

Report: Commissary cost-cutting plan lacks details, fails to ensure customer benefit

Military Times

The Defense Department's plan for saving money on commissary operations is thin on details, and decision-makers will need these details to evaluate whether the savings come at the expense of customer benefits, according to a new report from government auditors. The GAO report "has confirmed our fears that the Defense Department's plans have little basis in data, merit, and are deficient of methodical analysis," said Candace Wheeler, spokeswoman for The Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits. [READ MORE](#)

Commissary savings study was Incomplete: Auditors

Military.com

The Defense Department failed to provide Congress with a complete picture of what it would take to eliminate taxpayer funding of the commissary system while still keeping stores open and patron savings at current levels, according to a report released this week. Commissary advocates said the report shows that Congress does not have enough information from the department to carry out any plans for commissary cuts while still maintaining savings. [READ MORE](#)

Unfinished business: The FY16 NDAA

National Military Family Association

Now that the election is over, Congress will be returning to Washington with only a few weeks left to pass the NDAA before the end of the year. We'll be watching them closely and encouraging them to keep military families in mind as they try to find a compromise. We all know that military service comes with unique challenges. We call on Congress to pass an NDAA that ensures military families have the resources they need to meet those challenges. [READ MORE](#)

Meet the 7 veterans newly elected to Congress

Task & Purpose

The number of veterans serving in Congress is set to increase in 2017. There's no question that the military molds ordinary citizens into incredible leaders, and it appears the rest of the country has begun to recognize that, too. At least 27 post-9/11 veterans won congressional races on Nov. 8, while the current Congress includes 26 veterans. [READ MORE](#)

Michelle Obama and Jill Biden tearfully hold their final 'Joining Forces' event: 'We're family'

People Politics

On Monday evening, the duo hosted their final event for their Joining Forces initiative for military families. Obama promised that she and Biden will continue working on the initiative "for the rest of our lives" and said she's hopeful the next administration will continue their efforts. "Because this issue has nothing to do with whether you are a Democrat, a Republican or an independent," she said. "It's about supporting our American heroes. And it's about standing up for who we are as a nation." [READ MORE](#)

Medal of Honor recipient: 'I should have been better'

Military Officers Association of America

A retired Army captain who was awarded the Medal of Honor last year for tackling an Afghan suicide bomber said he failed at his job that day because he wasn't able to protect his comrades. "They put a medal around me and they said 'congratulations,'" Florent Groberg said during a veterans event hosted by the *Washington Post*. "I say, 'I should've been better,' because they're not here and I am. For the rest of my life, I'm going to do the best that I can to make sure that I earned that second chance at life."

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