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Legislative Alert: Amendments to the FY2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

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Legislative Alert: Amendments to the FY2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

Abstract
[Excerpt] On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to oppose the Brown amendment to the FY 2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and to support the Boxer/Grassley amendment.

Keywords
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November 29, 2011

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to oppose the Brown amendment to the FY 2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and to support the Boxer/Grassley amendment.

The Brown amendment would repeal the existing statutory requirement that the Department of Defense (DoD) certify that it has completed an inventory of its service contracts before it can use the OMB Circular A-76 privatization process. The Brown amendment would preclude effective taxpayer oversight of service contract spending and increase spending on service contractors at the expense of the smaller and cheaper civilian workforce. This amendment would eliminate the one statutory tool that forces DoD to complete the much-delayed service contracts inventory that will finally make it possible for the Pentagon to identify and control service contracts costs.

We also urge you to support the Boxer-Grassley amendment, which would cap how much taxpayers must contribute towards contractor compensation. The Pentagon has proposed universal application of the $693,000 cap, included in the House-passed FY12 National Defense Authorization Act, for all employees of DoD contractors. The Boxer-Grassley amendment would likewise ensure universal application of the compensation cap, but would reduce the cap to $400,000. Federal employees have already made significant sacrifices to reduce the deficit—they are facing layoffs and furloughs and have given up $60 billion through a two year federal pay freeze—and contractors should be obligated as well to tighten their belts as well.

Sincerely,

William Samuel, Director
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT