

HASC marked-up and passed their version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Please find Congressman Fallon's statement on the legislation's passage below.

"The FY 2026 NDAA delivers on the principle of peace through strength that President Trump has made a cornerstone of his America First agenda.

I am proud to have voted in favor of this bill that would spur innovation, acquisition reform, and the restoration of America's defense industrial base. In order to deter the looming threats posed by adversaries such as China and Russia, the US warfighter needs to have the best tools and resources at their disposal. After all, the potential conflicts of tomorrow will be decided by whomever has the best access to accurate, timely information, which means this bill's investments in AI and drone technology will prove vital. At the same time, the United States' missile defense status quo is currently unsustainable. Therefore, this bill also serves as a down payment on President Trump's Golden Dome missile defense system, dovetailing with key investments in hypersonics and the space domain.

America's national security cannot wait, and this bill's passage from committee is a major step in the right direction."

Lastly, here is a list of the amendments **(23)** that the Congressman championed in this year's package.

1. **Title:** Feasibility Study on the Use of Unused Department of Defense Land for Defense Industrial Base Manufacturing

Summary: The directive tasks the Army and Defense Secretaries with evaluating the reuse of underutilized DoD lands and facilities, leveraging the ARMS Program to enhance defense readiness and domestic manufacturing capacity cost-effectively without new land acquisition.

2. **Title:** Advanced Manufacturing in Depot Modernization

Summary: The directive requires the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to brief Congress by February 1, 2026, on the use of depot modernization funds for advanced manufacturing technologies, including AI-driven and additive processes, to enhance U.S. defense production agility and technological superiority.

3. **Title:** Limitation on Use of Funds to Reduce the Number of Civilian Personnel Employed at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas, and Red River Army Depot, Texas

Summary: The amendment prohibits FY2026 funding cuts to civilian personnel at Pine Bluff Arsenal and Red River Army Depot without certification of statutory compliance, requiring a report on cost impacts and capability gaps, while safeguarding defense manufacturing, civilian jobs, and strategic industrial capacity.

4. **Title:** Report on Navy Investments in Unmanned Surface Vessels

Summary: The amendment requires the Navy to report by December 1, 2025, on its integration of commercial Unmanned Surface Vessel technologies, outlining investments, barriers, reforms, and a five-year roadmap to enhance naval capabilities, reduce costs, and strengthen maritime security through private-sector innovation.

5. **Title:** Golden Dome Cybersecurity

Summary: The directive requires the Secretary of Defense to report by March 31, 2026, on cybersecurity needs and COTS solutions for the Golden Dome missile defense system, ensuring robust cyber resilience and safeguarding next-generation defense capabilities.

6. **Title:** Extension of Deterrence Pilot Program

Summary: The amendment extends the Deterrence Pilot Program's authorization to December 31, 2030, enabling the Department of Defense to continue refining deterrence strategies and assessing long-term program effectiveness against global threats.

7. **Title:** Competitive Demonstration of Low-Cost, Highly Scalable Air Interceptors

Summary: The directive requires the Army and Defense Secretaries to report by August 30, 2026, on the results of a June 2026 demonstration of scalable, low-cost air defense interceptors, assessing readiness, commercial technologies, and expanded testing to enhance national and tactical defense capabilities.

8. **Title:** Counter-Unmanned Aircraft System Readiness

Summary: The amendment directs the Secretary of Defense to report within 180 days on legal and operational inconsistencies in C-sUAS operations, propose modernization plans, and enhance coordination to strengthen drone defense readiness and national security.

9. **Title:** Review and Update of Training Doctrine for Radiation and Thermal Burn Treatment in Individual First Aid Kit and Combat Lifesaver Training Programs

Summary: The directive requires the Secretary of Defense to report by March 31, 2026, on training and medical readiness for treating radiation and thermal burn injuries, ensuring updated protocols and kits to protect service members in high-risk environments.

10. **Title:** Cyber Workforce Incentivization Plan

Summary: Requires the Secretary of Defense to create a plan to recruit and retain service members with critical cyber skills through incentives like certification pay, skill tracking, and personnel planning. A report is due to Congress by March 1, 2026.

