

The Reserve Components generate roughly \$290 billion in combined annual savings across MilPers, O&M, and MilCon — and approximately \$4.4 trillion since FY 1999. Every dollar invested in RC readiness is leveraged against a structural cost advantage no active-force restructuring can replicate. The FY 2027 Defense Appropriations Act is an opportunity to invest commensurately.

PRIORITY NGREA AT A \$1.3 BILLION FLOOR

The FY 2027 PBR requests \$1B for NGREA — just 0.067% of the topline, well below the 0.21% median from FYs 2018–2020. ROA's floor of \$1.3B matches prior congressional precedent; true proportionality would yield roughly \$3.09B.

ASK Appropriate NGREA at no less than \$1.3 billion in FY 2027.

PRIORITY C-130J RECAPITALIZATION

Fund the FY 2027 PBR's 18 Navy Reserve KC-130Js (floor of 6); 8 C-130Js for the ANG/AFRC; 4 LC-130J ski-equipped aircraft for the New York ANG; \$100M for fleet-wide DMS; \$25–40M for LC-130J non-recurring engineering; and 2 KC-130Js to replace USMC operational losses.

ASK Fully fund RC C-130J recapitalization and support a Multiyear Procurement IV beginning FY 2028.

PRIORITY HMMWV & LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE MODERNIZATION

The Army Reserve's HMMWV fleet is aging rapidly, with brake, steering, and electrical safety failures occurring with increasing frequency. The Common Tactical Truck is not programmed until after 2032. Halting investment now is fiscally indefensible and operationally irresponsible.

ASK \$200M for ARNG HMMWV modernization, \$100M for USAR HMMWV, and the highest possible JLTV funding.

PRIORITY PROHIBIT ARMY RESERVE MEDEVAC DIVESTITURE

ATI proposals would replace organic Army Reserve HH-60M MEDEVAC capability with a model previously attempted and reversed. In INDOPACOM — where air superiority will be episodic and casualty rates high — every dedicated MEDEVAC asset becomes more valuable, not less. CASEVAC is not a substitute.

ASK Prohibit the use of funds for any divestiture of dedicated USAR MEDEVAC capability.

PRIORITY COUNTER-UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (C-UAS)

The Tower 22 and Port Shuaiba attacks killed nine Army Reserve soldiers. A \$500 drone can destroy a \$3M vehicle; Operation Epic Fury has spent \$1M+ munitions against far cheaper threats. Layered, resilient C-UAS must become a core element of Total Force readiness — not an incremental upgrade.

ASK Invest in dedicated C-UAS capabilities across the Total Force, including the RC homeland-defense layer.

PRIORITY TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FOR DRILLING RESERVISTS

Section 623 of the FY 2025 NDAA requires implementation by January 1, 2027 — but the PBR does not appear to fund it. Full implementation (~\$3.2B) is <5% of the RC's annual MilPers savings. H.R. 7593, the *Reserve Forces Travel Fairness Act*, offers a targeted, lower-cost alternative.

ASK Fund Sec. 623 implementation; codify and fund H.R. 7593 as a complement.

FUND DEFENSE AT ≥5% OF GDP

ROA strongly supports the FY 2027 PBR's historic topline. However, topline growth must translate into proportional RC investment. *Operation Epic Fury* and future combat operations should be funded through supplemental appropriations to preserve the integrity of the base budget.

ASK Authorize national defense at ≥5% of GDP; fund combat operations through supplementals.

CONCURRENT & PROPORTIONAL RC FIELDING

Less than 10% of procurement funding reaches the RC, perpetuating reliance on cascading legacy systems. This produces interoperability gaps, readiness risks, and higher long-run sustainment costs. DoDI 1225.06 already directs proportional fielding — Congress must enforce it.

ASK Enforce concurrent and proportional fielding aligned with force-flow and Total Force needs.

LARGE-SCALE MOBILIZATION EXERCISES

The 1978 Nifty Nugget exercise exposed catastrophic mobilization failures and seeded a decade of reforms that enabled Desert Storm. Mobilization capability has since atrophied. 10 U.S.C. § 10208 already requires an annual exercise — Congress should fund a recurring, Joint-level, live execution program.

ASK Appropriate funding for a recurring Nifty Nugget-style Joint mobilization exercise series.

TRISERVICE NURSING RESEARCH PROGRAM

TSNRP is DoD's only military nursing research program, generating prolonged-casualty-care, expeditionary-nursing, and resuscitative-medicine research directly applicable to INDOPACOM evacuation timelines. It lacks a dedicated appropriations line and is vulnerable to reprogramming.

ASK Appropriate \$6M for TSNRP in a dedicated line item under the new Combat & Operational Medicine Program account.