[Roll No. 675]

AYES—216

Aderholt
Bachus
Baker
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Bereuter
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Coble
Cole
Collins
Cox
Crane
Crenshaw
Culberson
Cunningham
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
DeMint
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Emerson
English
Everett
Ferguson
Foley
Forbes
Fossella
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Goss
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Isakson
Issa
Istook
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas (OK)
Manzullo
McCotter
McCrery
McHugh
McInnis
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy
Musgrave
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neugebauer
Ney
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Oxley
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Saxton
Schrock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tauzin
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Toomey
Turner (OH)
Upton
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (FL)

NOES—189

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Ballance
Becerra
Bell
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Case
Clay
Clyburn
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Cramer
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dooley (CA)
Doyle
Edwards
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Flake
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley (OR)
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kleczka
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Majette
Maloney
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Menendez
Michaud
Millender-McDonald
Miller (NC)
Mollohan
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Sanchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sandlin
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velazquez
Visclosky
Waters
Watson
Watt
Weiner
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NOT VOTING—29

Akin
Burr
Burton (IN)
Carson (OK)
Cubin
Doggett
Feeney
Filner
Fletcher
Gallegly
Gephardt
Houghton
Janklow
John
Lantos
Lynch
Meehan
Meeks (NY)
Miller, George
Moore
Nadler
Northup
Pelosi
Rush
Sanders
Taylor (NC)
Waxman
Wexler
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1343

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 675, due to urgent constituent support commitments in my congressional district, I missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference agreement accompanying H.R. 2673, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2673, CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 473, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 2673) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 473, the conference report is considered read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of November 25, 2003, Book II, at page H 12323.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

□ 1345

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I call attention to the fact that this conference report was filed on November 25, nearly 2 weeks ago, so that every Member has had 2 weeks, if they wanted to, to review this bill to see what was in it and to see what was not in it.

Something that I always enjoy reporting to the House and reminding the House of, and they probably get tired of hearing me say it, is that we passed all of our bills in the House, all of our appropriation bills, before the August recess, except for two; and those last two we passed on September 9, the first week back after the August district work period. So the House has done its job. It has done a good job. What we are doing here today is we are passing an omnibus appropriation bill that includes seven bills that we have already passed in the House. I say that again: these seven bills that are in this package already passed the House once. So this is now the omnibus bill; this is the conference report on that omnibus bill.

I will not take a lot of time to say what the seven bills are that are included because I think everyone knows what those final seven bills are. But I want to say that there are some important items that need to be passed now, today, and not in January or February. Because if we were to operate under a continuing resolution until late January or sometime in February, there are some important funding issues that would not be resolved.

For example, the $2.9 billion increase in medical care for veterans is a very important issue, and one that the House agreed to strongly. That increase will not take any effect whatsoever until such time as this bill passes. A CR will not provide for that 2.9 additional billions of dollars for veterans health care.

The same factor applies for education money. The same increase would not be available under a CR that is available under this bill.

For the FBI, counterterrorism and embassy security and other security issues of these types, the increased money that we made available for security in those areas would not be available under a CR. And the list goes on. The list is lengthy.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is important that we pass this bill today, and I hope that we pass it with large numbers, large enough so that our friends at the other end of the Capitol understand that we are serious about this government of ours functioning; that we are serious about the issues that we brought to the attention of the Congress and that we intend to see them implemented.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if there is anybody who wants to find something at fault, something to complain about in this bill, they can do it, because there are seven bills. I am sure there will be something there each of us may not like. But I tell my colleagues that it is the best product that we could provide for, considering the fact that we were negotiating with Republicans and Democrats in the House, we were negotiating with the Senate Republicans and Democrats, we were negotiating with the leadership, and we were negotiating with the White House. I think all in all we have come to a pretty good conclusion considering the fact that we were able to bring most of those issues together and to bring a bill that we believe we can pass with a great number today.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to the House the conference report on the Consolidated Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2004.

Included in this bill are the following appropriations bills: Agriculture; Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary; District of Columbia; Foreign Operations; Labor, Education and Health and Human Services; Transportation and Treasury; and Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development.

So as you can see, this bill is a tremendously important bill. I'm sure it will not please everyone in all respects but it does address many important needs of this country.

I believe we have done an extraordinary job in holding spending to appropriate levels—the bill totals $328.1 billion in discretionary funding. It is a fiscally responsible bill that complies with the fiscal parameters prescribed by the President limiting total discretionary spending to $786 billion or approximately 3 percent increase over last year's comparable levels. Additional spending has been offset by a $1.8 billion rescission from any unobligated balances in the Department of Defense, as well as from P.L. 107–38 and P.L. 107–117, the $40 billion post 9/11 supplemental, exempting from cuts any relief funds for New York, Washington, D.C. area, and rural Pennsylvania. It also includes an across the board reduction of .59 percent to all programs, projects and activities exempting Defense and Military Construction funds.

I would like to highlight a few items that I believe are of interest to many Members:

Veterans Medical Care is increased by $2.9 billion over last year, the largest onetime increase ever.

D.C. School Choice—$40 million is provided to expand school choice in the District of Columbia, including $13 million to improve public education, $13 million to expand charter schools, and $14 million to provide opportunity scholarships for students in the District of Columbia.

Special Education Grants are funded at $10.1 billion, $1.2 billion more than last year, and over three times the amount provided in 1995.

Election Reform—Provides an additional $1 billion for programs under the Help America Vote Act.

International HIV/AIDS Assistance—Provides $2.4 billion in international assistance for HIV/AID, TB and Malaria, the highest level in history.

Millennium Challenge Account—Provides $1 billion for the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Highway Spending—Total highway spending amounts to $33.8 billion, an increase of $4.5 billion over the President's request and $6.1 billion over the FY03 guaranteed amount.

Convention Security—$50 million is provided for security expenses at the national party conventions in Boston and New York City.

Embassy Security—$200 million is provided for worldwide embassy security upgrades.

FBI—$513 million in increases are provided for the FBI to fight terrorism.

NIH—the bill continues our commitment to the NIH by providing an increase of $1 billion over last year.

National Service Corporation is funded at $584 million, $200 million above last year.

Faith- and Community-Based Initiatives are increased including the Compassion Capital Fund at $48 million and Mentoring Children of Prisoners at $50 million.

Social Security—Provides a 6.1 percent increase to the Social Security Administration to improve service delivery of Social Security benefits and accelerate the time it takes to process disability claims.

I believe we've have reached a point of no return—we must now pass this bill and turn our attention to the FY 2005 budget process.

I encourage all Members to support this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD detailed information on each of the appropriation bills in this omnibus legislation.

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS						
Production, Processing, and Marketing						
Office of the Secretary	3,320	10,068	3,468	10,046	5,092	+1,772
Executive Operations:						
Chief Economist	8,510	12,264	8,716	8,707	8,707	+197
National Appeals Division	13,670	14,242	13,670	13,997	13,670	---
Office of Budget and Program Analysis	7,270	7,980	7,749	7,544	7,740	+470
Homeland Security staff	---	1,479	---	910	499	+499
Office of the Chief Information Officer	14,993	31,334	14,993	15,710	15,493	+500
Common computing environment	132,289	177,714	100,999	118,789	119,289	-13,000
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	5,496	7,902	5,785	5,496	5,684	+188
Working capital fund	11,922	---	---	---	---	-11,922
Total, Executive Operations	194,150	252,915	151,912	171,153	171,082	-23,068
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights	397	808	808	794	808	+411
Office of Civil Rights	---	17,550	---	15,445	17,450	+17,450
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	660	793	678	673	673	+13
Agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments	(186,879)	(199,332)	(156,091)	(187,022)	(156,469)	(-30,410)
Payments to GSA	120,796	124,332	123,532	123,910	123,910	+3,114
Building operations and maintenance	32,327	41,000	32,559	32,559	32,559	+232
Repairs, renovations, and construction	33,756	34,000	---	30,553	---	-33,756
Hazardous materials management	15,583	15,713	15,713	15,611	15,611	+28
Departmental administration	37,629	27,578	40,597	23,031	23,031	-14,598
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations	3,796	4,186	3,796	3,825	3,796	---
Office of Communications	9,031	10,084	9,245	9,228	9,228	+197
Office of the Inspector General	73,417	81,895	78,114	75,781	77,281	+3,864
Office of the General Counsel	34,700	37,328	34,700	35,343	34,700	---
Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics	584	792	597	596	596	+12
Economic Research Service	68,674	76,657	71,402	69,902	71,402	+2,728
National Agricultural Statistics Service	138,448	136,182	129,800	128,922	128,922	-9,526
Census of Agriculture	(41,274)	(25,279)	(25,279)	(25,279)	(25,279)	(-15,995)
Agricultural Research Service:						
Salaries and expenses	1,035,130	987,303	1,014,000	1,045,533	1,088,892	+53,762
Buildings and facilities	118,703	24,000	35,900	46,000	63,810	-54,893
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	110,000	---	---	---	---	-110,000
Total, Agricultural Research Service	1,263,833	1,011,303	1,049,900	1,091,533	1,152,702	-111,131
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service:						
Research and education activities	616,792	514,228	597,372	617,575	621,447	+4,655
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund	(7,054)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(+1,946)
Extension activities	450,520	422,268	439,742	450,084	441,731	-8,789
Integrated activities	46,439	62,865	62,942	46,711	50,493	+4,054
Outreach for socially disadvantaged farmers	3,470	4,003	8,470	3,470	5,970	+2,500
Total, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	1,117,221	1,003,364	1,108,526	1,117,840	1,119,641	+2,420
Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs	725	791	725	736	725	---
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:						
Salaries and expenses	682,757	694,897	725,502	705,552	720,580	+37,823
Buildings and facilities	9,924	4,996	4,996	4,996	4,996	-4,928
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	692,681	699,893	730,498	710,548	725,576	+32,895
Agricultural Marketing Service:						
Marketing Services	75,210	75,071	75,953	75,263	75,430	+220
Standardization user fees	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected)	(61,619)	(62,577)	(62,577)	(62,577)	(62,577)	(+958)
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (transfer from section 32)	14,910	15,392	15,392	15,392	15,392	+482
Payments to states and possessions	1,338	1,347	1,347	3,338	3,338	+2,000
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service	91,458	91,810	92,692	93,993	94,160	+2,702
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration:						
Salaries and expenses	39,690	41,688	39,690	35,638	35,890	-3,800
Limitation on inspection and weighing services	(42,463)	(42,463)	(42,463)	(42,463)	(42,463)	---

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety	599	792	599	611	599	---
Food Safety and Inspection Service	754,821	797,149	785,261	783,761	784,511	+29,690
Lab accreditation fees 1/	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---
Total, Production, Processing, and Marketing	4,728,296	4,518,671	4,504,812	4,582,032	4,629,945	-98,351
Farm Assistance Programs						
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services	618	916	636	635	635	+17
Farm Service Agency:						
Salaries and expenses	970,389	1,016,836	1,016,836	988,768	988,768	+18,379
(Transfer from export loans)	(829)	(985)	(985)	(846)	(846)	(+17)
(Transfer from P.L. 480)	(1,019)	(2,975)	(2,975)	(1,075)	(1,075)	(+56)
(Transfer from ACIF)	(277,361)	(290,136)	(290,136)	(283,020)	(283,020)	(+5,659)
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts	(279,209)	(294,096)	(294,096)	(284,941)	(284,941)	(+5,732)
Total, Salaries and expenses	(1,249,598)	(1,310,932)	(1,310,932)	(1,273,709)	(1,273,709)	(+24,111)
State mediation grants	3,974	4,000	3,974	3,974	3,974	---
Dairy indemnity program	100	100	100	100	100	---
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency	974,463	1,020,936	1,020,910	992,842	992,842	+18,379
Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account:						
Loan authorizations:						
Farm ownership loans:						
Direct	(130,000)	(140,149)	(133,143)	(129,158)	(129,158)	(-842)
Guaranteed	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(950,000)	(950,000)	(950,000)	(-50,000)
Subtotal	(1,130,000)	(1,140,149)	(1,083,143)	(1,079,158)	(1,079,158)	(-50,842)
Farm operating loans:						
Direct	(605,000)	(650,000)	(617,503)	(601,068)	(617,503)	(+12,503)
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(1,700,000)	(1,400,000)	(1,330,000)	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	(-500,000)
Subsidized guaranteed	(400,000)	(266,249)	(252,937)	(266,249)	(266,249)	(-133,751)
Subtotal	(2,705,000)	(2,316,249)	(2,200,440)	(2,067,317)	(2,083,752)	(-621,248)
Indian tribe land acquisition loans	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---
Boll weevil eradication loans	(100,000)	(60,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
Total, Loan authorizations	(3,937,000)	(3,518,398)	(3,385,583)	(3,248,475)	(3,264,910)	(-672,090)
Loan subsidies:						
Farm ownership loans:						
Direct	14,995	30,945	29,398	28,518	28,518	+13,523
Guaranteed	7,451	5,400	5,130	5,130	5,130	-2,321
Subtotal	22,446	36,345	34,528	33,648	33,648	+11,202
Farm operating loans:						
Direct	103,744	93,730	89,044	86,674	89,044	-14,700
Unsubsidized guaranteed	53,540	46,620	44,289	39,960	39,960	-13,580
Subsidized guaranteed	46,893	34,000	32,300	34,000	34,000	-12,893
Subtotal	204,177	174,350	165,633	160,634	163,004	-41,173
Indian tribe land acquisition	178	---	---	---	---	-178
Total, Loan subsidies	226,801	210,695	200,161	194,282	196,652	-30,149

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
ACIF expenses:						
Salaries and expense (transfer to FSA)	277,361	290,136	290,136	283,020	283,020	+5,659
Administrative expenses	7,948	8,000	8,000	7,948	7,948	---
Total, ACIF expenses	285,309	298,136	298,136	290,968	290,968	+5,659
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund	512,110	508,831	498,297	485,250	487,620	-24,490
(Loan authorization)	(3,937,000)	(3,518,398)	(3,385,583)	(3,248,475)	(3,264,910)	(-672,090)
Total, Farm Service Agency	1,486,573	1,529,767	1,519,207	1,478,092	1,480,462	-6,111
Risk Management Agency	70,248	78,488	71,509	71,422	71,422	+1,174
Total, Farm Assistance Programs	1,557,439	1,609,171	1,591,352	1,550,149	1,552,519	-4,920
Corporations						
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:						
Federal crop insurance corporation fund	2,886,000	3,368,000	3,368,000	3,368,000	3,368,000	+482,000
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:						
Reimbursement for net realized losses	16,285,000	17,275,000	17,275,000	17,275,000	17,275,000	+990,000
Hazardous waste management (limitation on administrative expenses)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---
Total, Corporations	19,171,000	20,643,000	20,643,000	20,643,000	20,643,000	+1,472,000
Total, title I, Agricultural Programs	25,456,735	26,770,842	26,739,164	26,775,181	26,825,464	+1,368,729
(By transfer)	(279,209)	(294,096)	(294,096)	(284,941)	(284,941)	(+5,732)
(Loan authorization)	(3,937,000)	(3,518,398)	(3,385,583)	(3,248,475)	(3,264,910)	(-672,090)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(109,082)	(110,040)	(110,040)	(110,040)	(110,040)	(+958)
TITLE II - CONSERVATION PROGRAMS						
Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment	745	918	745	761	745	---
Natural Resources Conservation Service:						
Conservation operations	819,641	703,605	850,004	826,635	853,004	+33,363
Watershed surveys and planning	11,124	5,000	11,124	10,000	10,562	-562
Watershed and flood prevention operations	109,285	40,000	90,000	55,000	87,000	-22,285
Watershed rehabilitation program	29,805	10,000	40,000	29,805	29,805	---
Resource conservation and development	50,668	49,943	52,894	51,000	51,947	+1,279
Farm bill technical assistance	---	432,160	---	---	---	---
Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service	1,020,523	1,240,708	1,044,022	972,440	1,032,318	+11,795
Total, title II, Conservation Programs	1,021,268	1,241,626	1,044,767	973,201	1,033,063	+11,795
TITLE III - RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS						
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development	636	913	636	651	636	---
Rural Development:						
Rural community advancement program	901,837	477,864	706,006	767,479	757,425	-144,412
Tree assistance (sec. 747)	---	---	-5,000	---	---	---
(Transfer out)	(-29,805)	---	---	(-30,000)	(-28,000)	(+1,805)
Total, Rural community advancement program	901,837	477,864	701,006	767,479	757,425	-144,412
RD expenses:						
Salaries and expenses	144,789	147,520	146,495	140,922	141,869	-2,920
(Transfer from RHIF)	(429,564)	(482,787)	(447,151)	(439,453)	(443,302)	(+13,738)
(Transfer from RDLFP)	(4,163)	(4,850)	(4,283)	(4,283)	(4,272)	(+109)
(Transfer from RETLP)	(37,587)	(41,562)	(38,166)	(37,920)	(37,853)	(+266)
(Transfer from RTB)	(3,062)	(3,462)	(3,182)	(3,182)	(3,171)	(+109)
Subtotal, Transfers from program accounts	(474,376)	(532,661)	(492,782)	(484,838)	(488,598)	(+14,222)
Total, RD expenses	(619,165)	(680,181)	(639,277)	(625,760)	(630,467)	(+11,302)
Total, Rural Development	1,046,626	625,384	847,501	908,401	899,294	-147,332

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Rural Housing Service:						
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:						
Loan authorizations:						
Single family (sec. 502)	(1,037,868)	(1,366,462)	(1,366,462)	(1,359,417)	(1,366,462)	(+328,594)
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(2,845,318)	(2,725,172)	(2,725,172)	(2,725,172)	(2,725,172)	(-120,146)
Subtotal, Single family	(3,883,186)	(4,091,634)	(4,091,634)	(4,084,589)	(4,091,634)	(+208,448)
Housing repair (sec. 504)	(35,000)	(35,003)	(35,003)	(35,004)	(35,004)	(+4)
Rental housing (sec. 515)	(115,805)	(70,830)	(116,545)	(115,052)	(116,545)	(+740)
Site loans (sec. 524)	(5,046)	(5,045)	(5,045)	(5,045)	(5,045)	(-1)
Multi-family housing guarantees (sec. 538)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
Multi-family housing credit sales	(2,000)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(-500)
Single family housing credit sales	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---
Self-help housing land develop. (sec. 523)	(5,011)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(1,623)	(2,400)	(-2,611)
Total, Loan authorizations	(4,156,048)	(4,319,012)	(4,364,727)	(4,352,813)	(4,362,128)	(+206,080)
Loan subsidies:						
Single family (sec. 502)	201,035	126,018	126,018	126,018	126,018	-75,017
Unsubsidized guaranteed	32,388	39,903	39,903	39,903	39,903	+7,515
Subtotal, Single family	233,423	165,921	165,921	165,921	165,921	-67,502
Housing repair (sec. 504)	10,786	9,612	9,612	9,612	9,612	-1,174
Rental housing (sec. 515)	53,649	30,464	50,126	49,484	50,126	-3,523
Site loans (sec. 524)	55	---	---	---	---	-55
Multi-family housing guarantees (sec. 538)	4,471	5,950	5,950	5,950	5,950	+1,479
Multi-family housing credit sales	928	663	663	663	663	-265
Single family housing credit sales	---	---	---	---	---	---
Self-help housing land develop. (sec. 523)	220	154	154	50	75	-145
Total, Loan subsidies	303,532	212,764	232,426	231,680	232,347	-71,185
RHIF administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	429,564	482,787	447,151	439,453	443,302	+13,738
Rental assistance program:						
(Sec. 521)	715,419	734,100	725,100	715,381	578,100	-137,319
(Sec. 502(c)(5)(D))	5,862	5,900	5,900	5,900	5,900	+38
Total, Rental assistance program	721,281	740,000	731,000	721,281	584,000	-137,281
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund	1,454,377	1,435,551	1,410,577	1,392,414	1,259,649	-194,728
(Loan authorization)	(4,156,048)	(4,319,012)	(4,364,727)	(4,352,813)	(4,362,128)	(+206,080)
Mutual and self-help housing grants	34,772	34,000	34,772	34,000	34,000	-772
Rural housing assistance grants	42,222	41,500	42,222	46,222	46,222	+4,000
Farm labor program account	36,071	35,018	36,307	33,015	36,307	+236
Subtotal, grants and payments	113,065	110,518	113,301	113,237	116,529	+3,464
Total, Rural Housing Service	1,567,442	1,546,069	1,523,878	1,505,651	1,376,178	-191,264
(Loan authorization)	(4,156,048)	(4,319,012)	(4,364,727)	(4,352,813)	(4,362,128)	(+206,080)
Historic barn preservation program	---	---	---	2,000	---	---
Rural Business-Cooperative Service:						
Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account:						
(Loan authorization)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	---
Loan subsidy	19,179	17,308	17,308	17,308	17,308	-1,871
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	4,163	4,850	4,283	4,283	4,272	+109
Total, Rural Development Loan Fund	23,342	22,158	21,591	21,591	21,580	-1,762
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:						
(Loan authorization)	(14,967)	(15,002)	(16,120)	(15,002)	(15,002)	(+35)
Direct subsidy	3,176	2,792	3,000	2,792	2,792	-384
Rural cooperative development grants	8,941	11,000	13,000	8,967	24,000	+15,059
Rural empowerment zones and enterprise communities grants	14,870	---	10,967	14,370	12,667	-2,203
Renewable energy program	---	3,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	+23,000
Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service	50,329	38,950	71,558	70,720	84,039	+33,710
(Loan authorization)	(54,967)	(55,002)	(56,120)	(55,002)	(55,002)	(+35)

