



# Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Supports the 2017 Defense Appropriations Act

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## **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Hello everyone, Congressman Tom Emmer here. Last week, President Trump gave his first joint address to Congress, during which he promised to restore the American people's faith in their government. It was an inspiring speech, filled with promises and goals for a better future. One promise that President Trump made was to rebuild and modernize our military. He said that if we are to keep America safe, we must provide our military with the tools they need to prevent war, but also to fight and win, if they must. I agree with this, and so do the majority of my colleagues. That's why I want to take a few minutes to talk to you about important legislation that was recently passed. On Wednesday, the House of Representatives passed the Defense Appropriations Bill. Because of President Obama's lack of an effective foreign policy strategy during his eight years in office, we now live in an increasingly unstable and dangerous world. Enemies, both foreign and domestic, pose major threats to our great nation and to our allies. We have even seen some of these threats executed in countries like France and Germany, and on our very own soil in San Bernardino and Orlando. The number one role of the federal government is to protect our citizens and the homeland, which is why the passage of this bill is so important. The Defense Appropriations Bill will put necessary dollars towards rebuilding our military and enacting readiness programs so that we are not only prepared during times of war, but also, and more importantly, during times of peace. It will put significant dollars towards the most recent technologies and even more toward critical equipment so that we always stay ten steps ahead of those who mean to do us harm. This year's Defense Appropriations Bill will also provide our troops with a well-deserved pay increase, as well as enhance their medical care. I believe this is especially important given the sacrifices our military members make to take care of all of us. We're the land of the free because of the courageous actions of our military, so we must guarantee that they are able to safely and effectively perform their jobs, and I believe the passing of this Defense Appropriations Bill will do just that. I look forward to supporting legislation that will continue to strengthen our military during the 115th Congress and for years to come. If there's anything you think we should be doing better to support our military and our nation's veterans, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thanks for listening, and have a fantastic weekend.

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