

ISSUE:



BACKGROUND:

DESIRED ACTION:



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Educate, Advocate, Support

ISSUE: Advocate to Congress that DoD & Veterans Affairs budgets be completed by beginning of each fiscal year



BACKGROUND:

1. The AF needs stable & predictable funding at adequate funding levels.
2. Continuing Resolutions (CRs) impede readiness, while consistent yearly budgets allow the Air Force to make long-term plans & effectively manage its programs.
3. Work collaboratively with the DoD & aerospace industry to reduce cost & time to acquire new weapons systems.

DESIRED ACTION: End Budget Control Act of 2011—its debilitating restrictions continue to erode readiness.



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ISSUE: Advocate for Smart Space



BACKGROUND:

- 1.** To split up the well-integrated set of air & space capabilities that have been organized to seamlessly contribute to America's military capabilities would result in more harm than good.
- 2.** The question of standing up a new armed service for space is not "if," but "when," & the "when" is the time all the conditions for creating a separate armed force for space are met.
- 3.** Standing up a separate space bureaucracy amplifies the problem by driving more money to a headquarters function, not space operations. Congress has constrained space capabilities, not the Air Force, by underfunding the service.

DESIRED ACTION: Congress to reject the Administration's Directive.



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ISSUE: Resourcing the USAF Commensurate with the Ever-Increasing Mission Requirements



BACKGROUND:

1. Air Force has training limitations & retention challenges because of continuous ops tempo, deployments, & additional duties. Their shortage has grown acute due to hiring demand from commercial airline industry.
2. Operational sqs are the core fighting unit of the Air Force. The 386 total is broken down as such: Increase from 55 fighter sqs to 62; from 9 bomber sqs to 14; from 53 airlift sqs to 54; & from 16 space sqs to 23.
3. Size force structure to meet global requirements by increasing Active Duty to 350,000 personnel, the ANG to 120,000 personnel, & the Reserve to 72,500 personnel. The AF must be sized & funded commensurate with the missions it is given.

DESIRED ACTION: Grow the Total Force to 386 total squadrons to meet the AF's many missions, increase targeted pilot retention bonuses up to \$60K. Recruit & retain highly skilled support personnel & implement selective bonuses for depleted career fields.



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Educate, Advocate, Support

ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION (AF Wide)



BACKGROUND:

1. Currently, the Air Force is gaining less aircraft annually, and needs a critical increase (numbers vary between airframe) to keep up with future demands & decrease unit costs. The warfighters deserve equipment in a timely & sufficient manner, while mitigating costs to the taxpayers.
2. Sustain & modernize the airlift fleet that provides our nation its global mobility
3. Grow space launch capabilities, taking advantage of cost-reducing measures in the commercial space industry
4. Collaborate with Congress & industry to institute defense industrial base policies that ensure a robust defense industrial base capable of meeting Air Force acquisition/procurement requirements.
5. Boost support to the Air Force laboratories, National Laboratories, & Nuclear laboratories.
6. Shape Air Force cybersecurity legislation, budgets, & programs that benefit our nation & warfighters.

DESIRED ACTION: Accelerate the Air Force's top three acquisition programs and Recapitalize the Air Force's air & space systems to ensure continued core mission capabilities.



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ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(F-35A)



BACKGROUND:

1. F-35A Lightning II—The US must speed up acquisition of the strike fighter, which is the only fifth-generation fighter in production & is survivable against today's defenses.
2. Currently, the Air Force is gaining approximately 48-56 aircraft annually, but it needs to recapitalize much sooner by procuring 80-100 aircraft per year to keep up with future demands & decrease unit costs.

DESIRED ACTION: Accelerate the Air Force's F-35A program.



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**ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(KC-46A)**



BACKGROUND:

1. KC-46A Pegasus Tanker—Replace costly 50-year-old aircraft that are at the end of their service lives.
2. The Air Force is expected to receive only about 15 aircraft annually, which is only a very small down payment on the 500 total new tankers that are required.

DESIRED ACTION: Accelerate the Air Force's KC-46A program.



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ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(B-21)



BACKGROUND:

1. B-21 Raider Bomber—Procure 180 B-21 bombers.
2. The current long-range strike force averages 40 years in age & 87 percent of today's bomber fleet predates stealth technology.

