

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congressman Joe Courtney today applauded passage of the Readiness Subcommittee’s “mark” of the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which did not include a round of BRAC. The mark’s passage is the latest bipartisan rejection of BRAC.

Congressman Courtney has questioned Pentagon officials persistently about the up-front costs of BRAC, and suggested that shouldering those costs does nothing to help comply with the Budget Control Act. In a recent House Armed Services Committee hearing, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta [told Rep. Courtney](#) that the up-front costs in the 2005 BRAC round were “just unacceptable.”

“For all intents and purposes, passage of the mark signifies an official, on-record, bipartisan rejection of the plan,” **said Congressman Courtney**. “From the moment it was floated as an idea, the shadow of BRAC has been a pointless distraction from the real and serious job at hand: producing a balanced approach to the nation’s fiscal challenges that provides for a strong national defense.

“Going forward, southeastern Connecticut knows all too well that we must stay vigilant in defending our SUBASE. Since taking office, I have worked every day to ensure that our nation’s ‘first and finest’ submarine base is well positioned to carry out its core mission – the support and training of our submarine force. I look forward to continuing to work with the Connecticut Congressional Delegation, Governor Malloy and his team, as well as our experienced members of Team Connecticut to continue to support the base and its critical role in our nation’s defense.”

Congressman Courtney is a member of the House Armed Services Committee and serves on the Readiness Subcommittee, which has primary jurisdiction over legislation proposing base closings.

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