

# U.S. Rep. Grothman: Supports troop pay raise, increased defense spending

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(Washington, D.C.) – Congressman Glenn Grothman (R-Glenbeulah) today voted to provide the military with the funds it needs to defend our nation.

The 2018 Department of Defense Appropriations Act addresses the current needs of armed forces by:

- Providing \$659.2B in full-year funding for the Department of Defense;
- Bolstering the number of troops by providing \$138.3B for more active-duty and reserve service members;
- Funding a pay raise for the military;
- Providing \$34B for the Defense Health program so that our military members, their families and retirees have access to high-quality medical care;
- Increasing funding for operations and maintenance of military equipment, as well as research and development into new defense technology and procurement of new equipment;
- And supporting President Trump's South Asia strategy by improving our missile defense system.

“America has the strongest military in the world, but still I’ve been told time and

time again by our men and women in uniform that we have ships that can't sail and planes that can't fly," said Grothman. "This increase in defense spending is slightly more than I would have liked, but it's so vitally important that our equipment works and that our troops and their families are taken care.

"We must make sure that our military is safe and functioning at its best both at home and abroad; and part of that, which is addressed in this appropriations package, is beefing up our missile defense system to ensure Americans' safety in our current world environment."