



# Action Alert

**Legislative Alert #112-24: Urge the Senate to adopt AUSN Priority Amendments pending Floor Consideration for S. 3254, The National Defense Authorization Act for FY13**  
DEFENSE

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**Issue Background:** On 28 November 2012, AUSN began to monitor the debate of the Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which began as the Senate adopted by voice vote a motion to proceed with debate on amendments. This follows months of legislative wrangling, whereas the bill, in the form of S. 3254, would provide \$631.4 billion in discretionary funds for defense activities, \$525.8 billion for the base Defense Department budget, \$88.2 billion for the war in Afghanistan in the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) account and \$17.4 billion for the Department of Energy and other national security programs related to nuclear safety. HOWEVER, as of 29 November 2012, the White House submitted a Statement of Administration Policy with a veto threat of some of the provisions currently in the form of S. 3254 that are contrary to what was requested in the President's Budget Request last February for FY13. Debate continues with a final vote and consideration of amendments in the next two days.

**Action Required:** Contact your Senators and urge them to support and have considered the following amendments pending in S. 3254, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13); Senate Amendments: 2946, 2947, 2957, 2958, 2964, 3017, 3027, 3048, 3049, 3138, 3144, 3221, 3255, 3272 and 3291. These are top AUSN priority amendments and are being subject to debate and consideration in the next few days.

**Details (To Be Put Into Letter):**

As the Senate begins to wrap up debate and consideration of close to 400 amendments to S. 3254, the Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), there are numerous amendments that are instrumental to current and former Active Duty and Reserve servicemembers that seek to improve and ease their livelihoods. These include Senate Amendments: 2946, 2947, 2957, 2958, 2964, 3017, 3027, 3048, 3049, 3138, 3144, 3221, 3255, 3272 and 3291.

Amongst some of the items these amendments address are state consideration of military training in granting certain state certifications and licenses as a condition of receipt of funds for veterans employment and training, providing status under law of honoring certain members of the Reserve Component as Veterans of the Armed Forces and additional requirements of educational programs for purposes of educational assistance (G.I. Bill) under laws administered by the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Veterans Affairs. In

addition, other amendments address such important items as the modification of per-fiscal year calculation of days of certain active duty or active service to reduce eligibility age for retirement for non-regular service and the eligibility for payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation for certain military retirees with compensable service-connected disabilities. The amendments described above are important to the military and veteran communities and should receive the utmost consideration and adoption in the FY13 NDAA.

**Take Action:** Click the "Take Action" link at the top of the Alert to immediately email and/or write to your Senators. This is the quickest and most effective method of expressing your views to Congress. You can also write and/or e-mail the 'Details' section or edit as you desire for a more personalized communication . Also, contact friends and family and urge them to use the Contact Congress feature on AUSN's website as well. Please direct any questions concerning this issue to our Director of Legislation, Anthony Wallis, at 703-548-5800 or at [Anthony.Wallis@ausn.org](mailto:Anthony.Wallis@ausn.org).