

FY2016 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill Omnibus Agreement Summary

Highlights of the FY2016 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill:

The \$55.72 billion measure, which is \$5.6 billion above the FY2015 enacted level, will fund federal law enforcement agencies, State and local law enforcement grants, space exploration, basic science research, economic development programs, trade enforcement, and ocean observations and weather forecasting. The bill is \$647 million below the President's budget request when compared to true spending without scorekeeping adjustments.

Department of Commerce

The bill funds the U.S. Department of Commerce at \$9.2 billion, a \$779 million increase over FY2015, to support economic development, protect intellectual property rights, strengthen trade enforcement, advance cybersecurity research and development, and improve severe weather forecasting.

Economic Development Administration (EDA) – The bill contains \$261 million for the EDA, including \$100 million for its Public Works program, to support brick-and-mortar projects needed by distressed communities across the country, and \$15 million for assistance grants to coal mining communities.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) – The bill provides \$3.3 billion for USPTO to continue protecting ideas and advancing innovation by the nation's inventors and entrepreneurs.

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) – The bill provides \$964 million for NIST, \$100 million above the FY2015 enacted level. The funding will strengthen the U.S. cybersecurity posture through cutting-edge research and development, expand opportunities in the areas of advanced manufacturing, and continue promotion of the highest quality standards to maintain fairness in the marketplace. Funding for NIST includes establishment of a new institute within the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation, to support research and partnerships with the private sector for advanced manufacturing.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) – NOAA is funded at \$5.76 billion, which includes a \$24 million increase above the FY2015 enacted level for the National Weather Service. The bill provides full funding for NOAA's flagship weather satellites, which are critical for accurate weather warnings to protect lives and property. Funding for NOAA also targets new areas of investment for fisheries management, including the testing and implementation of new technologies to expand opportunities for American commercial and recreational fishermen. Funding for a new research vessel is included to begin replacing older vessels within NOAA's aging fleet.

Bureau of the Census – The Bureau of the Census is funded at \$1.37 billion, an increase of \$282 million over the FY2015 enacted level. The bill directs the Census Bureau to continue its

efforts to hold the costs of the 2020 Census lower than the 2010 Census, and to maintain its focus on activities that will make such savings possible.

Department of Justice

The bill funds the Department of Justice (DOJ) at \$29.1 billion, an increase of \$2.1 billion above the FY2015 enacted level. The constantly changing landscape of criminal activity at home and abroad tests the DOJ's ability to deal with emerging threats. The bill ensures that federal law enforcement agencies work together to focus limited resources in a manner that safeguards taxpayer dollars while preserving public safety.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) – The bill provides \$8.8 billion for the FBI, a \$362 million increase above the FY2015 enacted level. This increased funding will better enable the FBI to protect and defend against terrorist and foreign intelligence threats while also enforcing U.S. criminal laws. The funding includes a \$10.3 million increase for the Next Generation Cyber Initiative to neutralize, mitigate, and disrupt illegal computer-supported operations domestically. The bill also provides the requested \$74.8 million for the Innocent Images National Initiative to target and investigate sexual predators on the Internet.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) – The bill provides \$2.45 billion to the DEA, a \$52 million increase above the FY2015 enacted level. This funding will allow the DEA to enforce the controlled substances laws and regulations of the United States, including increased efforts to combat prescription drug abuse and heroin trafficking.

United States Marshals Service (USMS) – The bill provides \$2.7 billion for the USMS, including: \$1.45 billion for federal prisoner detention expenses; \$56 million to continue Adam Walsh Act enforcement to apprehend fugitive convicted sex offenders who fail to register; and, \$5 million to support Regional Fugitive Task Forces (RFTFs) and the operation of anti-gang investigative units within the RFTFs.

U.S. Attorneys – The bill provides \$2 billion to fund the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the 94 U.S. Attorneys offices. Within the funding provided, the DOJ is directed to enhance efforts to combat cybercrime and cybersecurity; child sexual exploitation; financial and mortgage fraud; drug trafficking, including of opioids and prescription drugs; and sex and labor trafficking.

