



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

The Honorable Roger F. Wicker
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

JUL 14 2026

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter serves as the Department's response to the following three reporting requirements on nonaddictive opioid alternatives.

- Senate Report 119-52, page 220, accompanying S. 2572, the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill, 2026;
- Senate Report 119-39, page 137, accompanying S. 2296, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026; and
- House Report 119-231, page 201, accompanying H.R. 3838, the Streamlining Procurement for Effective Execution and Delivery and NDAA for FY 2026.

The Department of War (DoW) shares the committee's commitment to ensuring that our Service members, retirees, and their families have access to the safest and most effective pain management options. I am pleased to report DoW currently has robust processes and systems in place to meet the objectives outlined in the congressional defense committees' reports.

Hundreds of non-addictive opioid alternative pharmaceutical agents are already available on the TRICARE Uniform Formulary and available to our providers for effective beneficiary pain management. The DoW Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee reviews every new pharmaceutical agent within 120 days of its availability on the U.S. market to determine its formulary status, providing a clear and rapid timeline for all new nonaddictive pain pharmaceutical agents.

DoW also maintains public websites to ensure transparency. The P&T Committee website (<https://www.health.mil/About-MHS/Federal-Advisory-Committees/DOD-PT-Committee>) publicly posts the results of its quarterly reviews of newly approved Food and Drug Administration pharmaceutical agents. The TRICARE Formulary Search Tool (<https://www.express-scripts.com/frontend/open-enrollment/tricare/fst/#/formularyPricing/home>) provides beneficiaries with real-time information on pharmaceutical agent coverage.

The estimated cost of this report to the Department of War (DoW) for Fiscal Year 2026 is approximately \$0.00.

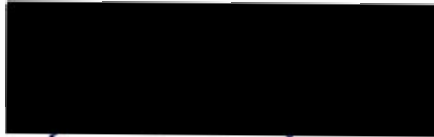
This includes \$0.00 in expenses and \$0.00 in DoW labor.

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RefID: 3-DIDFCCE

Thank you for your continued strong support for the health and well-being of our Service members and their families. I am sending similar letters to the other congressional defense committees.

Sincerely,



Sean ● Kccfc
Deputy Under Secretary of War for Personnel
and Readiness

cc:
The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member



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4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
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The Honorable Mike D. Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Thank you for your continued strong support for the health and well-being of our Service members and their families. I am sending similar letters to the other congressional defense committees.

Sincerely,



Sean O'Keefe
Deputy Under Secretary of War for Personnel
and Readiness

cc:
The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member



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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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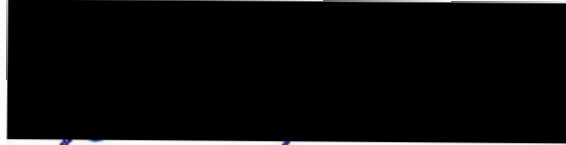
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Sincerely,



Sean O'Keefe

Deputy Under Secretary of War for Personnel
and Readiness

cc:
The Honorable Chris Coons
Ranking Member



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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Sean O'Keele

Deputy Under Secretary of War for Personnel
and Readiness

cc:
The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member