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Rural Utilities Service:						
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account:						
Loan authorizations:						
Electric:						
Direct, 5%	(121,103)	(240,000)	(240,000)	(240,000)	(240,000)	(+118,897)
Direct, Municipal rate	(100,000)	(100,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(+900,000)
Direct, FFB	(2,600,000)	(1,500,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(-600,000)
Direct, Treasury rate	(1,150,000)	(700,000)	(750,000)	(750,000)	(750,000)	(-400,000)
Guaranteed electric	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
Guaranteed underwriting	(1,000,000)	---	---	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	---
Subtotal, Electric	(5,071,103)	(2,640,000)	(4,090,000)	(5,090,000)	(5,090,000)	(+18,897)
Telecommunications:						
Direct, 5%	(75,029)	(145,000)	(145,000)	(145,000)	(145,000)	(+69,971)
Direct, Treasury rate	(300,000)	(250,000)	(300,000)	(250,000)	(250,000)	(-50,000)
Direct, FFB	(120,000)	(100,000)	(120,000)	(120,000)	(120,000)	---
Subtotal, Telecommunications	(495,029)	(495,000)	(565,000)	(515,000)	(515,000)	(+19,971)
Total, Loan authorizations	(5,566,132)	(3,135,000)	(4,655,000)	(5,605,000)	(5,605,000)	(+38,868)
Loan subsidies:						
Electric:						
Direct, 5%	6,870	---	---	---	---	-6,870
Direct, Municipal rate	4,004	---	---	---	---	-4,004
Guaranteed electric	79	60	60	60	60	-19
Subtotal, Electric	10,953	60	60	60	60	-10,893
Telecommunications:						
Direct, 5%	1,275	---	---	---	---	-1,275
Direct, Treasury rate	149	125	125	125	125	-24
Subtotal, Telecommunications	1,424	125	125	125	125	-1,299
Total, Loan subsidies	12,377	185	185	185	185	-12,192
RETLP administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	37,587	41,562	38,166	37,920	37,853	+266
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account	49,964	41,747	38,351	38,105	38,038	-11,926
(Loan authorization)	(5,566,132)	(3,135,000)	(4,655,000)	(5,605,000)	(5,605,000)	(+38,868)
Rural Telephone Bank Program Account:						
(Loan authorization)	(174,615)	---	---	(173,503)	(173,503)	(-1,112)
Direct loan subsidy	2,394	---	---	---	---	-2,394
RTB administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	3,062	3,462	3,182	3,182	3,171	+109
Total, Rural Telephone Bank Program Account	5,456	3,462	3,182	3,182	3,171	-2,285
High energy costs grants (by transfer)	(29,805)	---	---	(30,000)	(28,000)	(-1,805)
Distance learning, telemedicine and broadband program:						
Loan authorizations:						
Distance learning and telemedicine	(300,000)	(50,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	---
Broadband telecommunications	(80,000)	(336,000)	(336,000)	(647,000)	(602,000)	(+522,000)
Total, Loan authorizations	(380,000)	(386,000)	(636,000)	(947,000)	(902,000)	(+522,000)
Loan subsidies:						
Distance learning and telemedicine:						
Grants	46,636	25,000	25,000	40,000	39,000	-7,636
Broadband telecommunications:						
Direct	---	9,116	9,116	15,116	13,116	+13,116
Grants	9,935	2,000	8,000	10,000	9,000	-935
Total, Loan subsidies and grants	56,571	36,116	42,116	65,116	61,116	+4,545
Total, Rural Utilities Service	111,991	81,325	83,649	106,403	102,325	-9,666
(Loan authorization)	(6,120,747)	(3,521,000)	(5,291,000)	(6,725,503)	(6,680,503)	(+559,756)

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Total, title III, Rural Economic and Community Development Programs	2,777,024	2,292,641	2,527,222	2,593,826	2,462,472	-314,552
(By transfer)	(504,181)	(532,661)	(492,782)	(514,838)	(516,598)	(+12,417)
(Loan authorization)	(10,331,762)	(7,895,014)	(9,711,847)	(11,133,318)	(11,097,633)	(+765,871)
TITLE IV - DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS						
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services	599	786	599	611	599	---
Food and Nutrition Service:						
Child nutrition programs	5,830,506	6,819,340	6,718,780	6,718,780	6,717,780	+887,274
Transfer from section 32	4,745,663	4,599,101	4,699,661	4,699,661	4,699,661	-46,002
Discretionary spending	3,974	---	---	---	---	-3,974
Total, Child nutrition programs	10,580,143	11,418,441	11,418,441	11,418,441	11,417,441	+837,298
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC)	4,696,000	4,769,232	4,588,310	4,639,232	4,639,232	-56,768
Food stamp program:						
Expenses	22,772,692	24,208,981	24,203,176	26,403,176	26,403,176	+3,630,484
Reserve	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	+1,000,000
Nutrition assistance for Puerto Rico and Samoa	1,401,000	1,397,000	1,402,805	1,402,805	1,402,805	+1,805
The emergency food assistance program	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	---
Total, Food stamp program	26,313,692	27,745,981	27,745,981	29,945,981	30,945,981	+4,632,289
Commodity assistance program	163,431	166,072	166,072	145,740	150,000	-13,431
Food donations programs:						
Needy family program	1,074	---	---	---	---	-1,074
Nutrition programs administration	135,672	144,849	140,512	138,304	138,304	+2,632
Total, Food and Nutrition Service	41,890,012	44,244,575	44,059,316	46,287,698	47,290,958	+5,400,946
Total, title IV, Domestic Food Programs	41,890,611	44,245,361	44,059,915	46,288,309	47,291,557	+5,400,946
TITLE V - FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS						
Foreign Agricultural Service:						
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation	129,103	140,798	133,924	131,648	132,148	+3,045
(Transfer from export loans)	(3,203)	(3,327)	(3,327)	(3,306)	(3,306)	(+103)
(Transfer from P.L. 480)	(1,026)	(1,066)	(1,066)	(1,059)	(1,059)	(+33)
Total, Salaries and expenses program level	(133,332)	(145,191)	(138,317)	(136,013)	(136,513)	(+3,181)
Public Law 480 Program and Grant Accounts:						
Program account:						
Loan authorization, direct	(154,664)	(132,000)	(132,000)	(131,670)	(132,000)	(-22,664)
Loan subsidies	115,416	103,887	103,887	103,887	103,887	-11,529
Ocean freight differential grants	24,995	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	+3,005
Title II - Commodities for disposition abroad:						
Program level	(1,192,200)	(1,185,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(-200)
Appropriation	1,192,200	1,185,000	1,192,000	1,192,000	1,192,000	-200
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	369,000	---	---	---	---	-369,000
Salaries and expenses:						
Foreign Agricultural Service (transfer to FAS)	1,026	1,066	1,066	1,059	1,059	+33
Farm Service Agency (transfer to FSA)	1,019	2,975	2,975	1,075	1,075	+56
Subtotal	2,045	4,041	4,041	2,134	2,134	+89
Total, Public Law 480:						
Program level	(1,192,200)	(1,185,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(-200)
Appropriation	1,703,656	1,320,928	1,327,928	1,326,021	1,326,021	-377,635
CCC Export Loans Program Account (administrative expenses):						
Salaries and expenses (Export Loans):						
General Sales Manager (transfer to FAS)	3,203	3,327	3,327	3,306	3,306	+103
Farm Service Agency (transfer to FSA)	829	985	985	846	846	+17
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account	4,032	4,312	4,312	4,152	4,152	+120

DIVISION A--DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
McGovern-Dole international food for education and child nutrition program grants	---	50,000	56,874	25,000	50,000	+50,000
Total, title V, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs	1,836,791	1,516,038	1,523,038	1,486,821	1,512,321	-324,470
(By transfer)	(4,229)	(4,393)	(4,393)	(4,365)	(4,365)	(+136)
TITLE VI - RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION						
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES						
Food and Drug Administration						
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation	1,373,714	1,394,617	1,389,234	1,384,213	1,386,962	+13,248
Prescription drug user fee act	(222,900)	(249,825)	(249,825)	(249,825)	(249,825)	(+26,925)
Medical device user fee act	(25,125)	(29,190)	(29,190)	(29,190)	(31,654)	(+6,529)
Animal drug user fee act	---	(5,000)	---	---	(5,000)	(+5,000)
Subtotal	(1,621,739)	(1,678,632)	(1,668,249)	(1,663,228)	(1,673,441)	(+51,702)
Mammography clinics user fee (outlay savings)	(16,112)	(16,576)	(16,576)	(16,576)	(16,576)	(+464)
Export and color certification	(6,378)	(6,649)	(6,649)	(6,649)	(6,649)	(+271)
Payments to GSA	(108,269)	(120,045)	(120,045)	(119,152)	(119,594)	(+11,325)
Buildings and facilities	7,948	11,500	6,000	7,948	7,000	-948
Total, Food and Drug Administration	1,381,662	1,406,117	1,395,234	1,392,161	1,393,962	+12,300
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	85,426	88,435	88,435	88,435	90,435	+5,009
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses)	(38,400)	(40,900)	(40,900)	(40,900)	(40,900)	(+2,500)
Total, title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration	1,467,088	1,494,552	1,483,669	1,480,596	1,484,397	+17,309
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS						
Hunger fellowships	2,981	---	3,000	2,981	3,000	+19
National Sheep Industry Improvement Center revolving fund	496	---	499	499	499	+3
Child and adult care feeding program	21,857	---	---	---	---	-21,857
P.L. 480 Title II	248,375	---	---	---	---	-248,375
Tree assistance (sec. 747)	---	---	5,000	---	15,000	+15,000
Northern Great Plains Regional Authority	---	---	---	3,000	1,500	+1,500
Denali Commission	---	---	---	2,000	1,000	+1,000
Food stamp program freeze	---	---	---	2,000	2,000	+2,000
Reduction in travel amounts	---	---	---	-6,000	---	---
CCC tree assistance program (P.L. 108-83)	9,700	---	---	---	---	-9,700
CCC Mormon cricket infestation (P.L. 108-83)	20,000	---	---	---	---	-20,000
Total, title VII, General provisions	303,409	---	8,499	4,480	22,999	-280,410
Grand total:						
New budget (obligational) authority	74,752,926	77,561,060	77,386,274	79,602,414	80,632,273	+5,879,347
(By transfer)	(787,619)	(831,150)	(791,271)	(804,144)	(805,904)	(+18,285)
(Loan authorization)	(14,423,426)	(11,545,412)	(13,229,430)	(14,513,463)	(14,494,543)	(+71,117)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(147,482)	(150,940)	(150,940)	(150,940)	(150,940)	(+3,458)

1/ In addition to appropriation.

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND RELATED AGENCY						
RELATED AGENCY						
Foreign terrorist tracking task force	---	---	---	72,607	---	---
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE						
General Administration						
Salaries and expenses	90,477	133,772	106,664	116,171	106,687	+16,210
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	5,000	---	---	---	---	-5,000
Joint automated booking system	15,869	---	---	23,176	19,176	+3,307
Automated Biometric Identification System-Integrated Identification system integration	8,941	---	---	---	5,100	-3,841
Identification systems integration	---	34,077	20,677	---	---	---
Legal activities office automation	15,838	---	30,136	66,240	27,034	+11,196
Narrowband communications	63,936	140,083	103,171	103,171	103,171	+39,235
Transfer from Treasury	7,391	---	---	---	---	-7,391
Counterterrorism fund	993	---	1,000	---	1,000	+7
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	20,000	---	---	---	---	-20,000
Administrative review and appeals	190,290	197,420	193,530	194,111	193,530	+3,240
Detention trustee	768,578	810,125	810,125	849,876	814,097	+45,519
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	40,000	---	---	---	---	-40,000
Office of Inspector General	51,599	62,029	56,245	60,840	60,840	+9,241
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	2,500	---	---	---	---	-2,500
Total, General administration	1,281,412	1,377,506	1,321,548	1,413,585	1,330,635	+49,223
United States Parole Commission						
Salaries and expenses	10,420	11,051	10,609	10,718	10,609	+189
Legal Activities						
General legal activities:						
Direct appropriation	605,368	663,350	618,537	630,641	618,537	+13,169
Radiation exposure compensation act	1,983	---	---	---	---	-1,983
Non-defense	---	1,996	1,996	1,996	1,996	+1,996
Subtotal	607,351	665,346	620,533	632,637	620,533	+13,182
Vaccine injury compensation trust fund (permanent)	4,002	4,028	4,028	4,028	4,028	+26
Legal activities office automation	---	33,240	---	---	---	---
Antitrust Division	133,133	141,898	128,133	141,898	133,133	---
Offsetting fee collections - current year	-133,133	-112,000	-112,000	-112,000	-112,000	+21,133
Direct appropriation	---	29,898	16,133	29,898	21,133	+21,133
United States Attorneys	1,493,993	1,556,784	1,526,253	1,507,879	1,526,253	+32,260
United States Trustee System Fund	155,736	175,172	166,157	170,168	166,157	+10,421
Offsetting fee collections	-149,736	-167,172	-158,157	-162,168	-158,157	-8,421
Interest on U.S. securities	-6,000	-8,000	-8,000	-8,000	-8,000	-2,000
Direct appropriation	---	---	---	---	---	---
Foreign Claims Settlement Commission	1,129	1,212	1,205	1,207	1,206	+77
United States Marshals Service:						
Salaries and expenses (non-CSE)	676,051	720,806	678,672	602,274	719,777	+43,726
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	8,000	---	---	---	---	-8,000
Construction	15,028	---	---	25,964	14,066	-962
Total, United States Marshals Service	699,079	720,806	678,672	628,238	733,843	+34,764
Fees and expenses of witnesses	175,645	156,145	156,145	156,145	156,145	-19,500
Community Relations Service	9,412	9,526	9,526	9,526	9,526	+114
Assets forfeiture fund	21,759	22,949	21,759	22,949	21,759	---
Total, Legal activities	3,012,370	3,199,934	3,034,254	2,992,507	3,094,426	+82,056
Interagency Law Enforcement						
Interagency crime and drug enforcement	369,712	541,844	---	415,010	---	-369,712
Interagency law enforcement support	---	---	---	551,784	---	---
Total, Interagency law enforcement	369,712	541,844	---	966,794	---	-369,712

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Federal Bureau of Investigation						
Salaries and expenses	3,680,923	4,149,465	4,086,626	3,395,885	4,076,694	+395,771
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	367,192	---	---	---	---	-367,192
Counterintelligence and national security	472,211	490,104	490,104	490,104	490,104	+17,893
Direct appropriation	4,520,326	4,639,569	4,576,730	3,885,989	4,566,798	+46,472
Foreign terrorist tracking task force	61,597	---	61,597	---	61,597	---
Construction	1,242	---	1,242	44,791	11,174	+9,932
Total, Federal Bureau of Investigation	4,583,165	4,639,569	4,639,569	3,930,780	4,639,569	+56,404
Drug Enforcement Administration						
Salaries and expenses	1,639,223	1,677,304	1,719,888	1,603,780	1,719,888	+80,665
Diversion control fund	-88,450	-118,561	-118,561	-91,499	-118,561	-30,111
Subtotal	1,550,773	1,558,743	1,601,327	1,512,281	1,601,327	+50,554
Interagency drug enforcement	---	---	556,465	---	556,465	+556,465
Total, Drug Enforcement Administration	1,550,773	1,558,743	2,157,792	1,512,281	2,157,792	+607,019
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	788,273	838,987	831,199	829,593	836,087	+47,814
GREAT grants	12,915	13,000	---	---	---	-12,915
Total	801,188	851,987	831,199	829,593	836,087	+34,899
Federal Prison System						
Salaries and expenses	4,044,788	4,677,214	4,461,257	3,872,791	4,461,257	+416,469
Buildings and facilities	396,632	---	202,840	345,805	397,700	+1,068
Rescission	---	-187,900	---	---	---	---
Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated (limitation on administrative expenses)	3,407	3,429	3,429	3,429	3,429	+22
Total, Federal Prison System	4,444,827	4,492,743	4,667,526	4,222,025	4,862,386	+417,559
Office of Justice Programs						
Management and administration	---	---	---	29,000	---	---
Justice assistance	199,983	2,136,423	209,131	136,500	190,125	-9,858
(By transfer)	(6,632)	---	(6,632)	---	(6,632)	---
Rescission	---	-11,622	---	---	---	---
Total, Office of Justice Programs	199,983	2,124,801	209,131	165,500	190,125	-9,858
State and local law enforcement assistance:						
Local law enforcement block grant	397,400	---	400,000	150,000	225,000	-172,400
Boys and Girls clubs (earmark)	(79,480)	---	(80,000)	(80,000)	(80,000)	(+520)
National Institute of Justice (earmark)	(19,870)	---	(20,000)	---	(10,000)	(-9,870)
USA FREEDOM corps (earmark)	(2,981)	---	(5,000)	---	(2,981)	---
Indian assistance	17,883	---	13,000	18,000	15,000	-2,883
Tribal prison construction	(4,968)	---	---	---	(2,000)	(-2,968)
Indian tribal courts program	(7,948)	---	(8,000)	---	(8,000)	(+52)
Indian grants	(4,968)	---	(5,000)	---	(5,000)	(+32)
State criminal alien assistance program	248,375	---	400,000	250,000	300,000	+51,625
Cooperative agreement program	4,968	---	2,500	---	2,000	-2,968
Byrne grants (formula)	496,750	---	500,000	500,000	500,000	+3,250
Byrne grants (discretionary)	149,933	---	115,000	88,575	159,117	+9,184
Juvenile crime block grant	188,765	---	---	---	---	-188,765
Drug courts	44,708	---	55,000	43,500	38,500	-6,208
State prison drug treatment	64,577	---	70,000	---	---	-64,577
Other crime control programs	5,653	---	5,361	5,000	3,892	-1,761
Assistance for victims of trafficking	9,935	---	10,000	---	10,000	+65
Violence against women prevention and prosecution	387,629	---	---	406,000	---	-387,629
Prescription drug monitoring	7,451	---	10,000	---	7,000	-451
Prison rape prevention	12,915	---	60,000	---	37,175	+24,260
Terrorism prevention and response training	14,902	---	---	---	---	-14,902
Prior year unobligated balances	-20,854	---	---	---	---	+20,854
Associated outlays	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, State and local law enforcement	2,030,990	---	1,640,861	1,461,075	1,297,684	-733,306
Weed and seed program fund	58,542	---	51,811	58,542	58,542	---

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Community oriented policing services:						
Hiring	198,700	---	---	200,000	120,000	-78,700
Training and technical assistance	20,528	20,662	20,662	---	---	-20,528
Bullet proof vests	25,279	---	25,000	25,000	25,000	-279
Tribal law enforcement	34,773	30,000	30,000	20,000	25,000	-9,773
Meth hot spots	56,761	20,000	60,000	---	54,050	-2,711
Police corps	14,903	---	28,315	15,000	15,000	+97
COPS technology	188,719	50,000	100,000	83,960	158,407	-30,312
Interoperable communications	19,870	---	---	140,000	85,000	+65,130
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	54,750	---	---	---	---	-54,750
Criminal records upgrade	39,740	---	56,924	---	30,000	-9,740
DNA backlog/crime lab	81,009	---	174,353	19,050	100,000	+18,991
Paul Coverdell forensics science	---	---	5,000	15,000	10,000	+10,000
Crime identification technology	68,626	---	---	36,626	24,226	-44,400
Gun violence reduction	44,708	---	45,000	15,000	30,000	-14,708
Southwest border prosecutors	39,740	---	40,000	15,000	30,000	-9,740
Project sentry	9,935	---	---	10,000	---	-9,935
Offender reentry	14,837	---	13,504	5,000	5,000	-9,837
Safe schools initiative	15,111	---	---	17,000	4,600	-10,511
Police integrity grants	16,853	16,963	17,000	5,000	10,000	-6,853
DC Circuit Court and fugitive apprehension	---	---	41,105	---	---	---
Management and administration	32,782	26,130	26,130	35,000	30,000	-2,782
Rescission	---	-6,378	---	---	---	---
Associated outlays	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Community oriented policing services	977,624	157,377	682,993	656,636	756,283	-221,341
Violence against women prevention and prosecution	---	---	387,629	---	387,629	+387,629
Juvenile justice programs	273,517	---	462,282	232,330	352,700	+79,183
(Transfer out)	(-6,632)	---	(-6,632)	---	(-6,632)	---
Public safety officers benefits:						
Death benefits	49,054	49,054	49,054	49,054	49,054	---
Disability and education benefits	3,974	---	7,500	7,500	3,000	-974
Total, Public safety officers benefits program	53,028	49,054	56,554	56,554	52,054	-974
Total, Office of Justice Programs	3,593,684	2,331,232	3,491,261	2,630,637	3,095,017	-498,667
United States Attorneys (sec. 111)	---	---	---	---	15,000	+15,000
Local law enforcement block grant (sec. 113)	---	---	---	---	550	+550
Rescission (sec. 114)	---	---	---	---	-100,000	-100,000
Total, title I, Department of Justice	19,647,551	19,004,609	20,153,758	18,581,527	19,942,071	+294,520
Appropriations	(19,647,551)	(19,210,509)	(20,153,758)	(18,581,527)	(20,042,071)	(+394,520)
Rescission	---	(-205,900)	---	---	(-100,000)	(-100,000)
(Transfer out)	(-6,632)	---	(-6,632)	---	(-6,632)	---
(By transfer)	(6,632)	---	(6,632)	---	(6,632)	---
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND RELATED AGENCIES						
TRADE AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT						
RELATED AGENCIES						
Office of the United States Trade Representative						
Salaries and expenses	34,772	36,994	41,994	36,994	41,994	+7,222
European communities music licensing dispute (P.L. 108-11)	3,300	---	---	---	---	-3,300
International Trade Commission						
Salaries and expenses	53,649	58,295	57,000	58,295	58,295	+4,646
Total, Related agencies	91,721	95,289	98,994	95,289	100,289	+8,568
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE						
International Trade Administration						
Operations and administration	367,838	395,123	395,123	375,053	395,123	+27,285
Offsetting fee collections	-8,000	-13,000	-13,000	-3,000	-13,000	-5,000
Direct appropriation	359,838	382,123	382,123	372,053	382,123	+22,285

