

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Hal Rogers

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

FY 2015 Omnibus – Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations

Legislation targets funding to law enforcement programs, boosts economic competitiveness, scales back lower-priority programs

The Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations portion of the Omnibus prioritizes funding for law enforcement efforts to help keep America and its citizens safe, and to bring those who break our laws to justice. The bill also funds programs that will help boost our economy, promote U.S. innovation, and provide critical weather information, while making reductions in lower-priority areas. In total, this legislation includes \$50.1 billion, a reduction of \$1.5 billion below the fiscal year 2014 enacted level.

In addition, the legislation includes several important policy items, such as provisions to ensure the sanctity of life, to protect Second Amendment rights, and to prevent terrorists currently detained at Guantanamo Bay from being transferred to or housed within the United States.

Department of Justice (DOJ) – The bill funds DOJ at \$26.7 billion to support critical investigation, law enforcement, and prosecution activities at DOJ to protect the safety and well-being of communities across the country. This funding will help stop crime in its tracks, bring law-breakers to justice, and ensure the safety and security of our correctional institutions.

- **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)** – The bill includes \$8.4 billion for the FBI – \$93 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. Within this funding, priority is placed on counter-terrorism activities, programs that combat the growing threat of cyber-intrusions, and investigating human trafficking.
- **Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)** – DEA is funded at \$2.4 billion in the bill, an increase of \$21 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This includes \$367 million, offset by fee collections, for regulatory and enforcement efforts to combat prescription drug abuse. In addition, DEA will receive a \$7 million transfer from the COPS program to assist states and communities with methamphetamine lab cleanups.
- **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)** – The legislation contains \$1.2 billion for ATF, \$22 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level.
- **Federal Prison System** – The Bureau of Prisons is funded at \$6.9 billion, an increase of \$62 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This funding will maintain staffing

levels to ensure safe and secure facilities to house the nation's federal prisoner population, and will support construction and activation of new prisons.

- **Grant Programs** – The bill includes a total of \$2.3 billion for various state and local grant programs, which is \$65 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This includes: \$430 million for Violence Against Women programs; \$376 million for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants; \$185 million for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program; \$68 million for missing and exploited children programs; and \$41 million for a new program to address the sexual assault kit backlog at law enforcement agencies.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) – NASA is funded at \$18 billion in the bill, an increase of \$364 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. Within this total, \$4.4 billion is provided for Exploration, including funding to keep the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle and Space Launch System on schedule.

Department of Commerce – The bill includes \$8.5 billion for the Commerce Department – an increase of \$286 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This includes:

- **Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)** – The bill provides \$3.5 billion for the PTO, which is the estimated amount of fees to be collected by the PTO during fiscal year 2015 – an increase of \$434 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. The bill also maintains a provision that allows the Office to use any excess collected fees, subject to congressional approval.
- **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)** – NIST is funded at \$864 million, which is \$14 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. Within this total, funding for important core research activities is prioritized to help advance U.S. competitiveness, innovation, and economic growth.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** – The legislation contains \$5.4 billion for NOAA, which is \$126 million above the base fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This includes funding for the National Weather Service to provide critical weather information to the public, and for various weather satellites essential to maintaining and improving weather forecasts and warnings.

National Science Foundation (NSF) – The legislation funds NSF at \$7.3 billion, an increase of \$172 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This funding is targeted to programs that help strengthen U.S. innovation and economic competitiveness, including funding for advanced manufacturing science, and for research in cybersecurity and cyber-infrastructure.

Policy Provisions – The bill continues several important policy items, such as:

- A prohibition on the transfer or release of Guantanamo detainees into the U.S.;
- A prohibition on the construction or acquisition of facilities in the U.S. for the detention or imprisonment of Guantanamo detainees;
- Provisions to protect Second Amendment rights, including prohibitions on various import or export criteria related to firearms, and a new prohibition on implementing the Arms Trade Treaty; and

- Provisions to protect life, such as language regarding abortion and federal prisoners, and restrictions on using funds by Legal Services Corporation grantees to participate in abortion-related litigation.

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