## Calendar No. 436

Report

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SENATE

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS, 2025

JULY 11 (legislative day JULY 10), 2024-Ordered to be printed

# Mr. REED, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

## REPORT

## [To accompany S. 4678]

The Committee on Appropriations reports the bill (S. 4678) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

Amount of new budget (obligational) authority

Total of bill as reported to the Senate	\$4,912,845,000
Amount of 2024 appropriations	4,731,750,000
Amount of 2025 budget estimate	5,191,983,000
Bill as recommended to Senate compared to—	
2024 appropriations	+181,095,000
2025 budget estimate	$-279,\!138,\!000$

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## GENERAL STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The Legislative Branch appropriations bill provides funding for the Congress and for the agencies that serve the Congress. Multiple agencies funded through this bill provide oversight of executive branch agencies, including objective, nonpartisan, and timely audits and analysis of Federal programs. The funding in this bill also ensures that the public has permanent access to printed and electronic information products of the Federal Government. All accounts in the bill have been examined in detail to ensure that the funding provided is appropriate for the agencies to carry out their responsibilities and to continue to respond to Congress in a timely and accurate manner. Details on the accounts, the funding levels provided, and the Committee's justification for the funding levels are included in the explanatory statement. Conforming to longstanding practice under which each body of Congress determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, funds for neither the House of Representatives nor House office buildings are included in the bill. Similarly, the House will consider a Legislative Branch appropriations bill that addresses House but not Senate funding.

The Committee recommends new budget (obligational) authority of \$4,913,845,000 for the legislative branch for fiscal year 2025. This amount excludes House items as per normal protocol. This total is \$279,138,000 below the fiscal year 2025 budget request and \$181,269,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation.

The bill includes \$1,337,582,000 for the operations of the Senate, which is \$83,039,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$31,484,000 below fiscal year 2025 request. The bill includes \$737,990,000 for the Architect of the Capitol, excluding the House Office Buildings, to maintain, improve, and construct buildings and facilities for the Congress. The recommendation for the Architect of the Capitol is \$120,914,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request and \$42,897,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation. The recommendation provides for needed upgrades to project management systems, supports the day-to-day operations of each jurisdiction, and allows for the most critical capital improvements across campus. The bill also includes \$832,556,000 for the Capitol Police; \$883.139.000 Government Accountability for  $\mathbf{the}$ Office: \$878,786,000 for the Library of Congress; and \$133,425,000 for the Government Publishing Office.

The Committee directs legislative branch departments and agencies to ensure that all reports are completed in the timeframe noted in each respective directive. All legislative branch departments and agencies are reminded that funding should be utilized according to congressional intent and that reallocations or repurposing of funds, whether within or above reprogramming thresholds, should be done with the intent for the appropriation of the specific funding in mind.

Reprogramming Guidelines.—The Committee expects all agencies to notify the Committee of any significant departures from budget plans presented to the Committee in any agency's budget justifications. The Committee recommendation grants limited reprogramming authorities to ensure that funds are devoted to the highest priorities, particularly due to changes in circumstances. In particular, agencies funded through this bill are required to notify the Committee prior to any reprogramming of funds in excess of the lesser of 10 percent or \$750,000 between programs, projects or activities, or in excess of \$750,000 between object classifications (except for shifts within the pay categories, object class 11, 12, and 13 or as further specified in each agency's respective section). This includes cumulative reprogrammings that together total at least \$750,000 from or to a particular program, activity, or object classification as well as reprogramming full time equivalents [FTE] or funds to create new organizational entities within the agency or to restructure entities that already exist.

In addition, the Committee must be notified of reprogramming actions that involve less than the above-mentioned amounts if such actions would have the effect of changing an agency's funding requirements in future years or if programs or projects specifically cited in the Committee' reports are affected.

Prior to initial obligation or reallocation of funds, all Congressional reprogramming notifications shall, to the maximum extent practicable, contain detailed information about the sources of the funds and why such funds are no longer intended to be used as previously justified. The Committee expects that the conditions associated with funding appropriated by this Act shall be accomplished in the manner as directed in the report, consistent with congressional intent.

*Full-Time Equivalents [FTE].*—The Committee directs that budget justifications sent to the Committee shall include a comparison of FTE based on the number of FTE supported by the funding provided in the current enacted appropriations legislation and the number of FTE that would be supported by the funding requested for the following fiscal year.

Science and Technology Assistance for Congress.—The Committee notes the interest among some Members over the past several years to reinstitute the Office of Technology Assessment [OTA], which was de-funded in 1995. In fiscal year 2019, the Committee instructed the National Academy of Public Administration [NAPA] to conduct a study to determine the best way to increase Congress' access to needed in-depth analysis of fast-breaking technology developments. The NAPA report, released in November 2019, recommended strengthening the capacity of the Government Accountability Office [GAO] and Congressional Research Service [CRS] in technology assessment rather than restarting OTA. The Committee remains pleased with the efforts of both CRS and GAO to respond to the concerns of Congress and increase the depth and breadth of their capacities to provide research and policy analysis on current and emerging legislative issues related to science and technology [S&T] and Federal uses and oversight of S&T. The Committee encourages CRS to continue to hire additional staff for its specialized teams working on S&T issues in order to expand its capacity and expertise and allow CRS to meet the growing need of Congress for timely, complex, and multidisciplinary analysis of policy issues related to these rapidly changing technologies, the effects of Federal government in oversight of such technologies, and the effects of the Federal government S&T policies across all sectors. The Committee also encourages CRS to increase outreach efforts to make Members and congressional staff more aware of the resources it provides related to S&T issues Congress is examining.

Additionally, in 2019 the GAO established a Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics [STAA] team to better address the evolving and time-sensitive needs of Congress. The Committee encourages the GAO to continue to strengthen its STAA team and the Innovation Lab to increase the depth, breadth, and diversity of knowledge available to meet congressional needs.

As a result, the bill provides the full request for CRS and GAO in these areas to strengthen S&T programs. The Committee will continue to review the work of CRS and the GAO to see if other steps are needed in the future.

Żero-Based Budgeting.—The Committee continues to direct all legislative branch agencies to develop budget requests from a zerobase. Budget justifications should provide sufficient detailed information on all requested funding requirements to allow the Committee to make informed funding decisions.

Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act.—The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act, or GAO–IG Act (Public Law 115–414) requires that each Federal agency, including the agencies of the legislative branch, include an accounting of any public recommendations by the Government Accountability Office or the agency's Office of Inspector General that have not yet been implemented and the timeframe for implementation.

Each legislative branch agency is directed to continue to address recommendations from oversight entities, such as the GAO and OIGs, in a timely manner and to request resources, as appropriate, to fully implement these recommendations. Legislative branch agencies are directed to develop corrective action plans that include timelines for completion of open recommendations, to include reasons for the recommendation remaining open and the cost proposals for fully implementing each unresolved oversight recommendation. It is expected that each agency in this bill include such a report in its fiscal year 2026 congressional budget justification.

Offices of Inspectors General [OIG] Budgets.—The Committee believes it is important to ensure independence between legislative branch OIGs and their respective reporting agencies and expects a separate section included in each agency's fiscal year 2026 budget justification reflecting a detailed budget request for the agency's OIG. These requests should be submitted without change by the agency. Agencies are reminded that FTEs and operating funds provided to Office of Inspectors Generals in appropriation should be provided as directed and funds should remain available to the OIG throughout the entirety of the fiscal year. Additionally, the Committee directs each OIG to keep the Committee fully apprised of its funding needs. The Committee also directs each agency to avoid interfering with or requiring approval for such communications.

Congressional Requirements for Legislative Branch Cyber and Physical Data Security to Assure Resilience.-The Committee directs Legislative Branch agencies to continue to take proactive steps to fully protect critical Information Technology [IT] infrastructure, including prevention of cyberattacks, assuring secure data storage, and ensuring continuity of government operations for all Branch agencies. The Committee reiterates prior direction that legislative branch agencies utilize computing and cloud facilities designed for concurrent maintainability and consider geographic diversity in data center locations. The Committee directs each agency to refine and improve their detailed implementation plans for robust, secure, and resilient data center infrastructure, as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Acts in 2022, 2023 and 2024; further, agencies are required to provide cost estimates for full compliance with the above directive. In addition, the Committee expects agencies to continue to provide quarterly progress reports to the Committee.

Cybersecurity for the Legislative Branch.—Legislative branch agencies are charged with combating cyber-attacks that could disrupt Congress' ability to perform its constitutional duties. Accordingly, the legislative branch agencies, including the U.S. Senate, must have the tools and resources necessary to defend our networks against sophisticated adversaries. The Committee recommendation includes funding requested by legislative branch agencies in fiscal year 2025 to strengthen cyber defenses. Each legislative branch agency shall continue to provide quarterly briefings to the Committee on Appropriation on the status of its cybersecurity program, to include milestones, significant activities, challenges, and the status of the execution of funding provided for this purpose.

Legislative Branch Support Agency Information Working Group.—The Committee understands the importance of data access to certain of the legislative branch agencies' missions. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Congressional Budget Office, the Library of Congress, and the Government Accountability Office to continue to provide a briefing on the efforts of the working group to identify the challenges they face in obtaining timely, detailed, and sufficient access to Federal agency information. The working group should continue to develop options for ensuring that legislative branch agencies have access to the information they need at the time, in the formats and level of detail necessary for them to complete their work. The task force shall continue to meet from time to time to monitor the situation and make recommendations to the relevant committees, as appropriate.

Proximity Card Program.—While the Committee appreciates the work of the Security Working Group and the joint efforts of various stakeholders to respond to community requests, the Committee is concerned at the lack of a campus-wide plan for the proximity card reader program. The program is currently being administered on an ad-hoc basis without a comprehensive plan for funding, installation, administration, or maintenance. The Committee directs the relevant stakeholders, including the AOC, the USCP, and the SAA, to jointly brief the Committee and the Committee on Rules and Administration within 60 days of the enactment of this act on a proposed plan to continue the proximity card reader program. The briefing should include information and metrics on the assessment process, the current and future program scope, the successes and challenges of administering the program, and the expected joint costs in future fiscal years.

Use of Government Vehicles.—Legislative branch agencies are reminded that Federal Government vehicles are to be utilized for official government business only and are not to be used for general personal use. In fiscal year 2023, all legislative branch agencies were directed to implement policies regarding the acquisition and use of Federal Government vehicles, including price limitations, equipment installation, and lifecycle replacement procedures.

Further, all legislative branch agencies were required to implement internal controls over home-to-work vehicle programs where vehicles are issued to employees for the purposes of responding to their assignment to fulfill an official duty in a timely manner. These controls were to include an annual recertification of hometo-work justifications for any vehicle assigned to agency personnel for this purpose. This process was required to include the justification for the issuance of the home-to-work vehicle, the estimated roundtrip mileage for the vehicle to and from the employee's residence on a daily basis, and the estimated cost to the agency resulting from the assignment of the vehicle.

Within 30 days of enactment of this act, legislative branch agencies shall provide an updated detailed report to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate on agency internal controls, policies and procedures for the use of government vehicles, to include home-to-work justifications, as described above.

Single-Use Plastic.—Since fiscal year 2019, each Legislative Branch Appropriations Act has included a provision that directs all agencies and offices funded by this act with a food service provider to reduce plastic waste. The Architect of the Capitol [AOC], which holds the contract with the primary food service provider in the Senate, has worked to reduce plastic waste within its operations in the Senate. The AOC is expected to continue this effort, including options for utilizing high content recycled products. The Committee continues the directive contained in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 117–328 regarding the report on products currently in use.

*Child Care.*—The Committee believes that access to licensed and certified child care is critical for recruiting and retaining personnel within offices and committees of the Senate and other legislative branch entities. The Committee also recognizes that onsite child care centers are critical to the work-life balance of legislative branch personnel. The Committee recognizes that the child care requirements of the legislative branch entities far exceeds the capacity of established child care centers within the branch. The Committee directs the Architect of the Capitol to refresh its study done in accordance with the directive contained in Senate Report 115–274. The updated review shall be completed within 180 days of en-

actment of this act. Further, the Architect is directed to brief the Committee on its findings and proposed recommendations. Support for Nursing Mothers.—The Committee continues to en-

courage legislative branch entities to enhance the locations and access to spaces dedicated for the use of nursing mothers. The Committee notes that the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-47) provided the AOC with \$1,000,000 to retrofit certain nursing mothers' locations across the Capitol complex. The Committee directs the AOC to brief the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate not later than 60 days after enactment of this act on which lactation rooms were retrofitted and the improvements made to such rooms. Further, the Committee directs the AOC to conduct a survey within 120 days of enactment of this act of users and potential users of lactation rooms across the Capitol complex to better understand the use of such rooms, the need for additional locations and the potential for additional retrofits that may be necessary to better meet the needs of nursing mothers. The AOC is directed to provide the results of the survey and brief the Committee not later than 30 days after the completion of such sur-

vey. Locality Pay.—The Committee believes employees of Legislative Branch agencies should be receiving correct locality pay. The Committee encourages Legislative Branch agencies to ensure proper review and procedures for providing employees the correct locality pay.

*Bicycle Access.*—The Committees directs the USCP, AOC, and the Senate SAA to continue to work with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation to determine if a protected bike lane on Louisiana Avenue can be safely developed to connect residents, commuters, and tourists to the U.S. Capitol, Union Station, and the National Mall.

Legislative Branch Agencies—Reporting.—The Committee directs legislative branch agencies and departments to submit within 30 days of enactment of this act an annual operating plan for the execution of funds appropriated for its programs and quarterly execution reports thereafter that provide execution data against the annual operating plan. These controls will allow the Committee to conduct necessary oversight of the utilization of funding against the implementation and continuance of programs and initiatives for which appropriated funding was provided. These quarterly reports should include information regarding deviations, transfers, or reprogramming of funds for activities other than those included in the agencies annual operating plan.

## TITLE I

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

## SENATE

## EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

Appropriations, 2024	\$195,000
Budget estimate, 2025	195,000
Committee recommendation	195,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$195,000 for the expense allowances of the Vice President, the President Pro Tempore and President Pro Tempore Emeritus of the Senate, the majority and minority leaders, the majority and minority whips, the chairmen of the majority and minority conference committees, and the chairmen of the majority and minority policy committees. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and the fiscal year 2025 request. The recommended allowances are as follows: For the expense allowance of the Vice President, the Committee recommends an amount of \$20,000. For the expense allowance of the President Pro Tempore, the Committee recommends an amount of \$40,000. For the expense allowance of the President Pro Tempore Emeritus, the Committee recommends an amount of \$15,000. For the expense allowance of the majority and minority leaders, the Committee recommends \$40,000 for each leader, for a total of \$80,000. For the expense allowance of the majority and minority whips, the Committee recommends \$10,000 for each whip, for a total of \$20,000. For the expense allowance for the chairmen of the majority and minority conference committees, the Committee recommends \$5,000 for each chairman, for a total of \$10,000. For the expense allowance for the chairmen of the majority and minor-ity policy committees, the Committee recommends \$5,000 for each chairman, for a total of \$10,000. Expenditures from all the foregoing allowances are made upon certification from the individuals for whom the allowances are authorized, and are reported semiannually in the report of the Secretary of the Senate.

#### REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

Appropriations, 2024	\$30,000
Budget estimate, 2025	30,000
Committee recommendation	30,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$30,000 for representation allowances for the majority and minority leaders. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and the fiscal year 2025 request. This allowance was established in the Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1985 (Public Law 99–88). The funds were authorized to be used by the majority and minority leaders solely for the discharge of their appropriate responsibilities in connection with official visits to the United States by members of foreign legislative bodies and representatives of foreign governments and intergovernmental agencies. The recommended amount is to be divided equally between the two leaders. Expenditures from this allowance are made upon certification of the leaders and are reported in the semiannual report of the Secretary of the Senate.

## SALARIES, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES

Appropriations, 2024	\$277,838,000
Budget estimate, 2025	304,036,000
Committee recommendation	293,770,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$293,770,000 for the subaccounts funded under the overall account for the salaries of officers and employees of the Senate. The recommendation is \$15,932,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$10,266,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. It should be noted that, except for a handful of positions in the Offices of the Secretary and the Sergeant at Arms that are required by statute, specific staffing levels are not stipulated either by the budget request or by the Committee's recommendation. Rather, lump-sum allowances are provided to fund staffing levels that each office finds necessary and appropriate for the performance of its duties. Estimated staffing levels for offices funded under this appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are approximately 1,668 positions.

