

January 30, 2026

The Honorable John R. Thune
Senate Majority Leader
By e-mail

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
By e-mail

Dear Majority Leader Thune and Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Reserve Organization of America, we urge Congress to advance the House-passed Defense Appropriations Act as a standalone measure if negotiations on the remaining appropriations bills cannot be resolved before a government shutdown.

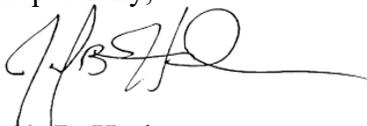
Moving the Defense Appropriations Act independently, if required, would prevent unnecessary disruption to national security and avoid compounding uncertainty for servicemembers, their families, and the Defense Industrial Base. The House-passed bill contains critical investments that directly sustain readiness and force capability, including:

- \$800 million for the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account.
- \$976 million for six C-130J aircraft for the Air National Guard.
- \$500 million for four KC-130J aircraft for the Navy Reserve.
- \$1.9 billion for the B-21 Raider to sustain development.
- \$6.4 billion for critical munitions procurement, including \$2.1 billion to expand production capacity through multi-year procurement.
- \$429.5 million for the Defense Innovation Unit to accelerate the adoption of commercial technologies.
- \$193.3 billion for military personnel accounts, \$10.8 billion above FY 2025 levels.

Allowing these investments to be delayed or jeopardized by broader appropriations impasses would impose real and avoidable costs on readiness, morale, and national security. The men and women who serve, and the missions they execute, should not bear the consequences of unrelated funding disputes.

We respectfully urge you to work together to ensure the Defense Appropriations Act advances without delay.

Respectfully,



John B. Hashem
Maj. Gen., U.S. Army (Ret.)
Chief Executive Officer