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Bureau of Industry and Security						
Operations and administration	59,088	78,169	61,000	73,060	61,000	+1,912
CWC enforcement	7,203	---	7,203	---	7,203	---
Total, Bureau of Industry and Security	66,291	78,169	68,203	73,060	68,203	+1,912
Economic Development Administration						
Economic development assistance programs	288,115	331,027	288,115	357,115	288,115	---
Salaries and expenses	30,565	33,377	30,565	30,565	30,565	---
Total, Economic Development Administration	318,680	364,404	318,680	387,680	318,680	---
Minority Business Development Agency						
Minority business development	28,718	29,487	29,000	28,718	28,859	+141
Total, Trade and Infrastructure Development	865,248	949,472	897,000	956,800	898,154	+32,906
ECONOMIC AND INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE						
Economic and Statistical Analysis						
Salaries and expenses	71,689	84,756	75,000	84,756	75,000	+3,311
Bureau of the Census						
Salaries and expenses	181,811	220,908	220,908	181,811	194,811	+13,000
Periodic censuses and programs	369,067	441,053	441,053	369,067	436,053	+66,986
Total, Bureau of the Census	550,878	661,961	661,961	550,878	630,864	+79,986
National Telecommunications and Information Administration						
Salaries and expenses	14,604	18,869	14,604	15,042	14,604	---
Public telecommunications facilities, planning and construction	43,273	2,538	2,538	55,000	22,000	-21,273
Information infrastructure grants	15,402	---	15,402	15,500	15,000	-402
Total, National Telecommunications and Information Administration	73,279	21,407	32,544	85,542	51,604	-21,675
United States Patent and Trademark Office						
Current year fee funding	1,015,229	1,203,055	1,138,700	1,217,460	1,222,460	+207,231
Prior year carryover	166,771	---	100,000	---	---	-166,771
New fees (proposed legislation)	---	192,000	---	---	---	---
Total, Patent and Trademark Office	1,182,000	1,395,055	1,238,700	1,217,460	1,222,460	+40,460
Offsetting fee collections	-1,015,229	-1,203,055	-1,238,700	-1,217,460	-1,222,460	-207,231
Total, Economic and Information Infrastructure	862,617	960,124	769,505	721,176	757,468	-105,149
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY						
Technology Administration						
Office of Technology Policy						
Salaries and expenses	9,822	8,015	7,822	---	6,411	-3,411
NTIS revolving fund	---	---	---	---	---	---
National Institute of Standards and Technology						
Scientific and technical research and services	357,075	379,849	357,862	383,375	344,366	-12,709
Industrial technology services	284,760	39,607	39,607	369,223	218,782	-65,978
Construction of research facilities	65,670	69,590	62,590	84,630	64,954	-716
Working capital fund	---	7,772	---	7,772	---	---
Total, National Institute of Standards and Technology	707,505	496,818	460,059	845,000	628,102	-79,403

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration						
Operations, research, and facilities	2,298,481	2,389,300	2,180,454	2,696,520	2,686,520	+388,039
(By transfer from Promote and Develop Fund)	(65,000)	(75,000)	(79,251)	(52,000)	(62,000)	(-3,000)
(By transfer from Coastal zone management)	---	3,000	---	---	---	---
Deobligations returned	---	---	---	-15,000	-15,000	-15,000
Total, Operations, research, and facilities	2,298,481	2,392,300	2,180,454	2,681,520	2,671,520	+373,039
International fisheries commissions	---	---	---	20,743	---	---
Litigation and settlement fund	---	---	---	5,000	---	---
Procurement, acquisition and construction	754,096	842,399	794,059	990,127	990,127	+236,031
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	65,000	---	---	---	---	-65,000
Total, Procurement, acquisition and construction	819,096	842,399	794,059	990,127	990,127	+171,031
Pacific coastal salmon recovery	129,155	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	-39,155
Coastal zone management fund	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	---
Fishermen's contingency fund	1	956	---	1	---	-1
Foreign fishing observer fund	1	191	---	1	---	-1
Fisheries finance program account	-8,000	-4,000	-7,000	-5,000	-8,000	---
Total, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	3,235,734	3,318,846	3,054,513	3,779,392	3,740,647	+504,913
Total, Science and Technology	3,953,061	3,823,679	3,522,394	4,624,392	4,375,160	+422,099
Departmental Management						
Salaries and expenses	44,662	57,191	44,662	44,662	47,289	+2,627
Office of Inspector General	20,501	23,378	22,000	21,116	21,116	+615
Total, Departmental management	65,163	80,569	66,662	65,778	68,405	+3,242
Tourism promotion (sec. 210)	49,675	---	---	---	---	-49,675
EDA conveyance (sec. 209)	---	---	---	1,000	1,000	+1,000
Extension of steel loan guarantees (Sec. 211)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Procurement, acquisition and construction (sec. 212)	---	---	---	---	6,129	+6,129
Lobster (sec. 213)	---	---	---	---	500	+500
Non-pollock west coast groundfish (sec. 214)	---	---	---	---	500	+500
Total, Department of Commerce	5,704,043	5,718,555	5,156,567	6,273,857	6,007,027	+302,984
Rescission (sec. 215)	---	---	---	---	-100,000	-100,000
Total, title II, Department of Commerce and related agencies	5,795,764	5,813,844	5,255,561	6,369,146	6,007,316	+211,552
Appropriations	(5,795,764)	(5,813,844)	(5,255,561)	(6,369,146)	(6,107,316)	(+311,552)
Rescission	---	---	---	---	(-100,000)	(-100,000)
(By transfer)	(65,000)	(75,000)	(79,251)	(52,000)	(62,000)	(-3,000)
TITLE III - THE JUDICIARY						
Supreme Court of the United States						
Salaries and expenses:						
Salaries of justices	1,872	1,896	1,896	1,896	1,896	+24
Other salaries and expenses	43,586	55,581	53,464	57,518	53,464	+9,878
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	1,535	---	---	---	---	-1,535
Total, Salaries and expenses	46,993	57,477	55,360	59,414	55,360	+8,367
Care of the building and grounds	41,355	4,658	10,591	4,658	10,591	-30,764
Total, Supreme Court of the United States	88,348	62,135	65,951	64,072	65,951	-22,397
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit						
Salaries and expenses:						
Salaries of judges	2,225	2,237	2,237	2,237	2,237	+12
Other salaries and expenses	17,970	20,185	18,428	18,425	18,425	+455
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	973	---	---	---	---	-973
Total, Salaries and expenses	21,168	22,422	20,665	20,662	20,662	-506

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
United States Court of International Trade						
Salaries and expenses:						
Salaries of judges	1,678	1,721	1,721	1,721	1,721	+43
Other salaries and expenses	11,931	12,485	12,347	11,489	12,347	+416
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	50	---	---	---	---	-50
Total, Salaries and expenses	13,659	14,206	14,068	13,210	14,068	+409
Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services						
Salaries and expenses:						
Salaries of judges and bankruptcy judges	263,854	274,504	274,504	274,504	274,504	+10,650
Other salaries and expenses	3,513,161	3,913,848	3,729,672	3,619,517	3,719,672	+206,511
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-83)	12,187	---	---	---	---	-12,187
Direct appropriation	3,789,202	4,188,352	4,004,176	3,894,021	3,994,176	+204,974
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	2,766	3,293	3,293	3,293	3,193	+427
Defender services	534,961	635,481	613,948	595,006	604,477	+69,516
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-83)	17,228	---	---	---	---	-17,228
Fees of jurors and commissioners	54,281	53,181	53,181	53,181	57,822	+3,541
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-83)	2,778	---	---	---	---	-2,778
Court security	266,655	311,171	288,941	266,058	277,500	+10,845
Total, Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services	4,667,871	5,191,478	4,963,539	4,811,559	4,937,168	+269,297
Administrative Office of the United States Courts						
Salaries and expenses	63,087	71,908	66,968	63,717	66,000	+2,913
Federal Judicial Center						
Salaries and expenses	20,720	21,660	21,440	22,434	21,440	+720
Judicial Retirement Funds						
Payment to Judiciary Trust Funds	35,300	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	-6,300
United States Sentencing Commission						
Salaries and expenses	12,011	13,200	12,746	12,011	12,354	+343
General Provisions						
Judges pay raise (sec. 304)	---	4,000	---	4,000	---	---
Judges pay raise (sec. 305)	---	---	---	36,000	---	---
Total, General provisions	---	4,000	---	40,000	---	---
Total, title III, the Judiciary	4,922,164	5,430,009	5,194,377	5,076,665	5,166,643	+244,479
TITLE IV - DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY						
Administration of Foreign Affairs						
Diplomatic and consular programs	3,248,008	3,516,843	3,453,260	3,280,405	3,420,000	+171,992
(Transfer out)	(-4,000)	(-4,000)	(-4,000)	(-4,000)	(-4,000)	---
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	98,420	---	---	---	---	-98,420
Worldwide security upgrades	549,405	646,701	646,701	594,373	646,701	+97,296
(Transfer out)	---	---	---	(-20,000)	---	---
Worldwide IT infrastructure	---	---	---	---	40,000	+40,000
Total, Diplomatic and consular programs	3,895,833	4,163,544	4,099,961	3,874,778	4,106,701	+210,868
Capital investment fund	182,119	157,000	142,000	207,000	80,000	-102,119
Office of Inspector General	29,074	31,703	29,777	31,703	31,703	+2,629
(By transfer)	---	---	---	(20,000)	---	---
Educational and cultural exchange programs	243,712	345,346	345,346	255,292	320,000	+76,288
Representation allowances	6,443	9,000	9,000	6,643	9,000	+2,557
Protection of foreign missions and officials	10,929	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	-929
Embassy security, construction, and maintenance	505,195	653,000	532,935	483,470	530,000	+24,805
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	149,500	---	---	---	---	-149,500
Worldwide security upgrades	750,093	861,400	861,400	933,122	861,400	+111,307
Emergencies in the diplomatic and consular service	6,458	1,000	1,000	1	1,000	-5,458
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	50,000	---	---	---	---	-50,000
(By transfer)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	---
(Transfer out)	(-1,000)	(-1,000)	(-1,000)	(-1,000)	(-1,000)	---

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Repatriation Loans Program Account:						
Direct loans subsidy	608	612	612	612	612	+4
Administrative expenses	603	607	607	607	607	+4
(By transfer)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---
Total, Repatriation loans program account	1,211	1,219	1,219	1,219	1,219	+8
Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan	18,330	19,773	18,782	19,893	18,782	+452
Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund	138,200	134,979	134,979	134,979	134,979	-3,221
Total, Administration of Foreign Affairs	5,987,097	6,387,964	6,186,399	5,958,100	6,104,784	+117,687
International Organizations						
Contributions to international organizations, current year assessment	860,371	1,010,463	1,010,463	921,888	1,010,463	+150,092
Contributions for international peacekeeping activities, current year	669,331	550,200	550,200	482,649	454,842	-214,489
Total, International Organizations and Conferences	1,529,702	1,560,663	1,560,663	1,404,537	1,465,305	-64,397
International Commissions						
International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico:						
Salaries and expenses	25,316	31,562	25,668	28,312	26,000	+684
Construction	5,415	8,901	5,500	8,201	3,551	-1,864
American sections, international commissions	9,410	11,204	8,944	10,942	8,944	-466
International fisheries commissions	16,989	20,043	16,989	---	19,300	+2,311
Total, International commissions	57,130	71,710	57,101	47,455	57,795	+665
Other						
International Center for Middle Eastern-Western dialogue	---	---	---	7,000	7,000	+7,000
Payment to the Asia Foundation	10,376	9,250	10,376	---	13,000	+2,624
Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship program	497	500	500	500	500	+3
Israeli Arab scholarship program	373	375	375	375	375	+2
East-West Center	17,883	14,280	---	19,000	17,880	-3
National Endowment for Democracy	41,727	36,000	42,000	36,000	40,000	-1,727
Total, Department of State	7,644,785	8,080,742	7,857,414	7,472,967	7,706,639	+61,854
RELATED AGENCY						
Broadcasting Board of Governors						
International Broadcasting Operations	465,850	525,204	552,105	518,149	546,038	+80,188
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	30,500	---	---	---	---	-30,500
Broadcasting to Cuba	24,834	26,901	---	28,101	---	-24,834
Broadcasting capital improvements	12,657	11,395	11,395	11,395	11,395	-1,262
Total, Broadcasting Board of Governors	533,841	563,500	563,500	557,645	557,433	+23,592
Total, title IV, Department of State and Related Agency	8,178,626	8,644,242	8,420,914	8,030,612	8,264,072	+85,446
(Transfer out)	(-5,000)	(-5,000)	(-5,000)	(-25,000)	(-5,000)	---
(By transfer)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(25,000)	(5,000)	---
TITLE V - RELATED AGENCIES						
Antitrust Modernization Commission						
Salaries and expenses	---	---	1,499	---	1,200	+1,200
Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad						
Salaries and expenses	496	499	499	659	496	---
Commission on Civil Rights						
Salaries and expenses	9,037	9,096	9,096	9,096	9,096	+59
Commission on International Religious Freedom						
Salaries and expenses	2,865	3,000	3,000	2,000	3,000	+135

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Commission on Ocean Policy						
Salaries and expenses	1,987	---	---	---	---	-1,987
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe						
Salaries and expenses	1,572	1,615	1,615	1,615	1,615	+43
Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China						
Salaries and expenses	1,371	1,800	1,800	1,400	1,800	+429
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission						
Salaries and expenses	306,815	334,754	328,400	334,754	328,400	+21,585
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	15,000	---	---	---	---	-15,000
Federal Communications Commission						
Salaries and expenses	270,987	280,798	278,958	277,798	273,958	+2,971
Offsetting fee collections - current year	-269,000	-251,984	-269,000	-251,984	-272,958	-3,958
Direct appropriation	1,987	28,814	9,958	25,814	1,000	-987
Federal Trade Commission						
Salaries and expenses	176,553	191,132	183,041	189,032	186,041	+9,488
Offsetting fee collections - current year	-150,000	-112,000	-112,000	-112,000	-112,000	+38,000
Offsetting fee collections, telephone database	-18,100	-18,000	-20,100	-18,000	-23,100	-5,000
Direct appropriation	8,453	61,132	50,941	59,032	50,941	+42,488
HELP Commission						
Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	---	3,000	+3,000
Legal Services Corporation						
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation	336,645	329,300	338,848	338,848	338,848	+2,203
Marine Mammal Commission						
Salaries and expenses	3,030	1,856	1,856	3,066	1,856	-1,174
National Commission on Terrorism Attacks Upon the United States						
Salaries and expenses (P.L. 108-11)	11,000	---	---	---	---	-11,000
National Veterans Business Development Corporation						
Salaries and expenses	1,987	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	+13
Securities and Exchange Commission						
Salaries and expenses	745,789	841,507	841,500	841,500	811,500	+65,711
Prior year unobligated balances	-29,439	---	-103,000	---	-120,000	-90,561
Direct appropriation	716,350	841,507	738,500	841,500	691,500	-24,850
Small Business Administration						
Salaries and expenses	312,413	360,155	326,592	332,413	325,750	+13,337
Office of Inspector General	12,341	14,500	13,000	12,341	13,000	+659
Business Loans Program Account:						
Direct loans subsidy	3,702	1,910	1,910	1,910	1,910	-1,792
Guaranteed loans subsidy	84,805	94,860	84,805	85,758	79,132	-5,673
Administrative expenses	128,161	129,000	129,000	129,000	128,000	-161
Total, Business loans program account	216,668	225,770	215,715	216,668	209,042	-7,626
Disaster Loans Program Account:						
Direct loans subsidy	72,665	79,109	72,665	79,109	56,188	-16,477
Administrative expenses	117,585	118,354	117,585	111,141	114,363	-3,222
Gainsharing	---	3,000	---	---	---	---
Total, Disaster loans program account	190,250	200,463	190,250	190,250	170,551	-19,699
Total, Small Business Administration	731,672	800,888	745,557	751,672	718,343	-13,329

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
State Justice Institute						
Salaries and expenses	2,981	---	3,000	5,000	2,250	-731
United States - China Economic and Security Review Commission						
Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	2,000	2,000	+2,000
Total, title V, Related agencies	2,153,248	2,416,261	2,236,569	2,378,456	2,157,345	+4,097
TITLE VII - RESCISSIONS						
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE						
General Administration						
Working Capital fund (rescission)	-78,000	---	---	-499	-67,326	+10,674
Counterterrorism fund (rescission)	---	---	---	-50,000	-40,000	-40,000
Legal Activities						
Assets forfeiture fund (rescission)	-50,874	---	---	-499	-61,608	-10,734
Federal Prison System						
Buildings and facilities (rescission)	---	---	---	---	-51,895	-51,895
Office of Justice Programs						
State & local law enforcement assistance (rescission)	---	---	-24,122	-9,500	-21,600	-21,600
Community oriented policing services (rescission)	---	---	-6,378	---	-6,378	-6,378
Juvenile justice programs (rescission)	---	---	---	---	-15,900	-15,900
Immigration and Naturalization Service						
Immigration emergency fund (rescission)	-580	---	---	---	---	+580
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE						
National Institute of Standards and Technology						
Construction of research facilities (rescission)	---	---	---	-3,000	---	---
National Oceanic and Atmostpheric Administration						
Coastal impact assistance (rescission)	-7,000	---	---	---	---	+7,000
NERRS construction (rescission)	---	---	---	---	-2,500	-2,500
Departmental Management						
Emergency oil and gas guaranteed loan program account (rescission)	-920	---	---	---	---	+920
Emergency steel guaranteed loan program account (rescission)	---	-97,000	---	---	---	---
Travel and tourism (rescission)	---	---	---	---	-40,000	-40,000
RELATED AGENCIES						
Federal Communications Commission						
Salaries and expenses (rescission)	-5,700	---	---	---	---	+5,700
Small Business Administration						
Salaries and expenses (rescission)	-13,750	---	---	---	---	+13,750
Business Loans Program Account:						
Guaranteed loans subsidy (rescission)	-10,500	---	---	---	---	+10,500

DIVISION B--DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE- JUSTICE- AND STATE- THE JUDICIARY- AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
GENERAL PROVISIONS						
Across-the-board cut (.465%) (rescission) (sec. 638)..	---	---	---	---	-188,731	-188,731
Total, title VII, Rescissions.....	-167,324	-97,000	-30,500	-63,498	-495,938	-328,614
Grand total:						
New budget (obligational) authority.....	40,530,029	41,211,965	41,230,679	40,372,908	41,041,509	+511,480
Appropriations.....	(40,697,353)	(41,514,865)	(41,261,179)	(40,436,406)	(41,737,447)	(+1,040,094)
Rescissions.....	(-167,324)	(-302,900)	(-30,500)	(-63,498)	(-695,938)	(-528,614)
(Transfer out).....	(-11,632)	(-5,000)	(-11,632)	(-25,000)	(-11,632)	---
(By transfer).....	(76,632)	(80,000)	(90,883)	(77,000)	(73,632)	(-3,000)

DIVISION C--DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
Federal payment for Resident Tuition Support	16,889	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	+111
Federal payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia	14,902	15,000	15,000	15,000	11,000	-3,902
Federal payment to the District of Columbia Courts	160,890	163,819	163,819	172,104	167,765	+6,875
Defender Services in District of Columbia Courts	16,989	32,000	32,000	32,000	32,000	+15,011
Unobligated Balance	(16,400)	---	---	---	---	(-16,400)
Defender Services program level	(33,389)	(32,000)	(32,000)	(32,000)	(32,000)	(-1,389)
Federal payment to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia	153,701	166,525	163,081	173,396	168,435	+14,734
Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority	49,675	15,000	35,000	25,000	30,000	-19,675
Federal payment for Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness in the District of Columbia	9,935	---	---	10,000	7,500	-2,435
Federal payment for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative /1	4,968	10,000	4,300	6,000	5,000	+32
Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council /2	---	1,300	1,300	---	1,300	+1,300
Federal payment for Capital Development in the District of Columbia	10,084	---	8,000	5,000	8,150	-1,934
Federal payment for Public School Facilities	---	---	4,500	---	4,500	+4,500
Federal payment for Childrens Hospital /2	---	---	---	10,000	---	---
Federal payment for St. Coletta /2	---	---	---	2,000	---	---
Federal payment for the Family Literacy Program	3,974	---	2,000	---	2,000	-1,974
Federal payment for Transportation Assistance	---	---	---	3,500	3,500	+3,500
Federal payment for Foster Care Improvements in the District of Columbia	---	---	---	14,000	14,000	+14,000
Federal Payment to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia	40,535	---	10,000	33,000	32,350	-8,185
Federal Payment for emergency personnel cross training	---	---	---	---	500	+500
Federal payment for School Improvement	---	---	10,000	27,000	40,000	+40,000
Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Transportation	993	---	---	---	---	-993
Federal payment for Waterfront Improvements	2,285	---	---	---	---	-2,285
Federal payment for Asbestos Remediation	993	---	---	---	---	-993
Federal payment to the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department	1,987	---	---	---	---	-1,987
Federal payment for Special Education	2,981	---	---	---	---	-2,981
Federal payment to the District of Columbia for Public Charter School Facilities	16,889	---	---	---	---	-16,889
Total, Federal funds to the District of Columbia	508,670	420,644	466,000	545,000	545,000	+36,330

1/ Funds are for the Anacostia Riverwalk and Trail construction.

