

# Wayne Allard

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## SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE APPROVES 2005 DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

### *SENATOR ALLARD ANNOUNCES COLORADO-SPRINGS AREA FUNDING*

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado), a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, announced Friday that the committee has approved a FY 2005 Department of Defense Authorization Bill containing significant military construction project funding for Fort Carson and other Colorado Springs military installations.

“A prime responsibility of the Senate Armed Services Committee is to provide our men and women in uniform with the resources, training, equipment and technology they need to conduct their missions effectively,” Senator Allard said. “This bill reflects a continued commitment to sustain the readiness of our armed forces and to improve the quality of life for the individuals and their families who so heroically serve.”

The committee-authorized military construction funds for Colorado Springs-area military bases include:

- \$12.4 million for the arrival/departure air control group complex at Fort Carson
- \$3.65 million a multipurpose machine-gun range and shoothouse at Fort Carson.
- \$14.10 million for a barracks complex in the hospital area of Fort Carson
- \$33 million for a digital multipurpose training range at Fort Carson
- \$3.2 million for an automated qualification range at Fort Carson
- \$5 million for the Joint National Integration Center missile defense project at Schriever Air Force Base

The legislation that the committee approved authorizes a 3.5 percent across-the-board pay raise for military personnel and an additional \$925 million for heavily-armored Humvees and enhanced individual body armor. It recommends overall funding of \$422.2 billion in budget authority for defense programs in FY2005, an increase of \$20.9 billion above the amount authorized by Congress for FY2004.

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