



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MIKULSKI FIGHTS TO PUT FUNDS IN FEDERAL CHECKBOOK FOR
MARYLAND DEFENSE PRIORITIES**

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), Vice Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, today announced the fiscal year (FY) 2017 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs (VA), and Related Agencies funding legislation makes critical investments in Maryland’s defense assets. In the next step of the appropriations process, the bill will move to the Senate floor for a vote, which has not yet been scheduled.

“A stronger America begins at home. That’s why I fight every year to make sure our military has the tools it needs to keep us safe,” **Senator Mikulski** said. “The funds included in this legislation for military construction invest in our national security and economic security. They create jobs today in construction that support jobs tomorrow of those fighting to keep us safe.”

The funding bill includes the following funding to support several key projects at Maryland’s military bases:

Joint Base Andrews

- **\$13 million for an Air Force 21 Point Enclosed Firing Range.** This project will create a contained small arms range providing 8,100 personnel from the National Capitol Region with weapons training and certification.
- **\$3.5 million for the Joint Air Defense Operations Center (JADOC) Satellite Site Project.** This project will equip the JADOC with a permanent Satellite Site, which will provide ground based air defense for the National Capitol Region. The site will include a secure launch area, a security support facility, government parking and conducive access roads.

Patuxent River

- **\$40.576 million for a Navy RDT&E Hangar.** This project constructs an aircraft hangar with multiple bays to support the research development, testing and evaluation of the Unmanned Carrier Launched Aerial Surveillance System and the Carrier-Based Aerial-Refueling System.

Fort Meade

- **\$17 million for National Security Agency (NSA) Campus Feeders** to upgrade wires and associated infrastructure used to provide electrical power from the supply source to the NSA campus. This is the third phase of the upgrade.
- **\$195 million for NSA Recapitalize Building #2.** This is the second installment of this project, which will provide a modern, advanced operations center for 3,000 NSA personnel.
- **\$21 million for NSA's Access Control Facility.** This is a new project that will alleviate the NSA's overburdened visitor processing facility and help safeguard this community.

Bethesda Medical Center

- **\$50 million for the Bethesda Medical Center Project.** This is the first phase of the project implementing a comprehensive master plan to provide a sufficient military medical facility and an integrated system of healthcare delivery for the National Capitol Region. The project will construct a new addition for in-patient and out-patient medical care, renovate the existing hospital, provide information systems and accommodate appropriate antiterrorism measures.

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