## SALARIES, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES

	Fiscal year 2025 Request	Fiscal year 2025 Committee recommendation
Office of the Vice President	\$3,095,000	\$3,102,000
Office of the President Pro Tempore	888,000	873,000
Office of the President Pro Tempore Emeritus	384,000	377,000
Offices of the majority and minority leaders	6,590,000	6,486,000
Offices of the majority and minority whips	4,136,000	4,070,000
Conference committees	4,026,000	3,960,000
Offices of the secretaries of the conference of the majority and the conference of the minority	1,002,000	986,000
Policy committees	4,110,000	4,044,000
Office of the Chaplain	639,000	616,000
Office of the Secretary	31,819,000	32,462,000
Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper	132,863,000	121,739,000
Offices of the secretaries for the majority and minority	2,782,000	2,689,000
Totals	192,334,000	181,398,000

Any change from the allocation of funds in the subaccounts within this appropriation is subject to the approval of the Committee. The total amount appropriated is allocated to the various offices of the Senate as displayed under the headings for the offices that follow.

## OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Appropriations, 2024	\$3,000,000
Budget estimate, 2025	3,095,000
Committee recommendation	3,102,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,102,000 to fund the salaries of the administrative and clerical staff of the Office of the Vice President in connection with her duties as the President of the Senate.

#### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Appropriations, 2024	\$843,000
Budget estimate, 2025	888,000
Committee recommendation	873,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$873,000 for the Office of the President Pro Tempore.

#### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE EMERITUS

Appropriations, 2024	\$364,000
Budget Estimate, 2025	384,000
Committee recommendation	377,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$377,000 for the Office of the President Pro Tempore Emeritus.

OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

Appropriations, 2024	\$6,272,000
Budget estimate, 2025	6,590,000
Committee recommendation	6,486,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$6,486,000 for the offices of the majority and minority leaders. The amount recommended is to be equally divided, providing \$3,243,000 for each office. The administrative and clerical staffs funded by this appropriation were authorized under the provisions of Public Law 91– 145, effective November 1, 1969.

## OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY WHIPS

Appropriations, 2024	\$3,934,000
Budget estimate, 2025	4,136,000
Committee recommendation	4,070,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,070,000 for the offices of the majority and minority whips. It is to be equally divided, providing \$2,035,000 for each office. The authority for the administrative and clerical staff funded by this appropriation was created by Public Law 84–242, effective July 1, 1955.

## COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Appropriations, 2024	\$19,319,000
Budget estimate, 2025	19,633,000
Committee recommendation	20,785,000

For the salaries of the staff of the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$20,785,000.

#### CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Appropriations, 2024	\$3,828,000
Budget estimate, 2025	4,026,000
Committee recommendation	3,960,000

For the administrative and clerical staffs of the majority and minority conference committees, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,960,000. The appropriation provides \$1,980,000 in salaries for the staff of each conference committee. The chairman of each conference committee may transfer to or from amounts provided for salaries of each conference to the account for conference committee expenses within the "Miscellaneous Items" appropriation.

#### OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE MINORITY

Appropriations, 2024	\$952,000
Budget estimate, 2025	1,002,000
Committee recommendation	986,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$986,000 for the majority and minority conference secretaries. These offices were created by section 6 of Senate Resolution 17, agreed to January 10, 1977, and two positions in each office were first funded in the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1977 (Public Law 95–26). Section 102 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1979 (Public Law 96–38), abolished the specific positions and established a lump-sum allowance for the employment of staff, effective October 1, 1979. The amount recommended is to be divided equally between the majority secretary and the minority secretary.

#### POLICY COMMITTEES

Appropriations, 2024	\$3,910,000
Budget estimate, 2025	4,110,000
Committee recommendation	4.044.000

For the salaries of the administrative and clerical staffs of the majority and minority policy committees, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,044,000. The appropriation provides \$2,022,000 in salaries for the staff of each committee. The chairman of each policy committee may transfer to or from amounts provided for salaries of each policy committee to the account for policy committee expenses within the "Miscellaneous Items" appropriation.

#### OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN

Appropriations, 2024	\$606,000
Budget estimate, 2025	639,000
Committee recommendation	616,000

For the Office of the Chaplain, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$616,000. The amount recommended provides the salaries for the Chaplain of the Senate and support staff to assist the Chaplain with his pastoral duties. The Office of the Chaplain may transfer to or from amounts provided for salaries to the account for expenses within the "Miscellaneous Items" appropriation.

#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Appropriations, 2024	\$30,288,000
Budget estimate, 2025	31,819,000
Committee recommendation	32,462,000

The Committee recommends \$32,462,000 for salaries of the Office of the Secretary. Fiscal year 2025 staffing levels are estimated at 262 positions. This appropriation provides funds for four statutory positions (Secretary of the Senate, Assistant Secretary of the Senate, Financial Clerk of the Senate, and Parliamentarian of the Senate) and lump-sum allowances for the employment and adjustment of salaries of personnel in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, as authorized by Public Law 97-51, effective October 1, 1981 (2 U.S.C. 6539). The following departmental guidelines for fiscal year 2025 have been submitted by the Secretary to the Committee. The departmental budgets under executive offices include: the Executive Office of the Secretary of the Senate, Page School, Senate Security, Information Systems, and Web Technology. The departmental budgets grouped under administrative services include the following: conservation and preservation, curator, disbursing office, gift shop, historical office, human resources, inter-parliamentary services, library, printing and document services, public records, chief counsel for employment, and the stationery room. The departmental budgets grouped under legislative services include the following: the bill clerk, daily digest, enrolling clerk, journal clerk, legislative clerk, Official Reporters of Debates, captioning services, executive clerk, Legislative Information System project office, and Parliamentarian. The Committee provides these funds to the Secretary of the Senate without apportionment in the interest of facilitating financial management duties and restructuring that occurs from time to time. The Committee expects to be notified in writing in a timely manner of any changes to the staffing levels, distribution of staff, or related funding.

#### OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER

Appropriations, 2024	\$115,875,000
Budget estimate, 2025	132,863,000
Committee recommendation	121,739,000

This appropriation provides funds for the salaries of three statutory positions (Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, and Administrative Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper) and lump-sum allowances for employment and adjustments of salaries of personnel in the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, as authorized by Public Law 97–51, effective October 1, 1981 (2 U.S.C. 6597). The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$121,739,000 for fiscal year 2025, which supports a staffing level of 1,054 FTEs. The recommendation includes funding to enhance the information technology operations in the Senate; continue implementation of a Unified Communications system; and fully support the continued initiative to expand the Senate's cybersecurity capabilities. The Committee expects to be updated regularly as the SAA develops its strategic plan to modernize and harden the Senate's cyber defense. The Sergeant at Arms is the chief law enforcement officer, the chief protocol officer, and an executive officer of the Senate.

To fulfill these responsibilities, the Sergeant at Arms operates through four principal units:

- -The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness prepares the Senate to respond to a full spectrum of emergencies that may disrupt normal business operations. This preparation includes programs that support life safety, intelligence, security, and continuity of operations policies and programs throughout the U.S. Senate, including Senate home State offices, as well as strategic and analytic assistance to the Sergeant at Arms in her capacity as Chairman or Member of the Capitol Police Board and Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the Senate.
- -Capitol Operations is responsible for many of the services provided within the Capitol building that support the day-to-day operation of the Senate. Services include Chamber operations maintained by the Doorkeepers; official business visitor processing provided by the Senate Appointment Desks; as well as credentialing and interfacing with the news media via the Senate Media Galleries. In addition, the Senate Recording Studio provides audio and video services.
- —The Operations Division provides an array of services to the Senate community to include identification, transportation, parking, and photographic services; printing, publishing, graphic design, and framing services; and USPS mail screening, and mailing and package delivery services. Operations furnishes and maintains the Senate side of the Capitol Building and supports the maintenance of Senate State offices.
- -The Office of the Chief Information Officer [OCIO] builds, operates, and supports the Senate's information infrastructure. The OCIO is responsible for information security, technology infusion, telecommunications, helpdesk, IT systems to support Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government, enterprise computing systems, data networks, web services and hosting, system development, and office equipment. Executive and other offices provide general management, human resource, financial, and training support to the Senate. The offices and personnel covered by this appropriation are shown in the following table.

Office of Protective Services and Continuity Capitol Operations Operations Chief Information Officer	125 178 199 386 166
Total	1,054

The Committee provides these funds to the Sergeant at Arms without apportionment in the interest of facilitating financial management duties and restructuring that occurs from time to time. The Committee expects to be notified in writing in a timely manner of any changes to the staffing levels, distribution of staff, or related funding.

Security and Emergency Preparedness.—The Committee provides full funding for the Office of Security, Emergency Preparedness and Continuity's request for 1 new FTE to support the physical security of Senators, staff, and visitors to the Capitol and surrounding buildings, including the Senate Residential Security System Program to support the safety of Senators and their families at their residence. The Committee also expects the SAA to continue increasing its outreach efforts to offices to improve security coordination and emergency preparedness, including creating better awareness of Senators' activities off of the Capitol campus; educating and training staff to identify and alert the SAA and the Capitol Police of events or activities that may warrant a threat assessment; facilitating threat assessments and security coordination with the USCP as well as Federal, State, and local law enforcement, as appropriate; and informing and updating Members and Senate staff on emergency preparedness training and other resources available to them.

*Employee Assistance Program.*—The Committee fully funds the requested increase for SAA to expand resources, including adding personnel, providing additional website services and supplementing existing resources with new options, such as transcendental meditation instruction, to meet increased demand and support the mental and emotional health needs and well-being of the Senate community.

Office Cybersecurity.—The Committee expects SAA to utilize funds provided for fiscal year 2025 to continue to conduct thirdparty cybersecurity auditing services and resiliency assessments for all Senate offices and committees to protect the privacy and integrity of office networks; provide enhanced cybersecurity training for each Senate office; institute protections against insider threats; and institute and operationalize enhanced privacy protections within the Senate network.

Intern Resources.—The Committee provides the FTEs and resources to support the Intern Resource operations within the SAA. This office shall serve as a resource office for both interns and the individual employing offices, while supporting and respecting the independent implementation of the program within individual employing offices.

#### OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY

Appropriations, 2024	\$2,644,000
Budget estimate, 2025	2,782,000
Committee recommendation	2,689,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,689,000 for the offices of the secretaries for the majority and minority. The appropriation is to be equally divided, providing \$1,344,500 for each office.

#### AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS

Appropriations, 2024	\$86,003,000
Budget estimate, 2025	92,069,000
Committee recommendation	91,581,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$91,581,000 for agency contributions for employees paid under certain appropriations, including "Salaries, officers, and employees," "Joint Economic Committee," "Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate," and "Office of Senate Legal Counsel." Agency contributions include the Senate's contributions as an employer to the Civil Service Retirement System, the Federal Employees' Retirement System, the Thrift Savings Plan, Federal employee group life insurance, Federal employee health insurance programs, and payments required by the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. The Senate is required by law to make these payments, and the total required is dependent upon the number of Senate employees, their compensation levels, the benefit programs in which they are enrolled, and the extent of the benefits elected.

## OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE SENATE

Appropriations, 2024	\$8,650,000
Budget estimate, 2025	9,450,000
Committee recommendation	9,094,000

For the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$9,094,000. This amount provides for the salaries and expenses of the office. Funding necessary to cover agency contributions for employees of the Office of Legislative Counsel of the Senate is included in the Committee's recommendation for the "Agency Contributions" heading, which is a subheading of the "Salaries, officers, and employees" appropriation.

## OFFICE OF SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Appropriations, 2024	\$1,365,000
Budget estimate, 2025	1,429,000
Committee recommendation	1,387,000

The Office of Senate Legal Counsel was established pursuant to section 701 of Public Law 95–521. The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,387,000 for the Office of Senate Legal Counsel. The amount provided pays for the salaries and expenses of the office. Funding necessary to cover agency contributions for employees of the office of Senate Legal Counsel is included in the Committee's recommendation for the "Agency Contributions" heading, which is a subheading of the "Salaries, officers, and employees" appropriation.

## EXPENSE ALLOWANCES OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, SER-GEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE, AND SECRE-TARIES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY OF THE SENATE

Appropriations, 2024	\$30,000
Budget estimate, 2025	30,000
Committee recommendation	30,000

Section 119 of Public Law 97–51 authorized an expense allowance for the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, the Secretary for the Majority, and the Secretary for the Minority. Since fiscal year 1983, the amount has been provided through a direct appropriation. The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$30,000 providing an allowance of \$7,500 for each office.

## CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE

## INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

Appropriations, 2023	\$174,000,000
Budget estimate, 2024	187,200,000
Committee recommendation	187,200,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$187,200,000 for inquiries and investigations by Senate standing, special, and select committees, of which \$18,720,000 shall be available until September 30, 2026. The recommendation is \$13,200,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and equal to the fiscal year 2025 request. This appropriation funds the liquidation of obligations incurred by committees under the authorization provided in Committee funding resolutions at the beginning of each new Congress.

Committee Intern Pay.—Senate committees have the authority and sufficient resources needed to pay committee interns from within funding made available to committees. The Committee reiterates that the significant increase provided to this account will more than allow for committees to pay their interns if they so choose. The Committee advises any committee that wishes to seek additional funding for intern pay to include such an increase in its budget request to the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, so that this Committee can fully consider the needs of Senate committees under such budgetary advisement.

#### U.S. SENATE CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL

Appropriations, 2024	\$582,000
Budget estimate, 2025	610,000
Committee recommendation	591,000

The Committee recommends \$591,000 for the expenses of the U.S. Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control. Established in 1985 by the Foreign Relations Authorization Act (Public Law 99–93), the Caucus was created to monitor and promote international compliance with narcotics control treaties and monitor and encourage U.S. Government and private programs seeking to expand international cooperation against drug abuse. The Caucus is composed of seven Senators, four from the majority party and three from the minority party, with a chair from the majority party and a co-chair from the minority party.

#### SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Appropriations, 2024	\$17,494,000
Budget estimate, 2025	17,500,000
Committee recommendation	17,299,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$17,299,000 for expenses of the Office of the Secretary. The recommendation is \$195,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$201,000 below to the fiscal year 2025 request. Of the total provided, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,425,000 to remain available until expended, of which \$3,825,000 is for Financial Management Information System Modernization [FMIS] enhancements, and \$12,874,000 to remain available until September 30, 2029, of which \$5,974,000 is for the Senate Information Services program and \$5,600,000 is for FMIS support. The Secretary of the Senate shall continue to provide semi-annual updates to the Committee on FMIS progress starting within 30 days of enactment of this act. The Committee provides these funds to the Secretary of the Senate without apportionment in the interest of facilitating financial management duties and restructuring that occurs from time to time. The Committee expects notification in writing in a timely manner of any cumulative changes in excess of 10 percent to the funding levels between programs, projects, or activities. Typical expenditures of the Secretary of the Senate include:

*Consultants.*—Funding is provided for not to exceed two individual consultants as authorized by section 110 of Public Law 95-94, August 5, 1977, which amends section 101 of Public Law 95-26, May 4, 1977. Consultants employed under this authority shall not be paid in excess of the per diem equivalent of the highest gross rate of annual compensation, which may be paid to employees of a standing committee of the Senate.

Legal Reference Volumes.—Funding is provided to furnish U.S. Senators with volumes of the U.S. Code Annotated or U.S. Code service, pocket parts and supplements, as authorized by Public Law 92–51, July 9, 1971. The Disbursing Office is responsible for providing the U.S. Code Annotated or the U.S. Code Service to Senators when they assume office and upon receipt of a written request of a Senator.

Contractual Legal and Administrative Services and Miscellaneous Expenses.—Funding is provided for various contractual, administrative, and miscellaneous expenses incurred by the Office of the Secretary. In addition, the Office of the Secretary has incurred various types of legal and other expenses, which have been authorized by the Senate. Funding is provided for contractual and other expenses necessary to update and publish the Senate's legislative precedents and procedure documentation. Administrative services and miscellaneous expenses are housekeeping expenses of the Office of the Secretary.

Travel and Registration Fees.—Funding is provided for travel expenses and registration fees incurred by the Secretary of the Senate and the employees of the Office of the Secretary. This line item excludes funding for travel expenses for the Federal Election Campaign Act under the Office of Public Records, which is provided separately under the authority of Public Law 92–342. The authority for the travel portion of this account was provided for by section 101 of Public Law 94–59, July 25, 1975.

