



FY2025 NDAA: Status of Legislative Activity

August 16, 2024

On March 11, 2024, President Joe Biden submitted initial documentation supporting the FY2025 budget request, including proposed funding for the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), atomic energy defense activities primarily of the U.S. Department of Energy, and other national defense-related activities. The annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) typically sets policy and authorizes appropriations for the majority of these activities. This product provides the status of key legislative activity and documentation associated with proposals for a National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY2025 NDAA; H.R. 8070; S. 4638).

In the House, on May 20, 2024, Representatives Mike Rogers, Chair of the House Armed Services Committee (HASC), and Adam Smith, Ranking Member, released draft legislative proposals (described as prints) for matters in the FY2025 NDAA under the jurisdictions of the seven subcommittees. They also released a draft legislative proposal known as the Chair's mark for portions of the bill not in the subcommittee marks. Unlike in previous years, each HASC subcommittee did not consider and report a mark to the full committee. Instead, to expedite committee consideration of the proposed legislation, each subcommittee released a print (containing both bill language and directive report language). On May 22, the full committee took up a previously introduced text, H.R. 8070, and considered the subcommittee prints, the Chair's mark, and additional amendments. The same day, HASC voted 57-1 to order H.R. 8070 reported to the House with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, reflecting the product of the committee markup. On May 31, the committee reported the bill (the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025) and filed its accompanying report, H.Rept. 118-529. On June 11, the House Rules Committee met to report a structured special rule, H.Res. 1287, and accompanying report, H.Rept. 118-551, for the House to consider H.R. 8070. On June 12-14, the House adopted the special rule and then considered amendments to the bill. On June 14, the House passed the measure, as amended, by a vote of 217-199.

In the Senate, on June 11-12, 2024, the seven subcommittees of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) marked up draft legislative proposals with recommendations for matters in the FY2025 NDAA under their respective jurisdictions. Two of the markups were held in an open session (Subcommittees on Personnel and Seapower), and the remaining five were held in closed sessions. On June 12-13, the full committee considered the legislation in closed sessions. On June 14, Senators Jack Reed and Roger Wicker, Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, of SASC, announced that the committee had voted 22-3 to order reported an original bill reflecting the product of the committee markup. On July 8, the original bill, S. 4638, was reported to the Senate with an accompanying report, S.Rept. 118-188.

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Table 1 shows key legislative activity and documentation associated with proposals for an FY2025 NDAA.

Table 1. FY2025 NDAA Selected Legislative Activity and Documentation

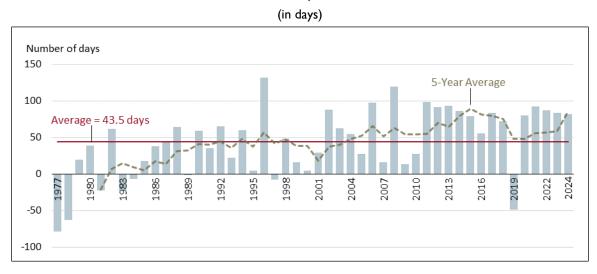
House				Senate				Public Law
Bill #, Date Introduced	Report #, Date	Vote # (yeas- nays), Date Passed	Conference Report, Vote # (yeas-nays), Date Passed	Bill #, Date Introduced	Report #, Date	Vote # (yeas- nays), Date Passed	Conference Report, Vote # (yeas-nays), Date Passed	P.L. #, Date Signed
H.R. 8070, 4/18/2024	H.Rept. 118-529, 5/31/2024	279 (217- 199), 6/14/2024						
				S. 4638, 7/8/2024	S.Rept. 118-188, 7/8/2024			

Source: CRS analysis of selected actions on Congress.gov.

Notes: This table will be updated as events warrant.

Figure 1 shows the number of days between the start of the fiscal year and enactment of the annual defense authorization act since FY1977, when the federal government transitioned to a fiscal year beginning October 1, 1976.

Figure 1. Days between Start of Fiscal Year and Enactment of Annual Defense Authorization Acts, FY1977-FY2024



Source: CRS analysis of dates of enactment of public law from CRS Report 98-756, Defense Authorization and Appropriations Bills: FY1961-FY2021, by Barbara Salazar Torreon and Sofia Plagakis; P.L. 117-81; P.L. 117-263; and P.L. 118-31.

Notes: Positive values indicate number of days between start of the fiscal year and enactment of annual defense authorization acts. Negative values indicate number of days between enactment of annual defense authorization acts and start of fiscal year. Thus, the figure shows that since FY1977 annual defense authorization legislation has been enacted, on average, 43 days after the beginning of the fiscal year (i.e., early November). Annual defense authorization legislation for

the fiscal years 1979, 1989, 1996, 2008, 2016, and 2021 was enacted over a presidential veto. An FY2025 NDAA has not been enacted and is not shown in the figure.

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