

SASC Chairman Wicker Releases Defense Reconciliation Bill



Mississippi Senator and Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Roger Wicker speaks with nominee for Deputy Secretary of Defense Stephen A. Feinberg prior to a SASC hearing in Washington, D.C., Feb. 25, 2025. *Photo credit: DoD | U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Madelyn Keech*

Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Mississippi), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, on June 3 released the text of the defense portion of the reconciliation bill, named the One Big Beautiful Bill.

The defense portion was negotiated by members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees in coordination with the White House and the Department of Defense.

“This bill is a landmark down payment toward the modernization of our military and our defense capabilities,” Wicker said in a statement. “It represents a generational upgrade for our

national security with historic funding for Golden Dome, American manufacturing, innovative unmanned technology, and new shipbuilding efforts.”

Among other things, the bill would:

- Approve \$9 billion to improve servicemember quality of life, including housing modernization, childcare and education improvements, and health care.
- Authorize \$29 billion for shipbuilding to expand the maritime industrial base, build 13 battle force ships, and rapidly grow an unmanned fleet.
- Provide \$25 billion for the proposed Golden Dome missile defense system, including space-based missile interceptors.
- Provide \$23 billion to re-stock crucial munitions, rebuild U.S. supply chains for critical minerals and expand advanced manufacturing capacity.
- Authorize \$16 billion to scale production of innovative low-cost and next-gen weapons like drones, counter-drone tech, cheap munitions, and artificial intelligence.
- Provide \$9 billion for air superiority, including accelerating delivery of next-generation aircraft and autonomous systems.
- Authorize \$12 billion for Pacific deterrence, including expanding military exercises in the region, building infrastructure to defend forces and conduct military operations in the Western Pacific and improving Taiwan’s defense.
- Provide \$3.3 billion for border security and funds Department of Defense personnel and logistics support to help carry out the administration’s border, immigration and counterdrug enforcement agenda.

“The House and Senate Armed Services Committees are committed to implementing President Trump’s peace through strength

agenda with a generational investment in our national defense," said Mike Rogers (R-Alabama), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.