2/ $298,000, $4,967,000, and $1,987,000 respectively is included in FY2003 under Federal payment to the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS						
Operating Expenses						
Governmental direction and support	(303,673)	(284,415)	(284,415)	(284,415)	(284,415)	(-19,258)
Economic development and regulation	(244,358)	(276,647)	(276,647)	(276,647)	(276,647)	(+32,289)
Public safety and justice	(622,531)	(745,958)	(745,958)	(745,958)	(745,958)	(+123,427)
Public education system	(1,206,169)	(1,157,841)	(1,157,841)	(1,157,841)	(1,157,841)	(-48,328)
Human support services	(2,451,818)	(2,360,067)	(2,360,067)	(2,360,067)	(2,360,067)	(-91,751)
Public Works	(320,357)	(327,046)	(327,046)	(327,046)	(327,046)	(+6,689)
Reserve	(70,000)	---	---	---	---	(-70,000)
Cash Reserve	---	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(+50,000)
Repayment of Loans and Interest	(260,951)	(311,504)	(311,504)	(311,504)	(311,504)	(+50,553)
Repayment of General Fund Recovery Debt	(39,300)	---	---	---	---	(-39,300)
Payment of Interest on Short-Term Borrowing	(1,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(+2,000)
Certificates of Participation	(7,950)	(4,911)	(4,911)	(4,911)	(4,911)	(-3,039)
Settlements and Judgments	(22,822)	(22,522)	(22,522)	(22,522)	(22,522)	(-300)
Wilson Building	(4,194)	(3,704)	(3,704)	(3,704)	(3,704)	(-490)
Workforce Investments	(48,186)	(22,308)	(22,308)	(22,308)	(22,308)	(-25,878)
Non-Departmental Agency	(5,799)	(19,639)	(19,639)	(19,639)	(19,639)	(+13,840)
Pay-As-You-Go Capital	---	(11,267)	(11,267)	(11,267)	(11,267)	(+11,267)
Tax Increment Financing Program	---	(1,940)	(1,940)	(1,940)	(1,940)	(+1,940)
Medicaid Disallowance	---	(57,000)	(57,000)	(57,000)	(57,000)	(+57,000)
Emergency Planning and Security Costs	(15,000)	---	---	---	---	(-15,000)
Total, operating expenses, general fund	(5,624,108)	(5,659,769)	(5,659,769)	(5,659,769)	(5,659,769)	(+35,661)

DIVISION C--DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Enterprise and Other Funds						
Water and Sewer Authority	(253,743)	(259,095)	(259,095)	(259,095)	(259,095)	(+5,352)
Washington Aqueduct	(57,847)	(55,553)	(55,553)	(55,553)	(55,553)	(-2,294)
Stormwater Permit Compliance enterprise fund	(3,100)	(3,501)	(3,501)	(3,501)	(3,501)	(+401)
Lottery and Charitable Games enterprise fund	(232,881)	(242,755)	(242,755)	(242,755)	(242,755)	(+9,874)
Sports and Entertainment Commission	(20,510)	(13,979)	(13,979)	(13,979)	(13,979)	(-6,531)
District of Columbia Retirement Board	(13,388)	(13,895)	(13,895)	(13,895)	(13,895)	(+507)
Washington Convention Center enterprise fund	(78,700)	(69,742)	(69,742)	(69,742)	(69,742)	(-8,958)
National Capital Revitalization Corporation	(6,745)	(7,849)	(7,849)	(7,849)	(7,849)	(+1,104)
Total, Enterprise Funds	(666,914)	(666,369)	(666,369)	(666,369)	(666,369)	(-545)
Total, operating expenses	(6,291,022)	(6,326,138)	(6,326,138)	(6,326,138)	(6,326,138)	(+35,116)
Capital Outlay						
General fund	(670,520)	(904,913)	(904,913)	(904,913)	(904,913)	(+234,393)
Water and Sewer Fund	(342,458)	(199,807)	(199,807)	(199,807)	(229,807)	(-112,651)
Total, Capital Outlay	(1,012,978)	(1,104,720)	(1,104,720)	(1,104,720)	(1,134,720)	(+121,742)
Total, District of Columbia funds	(7,304,000)	(7,430,858)	(7,430,858)	(7,430,858)	(7,460,858)	(+156,858)
Grand total:						
Federal Funds to the District of Columbia	508,670	420,644	466,000	545,000	545,000	+36,330
District of Columbia funds	(7,304,000)	(7,430,858)	(7,430,858)	(7,430,858)	(7,460,858)	(+156,858)

DIVISION D--FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE						
EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES						
Subsidy appropriation	509,566	---	---	---	---	-509,566
Administrative expenses	67,856	75,395	71,395	74,395	72,895	+5,039
Inspector General	---	1,200	---	1,000	---	---
Negative subsidy	-13,000	-34,000	-34,000	-34,000	-34,000	-21,000
Total, Export-Import Bank of the United States	564,422	42,595	37,395	41,395	38,895	-525,527
OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION						
Noncredit account:						
Administrative expenses	39,626	42,385	41,385	41,385	41,385	+1,759
Insurance fees and other offsetting collections	-306,000	-272,000	-272,000	-272,000	-272,000	+34,000
Subsidy appropriation	23,844	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	+156
Total, Overseas Private Investment Corporation	-242,530	-205,615	-206,615	-206,615	-206,615	+35,915
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT						
Trade and development agency	46,706	60,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	+3,294
Total, title I, Export and investment assistance	368,598	-103,020	-119,220	-115,220	-117,720	-486,318
TITLE II - BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE						
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT						
United States Agency for International Development						
Child survival and health programs fund	1,824,563	1,495,000	2,235,830	1,435,500	1,835,000	+10,437
UNICEF	(120,000)	---	(120,000)	---	---	(-120,000)
Global AIDS initiative/Coordinator	---	---	(870,830)	---	---	---
(Transfer out)	(-5,961)	---	(-6,000)	(-6,000)	(-6,000)	(-39)
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	90,000	---	---	---	---	-90,000
Global AIDS initiative	---	450,000	---	989,000	491,000	+491,000
(Transfer out)	---	---	---	(-20,000)	(-15,000)	(-15,000)
Development assistance	1,379,972	1,345,000	1,317,000	1,423,000	1,385,000	+5,028
(Transfer out)	---	(-21,000)	(-21,000)	(-21,000)	(-21,000)	(-21,000)
International disaster assistance	288,115	235,500	315,500	235,500	255,500	-32,615
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	143,800	---	---	---	---	-143,800
Famine fund	---	200,000	---	100,000	---	---
Transition Initiatives	49,675	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	+5,325
Development Credit Authority:						
(By transfer)	---	(21,000)	(21,000)	(21,000)	(21,000)	(+21,000)
Administrative expenses	7,542	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	+458
Subtotal, development assistance	3,783,667	3,788,500	3,931,330	4,246,000	4,029,500	+245,833
Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund	45,200	43,859	43,859	43,859	43,859	-1,341
Operating expenses of the U.S. Agency for International Development	568,282	604,100	604,100	604,100	604,100	+35,818
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	24,500	---	---	---	---	-24,500
(By transfer)	(5,961)	---	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(+39)
(By transfer)	---	---	(15,000)	---	---	---
(Transfer out) of Iraq Relief Fund	---	---	(-15,000)	---	---	---
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11) (Transfer to U.S. AID Office of Inspector General)	(-3,500)	---	---	---	---	(+3,500)
Capital Investment Fund	42,721	146,300	49,300	100,000	82,200	+39,479
Operating expenses of the U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Inspector General	33,084	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	+1,916
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11) (By transfer)	(3,500)	---	---	---	---	(-3,500)
Total, U.S. Agency for International Development	4,497,454	4,617,759	4,663,589	5,028,959	4,794,659	+297,205
Other Bilateral Economic Assistance						
Economic support fund:						
Israel	596,100	480,000	480,000	1,055,000	480,000	-116,100
Egypt	611,002	575,000	575,000	---	575,000	-36,002
Other	1,048,142	1,480,000	1,185,500	1,360,000	1,077,500	+29,358
Economic support fund (P.L. 108-11)	2,422,000	---	---	---	---	-2,422,000
Pakistan debt relief	---	---	---	---	---	---

DIVISION D--FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Loan guarantees to Egypt:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans) (P.L. 108-11)	(2,000,000)	---	---	---	---	(-2,000,000)
Loan guarantees to Turkey:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans) (P.L. 108-11)	(8,500,000)	---	---	---	---	(-8,500,000)
Subtotal, Economic support fund	4,677,244	2,535,000	2,240,500	2,415,000	2,132,500	-2,544,744
International Fund for Ireland	24,837	---	19,600	---	18,500	-6,337
Assistance for Eastern Europe and the Baltic States	521,587	435,000	452,000	445,000	445,000	-76,587
Assistance for the Independent States of the former Soviet Union	755,060	576,000	576,000	596,000	587,000	-168,060
US emergency fund for complex international crises	---	100,000	---	---	---	---
Iraq relief and reconstruction fund (P.L. 108-11)	2,475,000	---	---	---	---	-2,475,000
(Transfer authority) (P.L. 108-11)	(200,000)	---	---	---	---	(-200,000)
Loan guarantees to Israel:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans) (P.L. 108-11)	(9,000,000)	---	---	---	---	(-9,000,000)
Total, Other Bilateral Economic Assistance	8,453,728	3,646,000	3,288,100	3,456,000	3,183,000	-5,270,728
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
Inter-American Foundation						
Appropriation	16,095	15,185	15,185	16,334	16,334	+239
African Development Foundation						
Appropriation	18,568	17,689	17,689	18,689	18,689	+121
Peace Corps						
Appropriation	295,069	359,000	314,000	310,000	310,000	+14,931
(By transfer)	---	---	---	(20,000)	(15,000)	(+15,000)
Millenium Challenge Corporation						
Appropriation	---	1,300,000	800,000	1,000,000	650,000	+650,000
Department of State						
International narcotics control and law enforcement	195,720	284,550	241,700	284,550	241,700	+45,980
(Transfer out)	---	---	---	(-37,000)	---	---
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	25,000	---	---	---	---	-25,000
Andean Counterdrug Initiative	695,450	731,000	731,000	660,000	731,000	+35,550
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	34,000	---	---	---	---	-34,000
(By transfer)	(92,396)	---	---	(54,000)	(17,000)	(-75,396)
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11) (By transfer)	(20,000)	---	---	---	---	(-20,000)
Migration and refugee assistance	781,885	760,197	760,197	760,197	760,197	-21,688
United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund	25,831	40,000	15,831	40,000	30,000	+4,169
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	80,000	---	---	---	---	-80,000
Nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining and related programs	304,408	385,200	335,200	385,200	353,500	+49,092
(By transfer)	---	---	---	(15,000)	---	---
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	28,000	---	---	---	---	-28,000
Subtotal, Department of State	2,170,294	2,200,947	2,083,928	2,129,947	2,116,397	-53,897
Department of the Treasury						
International Affairs Technical Assistance	10,730	14,000	19,000	12,000	19,000	+8,270
Debt restructuring	---	395,000	95,000	195,000	95,000	+95,000
Subtotal, Department of the Treasury	10,730	409,000	114,000	207,000	114,000	+103,270
Total, title II, Bilateral economic assistance	15,461,938	12,565,580	11,296,491	12,166,929	11,203,079	-4,258,859
Appropriations	(10,139,638)	(12,565,580)	(11,296,491)	(12,166,929)	(11,203,079)	(+1,063,441)
Emergency appropriations	(5,322,300)	---	---	---	---	(-5,322,300)
(By transfer)	(121,857)	(21,000)	(42,000)	(116,000)	(59,000)	(-62,857)
(Transfer out)	(-9,461)	(-21,000)	(-42,000)	(-84,000)	(-42,000)	(-32,539)

DIVISION D--FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE III - MILITARY ASSISTANCE						
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT						
International Military Education and Training	79,480	91,700	91,100	91,700	91,700	+12,220
Foreign Military Financing Program:						
Grants:						
Israel	2,086,350	2,160,000	2,160,000	3,460,000	2,160,000	+73,650
Egypt	1,291,550	1,300,000	1,300,000	---	1,300,000	+8,450
Other	667,632	954,000	854,000	924,000	834,000	+166,368
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	2,059,100	---	---	---	---	-2,059,100
(Transfer out)	---	---	---	(-32,000)	(-17,000)	(-17,000)
Subtotal, grants	6,104,632	4,414,000	4,314,000	4,384,000	4,294,000	-1,810,632
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(38,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,500)	(+2,500)
(Transfer out)	(-92,396)	---	---	---	---	(+92,396)
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11) (Transfer out)	(-20,000)	---	---	---	---	(+20,000)
Total, Foreign Military Financing	6,104,632	4,414,000	4,314,000	4,384,000	4,294,000	-1,810,632
Peacekeeping operations	114,252	94,900	85,000	84,900	74,900	-39,352
Emergency supplemental (P.L. 108-11)	100,000	---	---	---	---	-100,000
Total, title III, Military assistance	6,398,364	4,600,600	4,490,100	4,560,600	4,460,600	-1,937,764
Appropriations	(4,239,264)	(4,600,600)	(4,490,100)	(4,560,600)	(4,460,600)	(+221,336)
Emergency appropriations	(2,159,100)	---	---	---	---	(-2,159,100)
(Transfer out)	(-112,396)	---	---	(-32,000)	(-17,000)	(+95,396)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(38,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,500)	(+2,500)
TITLE IV - MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE						
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT						
International Financial Institutions						
World Bank Group						
Contribution to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development:						
Global Environment Facility	146,852	184,997	107,500	170,997	139,240	-7,612
Contribution to the International Development Association	844,475	976,825	850,000	976,825	913,200	+68,725
Contribution to Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency	1,620	4,002	4,002	1,124	1,124	-496
(Limitation on callable capital subscriptions)	(7,610)	(16,340)	(16,340)	(16,340)	---	(-7,610)
Total, World Bank Group	992,947	1,165,824	961,502	1,148,946	1,053,564	+60,617
Contribution to the Inter-American Development Bank:						
Contribution to the Inter-American Investment Corporation	18,233	30,898	---	898	---	-18,233
Contribution to the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund	24,431	32,614	25,000	30,614	25,000	+569
Total, Inter-American Development Bank	42,664	63,512	25,000	31,512	25,000	-17,664
Contribution to the Asian Development Bank:						
Contribution to the Asian Development Fund	97,250	151,921	151,921	136,921	144,421	+47,171
Contribution to the African Development Bank:						
Paid-in capital	5,071	5,105	5,105	5,105	5,105	+34
(Limitation on callable capital subscriptions)	(79,603)	(79,610)	(79,610)	(79,610)	(79,610)	(+7)
Contribution to the African Development Fund	107,371	118,081	107,371	118,081	112,725	+5,354
Total, African Development Bank	112,442	123,186	112,476	123,186	117,830	+5,388
Contribution to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development:						
Paid-in capital	35,572	35,431	35,431	35,431	35,431	-141
(Limitation on callable capital subscriptions)	(123,328)	(122,085)	(122,085)	(122,085)	(122,085)	(-1,243)
Contribution to the International Fund for Agricultural Development	14,906	15,004	15,004	15,004	15,004	+98
Total, International Financial Institutions	1,295,781	1,554,878	1,301,334	1,491,000	1,391,250	+95,469

DIVISION D--FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
International Organizations and Programs						
Appropriation	193,882	314,550	194,550	322,550	321,650	+127,768
Total, title IV, Multilateral economic assistance	1,489,663	1,869,428	1,495,884	1,813,550	1,712,900	+223,237
(Limitation on callable capital subscript)	(210,541)	(218,035)	(218,035)	(218,035)	(201,695)	(-8,846)
Grand total:						
New budget (obligational) authority	23,718,563	18,932,588	17,163,255	18,425,859	17,258,859	-6,459,704
(By transfer)	(121,857)	(21,000)	(42,000)	(116,000)	(59,000)	(-62,857)
(Transfer out)	(-121,857)	(-21,000)	(-42,000)	(-116,000)	(-59,000)	(+62,857)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(38,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,500)	(+2,500)
(Limitation on callable capital subscript)	(210,541)	(218,035)	(218,035)	(218,035)	(201,695)	(-8,846)
(Emergency Supplemental (P.L. 108-11))	(7,481,400)	---	---	---	---	(-7,481,400)

DIVISION E--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR						
Employment and Training Administration						
Training and employment services	2,737,161	2,488,986	2,614,039	2,677,588	2,697,654	-39,507
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	2,463,000	2,463,000	2,463,000	2,463,000	2,463,000	---
Total	5,200,161	4,951,986	5,077,039	5,140,588	5,160,654	-39,507
Community service employment for older Americans	442,306	440,200	440,200	442,306	441,253	-1,053
Federal unemployment benefits and allowances (indefinite)	972,200	1,338,200	1,338,200	1,338,200	1,338,200	+366,000
State unemployment insurance and employment service operations	142,520	144,452	142,520	142,520	142,520	---
Trust funds	3,452,861	3,502,331	3,472,861	3,478,032	3,466,861	+14,000
Total	3,595,381	3,646,783	3,615,381	3,620,552	3,609,381	+14,000
Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund and other funds	463,000	467,000	467,000	467,000	467,000	+4,000
Program administration	120,635	115,824	115,824	115,824	115,824	-4,811
Trust funds	53,876	67,541	56,503	63,137	57,820	+3,944
Total	174,511	183,365	172,327	178,961	173,644	-867
Total, Employment and Training Administration	10,847,559	11,027,534	11,110,147	11,187,607	11,190,132	+342,573
Employee Benefits Security Administration						
Salaries and expenses	116,283	128,605	128,605	121,316	124,962	+8,679
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation						
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation fund:						
Trust funds	12,965	16,553	16,553	16,553	16,553	+3,588
Employment Standards Administration						
Salaries and expenses	379,097	395,697	395,697	390,045	392,872	+13,775
Trust funds	2,016	2,056	2,056	2,016	2,036	+20
Total	381,113	397,753	397,753	392,061	394,908	+13,795
Special benefits	163,000	163,000	163,000	163,000	163,000	---
Special benefits for disabled coal miners:						
Direct appropriation	408,177	397,000	397,000	397,000	397,000	-11,177
Appropriation available from prior year advance	-108,000	-97,000	-97,000	-97,000	-97,000	+11,000
Total, fiscal year 2004 appropriation	300,177	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	-177
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2005	97,000	88,000	88,000	88,000	88,000	-9,000
Total, special benefits for disabled coal miners	397,177	388,000	388,000	388,000	388,000	-9,177
Energy employees occupational illness compensation fund	104,867	55,074	55,074	55,074	55,074	-49,793
Black Lung Disability Trust Fund:						
Definite	1,034,644	1,042,644	1,042,644	1,042,644	1,042,644	+8,000
Indefinite	356	356	356	356	356	---
Total	1,035,000	1,043,000	1,043,000	1,043,000	1,043,000	+8,000
Total, Employment Standards Administration	2,081,157	2,046,827	2,046,827	2,041,135	2,043,982	-37,175
Occupational Safety and Health Administration						
Salaries and expenses	450,310	450,008	450,008	463,324	460,786	+10,476
Mine Safety and Health Administration						
Salaries and expenses	272,956	266,767	266,767	270,711	270,826	-2,130
Bureau of Labor Statistics						
Salaries and expenses	420,672	437,152	437,152	445,113	447,088	+26,416
Trust funds	71,561	75,110	75,110	75,110	75,110	+3,549
Total	492,233	512,262	512,262	520,223	522,198	+29,965

DIVISION E--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Office of Disability Employment Policy	47,178	47,333	47,333	47,333	47,333	+155
Departmental Management						
Salaries and expenses	387,533	273,219	252,701	351,295	352,514	-35,019
Trust funds	308	317	317	314	316	+8
Total	387,841	273,536	253,018	351,609	352,830	-35,011
Veterans Employment and Training	25,508	26,550	26,550	26,550	26,550	+1,042
Trust funds	187,311	193,443	193,443	193,443	193,443	+6,132
Total	212,819	219,993	219,993	219,993	219,993	+7,174
Office of Inspector General	56,291	60,896	60,896	59,291	60,094	+3,803
Trust funds	5,561	5,899	5,899	5,561	5,730	+169
Total	61,852	66,795	66,795	64,852	65,824	+3,972
Total, Departmental Management	662,512	560,324	539,806	636,454	638,647	-23,865
Working Capital Fund	---	20,000	18,000	9,700	13,850	+13,850
Total, Title I, Department of Labor	14,983,153	15,076,213	15,136,308	15,314,356	15,329,269	+346,116
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(12,531,153)	(12,622,213)	(12,682,308)	(12,860,356)	(12,875,269)	(+344,116)
Appropriations available from prior advances	(-108,000)	(-97,000)	(-97,000)	(-97,000)	(-97,000)	(+11,000)
Advance appropriations, fiscal year 2005	(2,560,000)	(2,551,000)	(2,551,000)	(2,551,000)	(2,551,000)	(-9,000)
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES						
Health Resources and Services Administration						
Health resources and services	6,430,558	5,665,996	6,252,256	5,939,824	6,698,437	+267,879
Evaluation tap funding (non-add)	(25,000)	---	---	(25,000)	(29,500)	(+4,500)
Health education assistance loans program:						
Administrative expenses	3,889	3,389	3,389	3,389	3,389	-500
Vaccine injury compensation program trust fund	85,918	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000	-19,918
HRSA administration	2,972	2,991	3,472	2,972	3,222	+250
Total, HRSA	6,523,337	5,738,376	6,325,117	6,012,185	6,771,048	+247,711
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention						
Disease control, research, and training	4,284,640	4,267,330	4,588,671	4,494,496	4,545,472	+260,832
Evaluation tap funding (non-add)	(210,399)	(51,982)	(13,226)	(212,134)	(212,134)	(+1,735)
National Institutes of Health						
National Cancer Institute	4,592,348	4,770,519	4,770,519	4,770,519	4,770,519	+178,171
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	2,793,733	2,867,995	2,867,995	2,897,595	2,897,145	+103,412
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	371,636	382,396	382,396	386,396	385,796	+14,160
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	1,622,730	1,670,007	1,670,007	1,683,007	1,682,457	+59,727
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	1,456,476	1,468,926	1,468,926	1,510,926	1,510,776	+54,300
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	3,706,139	4,335,255	4,335,255	4,335,255	4,335,155	+629,016
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	1,847,000	1,923,133	1,923,133	1,917,033	1,916,333	+69,333
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	1,205,927	1,245,371	1,245,371	1,251,185	1,250,585	+44,658
National Eye Institute	633,148	648,299	648,299	657,199	657,199	+24,051
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	614,239	630,774	630,774	637,074	636,974	+22,735
National Institute on Aging	993,598	994,411	994,411	1,031,411	1,031,311	+37,713
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	486,143	502,778	502,778	505,000	504,300	+18,157
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	370,382	380,377	380,377	384,577	384,477	+14,095
National Institute of Nursing Research	130,584	134,579	134,579	135,579	135,555	+4,971
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	416,051	430,121	430,121	431,521	431,471	+15,420
National Institute on Drug Abuse	961,721	995,614	995,614	997,614	997,414	+35,693
National Institute of Mental Health	1,341,014	1,382,114	1,382,114	1,391,114	1,390,714	+49,700
National Human Genome Research Institute	464,995	478,072	478,072	482,372	482,222	+17,227
National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	278,279	282,109	282,109	289,300	288,900	+10,621
National Center for Research Resources	1,138,821	1,053,926	1,053,926	1,186,483	1,186,183	+47,362
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine	113,407	116,202	116,202	117,902	117,752	+4,345

