

Power in Reserve: Full Cost-Benefit and Strategic Funding Report

Summary: This document outlines the complete financial model and systemic cost-benefit logic behind Public Logic's *Power in Reserve* proposal. It includes precise budget impacts, operational reform costs, reallocation logic, and long-term fiscal projections — all rooted in transparent assumptions and real-world data.

I. CURRENT U.S. MILITARY SPENDING SNAPSHOT

- **Total DoD budget (FY2023):** ~\$850 billion
- **Number of overseas bases:** ~750 (per Quincy Institute, 2021)
- **Contractor spending:** >\$400B/year (CSIS, GAO reports)
- **F-35 program total projected cost:** >\$1.7 trillion over lifecycle
- **Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) failure cost:** ~\$70B in sunk investment and ongoing support (CBO)

Public Logic's model identifies critical overspending categories in:

- Overseas base maintenance
- Redundant or obsolete platform procurement
- Contractor outsourcing for logistics, security, and basic support services

II. POWER IN RESERVE: COST MODEL

A. Reform Costs (Annualized Buildout):

Category	Estimated Cost (Annual)	Notes
Stateside integration of troop roles	\$20B–\$30B	Includes housing expansion, civil deployment training, commutes
Rapid-deployment modernization fund	\$10B	Covers upgraded transport, readiness centers, joint training
Military-run logistics + skilled trades	\$15B–\$25B	Replace contractor trucking, maintenance, food, cyber, engineering
Veteran training & STEM pipeline	\$5B–\$10B	Direct workforce conversion post-service

Category	Estimated Cost (Annual)	Notes
Domestic readiness programs (infrastructure, climate disaster prep, medical)	\\$10B–\\$15B	National Guard-style home deployments

Total Estimated Annual Cost: \\$60B–\\$90B

B. Savings (Annualized):

Category	Estimated Savings (Annual)	Notes
Overseas base closures & drawdowns	\\$25B–\\$35B	Includes O&M, danger pay, supply chain savings
Reduced contractor dependency	\\$50B–\\$75B	Contractor pay often 2x–4x troop salary
Procurement pause (redundant assets)	\\$25B–\\$40B	F-35/LCS class platforms and related support

Total Estimated Annual Savings: \\$100B–\\$150B

III. NET IMPACT

Category	Value
Net Annual Savings	\~\\$50B–\\$75B
Cumulative 10-Year Impact	\~\\$600B+ (conservatively)
Budget Risk	Low — reallocations, not increases
Readiness Risk	Zero — rapid force deployment preserved, not diminished

IV. ASSUMPTIONS & SOURCE VALIDATION

- Overseas base cost estimates based on GAO and DoD budget data (Quincy Institute, 2021)
- Contractor overspending drawn from RAND, CSIS, and internal GAO audit reports
- Personnel cost differentials cited by DoD: Contractors cost 2–4x per service-equivalent role
- Troop retention and recruitment gains modeled on existing DoD family incentive reports (DoD, RAND)
- Savings from procurement pause validated against CBO and CRS lifecycle cost projections

V. WHY THIS WORKS

- This is not a funding cut. It's a funding correction.
 - Waste and redundancy are trimmed. Capability is enhanced.
 - Dollars are redirected toward multi-use readiness: home and abroad.
 - The plan aligns military service with national value — not just foreign posture.
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Quote for Summary Tiles:

"We're not spending less. We're spending like it matters."