Orientation and Training.—Funding is provided for expenses incurred by the Secretary of the Senate to conduct orientation seminars or similar meetings for Senators, Senate officials, or members of staffs of Senators or Senate officials, not to exceed \$30,000 under the authority of 2 U.S.C. 6514. The Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate is also authorized under these provisions to conduct seminars or similar meetings in the same manner and to the same extent as the Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

*Postage.*—This account also provides funding for postage for the Office of the Secretary of the Senate for special delivery, registered mail, and additional postage not covered under the frank.

*Education of Senate Pages.*—Funding is provided for the education of Senate pages. Senate Resolution 184, July 29, 1983, authorized the Secretary of the Senate to provide such educational services and items in such manner as the Secretary may deem appropriate. Public Law 98–125, October 13, 1983, amended Public Law 98–51, July 14, 1983, striking out the heading and paragraph "Education of Pages" under the heading "Joint Items", and redesignated the funds provided in Public Law 98–51.

Stationery.—Funding is provided for stationery supplies for the Office of the Secretary of the Senate. The funds provided have been allocated to the various departments of the Office of the Secretary.

Senate Commission on Art.—Funding is provided for the Senate Commission on Art, authorized by Public Law 100–696, November 18, 1988, as amended, and Public Law 108–83, September 30, 2003, as amended to acquire, accept, supervise, hold, place, protect, make known, conserve, restore, replicate, or replace any work of art, historical object, documents, or material relating to historical matters, or exhibits for placement or exhibition within the Senate wing of the Capitol, any Senate office building, or in rooms, spaces, or corridors thereof, and to publish as a Senate document a list of all works of art, historical objects, and exhibits currently within the Senate wing of the Capitol and Senate office buildings. The Senate Commission on Art was formerly the Commission on Arts and Antiquities of the United States Senate, which was authorized by Senate Resolution 382, October 1, 1968, as amended by Senate Resolution 95, April 1, 1977, and Senate Resolution 400, March 23, 1988.

Representation Expenses.—Funding is provided, not to exceed \$50,000, to the Secretary of the Senate to coordinate and carry out responsibilities in connection with foreign parliamentary groups or other foreign officials visiting the United States. Authorized by section 2, chapter VIII of Public Law 100–71, November 21, 1989, as amended.

Office of Conservation and Preservation.—Funding is provided for the Office of Conservation and Preservation to develop and coordinate programs directly related to the conservation and protection of Senate records and materials for which the Secretary of the Senate has statutory authority.

Book Preservation.—Funding is provided for the Office of Conservation and Preservation to use outside sources for the preservation and protection of the Senate book collection, including historically valuable documents under the care of the Secretary of the Senate.

Office of Public Records.—Funding is provided for expenses of the Office of Public Records. This office has evolved through various pieces of legislation and various responsibilities authorized by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, the Ethics in Government Act, as amended, and the Lobbying Disclosure Act, as amended. The Office of Public Records is mentioned for the first time in Public Law 93–145, November 1, 1973, which authorizes the Secretary of the Senate to appoint and fix the compensation of a superintendent and other positions for the Office of Public Records. In addition, under the authority of Public Law 95–521, October 26, 1978 (Ethics in Government Act) reports filed under section 101 shall be available for public inspection and a copy of the report shall be provided to any person upon request. Any person requesting a copy of a report may be required to pay a reasonable fee to cover the cost of reproduction. Any moneys received by the Secretary shall be deposited into the Office of Public Records Revolving Fund under the authority of Public Law 101–163, November 21, 1989. The office also performs functions such as registration of mass mailings.

Disbursing Office.—Funding is provided for expenses incurred in the operation of the disbursing office. Typical expenses for this office include notary bonds, seals, and necessary supplies in conjunction with the various machinery maintained in the office, which are not available in the stationery room.

Office of Captioning Services.—Funding is provided for the closed captioning of the televised Senate floor proceedings for the hearing impaired. Closed captioning was first authorized under Public Law 101–163, November 21, 1989.

Senate Chief Counsel for Employment.—Funding is provided for the Office of the Senate Chief Counsel for Employment. This office is a nonpartisan office formed in May 1993 at the direction of the joint leadership and is charged with providing legal advice and representation of Senate offices in all areas of employment law.

#### SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Appropriations, 2024	\$194,942,000
Budget estimate, 2025	241,191,000
Committee recommendation	204,000,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$204,000,000 for expenses of the Sergeant at Arms, which is \$9,058,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$37,191,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Of the total provided, \$190,223,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028 and \$13,777,000 is to remain available until expended, to include \$5,000,000 for Senate hearing room audiovisual equipment improvements, as requested in the fiscal year 2025 budget, \$2,500,000 for the residential security systems program, and \$6,277,000 to support the Sergeant at Arms Fellowships program.

The following table compares the fiscal year 2025 Committee recommendation for the component categories within this account to the fiscal year 2025 budget request.

EXPENSES-OFFICE	OF TH	e sergeant	AT	ARMS	AND	DOORKEEPER

	Fiscal year 2025 request	Committee recommendation
Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness	\$4,991,000	\$3,770,000
Capitol Operations	5,839,000	5,145,000
Operations	4,706,000	4,011,000
Chief Information Officer	182,654,000	151,488,000
Executive and Other Offices	35,251,000	32,086,000
Beater Residential Security System Program	2,500,000	2,500,000
Hearing Room Audiovisual Equipment	5,000,000	5,000,000
Grand Total	241,191,000	204,000,000

The Committee provides these funds to the Sergeant at Arms without apportionment in the interest of facilitating financial management duties and restructuring that occurs from time to time. The Committee expects to be notified in writing in a timely manner of any cumulative changes in excess of 10 percent to the funding levels between programs, projects, or activities.

Hearing Room Audiovisual Equipment.—The Committee recommends \$5,000,000 in no-year funding to partially or fully renovate two to four hearing rooms per year, as per the request. The audiovisual equipment and systems in these hearing rooms has or will soon exceed their useful life and must be replaced. The failure of hearing room audiovisual systems has disrupted several highprofile hearings in recent years, and represents a problem that will only grow worse as the equipment and systems reach their useful life. The Committee expects the SAA to continue working with the Architect of the Capitol and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration to develop a replacement plan to avoid equipment failure.

Unified Communications and Collaboration [UCC] System.—The Committee directs the SAA to provide quarterly updates to the Committee on the implementation of the UCC system through complete implementation of the program.

Captioning Services.—The Committee directs the Secretary of the Senate, in coordination with the Sergeant-at-Arms, to provide an update to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of the act on the ongoing efforts to increase captioning services for various operational functions within the Senate, to include the use of emerging technologies for this purpose. Training to "Stop the Bleed".—For the past several years, the

Training to "Stop the Bleed".—For the past several years, the SAA has offered Senate staff the opportunity to train in Tactical Combat Casualty Care, also known as "Stop the Bleed" training, which increases survivability from mass shootings and other casualty events causing life-threatening external bleeding. The Committee supports the SAA Office of Security, Emergency Preparedness and Continuity's continued utilization of "Stop the Bleed" training on the Capitol campus so that more Senate staff know how to respond to and administer basic bleeding control techniques to individuals with trauma if such a situation arises and for emergency preparedness purposes.

Accessibility.—The Committee recognizes the importance for the Senate to incorporate accessibility features for people with disabilities into plans for new initiatives. Further, the Committee recognizes that including accessibility features in new systems and processes, such as software, building designs, and security procedures, at the start of such plans makes accessibility less expensive to achieve. The Committee directs Senate entities contracting services to, as feasible, build accessibility into their design and acquisition processes.

Congressional Staff Directory.—The Committee notes the unavailability or insufficiency of currently-provided congressional staff contact information. The absence of a congressional staff directory that covers the Senate, House, support offices, and support agencies makes it difficult for congressional staff to identify and connect with relevant staff. The Committee directs the SAA to continue to explore the creation of a centrally-managed staff directory for Congress and congressional support agencies to enhance the exchange of information and improve collaboration across the legislative branch. The SAA shall brief the Committee on the efforts to create a centralized congressional staff directory, including inherit challenges with creating such a directory, associated costs and directory information features and access.

Website Attachments.—The Committee recognizes the importance of receiving letters and other appropriate documents from members' constituents, and notes that SAA worked with Senate offices to develop a safe, web-based solution that accepts attachments from constituents and routes those attachments directly to an office's Constituent Support Systems. However, additional enhancements are necessary in order to ensure that attachments can be made to submissions on Senate websites in a manner that meets the needs of the Senate offices. The Committee strongly encourages SAA to continue reviewing its policy concerning the receipt of attachments from a Senate network cybersecurity perspective and to conduct focused discussions with Senate offices to determine the specific needs of the Senate community regarding website attachments.

*Cyber Tools.*—The Committee directs the SAA to evaluate and provide an update briefing within 90 days of enactment of this act to the Committee on the feasibility of Member office and committee use of cloud-based word processing and document real-time collaboration tools in a SAA-hosted and CIO-operated data center.

IT Requirements for State Offices.—The Committee appreciates the work of the SAA across the information technology platform. To continue to stay abreast of these requirements, the SAA shall conduct an updated survey with personal State offices to validate the IT requirements for each office. Based on the results of the survey, the SAA shall provide a briefing to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of the act to update on the SAA efforts to address findings from the survey.

Training for System Administrators.—The Committee notes that the SAA Chief Information Officer [CIO] has worked to provide Linked in Learning training for Senate offices' and committees' system administrators and expects the CIO to continue exploring and recommending training options for system administrators.

Cyber Care Education for Senators and Staff.—The Committee recognizes the threat of hacking and cyberattacks on Senators and staff on their official and personal devices and accounts. The SAA is working to improve personal cybersecurity, cyber advisories, and cybersecurity best practice documents tailored to such devices and accounts, and should continue to educate members and staff on such practices. In addition, the SAA shall, in coordination with this Committee, the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, and Senate majority and minority leadership, continue to explore ways-including the options presented in the bipartisan Senators' Personal Cybersecurity Working Group's report-in-which it may better provide voluntary cybersecurity support to any Senator seeking assistance with their personal devices or accounts under existing ethics, rules, appropriations, statutory, and civil law, including whether investments in additional IT hardware and software, additional personnel, and additional guidelines are needed. The Committee also directs the SAA to provide increased training opportunities so that members and staff traveling abroad are aware of cyber threats and appropriate best practices to mitigate such threats to their devices, and to brief this Committee on whether members and staff are utilizing these awareness tools.

Enterprise Software.—The Committee notes that the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47) required the SAA to conduct a needs assessment within the Senate community to determine the overall enterprise software requirements for each entity's mission, and to use the outcomes of the needs assessment to inform the SAA's Chief Information Officer's Strategic and Operational Objectives. Employees of the Senate use and rely upon software approved and managed by the SAA to carry out their responsibilities on behalf of the American people. While SAA appropriately focuses on the safety, security and integrity of these software applications and license agreements, the SAA is encouraged to make available software that is best suited to the requirements of its end users. The Committee directs the SAA to brief the Committee on the outcomes of the needs assessment and how the SAA plans to use the needs assessment to inform the SAA's Chief Information Officer's Strategic and Operational Objectives no later than 60 days after the completion of the needs assessment.

Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Correspondence.—The SAA is directed to brief the Committee on Appropriations within 60 days of enactment of this act on its ongoing efforts to support Senate offices and committees in identifying artificial intelligence proliferation in constituent correspondence and its impact on the legislative work of the Senate.

*Member Security.*—The Committee continues to be concerned over the growing numbers of threats to Members of Congress. The Committee encourages the Sergeant At Arms, in coordination with USCP, to continue exploring all forms of appropriate security measures including commercially available technology solutions that allow for a rapid law enforcement response both in and outside of the National Capital Region.

Residential Security System Program.—The SAA shall brief the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate within 60 days of enactment of this act on the progress of the implementation of the Residential Security System Program.

Sergeant-at-Arms Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Fund.—The SAA shall provide a report to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act on the utilization of the Sergeant at Arms Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery [BCDR] fund, which was established under section 103 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117–103).

*McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program.*—The Committee continues to support the SAA's efforts to implement the McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program. The Committee provides \$6,277,000 for this purpose. The SAA shall brief the Committee within 90 days of the enactment of the act on the SAA's progress in implementing the fellowship program.

Collaborative Co-Development of Legislative Branch Technology.—The SAA is encouraged to work more closely with the House of Representatives on the co-development of future modernization technology tools to increase congressional capacity, continuity, and customer service to the American people.

Modernization of Applications for the Committee on Appropriations.—The SAA is encouraged to develop and deliver innovative software applications that support the work of the Committee. The SAA is directed to work in close coordination with the Committee on these efforts and to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on proposed software solution recommendations.

Enhancing Effectiveness of Constituent Casework Functionality.— The Committee directs the SAA to provide a briefing within 60 days of enactment of this act on the ongoing efforts to support personal office casework operations, such as the sharing of best practices, training, and technology support. Further, the SAA should include in the briefing recommendations for the SAA to provide additional support for casework operations, such as the development of methods to track aggregate casework data, the development of caseworker toolkits, the establishment of a central hub to provide caseworker resources and liaison assistance between agencies and personal offices.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Appropriations, 2024	\$26,517,000
Budget estimate, 2025	29,027,500
Committee recommendation	29,028,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$29,028,000 for miscellaneous items to remain available until September 30, 2027. Any deviation of more than 10 percent cumulatively from the stated levels for each item will require the customary prior approval of the Committee. The following table sets forth the apportionment of funds under this appropriation:

FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS APPORTIONMENT	SCHEDULE
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Item	Fiscal year 2025 request	Committee recommendation
Resolution and reorganization reserve	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000
Unallocated	10,000,000	10,000,000
Reserve for contingencies (miscellaneous items)	800,000	800,000
Reception of foreign dignitaries (S. Res. 247, dated February 7, 1962, as amended	,	,
by S. Res. 370, dated October 10, 2000)	30.000	30.000
Foreign travel—Members and employees (S. Res. 179, dated May 25, 1977)	125,000	125,000
Federal employees compensation account (Public Law 96–499, dated December 5,	120,000	120,000
1980) (Unemployment Compensation)	600.000	600.000
Conferences for the Majority and Minority (Public Laws: 97–51, dated January 3,	000,000	000,000
1983; 101–250, dated November 5, 1990; and 107–68, dated November 12,		
2001)	300,000	300,000
Policy Committees for the Majority and Minority (Public Law 104–53, dated Novem-	300,000	500,000
ber 19, 1995)	150,000	150.000
	6.000	6.000
Postage		
Stationery	16,500	17,000
Communications	72,000	72,000
Consultants including agency contributions (2 U.S.C. 6501 as amended)	9,000,000	9,000,000
National Security Working Group (Public Law 115–244, dated September 21, 2018)	700,000	700,000
Committee on Appropriations (Public Law 105–275, dated October 21, 1998)	950,000	950,000
Office of the Chaplain (Public Law 108–199, dated January 23, 2004)	40,000	40,000
Senate Child Care Center:		
Agency Contribution costs authorized by Public Laws 102-90, dated August		
14, 1991 and 103–50, dated July 2, 1993	510,000	510,000

FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS APPORTIONMENT SCHEDULE—Continued

Item	Fiscal year 2025 request	Committee recommendation
Reimbursement of salaries authorized by S. Res. 329, dated July 29, 2021 Training classes, conferences, and travel expenses as authorized by Public	206,000	206,000
Law 104–197, dated September 16, 1996	22,000	22,000
Total	29,027,500	29,028,000

Senate Employees' Child Care Center.-Under current law, Congress may only provide funding for employee benefits and travel expenses for employee training activities for the Senate Employees' Child Care Center [SECCC], and the reimbursement of salaries for the executive director and assistant director of the center, which are provided for and fully funded in this act. However, funds for all other employees' salaries and operational expenses are paid by the Center's operating budget and cannot be supplemented with appropriated funds. In agreeing to provide salary reimbursements for the SECCC executive director and the assistant director, the Committee recognizes the importance of access to high quality, affordable child care for recruitment and retention of U.S. Senate employees and supports the ability of the Center to employ high caliber faculty, maintain its commitment to early childhood education, and continue to serve the growing number of Senate employees who require child care for their infant to pre-school children. Furthermore, the Committee understands these payments will free up the Center's operating budget to provide salary increases for all day care faculty, allowing the Center to pay its staff competitive salaries comparable with the House of Representatives Child Care Center.

*Resolution and Reorganization Reserve.*—This line item is used to cover the costs of Senate resolutions and public laws that authorize expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate that do not have specific appropriations for such purpose.

