SEC. 315. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CLEANUP AND REMOVAL OF PETROLEUM, OIL, AND LUBRICANT ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRINZ EUGEN.

(a) AUTHORITY.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Department of the Army may by used for all necessary expenses for the removal and cleanup of petroleum, oil, and lubricants associated with the heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen, which was transferred from the United States to the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 1986.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—If the Secretary of the Army does not use the authority provided by subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit a certification to the congressional defense committees not later than September 30, 2018, that the petroleum, oil, and lubricants associated with the heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen do not adversely impact safety or military operations.

SEC. 316. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL STUDY ON HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER.

(a) STUDY ON HUMAN HEALTH IMPLICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and, as ap-

propriate, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and in consultation with the Department of Defense, shall—

(A) commence a study on the human health implications of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in drinking water, ground water, and any other sources of water and relevant exposure pathways, including the cumulative human health implications of multiple types of PFAS contamination at levels above and below health advisory levels;

(B) not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act (or 7 years after such date of enactment after providing notice to the appropriate congressional committees of the need for the delay)—

(i) complete such study and make any appropriate recommendations; and

(ii) submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the results of such study; and

(C) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until submission of the report under subparagraph (B)(ii), submit to the appropriate

congressional committees a report on the progress of the study.

(2) FUNDING.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated by this Act for the Department of Defense, $7,000,000 shall be available to carry out the study under this subsection.

(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional defense committees;

(B) the Committee on Heath, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee on Environment and Public Works, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(b) EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and, as appropriate, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and in consultation with the Department of Defense, shall conduct an exposure as-

sessment of no less than 8 current or former domestic military installations known to have PFAS contamination in drinking water, ground water, and any other sources of water and relevant exposure pathways.

(2) CONTENTS.—The exposure assessment required under this subsection shall—

(A) include—

(i) for each military installation covered under the exposure assessment, a statistical sample to be determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the relevant State health departments; and

(ii) bio-monitoring for assessing the contamination described in paragraph (1); and

(B) produce findings, which shall be—

(i) used to help design the study described in subsection (a)(1)(A); and

(ii) released to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 1 year after the conclusion of such exposure assessment.

(3) TIMING.—The exposure assessment required under this subsection shall—

(A) begin not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) conclude not later than 2 years after such date of enactment.

(c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—The Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry may, as necessary, use staff and other resources from other Federal agencies in carrying out the study under subsection (a) and the assessment under subsection (b).

(d) NO EFFECT ON REGULATORY PROCESS.—The study and assessment conducted under this section shall not interfere with any regulatory processes of the Environmental Protection Agency, including determinations of maximum contaminant levels.

SEC. 317. SENTINEL LANDSCAPES PARTNERSHIP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, may establish and carry out a program to preserve sentinel landscapes. The program shall be known as the ''Sentinel Landscapes Partnership''.

(b) DESIGNATION OF SENTINEL LANDSCAPES.—The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Secretary of the Interior, may, as the Secretaries de-

(B) to provide a realistic air warfare environment versus a near-peer adversary for—

(i) four squadrons of fifth generation fighters;

(ii) annual Red Flag-Alaska exercises; and

(iii) biannual Operation Northern Edge exercises.

SEC. 1059. REPORT ON ALTERNATIVES TO AQUEOUS FILM FORMING FOAM.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the Department's status with respect to developing a new military specification for safe and effective alternatives to aqueous film forming foam (hereinafter referred to as ''AFFF'') that do not contain perfluorooctanoic acid (hereinafter referred to as ''PFOA'') or erfluorooctanesulfonic acid (hereinafter referred to as ''PFOS'').

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subparagraph (1) shall include the following:

(1) A detailed explanation of the Department's status with respect to developing a new military

specification for safe and effective alternatives to AFFF that do not contain PFOA or PFOS.

(2) An update on the Secretary's plans for replacing AFFF containing PFOA or PFOS at military installations across the country and methods of disposal for AFFF containing PFOA or PFOS.

