Force, their families, and DoD civilian employees and contractors – is vital to ensuring a resilient military today and in the future. It is an Administration priority, and President Biden appreciates the Committee's support for the 5.2 percent pay raise for military service members.

Given the short timeframe between public release of the bill and Senate action, the Administration is not presenting detailed views at this time. The Administration looks forward to presenting its views on S. 2226 in the near future and working with the Congress to address concerns.

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