



Senator Blackburn's work in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) falls under three vectors.

VECTOR ONE: Promoting local innovation and high-skilled work in Tennessee.

- Increase funding above the President's Budget Request (PBR) for nuclear modernization projects at the Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12).
- Encourage additional funding for defense capabilities and partner with private sector developers to leap ahead of peer competitors along with additional research at Vanderbilt University, the University of Memphis, Tennessee Technological University, University of Tennessee Space Institute at Tullahoma, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and more.
- Create a report identifying opportunities to increase cybersecurity and areas for additional funding at Y-12.
- Develop a strategy with U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) for addressing the hazards such as wires, vehicles, uncharted terrain, and low-visibility conditions caused by smoke, dust, fog, and precipitation that may contribute to a degraded visual environment (DVE) for military air and ground vehicles.
- Modernize organic ammunition production infrastructure at Holston Army Ammunition Plant (HSAAP).
- Increase funding for prevention of Navy vessel erosion at the University of Memphis and Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock Division.
- Modernize the U.S. nuclear program by continuing the vital construction of the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) at Y-12.
- Increase funding for the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Operations of Facilities program at Y-12.
- Provide additional funding for the NNSA Maintenance and Repair of Facilities program at Y-12.
- Demolish vacant World War II-era buildings to reduce the protected boundary of the weapons work at the uranium facilities at Y-12.
- Remove hazardous and vacant facilities at Oak Ridge Y-12 National Security Complex.
- Conduct a research collaboration with the University of Tennessee Space Institute.
- Advance domestic uranium enrichment capability with Oak Ridge National Lab (ORNL) by establishing and implementing long-term plans for continued research, development, and demonstration of enrichment technologies to support deployment decisions.
- Enhance funding for lithium, uranium, and special material processing and testing facilities at Y-12.
- Create an ammunition brief detailing the resources and authorities required to increase production, capacity, and safety rapidly at HSAAP and Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RFAAP).

- Direct the Secretary of Defense to report to the congressional defense committees that examine domestic commercial titanium requirements, identify barriers to domestic titanium production, and provide a cost-benefit analysis of using efficient and clean technologies to produce titanium and titanium parts – bringing this work to Tennessee.

VECTOR TWO: Empowering the future of Tennessee’s military personnel and installations.

- Require the Secretary of Defense to create a plan to adequately staff the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict (ASD SOLIC).
- Create a more equitable Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for sailors with and without dependents which will support the work of Navy Personnel Command in Millington, TN.
- Authorize the Navy to add an additional Vice Admiral in the Pacific to ensure United States Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM) is the priority theater of the Department of Defense (DoD).
- Enhance the readiness of Special Operations Forces (SOF) by providing clear guidance for the Preservation of the Force and Families (POTFF) Program which will significantly impact the Fort Campbell community’s special operators and their families.
- Fund the Future Force Requirements Experimentation (FFRE) program to develop the next generation of technology innovation. Vanderbilt and the University of Tennessee are collaborating with the 101st Airborne and 160th SOAR, 5th Group, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the University of Tennessee at Martin, the University of Tennessee Space Institute in Tullahoma, and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis.
- Develop Anthropomorphic Female Body Armor to protect female soldiers with protector gear designed for the female form for soldiers at Fort Campbell.
- Fund planning and design for military construction at the Tennessee National Guard Smyrna Volunteer Training Site.
- Fund military construction projects at McGhee Tyson Airport and Arnold Air Force Base.
- Procure additional Blackhawk and Chinook helicopters for Fort Campbell, 101st Airborne, and 160th SOAR.
- Encourage additional contract opportunities with the AbilityOne Commission, which extends opportunities to those with disabilities.

VECTOR THREE: Streamlining the work of the DoD across services and domains to increase America’s comparative advantage in Great Power Competition

- Evaluate the comparative advantage of the MQ-9 Reaper to improve defense capabilities.
- Counter the Chinese Communist Party’s growing aggression by prioritizing strategically dispersed and resilient military construction in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Develop metrics to evaluate the capabilities’ benefits to the Joint Cyber Warfighting Architecture (JCWA) programs.
- Increase of \$5 million to support defensive and offensive cyber protections, firewall protections, AI-based intrusion detection, and data encryption for the DoD autonomous vehicles for Fort Campbell.
- Prioritize funding for classified and unclassified Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions in United States Africa Command (AFRICOM).
- Re-establish \$20 million in funding for Sea-Launched Cruise Missile-Nuclear (SLICM-N) weapons, a critical piece of nuclear defense, that was cancelled by the Biden administration.

- Fund procurement of nuclear power for carriers, submarines, and warships, the fuel for which is made in Erwin, Tennessee.
- Support the Israeli Cooperative Missile Defense Program through funding for Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow 3 procurement.
- Support research at ORNL for the Nonproliferation Stewardship Program with uranium, materials, uranium enrichment, and nonproliferation expertise and associated research facilities.
- Research Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD) technology at Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC).
- Support companies such as General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc., which spent \$8 million on subcontractors in Tennessee in 2020, with additional funding and authority for the MQ-9 program.
- Create a realistic, complex Synthetic Training Environment (STE) with virtual and constructive training components for Army readiness at Fort Campbell.
- Prohibit the procurement of commercial-off-the-shelf drones and unmanned aircraft systems manufactured or assembled by an entity on the Entity List.
- Work to enhance the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce pipeline for the DoD.
- Engage with Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to counter threats made by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) against the United States and our allies.
- Bring greater attention to the malign activities of Putin's proxy the Wagner Group in Africa and elsewhere around the world through the public release of information and through the sharing of information with partners and allies.
- Require the Secretary of Defense to promote an expanded defense-industrial-base partnership between the United States, Israel, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates to address shared operational threats.
- Support the ongoing efforts of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) in collaboration with the 160th SOAR to provide innovative technologies to the warfighter.
- Streamline Department of Energy (DOE) contracting to avoid delays between initial openings and final placements.
- Require a report on the DoD's current cyber strategy education.
- Encourage the DoD to align military skills, knowledge, and experience with civilian career requirements.
- Require a brief of the feasibility of the Defense Business Board for civilian talent management.
- Improve the promotion process for National Guard Members and require a report on how to improve personnel processing time.