(3) An overview of current and planned research and development for AFFF alternatives that do not contain PFOA or PFOS.

(4) An assessment of how the establishment of a maximum contaminant level for PFOA or PFOS under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.), rather than the current health advisory level, would impact the Department's mitigation actions, prioritization of such actions, and research and development related to PFOA and PFOS.

SEC. 1060. ASSESSMENT OF GLOBAL FORCE POSTURE.

(a) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the chiefs of the military services, and the commanders of the combatant commands, provide for and oversee an assessment of the global force posture of the Armed Forces.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the earlier of 180 days after the production of the 2018 National Defense Strat-

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

The conferees encourage the Army to take all practicable measures to support the earliest possible conveyance of property to the local development agency.

Payment to Environmental Protection Agency of stipulated penalty in connection with Longhorn Army Ammunition Plant, Texas (sec. 314)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 314) that would authorize the Secretary of the Army to transfer funds to the Hazardous Substance Superfund to satisfy a penalty assessed by the Environmental Protection Agency against Longhorn Army Ammunition Plant, Texas, under a Federal Facility Agreement entered into by the Army and the Environmental Protection Agency in 1991.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

Department of the Army cleanup and removal of petroleum, oil, and lubricant associated with the Prinz Eugen (sec. 315)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 315) that would authorize the removal and cleanup of petroleum, oil and lubricants from the heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen, which was transferred from the United States to the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 1986.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Army to certify that the petroleum, oil, and lubricants associated with the Prinz Eugen do not impede military operations if the Secretary chooses not to exercise the authority.

Centers for Disease Control study on health implications of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination in drinking water (sec. 316)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1060B) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the health effects of individuals who have been exposed to perfluorooctane sulfonate and perfluorooctanoic acid.

The Senate amendment contained two similar provisions (sec. 343 and sec. 10304).

The House recedes with multiple technical amendments.

The conferees note that elements of this provision are incorporated into a report on the Department of Defense's Arctic capabilities, resource gaps, and required infrastructure required elsewhere in this Act.

Report on effects of increased automation of defense industrial base on manufacturing workforce

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 340) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the effects of increased automation of the defense industrial base on the manufacturing workforce.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes.

Comptroller General review of Department of Defense cost models used in making personnel decisions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 340A) that would require a Comptroller General review of Department of Defense cost models used in making personnel decisions.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes.

Authority to carry out environmental restoration activities at National Guard and Reserve locations

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 341) that would amend section 2701(a) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary to carry out environmental restoration activities at the National Guard and Reserve locations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

The conferees direct the Secretary of Defense to deliver recommendations to the conferees no later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act on how the Department could: (1) Reimburse state or municipal agencies that expended funds to investigate or provide alternative water supplies, due to the release of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, when release came from a Department of Defense facility; and (2) Authorize access to the Environmental Restoration Account, established in 10 U.S.C. 2703, to address the investigation and any required removal or remedial action for the release of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances when the release took place from an Air or Army National Guard facility operating under a title 32 authority.

Pilot program on establishment of integrated health care delivery systems

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 725) that would require the Secretary of Defense, within 1 year of the date of the enactment of this Act, to conduct a pilot program of not less than 5 years duration to establish integrated health care delivery systems among the military health system, other federal health systems, and private sector integrated health systems. In consultation with the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs and Health and Human Services, the Secretary would establish a multi-disciplinary task force to develop a plan to implement the pilot program. Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the task force would submit an implementation plan for the pilot program to the Secretary that would: (1) Create high-value integrated health systems; (2) Empower health care providers with real-time advanced information technology solutions; (3) Empower patients with transparent information on health care costs, quality outcomes, and safety within health care provider networks; and (4) Provide incentives to patients and health care providers to prevent overuse of low-value health care services. The provision would require the Secretary to submit a report on the implementation plan to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Finally, the Secretary would submit a final report on the pilot program to the same committees not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

The conferees strongly encourage the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to pursue innovative solutions to improve access to care, the quality and safety of care, and beneficiaries' health outcomes by establishing enduring partnerships with high-performing private sector health systems.

