

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen

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

FY 2017 Omnibus Summary – Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations

*Bill targets funding to law enforcement and national security efforts, and
fundamental research activities*

The Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations portion of the Omnibus contains \$56.6 billion in total discretionary funding, an increase of \$833 million over fiscal year 2016 and \$2 billion above President Obama's request for these programs. The bill targets increases to federal law enforcement, national security (including cybercrime and counter-terror activities), reducing illegal drug use, trade enforcement, and space exploration programs. The bill also includes legislative provisions to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans and implement strong oversight.

Bill Highlights:

Department of Justice (DOJ) – The bill funds DOJ at \$29 billion, a reduction of \$143 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. Within this funding, priority is given to critical activities that protect the safety, rights, and property of individuals and families across the nation.

- **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)** – The bill includes \$8.8 billion for FBI operations – an increase of \$277 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This funding will maintain all critical functions of the FBI, with increases targeted to anti-cybercrime, counterintelligence, anti-violent crime, and counterterrorism programs. In addition, \$420 million is provided for critical infrastructure projects.
- **Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)** – The DEA is funded at \$2.1 billion – \$23 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

Within the DEA, priority is placed on anti-opioid and other illegal drug enforcement efforts. This includes \$12.5 million in funding for four new heroin enforcement groups to target growing heroin abuse and availability in the U.S. Also provided is \$383 million for the Diversion Control Program (an \$11 million increase) and \$517 million for the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Forces (a \$5 million increase).

- **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)** – The legislation contains \$1.3 billion for the ATF, \$19 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

The bill continues all legislative provisions carried in previous years to protect the Second Amendment rights of all Americans, including prohibitions on “gun-walking”, such as the disastrous “Fast and Furious” operation, and implementation of the UN Arms Trade Treaty.

- **Federal Prisoner Detention** – The bill includes \$1.5 billion for short-term detention space to hold federal detainees – including criminal aliens and offenders awaiting trial – consistent with the fiscal year 2018 initial budget request.
- **Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)** – Funding for the EOIR is increased by \$20 million, for a total of \$440 million. This increase will provide for 10 additional immigration judge teams to process immigration reviews more quickly, and reduce the backlog of pending cases. The legislation also requires monthly reporting on immigration judge performance.
- **Grant Programs** – The bill includes a total of \$2.4 billion in grant funding to support law enforcement and victims of crime.

Within this amount, funds are increased within the highest-priority grant programs, including \$481.5 million for the Violence Against Women programs and \$403 million for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants. The bill includes \$22.5 million in grants for armor vests, and \$15 million to support VALOR and the POLICE Act.

The bill also maintains funding for various other important grant programs at their current levels. This includes the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (\$210 million), Adam Walsh Act grants (\$20 million), National Instant Criminal System background check grants (\$73 million), DNA Initiative grants (\$125 million), the Reduce Sexual Assault Kits Backlog grants (\$45 million), Second Chance Act grants (\$68 million), and Missing and Exploited Children grants (\$72.5 million).

The bill eliminates a variety of lower-priority or duplicative grant programs, saving \$113 million compared to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) – NASA is funded at \$19.7 billion in the bill, \$368 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This funding includes:

- \$4.3 billion for Exploration – \$294 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This includes funding to continue development of the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, the Space Launch System and related ground systems.
- \$5.8 billion for NASA Science programs – \$176 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This targets funding to planetary science, including the Europa and Mars missions, and heliophysics to ensure the continuation of critical research and development programs.

Department of Commerce – The bill includes \$9.2 billion for the Commerce Department, a reduction of \$9 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$491 million below the Obama Administration request for these programs. This includes funding for the following agencies:

- **Economic Development Administration (EDA)** – The legislation includes \$276 million for the EDA, an increase of \$15 million above the fiscal year 2016 level. These funds will help spur increased international and domestic commerce, and help to boost economically recovering communities.
- **Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)** – The bill provides \$3.2 billion for the PTO, which is equal to the Congressional Budget Office estimated amount of fees to be collected by the PTO during fiscal year 2017. The bill also includes a provision that allows the PTO to use any fees in excess of the estimated collected amount, subject to congressional approval.
- **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)** – NIST is funded at \$952 million in the bill – \$12 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$63 million below the previous Administration’s request. Within this total, important core research activities are funded at \$690 million to help advance U.S. competitiveness and economic growth.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** – The legislation contains \$5.7 billion for NOAA, which is \$90 million below the enacted level. Funding is targeted to important priorities such as the National Weather Service, which is funded at over \$1 billion.

The bill also includes full funding for the continuation of the current Joint Polar Satellite System weather satellite program and the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite program to help maintain and improve weather forecasting to warn communities about potentially devastating natural disasters.

National Science Foundation (NSF) – The legislation funds NSF at \$7.5 billion – \$9 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. NSF targets funding to programs that foster innovation and U.S. economic competitiveness, including funding for research on advanced manufacturing, physics, mathematics, cybersecurity, neuroscience and STEM education.

Trade Enforcement - The bill allows for full funding of the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund, authorized by the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015. The bill also funds the International Trade Commission at \$91.5 million, which is a \$3 million increase above the enacted level, and increases trade enforcement at the International Trade Administration by \$2 million above the Obama Administration request.

Other Provisions – The bill includes several policy provisions, such as:

- A prohibition on NASA and the Office of Science and Technology Policy engaging in bilateral activities with China unless authorized or certified via procedures established in the bill;
- A continuation of all existing policies related to the sanctity of life; and
- A prohibition on funding to house, transfer, or release any Guantanamo Bay detainee.

For the full explanatory statement on the CJS portion of the Omnibus, including a detailed funding table, please visit:

<https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules.house.gov/files/115/OMNI/DIVISION%20B%20-%20CJS%20SOM%20OCR%20FY17.pdf>

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