Administrative Review and Appeals – The bill provides \$427 million for the Office of the Pardon Attorney and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), which includes the requested increase of \$64 million to fund the hiring of 55 new Immigration Judge Teams and support for immigration enforcement initiatives. Additionally, EOIR is directed to submit detailed monthly performance and operating reports as they work towards full staffing and the elimination of the significant current case backlog.

Federal Prison System – The bill provides \$7.5 billion for the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) for the operating needs of federal prison system, which includes increased funding for additional

correctional officers for high-security institution housing units in order to address unsafe environments for correctional officers and other BOP staff.

Law Enforcement Grant Programs – The bill allocates \$2.6 billion for DOJ’s State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, including the Office on Violence Against Women, juvenile justice programs, and community crime prevention grant programs. The bill contains: \$476 million for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG); \$100 million to support State and local law enforcement agencies in the provision of security for the 2016 Presidential nomination conventions; \$170 million for initiatives that will address rape kit and other DNA evidence backlogs; and \$42 million to support drug courts.

Crime Victims Fund (CVF) – This bill surpasses the FY2016 Concurrent Budget Resolution by providing \$3 billion of disbursements from the CVF, a \$681 million increase above the FY2015 level and \$2 billion above the request. This amount represents a 408 percent increase over the past two years, and is \$464 million above the three-year average of deposits into the CVF.

Science

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) – The bill funds NASA at \$19.3 billion, a \$1.27 billion increase over FY2015, to support the human and robotic exploration of space, fund science missions that enhance the understanding of the Earth, the solar system, and the universe, and support fundamental aeronautics research. This includes:

- \$2 billion for the Space Launch System (SLS), \$300 million above the FY2015 enacted level and \$644 million above the request. The SLS is the nation’s launch vehicle which will enable humans to explore space beyond our current capabilities. The funding maintains the current schedule for the first launch of SLS, and also provides critical funding for upper stage engine work for future crewed missions.
- \$1.27 billion for the Orion crewed spacecraft, \$70 million above the FY2015 enacted level and \$174 million above the request. Orion is NASA’s crewed vehicle that is being designed to take astronauts to destinations farther than ever before, including Mars.
- \$5.6 billion for Science, \$345 million above the FY2015 enacted level and \$301 million above the request. This funding encompasses missions from the Earth, to the Moon, throughout the Solar system, and the far reaches of the universe.
- Up to \$1.24 billion for International Space Station (ISS) crew capabilities, which is \$439 million above the FY2015 enacted level. This funding continues development of privately-owned crewed vehicles, which once developed and fully tested, will end the United States’ reliance on Russia for transporting American astronauts to and from the ISS.

- \$687 million for Space Technology, \$91 million above the FY2015 enacted level. Funding is included to advance projects that are early in development that will eventually demonstrate capabilities needed for future space exploration.

National Science Foundation (NSF) – The bill funds the NSF at \$7.5 billion, \$119 million above the FY2015 enacted level. Funding is provided for basic research across all scientific disciplines and to support the development of effective Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics [STEM] programs and grow the next generation of scientists.

Related Agencies

Legal Services Corporation (LSC) – The bill provides \$385 million for the LSC, which is \$10 million more than the FY2015 enacted level.

Oversight and Accountability

The measure includes provisions that ensure accountability and oversight of funds within this bill, including:

- Requires the Inspectors General to conduct random audits of grant funding to combat waste and fraud.
- Establishes an early warning system on cost overruns and requires agencies to notify the Committees when costs grow more than 10 percent.
- Ensures that Inspectors General funded in this bill have access to all the agency documents they need to complete timely audits and investigations.
- Prohibits grants and contracts to tax cheats and companies with felony criminal convictions.
- Prohibits first class or premium air travel in contravention of federal regulations.
- Requires agencies to report conference spending to the Inspectors General and prohibits the use of funds for certain banquets and conferences.
- Requires all departments and agencies to link all contracts that provide award fees to successful acquisition outcomes, and prohibits funds to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance.
- Maintains provisions prohibiting the transfer of detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

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