DESIRED ACTION: Accelerate the Air Force's B-21 Raider Bomber program.



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ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(T-X Trainer)



BACKGROUND:

1. Fund the T-X trainer aircraft program to replace the T-38 Talon.
2. A new trainer is key to meeting the needed increase in pilot production the Air Force requires
3. Provides a platform more aligned with fifth generation aircraft.

DESIRED ACTION: Accelerate the Air Force's T-X Trainer program.



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ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(RPAs)



BACKGROUND:

1. Accelerate innovation, experimentation, & development of remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) technologies including sensors, semi- autonomous (unmanned wingman) & autonomous operations, airbase defense, micro/nanoscale, & swarming technologies.
2. Expand recruiting of RPA pilots to non-traditional communities to alleviate pilot shortages & enhance diversity.

DESIRED ACTION: Improve and expand the RPA community both operators and equipment.



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ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(Nuclear/Missile)



BACKGROUND:

1. Advance the Long-Range Standoff Weapon (LRSO) with nuclear capability.
2. Support full funding for the Ground Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD) to replace the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile system (ICBM), which is increasingly expensive to maintain as it is nearly 50 years old & faces future capability gaps.
3. Grow capabilities in Nuclear Command, Control & Communications (NC3) & Multi-Domain Command & Control (MDC2).
4. Quicken the acquisition of replacement helicopters for the UH-1N fleet at the earliest opportunity for missile force security & VIP movements.

DESIRED ACTION: Fund and continue advanced development of the AF/DoD Nuclear and Missile Programs.



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ISSUE: RECAPITALIZATION / MODERNIZATION
(Reconnaissance)



BACKGROUND:

1. Endorse the Air Force’s “Next Generation ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, & Reconnaissance) Dominance Flight Plan,” utilizing a sensing grid that fuses together data from legacy platforms & incorporates emerging technologies. We support continuing upgrades to reconnaissance & surveillance platforms & battle management systems. Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be key in deciphering data.
2. Accelerate the Air Force’s new Advanced Battle Management System (ABMS)—a more survivable architecture using a network of integrated sensors.

DESIRED ACTION: Accelerate and Endorse next generation ISR plans and AF new ABM System.



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ISSUE: Invest In Technology



BACKGROUND:

1. A large portion of the AF Budget is consumed by sustainment costs.
- 2.. The U.S. is behind the Chinese & the Russians in hypersonic development, Advance hypersonic technologies & leverage technologies to fully integrate operations in air & space.
3. Develop Artificial Intelligence (AI) investments & strategies, which will enhance warfighting capabilities.

DESIRED ACTION: Authorize at least 10% of S&T In Sustainment and Technologies.



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ISSUE: Support Airman & Their Families



BACKGROUND:

1. Pay raises in the military are currently not tie or connected to the ECI Employment Cost Index.
2. Healthcare: Healthcare is a continuous issue and needs are not met, Healthcare is a readiness issue.

DESIRED ACTION: Fund TRICARE appropriately and tie the pay raises to the ECI.



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ISSUE: Treat Retirees & Veterans With Dignity & Respect



BACKGROUND:

1. Contest cuts that would eliminate the Individual Unemployability (IU) benefit once a veteran becomes eligible for Social Security. IU helps those veterans who have service-connected disabilities & are not able to work.
2. Health care has made promises to veteran's for years and TRICARE for Life (TFL) needs preserved. It is a national obligation to retirees, earned long ago. TFL is costing less, not more.
3. Pursue all avenues to expand & preserve Arlington National Cemetery before changing burial & inurnment requirements for our members & veterans.

DESIRED ACTION: Challenge TRICARE fee increases by Congress, Improve VA Health Care, Preserve Arlington National Cemetery.



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ISSUE: Champion Civilians Matter



BACKGROUND:

1. We are losing civilian talent & expertise to other opportunities due to long delays & a burdensome hiring system. DOD has experienced a 30 % cut in numbers over the past two decades.
2. Civilians serve as the institutional memory for the force, & their corporate knowledge & skills cannot be easily replaced.
3. They are key members of the Air Force's Total Force.

DESIRED ACTION: Support the recruitment, talent management, & retention of quality Air Force civilians and promote civilian pay raises.



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