*Reserve for Contingencies.*—This line item includes payment for gratuities for family members of deceased Senate employees; damage to automobiles in the Senate parking lots; contractual, legal, and administrative services; and miscellaneous expenses, and is controlled by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Employees' Compensation Fund Reimbursements (Worker's Compensation).—This amount is for reimbursements made to the U.S. Department of Labor for total benefits and other payments made on behalf of Senate employees from the employees' compensation fund. Payments are authorized to be made from expired balances, a practice that is consistent with the other agencies of the legislative branch.

*Reception of Foreign Dignitaries.*—The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to expend, and not to exceed, \$30,000 each fiscal year to receive foreign dignitaries under the authority of Senate Resolution 247, agreed to February 7, 1962, as amended.

Foreign Travel: Members and Employees.—Senate Resolution 179, agreed to May 25, 1977, authorized payment from the contingent fund of the Senate of the domestic portion of transportation costs and travel expenses incurred by Members and employees of the Senate when engaged in authorized foreign travel.

Federal Employees' Compensation Account (Unemployment Compensation).—This line item provides for expenses incurred for the Senate to reimburse the Federal employees' compensation account, pursuant to Public Law 96–499, approved December 5, 1980, for unemployment compensation payments made to Senate employees.

Conferences for the Majority and Minority.—The amount recommended provides for the expenses of the majority and minority conference committees.

Policy Committees for the Majority and Minority.—The amount recommended provides for the expenses of the majority and minority policy committees.

*Postage.*—The amount recommended provides for postage allowances for the President of the Senate, Secretary of the Majority, Secretary of the Minority, and Senate Chaplain.

Stationery.—The amount recommended provides funds for stationery and office supplies for the President of the Senate, conference committees of the Senate, Office of the Chaplain, and the Senate Chamber.

*Communications.*—The amount recommended provides funds for cellular telephone and mobile data devices and services for the Office of the Vice President, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, Office of the Chaplain, Majority Leader, Minority Leader, Majority Whip, and Minority Whip.

Consultants: Including Agency Contributions.—This item provides authority for the appointment and payment of consultants to the majority and minority leaders, President Pro Tempore, President Pro Tempore Emeritus, and the legislative counsel.

The following summarizes the current authority and limitations: *Majority Leader*.—Twelve consultants at not to exceed the daily rate for maximum standing committee rate. All of the consultants may be appointed at an annual rate of compensation not to exceed the maximum annual rate for a standing committee.

*Minority Leader.*—Twelve consultants at not to exceed the daily rate for maximum standing committee rate. All of the consultants may be appointed at an annual rate of compensation not to exceed the maximum annual rate for a standing committee.

Legislative Counsel (Subject to President Pro Tempore Approval).—Two consultants at not to exceed the daily rate for maximum standing committee rate. All of the consultants may be appointed at an annual rate of compensation not to exceed the maximum annual rate for a standing committee.

*President Pro Tempore.*—Three consultants at not to exceed the daily rate for maximum standing committee rate. The consultants may be appointed at an annual rate of compensation not to exceed the maximum annual rate for a standing committee.

President Pro Tempore Emeritus.—One consultant at not to exceed the daily rate for maximum standing committee rate. The consultant may be appointed at an annual rate of compensation not to exceed the maximum annual rate for a standing committee.

Senate National Security Working Group.—Provides funding for the Senate National Security Working Group, under the authority of Senate Resolution 75, agreed to March 25, 1999. The Senate National Security Working Group was formerly the Senate Arms Control Observer Group. The Senate National Security Working Group shall operate without future expiration of authority.

*Committee on Appropriations.*—Pursuant to Public Law 105–275, provides funding for administrative expenses for the Committee on Appropriations.

Senate Employees' Child Care Center: Agency Contributions.— Provides for the payment of agency contribution costs as authorized by Public Law 102–90, approved August 14, 1991, and Public Law 103–50, approved July 2, 1993, for employees of the Senate Employees' Child Care Center. The Senate Employees' Child Care Center is intended for the children of Members and employees of the Senate.

Senate Employees' Child Care Center: Reimbursement of Salaries.—Provides for the reimbursement costs to the Senate Employees' Child Care Center for the basic pay paid to the Executive Director and for the basic pay paid to the Assistant Director of the Center, as authorized by Senate Resolution 329, approved July 29, 2021.

Senate Employees' Child Care Center: Training Classes and Conference Costs.—Provides for the reimbursement of any individual employed by the Senate Employees' Child Care Center for the cost of training classes and conferences in connection with the provision of child care services and for travel, transportation, and subsistence expenses incurred in connection with the training classes and conferences, as authorized by Public Law 104–197, approved September 16, 1996.

Student Loan Repayment Program.—\$10,000,000 is provided for this program for fiscal year 2025 for the repayment of student loans, for eligible employees at the discretion of the employing office, to enhance recruitment and retention of Senate staff.

#### SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Appropriations, 2024	\$552,600,000
Budget estimate, 2025	571,790,000
Committee recommendation	588,381,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation for fiscal year 2025 of \$588,381,000 for the Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account [SOPOEA]. The recommendation is an increase of \$35,781,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$16,591,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request. Of the funding provided, \$29,420,000 is available until September 30, 2027. This account funds salaries and benefits of Senators' staffs as well as the office expense allowance for Senators' offices. The SOPOEA is comprised of three components. Two of these are for salaries of personnel in Senators' offices. The allowance for administrative and clerical assistance is based on the population of States, beginning with States with a population of fewer than five million people to States with a population category and the States that fall into those categories. The estimate for fiscal year 2025 totals \$370,059,814. The second component of the salaries allowance is for legislative assistance to Senators, as authorized by Public Law 95–94 as amended. This allowance provides funding for three posi-

tions in each Senator's office for a total of \$665,700 per office, or \$66,570,000 for all 100 Senators. The third component of the SOPOEA account is for official office expenses and totals \$20,128,950. Each Senator's office is allocated an amount for office expenses, as displayed in the following table. It should be noted that the amounts provided for the various components of the SOPOEA are interchangeable. Amounts provided for salaries may be used for expenses, and vice versa, subject to regulations set by the Committee on Rules and Administration with respect to official mail. It should also be noted that the figures in the following table are preliminary, and that official notification of member budgets is issued by the Financial Clerk of the Senate after enactment of this bill.

The following table illustrates the several components of the SOPOEA.

State	Administrative and clerical assistance allowance 10/1/2024	Legislative assistance allowance 10/1/2024	0.0.E.A. allowance 10/1/2024	Total allowance 10/1/2024
Alabama	3,512,241	665,700	185,468	4,363,409
Alaska	3,414,342	665,700	253,230	4,333,272
Arizona	3,708,048	665,700	206,134	4,579,882
Arkansas	3,414,342	665,700	169,802	4,249,844
California	5,376,092	665,700	453,541	6,495,333
Colorado	3,512,241	665,700	195,111	4,373,852
Connecticut	3,414,342	665,700	159,849	4,239,891
Delaware	3,414,342	665,700	129,284	4,209,326
Florida	5,000,275	665,700	321,549	5,987,524
Georgia	4,099,669	665,700	223,517	4,988,886
Hawaii	3,414,342	665,700	278,941	4,358,983
Idaho	3,414,342	665,700	166,699	4,246,741
Illinois	4,197,570	665,700	258,705	5,121,975
Indiana	3.610.147	665,700	192,511	4,468,358
lowa	3,414,342	665,700	170,707	4.250,749
Kansas	3,414,342	665,700	169,245	4,249,287
Kentucky	3,414,342	665,700	179,392	4,259,434
Louisiana	3,414,342	665,700	185,151	4,265,193
Maine	3,414,342	665,700	148,456	4,228,498
Maryland	3,610,147	665,700	171,611	4,447,458
Massachusetts	3,708,048	665,700	196,098	4,569,846
Michigan	4,001,765	665,700	229,807	4,897,272
Minnesota	3,512,241	665,700	190,249	4,368,190
Mississippi	3,414,342	665,700	167,321	4,247,363
Missouri	3,610,147	665,700	198,512	4,474,359
Montana	3,414,342	665,700	162,328	4,242,370
Nebraska	3,414,342	665,700	162,049	4,242,091
Nevada	3,414,342	665,700	177,692	4,257,734
New Hampshire	3,414,342	665,700	143,421	4,223,463
New Jersey	3,903,854	665,700	201,360	4,770,914
New Mexico	3,414,342	665,700	166,133	4,246,175
New York	4,874,999	665,700	316,441	5,857,140
North Carolina	4,001,765	665,700	228,741	4,896,206
North Dakota	3,414,342	665,700	151,263	4,231,305
Ohio	4,099,669	665,700	251,727	5,017,096
Oklahoma	3,414,342	665,700	181,546	4,261,588
Oregon	3,414,342	665,700	191,780	4,271,822
Pennsylvania	4,295,472	665,700	257,290	5,218,462
Rhode Island	3,242,182	665,700	139,405	4,219,447
South Carolina	3,512,241	665,700	179,065	4,357,006

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ALLOWANCE FISCAL YEAR 2025

State	Administrative and clerical assistance allowance 10/1/2024	Legislative assistance allowance 10/1/2024	0.0.E.A. allowance 10/1/2024	Total allowance 10/1/2024
South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia	3,242,182 3,708,048 5,376,092 3,242,182 3,242,182 3,805,955 3,708,048 3,242,182 3,512,241	665,700 665,700 665,700 665,700 665,700 665,700 665,700 665,700 665,700	152,891 197,888 380,908 174,737 136,696 197,006 220,389 146,030	4,232,933 4,571,636 6,422,700 4,254,779 4,216,738 4,668,661 4,594,137 4,226,072 4,370,574
Wisconsin Wyoming	3,242,182	665,700 665,700	192,633 153,366	4,233,408
Total	185,029,907	33,285,000	10,064,475	228,379,382
	x2	x2	x2	x2
Grand Total	370,059,814	66,570,000	20,128,950	456,758,764

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ALLOWANCE FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

According to the most recent employment data compiled by the Secretary of the Senate, as of May 31, 2024, there were 4,276 individuals employed in Senators' offices throughout the United States and covered by this appropriation. In addition to providing funds for compensation of employees within Senators' offices, this appropriation also provides for agency contributions for those employees; that is, the Senate's share, as an employer, of the various employee benefit programs for which Senate employees are eligible. These payments are mandatory, and fluctuate according to the programs in which employees are enrolled, the level of compensation, and the degree of participation. Budget requests for this account prepared by the Financial Clerk must be based on both experience and evaluation of trends. The fiscal year 2025 funding level for this account anticipates \$159,798,000 in agency contribution costs. The amount recommended by the Committee for the SOPOEA is less than would be required to cover all obligations that could be incurred under the authorized allowances for all Senators. The Committee is able to recommend an appropriation of a lesser amount than potentially necessary because Senators typically do not obligate funds up to the absolute ceiling of their respective allowances.

Senate Intern Compensation.—The Committee continues to believe that Senate internships should be available to the broadest possible pool of candidates who have the ability and interest to serve. Unfortunately, unpaid internships exclude those who cannot independently afford to work without pay, hindering students' future career opportunities and making it more difficult for Senators to attract and hire the most qualified interns, regardless of socioeconomic status. Providing interns financial compensation provides an avenue for more students to have the opportunity to serve their country and gain experience toward a career in public service. In addition to funding allocated in the table above for Senators' office allowances and for agency contribution costs, the bill includes \$7,000,000 for the sole purpose of providing financial compensation to interns. This will allow offices to continue to diversify their intern hires and, if an office chooses to do so, provide stipends to better help interns with travel and housing costs. Any intern compensation funding that remains unspent by any office will be returned to the Treasury in accordance with section 101 of the bill. Such funding is directed to be allocated among Senators' offices in relative proportion to funds allocated for each office's administrative and clerical assistance allowance for fiscal year 2025 shown in the table above, which reflect natural variables including State populations, with a small additional amount for non-contiguous States. On average, each office will be allocated an estimated \$70,000 for intern compensation.

SENATORS' OFFICE	ALLOCATIONS	FOR	INTERN	COMPENSATION	FISCAL	YFAR 202	25
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State	Amo
Nabama	\$6
Naska	
Arizona	
Irkansas	6
California	10
Colorado	
Connecticut	6
	6
lelaware	
lorida	9
eorgia	7
awaii	6
laho	6
linois	7
ıdiana	6
wa	6
ansas	6
entucky	6
puisiana	6
aine	6
laryland	6
lassachusetts	6
ichigan	7
linnesota	6
ississippi	6
lissouri	6
ontana	6
ebraska	6
evada	6
ew Hampshire	6
ew Jersey	7
ew Mexico	6
ew York	9
orth Carolina	7
orth Dakota	6
hio	7
klahoma	6
regon	6
ennsylvania	8
hode Island	6
outh Carolina	6
buth Dakota	6
ennessee	6
exas	10
tah	6
ermont	6
irginia	7
/ashington	6
5	6
/est Virginia /isconsin	6

SENATORS' OFFICE ALLOCATIONS FOR INTERN COMPENSATION FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

State	Amount
Wyoming	64,400
Total	3,500,000
Grand Total	7,000,000

### OFFICIAL MAIL COSTS

Appropriations, 2024	\$300,000
Budget estimate, 2025	300,000
Committee recommendation	300,000

For the official mail costs of the Senate, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$300,000 which is equal to the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and the fiscal year 2025 request.

#### Administrative Provision

SEC. 101. This provision requires that amounts remaining in the Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account be used for deficit reduction or to reduce the Federal debt.

## JOINT ITEMS

### JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Appropriations, 2024	\$4,283,000
Budget estimate, 2025	4,283,000
Committee recommendation	4,283,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,283,000 for the Joint Economic Committee [JEC]. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and equal to the fiscal year 2025 request. The Joint Economic Committee was created by the Employment Act of 1946 (Public Law 79–304). The primary tasks of the JEC are to review economic conditions and to recommend improvements in economic policy. The JEC performs research and economic analysis, and monitors and analyzes current economic, financial, and employment conditions.

## JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Appropriations, 2023	\$13,554,000
Budget estimate, 2024	14,850,000
Committee recommendation	14,450,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$14,450,000 for salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation. The recommendation is \$896,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$400,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

The Joint Committee on Taxation is established under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to:

—investigate the operation and effects of internal revenue taxes and the administration of such taxes;

—investigate measures and methods for the simplification of such taxes;

- -make reports to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance (or to the House and the Senate) on the results of such investigations and studies and to make recommendations; and
- -review any proposed refund or credit of income or estate and gift taxes, or certain other taxes set forth in Code section 6405 in excess of \$2,000,000. In addition to these functions that are specified in the Internal Revenue Code, the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-344) requires the Joint Committee to provide revenue estimates for all tax legislation considered by either the House of Representatives or the Senate.

#### OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

Appropriations, 2024	\$4,764,000
Budget estimate, 2025	4,416,000
Committee recommendation	4,666,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,666,000 for the Office of the Attending Physician. The recommendation is \$98,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$250,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request. The Office was first established by House Resolution 253, adopted December 5, 1928. The recommendation includes \$250,000 to support the procurement and maintenance of continuity emergency medical materials and equipment.

### OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Appropriations, 2024	\$1,766,000
Budget estimate, 2025	1,838,000
Committee recommendation	1,838,000

The Committee recommends \$1,838,000 for the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services [OCAS]. This office is a successor to the Special Services Office following enactment of the Capitol Visitor Center Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–437). The OCAS provides and coordinates accessibility services for individuals with disabilities, including Members of Congress, staff, and visitors to the U.S. Capitol complex. These services include sign language interpreting, adaptive tours, and wheelchair loans. OCAS also provides information regarding accessibility for individuals with disabilities, as well as related training and staff development to Members of Congress and employees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

## CAPITOL POLICE

Appropriations, 2024	\$791,473,000
Budget estimate, 2025	900,390,000
Committee recommendation	832,556,000

The United States Capitol Police [USCP] is charged with the protection of the United States Congress, its legislative processes, Members, employees, visitors, and facilities within the U.S. Capitol complex from crime, disruption, or terrorism so that the Congress may fulfill its constitutional responsibilities in a safe and open environment. The Committee recommends \$832,556,000 for the USCP. The recommendation is \$41,083,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$67,834,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

*Risk-Based Protections for Members of Congress.*—Threats against Members of Congress have increased significantly since calendar year 2021. In light of this, the Committee continues to find that ensuring the continuity of government must include protecting the overall security of Members of Congress. The recommendation provides \$2,000,000 for the Department to continue to provide Member security outside of the Capitol campus in the National Capital Region [NCR], as warranted by risk-based analyses. The Committee expects the USCP to continue working closely with the Sergeants at Arms and law enforcement partners in the NCR, as well as educating Member offices, on the USCP strategy for Members' protection within the NCR while off the Capitol Grounds, per the December 2018 report detailing the Department's plans to enhance off-campus Member security in the NCR.

