

FISCAL YEAR 1996 SUPPLEMENTAL LANGUAGE RE-
QUEST TO AUTHORIZE A 2.4 PERCENT PAY RAISE
FOR U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTAL LANGUAGE REQUEST TO PROVIDE
AUTHORIZATION FOR A 2.4 PERCENT PAY RAISE FOR U.S. MILI-
TARY PERSONNEL



JANUARY 3, 1996.—Referred to the Committee on National Security and
ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, December 28, 1995.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: Today I returned to Congress without my approval H.R. 1530, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996, which includes authority for the annual military pay raise. I consider passage of the annual military pay raise to be of crucial importance. Accordingly, I ask Congress to consider the enclosed FY 1996 supplemental language request that would authorize a 2.4 percent pay raise and other allowance increases.

I vetoed H.R. 1530 Act because it would restrict my Administration's ability to carry out national security policy and would substantially interfere with the implementation of key national defense programs. Moreover, certain provisions in the Act raised serious constitutional issues by restricting my authority to conduct foreign affairs and to act as Commander in Chief.

Nevertheless, I believe that our men and women in uniform should not be harmed as we work to obtain a bill that I can support. Therefore, I ask the Congress to enact the supplemental language to provide the increases in military pay and housing allowances, effective January 1, 1996, that both Congress and I fully support. If this legislation is not enacted, our military personnel will receive a 2.0 percent raise instead of a needed 2.4 percent raise. The legislation is also required to provide an additional increase in the Basic Allowance for Quarters that will help improve the quality of life of our service members and their families.

Speedy enactment of this legislation is imperative at a time when our military personnel are working under challenging conditions to help implement the peace agreement in Bosnia. I urge Congress to enact this legislation as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.

[Estimate No. 20, 104th Congress, 1st Session]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,
Washington, DC, December 28, 1995.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

Submitted for your consideration is a proposed supplemental language request to provide authorization for a 2.4 percent pay raise for U.S. military personnel. Without enactment of this request, our military personnel would receive a 2.0 percent pay increase instead of the needed 2.4 percent raise. Also included is supplemental language to provide an additional increase in the Basic Allowance for Quarters that will help improve the quality of life for our service members and their families.

These provisions were included in H.R. 1530, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996, which you intend to veto today. The enclosed supplemental language request would affirm your desire that our men and women in uniform not be harmed as we work to obtain a bill that the Administration can support. Therefore, I join the Secretary of Defense in recommending that it be transmitted to the Congress.

Sincerely,

ALICE M. RIVLIN, *Director.*

Enclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 8131. MILITARY PAY RAISE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996.

(a) *WAIVER OF SECTION 1009 ADJUSTMENT.*—Any adjustment required by section 1009 of title 37, United States Code, in elements of compensation of members of the uniformed services to become effective during fiscal year 1996 shall not be made.

(b) *INCREASE IN BASIC PAY AND BAS.*—Effective on January 1, 1996, the rates of basic pay and basic allowance for subsistence of members of the uniformed services are increased by 2.4 percent.

(c) *INCREASE IN BAQ.*—Effective on January 1, 1996, the rates of basic allowance for quarters of members of the uniformed services are increased by 5.2 percent.

This request would provide members of the armed forces with a 2.4 percent pay raise in FY 1996 instead of the 2.0 percent increase that would be provided by current law. The FY 1996 basic allowance of quarters (BAQ) would be increased by 5.2 percent.

This request would not require an increase in budget authority. The budget authority needed to fund this pay raise and BAQ increase was provided in the FY 1996 Department of Defense Appropriations Act. OMB's estimate of outlays for the FY 1996 Depart-

ment of Defense Appropriations Act would be unchanged, since the pay raise and BAQ increase were assumed in the official scoring of the bill.