DIVISION E--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities	185,714	192,724	192,724	192,824	192,724	+7,010
John E. Fogarty International Center	63,465	64,266	64,266	65,900	65,800	+2,335
National Library of Medicine	300,135	316,040	316,040	311,835	311,635	+11,500
Evaluation tap funding (non-add)	(8,200)	---	---	(8,200)	(8,200)	---
Office of the Director	266,232	317,983	317,983	323,483	329,707	+63,475
Buildings and facilities	628,687	80,000	80,000	89,500	89,500	-539,187
Total, N.I.H.	26,982,604	27,663,991	27,663,991	27,982,604	27,982,604	+1,000,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration						
Substance abuse and mental health services	3,137,540	3,393,315	3,329,000	3,157,540	3,253,763	+116,223
Evaluation tap funding (non-add)	(74,200)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(117,050)	(117,050)	(+42,850)
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality						
Healthcare research and quality	---	---	---	---	---	---
Evaluation tap funding (non-add)	(303,695)	(279,000)	(303,695)	(303,695)	(303,695)	---
Total, Public Health Service	40,928,121	41,063,012	41,906,779	41,646,825	42,552,887	+1,624,766
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services						
Grants to States for Medicaid	158,692,155	176,753,583	182,753,583	176,753,583	182,753,583	+24,061,428
Appropriation available from prior year advance	-46,601,937	-51,861,386	-51,861,386	-51,861,386	-51,861,386	-5,259,449
Total, adjusted appropriation	112,090,218	124,892,197	130,892,197	124,892,197	130,892,197	+18,801,979
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2005	51,861,386	58,416,275	58,416,275	58,416,275	58,416,275	+6,554,889
Total, grants to States for Medicaid	163,951,604	183,308,472	189,308,472	183,308,472	189,308,472	+25,356,868
Payments to health care trust funds	81,462,700	95,084,100	95,084,100	95,084,100	95,084,100	+13,621,400
Program management (trust funds)	2,564,891	2,733,507	2,698,025	2,707,603	2,664,994	+100,103
Total, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services	247,979,195	281,126,079	287,090,597	281,100,175	287,057,566	+39,078,371
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(242,719,746)	(274,571,190)	(280,535,708)	(274,545,286)	(280,502,677)	(+37,782,931)
Appropriations available from prior advances	(-46,601,937)	(-51,861,386)	(-51,861,386)	(-51,861,386)	(-51,861,386)	(-5,259,449)
Advance appropriations, FY 2005	(51,861,386)	(58,416,275)	(58,416,275)	(58,416,275)	(58,416,275)	(+6,554,889)
Administration for Children and Families						
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs	4,036,800	4,525,270	4,525,270	4,572,270	4,572,270	+535,470
Less funds advanced in previous years	-1,100,000	-1,100,000	-1,100,000	-1,100,000	-1,100,000	---
Total, adjusted appropriation	2,936,800	3,425,270	3,425,270	3,472,270	3,472,270	+535,470
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2005	1,100,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	+100,000
Total	4,036,800	4,625,270	4,625,270	4,672,270	4,672,270	+635,470
Low income home energy assistance:						
Emergency allocation:						
Contingent non-emergency funding	---	300,000	100,000	---	100,000	+100,000
Contingent emergency funding	---	---	---	---	---	---
Current appropriation	1,688,950	1,700,000	1,700,000	2,000,000	1,800,000	+111,050
Total	1,688,950	2,000,000	1,800,000	2,000,000	1,900,000	+211,050
Refugee and entrant assistance	478,048	461,626	461,853	428,056	450,276	-27,772
Payments to States for the Child Care and Development Block Grant	2,086,344	2,099,729	2,099,729	2,099,729	2,099,729	+13,385
Social Services Block Grant	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	---
Children and families services programs	7,245,276	7,287,382	7,214,670	7,382,457	7,416,097	+170,821
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	---
Evaluation tap funding (non-add)	(6,000)	---	---	(6,000)	(6,000)	---
Total	8,645,276	8,687,382	8,614,670	8,782,457	8,816,097	+170,821
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	305,000	305,000	305,000	305,000	305,000	---
Discretionary portion	99,350	199,978	100,000	99,350	100,000	+650
Payments to States for foster care and adoption assistance	6,609,000	6,813,900	6,813,900	6,813,900	6,813,900	+204,900
Less funds advanced in previous years	-1,754,000	-1,745,600	-1,745,600	-1,745,600	-1,745,600	+8,400
Total, adjusted appropriation	4,855,000	5,068,300	5,068,300	5,068,300	5,068,300	+213,300

DIVISION E--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2005	1,745,600	1,767,700	1,767,700	1,767,700	1,767,700	+22,100
Total, Payments to States for foster care	6,600,600	6,836,000	6,836,000	6,836,000	6,836,000	+235,400
Total, Administration for Children and Families	25,640,368	26,914,985	26,542,522	26,922,862	26,879,372	+1,239,004
Administration on Aging						
Aging services program	1,367,057	1,343,701	1,377,421	1,361,193	1,381,689	+14,632
Office of the Secretary						
General departmental management	345,160	348,100	343,284	344,808	357,358	+12,198
Trust funds	5,813	5,851	5,813	5,851	5,851	+38
Total	350,973	353,951	349,097	350,659	363,209	+12,236
Evaluation tap funding (NA)	(21,552)	(21,552)	(21,552)	(21,552)	(21,552)	---
Office of Inspector General	36,808	39,497	39,497	39,497	39,497	+2,689
Office for Civil Rights	30,131	30,936	30,936	30,936	30,936	+805
Trust funds	3,292	3,314	3,314	3,314	3,314	+22
Total	33,423	34,250	34,250	34,250	34,250	+827
Policy research	2,483	2,499	2,483	---	---	-2,483
Evaluation tap funding (NA)	(18,000)	(21,000)	(18,000)	(23,499)	(20,750)	(+2,750)
Medical Benefits for Commissioned Officers:						
Expenses (indefinite)	310,017	303,392	329,868	329,868	329,868	+19,851
Discretionary funding	---	12,973	---	---	---	---
Total	310,017	316,365	329,868	329,868	329,868	+19,851
Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund	1,887,247	1,896,149	1,776,846	1,856,040	1,776,846	-110,401
Total, Office of the Secretary	2,620,951	2,642,711	2,532,041	2,610,314	2,543,670	-77,281
Net total, Title II, Department of Health and Human Services	318,535,692	353,090,488	359,449,360	353,641,369	360,415,184	+41,879,492
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(311,884,643)	(345,013,499)	(351,372,371)	(345,564,380)	(352,338,195)	(+40,453,552)
Appropriations	(309,310,647)	(342,270,827)	(348,665,219)	(342,847,612)	(349,664,036)	(+40,353,389)
Contingent emergency funding	---	---	---	---	---	---
Trust funds	(2,573,996)	(2,742,672)	(2,707,152)	(2,716,768)	(2,674,159)	(+100,163)
Appropriations available from prior advances	(-49,455,937)	(-54,706,986)	(-54,706,986)	(-54,706,986)	(-54,706,986)	(-5,251,049)
Advance appropriations, FY 2005	(56,106,986)	(62,783,975)	(62,783,975)	(62,783,975)	(62,783,975)	(+6,676,989)
Total, discretionary FY 2004	58,683,053	59,462,254	59,794,650	59,939,659	60,713,474	+2,030,421
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION						
Education for the disadvantaged	4,710,972	6,800,699	7,123,699	6,724,055	7,145,221	+2,434,249
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	9,027,301	7,383,301	7,383,301	7,383,301	7,383,301	-1,644,000
Total	13,738,273	14,184,000	14,507,000	14,107,356	14,528,522	+790,249
Impact aid	1,188,226	1,015,500	1,238,324	1,193,226	1,236,824	+48,598
School improvement programs	4,448,092	3,607,834	4,362,637	4,296,453	4,399,208	-48,884
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	1,435,000	1,435,000	1,435,000	1,435,000	1,435,000	---
Total	5,883,092	5,042,834	5,797,637	5,731,453	5,834,208	-48,884
Indian education	121,573	122,368	121,573	121,573	121,573	---
Innovation and improvement	1,099,049	807,400	807,959	782,133	1,106,811	+7,762
Safe schools and citizenship education	554,925	426,250	495,068	818,547	862,813	+307,888
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	330,000	330,000	330,000	---	---	-330,000
Total	884,925	756,250	825,068	818,547	862,813	-22,112
English language acquisition	685,515	665,000	685,515	669,000	685,258	-257
Special education	4,361,417	5,618,104	5,977,790	6,825,464	5,894,072	+1,532,655
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	5,672,000	5,072,000	5,072,000	5,402,000	5,413,000	-259,000
Total	10,033,417	10,690,104	11,049,790	12,227,464	11,307,072	+1,273,655
Rehabilitation services and disability research	420,641	418,751	415,003	420,198	429,143	+8,502
Mandatory	2,533,492	2,584,162	2,584,162	2,584,162	2,584,162	+50,670
Total	2,954,133	3,002,913	2,999,165	3,004,360	3,013,305	+59,172

DIVISION E--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Special Institutions for Persons With Disabilities:						
American Printing House for the Blind	15,399	14,000	16,500	16,500	16,500	+1,101
National Technical Institute for the Deaf	53,699	50,781	53,867	53,800	53,800	+101
Gallaudet University	97,798	94,446	100,600	100,800	100,800	+3,002
Total	166,896	159,227	170,967	171,100	171,100	+4,204
Vocational and adult education	1,322,209	806,532	1,310,430	1,310,490	1,330,690	+8,481
Advance appropriation, FY 2005	791,000	791,000	791,000	791,000	791,000	---
Total	2,113,209	1,597,532	2,101,430	2,101,490	2,121,690	+8,481
Student financial assistance	13,363,072	14,518,500	14,247,432	14,174,115	14,090,430	+727,358
Student aid administration	104,703	947,010	120,010	104,703	118,010	+13,307
FDSL reclassification	---	-795,000	---	---	---	---
Higher education	2,086,496	1,897,938	1,974,036	1,969,982	2,094,511	+8,015
National security education trust fund	---	8,000	---	---	---	---
Howard University	238,440	237,474	242,770	238,440	240,180	+1,740
College housing and academic facilities loans program	757	774	774	774	774	+17
Historically Black College and University capital financing, program account	207	210	210	210	210	+3
Institute of Education Sciences	447,956	375,915	500,599	532,956	478,717	+30,761
Departmental Management:						
Program administration	409,863	434,494	434,494	349,730	425,000	+15,137
Office for Civil Rights	85,715	91,275	91,275	77,884	89,275	+3,560
Office of the Inspector General	40,734	48,137	48,137	37,661	47,137	+6,403
Total	536,312	573,906	573,906	465,275	561,412	+25,100
Total, Title III, Department of Education	55,646,251	55,807,855	57,964,165	58,414,157	58,573,420	+2,927,169
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(38,390,950)	(40,796,554)	(42,952,864)	(43,402,856)	(43,551,119)	(+5,160,169)
Advance appropriations, FY 2005	(17,255,301)	(15,011,301)	(15,011,301)	(15,011,301)	(15,022,301)	(-2,233,000)
Total, discretionary FY 2004	53,112,759	53,223,693	55,380,003	55,829,995	55,989,258	+2,876,499
TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES						
Armed Forces Retirement Home:						
Operation and maintenance	61,839	63,296	63,296	63,296	63,296	+1,457
Capital program	5,732	1,983	1,983	1,983	1,983	-3,749
Total, AFRH	67,571	65,279	65,279	65,279	65,279	-2,292
Corporation for National and Community Service:						
Domestic Volunteer Service Programs, operating expenses	353,888	364,663	352,836	355,187	356,443	+2,555
Corporation for Public Broadcasting:						
Advance appropriation, fiscal year 2006	390,000	---	330,000	400,000	400,000	+10,000
Digitalization	48,427	---	---	55,000	50,000	+1,573
Interconnection	---	---	---	10,000	10,000	+10,000
Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service	41,156	42,885	43,385	43,385	43,385	+2,229
Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission	7,131	7,774	7,774	7,774	7,774	+643
Institute of Museum and Library Services	243,889	242,024	238,126	243,889	262,596	+18,707
Medicare payment advisory commission (trust funds)	8,529	9,300	9,000	9,000	9,300	+771
National Commission on Libraries & Information Science	1,003	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	-3
National Council on Disability	2,839	2,830	2,830	3,339	3,039	+200
National Labor Relations Board	237,429	243,073	239,429	246,073	244,073	+6,644
National Mediation Board	11,241	11,421	11,421	11,421	11,421	+180
Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission	9,610	10,115	10,115	9,610	9,863	+253
Railroad Retirement Board:						
Dual benefits payments account	123,194	119,000	111,000	119,000	111,000	-12,194
Federal payments to the Railroad Retirement Accounts	150	150	150	150	150	---
Limitation on trust fund transfer:						
Administrative expenses	99,350	99,820	101,300	99,350	101,300	+1,950
Office of Inspector General	6,322	6,600	6,600	6,322	6,600	+278
Total	229,016	225,570	219,050	224,822	219,050	-9,966

DIVISION E--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Social Security Administration						
Payments to social security trust funds	20,400	21,658	21,658	21,658	21,658	+1,258
Supplemental security income program:						
Mandatory	31,879,392	34,328,000	34,328,000	34,336,000	34,336,000	+2,456,608
Discretionary	2,825,000	3,034,000	2,973,300	3,034,000	2,973,300	+148,300
Subtotal	34,704,392	37,362,000	37,301,300	37,370,000	37,309,300	+2,604,908
Appropriation available from prior year advance	-10,790,000	-11,080,000	-11,080,000	-11,080,000	-11,080,000	-290,000
Total, fiscal year 2004 appropriation	23,914,392	26,282,000	26,221,300	26,290,000	26,229,300	+2,314,908
User fee activities	111,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	+9,000
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2005	11,080,000	12,590,000	12,590,000	12,590,000	12,590,000	+1,510,000
Total, supplemental security income program	35,105,392	38,992,000	38,931,300	39,000,000	38,939,300	+3,833,908
Limitation on administrative expenses: Trust funds	7,885,137	8,530,000	8,361,800	8,530,000	8,361,800	+476,663
Office of Inspector General	20,863	25,000	24,500	20,863	24,500	+3,637
Trust funds	61,597	65,000	63,700	61,597	63,700	+2,103
Total	82,460	90,000	88,200	82,460	88,200	+5,740
Adjustment: Trust fund transfers from general revenues	-2,936,000	-3,154,000	-3,093,300	-3,154,000	-3,093,300	-157,300
Total, Social Security Administration	40,157,389	44,479,658	44,309,658	44,480,118	44,317,658	+4,160,269
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(39,867,389)	(42,969,658)	(42,799,658)	(42,970,118)	(42,807,658)	(+2,940,269)
Advance appropriations, FY 2005	(11,080,000)	(12,590,000)	(12,590,000)	(12,590,000)	(12,590,000)	(+1,510,000)
United States Institute of Peace: Operating expenses	16,256	17,200	17,200	17,200	17,200	+944
Total, Title IV, Related agencies	41,825,374	45,722,792	45,857,103	46,183,097	46,028,081	+4,202,707
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(41,145,374)	(44,212,792)	(44,017,103)	(44,273,097)	(44,118,081)	(+2,972,707)
Appropriations available from prior advances	(-10,790,000)	(-11,080,000)	(-11,080,000)	(-11,080,000)	(-11,080,000)	(-290,000)
Advance appropriations, FY 2005	(11,080,000)	(12,590,000)	(12,590,000)	(12,590,000)	(12,590,000)	(+1,510,000)
Advance appropriations, FY 2006	(390,000)	---	(330,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(+10,000)
Total, discretionary FY 2004	9,635,432	9,862,984	9,997,295	10,315,289	10,160,273	+524,841
Grand total	430,990,470	469,697,348	478,406,936	473,552,979	480,345,954	+49,355,484
Appropriations, fiscal year 2004	(392,466,730)	(430,482,416)	(439,045,652)	(433,997,486)	(440,941,236)	(+48,474,506)
Trust funds	(11,485,390)	(12,162,642)	(11,978,994)	(12,103,203)	(11,941,428)	(+456,038)
Total, fiscal year 2004	(403,952,120)	(442,645,058)	(451,024,646)	(446,100,689)	(452,882,664)	(+48,930,544)
Appropriations available from prior advances	(-60,353,937)	(-65,883,986)	(-65,883,986)	(-65,883,986)	(-65,883,986)	(-5,530,049)
Advance appropriations, FY 2005	(87,002,287)	(92,936,276)	(92,936,276)	(92,936,276)	(92,947,276)	(+5,944,989)
Advance appropriations, FY 2006	(390,000)	---	(330,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(+10,000)

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION						
Office of the Secretary						
Salaries and expenses	87,574	108,931	93,577	91,276	80,903	-6,671
Immediate Office of the Secretary	(2,211)	---	(2,212)	(2,500)	(2,210)	(-1)
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary	(809)	---	(841)	(706)	(700)	(-109)
Immediate office of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary	---	---	---	---	---	---
Office of the General Counsel	(15,657)	---	(15,560)	(15,403)	(15,403)	(-254)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy	---	---	---	---	---	---
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs	---	---	---	---	---	---
Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation Policy	(12,452)	---	(12,717)	(12,312)	(12,312)	(-140)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs	(8,375)	---	(8,630)	(8,536)	(8,536)	(+161)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs	(2,453)	---	(2,518)	(2,477)	(2,300)	(-153)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	(29,071)	---	(28,882)	(28,882)	(24,612)	(-4,459)
Office of Public Affairs	(1,926)	---	(1,982)	(1,915)	(1,915)	(-11)
Executive Secretariat	(1,391)	---	(1,447)	(1,458)	(1,447)	(+56)
Board of Contract Appeals	(611)	---	(730)	(700)	(700)	(+89)
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	(1,304)	---	(1,268)	(1,268)	(1,268)	(-36)
Office of Intelligence and Security	---	---	(225)	(1,792)	(2,000)	(+2,000)
Office of the Chief Information Officer	(13,187)	---	(16,565)	(13,327)	(7,500)	(-5,687)
Transfer to Homeland Security	(-1,873)	---	---	---	---	(+1,873)
Subtotal	(87,574)	---	(93,577)	(91,276)	(80,903)	(-6,671)
Office of civil rights	8,643	8,569	8,569	8,569	8,569	-74
Transportation planning, research, and development	20,864	10,836	8,336	15,836	20,864	---
Working capital fund	(131,766)	---	(116,715)	(116,715)	(116,715)	(-15,051)
Minority business resource center program	894	900	900	900	900	+6
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	---
Minority business outreach	2,981	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	+19
New headquarters building	---	45,000	45,000	---	---	---
Payments to air carriers (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	51,761	---	---	52,000	52,000	+239
Reimbursement for general aviation losses, DCA airport	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Office of the Secretary	172,717	177,236	159,382	171,581	166,236	-6,481
Federal Aviation Administration						
Operations	7,023,070	7,590,648	7,532,000	7,535,648	7,530,925	+507,855
Facilities & equipment (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	2,961,645	2,916,000	2,900,000	2,916,000	2,910,000	-51,645
Rescission (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)	-20,000	---	---	---	-30,000	-10,000
Subtotal, F&E	2,941,645	2,916,000	2,900,000	2,916,000	2,880,000	-61,645
Research, engineering, and development (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)	147,485	100,000	108,000	118,939	119,439	-28,046
Grants-in-aid for airports (Airport and Airway Trust Fund):						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(3,100,000)	(3,400,000)	(3,425,000)	(3,400,000)	(3,400,000)	(+300,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	(3,377,900)	(3,400,000)	---	(3,400,000)	(3,400,000)	(+22,100)
(Small community air service pilot program)	(20,000)	---	---	---	(20,000)	---
Subtotal, Grants-in-aid	(3,377,900)	(3,400,000)	---	(3,400,000)	(3,400,000)	(+22,100)
Aviation insurance revolving fund	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Federal Aviation Administration	10,132,200	10,606,648	10,540,000	10,570,587	10,560,364	+428,164
(Limitations on obligations)	(3,377,900)	(3,400,000)	---	(3,400,000)	(3,400,000)	(+22,100)
Rescissions	-20,000	---	---	---	-30,000	-10,000
Rescissions of contract authority	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal	(13,490,100)	(14,006,648)	(10,540,000)	(13,970,587)	(13,930,364)	(+440,264)

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Federal Highway Administration						
Limitation on administrative expenses	(314,071)	(338,834)	(359,458)	(337,834)	(337,604)	(+23,533)
(Border enforcement program)	(106,897)	---	---	---	---	(-106,897)
Federal-aid highways (Highway Trust Fund):						
(Limitation on obligations)	(27,653,143)	(29,293,948)	(33,385,000)	(33,843,000)	(33,843,000)	(+6,189,857)
Revenue aligned budget authority	---	---	---	---	---	---
RABA transfer to FMCSA	---	---	---	---	---	---
Miscellaneous additional limitations on obligations	(3,940,157)	---	---	---	---	(-3,940,157)
Subtotal (limitations on obligations) (HTF)	(31,593,300)	(29,293,948)	(33,385,000)	(33,843,000)	(33,843,000)	(+2,249,700)
(Exempt obligations)	(884,329)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(+46,968)
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(32,000,000)	(30,000,000)	(34,000,000)	(34,000,000)	---	(-32,000,000)
Miscellaneous appropriations (rescission)	-5,609	---	---	---	---	+5,609
Miscellaneous rescission of contract authority	-250,000	---	---	-156,000	-207,000	+43,000
Public Private Partnerships (Highway Trust Fund)	---	---	---	---	---	---
TEA-21 Re-designations, etc. (sec. 112)	---	---	---	---	---	---
State of Wisconsin P.L. 107-87 (sec. 113)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Wisconsin ITS Projects (sec. 114)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Ohio River Bridges	---	---	---	---	---	---
Alameda corridor (sec. 115)	---	---	157,000	---	---	---
Kentucky Highlands	---	---	---	---	---	---
Federal aid highways (Highway trust fund)	---	---	400,000	---	---	---
Appalachian development highway system	186,778	---	---	150,000	125,000	-61,778
Total, Federal Highway Administration	186,778	---	557,000	150,000	125,000	-61,778
(Limitations on obligations)	(31,593,300)	(29,293,948)	(33,385,000)	(33,843,000)	(33,843,000)	(+2,249,700)
(Exempt obligations)	(884,329)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(+46,968)
Rescissions	-5,609	---	---	---	---	+5,609
Rescissions of contract authority	-250,000	---	---	-156,000	-207,000	+43,000
Net total, FHWA	(32,408,798)	(30,225,245)	(34,873,297)	(34,768,297)	(34,692,297)	(+2,283,499)
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration						
Motor carrier safety (limitation on administrative expenses) (limitation on obligations)	(116,700)	(224,406)	(236,753)	(245,972)	(176,070)	(+59,370)
National motor carrier safety program (Highway Trust Fund):						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(190,000)	(222,594)	(190,000)	(190,000)	(190,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(188,765)	(222,594)	(190,000)	(190,000)	(190,000)	(+1,235)
RABA transfer from FHWA	---	---	---	---	---	---
Border inspection station construction (Highway Trust fund)	---	---	---	(47,000)	---	---
Total, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Admin	---	---	---	---	---	---
(Limitations on obligations)	(305,465)	(447,000)	(426,753)	(482,972)	(366,070)	(+60,605)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration						
Operations and research	137,389	126,058	134,178	---	---	-137,389
Operations and research (HTF)	---	---	---	(148,102)	(150,545)	(+150,545)
Operations and research (Highway trust fund):						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(72,000)	(88,452)	(72,000)	(72,000)	(72,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(71,532)	(88,452)	(72,000)	(72,000)	(72,000)	(+468)
National Driver Register (Highway trust fund)	1,987	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	+1,613
Subtotal, Operations and research	(210,908)	(218,110)	(209,778)	(223,702)	(226,145)	(+15,237)
Highway traffic safety grants (Highway Trust Fund):						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(225,000)	(447,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations):						
Highway safety programs (Sec. 402)	(163,928)	(387,000)	(165,000)	(165,000)	(165,000)	(+1,072)
Occupant protection incentive grants (Sec. 405)	(19,870)	---	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(+130)

