HOW CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS PUT AMERICA LAST

Some Members of Congress have recently suggested that Congress should finalize the FY24 appropriations process by passing a full-year, “date change” continuing resolution (CR). This would lock in funding for most federal programs at the FY23 enacted levels and deny increases needed to address inflationary costs or new and emerging priorities. Such an action would reduce defense spending $26.5 billion and non-defense spending $30 billion below the levels agreed to last year in the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (FRA).

READINESS
FULL-YEAR CR IMPACT ON DEFENSE CAPABILITY:
1. Prevents 156 new programs from starting and prevents production increases on another 180 programs.
2. Denies multiyear contract funding for mission-critical missile programs.
3. Delays or cancels 75 ship modernizations and prevents the execution of 1/3 of the Navy’s shipbuilding budget.
5. Causes the military to lose much of the edge it regained after the 2013 sequestration.
6. Shows unwillingness and inability to keep pace with our adversaries.

TECHNOLOGY
FULL-YEAR CR IMPACT ON NON-DEFENSE CAPABILITY:
1. Cuts up to 9.4% to non-defense federal programs.
2. Slashes FAA funding at a critical time for commercial aviation and space.
3. Delays NOAA’s next-generation weather satellite program, forcing NASA to cut personnel.
4. Freezes TSA hiring process, potentially endangering the safety of commercial aviation.
5. Reduces Coast Guard’s cutter and aviation operations up to 40%.

CONGRESS MUST NOT ABANDON ITS DUTY TO REVIEW AND APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUAL FEDERAL PROGRAMS

and must not succumb to the practice of full-year CRs. It is imperative that Congress and the Administration finalize comprehensive, full-year appropriations bills as soon as possible, but well before the trigger deadline of April 30, 2024.