



Rep. Tom Emmer on About Funding Our Military

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****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Good afternoon. Congressman Tom Emmer here. We're wrapping up another week in Washington dedicated to the appropriations process. This week was focused on defense. The number one role of the federal government is to protect our citizens and the homeland. In fact, that's why we have the federal government. Today, we're a nation under attack from enemies both foreign and domestic who are bound and determined to do harm to Americans. And we need to not only fight, but we need to win. This is why it's crucial that we write, pass and implement laws that will ensure our military has the funding and the tools they need to combat all enemies. In addition to being prepared to fight today, we must also ensure we're ready to fight in the future. This week, we passed the defense appropriations bill to provide a strong national defense and safeguard our nation's security. This legislation provides \$209 billion in funding to preserve our troop readiness programs that make certain American troops are fully prepared today and always. This includes preparation for missions, both combat and peacetime, through more flight time and battle training for troops, and focuses on equipment and facility maintenance. Additionally, this bill addresses current shortfalls we are facing and works to rebuild American forces to uphold our standing in this dangerous world. Additionally, this bill provides funding to not only continue the war on terror, but for us to win the war on terror. Lastly, the defense appropriations bill allows for congressional oversight by requiring a full report on spending by the Pentagon to guarantee that every taxpayer dollar is spent appropriately. Not only does this bill fulfill our constitutional duty to provide for the common defense, but it does so while making smart and deliberate moves to protect and benefit the future of our country. Thanks, and have a great weekend.

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