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Alcohol-impaired driving countermeasures grants (Sec. 410)	(39,740)	---	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(+260)
Emergency medical services grants (Sec. 407)	---	(10,000)	---	---	---	---
State traffic safety info system improvement grants (Sec. 412)	---	(50,000)	---	---	---	---
Subtotal, limitation on obligations	(223,538)	(447,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	(+1,462)
Total, National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.	139,376	129,658	137,778	3,600	3,600	-135,776
(Limitations on obligations)	(295,070)	(535,452)	(297,000)	(445,102)	(447,545)	(+152,475)
Total budgetary resources	(434,446)	(665,110)	(434,778)	(448,702)	(451,145)	(+16,699)
Federal Railroad Administration						
Safety and operations	116,600	131,175	130,922	130,825	130,825	+14,225
Railroad research and development	29,134	35,025	28,225	34,225	34,025	+4,891
Amtrack RRIF repayment deferment	---	---	---	3,000	3,000	+3,000
Pennsylvania Station Redevelopment project (advance appropriation	19,870	---	---	---	---	-19,870
Next generation high-speed rail	30,252	23,200	28,250	29,350	37,400	+7,148
Alaska Railroad rehabilitation	21,857	---	---	25,000	25,000	+3,143
Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation	1,043,175	900,000	900,000	1,346,000	1,225,000	+181,825
Total, Federal Railroad Administration	1,260,888	1,089,400	1,087,397	1,568,400	1,455,250	+194,362
Federal Transit Administration						
Administrative expenses	14,505	76,500	14,500	14,600	15,100	+595
Administrative expenses (Highway Trust Fund, Mass Transit Account) (limitation on obligations)	(58,020)	---	(58,000)	(58,400)	(60,400)	(+2,380)
Subtotal, Administrative expenses	(72,525)	(76,500)	(72,500)	(73,000)	(75,500)	(+2,975)
Formula grants	762,809	---	767,800	767,800	767,800	+4,991
Formula grants (Highway Trust Fund) (limitation on obligations)	(3,051,237)	(5,615,406)	(3,071,200)	(3,071,240)	(3,071,200)	(+19,963)
Subtotal, Formula grants	(3,814,046)	(5,615,406)	(3,839,000)	(3,839,040)	(3,839,000)	(+24,954)
University transportation research	1,192	---	1,200	1,200	1,200	+8
University transportation research (Highway Trust Fund, Mass Transit Acct) (limitation on obligations)	(4,769)	---	(4,800)	(4,800)	(4,800)	(+31)
Subtotal, University transportation research	(5,961)	---	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(+39)
Transit planning and research	24,043	---	24,200	24,400	25,200	+1,157
Transit planning and research (Highway Trust Fund, Mass Transit Account) (limitation on obligations)	(97,164)	---	(97,800)	(97,600)	(100,800)	(+3,636)
Flexible funding	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal, Transit planning and research	(121,207)	---	(122,000)	(122,000)	(126,000)	(+4,793)
Rural transportation assistance	(5,216)	---	(5,250)	(5,250)	(5,250)	(+34)
National transit institute	(3,974)	---	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(+26)
Transit cooperative research	(8,196)	---	(8,250)	(8,250)	(8,250)	(+54)
Metropolitan planning	(59,993)	---	(60,386)	(60,386)	(60,386)	(+393)
State planning	(12,532)	---	(12,614)	(12,614)	(12,614)	(+82)
National planning and research	(31,295)	---	(31,500)	(31,500)	(35,500)	(+4,205)
Subtotal, Transit planning and research	(121,206)	---	(122,000)	(122,000)	(126,000)	(+4,794)
Trust fund share of expenses (Highway Trust Fund) (liquidation of contract authorization)	(5,781,000)	(320,594)	(5,807,020)	(5,844,000)	(5,847,200)	(+66,200)
Capital investment grants	603,253	1,213,500	599,280	628,000	627,500	+24,247
Capital investment grants (Highway Trust Fund, Mass Transit Account) (limitation on obligations)	(2,413,013)	(320,594)	(2,507,220)	(2,512,000)	(2,510,000)	(+96,987)
Flexible funding	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal, Capital investment grants	(3,016,266)	(1,534,094)	(3,106,500)	(3,140,000)	(3,137,500)	(+121,234)

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Fixed guideway modernization	(1,214,400)	---	(1,214,400)	(1,214,000)	(1,206,506)	(-7,894)
Buses and bus-related facilities	(607,200)	---	(677,700)	(607,200)	(607,200)	---
New starts	(1,214,400)	---	(1,214,400)	(1,318,800)	(1,323,794)	(+109,394)
Subtotal	(3,036,000)	---	(3,106,500)	(3,140,000)	(3,137,500)	(+101,500)
Job access and reverse commute grants	29,805	---	17,000	25,000	25,000	-4,805
(Highway Trust Fund, Mass Transit Account) (limitation on obligations)	(119,220)	---	(68,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(-19,220)
Subtotal, Job access and reverse commute grants	(149,025)	---	(85,000)	(125,000)	(125,000)	(-24,025)
Total, Federal Transit Administration	1,435,607	1,290,000	1,423,980	1,461,000	1,461,800	+26,193
(Limitations on obligations)	(5,743,423)	(5,936,000)	(5,807,020)	(5,844,040)	(5,847,200)	(+103,777)
Total budgetary resources, FTA	(7,179,030)	(7,226,000)	(7,231,000)	(7,305,040)	(7,309,000)	(+129,970)
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation						
Operations and maintenance (Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund)	13,994	14,400	14,700	14,400	14,400	+406
Maritime Administration						
Maritime security program	98,058	98,700	98,700	98,700	98,700	+642
Operations and training	92,093	104,400	105,897	106,000	106,997	+14,904
Ship disposal	11,088	11,422	14,000	18,422	16,211	+5,123
Vessel operations revolving fund	---	---	---	---	---	---
Maritime Guaranteed Loan (Title XI) Program Account:						
Administrative expenses	4,099	4,498	---	4,498	4,498	+399
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	25,000	---	---	---	---	-25,000
Total, Maritime Administration	230,338	219,020	218,597	227,620	226,406	-3,932
Rescissions	---	---	---	---	-4,107	-4,107
Net total, Maritime Administration	230,338	219,020	218,597	227,620	222,299	-8,039
Research and Special Programs Administration						
Research and special programs	40,714	51,000	47,018	42,516	46,441	+5,727
Pipeline safety:						
Pipeline Safety Fund	56,370	48,336	55,054	50,429	53,305	-3,065
Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund	7,423	18,741	9,000	17,183	13,000	+5,577
Subtotal, Pipeline safety program (incl reserve)	63,793	67,077	64,054	67,612	66,305	+2,512
Emergency preparedness grants:						
Emergency preparedness fund	199	200	200	200	200	+1
Limitation on emergency preparedness fund	(14,300)	---	(14,300)	(14,300)	(14,300)	---
Total, Research and Special Programs Admin	104,706	118,277	111,272	110,328	112,946	+8,240
Office of Inspector General						
Salaries and expenses	54,912	55,000	55,000	56,000	56,000	+1,088
Surface Transportation Board						
Salaries and expenses	19,324	19,521	19,521	19,521	19,521	+197
Offsetting collections	-1,000	-1,050	-1,050	-1,050	-1,050	-50
Total, Surface Transportation Board	18,324	18,471	18,471	18,471	18,471	+147
Bureau of Transportation Statistics						
Office of airline information (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	---	3,971	---	---	---	---
Net total, title I, Department of Transportation	13,474,231	13,722,081	14,323,577	14,195,987	13,959,366	+485,135
Appropriations	(13,749,840)	(13,722,081)	(14,323,577)	(14,351,987)	(14,200,473)	(+450,633)
Emergency	---	---	---	---	---	---
Offsets for new user fees	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rescissions	(-25,609)	---	---	---	(-34,107)	(-8,498)
Rescission of contract authority	(-250,000)	---	---	(-156,000)	(-207,000)	(+43,000)
(By transfer)	---	---	---	---	---	---
(Transfer authority)	---	---	---	---	---	---

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
(Limitations on obligations)	(41,315,158)	(39,612,400)	(39,915,773)	(44,015,114)	(43,903,815)	(+2,588,657)
(Exempt obligations)	(884,329)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(+46,968)
Net total budgetary resources	(55,673,718)	(54,265,778)	(55,170,647)	(59,142,398)	(58,794,478)	(+3,120,760)
Transportation discretionary total	13,474,231	13,722,081	14,323,577	14,195,987	13,959,366	+485,135
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY						
Departmental Offices	157,669	166,875	175,809	174,809	176,109	+18,440
Department-wide systems and capital investments programs	36,653	36,928	36,653	36,928	36,400	-253
Office of Inspector General	11,092	---	12,792	12,687	13,000	+1,908
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration	124,198	---	128,034	128,034	128,034	+3,836
Treasury Inspector General	---	134,949	---	---	---	---
Air Transportation Stabilization Program Account	6,002	2,538	2,538	2,538	2,538	-3,464
Treasury Building and Annex Repair and Restoration	28,744	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-3,744
Expanded Access to Financial Services	1,987	---	---	---	---	-1,987
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network	51,416	57,571	57,571	57,571	57,571	+6,155
Interagency Law Enforcement:						
Interagency crime and drug enforcement	106,877	---	---	---	---	-106,877
Financial Management Service	220,634	228,606	228,558	228,558	228,558	+7,924
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau	79,480	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	+520
Bureau of the Public Debt	188,833	173,698	173,652	173,652	173,652	-15,181
Payment of government losses in shipment	1,000	500	500	500	500	-500
Internal Revenue Service:						
Processing, Assistance, and Management	3,930,064	4,074,694	4,037,834	4,048,238	4,033,000	+102,936
Tax Law Enforcement	3,849,884	4,227,808	4,221,408	4,172,808	4,196,000	+346,116
Information Systems	1,621,833	1,670,039	1,628,739	1,590,962	1,590,962	-30,871
Business systems modernization	363,621	429,000	429,000	429,000	390,000	+26,379
Health Insurance Tax Credit Administration	69,545	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	-34,545
Subtotal	9,834,947	10,436,541	10,351,981	10,276,008	10,244,962	+410,015
Total, title II, Department of the Treasury	10,849,532	11,343,206	11,273,088	11,196,285	11,166,324	+316,792
Appropriations	10,849,532	11,343,206	11,273,088	11,196,285	11,166,324	+316,792
Emergency funding	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rescissions	---	---	---	---	---	---
TITLE III - EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT						
Compensation of the President and the White House Office:						
Compensation of the President	450	---	450	450	450	---
Salaries and Expenses	50,385	---	66,057	61,937	69,168	+18,783
Homeland Security Council	19,272	---	---	8,331	---	-19,272
Executive Residence at the White House:						
Operating Expenses	12,149	---	12,501	12,501	12,501	+352
White House Repair and Restoration	1,192	---	4,225	4,225	4,225	+3,033
Council of Economic Advisers	3,739	---	4,000	4,502	4,502	+763
Office of Policy Development	3,230	---	4,109	4,109	4,109	+879
National Security Council	7,770	---	9,000	10,551	10,551	+2,781
Office of Administration	90,910	---	82,826	77,164	82,826	-8,084
The White House	---	183,770	---	---	---	---
Office of Management and Budget	61,988	77,417	62,272	75,417	67,159	+5,171
Office of National Drug Control Policy:						
Salaries and expenses	26,284	27,290	28,790	27,997	27,997	+1,713
Counterdrug Technology Assessment Center	47,688	40,000	40,000	42,000	42,000	-5,688
Subtotal	73,972	67,290	68,790	69,997	69,997	-3,975
Federal Drug Control Programs:						
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program	224,879	206,350	226,350	226,350	226,350	+1,471
Other Federal Drug Control Programs	221,749	250,000	230,000	174,000	229,000	+7,251
Unanticipated Needs	993	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	+7
Special Assistance to the President and the Official Residence of the Vice President:						
Salaries and Expenses	4,040	4,461	4,461	4,461	4,461	+421
Operating expenses	322	331	331	331	331	+9
Total, title III, Executive Office of the President and Funds Appropriated to the President	777,040	790,619	776,372	735,326	786,630	+9,590
Appropriations	777,040	790,619	776,372	735,326	786,630	+9,590
Rescission	---	---	---	---	---	---

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE IV - INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board:						
Salaries and expenses	5,160	5,401	5,401	5,401	5,401	+241
National Transportation Safety Board:						
Salaries and expenses	71,979	71,480	76,679	72,170	73,499	+1,520
Emergency fund	---	600	600	600	600	+600
Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled	4,628	4,629	4,725	4,725	4,725	+97
Federal Election Commission	49,542	50,440	50,440	50,440	51,240	+1,698
Election Assistance Commission:						
Salaries and expenses	2,000	10,000	5,000	---	1,200	-800
Election reform programs	833,000	490,000	495,000	1,500,000	500,000	-333,000
Federal Labor Relations Authority	28,762	29,611	29,611	29,611	29,611	+849
Federal Maritime Commission	16,591	18,471	18,471	18,471	18,471	+1,880
General Services Administration:						
Federal Buildings Fund:						
Appropriations	373,269	217,000	247,350	407,000	446,000	+72,731
Limitations on availability of revenue:						
Construction and acquisition of facilities	(717,488)	(400,568)	(406,168)	(659,668)	(708,268)	(-9,220)
Repairs and alterations	(951,529)	(1,012,729)	(1,010,454)	(1,000,939)	(991,300)	(+39,771)
Installment acquisition payments	(178,960)	(169,745)	(169,745)	(169,745)	(169,745)	(-9,215)
Rental of space	(3,113,211)	(3,388,187)	(3,308,187)	(3,278,187)	(3,280,187)	(+166,976)
Building Operations	(1,526,459)	(1,608,708)	(1,608,708)	(1,608,708)	(1,608,708)	(+82,249)
Subtotal, limitations	(6,487,647)	(6,579,937)	(6,503,262)	(6,717,247)	(6,758,208)	(+270,561)
Repayment of Debt	(79,685)	(54,256)	(54,256)	(54,256)	(54,256)	(-25,429)
Rental income to fund	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Federal Buildings Fund	373,269	217,000	247,350	407,000	446,000	+72,731
(Limitations)	(6,567,332)	(6,634,193)	(6,557,518)	(6,771,503)	(6,812,464)	(+245,132)
Policy and Citizen Services	65,873	---	---	---	---	-65,873
Governmentwide policy	---	74,031	56,383	61,781	56,383	+56,383
Operating Expenses	72,027	85,083	79,110	85,083	88,110	+16,083
Office of Inspector General	37,670	39,169	39,169	39,169	39,169	+1,499
Electronic Government (E-Gov) Fund	4,968	45,000	1,000	5,000	3,000	-1,968
Allowances and Office Staff for Former Presidents	3,317	3,393	3,393	3,393	3,393	+76
Election Reform Reimbursements	14,902	---	---	---	---	-14,902
Election Reform Payments	650,000	---	---	---	---	-650,000
Federal building project (sec. 408)	---	---	---	13,669	14,000	+14,000
San Joaquin conveyance (sec. 412)	---	---	---	---	-1,000	-1,000
Total, General Services Administration	1,222,026	463,676	426,405	615,095	649,055	-572,971
Merit Systems Protection Board:						
Salaries and Expenses	31,819	35,503	32,877	35,503	32,877	+1,058
Limitation on administrative expenses	2,609	---	2,626	---	2,626	+17
Morris K. Udall Foundation:						
Morris K. Udall Trust Fund	1,983	372	1,300	1,996	1,996	+13
Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund	1,300	700	1,300	1,309	1,309	+9
National Archives and Records Administration:						
Operating expenses	248,251	294,105	255,191	258,191	256,700	+8,449
Electronic records archive	---	---	35,914	---	35,914	+35,914
Reduction of debt	-7,186	-7,810	-7,810	-7,810	-7,810	-624
Repairs and Restoration	14,116	6,458	6,458	13,483	13,708	-408
National Historical Publications and Records Commission: Grants program	6,458	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	+3,542
Total, National Archives and Records Admin	261,639	297,753	299,753	268,864	308,512	+46,873
Office of Government Ethics	10,488	10,738	10,738	10,738	10,738	+250
Office of Personnel Management:						
Salaries and Expenses	128,644	118,748	119,498	118,748	119,498	-9,146
Limitation on administrative expenses	120,006	135,914	126,854	135,914	135,914	+15,908
Office of Inspector General	1,509	1,498	1,498	1,498	1,498	-11
Limitation on administrative expenses	10,815	14,427	14,427	14,427	14,427	+3,612
Government Payment for Annuitants, Employees Health Benefits	6,853,000	7,219,000	7,219,000	7,219,000	7,219,000	+366,000
Government Payment for Annuitants, Employee Life Insurance	34,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	+1,000

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Payment to Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund	9,410,000	9,987,000	9,987,000	9,987,000	9,987,000	+577,000
Human Capital Performance Fund	---	500,000	2,500	---	1,000	+1,000
Total, Office of Personnel Management	16,557,974	18,011,587	17,505,777	17,511,587	17,513,337	+955,363
Office of Special Counsel	12,368	13,504	13,504	13,504	13,504	+1,136
Postal Service:						
Payment to the Postal Service Fund	28,811	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	+189
Advance appropriation, FY 2002/2003	47,309	31,014	31,014	31,014	31,014	-16,295
Advance appropriation, FY 2004	30,812	36,521	36,521	36,521	36,521	+5,709
Total, Postal Service:						
Fiscal year 2002/2003	76,120	60,014	60,014	60,014	60,014	-16,106
Fiscal year 2004	30,812	36,521	36,521	36,521	36,521	+5,709
United States Tax Court	37,063	40,187	40,187	40,187	40,187	+3,124
White House Commission on the National Moment of Rememberance	248	250	250	250	250	+2
Total, title IV, Independent Agencies	19,258,111	19,651,437	19,117,179	20,276,986	19,355,673	+97,562
Title V - General Provisions, This Act						
Surface transportation projects (Sec. 330)	90,011	---	---	---	---	-90,011
Excess stabilization resources (rescission) (Sec. 333)	-90,000	---	---	---	---	+90,000
LRFA program (rescission) (Sec. 343)	-690	---	---	---	---	+690
Iowa rail infrastructure rehab project (Sec. 343)	686	---	---	---	---	-686
Misc. highway projects (Highway Trust Fund)(Sec. 344)	283,147	---	---	---	---	-283,147
Value pricing pilot project (rescission) (Highway Trust Fund) (Sec. 364)	-8,000	---	---	---	---	+8,000
Aviation ops sustainment-Midway Island (Sec. 371)	3,477	---	---	---	---	-3,477
Administrative accounts adjustments	---	---	---	-128,076	---	---
Payments to air carriers (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	---	---	63,000	---	---	---
Total, General provisions	278,631	---	63,000	-128,076	---	-278,631
Grand total	44,637,545	45,507,343	45,553,216	46,276,508	45,267,993	+630,448
Appropriations	(44,933,723)	(45,439,808)	(45,485,681)	(46,364,973)	(45,441,565)	(+507,842)
Emergency	---	---	---	---	---	---
Offset for new user fees	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rescissions	(-124,299)	---	---	---	(-34,107)	(+90,192)
Rescission of contract authority	(-250,000)	---	---	(-156,000)	(-207,000)	(+43,000)
(By transfer)	---	---	---	---	---	---
(Transfer authority)	---	---	---	---	---	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(41,315,158)	(39,612,400)	(39,915,773)	(44,015,114)	(43,903,815)	(+2,588,657)
(Rescissions of limitations on obligations)	---	---	---	---	---	---
(Exempt obligations)	(884,329)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(931,297)	(+46,968)
Net total budgetary resources	(86,837,032)	(86,051,040)	(86,400,286)	(91,222,919)	(90,103,105)	(+3,266,073)
Discretionary total	26,903,488	26,975,843	26,887,286	27,573,558	26,564,243	-339,245