Authorization of intergovernmental agreements for the provision of health screenings

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 727) that would amend section 2679(e)(1) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize intergovernmental agreements to provide health screenings for conditions related to perfluorooctanesulfonic acid and perfluorooctanoic acid in communities near formerly closed defense sites identified by the Secretary of Defense as sources of those acids.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes.

Tick-borne diseases

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 729) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to authorize grants to medical researchers and universities to support research on improving the detection and diagnosis of tick-borne diseases.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes.

Report

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 730) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to Congress, for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2021, on activities, programs, priority areas, and current policy and planning documents with respect to infectious disease.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes.

The conferees support the Department of Defense's efforts to improve the ability of partner nations to respond to the spread of naturally occurring and dangerous emerging infectious disease outbreaks. These programs contribute to the Department's overall Strategy for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction, including biological attack and pandemics, since mitigating the spread of diseases early in an outbreak enhances global health security and saves lives. The conferees encourage the Department to continue such efforts to minimize risk to our military forces and families.

Provision of support by Department of Defense to Department of Veterans Affairs regarding electronic health record system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 731) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to support the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) in the development and implementation of an electronic health record system. The provision would require the secretaries to conduct an annual review of their efforts to achieve complete interoperability between their electronic health record (EHR) systems and to submit jointly an annual report to the Committees on Armed Services and the Committees on Veterans Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 60 days after completing the annual review required under this provision. The requirements to conduct an annual review and to provide an annual report would terminate on

DLA, and the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army (G-4) to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act on the formal processes being used to communicate the availability of surplus ammunition to other Federal Government agencies.

Increase in funding for National Guard counter-drug programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 348) that would increase the amount to be authorized to be appropriated to support the National Guard counter-drug program by $10 million.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes.

Facilities demolition plan of the Army

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 5303) that would require the Secretary of the Army to submit a facilities demolition plan.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

The conferees note the importance of taking into account contamination when demolishing facilities on military property. The conferees direct the Secretary of the Army to submit a facilities demolition plan for the Army to the congressional defense committees no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act. The plan should:

(1) Take into account the impact of a contaminated facility on mission readiness, and national security generally, in establishing priorities for the demolition of facilities; and

(2) Set forth a multi-year plan for the demolition of Army facilities, including contaminated facilities afforded a priority for demolition pursuant to the previous point.

Funding for environmental restoration, Navy

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 14001) that would increase funding for Environmental Restoration, Navy.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

Additional funding table matters

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 14002) that would increase funding for Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve, Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization, and

Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard, Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

The conferees direct that not later than December 31, 2017 the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth a description of the manner in which the Secretary will allocate funds which shall be used by the Air Force and the National Guard to take actions to mitigate identified sources of polyfluoroalkyl substances at sites as a result of surveys conducted by the Armed Forces so as to restore public confidence in potable water which may be affected in such sites.

Funding for environmental restoration, Air Force

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 14009) that would increase funding for Environmental Restoration, Air Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

TITLE IV—MILITARY PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATIONS

SUBTITLE A—ACTIVE FORCES

End strengths for active forces (sec. 401)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 401) that would authorize active-duty end strengths for fiscal year 2018 as follows: Army 486,000; Navy 327,900; Marine Corps 185,000; Air Force 325,100.

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 401) that would authorize active-duty end strengths for fiscal year 2018 as follows: Army 481,000; Navy 327,900; Marine Corps 186,000; Air Force 325,100.

The Senate recedes with an amendment that would authorize active-duty end strengths for fiscal year 2018 as follows: Army 483,500; Navy 327,900; Marine Corps 186,000; Air Force 325,100.

