

TOM COTTON



Senator Cotton's NDAA Initiatives

- **Independent Assessment of Force Structure (Sec. 1078)**—Requires an assessment of the size and composition of the military to fulfill current obligations, but also to meet future conflict scenarios. No single commander civilian or uniformed can accurately describe the damage done to the military by successive Obama budgets. This amendment requires an assessment that will help inform the next president so that they can take urgent action to repair military readiness and modernization.
- **Top Line End Strength (Report Language)**—Report language expressing concern that total army end strength, projected to fall to 450,000 soldiers (includes Regular Army, National Guard and Reserve components) is not sufficient to meet current and future threats.
- **National Security Documents (Sec. 1090 and 1096)**—Classifies the statutory national security documents such as the National Security Strategy Report, and the Quadrennial Defense Review.
- **Nuclear Deterrence Authorities (Report Language)**—Requires an assessment by the Secretary of Defense on authorities that would enhance and sustain modernization of the U.S. nuclear triad.
- **Guantanamo Detainees (Sec. 1027)**—Requires that the certification of transfer of Guantanamo-detained terrorist include the written memorandum of understanding between the Department of Defense and the receiving country. This provision sheds light on an opaque process in which hardened Guantanamo terrorists are hastily released to third countries in the President's race to close the detention facility at the Guantanamo Naval Station in Cuba.
- **Cryptologic Museum (Sec. 1673)**—Establishes the National Cryptologic Museum to honor the often unsung lineage and history of America's codemakers and codebreakers.
- **Missile Defense Unfunded Priorities (Section 4101)**—Restores \$294 million cut from the Missile Defense Agency for missile defense programs that protect the U.S. homeland, the military overseas and its allies from the threat of ballistic missiles.
- **Space Based Missile Defense Systems (Sec. 1661)**—Authorizes the Director of the Missile Defense Agency to commence coordination and activities associated with research, development, test, and evaluation of Space-Based Missile-Defense System to protect the United States from ballistic missile attack.
- **Distributed Common Ground/Surface System-Army (Sec. 111)**—Provides critical oversight to a chronically failing Army IT program, and would require the Army to choose a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) solution.

- **Enhanced Tactical Mobility (Report Language)**—Directs the Army to field commercially available all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) for 3 Battalion Task Forces (369 vehicles) for the 82nd Airborne infantry division to fulfill an urgent operational need.
- **Joint Officer Reform (Sec. 507 thru Sec. 509)**—Extends the 30-year retirement deadline and reduce early joint requirements for junior officers. These provision will allow good officers to serve longer, and reduce the obligation for junior officers to fulfill joint officer roles early in their career.
- **U.S.-Taiwan Officer Exchanges (Sec. 1243)**—Requires exchanges between U.S. and Taiwan flag and general officers. The U.S. maintains a commitment to Taiwan’s defense through the Taiwan Relations Act. It is unfathomable that the highest level of military officers should not interact to promote the efficacy of that commitment, and enhance further bilateral cooperation.
- **Silicon Carbide Research (Report Language)**—Increasing funding for silicon carbide research for use in aerospace programs by \$5 million and directs the U.S. Army to conduct research on silicon carbide applications for army programs. This provision increases investment in research crucial for lightweighting electronic and battery components developed by advanced technology companies, such as Wolfspeed.
- **Non-combat Training Requirements (Report Language)**—Mandates a report identifying onerous non-combat training requirements and the impact to readiness among the military services.