



May 18, 2012

FY 2013 Defense Authorization Passes House

On Friday, the House of Representatives passed the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. This bill authorizes \$642 billion for the Department of Defense, including \$88.5 billion for continuing operations overseas and the war on terror, and national defense programs at the Department of Energy. During consideration of the bill an amendment was adopted to replace the massive defense cuts scheduled to take effect January 2013 with savings and offsets from other federal programs. Recognizing the service and sacrifice that the men and women of our armed forces and their families make for our country, the bill provides a 1.7% increase in military pay and rejects new TRICARE fees proposed by the President. In addition, the bill authorizes funding for vital weapons systems, aircraft, and ground vehicles to ensure that our troops have the resources they need to successfully complete their mission. The House-approved measure also prohibits the use of federal funds to transfer or release detainees from Guantanamo Bay. In addition, the bill includes language that makes clear that Americans detained in the U.S. under the 2001 Authorization for the Use of Force or the FY 2012 Defense Authorization Act cannot be denied their habeas corpus rights to have their day in court. Congressman Miller will continue to work with his colleagues to enact an authorization that invests in the capabilities needed to keep our country safe.

House Votes to Reauthorize Violence Against Women Act

Also this week, the House voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) for five years. Since its enactment in 1994, VAWA has strengthened federal efforts to combat and prevent domestic violence. The reauthorization passed by the House on Wednesday, H.R. 4970, provides \$680 million each year for grants that may be used for a variety of activities, including providing legal and other support services to victims of abuse, crisis intervention, and increase resources for sexual assault investigations and prosecutions. To ensure these federal grants are awarded to organizations and programs that help protect victims and prevent domestic violence, H.R. 4970 increases accountability measures for grant recipients. The bill also strengthens penalties for sexual assault and abuse, and increases maximum penalties under federal stalking laws for violating a protection order. Congressman Miller supported the passage of H.R. 4970 to help victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault get the care they need and increase the resources law enforcement and prosecutors have to investigate and prosecute violent offenders.

Resolution Against Iran's Nuclear Ambitions Overwhelmingly Passes House

Next week, six-party talks are set to resume with Iran on its nuclear enrichment program. On Wednesday, the House, on a bipartisan vote of 401-11, passed a resolution expressing the importance of preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. Specifically, the resolution affirms that preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons is a vital national interest of the United States, and rejects any policy that would rely on efforts to contain a nuclear-capable Iran. The resolution urges continuing and strengthening economic and diplomatic pressure on Iran to reach an agreement that would include a sustained suspension of uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities and full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency. Congressman Miller will continue working in Congress to address the growing Iranian threat and prevent this rogue nation from obtaining nuclear weapons.

District Office Internships Available

Congressman Miller is currently accepting applications from college students interested in a summer

internship at his District Office in Brea. A Congressional internship offers students the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge of the operations of the federal government, constituent services and intergovernmental relations. Responsibilities include front desk reception, providing phone support, constituent services, processing mail, conducting research and working with the staff on special projects. Consideration will be given to reliable, motivated individuals with excellent written and verbal communication skills. A strong work ethic and ability to handle multiple tasks are essential qualities. This is an unpaid position. For more information, please contact the District Office at (714) 257-1142.

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