Enhanced Member Protection.—The Committee continues to recognize the expanding mission requirements for the United States Capitol Police in the area of Member protection. The Department has been provided significant funding to support complex enhanced Member protection initiatives over the last two fiscal years. The Department shall provide quarterly briefings to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate on the Department's progress in implementing these initiatives. These briefings should include recommendations, as necessary, for the enhancement of the Department's efforts in this area, as well as recommended funding strategies for addressing the requirements.

*Contract Security Officers.*—The Committee directs the USCP to provide an updated version of report requested under this heading in Senate Report 118–60.

Mutual Aid Reimbursements.—The USCP is directed to continue to expand the use of other Federal, State and local law enforcement entities through reimbursable mutual aid agreements and to ensure a collaborative two-way sharing of critical information to meet USCP mission requirements.

Use of Drones and Other Sensitive Technologies.—The Department is directed to continue to strengthen procedures for the purchasing of sensitive technologies in order to ensure that none are acquired for routine law enforcement purposes from entities identified by the United States Government as posing a cyber or other threat.

Uniform Procurement.—The Department is directed to brief the Committee on the status of current uniform procurement and availability for USCP officers.

*Civilian Staffing.*—The Committee supports the Department's authorized number of civilians, however the Committee's recommendation includes a reduction to the request as the Department's projections for fiscal year 2024 civilian hiring are below the authorized and appropriated levels. The Committee believes it will be difficult to hire the requested civilians for fiscal year 2025.

USCP Office of the Inspector General Report Disclosure.—The Committee is encouraged that the Office of the Inspector General has begun making its reports publicly available whenever practicable and has started publishing reports on its website. The Committee is supportive of the process initiated by the Office of the Inspector General to gain approval for the public posting of its reports.

Concept of Operations Plan.—The Committee supports the efforts of the Department to address emerging requirements to better understand its staffing and resources needs in out years. The Department's Concept of Operations focused on three foundational program areas as the first step toward implementation of the recommendations provided in the report: Establish a Workforce Management/Staffing Office to optimize utilization of human resources; Conduct an organization-wide training gap assessment; and Conduct a comprehensive Technology Analysis and Future Needs Assessment. The Committee recommends \$1,657,000 for the personnel required to build an implementation infrastructure to support future recommendation realization. The Committee also provides \$745,000 to build an implementation infrastructure to support future recommendation realization.

#### SALARIES

Appropriations, 2024	\$588,627,000
Budget estimate, 2025	636,546,000
Committee recommendation	620.401.000

The amount provided covers salaries, benefits, overtime costs and salaries related incentives programs to recruit and retain highly qualified personnel. The Committee recommends \$620,401,000 for USCP salaries, which is \$31,774,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$16,145,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

<sup>1</sup> USCP Office of Inspector General.—The Committee notes that as the USCP has grown over the last several fiscal years, so has the workload of the USCP OIG. To support the oversight of an expanding agency, the Committee provides funding support for the USCP OIG. As such, the Committee includes funds to support not less than 17 FTEs within the USCP OIG and includes no less than \$897,000 in operating funds from within the USCP's annual appropriation.

*Overtime*.—The Committee notes that overtime pay is a standard practice law enforcement entities utilize to respond to unscheduled and unanticipated events. However, understanding the impact of overtime on the onboard personnel, the Committee finds that keeping overtime pay at a minimum should continue to be a goal of the USCP. The Committee directs the USCP to continue its efforts to better track and manage overtime pay in order to keep overtime costs to a minimum. Further, the Committee directs the USCP to provide a detailed report to the Committee within 180 days of issuance of this report on the Department's efforts to manage the use of overtime on a quarterly basis. The report should also include detailed and specific recommendations for addressing the USCP's requests for implementation of availability pay and inclusion of overtime within retirement calculation methodology. The report should speak to the costs and benefits of implementing these recommendations, including the expected operational mission benefits and the costs of implementation and out-year fiscal impacts from each. The USCP should consult with the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Justice, the Congressional Budget Office and other relevant Federal entities to develop the report and input from these agencies should be included in the report's details.

The recommendation does not include funds for USCP overtime for requirements associated with major construction projects undertaken by the Architect of the Capitol [AOC], as those funds are provided to the AOC as part of the overall project costs for those major projects and are paid to the USCP on a reimbursable basis. The Committee expects the USCP to operate within the designated funding level for requirements associated with each project. The Committee directs the USCP to provide for any additional requirement costs beyond that allocation.

USCP Overtime and Staffing Report.—The Committee directs the USCP to continue to submit to the Committee on Appropriations quarterly updates that outline the on-board strength of the USCP broken down by officials, officers, sworn recruits and civilians; a summary of the overall mission set required by the USCP; the number of additional duty (overtime and compensatory) hours worked by each USCP officer; a 3-year sworn attrition summary by rank; a summary of the timeline for training new sworn recruits; the challenges to sworn recruiting and hiring; and the USCP's multi-year strategy to remediate staffing shortages and incentivize sworn hiring and retention in future fiscal years. The Committee also expects this report to be thorough and to be received on time from the Department and to include updates on the Department's implementation of management controls over the impact of overtime on employees reaching the maximum annual payable rate.

#### GENERAL EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$202,846,000
Budget estimate, 2025	263,844,000
Committee recommendation	212,155,000

Expenses include office supplies and equipment, communications, motor vehicles, uniforms and equipment, investigations, training, and miscellaneous items. The Committee recommends \$212,155,000 for general expenses, which is \$9,309,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$51,689,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

Stop the Bleed Training.—The Committee appreciates the USCP's commitment to conducting "Stop the Bleed" training for its sworn workforce. The USCP is encouraged to continue to provide this training to all new sworn personnel upon appointment to the Department.

*Field Office Update Report.*—The USCP shall provide the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate with a report within 30 days of enactment of this act on the status of the USCP's continuing field office implementation and operations, to include the Department's efforts to facilitate an understanding of the field office operational mission for State and local government entities. The report should include lessons learned to date and recommended enhancements to these operational functions.

Congressional Continuity of Operations Plan [C-COOP].—The Department's fiscal year 2025 budget included a \$49,400,000 fund-

ing request to support the C–COOP. The Committee believes this is a priority as part of the Department's core mission and therefore supports the Department having an independent, in-house response and deployment capability to allow it to respond to changing environments, and, ultimately, to protect Members of Congress. As such, the Committee recommends at least \$5,000,000 as a first phase of this effort to build IT capabilities to establish connectivity and radio communication capabilities, research development and training, as well as physical security requirements including deployable screening equipment, mobile vehicle barriers, mobile kiosks, and deployable barriers.

*Firearm Detection Software.*—The Committee encourages the USCP to work with the Capitol Police Board to investigate whether a patented firearm detection software would complement the existing security infrastructure throughout the United States Capitol complex as well as district offices as a part of a broader security enhancement option. The software must be developed in the United States, without the use of any third party or open-source data. The Committee looks forward to a recommendation upon completion of the review 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Wellness Programs for Law Enforcement.—The Committee appreciates the efforts undertaken by the USCP to develop and implement a holistic wellness and resiliency program for its workforce, including the Howard C. 'Howie' Liebengood Center for Wellness. The Committee requests bi-annual updates on the wellness program and its accessibility to the USCP workforce.

## OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$8,150,000
Budget estimate, 2025	8,592,000
Committee recommendation	8,200,000

The Congressional Accountability Act [CAA] (Public Law 104–1) established an independent Office of Congressional Workplace Rights [OCWR], formerly the Office of Compliance, to apply the rights and protections of the following labor and employment statutes to covered employees within the Legislative Branch: the Fair Labor Standards Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Federal Service Labor Management Relations Act, the Employee Polygraph Protection Act, the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, the Rehabilitation Act, and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. That act was amended in 1998 to apply the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act and in 2008 to apply the Genetic Information and Nondiscrimination Act. On December 21, 2018, the Con-gressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act (Public Law 115-397) was signed into law expanding the Office's duties and responsibilities, as well as the number of employees covered by the CAA and the CAA Reform Act [CAARA]. The Office of Congressional Workplace Rights administers and ensures the integrity of the neutral dispute resolution process concerning claims that arise under

the CAA and CAARA. The Office also carries out an education and training program for congressional Members, employing offices and congressional employees to assist them in understanding their rights and responsibilities under the CAA and CAARA. The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$8,200,000 for the salaries and expenses of the OCWR, which is \$50,000 above the fiscal year 2024 enacted level and \$392,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Of such amount, \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$70,000,000
Budget estimate, 2025	70,729,000
Committee recommendation	73,000,000

The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] is responsible for providing to the Congress objective, nonpartisan, and timely analyses to aid in economic and budgetary decisions on the wide array of programs covered by the Federal budget, as well as the information and estimates required for the congressional budget process. The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$73,000,000 for the CBO. The recommendation is \$3,000,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$2,271,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request.

appropriation and \$2,271,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request. *Promoting Timeliness and Transparency.*—The Congressional Budget Office provides Congress with budgetary and economic analysis that is important to the legislative process and can have significant policy implications. The Committee acknowledges that CBO has undertaken efforts to improve and promote transparency of the agency's modeling and cost estimates process. The Committee encourages CBO to strengthen its efforts on transparency to respect the interest of Congress and to maintain the agency's professional independence. As with prior year budget submissions, the Committee expects CBO to include in its fiscal year 2026 budget request details about the agency's ongoing and future efforts to implement the multi-year plan to increase its capacity to make CBO's work as transparent and responsive as possible.

*Hiring of Personnel.*—The Committee notes the CBO's fiscal year 2025 budget request includes funding for the hiring of new personnel. The Committee encourages the Office to maintain or hire new FTE for priority issue areas, including those within the Defense and Health Analysis subject areas.

## ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

The Office of the Architect of the Capitol [AOC] is responsible to the United States Congress for the maintenance, operation, development, and preservation of 16.5 million square feet of buildings and more than 450 acres of land throughout the Capitol complex. This includes the Capitol, the Capitol Visitor Center, the House and Senate office buildings, the Library of Congress buildings, the U.S. Botanic Garden, the Capitol Power Plant, and other facilities. The AOC also provides professional expertise with regard to the preservation of architectural and artistic elements entrusted to its care and provides recommendations concerning design, construction, and maintenance of the facilities and grounds. The Committee recommends a funding level of \$737,990,000 for activities of the Architect of the Capitol, excluding the House Office Buildings account. The recommendation is \$42,897,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$120,914,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. The following table compares the Committee recommendation for the AOC accounts to the fiscal year 2025 request, excluding the House Office Buildings account.

Item	Committee recommendation	Difference
Capitol Construction and Operations	\$153,280,000 51,602,000 21,422,000 157,948,000 127,114,000 83,500,000 92,588,000 22,000,000 28,536,000	(\$37,036,000) (1,591,000) (13,445,000) (52,048,000) (3,391,000) 10,298,000 (20,764,000) (859,000) (2,078,000)
Total	737,990,000	(120,914,000)

AOC Vehicle Usage.—The AOC is required to comply with 31 U.S.C. 1343 and, as such, limited by the statutory controls over motor vehicle acquisition and use, including price limitation, equipment, and replacement of motor vehicles, and per regulations set forth by the Government Services Administration [GSA]. The Committee directs the AOC to adhere to GSA regulations on official use of agency vehicles to perform AOC's mission, including proper identification of the vehicle as Federal Government-issued and -owned, as well as home-to-work policies.

*Hygiene Products.*—The Committee appreciates the AOC's efforts to ensure menstrual hygiene products are available at no cost to all those who use restroom facilities throughout the Capitol Complex buildings and grounds. The AOC is expected to continue making bulk purchases of, storing, and distributing daily menstrual hygiene products throughout the Capitol complex buildings, in coordination with partnering agencies.

Miscellaneous Improvements Notifications.—The Committee appreciates the AOC's efforts to document and notify the Committee of "Miscellaneous Improvements" projects, which are completed projects that costs less than \$5,000 for labor and materials.

*Minor Construction.*—The Committee understands the evolving requirements the AOC faces throughout the fiscal year that impact minor construction accounts. However, the AOC must improve its processes for monitoring and communicating changes, as well as impacts, resulting from deviations. The Committee directs the AOC to provide detailed quarterly reports on Minor Construction projects, including a description and cost of each project, the status of total funding set aside for each purpose, the total amount of remaining funds for the fiscal year in this area and a description of all deviations from fiscal year projected Minor Construction projects.

Accounting Practices.—The Committee is strongly concerned about the AOC's lack of clear and objective criteria for when it utilizes annual versus multi-year funding sources for projects. The Committee is concerned that the AOC, on occasion, may make certain accounting choices to purposefully avoid oversight. The AOC is directed to brief the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this act on how and when the agency decides to utilize annual versus multi-year funding. The briefing should include an overview on the feasibility of the AOC providing project notification letters for projects funded out of annual funding sources, similar to the practice for projects funded through multi-year sources. Further, the Committee directs the AOC to establish a policy to outline the clear and objective procedure for determining project funding sources that is consistent with appropriations law. The AOC is directed to consult with and receive the approval of the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of its proposed policy. *Physical Accessibility Barriers Report.*—The Committee acknowl-

*Physical Accessibility Barriers Report.*—The Committee acknowledges the work of the Architect of the Capitol to address potential accessibility barriers identified by the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights. The AOC shall provide a briefing to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration within 30 days of enactment of this act on the status of addressing the remaining potential physical accessibility barriers on the Capitol Complex.

Senate Restaurants—Addressing Deferred Maintenance and Realigning Physical Operations to Better Address Requirements.—As a part of the AOC's multi-year Senate restaurant renovations project, the Committee supports the AOC's efforts to realign the physical operations of the Senate restaurant locations to better utilize space and address the requirements for the function in a manner that also utilizes funding to address long-deferred maintenance and achieve lifecycle replacement requirements.

Domestic Seafood.—The Committee encourages the management of food service facilities in the Capitol and Senate to source domestic seafood products, including wild-caught.

AOC Office of Inspector General.—Within the total, the Committee provides no less than \$6,110,000 and no fewer than 25 FTE for the AOC OIG. The Committee also directs the AOC to ensure that sufficient funding is available for contracts and other expenses identified by the AOC OIG to fulfill its mission. Finally, the Committee reiterates that the independence of the AOC OIG is of the utmost importance.

## CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Appropriations, 2024	\$152,507,000
Budget estimate, 2025	190,316,000
Committee recommendation	153,280,000

The Capital Construction and Operations appropriation provides funding for salaries and related benefits of the Architect, officers, administrative and support staff, and engineering and architecture employees. This account also provides for administrative items such as agency-wide contractual services; surveys and studies; information technology; and safety engineering operations. The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$153,280,000 for capital construction and operations. The recommendation is \$773,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$37,036,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

Library of Congress Visitor Experience Project.—The Committee is concerned with the progress made to date on the LOC's Visitor Experience project. Additionally, the Committee remains concerned about the manner in which the AOC conducts its cost estimation and project scoping for its projects and initiatives. Along with budget submissions as part of the regular appropriations process, the AOC, in continued coordination with the Library of Congress is directed to continue to provide bi-weekly status reports to the Committee, including designs, cost estimates, and anticipated timelines for construction and implementation of the Library's updated Visitor Experience Master Plan. These updates should also include progress on fundraising initiatives for private funding, including both donations in-hand and verbal commitments, to support the Visitor Experience. The update should provide specific recommendations for resolving identified issues, so that the project can move toward project implementation and completion.

Studying Sustainability.—The AOC's annual Performance and Accountability Report [PAR] provides the results of the AOC's financial performance each fiscal year, as well as demonstrates the AOC's commitment to the accomplishment of its mission and accountability for its financial resources. As part of the PAR completed for fiscal year 2025, the AOC will report on greenhouse gas emissions analysis as data is available for the Capitol complex. The Committee further directs the AOC to include information in each PAR that reflects all significant measures taken to address efficient use of steam and electricity. The AOC will continue to include this information as part of this report on an annual basis to leverage energy conservation and maximize the use of energy efficient sources throughout the legislative branch facilities.

#### CAPITOL BUILDING

Appropriations, 2024	\$95,688,000
Budget estimate, 2025	53,193,000
Committee recommendation	51.602.000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$51,602,000 for necessary expenses for the maintenance, care, and operation of the Capitol, which is \$44,086,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$1,591,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Of such amount, \$17,899,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

The following table displays the budget detail.

