

David Norquist

Commission Biography



Appointed by the Honorable Kay Granger, then Ranking Member of the House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable David Norquist is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA). He has over 30 years of public and private sector experience in national security and federal financial management. Mr. Norquist previously served as the 34th Deputy Secretary of Defense from 2019 to 2021 and was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Department of Defense, including managing the Pentagon's

budget and personnel. He led reforms in DoD business processes and realigned investments toward the challenges of multi-domain warfare.

At the request of the Biden Administration, Mr. Norquist served as Acting Secretary of Defense and continued as Deputy Secretary until the Senate confirmed Secretary Austin and Deputy Secretary Hicks. From 2017 until 2019 as the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, he supported the National Defense Strategy (NDS) through the development and execution of the Department's annual budget of then more than \$680 billion. Mr. Norquist strengthened accountability to the taxpayer by implementing DOD's first department-wide financial statement audit.

Norquist began his career as a Presidential Management Fellow supporting Army intelligence as a program/budget analyst with assignments on the Army staff, a major command, a defense agency, and at an overseas field site. Following his time with the Army, Mr. Norquist served for six years with the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense as a professional staff member where he focused on Air Force aircraft, munitions, ballistic missile defense and information assurance.

From 2002 to 2006, he served as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Comptroller. In 2006, President George W. Bush selected him to be the first Senate-confirmed Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Homeland Security. Between his stints in government service, Norquist was a partner with Kearney and Company, a certified public accounting (CPA) firm focused exclusively on the federal government.

Norquist holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Michigan. He also holds a Master of Arts in National Security Studies from Georgetown University.

