



Stop Wasteful Spending in the National Defense Authorization Act

May 16, 2012

Dear Representative:

We urge you to support the amendments to the FY2013 National Defense Authorization Act listed below. Though we do not yet know which of these amendments will be made in order, the issues they address are certain to come up in tomorrow's debate and in the months to come. At a time when every part of the federal government must tighten its belt, this bill adds billions of dollars for programs the Defense Department (DOD) does not want and which will not make us safer. The amendments would:

[Stop "lettermarking" of military construction projects \(#51 – Flake\)](#)

Requires DOD to report on written communications from members of Congress regarding military construction projects on the future-years defense program.

[Make sure contingency funds go to contingencies \(#49 - Flake, Mulvaney\)](#)

Ensures that monies from the Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund are used only for items or activities named in the President's OCO budget request.

[Reduce funding for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement-Nuclear Facility \(#67 - Markey, Sanchez, Johnson\)](#)

Restores the cut already made by appropriators for a costly and unnecessary plutonium research facility. Also strikes sections requiring completion of the facility by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and forbidding Congress from funding less expensive alternatives.

[Delay the New Long-Range Penetrating Bomber Aircraft \(#64 - Markey, Welch, Conyers\)](#)

Delays development of the next-generation long-range penetrating bomber aircraft through FY 2023. This will save money by allowing the Air Force to reduce development concurrency and refine program requirements. Also reduces funds for the program by about \$291 million.

[Replace the costly variant of the F-35 with Super Hornets \(#103 - Conyers, Ellison\)](#)

Replaces the six Marine Corps F-35s slated for purchase in FY 2013 with proven F/A-18E/F Super Hornets, saving taxpayers billions in procurement and operations costs.

[Eliminate excess funding for the U.S. Uranium Enrichment Corp. \(#194/5 - Pearce, Markey\)](#)

Would strike section 3156 adding \$150 million intended for the United States Uranium Enrichment Corporation (USEC) to fund its American Centrifuge Project in Piketon, Ohio. Replaces section with request for a GAO study to determine which uranium enrichment companies the United States government can legally purchase uranium from and provide data on the price of purchasing from each facility.

[Reduce excess funding for the Ground-Based Missile Defense System \(#198 - Polis, Sanchez\)](#)

Reduces \$350 million added in markup to the troubled GMD system and returns program funding to original \$900 budget request.

Many of these amendments mirror recommendations we made in our recent report with the Project on Government Oversight titled "[Spending Even Less, Spending Even Smarter](#)." We invite you to refer to the report for more details on these common-sense provisions. With a \$15 trillion debt and deficits predicted to average a trillion dollars for the next decade, the nation must cut back. Again, we urge you to support these amendments. Spending more will not necessarily make us safer, but spending smarter will make us stronger.

If you would like to discuss these issues further please contact me or Laura Peterson at 202-546-8500 or laura@taxpayer.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Ryan Alexander". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "A. Ryan" and the last name "Alexander" clearly distinguishable.

Ryan Alexander
President