CAPITOL BUILDING

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$33,703,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Electrical Power Distribution Replacement Minor Construction	11,300,000 6,000,000

Item	Committee recommendation
Conservation of Fine and Architectural Art	599,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	17,899,000
Total, Capitol Building	51,602,000

#### CAPITOL GROUNDS

Appropriations, 2024	\$16,600,000
Budget estimate, 2025	34,867,000
Committee recommendation	21,422,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$21,422,000 for Capitol Grounds for the care and improvements of the grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant. The recommendation is \$4,822,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$13,445,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Of the amount recommended, \$6,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

Composting Program.—While the Committee recommendation does not provide additional funding for composting activities, the Committee encourages the AOC to continue exploring options for composting and food waste reduction with offices who are interested from within existing resources. Bio-based Materials.—The Committee recognizes the benefits of

*Bio-based Materials.*—The Committee recognizes the benefits of utilizing bio-based products on the Capitol grounds. The Committee encourages the AOC to explore opportunities to incorporate bio-based products into ongoing projects where appropriate.

Outdoor Recycling.—The Committee commends the efforts of the AOC and the United States Capitol Police for implementing outdoor recycling programs on the Capitol grounds while maintaining security of the complex. The Committee encourages the Architect of the Capitol and the USCP to continue to collaborate and work together to expand these efforts where appropriate in high-traffic areas across the Capitol complex. The AOC is also encouraged to continue to work with the USCP to find additional locations where garbage and recycling cans can be co-located and clearly marked on the Capitol grounds.

The following table displays the budget detail:

#### CAPITOL GROUNDS

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$15,422,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Taft Memorial Minor Construction	3,000,000 3,000,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	6,000,000

## CAPITOL GROUNDS—Continued

Item	Committee recommendation
Total, Capitol Grounds	21,422,000

## SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Appropriations, 2024	\$138,751,000
Budget estimate, 2025	209,996,000
Committee recommendation	157,948,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$157,948,000 for maintenance of the Senate office buildings. The recommendation is \$19,197,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$52,048,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Of the amount recommended, \$69,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, and \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

The following table displays the budget detail:

#### SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$83,648,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Reprographics Department Renovation, DSOB   Daniel Webster Renovation—Phase II   Domestic Waterline Replacement, DSOB   Senate Elevator Refurbishment Program   Senate Facilities Plan   Senate Restaurant Renovation Program   Committee Room Modernization   Minor Construction	50,000,000 3,400,000 3,000,000 5,000,000 4,500,000 8,400,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	74,300,000
Total, Senate Office Buildings	157,948,000

*Calder Mountain and Clouds Sculpture.*—The Committee directs the AOC to continue working with outside partners on the restoration of the Calder Mountain and Clouds sculpture. The AOC is expected to seek all available avenues to expeditiously achieve the completion of this project. Further, the AOC is expected to continue providing the Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate with quarterly updates on the status of these efforts.

#### CAPITOL POWER PLANT

Appropriations, 2024	\$148,650,000
Budget estimate, 2025	130,505,000
Committee recommendation	127,114,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$127,114,000 for the operations of the Capitol Power Plant. This is supplemented by \$10,000,000 in reimbursements, for a total of \$137,114,000. The recommendation is \$21,536,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appro-

priation and \$3,391,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Of the amount provided, \$21,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028. The Power Plant provides heat, light, power, and air-conditioning for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, and the Library of Congress buildings; heat, light, and power for the Botanic Garden and the Senate and House Garages; light for the Capitol Grounds' street, park, and floodlighting system; steam heat for the Government Publishing Office and Washington City Post Office, also known as Postal Square; and steam heat and airconditioning for the Union Station complex, Folger Shakespeare Library, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, and the U.S. Supreme Court Building on a reimbursable basis. The Committee supports continuation of the project, initiated in fiscal year 2012, to replace the cooling towers in the West Refrigeration Plant. Within the operating budget, the recommended amounts for the purchase of electricity from the local private utility, payment to the government of the District of Columbia for the provision of water and sewer services, and the procurement of boiler fuel are displayed in the following table.

#### FISCAL YEAR 2025 ESTIMATED UTILITY COSTS

	Cost
Purchase of electrical energy	\$30,462,000
Purchase of natural gas	19,285,000
Purchase of steam	1,085,000
Purchase of oil	2,927,000
Purchase of solid fuel	
Water and Sewer payments	7,611,000
Utilities for Postal Square	844,000
Energy Saving Performance Contracts	17,920,000
Energy Reduction Services Contracts	17,920,000
Reimbursement, Steam & Chilled Water	(10,000,000)
Total	71,465,000

The balance of this appropriation supports a workforce to operate and maintain the Power Plant.

The following table displays the budget detail:

#### CAPITOL POWER PLANT

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$106,144,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Electric Feeder and Communication Duct Banks	16,000,000
Minor Construction	5,000,000 21,000,000
Total, Capitol Power Plant	127,114,000

## LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Appropriations, 2024	\$94,978,000
Budget estimate, 2025	73,202,000
Committee recommendation	83,500,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$83,500,000 for the care and maintenance of the Library buildings and grounds by the AOC, of which \$45,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028. The recommendation is \$11,478,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$10,298,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request.

The following table displays the budget detail:

#### LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$38,000,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Fire Alarm System Repairs, Jefferson	14,100,000
Fire Sprinkler System Replacement, Jefferson	27,400,000 4,000,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	45,500,000
Total, Library Buildings and Grounds	83,500,000

## CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

Appropriations, 2024	\$85,207,000
Budget estimate, 2025	113,352,000
Committee recommendation	92,588,000

The Committee recommends \$92,588,000 for Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security, which is \$7,381,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$20,764,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request, of which \$28,200,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028. This funding will continue to support the maintenance, care and operations of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the USCP and AOC security and resilience/ continuity programs. As noted in the fiscal year 2023, 2024 and 2025 budget submissions of the Capitol Police, the Department's growth since January 6, 2021, and ongoing threats translates into the need for adequate facilities and infrastructure support from within the AOC's annual Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security appropriation. The operational, administrative, training, and logistical support needs of a Federal law enforcement agency of the size and complexity of the USCP has and will continue to have significant fiscal impacts for the AOC. The funds provided by the Committee for core security needs will support the USCP mission and its efforts to transform the manner and means by which the Department performs its mission. The Committee is concerned by the extended timelines and increased costs for addressing critical initiatives. The AOC is directed to implement controls and management focus over these initiatives. Further, the AOC should address any internal impediments, such as non-cleared acquisition processes or disjointed project management that may be impacting the ability to address projects in a timely manner.

The Committee directs the AOC to submit a detailed project status report within 30 days of the issuance of this statement and every 30 days thereafter, for both the Physical Security Assessment Design and Construction Program and the Enhanced Screening Vestibules Design and Construction Program. The detailed project status reports may be provided in a classified setting and should provide specific timelines and details for the execution of the various projects.

The following table displays the budget detail:

## CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$64,388,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Air Conditioning Unit Replacement, Offsite Facility Fire Alarm and Sprinkler System Replacement, Offsite Facility Lease Space Buildout for USCP USCP Security Assessment Support Minor Construction	5,300,000 11,900,000 2,000,000 
Proximity Card	
Subtotal, Project Budget	28,200,000
Total, Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security	92,588,000

## BOTANIC GARDEN

Appropriations, 2024	20,506,000
Budget estimate, 2025	22,859,000
Committee recommendation	22,000,000

The Committee recommends \$22,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Botanic Garden. The recommendation is \$1,494,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$859,000 below the fiscal year 2025 budget request. Of this amount, \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

The following table displays the budget detail:

## **BOTANIC GARDEN**

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$17,000,000
Fiscal Year 2025 Project Budget	
Minor Construction	5,000,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	5,000,000
Total, Botanic Garden	22,000,000

#### CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Appropriations, 2024	\$28,000,000
Budget estimate, 2025	30,614,000
Committee recommendation	28.536.000

The Committee recommends a total of \$28,536,000 for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center. The recommendation is \$536,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$2,078,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

Dome Tour Transparency.—The Committee understands the special privilege afforded only to Senators and Members of the House of Representatives to schedule tours of the U.S. Capitol Dome. Due to the uniqueness of this opportunity and the volume of requests, it has become increasingly challenging for Senate offices to reserve a Dome tour within Capitol Visitor Center [CVC] operational hours. Accordingly, the Committee directs the CVC, in coordination with other relevant entities, to provide a report on policies and procedures associated with Dome tours and to develop recommendations for how the reservation process can become more efficient, to include recommendations for an online booking platform and opportunities for Senator specific tours outside of normally established operational hours. The report should be provided no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act and should include short and longterm recommendations for actions that can be implemented to improve equitable access to Senate offices to reserve Dome tours. Further, the report should include recommendations for providing the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms with the ability to conduct Dome tour during hours outside of the operations of the CVC.

The following table displays the budget detail:

#### CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Item	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget	
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$28,536,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	
Total, Capitol Visitor Center	28,536,000

#### Administrative Provision

SEC. 120. This provision prohibits payment of bonuses to contractors behind schedule or over budget.

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress [LOC] is the largest library in the world and an unmatched source of information for Congress, the American people, and beyond. The LOC acquires, registers, preserves, protects, and makes accessible the creative record of the United States. It is the main research arm of the United States Congress, and its resources and services are used by millions of people every month. Its mission is to support the Congress in fulfilling its constitutional duties and to further the progress of knowledge and cre-

ativity for the benefit of the American people. The LOC's collections include more than 178 million items (books, photographs, maps, sound recordings, films, sheet music, legal materials) in 470 languages. Digital technology is transforming the way the LOC does its work, and the institution plays an important leadership role in superimposing digital library collections and services on those that are analog based. The Library of Congress houses the Congressional Research Service, U.S. Copyright Office, National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, Law Library of Congress, and numerous other programs and services. The Committee rec-ommends a total of \$878,786,000 for the Library of Congress, an increase of \$26,628,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$5,547,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request. In addition to the appropriation, the Library estimates receipts of \$45,895,000, funds from gifts and trusts totaling \$124,175,000, and reimburs-able and revolving funds totaling \$328,789,000. Total funds available to support Library operations, including the Architect of the Capitol's Library Buildings and Grounds account, are expected to be approximately \$962,286,000 in fiscal year 2025 under the Committee recommendation.

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$592,411,000
Budget estimate, 2025	614,578,000
Committee recommendation	611,948,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$611,948,000 for salaries and expenses of the Library of Congress. The recommendation is \$19,537,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$2,630,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. *IT Continuous development.*—The Committee maintains invest-

IT Continuous development.—The Committee maintains investment in the IT continuous development initiative at the Library and directs the Library to brief the Committee regularly on these efforts.

Library of Congress Visitor Experience Project.—Along with budget submissions as part of the regular appropriations process, the Library, in continued coordination with the AOC, is directed to continue to provide bi-weekly status reports to the Committee, including designs, cost estimates, and anticipated timelines for construction and implementation of the Library's updated Visitor Experience Master Plan. These updates should also include progress on fundraising initiatives for private funding, including both donations in-hand and verbal commitments, to support the Visitor Experience. The update should provide specific recommendations for resolving identified issues, so that the project can move toward project implementation and completion.

American Folklife Center—Appalachian Culture and Traditions.—The LOC is directed to brief the Committee within 30 days of enactment of the act on its continued efforts to preserve Appalachian culture and traditions through the American Folklife Center programs and initiatives.

Veterans History Project.—The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,409,000 for the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project [VHP]. VHP is a critically important initiative designed to oversee a nationwide effort to build an archive of oral histories, from World War I through current conflicts, by collecting, preserving, and making available the personal stories of American war veterans and the civilian workers who support them. The VHP collection includes submissions from every State and is the largest oral history project in the United States. The LOC shall provide a briefing within 30 days of the issuance of this report to the Committee on the progress of the VHP.

Teaching with Primary Sources.—The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$12,360,000 for the Library's successful Teaching with Primary Sources program [TPS], a teacher training initiative that encourages educators to incorporate the Library's online primary sources into school curricula. The TPS program achieves this by making grants funding available to a broad array of eligible organizations in every State in order to develop innovative strategies, tools, and materials for meaningful teaching and learning experiences using primary source material from LOC collections. The Committee is aware of the important role that colleges, universities, and other educational institutions and foundations have held in developing and expanding the scope and reach of the TPS program since its authorization in 2005. The Committee encourages the Library to maintain funding for these partnerships to continue and expand this effective teacher training initiative that incorporates the Library's impressive digital collections into school curricula.

The Committee believes that competitive, merit-based grants should be awarded through the TPS Consortium of partner organizations, such as colleges and universities, educational nonprofits, libraries, and advocacy organizations, so that grant recipients benefit from the experiences of consortium members located in different geographic areas experimenting with projects, sharing ideas, and working toward common goals. The Committee directs the Library to provide an update to the Committee on its plans to continue to implement this initiative no later than 90 days after the enactment of this act.

Teaching with Primary Sources—Influence of Language.—The Committee encourages the Library to continue to support Teaching with Primary Sources activities focused on the importance of the various languages that helped to form the foundational development of the United States. These activities should include, but are not limited, the influence of the Spanish language in various States' governing constitutional practices.

Teaching with Primary Sources- Lewis-Houghton Civics and Democracy Initiative.—The Committee appreciates the Library's efforts to develop and implement the Lewis-Houghton civics education grants initiative. The LOC is reminded that the implementation of the initiative shall be done consistent with the intent expressed in Public Law 117–328 and the associated explanatory statement. The Committee remains committed to the success of this program and directs the Library to provide quarterly updates on its progress to implement the funding previously provided for initiating the program and the proposed operating plan for the \$2,300,000 recommended in fiscal year 2025. The Committee directs the Library to provide the first of these updates on this effort within 60 days of issuance of this statement. *Preservation of the Collection.*—The Committee encourages the LOC to evaluate the need for the deacidification program. The LOC may utilize up to \$500,000 in available funds for this purpose in fiscal year 2025.

National Film and Sound Recording Preservation Programs.— The Committee recognizes the important work of the National Film Preservation Program and the National Sound Recording Preservation Program, including the federally chartered National Film and National Recording Preservation Foundations [Foundations]. Consistent with the authorizing statute, the Foundations utilize both public and private matching funds to provide grants to a wide array of educational and non-profit organizations that help preserve historical and cultural artifacts that would otherwise disappear or be destroyed over time. Given that these programs were reauthorized under the Library of Congress Sound Recording and Film Preservation Programs Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–217), the Committee expects that the Library will continue to provide support to these programs to emphasize their importance.

*Congress.gov Update Study.*—The Committee recognizes that Congress.gov is an important tool for members, staff, and the public to follow and understand the congressional process. The Committee appreciates the Library's continuing efforts to date to improve Congress.gov and the ongoing efforts to enhance the capabilities of Congress.gov. The Committee requests that the Library provide regular updates to the public on the ongoing efforts to enhance Congress.gov.

The Committee understands that the study identified potential challenges for further enhancements. The Committee directs the Library to brief the Committees on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration on any continuing challenges and recommend solutions within 90 days of enactment of this act.

Library of Congress Semi-annual Public Forums.-The Committee is aware of the tremendous value the Library of Congress's public forums are for Congress, stakeholders, and the public. The Committee also understands that users of the Library's legislative information services have suggestions regarding ways in which those services could be improved or expanded, and the Committee would like to encourage the continuance of a more structured process for receiving and considering such suggestions, such as the public forums held in previous years. Such a process should also recognize some of the limits on the Library's ability to implement improvements and expansions of these services, however. For example, much of the information presented on the Congress.gov website is not generated or controlled by the Library but rather comes from other sources-particularly various offices of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Government Publishing Office-and expanding or changing the content of Congress.gov will often require those sources to do something new or different. Further, some improvements and expansions would require commitment of substantial time and resources by offices both within and outside the Library that already have a heavy IT workload.

To facilitate public input into the Library's legislative information services and how they could be improved, the Committee directs the Library of Congress to hold these public forums semi-annually on an ongoing basis. The Library should invite a broad range of potentially interested parties to participate, such as academics, advocacy, journalists and public interest organizations, research institutions, libraries, and publishers of legislative information. The Library should also invite and encourage participation from representatives of Legislative Branch stakeholders such as the Clerk of the House, the Secretary of the Senate, the Senate and House Sergeants-at-Arms and the Government Publishing Office.

