

IMPROVING THE LETHALITY OF OUR ARMED FORCES

Legislative Point Paper

PROBLEM:

- The continued **modernization of the armed forces is essential** for maintaining military superiority and ensuring national security in an increasingly complex and dynamic global environment.
- As adversaries adopt new technologies and strategies, the U.S. must stay ahead by **embracing cutting-edge solutions** and modernizing its defense capabilities.
- This includes **investing in next-generation weaponry**, cybersecurity measures, and artificial intelligence; all critical to maintaining **strategic advantage**.
- America no longer has the world's largest Navy and China's shipbuilding capacity is 232 times greater than the United States.
- The modernization process also involves updating military infrastructure, improving logistics, and enhancing the training and operational readiness of personnel to **address evolving threats**.

KEY POINTS:

- Enforce modernization through **funding for Research & Development (R&D)** and **incentivizing innovative practices** and rapid procurement next-generation technologies.
- **Strengthen the defense industrial base** by prioritizing funding for replacing expended weapons and ammunition stocks, shipbuilding, fostering private-public partnerships and transitioning critically skilled military personnel into defense industry.
- **Enhance talent acquisition** by reforming recruitment strategies and offering retention incentives and ensuring high quality of life to military personnel with advanced technical skills.

WHAT CONGRESS CAN DO:

1. Increase funding for defense-related R&D initiatives to accelerate fielding capabilities in all domains of conflict, especially rapid prototyping and experimentation, hypersonics, artificial intelligence, space, and quantum.
2. Ensure National Defense Strategy related spending prioritizes joint and Combined warfighting capabilities and service force development efforts to retain lethality and capability advantages.
3. Prioritize defense funding to focus on increasing shipbuilding capacity through construction of additional shipyards and associated work force trade schools.



232 TIMES GREATER

CHINA'S
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TO THE US

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