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Shuster Announces Defense Projects for 9th District *House Approves National Defense Authorization Act* *Highlights District's Importance to National Security*

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the House has approved the National Defense Authorization Act which will authorize the funding for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2009. Shuster also successfully secured a variety of authorizations for defense related projects for the 9th District.

“As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I am focused on making sure our military has the resources it needs to modernize its technology and adapt to meet the needs of our soldiers and commanders in the field,” Shuster said. “I am pleased that the House passed this important legislation especially on the eve of the Memorial Day holiday.”

“The 9th District has a great tradition of supporting our warfighters,” Shuster added. “The project authorizations I was able to secure build on that tradition and will benefit our military in the years ahead.”

“I am equally pleased that the committee has recognized the important work that the Letterkenny Army Depot continues to do to support our military,” Shuster added. “The projects I secured for Letterkenny will enhance the facility’s ability to serve our nation and keep the depot competitive in the years ahead.”

Congressman Shuster secured the following project authorizations for the 9th District:

- **\$14.9 million for the Letterkenny Army Reserve Center in Franklin County, PA:**
This military construction project would consolidate three area Army Reserve facilities at the Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD) in Franklin County. The project will provide a 300 member training facility with administrative areas, classrooms, assembly hall, arms vault, kitchen, equipment storage areas, physical training rooms, and maintenance facilities. LEAD has set aside 7.5 acres of secure federal land for construction of the Reserve Center.
- **\$7.5 million for Letterkenny Army Depot to Upgrade Munitions Igloos:**
Letterkenny is a major receiving, storage, maintenance, and shipping site for both tactical missiles and conventional ammunition. Funding for this project would modify igloo doors and provide concrete ramps to significantly increase productivity

and enhance Letterkenny Army Depot's (LEAD) ability to rapidly and safely support ongoing mission requirements.

- **\$3 million for the Expeditionary Persistent Power Program, Bedford County, PA:**

This project will be used for research, development, testing, and evaluation of new power and propulsion technology for U.S. Special Forces. This program builds on the recent success and advancements in ground based power and alternative propulsion systems for U.S. Special Forces as well as advancements in ultra thin film solar and small wind driven regeneration systems. The power/propulsion system will use latest-generation, commercially available Li-ion polymer batteries storing power from wind, solar, and regeneration techniques.

- **\$1.5 million for the Fire Support Technology Improvement Program, Bedford County, PA:**

This project would be used for research, development, testing, and evaluation to develop and integrate advanced artillery battle management technologies into current Army artillery modernization initiatives. The program will provide commanders with the tools necessary to make firing artillery more accurate and help protect civilian populations and their infrastructure from damage.

- **\$1 million Maritime C4ISR System, Bedford County, PA:**

This project would be used for research, development, testing, and evaluation for technology to increase situational awareness for maritime protection activities. The Maritime C4ISR system allows the user to manage several complex and diverse tasks simultaneously through remote access, automation, information management, and the development or enhancement of decision aides to simplify decision-making and support defensive action by joint forces.

- **\$500,000 for Strengthening Letterkenny Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management, Franklin County, PA:**

Letterkenny Army Depot's unique mission, including manufacturing, depot level maintenance, and demilitarization, presents significant challenges to maintaining operations while achieving aggressive environmental quality goals. The money in this project will strengthen Letterkenny Army Depot's leadership in implementing new technologies to lessen the environmental impact of their work and allow the Depot to transfer that technology to surrounding Pennsylvania military installations, other Army depots, and installations across the Department of Defense.

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