



JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Arkansas National Guard



Legislative Action
Fact Sheet / Information Paper
for
2nd Session 113th Congress

Title: Increase the threshold for Unspecified Minor Military Construction (UMMC) using Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funding from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000

Issue: Title 10 U.S.C. Section 2805 sets a limit of \$750,000 on the use of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds for Unspecified Minor Military Construction (UMMC) projects. Projected budgets for programmed MILCON projects are expected to be reduced dramatically over the next five to 10 years. Increased use of O&M funded UMMC projects will be the best strategy for meeting mission infrastructure needs in a budget constrained environment.

Background: The statutory limitation of \$750,000 was raised from \$500,000 in 2001. In that time inflation along with higher standards for force protection and energy efficiency have increased construction costs dramatically. The statute allows for up to \$1,500,000 to be spent to correct deficiencies that are threatening to life, health or safety, but clear demonstration of the threatening deficiency must be well documented to exceed the \$750,000 limit. An ongoing NGB study of Readiness Centers nationwide is pointing to an obvious conclusion: The majority of Readiness Centers nationwide are inadequate to meet the mission requirements of the National Guard as an operational force. With the expectation of future MILCON budgets being reduced substantially, the use of O&M funded UMMC projects to extend the useful life and to modernize existing facilities is the best bridging strategy to position the Guard for a relevant future.

Recommendation: Insert language in the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act that amends Title 10 U.S.C. Section 2805 to raise the limitation on the use of O&M funds for UMMC projects from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 for routine projects and from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 for life, health, and safety threatening deficiencies.

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