



Committee: House Appropriations Committee
Event: [Full Committee Markup of the FY27 Defense Bill](#)
Date: June 24, 2026

Executive Summary:

On June 24, 2026, the House Appropriations Committee hosted a markup of the [fiscal year 2027 \(FY27\) Defense Appropriations](#) bill; the markup highlighted deep partisan divisions.

- Republicans supported the bill for strengthening military readiness through investments in next-generation weapons, shipbuilding, artificial intelligence (AI), missile defense, and the defense industrial base.
- Democrats criticized the bill for exceeding \$1 trillion in defense spending, omitting additional funding for Ukraine, and offsetting increased defense investments with cuts to domestic programs.
- **The bill was reported, as amended, to the full House in a 34-27 vote.**

I. Member Toplines:¹

[Defense Subcommittee Chairman Ken Calvert \(R-CA-41\)](#): Calvert emphasized the bill's investments in next-generation weapons, shipbuilding, space capabilities, and AI to strengthen U.S. military readiness. He argued that AI has become a critical arena of strategic competition with significant implications for both national and economic security.

[Defense Subcommittee Ranking Member Betty McCollum \(D-MN-04\)](#): McCollum opposed the bill for providing the Department of Defense (DOD) with more than \$1 trillion while omitting additional funding for Ukraine. She also criticized the measure for relying on cuts to domestic programs to finance increased defense spending.

[Full Committee Chairman Tom Cole \(R-OK-04\)](#): Cole argued that the bill's \$1.072 trillion price tag is necessary to modernize the U.S. military, strengthen deterrence against global adversaries, and provide a raise for service members. He highlighted investments in next-generation aircraft, missile defense, cyber capabilities, and resilient defense supply chains to ensure military readiness for future conflicts.

[Full Committee Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro \(D-CT-03\)](#): DeLauro criticized the legislation for prioritizing the largest military budget in U.S. history while abandoning additional support for Ukraine. She argued the bill increases defense spending at the cost of working families by cutting investments in education, job training, housing assistance, and other domestic priorities.

¹ NOTE: A number of opening statements were unavailable online at the time of this memo's distribution.

Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH-09): Kaptur opposed the bill, arguing that it fails to provide additional security assistance to Ukraine. She also criticized the bill for increasing defense spending without addressing the nation's growing debt and not rebuilding the domestic defense manufacturing workforce and industrial base.

Rep. John Rutherford (R-FL-05): Rutherford supported the bill for funding military readiness, munitions procurement, and specific defense platforms vital to operations in Florida.

Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA-02): Bishop acknowledged the importance of investments in military personnel and readiness, but opposed the bill due to its cuts to domestic programs and omission of Ukraine funding.

Rep. Dale Strong (R-AL-05): Strong supported the bill for its investments in missile defense, munitions procurement, and the defense industrial base.

Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL-25): Wasserman Schultz criticized the bill for substantially increasing the defense budget in the middle of an “affordability crisis.”

Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX-28): Cuellar praised the bill for supporting aviation talent pipelines and pay increases for enlisted service members.

[Rep. Chellie Pingree \(D-ME-01\):](#) Pingree opposed the bill for underfunding the domestic shipbuilding industry and raised concerns with proposals to purchase ships from foreign shipyards. She also criticized the bill for prioritizing defense spending over investments in areas such as education, housing, child care, and medical research.

Rep. Jake Ellzey (R-TX-06): Ellzey argued the bill’s increased defense spending is necessary to deter U.S. adversaries.

Rep. Lois Frankel (D-FL-22): Frankel opposed the bill's more than \$1 trillion defense budget. She argued that national security should also depend on investments in affordable health care, education, housing, and other domestic priorities.

Rep. Ed Case (D-HI-01): Case criticized the bill for relying on “disjointed” reconciliation funding and warned the bill will add to the U.S. debt.

Rep. Joe Morelle (D-NY-25): Morelle opposed the bill for increasing DOD’s budget while instituting significant cuts to domestic programs that support working families.

Rep. Mike Levin (D-CA-49): Levin opposed the bill for its cuts to the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program. He also criticized the administration for stalling wind project approvals while U.S. demand for energy increases.

Rep. Madeleine Dean (D-PA-04): Dean opposed the bill for providing no additional funding for Ukraine and neglecting domestic needs such as funding for child care, Medicaid, and Medicare.

[Rep. Steny Hoyer \(D-MD-05\)](#): Hoyer opposed the bill for not providing procedural transparency on budget caps and not offering additional support to Ukraine. He added that the bill needs to reallocate funding towards military personnel, industrialization, and defense procurement.

[Rep. Veronica Escobar \(D-TX-16\)](#): Escobar supported the bill's investments in Army modernization and innovation, but criticized offsetting cuts to domestic programs for housing, education, and health care.