Following each meeting, the Library shall continue to prepare a report, to be submitted to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, to relevant authorizing committees and officers of the House and Senate, and to be made publicly available on the Library's website. The report should summarize the comments and suggestions made, indicate which could be implemented by the Library itself and which would require action by other entities, roughly estimate the cost and effort needed (where possible), and provide the Library's evaluation and recommendations for further action. The Library is authorized to discuss its recommendations with the public.

*Reading Room Access.*—The Committee appreciates the efforts to date of the Library in opening up the Main Reading Room to the public, while ensuring that critical research activities can continue in an appropriate environment. The Library is directed to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on its continuing efforts to expand public access.

Access to Appropriations Data.—The Committee realizes the complexity of presenting annual and supplemental appropriations data in a comprehensive manner in similar formats for public access. The Committee directs the Library to provide a detailed update within 45 days of the issuance of this report on various options for providing appropriations data for public access; the challenges to doing so in a consistent manner; and the resources that would be required to implement the requirement.

Outreach on Library Programs.—The Committee encourages the LOC to continue and expand, if appropriate, cooperative partnerships, fellowship opportunities, working consortia, and curriculum program associations with minority-serving institutions.

Information Literacy.—In recognition of the critical need for Americans of all ages to develop information literacy skills, the Committee directs the Library of Congress to collaborate with and provide consultative support to the Institute of Museum and Library Services [IMLS] as IMLS carries out the activities of the Information Literacy Taskforce for the priorities and guidelines described in the explanatory statement to accompany the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117–103).

Surplus Books.—The Committee remains committed to the Surplus Book Program and recommends an appropriation of \$150,000 for this purpose.

Data Storage and Migration Methods Initiative.—The Committee supports the Library of Congress' ongoing work to optimize its large-scale data storage infrastructure and explore promising new technical solutions for long-term preservation of digital collections. The Committee directs the Library to continue the effort identified in the feasibility pilot study on the use of evolving data storage and migration methods for the preservation and recovery of library data at scale. The bill provides \$1,000,000 of the total funding provided to remain available until expended for the Library to conduct this work, including the acquisition of necessary subject matter expertise and technical support. The Committee directs the Library to provide a update on the implementation of the pilot study findings no later than 90 days after enactment of the act.

America 250.—The Committee encourages the Library to continue collaboration with the IMLS on outreach and activities to engage the diverse community of museums and libraries across the Nation in celebrating and commemorating the semiquincentennial anniversary of the Nation's founding.

Office of Inspector General.—The LOC Office of Inspector General is provided funding to support no less than 14 FTE and \$4,500,000 in operating funding for fiscal year 2025 from within the LOC's annual appropriation. The authority of the LOC Inspector General extends fully and completely to all entities within the LOC. All entities with the LOC will comply with all requests for assistance and information necessary to facilitate the work of the inspector general. Further, all entities within the LOC office of Inspector General and shall identify for the Committee on Appropriations the reasons why the full implementation of the recommendation cannot or should not be achieved.

#### COPYRIGHT OFFICE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$57,537,000
Budget estimate, 2025	57,543,000
Committee recommendation	60,238,000

The United States Copyright Office plays an important role in our Nation's intellectual property system. Copyright law is the foundation for the creation and dissemination of American artistic works, leading to substantial economic and cultural benefits. The Copyright Office serves multiple central roles in the copyright system, overseeing the registration of copyrighted works, administering the copyright law, and providing counsel to Congress on copyright policy. The Committee recommends the direct appropriation of \$60,238,000 for the Copyright Office, and approves authority to spend receipts of \$44,895,000 and \$1,000,000 available from prior year unobligated balances, for a total of \$106,133,000 in fiscal year 2025. The recommendation is \$2,701,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$2,695,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request.

Information Technology Continuous Development.—The Committee recommends funding for Copyright Office IT continuous development. The Committee directs the Copyright Office and the Library's Office of Chief Information Officer [OCIO] to continue to work together to achieve efficiencies in shared services, while allowing for mission specific continued improvements to be the responsibility of the Copyright Office. The Committee directs the Copyright Office to provide an updated detailed report within 60 days of enactment of the act for the IT continuous development efforts intended to be addressed with the funds provided in fiscal year 2025 and the funds utilization to date. The report should provide detailed information on how these efforts align to the requirements of the communities being served by the Copyright Office.

Artificial Intelligence Impacts on Copyrights.—The Committee recognizes the increasingly important role of Artificial Intelligence [AI] and the potential impact this technology will have on the creation and use of new and existing copyrighted materials. Therefore, the Committee strongly encourages the Copyright Office to continue on an expedited basis with its AI initiative to support its critical roles in administering the Copyright Act and advising Congress and others on copyright law and policy. The Library is directed to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on its continued efforts.

Independence for the Purpose of Issuing Copyright Decisions.— The Committee continues to support the independence of the Copyright Office from the Library of Congress for the purposes of consideration and issuance of copyright decisions.

#### CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$136,080,000
Budget estimate, 2025	142,860,000
Committee recommendation	141,000,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$141,000,000 for the Congressional Research Service [CRS]. The recommendation is \$4,920,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$1,860,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request.

Congressional Research Service Modernization.—The Committee recognizes the tremendous value that CRS has added to Congress by providing objective, authoritative, nonpartisan, and confidential research and analysis on the breadth of policy issues considered during each legislative session since its inception in 1914. The Committee continues to support modernization of CRS mission-specific information systems to increase efficiency of the office while protecting confidentiality of congressional data. An important part of this modernization is the enhancement of the timeliness and transparency of the CRS. The Committee directs the Library of Congress and the CRS to provide quarterly updates on these efforts, to include benchmarks for reaching these expected outcomes.

*Employee Viewpoint Survey.*—The Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey [FEVS] offers organizational leadership with insight into an organization's climate and employee satisfaction. In order to ensure that CRS employees can perform the mission of the agency effectively, the Committee directs the Librarian of Congress to continue to formulate CRS specific questions for the LOC's annual FEVS to gauge CRS employee satisfaction and to use employee responses to guide CRS leadership objectives and performance measurement.

Science and Technology Research Capacity.-The Committee continues to support CRS's efforts to increase the depth and breadth of its capacity to provide research and policy analysis on current and emerging legislative issues related to science and technology [S&T] and Federal uses and oversight of S&T. The Committee encourages CRS to continue developing this capacity, as recommended in the National Academy of Public Administration study directed in conference report H.R. 115-929. This added expertise will allow CRS to meet the expanding requirements of Congress for timely, complex, and multidisciplinary analysis of policy issues related to these rapidly changing technologies, the role of the Federal Government in oversight of such technologies, and the effects of Federal S&T policies across all sectors. The Committee directs the CRS to partner with the Government Accountability Office to maximize the legislative branch capabilities in this area. The Committee also encourages CRS to increase outreach efforts to make Members and congressional staff more aware of the resources it provides related to S&T policy analysis, including on current and emerging S&T issues Congress is examining. The CRS shall pro-vide a briefing to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this act on its continued progress to expand the CRS' capacity.

Expansion of Big Data Analytics Capacity.—The Committee continues to have interest in CRS's ability to analyze and create forecast models using big data sets. The Committee directs the CRS to provide an update within 60 days of the issuance of this report to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate on its progress in this area.

Augmenting Existing Data Analysis Capacity.—The Committee encourages CRS to continue to explore ways to augment its ability to perform quantitative analysis of research data. The Committee recommends \$3,469,000 to expand CRS's data analytics capacity for big data. Further, within 90 days of enactment of this act, CRS shall update the Committee on its ongoing efforts, the future plans for meeting established capacity expectations, and the resources necessary to do so.

Casework Contact Information for Agency Liaisons.—The CRS is directed to provide a report to the Committee on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of the act on the feasibility of making casework related executive and legislative branch agency liaison contact information, including issue areas where applicable, for use by the congressional community. This information should include the name, office phone number, email address, and issue areas for each identified liaison. The information should also be established in an accessible format that is filterable by each individual data set for each liaison, as well as routinely updated.

## NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$66,130,000
Budget estimate, 2025	58,258,000
Committee recommendation	65,600,000

This appropriation supports a national reading program for eligible residents of the United States and U.S. citizens living overseas who are blind or print disabled. Books and magazines in braille and various recorded formats are produced by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled [NLS] for distribution through a network of State and locally supported libraries. At present, 55 regional libraries in 49 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands house and circulate books and magazines to eligible readers. Twenty-eight subregional libraries in 10 States and Guam assist at the local public library level. In addition, 15 Advisory and Outreach Centers assist regional libraries in provision of services. Fifty-three of the regional libraries and three separate cooperating agencies distribute sound reproducers. Two multi-State centers, under contract to the NLS, store and distribute books and other materials in their geographical region. The program supports a readership of approximately 300,000.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$65,600,000 for salaries and expenses for NLS. The recommendation is \$530,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$7,342,000 above the fiscal year 2025 request.

The Committee continues its full support for the work of the NLS in providing high-level services to the constituency it serves.

The Committee encourages the Library, in consultation and coordination with the IMLS, to provide increased assistance to the State Library Administrative Agencies to expand access to materials from the NLS, with additional support provided to IMLS for these activities.

## Administrative Provision

Section 130 limits to \$328,789,000 the amount that may be obligated during fiscal year 2025 from various reimbursements and revolving funds available to the Library of Congress.

## GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

The U.S. Government Publishing Office [GPO] is the Federal Government's primary centralized resource for gathering, cata-loging, producing, providing, and preserving published information in all its forms. By law and tradition, the GPO's mission is to provide expert publishing and printing services to all three branches of Government; to provide, in partnership with Federal depository libraries, permanent public access to the printed and electronic information products of all three branches of the Federal Government; and to sell copies of authentic printed and electronic documents and other government information products to the public. GPO's core mission dates to 1813 when Congress determined that information regarding the work of the Federal Government should be available to all Americans. Over 200 years later, GPO's mission remains unchanged. However, the means for producing and distributing that information has transformed dramatically with the ad-vent of the digital revolution. Today, GPO provides free online public access to more than 1.5 million searchable titles, including the Budget of the U.S. Government, the Code of Federal Regulations, the Congressional Record, and congressional bills, hearings, and reports. GPO also provides access to Government information in digital format through apps, eBooks, and related technologies. Since 2009, GPO has experienced more than 1.5 billion digital retrievals from its Federal Digital System, and in February 2019 GPO introduced the next generation of its digital information system, govinfo.gov, symbolizing the evolution of how Americans access Government information in the digital era.

GPO Printing Modernization.—The Committee continues its interest in the pace of modernization at GPO, specifically as it relates to the use of outdated and custom printing methods at a time when the adoption of commercial, off-the-shelf technology may present advantages in operational and fiscal efficiency. The Committee directs GPO, within 180 days of enactment of this act, to submit to this Committee a detailed report on the agency's current print practices; how GPO is enabling agencies to use color, cameras, modern interfaces and software; and, other existing solutions and technology to improve the agencies communications with taxpayers, beneficiaries, veterans and citizens.

Office of Inspector General.—The GPO Office of Inspector General is provided funding to support no less than 25 FTE and \$7,000,000 in operating funds for fiscal year 2025 from within the GPO's annual appropriation. The GPO shall prioritize the resolution of open recommendations from the GPO Office of Inspector General and shall identify for the Committee on Appropriations the reasons why the full implementation of the recommendation cannot or should not be achieved.

#### CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

Appropriations, 2024	\$83,000,000
Budget estimate, 2025	83,000,000
Committee recommendation	83,000,000

The appropriation for Congressional Publishing supports transparency of the congressional process by funding digital and print publication of congressional proceedings, including the Congressional Record, bills, amendments, Committee reports, and hearing transcripts. This appropriation also supports the direct publication and printing needs of Congress. The Committee recommends \$83,000,000 for congressional publishing. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and equal to the fiscal year 2025 request. The following table compares the component categories within this account for fiscal year 2024 and the fiscal year 2025 request. The Committee has not recommended separate amounts for each activity in order to give GPO the flexibility to meet changing requirements.

#### CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

	Fiscal year 2024 enacted	Fiscal year 2025 requested
Congressional Record Publications	\$24,116,000	\$24,116,000
Miscellaneous publications	2,381,000	2,381,000
Miscellaneous publishing and services	20,466,000	20,466,000
Details to Congress	8,057,000	8,057,000
Document envelopes and document franks	591,000	591,000
Business and committee calendars	4,757,000	4,757,000
Bills, resolutions, and amendments	4,632,000	4,632,000
Committee reports	1,890,000	1,890,000
Documents	2,494,000	2,494,000

## CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING—Continued

	Fiscal year 2024 enacted	Fiscal year 2025 requested
Hearings Committee prints Transfers	15,432,000 654,000 (2,470,000)	15,432,000 654,000 (2,470,000)
Total	83,000,000	83,000,000

## PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$37,388,000
Budget estimate, 2025	41,664,000
Committee recommendation	39,000,000

This appropriation provides for salaries and expenses associated with the distribution of electronic and printed Government documents to depository and international exchange libraries, the cataloging and indexing of Government publications, and the distribution of electronic and printed publications authorized by law at the request of Members of Congress and other Government agencies. The Committee recommends \$39,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Public Information Programs of the Office of the Superintendent of Documents. The recommendation is \$1,612,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$2,664,000 below to the fiscal year 2025 request. The Committee supports GPO's introduction of its next generation information system, govinfo.gov, as well as the agency's other information technology systems, given that these efforts continue to reduce costs.

## GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

Appropriations, 2024	\$11,611,000
Budget estimate, 2025	11,425,000
Committee recommendation	11,425,000

The Committee recommends \$11,425,000 for the GPO Business Operations Revolving Fund. The recommendation is \$186,000 below the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and equal to the fiscal year 2025 request. The Committee supports continued investment in the Revolving Fund as the most efficient solution to both cutting costs and ensuring efficient online access to government documents. One reason GPO is able to meet the increased work demands and continually reduce costs is through its constant focus on capital investments to modernize information systems, production equipment, and major facility repairs.

## GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2024	\$811,894,000
Budget estimate, 2025	915,957,000
Committee recommendation	883,139,000

The U.S. Government Accountability Office [GAO] is an independent nonpartisan agency that was established by the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921 (Public Law 67–13) to act as an auditor for Congress and investigate how the Federal Government spends taxpayer dollars.

The function of GAO includes auditing agency operations to determine whether Federal funds are being spent efficiently and effectively; investigating allegations of illegal and improper activities; reporting on how well Government programs and policies are meeting their objectives; performing policy analyses and outlining options for congressional consideration; and issuing legal decisions and opinions, such as bid protest rulings and reports on agency rules.

The Committee recommends funding of \$883,139,000 for salaries and expenses of the GAO. The recommendation is \$71,245,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$32,818,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. The funding provided will allow GAO to continue to support for the work in evolving science and technology issues; cybersecurity threats; and rising healthcare costs. GAO will also be able to continue the multiphase initiative to modernize its aging information technology infrastructure and begin to address the backlog of deferred maintenance at its headquarters building.

Additionally, \$33,424,000 is authorized in offsetting collections derived from rent receipts and reimbursements for conducting financial audits of Government corporations, for a total of \$916,563,000.

GAO Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics Team.—The Committee applauds the efforts of GAO's STAA team and encourages STAA to continue providing Congress with unbiased explanatory data, as well as assessments of future science and technology issues relevant to Congress. The Committee also supports the ongoing growth and adaptation of the STAA team to meet congressional needs, to include the impacts of artificial intelligence. In the fiscal year 2019, the Committee directed GAO to provide a comprehensive plan to reconfigure its science and technology function to better address the evolving and timely needs of Congress, and in January 2019, GAO established a Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics [STAA] team. In consultation with internal and external stakeholders, academic and nonprofit organizations, and Members of Congress, the STAA team submitted its plan for staffing needs, resources, areas of expertise, and the products and services that the team will provide or is currently providing to Congress. The plan demonstrated STAA's value and ability to assess upcoming technological and digital innovations. Presently, the STAA is providing Congress with continued technology assessments, technical assistance, and reports in the areas of oversight of Federal technology and science programs, as well as best practices in engineering sciences and cybersecurity. The Committee directs the GAO to update its comprehensive plan within 90 days of enactment of this act to reflect current science, technology and analytics requirements and to provide recommendations for enhancing, as necessary, the GAO's capacity to provide support to Congress to meet these new requirements.

