

## REP. TAYLOR ANNOUNCES SUBCOMMITTEE PASSAGE OF BILL VITAL TO NAVY SHIPBUILDING

WASHINGTON,  
D.C. - U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor,  
chairman of the House Seapower and Expeditionary Forces Subcommittee, today  
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Authorization for Fiscal Year 2009.

Legislation provides roadmap for  
313-ship Navy

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"The current size of the Navy fleet is 278 ships - well  
below their stated requirement of 313 ships," said Rep. Gene Taylor, chairman  
of the subcommittee. "With passage of  
this legislation, my colleagues and I will provide the Navy with a roadmap to  
achieve their goal of a 313-ship fleet."

The mark builds upon the Navy's request for eight ships by  
authorizing funding for up to four additional ships-bringing the Fiscal Year  
2009 total to as many as 12 ships. With  
ships having an average 30-year service life, the Navy must build at a rate of  
10 ships per year to achieve and maintain a 300-ship fleet.

Highlights of the mark are as follows:

I.  
Ship Procurement - the mark authorizes the construction  
of 1 Virginia  
Class Submarine, 2 Littoral Combat Ships, 1 LPD-17 Class Amphibious Ship, 2  
Joint High Speed Vessels, and 4 T-AKE Dry Cargo/Ammunition Ships. The mark also pauses the DDG-1000 program,  
authorizes \$400 million in surface combatant advance procurement, and allows  
the Navy to use the advanced funds toward construction of 2 DDG 51 Aegis-Class  
Destroyers or a DDG 1000.

II.  
Aircraft Procurement - the mark authorizes the same  
number of planes requested by the Navy and Marine Corps in the services' FY09  
budget request. In addition, the mark  
authorizes \$448 million to accomplish emergent repairs to the wing struts of  
the P3C Orion Anti-Submarine/Reconnaissance aircraft.

III.  
Other Procurement- Along with the Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, the mark authorizes an additional \$2.6 billion to field Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles (MRAP) for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

IV.  
Research, Development, Technology & Evaluation- the mark authorizes \$247 million for development of the Alternate Engine program for the Joint Strike Fighter.

V.  
Maritime Provisions - the mark includes authorization of funds for the operation and activities of the U.S. Maritime Administration, \$178 million for the Maritime Security Fleet Program, \$25 million in assistance to small shipyards, and \$30 million for the Title XI Maritime Loan Guarantee Program.

The House Armed Services Committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday to consider the FY09 NDAA.

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