DIVISION G--VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I						
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS						
Veterans Benefits Administration						
Compensation and pensions	28,949,000	29,845,127	29,845,127	29,845,127	29,845,127	+896,127
Readjustment benefits	2,264,808	2,529,734	2,529,734	2,529,734	2,529,734	+264,926
Veterans insurance and indemnities	27,530	29,017	29,017	29,017	29,017	+1,487
Veterans housing benefit program fund program account (indefinite)	437,522	305,834	305,834	305,834	305,834	-131,688
(Limitation on direct loans)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	---
Credit subsidy	-98,000	---	---	---	---	+98,000
Administrative expenses	167,114	154,850	154,850	154,850	154,850	-12,264
Education loan fund program account	1	1	1	1	1	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	---
Administrative expenses	70	---	70	70	70	---
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account	55	52	52	52	52	-3
(Limitation on direct loans)	(3,626)	(3,938)	(3,938)	(3,938)	(3,938)	(+312)
Administrative expenses	287	300	300	300	300	+13
Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program Account	554	571	571	571	571	+17
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration	31,748,941	32,865,486	32,865,556	32,865,556	32,865,556	+1,116,615
Veterans Health Administration						
Medical services	---	---	16,443,220	---	17,867,220	+17,867,220
Medical administration	---	---	4,854,000	---	5,000,000	+5,000,000
Medical facilities	---	---	4,000,000	---	4,000,000	+4,000,000
Medical and prosthetic research	397,400	408,000	408,000	413,000	408,000	+10,600
Medical care	23,889,304	25,218,080	---	25,688,080	---	-23,889,304
Delayed obligation	---	---	---	1,100,000	---	---
Rescission	---	---	---	-270,000	-270,000	-270,000
Medical administration and miscellaneous operating expenses	74,230	79,140	---	79,146	---	-74,230
Medical care cost recovery collections:						
Offsetting receipts	-1,386,000	-1,800,000	---	-1,564,000	-1,564,000	-178,000
Appropriations (indefinite)	1,386,000	1,800,000	---	1,564,000	1,564,000	+178,000
Total, Veterans Health Administration	24,360,934	25,705,220	25,705,220	27,010,226	27,005,220	+2,644,286
Offsetting receipts	(-1,386,000)	(-1,800,000)	---	(-1,564,000)	(-1,564,000)	(-178,000)
Total available to VHA	(25,746,934)	(27,505,220)	(25,705,220)	(28,574,226)	(28,569,220)	(+2,822,286)
Departmental Administration						
General operating expenses	1,245,849	1,283,272	1,283,272	1,283,272	1,283,272	+37,423
Supplemental Appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	100,000	---	---	---	---	-100,000
National Cemetery Administration	132,284	144,203	144,223	144,203	144,203	+11,919
Office of Inspector General	57,623	61,750	61,750	62,250	62,000	+4,377
Construction, major projects	99,128	272,690	274,690	272,690	272,690	+173,562
Construction, minor projects	224,531	252,144	252,144	252,144	252,144	+27,613
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities	99,350	102,100	102,100	102,100	102,100	+2,750
Grants for the construction of State veterans cemeteries	31,792	32,000	32,000	32,000	32,000	+208
Total, Departmental Administration	1,990,557	2,148,159	2,150,179	2,148,659	2,148,409	+157,852
Total, title I, Department of Veterans Affairs	58,100,432	60,718,865	60,720,955	62,024,441	62,019,185	+3,918,753
(Limitation on direct loans)	(3,929)	(4,241)	(4,241)	(4,241)	(4,241)	(+312)
Consisting of:						
Mandatory	(31,580,860)	(32,709,712)	(32,709,712)	(32,709,712)	(32,709,712)	(+1,128,852)
Discretionary	(26,519,572)	(28,009,153)	(28,011,243)	(29,314,729)	(29,309,473)	(+2,789,901)
Medical care collection fund	(1,386,000)	(1,800,000)	---	(1,564,000)	(1,564,000)	(+178,000)
Total Discretionary (excluding MCCF)	(25,133,572)	(26,209,153)	(28,011,243)	(27,750,729)	(27,745,473)	(+2,611,901)

DIVISION G--VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE II						
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT						
Public and Indian Housing						
Housing Certificate Fund:						
Direct appropriation	12,938,913	---	14,380,606	14,233,606	15,171,482	+2,232,569
Advance appropriations provided in previous acts	4,172,700	---	4,200,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	+27,300
Advance appropriations provided in current year	4,200,000	---	4,200,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	---
Subtotal	21,311,613	---	22,780,606	22,633,606	23,571,482	+2,259,869
Appropriations	(17,111,613)	---	(18,580,606)	(18,433,606)	(19,371,482)	(+2,259,869)
Advance appropriations prov. in current year	(4,200,000)	---	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	---
Housing assistance for needy families:						
Direct appropriation	---	8,335,201	---	---	---	---
Advance appropriations provided in previous acts	---	4,200,000	---	---	---	---
Advance appropriations provided in FY 2004	---	4,200,000	---	---	---	---
Subtotal /1	---	16,735,201	---	---	---	---
Appropriations, FY 2004 /1	---	(12,535,201)	---	---	---	---
Advance appropriations, FY 2004 /1	---	(4,200,000)	---	---	---	---
Project based rental assistance /1	---	4,823,405	---	---	---	---
Rescission of unobligated balances	-1,600,000	-300,000	-1,372,000	-1,372,000	-2,844,000	-1,244,000
Public housing capital fund	2,712,255	2,641,000	2,712,255	2,641,000	2,712,255	---
Public housing operating fund	3,576,600	3,574,000	3,600,000	3,576,600	3,600,000	+23,400
Revitalization of severely distressed public housing	570,269	---	50,000	195,115	150,000	-420,269
Native American housing block grants	644,782	646,600	661,600	646,600	654,100	+9,318
Indian housing loan guarantee fund program account	5,266	1,000	5,300	5,300	5,300	+34
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(197,243)	(27,473)	(197,243)	(197,243)	(197,243)	---
Native Hawaiian housing block grant	---	10,000	---	---	---	---
Native Hawaiian housing loan guarantee fund	1,028	1,000	1,000	1,035	1,035	+7
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(39,712)	(35,348)	(35,348)	(39,712)	(39,712)	---
Total, Public and Indian Housing	27,221,813	28,132,206	28,438,761	28,327,256	27,850,172	+628,359
Appropriations	(23,021,813)	(23,932,206)	(24,238,761)	(24,127,256)	(23,650,172)	(+628,359)
Rescissions	(-1,600,000)	(-300,000)	(-1,372,000)	(-1,372,000)	(-2,844,000)	(-1,244,000)
Advance appropriations, FY 2003 and FY 2004	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	---
Community Planning and Development						
Housing opportunities for persons with AIDS	290,102	297,000	302,000	291,000	296,500	+6,398
Rural housing and economic development	24,837	---	25,000	25,000	25,000	+163
Empowerment zones / enterprise communities	29,805	---	15,000	---	15,000	-14,805
Community development fund	4,904,909	4,716,000	4,959,000	4,950,600	4,950,000	+45,091
Colonias initiative (legislative proposal)	---	16,000	---	---	---	---
Urban development action grant (rescission)	---	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000
Section 108 loan guarantees:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(275,000)	---	---	(275,000)	(275,000)	---
Credit subsidy	6,284	---	---	6,325	6,325	+41
Administrative expenses	993	---	---	1,000	1,000	+7
Brownfields redevelopment	24,837	---	25,000	25,000	25,000	+163
HOME investment partnerships program	1,987,000	2,197,000	2,064,100	1,975,000	2,017,500	+30,500
Homeless assistance grants	1,217,037	1,325,000	1,242,000	1,325,000	1,267,000	+49,963
Samaritan housing initiative (legislative proposal)	---	50,000	---	---	---	---
Total, Community planning and development	8,485,804	8,571,000	8,602,100	8,568,925	8,573,325	+87,521
Housing Programs						
Housing for special populations	1,027,081	---	---	1,033,801	---	-1,027,081
Housing for the elderly /2	---	773,636	773,320	---	778,320	+778,320
Housing for persons with disabilities /2	---	250,515	250,570	---	250,570	+250,570
Housing counseling assistance	---	45,000	---	---	---	---
Rental housing assistance (rescission)	-100,000	-303,000	-303,000	-303,000	-303,000	-203,000
Manufactured housing fees trust fund	12,915	17,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	+85
Offsetting collections	-13,000	-17,000	-13,000	-13,000	-13,000	---
Total, housing programs	926,996	766,151	720,890	730,801	725,890	-201,106
Federal Housing Administration						
FHA - Mutual mortgage insurance program account:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(165,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(+20,000,000)
(Limitation on direct loans)	(100,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(-50,000)
Administrative expenses	345,568	359,000	359,000	359,000	359,000	+13,432
Negative subsidy	-2,753,000	-2,921,000	-2,921,000	-2,921,000	-2,921,000	-168,000
Administrative contract expenses	85,163	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	-163
Additional contract expenses	993	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	+7

DIVISION G--VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
FHA - General and special risk program account:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(23,000,000)	(25,000,000)	(25,000,000)	(25,000,000)	(25,000,000)	(+2,000,000)
(Limitation on direct loans)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	---
Administrative expenses	222,262	229,000	229,000	229,000	229,000	+6,738
Negative subsidy	-225,000	-225,000	-225,000	-225,000	-225,000	---
Subsidy	14,902	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	+98
Non-overhead administrative expenses	93,170	93,700	93,780	93,700	93,780	+610
Additional contract expenses	3,974	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	+26
2003 Supplemental (P.L. 108-83)	-5,000	---	---	---	---	+5,000
Total, Federal Housing Administration	-2,216,968	-2,359,300	-2,359,220	-2,359,300	-2,359,220	-142,252
Guarantees of mortgage-backed securities loan guarantee program account:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(200,000,000)	(200,000,000)	(200,000,000)	(200,000,000)	(200,000,000)	---
Administrative expenses	10,276	10,695	10,695	10,695	10,695	+419
Offsetting receipts	-358,000	-318,000	-318,000	-318,000	-318,000	+40,000
Policy Development and Research						
Research and technology	46,695	51,000	47,000	47,000	47,000	+305
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity						
Fair housing activities	45,601	50,000	46,000	50,000	48,000	+2,399
Office of Lead Hazard Control						
Lead hazard reduction	174,856	136,000	130,000	175,000	175,000	+144
Management and Administration						
Salaries and expenses	526,852	537,000	547,000	535,400	547,000	+20,148
Transfer from:						
Limitation on FHA corporate funds	(544,639)	(564,000)	(564,000)	(564,000)	(564,000)	(+19,361)
GNMA	(10,276)	(10,695)	(10,695)	(10,695)	(10,695)	(+419)
Community Development Loan Guarantees Program	(993)	---	---	(1,000)	(1,000)	(+7)
Native American Housing Block Grants	(149)	(150)	(150)	(150)	(150)	(+1)
Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund Program	(199)	(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)	(+51)
Native Hawaiian Housing Loan Guarantees	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	(1,083,143)	(1,112,130)	(1,122,130)	(1,111,530)	(1,123,130)	(+39,987)
Working capital fund	274,504	276,300	90,000	240,000	235,000	-39,504
Office of Inspector General	73,674	76,080	76,080	78,000	77,000	+3,326
(By transfer, limitation on FHA corporate funds)	(23,343)	(24,000)	(24,000)	(24,000)	(24,000)	(+657)
Total, Office of Inspector General	(97,017)	(100,080)	(100,080)	(102,000)	(101,000)	(+3,983)
Consolidated fee fund (rescission)	-8,000	---	---	---	---	+8,000
Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight	29,805	39,915	32,415	49,915	39,915	+10,110
Offsetting receipts	-30,000	-39,915	-32,415	-49,915	-39,915	-9,915
Total, title II, Department of Housing and Urban Development	35,203,908	35,929,132	36,031,306	36,085,777	35,611,862	+407,954
Appropriations	(36,090,908)	(35,883,047)	(37,045,721)	(37,117,692)	(38,105,777)	(+2,014,869)
Rescissions	(-1,708,000)	(-633,000)	(-1,705,000)	(-1,705,000)	(-3,177,000)	(-1,469,000)
Negative subsidy	(-2,978,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-168,000)
Offsetting collections	(-401,000)	(-374,915)	(-363,415)	(-380,915)	(-370,915)	(+30,085)
Advance appropriations	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	---
Net Total	31,003,908	31,729,132	31,831,306	31,885,777	31,411,862	+407,954
(Limitation on direct loans)	(150,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(-50,000)
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(388,511,955)	(410,062,821)	(410,232,591)	(410,511,955)	(410,511,955)	(+22,000,000)
(Limitation on corporate funds)	(579,634)	(599,130)	(599,130)	(600,130)	(600,130)	(+20,496)

1/ The FY 2003 Act provides funds for Housing assistance for needy families under the Housing certificate fund account

2/ The FY 2003 Act provides funds for Housing for special populations and housing for the elderly in the Housing for special populations account

DIVISION G--VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE III						
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
American Battle Monuments Commission						
Salaries and expenses	35,017	32,400	47,276	35,000	41,300	+6,283
Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board						
Salaries and expenses	6,408	8,000	8,550	8,000	8,250	+1,842
Emergency fund	---	---	450	---	450	+450
Total	6,408	8,000	9,000	8,000	8,700	+2,292
Department of the Treasury						
Community Development Financial Institutions						
Community development financial institutions fund program account	74,512	51,000	51,000	70,000	61,000	-13,512
Consumer Product Safety Commission						
Salaries and expenses	56,629	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	+3,371
Corporation for National and Community Service						
National and community service programs operating expenses	326,211	472,742	363,452	452,575	553,225	+227,014
National Service Trust	100,000	120,000	110,771	---	---	-100,000
Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	25,000	25,000	+25,000
Rescission	-48,000	---	---	---	---	+48,000
Office of Inspector General	5,961	5,000	6,000	6,500	6,250	+289
Total	384,172	597,742	480,223	484,075	584,475	+200,303
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims						
Salaries and expenses	14,233	16,220	15,938	16,220	15,938	+1,705
Department of Defense - Civil						
Cemeterial Expenses, Army						
Salaries and expenses	32,234	25,961	25,961	32,000	29,000	-3,234
Department of Health and Human Services						
National Institute of Health						
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	83,528	78,774	80,000	78,774	78,774	-4,754
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention						
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry						
Toxic substances and environmental public health	82,262	73,467	73,467	73,467	73,467	-8,795
Total, Department of Health and Human Services	165,790	152,241	153,467	152,241	152,241	-13,549
Environmental Protection Agency						
Science and Technology	715,579	731,483	759,815	715,579	786,324	+70,745
Transfer from Hazardous Substance Superfund	85,608	44,697	44,697	45,000	44,697	-40,911
Subtotal, Science and Technology	801,187	776,180	804,512	760,579	831,021	+29,834
Environmental Programs and Management	2,097,879	2,219,659	2,193,102	2,219,659	2,293,578	+195,699
Office of Inspector General	35,766	36,808	36,808	36,808	37,558	+1,792
Transfer from Hazardous Substance Superfund	12,659	13,214	13,214	13,214	13,214	+555
Subtotal, OIG	48,425	50,022	50,022	50,022	50,772	+2,347
Buildings and facilities	42,639	42,918	42,368	42,918	40,000	-2,639

DIVISION G--VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Hazardous Substance Superfund	1,264,614	1,389,716	1,275,000	1,165,000	1,265,000	+386
Delayed obligation	---	---	---	100,000	---	---
Transfer to Office of Inspector General	-12,659	-13,214	-13,214	-13,214	-13,214	-555
Transfer to Science and Technology	-85,608	-44,697	-44,697	-45,000	-44,697	+40,911
Subtotal, Hazardous Substance Superfund	1,166,347	1,331,805	1,217,089	1,206,786	1,207,089	+40,742
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program	71,843	72,545	79,845	72,545	76,000	+4,157
Oil spill response	15,480	16,209	16,209	16,209	16,209	+729
State and Tribal Assistance Grants	2,692,000	1,918,500	2,419,750	2,684,000	2,721,600	+29,600
Categorical grants	1,142,905	1,202,700	1,182,200	1,130,000	1,175,200	+32,295
Subtotal, STAG	3,834,905	3,121,200	3,601,950	3,814,000	3,896,800	+61,895
Total, EPA	8,078,705	7,630,538	8,005,097	8,182,718	8,411,469	+332,764
Executive Office of the President						
Office of Science and Technology Policy	5,333	7,027	7,027	7,027	7,027	+1,694
Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality	3,011	3,238	3,238	3,238	3,238	+227
Total	8,344	10,265	10,265	10,265	10,265	+1,921
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation						
Office of Inspector General (transfer)	(30,848)	(30,125)	(30,125)	(30,848)	(30,125)	(-723)
General Services Administration						
Federal Citizen Information Center Fund	11,466	17,643	12,500	14,000	14,000	+2,534
Interagency Council on the Homeless						
Operating expenses	1,490	---	1,500	1,500	1,500	+10
National Aeronautics and Space Administration						
Human space flight	6,165,658	---	---	---	---	-6,165,658
2003 Supplemental (P.L. 108-83)	50,000	---	---	---	---	-50,000
Space flight capabilities	---	7,782,100	7,806,100	7,582,100	7,512,100	+7,512,100
Science, aeronautics and technology	9,147,815	---	---	---	---	-9,147,815
Science, aeronautics and exploration	---	7,660,900	7,707,900	7,730,507	7,929,900	+7,929,900
Office of Inspector General	25,434	26,300	26,300	26,300	27,300	+1,866
Total, NASA	15,388,907	15,469,300	15,540,300	15,338,907	15,469,300	+80,393
National Credit Union Administration						
Central liquidity facility:						
(Limitation on direct loans)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses, corporate funds)	(309)	(310)	(310)	(310)	(310)	(+1)
Community Development Revolving Loan Fund	993	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,200	+207
National Science Foundation						
Research and related activities	3,988,902	4,038,360	4,233,360	4,152,540	4,208,600	+219,698
Defense function	67,558	68,000	68,000	68,070	68,000	+442
Subtotal	4,056,460	4,106,360	4,301,360	4,220,610	4,276,600	+220,140
Major research equipment and facilities construction	148,538	202,330	192,330	149,680	155,900	+7,362
Education and human resources	903,171	938,040	910,680	975,870	944,550	+41,379
Salaries and expenses	189,115	225,700	215,900	225,700	220,000	+30,885
National Science Board	3,477	---	3,800	3,900	3,900	+423
Office of Inspector General	9,190	8,770	10,000	10,000	10,000	+810
Total, NSF	5,309,951	5,481,200	5,634,070	5,585,760	5,610,950	+300,999

DIVISION G--VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation						
Payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation..	104,317	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	+10,683
Selective Service System						
Salaries and expenses.....	26,308	28,290	28,290	26,308	26,308	---
Total, title III, Independant agencies.....	29,699,476	29,696,800	30,190,887	30,133,494	30,612,646	+913,170
Appropriations.....	(29,747,476)	(29,696,800)	(30,190,887)	(30,133,494)	(30,612,646)	(+865,170)
Rescissions.....	(-48,000)	---	---	---	---	(+48,000)
(By transfer).....	(30,848)	(30,125)	(30,125)	(30,848)	(30,125)	(-723)
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	---
(Limitation on corporate funds).....	(309)	(310)	(310)	(310)	(310)	(+1)
Grand total (net).....	123,003,816	126,344,797	126,943,148	128,243,712	128,243,693	+5,239,877
Appropriations.....	(123,938,816)	(126,298,712)	(127,957,563)	(128,445,627)	(131,007,608)	(+7,068,792)
Rescissions.....	(-1,756,000)	(-633,000)	(-1,705,000)	(-1,975,000)	(-3,447,000)	(-1,691,000)
Negative subsidy.....	(-2,978,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-3,146,000)	(-168,000)
Offsetting collections.....	(-401,000)	(-374,915)	(-363,415)	(-380,915)	(-370,915)	(+30,085)
Advance appropriations.....	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	---
(By transfer).....	(30,848)	(30,125)	(30,125)	(30,848)	(30,125)	(-723)
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(1,653,929)	(1,604,241)	(1,604,241)	(1,604,241)	(1,604,241)	(-49,688)
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(388,511,955)	(410,062,821)	(410,232,591)	(410,511,955)	(410,511,955)	(+22,000,000)
(Limitation on corporate funds).....	(579,943)	(599,440)	(599,440)	(600,440)	(600,440)	(+20,497)

DIVISION H--MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS AND OFFSETS (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	Conference
DIVISION H - MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS AND OFFSETS	
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY	
PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY	
Emergency Preparedness and Response	
Disaster relief (emergency rescission) (Sec. 102(a))..	-225,000
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	
Forest Service	
Wildland fire management (emergency) (Sec. 102(b))....	25,000
State and private forestry (emergency) (Sec. 102(c))..	25,000
Conservation Programs	
Natural Resources Conservation Service (Sec. 102(d)):	
Emergency watershed protection program (emergency)	150,000
Tree assistance program (emergency) (Sec. 102(e).....	12,500
Emergency conservation prog. (emergency) (Sec. 102(f))	12,000
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:	
Livestock indemnity prog. (emergency) (Sec.102(g))	500
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Office of Justice Programs	
State and local law enforcement assistance:	
Byrne grants (discretionary) (Sec. 103).....	50,000
Other Justice programs (Sec. 107).....	2,250
RELATED AGENCY	
Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Commission (Sec. 104).....	500
THE JUDICIARY	
Supreme Court of the United States	
Care of the building and grounds (Sec. 106).....	16,000
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	
Procurement	
Shipbuilding and conversion, Navy (by transfer) (Sec. 108).....	(68,600)
Other Department of Defense Programs	
Defense Health program (by transfer) (Sec. 108).....	(6,000)
Iraq Freedom Fund (transfer authority) (Sec. 114).....	(120,000)
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	
Science (Sec. 130) (Sec. 131).....	51,250
Energy supply (Sec. 132).....	5,000

DIVISION H--MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS AND OFFSETS (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	Conference
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY	
Corps of Engineers - Civil	
Construction, general (Sec. 133)	13,750
BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE	
INDEPENDENT AGENCY	
Millenium Challenge Corporation	
Millenium Challenge Corporation (Sec. 134)	350,000
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	
Departmental Offices	
U.S. Office for Native Hawaiian Relations (Sec. 148)	100
UNITED STATES SENATE	
China Interparliamentary Group (Sec. 153)	100
Russia Interparliamentary Group (Sec. 154)	100
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	
Republic Steel Retirement Plan benefits (Sec. 157)	4,000
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund (Sec. 158)	9,692
Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense (rescission) (Sec. 158)	-9,692
INDEPENDENT AGENCY	
Election Assistance Commission	
Election reform programs (Sec. 159)	1,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
Miscellaneous projects (Highway Trust Fund) (Sec. 162)	50,000
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	
Community Development Fund (Sec. 165)	10,000

DIVISION H--MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS AND OFFSETS (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	Conference
GOVERNMENT-WIDE	
Miscellaneous appropriations (Sec. 167)	55,000
Department of Defense, P.L. 107-38 and P.L. 107-117 rescissions (Sec. 168)	-1,800,000
Across the board rescissions (Sec. 168)	-2,761,000
Across the board rescissions (emergency) (Sec. 168)	-4,000
Grand total:	
New budget (obligational) authority	-2,956,950
Appropriations	(1,617,742)
Rescissions	(-4,795,692)
Emergency appropriations	(225,000)
Emergency Rescissions	(-4,000)
(By transfer)	(74,600)
(Transfer authority)	(120,000)

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, only a few weeks after Congress eliminated the guarantee of health care under Medicare for every senior in America, just in time for the holidays we are telling every working person in this country that another guarantee is also a thing of the past: overtime pay.

The passage of the Fair Standards Labor Act nearly 70 years ago safeguarded workers' rights in this country. It promised workers time and a half for the time they worked beyond the 40-hour workweek: a little extra cash to put a roof over their families' heads, to buy groceries, and pay their medical bills. On average, these extra wages account for roughly 25 percent of their total earnings.

This bill, in clear defiance of the will of both Chambers of Congress, breaks that promise. This bill allows the Department of Labor to gut the Fair Standards Labor Act, effectively repealing the 40-hour workweek and forcing 8 million Americans, including police officers, firefighters, construction workers, nurses, and EMTs, to take a second job to make up for those lost earnings; this at a time when we already have millions of people out of work, where income is declining, poverty is increasing, and health care costs are rising.