11. **Title:** Proper Market Research Requirements and Report for DoD Markets

Summary: The directive requires the DoD to report within 180 days on its market research practices for critical defense technologies, identifying barriers and recommending improvements to accelerate development and enhance private-sector collaboration.

12. **Title:** Directs the Secretary of Defense to Brief on the Effectiveness of the Bridging Operational Objectives and Support for Transition Program

Summary: The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to brief by August 1, 2026, on the implementation of the BOOST program and any additional authorities needed to enhance technology transition into defense capabilities.

13. **Title:** Increases the Operational Energy Capability Improvement Account by \$5M for the Development of Interoperable, Field-Ready, Hybrid Power Systems Deployable for Multiple-Use Applications with the Sole Intention of Improving Military Readiness

Summary: The amendment reallocates \$5 million in FY2026 DoD funds to Hybrid Power Systems under RDT&E by reducing an equal amount from Air National Guard logistics support, prioritizing energy resilience and sustainable operations.

14. **Title:** Briefing on Audit Efforts and the Initiating the Workforce Acceleration and Recapitalization Initiative

Summary: The directive requires the Secretary of Defense to report by March 30, 2025, on efforts to achieve audit readiness through digital-first operations, including automation, data transparency, and real-time financial tracking to improve accountability and efficiency.

15. **Title:** Commercial-First AI Acquisition Strategy and Containerized Model Deployment

Summary: The directive requires the Secretary of Defense to report by February 15, 2026, on strategies for adopting containerized commercial AI capabilities, focusing on acquisition, integration, infrastructure, workforce readiness, and metrics to strengthen defense posture and technological advantage.

16. **Title:** Adjustment and Diversification Assistance for State and Local Governments Affected by Army Transformation Initiative

Summary: The provision authorizes the Secretary of Defense to provide assistance to communities affected by the Army Transformation Initiative and requires a report within 60 days on FY2026 support levels and strategies to address Army capability gaps through the organic industrial base.

17. **Title:** Federal Hiring Modernization Act of 2025

Summary: The Defense Hiring Modernization Act of 2025 updates Title 5 hiring authorities for the Department of Defense by enabling skills-based assessments, flexible outreach, removal of time-in-grade restrictions, and shared talent pools, with a required report on its hiring impact within one year of enactment.

18. **Title:** Personnel Actions Against DoD SES Career Appointees

Summary: The provision grants DoD leaders authority to take expedited disciplinary actions—including reassignment, demotion, or removal—against career SES appointees for misconduct or poor performance, with streamlined grievance procedures and a sunset date of September 30, 2030.

19. **Title:** Adds Additional Cybersecurity Requirements for Procuring Cloud, Data Infrastructure, and Foundation Models

Summary: The provision establishes competitive procurement, data protection, and reporting requirements for AI and cloud contracts to enhance innovation, security, and fair competition while safeguarding government data and promoting participation by small and nontraditional contractors.

20. **Title:** Additional Elements for Department of Defense Audit

Summary: The provision enhances DoD's Financial Improvement and Audit Remediation Plan by adding requirements for resource allocation, measurable objectives, audit timelines, system modernization progress, and implementation of automated processes.

21. **Title:** Expansion of Military Star Program

Summary: The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to report by March 31, 2026, on the feasibility, costs, benefits, and required authorities for expanding the Military Star Card program to more retailers nationwide.

22. **Title:** Authority of Secretary of Defense to Enter into Contracts to Provide Certain Assistance to Secure the Southern Land Border of the United States

Summary: The provision amends the FY2016 NDAA to authorize the Secretary of Defense to contract services—including detection, logistics, transportation, maintenance, training, intelligence analysis, linguist support, data entry, and

aviation—to assist U.S. Customs and Border Protection in securing the southern U.S. border.

23. **Title:** Requires DoD to Provide a Briefing to the House Armed Services Committee on the Use of the "NOFORN" Dissemination Control Measure and How It Is Applied in Various Contexts

Summary: The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to brief Congress by December 1, 2025, on policies, practices, and drivers behind the use of the NOFORN designation, including analysis, recommendations to reduce overuse, and supporting documentation with a classified annex if needed.