Revisions in permanent active duty end strength minimum levels (sec. 402)

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2018 Request	Conference Authorized
	MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS		
010	US COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES, DEFENSE	14,538	14,538
020	OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER AND CIVIC AID	104,900	104,900
030	COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION	324,600	324,600
050	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY	215,809	215,809
060	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY	281,415	323,649
	PFOA/PFOS Remediation		[42,234]
070	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE	293,749	323,749
	PFOA/PFOS Remediation		[30,000]
080	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE	9,002	9,002
090	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FORMERLY USED SITES	208,673	208,673
	SUBTOTAL MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS	**1,452,686**	**1,524,920**
	TOTAL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	**189,286,283**	**192,289,958**

SEC. 4302. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

SEC. 4302. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2018 Request	Conference Authorized
	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY		
	OPERATING FORCES		
010	MANEUVER UNITS	828,225	828,225
030	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	25,474	25,474
040	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	1,778,644	1,778,644
050	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	260,575	260,575
060	AVIATION ASSETS	284,422	284,422
070	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	2,784,525	2,784,525
080	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	502,330	502,330
090	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	104,149	104,149
100	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	80,249	80,249
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	32,000	32,000
140	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES	6,988,168	6,988,168
150	COMMANDERS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM	5,000	5,000
160	RESET	864,926	614,926
	Realignment of depot operations to base		[–250,000]
180	US AFRICA COMMAND	186,567	186,567
190	US EUROPEAN COMMAND	44,250	44,250
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	**14,769,504**	**14,519,504**
	MOBILIZATION		
230	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS	56,500	56,500
	SUBTOTAL MOBILIZATION	**56,500**	**56,500**
	ADMIN & SRVWIDE ACTIVITIES		
390	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	789,355	789,355
400	CENTRAL SUPPLY ACTIVITIES	16,567	16,567
410	LOGISTIC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	6,000	6,000
420	AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT	5,207	5,207
460	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	107,091	107,091
490	REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	165,280	165,280
565	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,083,390	1,083,390
	SUBTOTAL ADMIN & SRVWIDE ACTIVITIES	**2,172,890**	**2,172,890**
	TOTAL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY	**16,998,894**	**16,748,894**
	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY RES		
	OPERATING FORCES		
020	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	4,179	4,179
040	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	2,132	2,132

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2018 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	SUBTOTAL ADMIN & SRVWIDE ACTIVITIES	**28,000,080**	**28,135,346**	**28,069,080**	**95,500**	**28,095,580**
	UNDISTRIBUTED					
330	UNDISTRIBUTED		–229,900		–193,900	–193,900
	Excessive standard price for fuel		[–6,500]		[–9,800]	
	Foreign Currency adjustments		[–19,400]		[–19,400]	
	Historical unobligated balances		[–179,000]		[–164,700]	
	Program decrease		[–25,000]			
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED		**–229,900**		**–193,900**	**–193,900**
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	**34,609,552**	**34,542,058**	**34,683,552**	**–87,100**	**34,522,452**
	MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS					
010	US COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES, DEFENSE	14,538	14,538	14,538		14,538
020	OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER AND CIVIC AID	104,900	104,900	104,900		104,900
030	COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION	324,600	324,600	324,600		324,600
050	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY	215,809	215,809	215,809		215,809
	Department of Defense Cleanup and Removal of Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricant associated with the Prinz Eugen		[6,000]			
	Program decrease		[–6,000]			
060	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY	281,415	323,649	323,000	42,234	323,649
	PFOA/PFOS Remediation		[30,000]	[41,585]	[42,234]	
	Program increase		[12,234]			
070	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE	293,749	323,749	313,749	30,000	323,749
	PFOA/PFOS Remediation		[30,000]	[20,000]	[30,000]	
080	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE	9,002	9,002	9,002		9,002
090	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FORMERLY USED SITES	208,673	208,673	208,673		208,673