

## **Compromise on NDAA Passed and Signed into Law**

*FRA Today, January 2015*

Congress passed, and President Obama signed, a shortened version of the FY 2015 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) in early December. The final bill was a compromise on key provisions important to FRA members. The final bill provides the following:

- A smaller-than-requested increase in pharmacy co-pays (\$3 increase) for retirees under age 65 that took effect when bill was signed into law;
- A one-percent annual pay increase for active-duty personnel and reservists;
- A one-percent reduction for one year in Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH). (The Administration requested and the Senate version of the bill included a five-percent cut over three years.);
- A mandatory pharmacy home-delivery program for retirees under age 65 that takes effect on January 1, 2016;
- A small reduction in the commissary subsidy that is not expected to impact prices;
- Elimination of the requirement that each 90 days of creditable time toward Reserve early retirement must be completed within the same fiscal year;
- Protection from the one-percent COLA cut extended to service members who joined the military after January 1, 2016 (in lieu of January 1, 2014 in the previous law); and
- Improvements to sexual assault provisions.

FRA will continue its efforts to advance FRA-supported provisions that were dropped from the final bill as it was hurried through the approval process.