

AUSA and others spoke out for:

- Repealing in its entirety the Department of Veterans' Affairs offset on retired military entitlement (concurrent receipt).
- Reducing from 60 to 55 the age retired reserve component personnel receive their pay and benefits.
- Funding the Federal Impact Aid Program to preclude children of military families from being disadvantaged in public schooling.
- Funding accelerated modernization of reserve component equipment.
- Maintaining the Army's strategic advantage and advancing modernization in its current force.
- Funding for Army procurement items deemed essential for continuing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Ensuring adequate stocks of munitions to support training and the warfighting stockpile.
- Ensuring adequate prepositioned equipment stocks.
- Developing the Future Force for the transforming Army.

Congress responded by:

- Authorizing 100 percent of disabled retirees rated unemployable to receive full concurrent receipt retroactive to 1 January 2005.
- Reducing the age reserve component personnel receive retired pay by three months for every aggregate 90 days of active duty service in support of a contingency operation after the FY2008 Defense Authorization Act is signed into law.
- Maintaining the current funding level for Impact Aid by authorizing \$30 million for schools that benefit dependents of servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians and an additional \$5 million for schools that benefit dependents with severe disabilities and authorizing (but not funding) \$10 million for districts experiencing a change in student load due to rebasing or base realignment.
- Authorizing \$980 million for procurement of critical, high priority equipment to address reserve component unfunded equipment shortfalls.
- Authorizing helicopter upgrades and modernization for Abrams tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles; \$5.2 billion for procurement of Army aviation assets to include the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter and the Joint Cargo Aircraft; \$2.9 billion for Stryker vehicles; retaining Army responsibility and operational control of the Extended Range Multi-purpose Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.
- Authorizing \$17.6 billion for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles; \$3.3 billion to up-armor additional High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles; more than \$18 billion to replace equipment lost in combat; \$1.2 billion for personal protection and gear such as body armor; \$4.77 billion for improvised explosive device defeat equipment and research.
- Authorizing \$2.2 billion for Army ammunition programs.
- Requiring the Defense Department to report annually the status of prepositioned equipment stocks and plans to reconstitute stockpiles.
- Authorizing \$3.4 billion for the Future Combat Systems.

Take up the torch and join our crusade!

BECOME a member **STAY** a member **RECRUIT** a member



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