

Politico Pro: Top House Republicans warn against yearlong military CR

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A full year of stopgap military funding would curtail flight training, ship maintenance and acquisition programs, three top House Republican leaders warned Monday.

In a statement, Texas Reps. [Mac Thornberry](#) and [Kay Granger](#) and Arkansas Rep. [Steve Womack](#) — top Republicans on the Armed Services, Budget and Appropriations committees, respectively — urged the adoption of full-year defense funding legislation and [outlined the potential damage](#) of a full-year continuing spending resolution. Temporary funding has plagued the Pentagon in recent years.

"When Congress fails to provide stable funding, we hinder our warfighters and neglect our constitutional duty of providing for the common defense," Womack said. "We can't continue to hold our military hostage — and anything less than sustained, predictable appropriations will damage national security."

Among the myriad consequences of a yearlong CR, the Navy would have to reduce personnel and eliminate bonuses. The Army would be barred from building 4,400 new homes for troops and their dependents and repairing another 269 others.

Such a CR also would leave the Air Force \$123 million short in undergraduate flight training, force the grounding of non-deployed Navy aviation and limit the service's training in the U.S. only to units about to deploy.

And the Navy would also be forced to cancel 14 ship maintenance periods.

Additionally, the stopgap would delay weapons acquisition and recovery efforts at military bases hit by natural disasters.

The current CR, [H.R. 4378 \(116\)](#), funding all of the federal government lasts through Nov. 21 — with increasing prospects for an extension until year's end, or longer, if Congress doesn't agree on permanent funding for the 2020 fiscal year that started Oct. 1.

House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) and Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#) want to finalize all government funding by the new year, but must overcome a dispute over funding for President Donald Trump's border wall with Mexico, among other key issues.