Congressionally Directed Spending and Community Project Funding Transparency and Accountability.—The Committee directs the GAO to again undertake an audit of Congressionally Directed Spending [CDS] and Community Project Funding [CPF] contained in fiscal year 2025 appropriations legislation. The audit shall include the same characteristics GAO adhered to in its fiscal year 2022, 2023 and 2024 CDS and CPF directive after consulting with the Committees on Appropriations. In conducting its audit, GAO shall provide periodic briefings and reports based on available data to the Committees.

Unimplemented Government Accountability Office Recommendations.—Within 180 days of enactment of this act, GAO shall publish on its website and provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the House Oversight Committee a report estimating the financial costs of unimplemented GAO recommendations.

Appropriations and Budget Law.—The Committee acknowledges that GAO legal decisions, including those related to the Congressional Review Act, are often fact specific and time consuming. The Committee commends the improvements made by the GAO Appropriations Law Group to increase resources dedicated to supporting Congress' oversight role. The Committee continues the directives contained in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 117–328. Further, the GAO is directed to brief the Committee on its continued efforts to expeditiously respond to Congressional Review Act requests, including the number of requests received annually and the average response time to those requests, within 90 days of enactment of this act.

GAO Study on Agency Responsiveness to Congressional Casework Requests.—The Committee directs the Government Accountability Office, within 180 days of passage of this Act, to study the current status of the responsiveness of executive branch agencies to Member office inquiries on behalf of constituents seeking assistance. Among other things, the study should provide detailed findings and make recommendations for minimum response standards, as well as standard agency personnel and technology needs to provide accurate and timely responses to Congressional inquiries.

Government Accountability Office Reports as Text Files.—The Government Accountability Office is encouraged to improve congressional and public access to the information contained in its reports and testimony by publishing that information both as PDF and in a text format, ideally a structured or semi-structured text format with appropriate metadata. In light of the large corpus of documents, GAO should start with the documents it publishes in fiscal year 2025 and as practicable, work to make more of the backdocuments publicly available online in PDF and in structured data text format (such as TXT, HTML, XML) with accompanying metadata.

GAO Office of Inspector General.—The Committee recommends no less than \$2,400,000 in operating funds and no fewer than 20 FTE within the GAO OIG. The Committee believes that independence between legislative branch OIGs and their respective reporting agencies is important and reminds the GAO that the budget and FTE amounts in the report are expected to be provided as a floor for the OIG to conduct its oversight mission.

## CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND

Appropriations, 2024	\$6,000,000
Budget estimate, 2025	7,200,000
Committee recommendation	6,500,000

The Committee recommends \$6,500,000 as a payment to the Congressional Office for International Leadership [COIL] Fund, which is \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$700,000 below the fiscal year 2025 request. Founded in 1999 by Congress, COIL, formerly the Open World Leadership Center, serves as the dedicated support agency for congressional legislative diplomacy efforts. Legislative diplomacy is crucial in providing critical advice and consultation to nascent parliamentary bodies trying to build nonpartisan resources to improve legislative output. The Office provides this support for Members of Congress by encouraging both inter-parliamentary and judicial contacts, and by conducting exchanges that establish lasting professional relationships between emerging leaders and their U.S. counterparts. The Office also supports Congress in achieving outcomes that include the further promotion of common values, particularly strengthening international diplomatic relations between legislative bodies, and lasting partnerships between Members of Congress and foreign parliamentarians.

The Office maintains a vast network of more than 29,000 alumni in strategic countries across Eurasia. These alumni are placed at all levels of their societies, including regional and Federal elected positions and ministries. Their presence provides assurances that U.S. interests are understood and considered.

*Ukraine.*—The Committee continues to be deeply troubled by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and supports COIL's efforts to reinstate programming in Ukraine, as possible. The Committee further urges COIL's engagement with Ukrainians outside of Ukraine to maintain democratic advancement throughout wartime.

*Expansion of Program to Other Countries.*—The Committee continues to request that COIL keeps the Committee apprised of any new developments on expanding programming to include other regions and countries that may be of strategic necessity to the United States.

## JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Appropriations, 2024	\$430,000
Budget estimate, 2025	430,000
	430,000

The John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development was created by Congress in 1988. The mandate of the Center is to promote and strengthen public service. The Committee recommends the budget request of \$430,000 as authorized by 2 U.S.C. 1105, for the Center's congressional staff training and development programs.

## TITLE II

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

Included are several general provisions carried annually in this act (sections 201–211), as follows:

Section 201 bans the use of appropriated funds for service and maintenance of private vehicles, except under such regulations as may be promulgated by the House Administration Committee and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, respectively.

Section 202 limits the availability for obligation of appropriations to the fiscal year for which it is expressly provided in this act.

Section 203 provides that any pay rate and title designation for a staff position created in this act, and not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929, is to be made permanent law by this act. Further, any pay rate and title change for a position provided for in the 1929 Act is to be made permanent law by this act and any changes in the official expenses of Members, officers, and committees, and in the clerk hire of the House and Senate are to be made permanent law by this act.

Section 204 bans the use of funds for contracts unless such contracts are matters of public record and are available for public inspection.

Section 205 authorizes legislative branch entities participating in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council [LBFMC] to finance the costs of the LBFMC.

Section 206 prohibits unauthorized transfers of funds to other agencies.

Section 207 ensures continuation of the staff-led tours of the Capitol.

Section 208 prohibits funds made available in this act to be used to acquire certain telecommunications equipment unless the agency meets certain criteria.

Section 209 prohibits the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography, except for law enforcement investigation, prosecution, or adjudication activities, or other official government activities.

Section 210 directs agencies in this act to work with food service providers to reduce or eliminate plastic waste.

Section 211 relates to limitations to the cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress.

Section 212 relates to the extension of PUMP Act protections to the Legislative Branch.

## COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7, RULE XVI, OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 7 of rule XVI requires that Committee reports accompanying general appropriations bills identify each recommended amendment which proposes an item of appropriation which is not made to carry out the provisions of an existing law, a treaty stipulation, or an act or resolution previously passed by the Senate during that session. The Committee is filing an original bill, which is not covered under this rule, but reports this information in the spirit of full disclosure.

## COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7(c), RULE XXVI OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Pursuant to paragraph 7(c) of rule XXVI, on July 11, 2024, the Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill (S. 4678) making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes, provided, that the bill be subject to amendment and that the bill be consistent with the subcommittee funding guidance, and provided that the Chair of the Committee or her designee be authorized to offer the substance of the original bill as a Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute to the House companion measure, by a recorded vote of 27–0, a quorum being present. The vote was as follows:

Nays

Yeas Chair Murray Mr. Durbin Mr. Reed Mr. Tester Mrs. Shaheen Mr. Merkley Mr. Coons Mr. Schatz Ms. Baldwin Mr. Murphy Mr. Manchin Mr. Van Hollen Mr. Heinrich Mr. Peters Ms. Sinema Ms. Collins Mr. McConnell Ms. Murkowski Mr. Graham Mr. Moran Mr. Hoeven Mr. Boozman Mr. Kennedy Mrs. Hyde-Smith Mr. Hagerty Mrs. Britt Mrs. Fischer

## COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 12, RULE XXVI, OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 12 of rule XXVI requires that Committee reports on a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part of any statute include "(a) the text of the statute or part thereof which is proposed to be repealed; and (b) a comparative print of that part of the bill or joint resolution making the amendment and of the statute or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by stricken-through type and italics, parallel columns, or other appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions which would be made by the bill or joint resolution if enacted in the form recommended by the Committee."

In compliance with this rule, changes in existing law proposed to be made by the bill are shown as follows: existing law to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italic; and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman.

## TITLE 2—THE CONGRESS

## CHAPTER 24—CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

## SUBCHAPTER II-EXTENSION OF RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS

PART A—EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION, FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE, FAIR LABOR STANDARDS, EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION, WORKER ADJUSTMENT AND RETRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND REEM-PLOYMENT OF VETERANS, AND INTIMIDATION

## §1313. Rights and protections under Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938

## (a) Fair labor standards

## (1) In general

The rights and protections established by subsections (a)(1) and (d) of section 6, section 7, [and section 12(c)] section 12(c), and section 18D of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206 (a)(1) and (d), 207, 212(c), 218d) shall apply to covered employees.

# BUDGETARY IMPACT OF BILL

# PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PURSUANT TO SEC. 308(a), PUBLIC LAW 93–344, AS AMENDED

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority		Outl	Outlays	
	Committee allocation	Amount in bill	Committee allocation	Amount in bill	
Comparison of amounts in the bill with the subcommittee allocation for 2025: Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch:					
Mandatory	143	143	143	<sup>1</sup> 143	
Discretionary	7,000	4,914	5,162	<sup>1</sup> 5,152	
Defense					
Non-defense	7,000	4,914			
Projection of outlays associated with the recommendation:	,	,			
2025				<sup>2</sup> 3,931	
2026				638	
2027				176	
2028				48	
2029 and future years				(9)	
Financial assistance to State and local governments for					
2025	NA		NA	2	

<sup>1</sup> Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority. <sup>2</sup> Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority. NA: Not applicable.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 [In thousands of dollars]

[In thousands of dollars]	ollarsj				
Item	2024 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	recommendation $(+ \text{ or } -)$
				2024 appropriation	Budget estimate
TITLE I					
SENATE					
Expense Allowances					
Vice President	20	20	20		
President Pro Tempore of the Senate	40	40	40		
Majority Leader of the Senate Minority Londor of the Senate	40	40	40		
Millority Leaver of the Seriate	10	10	10		
Minority Whip of the Senate	10	10	10		
President Pro Tempore Emeritus of the Senate	15	15	15		
Chairman of the Majority Conference Committee	5	5.	ι Ωι		
Chairman of the Minority Conference Committee	0 4	0 4	<u>م</u>		
Chaiman of the Minority Policy Committee	2.0	ۍ م	с <u>с</u>		
Subtotal, Expense Allowances	195	195	195		
Representation Allowances for the Majority and Minority Leaders	30	30	30		
Total, Expense Allowances	225	225	225		
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Vice President	3,000	3,095	3,102	+102	7+7
Office of the President Pro Tempore	843	888	8/3	+ 30	- 15
Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders	6,272	6,590	6,486	+214	-104
Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips	3,934 19,319	4,136 19,633	4,070 20,785	+ 136 + 1,466	-66 + 1,152

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

	,					
tem	2024 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	recommendation h (+ or -)	
				2024 appropriation	Budget estimate	
Ponterono, com mitteos	060 6	960 8	030 6	1 3 3	33	
-Volited elice contributees	070'0	4, 020	0,300	761 +	- 00 -	
UTICES OF THE SECTETATES OF THE CONTETENCE OF THE MAJORIY AND THE CONTETENCE OF THE WITHOUTY	932 910 c	1110 T	30D V 0VV	+ 34	01 – 12	
ruius vuihimutees	0,910 606	4,110	4,044 616	+ 104	- 00 - 73	
Unite of ure briefpalli	30.288	31 819	32 462	+ 2 1 7 1	- 643	
Office of the Serviciant at Arms and Durrkenner 1/	115,875	132 863	121 739	+ 5,864	- 11 124	
Offices of the Secretaries for the Majority and Minority	2.644	2.782	2,689	+ 45	- 93	
Agency contributions and related expenses 1/	86,003	92,069	91,581	+5,578	- 488	
Outlays						
Total, Salaries, Officers and Employees	277,838	304,036	293,770	+ 15,932	-10,266	00
						,
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate						
Salaries and expenses	8,650	9,450	9,094	+444	- 356	
Office of Senate Legal Counsel						
Salaries and expenses	1,365	1,429	1,387	+ 22	- 42	
Expense Allowances of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, and Secretaries for the Majority and Minority of the Senate						
Expense allowances	30	30	30			
Contingent Expenses of the Senate						
Inquiries and investigations	174.000	187.200	187.200	+13.200		
Expenses of United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control	582	610	591	6+	- 19	
Secretary of the Senate	11/,494	241 101	11/,299	+ 195	- 201	
Sergeant at Arms Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Fund	1 34, 342	241,131	204,000	ocn's +	161,16 —	
Sergeant at Arms Fellowship Fund		6,277	6,277	+ 6,277		
	26,517	29,028	29,028	+ 2,511		

Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account 1/	552,600 300	571,790 300	588,381 300	+ 35,781	+16,591
Total, Contingent Expenses of the Senate	966,435	1,053,896	1,033,076	+ 66,641	- 20,820
Total, Senate	1,254,543	1,369,066	1,337,582	+ 83,039	- 31,484
	580 V	580 V	686 V		
Joint conjointe committee	4,203 3,675 13,554	4,263	4,203	- 3,675 + 896	- 400
				ŝ	
medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and anowances	4,704	4,410	4,000	96	007 +
Salaries and expenses 1/	1,766	1,838	1,838	+72	
Total, Joint Items	28,042	25,387	25,237	- 2,805	- 150
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries	588,627 202,846	636,546 263,844	620,401 212,155	+ 31,744 + 9,309	-16,145 -51,689
Total, Capitol Police	791,473	900,390	832,556	+ 41,083	-67,834
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS	8 150	8 592	8 200	4 	- 30
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	/0,000	10,129	/ 3,000	+ 3,000	+ 2,2/1
Capital Construction and Operations	152,507 95.688	190,316 53 193	153,280 51 602	+ 773 + 44 086	- 37,036 - 1.591
Capitol grounds Capitol grounds Senate office buildings	16,600 138,751	34,867 209,996	21,422 21,422 157,948	+ 4,822 + 19,197	-13,445 -52,048

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

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[In thousands of dollars]	Jollars]				
ttem	2024 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee	Senate Committee recommendation compared with $(+ \text{ or } -)$	recommendation (+ or -)
				2024 appropriation	Budget estimate
Capitol Power Plant	158,650 - 10,000	140,505 	137,114 	- 21,536	- 3,391
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant	148,650	130,505	127,114	- 21,536	-3,391
Library buildings and grounds	94,978 85,207 20,506 28,000	73,202 113,352*//* 22,859 30,614	83,500 92,588 22,000 28,536	-11,478 + 7,381 + 1,494 + 1,494 + 536	+ 10,298 - 20,764 - 259 - 2,078
Total, Architect of the Capitol	780,887	858,904	737,990	- 42,897	-120,914
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS Salaries and expenses	592,411 103,128 - 44,591 - 1,000	614,578 104,745 - 47,202	611,948 106,133 - 44,895 - 1,000	+ 19,537 + 3,005 - 304	- 2,630 + 1,388 + 2,307 - 1,000
Subtotal, Copyright Office	57,537	57,543	60,238	+ 2,701	+ 2,695
Congressional Research Service, Salaries and expenses: Salaries and expenses	136,080	142,860	141,000	+ 4,920	- 1,860
Salaries and expenses	66,130	58,258	65,600	-530	+ 7,342
Total, Library of Congress	852,158	873,239	878,786	+ 26,628	+ 5,547

				65	9				
- 2,664	- 2,664	- 32,818	- 32,818	- 700		-249,138	-4,000 - 26,000	- 30,000	
+ 1,612 - 186	+ 1,426	+ 30,693 + 40,552	+ 71,245	+ 500		+181,269			- 174
83,000 39,000 11,425	133,425	916,563 — 33,424	883,139	6,500	430	4,916,845	- 4,000	-4,000	
83,000 41,664 11,425	136,089	949,381 — 33,424	915,957	7,200	430	5,165,983	26,000	26,000	
83,000 37,388 11,611	131,999	885,870 	811,894	6,000	430	4,735,576	-4,000	-4,000	174
GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE Congressional publishing Congressional publishing Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents, Salaries and expenses Coveniment Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund	Total, Government Publishing Office	GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE Salaries and expenses	Total, Government Accountability Office	CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND Payment to the Congressional Office for International Leadership (COIL) Fund	Stennis Center for Public Service	Total, Title I, Legislative Branch	TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS Adjustments to Compensation (CBO estimate)	Total, Title II, General Provisions	OTHER APPROPRIATIONS FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024 (PL 118–22) Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress

omparative statement of New Budget (obligational) authority for fiscal year 2024 and Budget estimates and amounts recommended in the Bill For Fiscal year 2025—Continued
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[In thousands of dollars]

ltem	2024 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	recommendation $(+ \text{ or } -)$
				2024 appropriation	Budget estimate
Grand total	4,731,750	5,191,983	4,912,845	+181,095	- 279,138
Appropriations	(4,815,726) (-83,976) (4,731,576) (174)	(5,235,407) (-43,424) (5,191,983)	(4,956,269) (-43,424) (4,912,845)	(+140,543) (+40,552) (+181,269) (-174)	( - 279,138) (-279,138)