

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Hal Rogers

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

FY 2014 Omnibus – State and Foreign Operations Appropriations

Bill will help ensure the safety of American diplomats and facilities abroad, support security and stability efforts in the Middle East, and provide critical humanitarian assistance

The State and Foreign Operations portion of the fiscal year 2014 Omnibus contains funding to support American interests, diplomatic operations, and humanitarian assistance abroad. In total, the legislation provides \$49 billion in discretionary funding – \$4.3 billion less than the fiscal year 2013 enacted level.

Within the total, the bill provides full funding for embassy security – plus additional funds for upgrades of temporary missions, such as Benghazi – to prevent and protect against future terrorist attacks, unrest, and other acts of violence.

The bill also provides funding to support security and stability in the Middle East – including for our key allies such as Israel and Jordan and the frontline states of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. For Afghanistan, the bill provides the resources needed for diplomats and development experts to operate safely, but scales back assistance programs to a more sustainable level as U.S. armed forces drawdown during 2014. In addition, contingency funding is included for other areas of conflict and emerging crises, such as Syria and Africa.

In addition, the bill prioritizes global health, humanitarian, and democracy promotion programs – while reducing funding in other lower-priority areas – to advance American interests around the globe and to fulfill the nation’s moral obligation to those in dire need.

International Security Assistance – The bill provides a total of \$8.5 billion in base and contingency funding for international security assistance. This includes funds for international narcotics control, anti-terrorism programs, nonproliferation programs, peacekeeping operations, and other critical international security and stabilization efforts. It also provides funds to support ongoing counter-narcotics and law enforcement efforts in Mexico, Colombia, and Central America.

In addition, the legislation provides security assistance to key allies, including fully funding the \$3.1 billion commitment to the United States-Israel Memorandum of Understanding.

Export and Investment Programs – The bill supports continued operations of the Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. The legislation also includes a provision to prohibit the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and Export-Import Bank from blocking coal-fired or other power-generation projects that increase the export of U.S. goods or services or prevent the loss of U.S. jobs.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) – The bill provides no funds for the IMF.

State Department Operations and Related Agencies – The bill contains a total of \$15.7 billion in base and contingency funding for operational costs of the State Department and related agencies – a decrease of \$2.4 billion below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$1 billion less than the request. Within this total, the legislation provides \$5.4 billion – \$25 million above the amount requested – for embassy security costs relating to the protection of personnel and facilities.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Operations – The bill contains \$1.3 billion for USAID operations, a reduction of \$215 million from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level. Within this total, \$91 million is provided for contingency funding for USAID operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, and for the USAID Inspector General to conduct appropriate and rigorous oversight of U.S. taxpayer dollars in those countries.

Bilateral Assistance – The legislation contains a total of \$22.1 billion in base and contingency funding for bilateral assistance to foreign countries – a decrease of \$1 billion from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level. Within this amount, programs that support global health and humanitarian assistance are prioritized, including life-saving international HIV/AIDS programs, which are funded at the full requested levels.

Funding Prohibitions – The bill seeks to promote good government and rein in unnecessary spending by prohibiting or eliminating funding for a variety of projects and activities. Some include:

- A prohibition on funding for the renovation of UN Headquarters in New York;
- A prohibition on appropriations for a new London embassy;
- Providing no funding or authorities for debt relief for foreign countries;
- A prohibition on funding to move the Vatican embassy unless certain conditions are met to maintain its importance and authority;
- A prohibition on aid to Libya until the Secretary of State confirms Libyan cooperation in the Benghazi investigation;
- A prohibition on funding to implement the UN Arms Trade Treaty; and
- Providing no funding for assessed and voluntary contributions for the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Other Important Policy and Oversight Provisions – The bill includes other important policy provisions to ensure the respect for life around the globe and to enhance the oversight, transparency and accountability of foreign assistance. For example, the bill:

- Maintains longstanding pro-life riders, including the “Tiahrt Amendment,” which ensures family planning programs are voluntary; the “Helms Amendment,” which bans foreign aid from being spent on abortions; and the “Kemp-Kasten Amendment,” which prohibits funds to organizations the President determines to support coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization. It also prohibits Peace Corps funds from being used for abortions.
- Retains language withholding funds dollar-for-dollar from the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) if they operate a program in China.
- Withholds funds for the Government of Afghanistan until certain conditions are met, including having a signed Bilateral Security Agreement and safeguards being in place to ensure that U.S. assistance is not taxed. It also withholds a portion of funds until proper security is in place for implementers of USAID and State Department programs. In addition, the legislation strengthens requirements on the rights of Afghan women and girls and combatting corruption.
- Allows requested funds to be provided to Egypt if certain conditions are met – including maintaining the strategic relationship with the United States, upholding the peace treaty with Israel, and meeting milestones Egyptians have set for their political transition.
- **Palestinian Authority** – The legislation stops economic assistance to the Palestinian Authority if the Palestinians obtain membership to the United Nations or UN agencies without an agreement with Israel. In addition, the bill puts new restrictions on aid if the Palestinians pursue actions against Israel at the International Criminal Court. New language is included to ensure that the Palestinian Authority is taking action to counter incitement of violence.

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