

# *House Appropriations Committee*

*Chairman Hal Rogers*

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

## **FY 2016 Omnibus – Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations** *Legislation targets funding to law enforcement and antiterrorism programs, makes important investments in U.S. scientific innovation and space exploration*

The Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations portion of the Omnibus prioritizes funding for law enforcement and antiterrorism efforts to help keep America and its citizens safe, and to bring those who break our laws to justice. The bill also funds programs to boost our economy, promote U.S. innovation and space exploration, and provide critical weather information, while freezing or making reductions in lower-priority areas.

In total, this legislation includes \$55.7 billion, an increase of \$5.6 billion above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and \$3.7 billion above the President's budget request, for these programs. This level reflects the increased domestic discretionary funding provided by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, which was enacted on November 2. In addition, the legislation includes several important policy items, including provisions to ensure the sanctity of life, to protect Second Amendment rights, to deter espionage, 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 \$28.7 billion to support critical investigation, law enforcement, and prosecution activities to protect the safety and well-being of communities across the country. This funding will help stop crime, bring lawbreakers to justice, and ensure the safety and security of our correctional institutions.

- **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)** – The bill includes \$8.8 billion for the FBI – \$362 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. Within this funding, priority is placed on domestic counterterrorism and counterintelligence activities, programs that combat the growing threat of cyberintrusions, and infrastructure needs.
- **U.S. Attorneys** – The bill provides \$2 billion for U.S. Attorneys, \$40 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level, to increase prosecution of criminals and protect local communities.
- **Immigration Courts** – The legislation increases funding for Immigration Courts by \$76 million, providing a total of \$427 million. The increase will support an additional 55 immigration judge teams to expedite removal proceedings.

- **Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)** – DEA is funded at \$2.5 billion, an increase of \$52 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. This includes \$372 million, offset by fee collections, for regulatory and enforcement efforts to combat prescription drug abuse.
- **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)** – The legislation contains \$1.2 billion for ATF, \$39 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level.
- **Federal Prison System** – The Bureau of Prisons is funded at \$7.5 billion, an increase of \$558 million above the fiscal year 2015 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 to ease overcrowding at high-security facilities.
- **Grant Programs** – The bill includes a total of \$2.5 billion for various state and local grant programs, which is \$174 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. This includes: \$480 million for Violence Against Women programs; \$476 million for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants; \$210 million for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program; \$72 million for missing and exploited children programs; \$45 million to address the sexual assault kit backlog at law enforcement agencies; and \$70 million for programs to improve police-community relations, including the purchase of body-worn cameras for police.

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** – NASA is funded at \$19.3 billion in the bill, an increase of \$1.3 billion above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level to advance America’s leadership in space and science. Within this total, \$4 billion is provided for Exploration, including funding to keep the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle and Space Launch System on schedule, and \$5.6 billion is provided for science programs.

**National Science Foundation (NSF)** – \$7.5 billion is included for NSF, an increase of \$119 million over the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. This funding will help maintain the nation’s leadership in innovation by strategically investing in basic research – including computer and information sciences, engineering, math, physical sciences, advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity and cyberinfrastructure.

**Department of Commerce** – The bill includes \$9.2 billion for the Commerce Department – an increase of \$779 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. This includes:

- **Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)** – The bill provides \$3.3 billion for the PTO, which is the estimated amount of fees to be collected by the PTO during fiscal year 2016. The bill also maintains a provision that allows the PTO to use any excess collected fees, subject to congressional approval.
- **Census Bureau** – The bill provides \$1.4 billion for the Census Bureau, an increase of \$282 million over the fiscal year 2015 enacted level, to prepare for the constitutionally

required 2020 Census, including the development of new cost-saving practices.

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** – The legislation contains \$5.8 billion for NOAA, which is \$325 million above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. This includes funding for the National Weather Service to provide critical weather information to the public, and investments in new and existing weather satellites that are essential to maintain and improve weather forecasts, including the Polar Follow On program.

**Policy Provisions** – The bill continues several important policy items, including:

- 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**;
- A provision prohibiting funding to move **Internet management responsibility** out of the Department of Commerce.
- Provisions to protect **Second Amendment rights**, including:
  - Prohibiting funding for federal law enforcement to transfer firearms to drug cartels without specific monitoring and control of the firearm (also known as gunwalking);
  - Prohibiting funding to require a license to export to Canada certain gun parts valued at less than \$500;
  - Prohibiting the DOJ from denying a permit to import “curios or relics” related to firearms, parts or ammunition of U.S. origin;
  - Prohibiting DOJ from denying permits for the importation of certain types of shotguns; and
  - Prohibiting funds to implement the UN Arms Trade Treaty.
- Provisions relating to **protecting 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.
- Provisions withholding certain Department of Commerce and DOJ funds until the agencies demonstrate improved management practices.
- A provision preventing the Obama Administration from manipulating Census Bureau statistics related to health insurance coverage.
- Provisions requiring supply chain risk assessments for major IT acquisitions, and requiring the FBI to produce best practices for supply chain risk management for agency procurement officials.

- A prohibition on NASA and the Office of Science and Technology Policy from engaging in bilateral activities with China unless authorized or certified via procedures established in the bill.
- A prohibition on agencies funded in the bill from denying Inspectors General access to information.

**For the full Committee Report on the Commerce, Justice, and Science portion of the Omnibus, including a detailed funding table, please visit: <http://1.usa.gov/1O8tGab>.**

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