II. Amendments

- [Manager 01](#) - Makes a number of technical corrections to the underlying bill.
 - Calvert introduced the amendment and noted that it includes non-controversial changes supported by both parties.
 - McCollum expressed support for the amendment, stressing that it addresses topics important to the full committee.
 - Cuellar spoke in support of the amendment, specifically a provision he introduced that calls for outcome-based reviews, performance management, and responsible oversight.
 - Rep. **Marie Glusenkamp Perez** (D-WA-03) voiced support for the amendment, specifically a provision she introduced that provides representation for the families of fallen Coast Guard service members on the Gold Star Advisory Council.
 - Frankel supported the amendment for including a provision she introduced that strengthens Holocaust education within the DOD.
 - **The amendment was approved by voice vote.**
- [McCollum 01](#) - Withdraws the Secretary of Defense's authority to cut \$1 billion based on projected AI savings.
 - McCollum argued that the Secretary's authority relies on an outdated study on AI savings and infringes on congressional authority.
 - Calvert opposed the amendment and defended the AI savings provision as a reasonable concession within a \$1 trillion budget.
 - DeLauro supported the amendment. She added that modern naval warfare is moving away from the type of large vessels that the President wants to build, and demanded that the Navy explain why such an outdated vessel is necessary.
 - **The amendment failed by voice vote.**
- [DeLauro 01](#) - Applies standard appropriations guardrails to DOD funding received through the reconciliation process.
 - DeLauro characterized her amendment as a necessary step to protect against waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption in reconciliation funding.
 - Calvert opposed reopening debate on the reconciliation bill.
 - McCollum supported the amendment.
 - **The amendment failed in a 27-32 vote.**
- [DeLauro 02](#) - Blocks a proposed rule from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that would require all federal grants to be approved by political appointees.

- DeLauro introduced her amendment and argued that OMB's rule would bypass merit-based peer review and politicize scientific and medical research.
 - Calvert opposed the amendment for blocking "necessary" reforms to the federal grant allocation process.
 - McCollum, Wasserman Schultz, and Pingree spoke in support of the amendment, explaining it would prevent OMB from politicizing which research projects receive funding.
 - **The amendment failed in a 25-33 vote.**
- [Republican En-Bloc Amendment](#) - Places additional restrictions on the allocation of defense spending and redesignates the DOD as the Department of War.
 - Calvert introduced the amendment and noted that it incorporates many important Republican priorities.
 - McCollum criticized the amendment for its inclusion of "partisan" priorities.
 - Hoyer and Levin opposed the amendment for its proposal to redesignate DOD.
 - Rep. **Mark Alford** (R-MO-04) supported the amendment for preventing the relocation of basic combat training from Fort Leonard Wood.
 - **The amendment passed in a 32-25 vote.**
- [Torres 01](#) - Prohibits funds from being spent on a war with Iran without congressional authorization.
 - Rep. **Norma Torres** (D-CA-35) introduced her amendment and highlighted the increase in energy costs as a result of the war.
 - Calvert opposed the amendment.
 - McCollum supported the amendment and stressed that the war is increasing the cost of housing, energy, and food.
 - DeLauro supported the amendment and noted the administration has not achieved any of its stated goals in the war.
 - **The amendment failed in a 27-31 vote.**
- [Levin 01](#) - Directs the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to examine the \$620 million loan made by the Office of Strategic Capital (OSC) to Vulcan Elements.
 - Levin introduced his amendment and called for greater transparency around the Vulcan deal given its connection to the President's family. He added that he is in favor of OSC's mission to reduce U.S. dependence on China for critical minerals and rare earth elements.
 - Calvert opposed the amendment and stressed his support for OSC's work to strengthen the nation's defense industrial base.
 - McCollum supported the amendment and argued it is necessary to protect taxpayer trust in strategic defense investments.
 - Kaptur supported the amendment. She explained it would not cancel the loan, but instead direct the GAO to investigate whether appropriate safeguards were followed when the loan was issued.
 - **The amendment failed in a 27-32 vote.**
- [Escobar 01](#) - Directs the DOD to assess readiness impacts associated with using military installations for immigration detention.
 - Escobar introduced her amendment, citing severe security breaches and resource drains at Camp East Montana at Fort Bliss.
 - Calvert opposed the amendment.

- McCollum supported the amendment and stressed the standards for immigration detention at military bases must be improved.
 - **The amendment failed in a 25-34 vote.**
- [Escobar 02](#) - Ensures the DOD's Worldwide Expeditionary Multiple Award Contract is reserved for military missions.
 - Escobar introduced her amendment, arguing that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) misused this procurement tool to award a \$1.3 billion contract to an inexperienced private contractor for immigration detention, leading to massive taxpayer waste.
 - Calvert expressed opposition to the amendment and claimed it was a "premature measure."
 - McCollum supported the amendment and argued DOD should not fund DHS immigration measures.
 - **The amendment failed in a 25-34 vote.**