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Appropriations: Clear Differences  
**How 2 Months Spending In Iraq Could be Put to Better Use**

**Option 5: Law Enforcement**  
**\$1.8 billion = 5 Days in Iraq**

WASHINGTON – As Congress [waits](#) for the President to send over the rest of his nearly \$200 billion request covering the [\\$10 billion](#) a month we are spending in Iraq (paid for with borrowed money), he is trying to masquerade as fiscally responsible by manufacturing a fight over \$22 billion (roughly 2 months in Iraq) in investments that will make this a stronger and better country.

What would that \$22 billion achieve? Every day we're going to bring you one specific example of how Congress and the President differ on appropriations.

**Example 5: Law Enforcement**  
**\$1.8 billion above the President's Request = The cost of 5 days in Iraq**

After nearly a decade of declines, [violent crime is up](#) in our country the last two years in a row.

This increase follows five years of steady cuts to programs that fund state and local law enforcement agencies – like the COPS, Justice Assistance, Juvenile Justice and Violence Against Women grants. From 2001 to 2006 funding for state and local law enforcement grants was **cut from \$4.7 billion to \$2.7 billion - 43%**. In January Democrats were able to restore some of these cuts in the joint funding resolution passed to finish up the bills Republicans left behind.

**The President's Budget** exacerbates the problem, once again proposing to cut these programs by over a billion dollars. That means fewer cops on the street and less support to local communities stretched thin trying to fight drugs and crime while meeting post 9/11 security needs.

**The House Bill** rejects those cuts, investing \$1.8 billion above the President (\$428 million above last year) to proven programs that keep Americans safe – roughly the cost of 5 days in Iraq.

The choice is clear.

Attached please find a brief fact sheet on the recent history of law enforcement funding.

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