This bill opens the door to mandatory overtime, allowing employers to force millions of workers to stay late with little notice and without adequately compensating them. It will leave countless working women the worse off, spending less time with their families as they put more of their hard-earned wages to afford increased child care and transportation costs.

The Republican majority has moved effectively to tear up our country's long-standing contract with the working people of this country, a contract that says that hard work deserves to be rewarded, especially when that work is above and beyond the call of duty, after normal working hours. By ending overtime pay, by denying a fair extension of unemployment benefits, this bill embodies that assault on America's working families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for those families today, to make a difference in their lives, and say ''no'' to this bill and oppose it.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 10 seconds to say that this is an appropriation bill, and the issues that the gentlewoman discussed are not within our jurisdiction and are not in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. ISTOOK), the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Transportation.

(Mr. ISTOOK asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding me this time, and I rise in support in particular of the section on transportation, treasury, and independent agencies, which is included as division F of this bill. This is the first time that this body packaged together this particular grouping of agencies, including transportation, the Treasury Department, the executive office of the President, and independent agencies, such as the General Services Administration and the Office of Personnel Management. I am pleased to say that with the help of my hardworking colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER), and with good staff and with the good cooperation of the Senate, we have met the challenges of that particular grouping.

This is a good effort, Mr. Speaker. This portion of the conference report contains $89.8 billion. That is just 3.7 percent above the level enacted for fiscal year 2003. Nondefense discretionary spending is below the President's budget request and below the fiscal year 2003 level.

However, we are able to establish important priorities. In particular, Federal aid to highways will receive a $2 billion increase. Even within the overall constraints, a $2 billion increase for highways, going from $31.8 billion to $33.8 billion. That addresses the most critical transportation needs in the entire country. It also provides much-needed jobs and will assist in relieving congestion in the overburdened highway system.

In addition, it provides significantly more money for the IRS tax law enforcement programs. The return to Treasury on the investment in law enforcement is enormous; and we have given it, appropriately, a top priority.

Other programs in the bill receive sufficient funding to continue operations but not enough for frills.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is very important for transportation in the country, whether we are talking about road, rail, mass transit, or any other system. I appreciate the effort to work together cooperatively with both sides of the aisle on that, and I ask that this bill be approved.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of the Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004, which is included as division F of this bill. This is the first time this body has had to package together the funding priorities of the Transportation Department, the Treasury Department, the Executive Office of the President, and independent agencies such as the Office of Personnel Management and the General Services Administration. Dealing with fundamental financial and personnel policy issues while trying to provide for the Nation's infrastructure has proven to be a formidable challenge. But I am proud to say that, with the help of my hard-working colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. OLVER, and with the good cooperation of the Senate, we have met that challenge.

This is a good Transportation and Treasury bill, Mr. Speaker. Within very tight fiscal constraints, it strikes a good balance between the programs of those departments. It provides for critical, core programs but trims back new initiatives.

That portion of this conference report contains $89.8 billion in budgetary resources. That is just 3.7 percent above the level enacted for fiscal year 2003. Non-defense discretionary spending is below the President's budget request and below the fiscal year 2003 level.

However, this part of the bill does establish priorities. In particular, the federal-aid highways program will receive a $2 billion increase, going from $31.8 billion to $33.8 billion. This addresses the most crucial transportation issue in America. This will provide much-needed jobs around the country, and assist in providing congestion relief on our overburdened highway system. In addition, the bill provides almost $350 million—9 percent—more for IRS's tax law enforcement program in the coming year. Given the budget problems facing the Nation, every additional tax dollar the IRS collects is critical. The return to the Treasury on this investment is enormous, so we have given it a top priority.

Let me make special note of one of our most critical grant programs, the election reform grants authorized by the Help America Vote Act of 2002. These grants go out to all States, to help them meet Federal deadlines for upgrading voting machines. Given their budget situation, many States will have a difficult if not impossible time meeting the deadline without Federal help. This bill provides $1.5 billion for those grants, which is $1 billion above the House-passed level. The funding in this bill will bring total assistance for election reform to $3 billion.

Other programs in the bill receive sufficient funding to continue their operations throughout the year, but they won't have enough for frills. The IRS's operating budget would rise by 3 percent. The FAA's by 7 percent. The Executive Office of the President receives an increases of only 1 percent. The essential air service program receives $102 million, which will sustain their current operations. The Airport Improvement Program is at $3.4 billion, which is also the FY 03 level. Amtrak, which requested $1.8 billion, will receive $1.225 billion, essentially the same amount as in the current year.

The bill has a number of important oversight initiatives that I'd like to highlight as well.

For Amtrak, the bill continues the strong oversight provisions first included in last year's appropriations bill. In addition, we have added a new provision authorizing the Surface Transportation Board to continue commuter rail service if Amtrak ceases operations, and providing $60 million to the Secretary for these purposes.

In FAA, the bill provides additional resources for contract audits of major procurements and fences the funds only for that purpose. According to the IG, FAA has been negligent in performing these valuable audits. With major new acquisitions facing the agency, the bill requires FAA to do a better job at reviewing contractor proposals and bid prices and gives them money for that purpose.

In the Federal Transit Administration, the bill directs FTA to ensure that alternative modes or alignments are analyzed as part of the

planning process for new starts, and that they fully support the mode chosen by weighing all viable alternatives and using quantitative measures, rather than pre-ordaining expensive light-rail as their choice for transit. We need to make sure that, when the Federal Government is asked to pay 50 percent or more of the money, local communities have done their homework in studying alternatives that will most effectively deal with the problems.

In short, Mr. Speaker, this is a very good compromise. It involved some give and take by both sides, but we were able to preserve the most critical aspects of the House-passed bill. It deserves every Member's support.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished minority whip.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and initially I would like to submit for the RECORD at this point in time my remarks with reference to the Office of Federal Detention Trustee.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Virginia, Mr. WOLF, the chairman of the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Subcommittee, for the opportunity to discuss the roles and authorities of the Federal Detention Trustee.

It is my understanding that the language in the report addressing the building of detention facilities by the Office of Federal Detention Trustee clearly indicates that the Office does not have the authority to solicit contracts to build a new detention facility and directs the Office to withdraw any solicitation for such activities.

While the language is report language and is not binding, I believe it is sufficient to prevent the Office of Federal Detention Trustee from going forward with its plans to solicit contracts to build a new detention facility.

Chairman WOLF has committed to working with me to ensure that the Detention Trustees abides by the clear intent of the Congress that contracting for a new facility is not an allowable use of funds.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I too wish to submit a statement for the RECORD regarding the Office of Federal Detention Trustee.

On discussion of the role of the Office of Federal Detention Trustee at the Department of Justice, the statement of managers clearly indicates that the Office does not have the authority to solicit contracts to build a new detention facility. I would also point out that the committee revised the bill language to strike any reference to construction. I am fully aware that many States, including Maryland, Louisiana, Ohio, and others have excess prison bed space capacity. It was never the intention of the Congress to allow the Detention Trustee to build additional facilities, but to take advantage of existing State and local excess prison bed space. The committee will work with Mr. HOYER of Maryland and other concerned Members in the coming year to address these concerns.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I rise again, as I always do, to say that the chairman of our committee is extraordinarily fair. I wish I could vote for this bill. I voted for many of the bills that are in here, as the chairman knows.

But, Mr. Speaker, we have a very bad process that is going on here. We act in the House, the Senate acts the same way, and it goes to conference and magically it disappears, or it comes back here 180 degrees different. This is a corruption of the democratic process. It has ignored the will of the House and the Senate on outsourcing, Cuba travel, drug reimportation, school vouchers in the District of Columbia. Funding in the omnibus for the No Child Left Behind is too low; funding for NIH represents a real reduction. The congressional branch does not work, Mr. Speaker, for the executive.

I would urge the majority party, my friends on the other side, to let the executive department know that this is a democracy. It is not a kingdom; it is not a dictatorship. And just because the House passes something, the Senate passes something, and they do not like it, that does not mean the Congress of the United States ought to turn tail and run. Mr. Speaker, I would hope that we would be able to resolve some of these issues that the House and the Senate have agreed upon. I agree with the chairman, some of these are authorizing matters; but both Houses agreed and the White House did not like it, so it was dropped.

The outsourcing is particularly, in my opinion, egregious because we had a conference. The chairman, as always, was fair and open. Senator STEVENS was fair and open. We had an agreement. That agreement was adopted in an open conference, and lo and behold it has disappeared. It was totally changed. It has undermined the very protections for Federal employees we wanted to build in the bill.

Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) was in charge, and he is in charge of our committee, no doubt about that; but if he made the final decisions, this would not have happened, and I know that and I lament it.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to advise the gentleman that I am happy to report that one of the major issues he was concerned about, the election reform program and to help the States, that money is in this package.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for making that observation. He is absolutely right. And I want to make the public aware of the fact that we differ from time to time on partisan issues, but if the chairman of this committee, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), had not been such a tenacious supporter both of revising and reforming our election apparatus and then funding it, it would not be there.

I want to thank the chairman profusely, because I think he, as he knows, and I think the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), our Speaker, has also been very responsible for this bipartisan accomplishment, and I thank the gentleman for his support. It is an important step. There are a lot of good things in this bill, and I would like to support it.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies.

(Mr. BONILLA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the conference agreement; and as we consider this bill, I would like to take a minute to recognize one of the star players behind the scenes.

Lots of folks out there watch us on television and in committee hearings and markups and think that the Members of the House are the ones that actually do all the work, cross all the T's, dot all the I's, and check all the legalese, and we do check all that; but the people that do the work day in and day out are the great staff members of the committees and subcommittees. I am losing a key member of this team, the clerk for my agriculture appropriations subcommittee, and his name is Hank Moore.

As many of my colleagues know, Hank has announced he will not be with us next year as we work our way through this process. He has decided after 30 years of working here for the Federal Government that he would like to spend more time with his family and is retiring.

Mr. Speaker, most Americans probably do not realize, as I did not when I first arrived in the House of Representatives, that this bill is 1,200 pages long. There are countless paragraphs, clauses, commas, sections, outlays, all kinds of terms that are put in this bill; and it has to be done right year in and year out. And while many of us are dealing with the substance of big issues as we develop these bills each year, good members of the staff, like Hank Moore, are there on weekends, late at night making sure that all of the language is exactly right every step of the way.

As I have worked with Hank, and I frequently use football terms on occasion, but I want him to know that I have always been very grateful that every time I turned around, the ball was there. Every time. It made my job a lot easier, and it made the job of a lot of folks that preceded me in the Committee on Appropriations a lot easier. I want to wish him well, and his family, and let him know that we will miss him.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring before the House today the conference report on H.R. 2673, providing appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, the Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

I want to acknowledge the good work of the gentlewoman from Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, my ranking member, who has contributed greatly to this process. It has been a pleasure working with her and all the members of the subcommittee on both sides of the aisle.

I believe we have produced a good bipartisan conference agreement that does a lot to advance important nutrition, research, and rural development programs and still meets our conference allocations on discretionary and mandatory spending.

My goal this year has been to produce a bipartisan bill, and I believe we have done a good job in reaching that goal.

This conference agreement does have significant increases over fiscal year 2003 for programs that have always enjoyed strong bipartisan support. Those increases include:

Agricultural Research Service, $54 million for Salaries and Expenses; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, $2 million; Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, $33 million; Food Safety and Inspection Service, $30 million; Farm Service Agency, $18 million; Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund, $482 million; Reimbursement for net realized losses of the Commodity Credit Corporation, $990 million; Natural Resources Conservation Service, $12 million; Rural Cooperative Development Grants, $15 million; Renewable Energy Program, $23 million; Broadband Telecommunications Loan Authorization, $522 million; Domestic Food Programs, $5.4 billion, including Child Nutrition Programs, $837 million and Food Stamp Program, $3.6 billion in program expenses as well as $1.0 billion in reserve to respond to economic conditions; Foreign Assistance and Related Programs, including P.L. 480, $45 million—excluding last year's supplemental appropriation; and Food and Drug Administration, $12 million.

Mr. Speaker, we all refer to this bill as an agriculture bill, but it does far more than assist basic agriculture. It also supports human nutrition, the environment, and food, drug, and medical safety. This is a bill that will deliver benefits to every one of our citizens every day. I would say to all Members that they can support this conference agreement and tell all of their constituents that they voted to improve their lives while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

The conference agreement is a bipartisan product with a lot of hard work and input from both sides of the aisle. I would like to thank the gentleman from Florida, Chairman YOUNG, and the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY, who serve as the distinguished chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. I would also like to thank all my subcommittee colleagues: the gentleman from New York, Mr. WALSH; the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. KINGSTON; the gentleman from Washington, Mr. NETHERCUTT; the gentleman from Iowa, Mr. LATHAM; gentlewoman from Missouri, Mrs. EMERSON; the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. GOODE; the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. LAHOOD; the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Ms. DELAURO; the gentleman from New York, Mr. HINCHEY; the gentleman from California, Mr. FARR; and the gentleman from Florida, Mr. BOYD. In particular, I want to thank the gentlewoman from Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR; the distinguished ranking member of the subcommittee, for all her good work on this bill this year and the years in the past.

Mr. Speaker, we have tried our best to put together a good, solid bill that works for all America. Much of it is compromise, to be sure, but I believe it is a good compromise and good policy.

In closing, I would like to thank the subcommittee staff for all their hard work: Hank Moore, the subcommittee clerk; Martin Delgado; Maureen Holohan; Joanne Perdue; Martha Foley of the staff of the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY; and Walt Smith, from my personal office. Without their good work, we would not have a bill here today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this conference agreement.

Mr. Speaker, we have worked hard to bring a good conference agreement to the House. We have made prudent recommendations for the use of the budgetary allocation available to us, and we have done yeoman work in keeping the bill free of contentious issues that have caused concern in prior years. I think we have a very good conference agreement. In closing, I would certainly hope that all Members would support this agreement.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD detailed information regarding the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies included in this omnibus legislation.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS						
Production, Processing, and Marketing						
Office of the Secretary	3,320	10,068	3,468	10,046	5,092	+1,772
Executive Operations:						
Chief Economist	8,510	12,264	8,716	8,707	8,707	+197
National Appeals Division	13,670	14,242	13,670	13,997	13,670	---
Office of Budget and Program Analysis	7,270	7,980	7,749	7,544	7,740	+470
Homeland Security staff	---	1,479	---	910	499	+499
Office of the Chief Information Officer	14,993	31,334	14,993	15,710	15,493	+500
Common computing environment	132,289	177,714	100,999	118,789	119,289	-13,000
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	5,496	7,902	5,785	5,496	5,684	+188
Working capital fund	11,922	---	---	---	---	-11,922
Total, Executive Operations	194,150	252,915	151,912	171,153	171,082	-23,068
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights	397	808	808	794	808	+411
Office of Civil Rights	---	17,550	---	15,445	17,450	+17,450
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	660	793	678	673	673	+13
Agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments	(186,879)	(199,332)	(156,091)	(187,022)	(156,469)	(-30,410)
Payments to GSA	120,796	124,332	123,532	123,910	123,910	+3,114
Building operations and maintenance	32,327	41,000	32,559	32,559	32,559	+232
Repairs, renovations, and construction	33,756	34,000	---	30,553	---	-33,756
Hazardous materials management	15,583	15,713	15,713	15,611	15,611	+28
Departmental administration	37,629	27,578	40,597	23,031	23,031	-14,598
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations	3,796	4,186	3,796	3,825	3,796	---
Office of Communications	9,031	10,084	9,245	9,228	9,228	+197
Office of the Inspector General	73,417	81,895	78,114	75,781	77,281	+3,864
Office of the General Counsel	34,700	37,328	34,700	35,343	34,700	---
Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics	584	792	597	596	596	+12
Economic Research Service	68,674	76,657	71,402	69,902	71,402	+2,728
National Agricultural Statistics Service	138,448	136,182	129,800	128,922	128,922	-9,526
Census of Agriculture	(41,274)	(25,279)	(25,279)	(25,279)	(25,279)	(-15,995)
Agricultural Research Service:						
Salaries and expenses	1,035,130	987,303	1,014,000	1,045,533	1,088,892	+53,762
Buildings and facilities	118,703	24,000	35,900	46,000	63,810	-54,893
- Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	110,000	---	---	---	---	-110,000
Total, Agricultural Research Service	1,263,833	1,011,303	1,049,900	1,091,533	1,152,702	-111,131
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service:						
Research and education activities	616,792	514,228	597,372	617,575	621,447	+4,655
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund	(7,054)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(+1,946)
Extension activities	450,520	422,268	439,742	450,084	441,731	-8,789
Integrated activities	46,439	62,865	62,942	46,711	50,493	+4,054
Outreach for socially disadvantaged farmers	3,470	4,003	8,470	3,470	5,970	+2,500
Total, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	1,117,221	1,003,364	1,108,526	1,117,840	1,119,641	+2,420
Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs	725	791	725	736	725	---
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:						
Salaries and expenses	682,757	694,897	725,502	705,552	720,580	+37,823
Buildings and facilities	9,924	4,996	4,996	4,996	4,996	-4,928
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	692,681	699,893	730,498	710,548	725,576	+32,895
Agricultural Marketing Service:						
Marketing Services	75,210	75,071	75,953	75,263	75,430	+220
Standardization user fees	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected)	(61,619)	(62,577)	(62,577)	(62,577)	(62,577)	(+958)
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (transfer from section 32)	14,910	15,392	15,392	15,392	15,392	+482
Payments to states and possessions	1,338	1,347	1,347	3,338	3,338	+2,000
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service	91,458	91,810	92,692	93,993	94,160	+2,702
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration:						
Salaries and expenses	39,690	41,688	39,690	35,638	35,890	-3,800
Limitation on inspection and weighing services	(42,463)	(42,463)	(42,463)	(42,463)	(42,463)	---

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety	599	792	599	611	599	---
Food Safety and Inspection Service	754,821	797,149	785,261	783,761	784,511	+29,690
Lab accreditation fees 1/	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---
Total, Production, Processing, and Marketing	4,728,296	4,518,671	4,504,812	4,582,032	4,629,945	-98,351
Farm Assistance Programs						
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services	618	916	636	635	635	+17
Farm Service Agency:						
Salaries and expenses	970,389	1,016,836	1,016,836	988,768	988,768	+18,379
(Transfer from export loans)	(829)	(985)	(985)	(846)	(846)	(+17)
(Transfer from P.L. 480)	(1,019)	(2,975)	(2,975)	(1,075)	(1,075)	(+56)
(Transfer from ACIF)	(277,361)	(290,136)	(290,136)	(283,020)	(283,020)	(+5,659)
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts	(279,209)	(294,096)	(294,096)	(284,941)	(284,941)	(+5,732)
Total, Salaries and expenses	(1,249,598)	(1,310,932)	(1,310,932)	(1,273,709)	(1,273,709)	(+24,111)
State mediation grants	3,974	4,000	3,974	3,974	3,974	---
Dairy indemnity program	100	100	100	100	100	---
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency	974,463	1,020,936	1,020,910	992,842	992,842	+18,379
Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account:						
Loan authorizations:						
Farm ownership loans:						
Direct	(130,000)	(140,149)	(133,143)	(129,158)	(129,158)	(-842)
Guaranteed	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(950,000)	(950,000)	(950,000)	(-50,000)
Subtotal	(1,130,000)	(1,140,149)	(1,083,143)	(1,079,158)	(1,079,158)	(-50,842)
Farm operating loans:						
Direct	(605,000)	(650,000)	(617,503)	(601,068)	(617,503)	(+12,503)
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(1,700,000)	(1,400,000)	(1,330,000)	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	(-500,000)
Subsidized guaranteed	(400,000)	(266,249)	(252,937)	(266,249)	(266,249)	(-133,751)
Subtotal	(2,705,000)	(2,316,249)	(2,200,440)	(2,067,317)	(2,083,752)	(-621,248)
Indian tribe land acquisition loans	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---
Boll weevil eradication loans	(100,000)	(60,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
Total, Loan authorizations	(3,937,000)	(3,518,398)	(3,385,583)	(3,248,475)	(3,264,910)	(-672,090)
Loan subsidies:						
Farm ownership loans:						
Direct	14,995	30,945	29,398	28,518	28,518	+13,523
Guaranteed	7,451	5,400	5,130	5,130	5,130	-2,321
Subtotal	22,446	36,345	34,528	33,648	33,648	+11,202
Farm operating loans:						
Direct	103,744	93,730	89,044	86,674	89,044	-14,700
Unsubsidized guaranteed	53,540	46,620	44,289	39,960	39,960	-13,580
Subsidized guaranteed	46,893	34,000	32,300	34,000	34,000	-12,893
Subtotal	204,177	174,350	165,633	160,634	163,004	-41,173
Indian tribe land acquisition	178	---	---	---	---	-178
Total, Loan subsidies	226,801	210,695	200,161	194,282	196,652	-30,149

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	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
ACIF expenses:						
Salaries and expense (transfer to FSA)	277,361	290,136	290,136	283,020	283,020	+5,659
Administrative expenses	7,948	8,000	8,000	7,948	7,948	---
Total, ACIF expenses	285,309	298,136	298,136	290,968	290,968	+5,659
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund	512,110	508,831	498,297	485,250	487,620	-24,490
(Loan authorization)	(3,937,000)	(3,518,398)	(3,385,583)	(3,248,475)	(3,264,910)	(-672,090)
Total, Farm Service Agency	1,486,573	1,529,767	1,519,207	1,478,092	1,480,462	-6,111
Risk Management Agency	70,248	78,488	71,509	71,422	71,422	+1,174
Total, Farm Assistance Programs	1,557,439	1,609,171	1,591,352	1,550,149	1,552,519	-4,920
Corporations						
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:						
Federal crop insurance corporation fund	2,886,000	3,368,000	3,368,000	3,368,000	3,368,000	+482,000
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:						
Reimbursement for net realized losses	16,285,000	17,275,000	17,275,000	17,275,000	17,275,000	+990,000
Hazardous waste management (limitation on administrative expenses)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---
Total, Corporations	19,171,000	20,643,000	20,643,000	20,643,000	20,643,000	+1,472,000
Total, title I, Agricultural Programs	25,456,735	26,770,842	26,739,164	26,775,181	26,825,464	+1,368,729
(By transfer)	(279,209)	(294,096)	(294,096)	(284,941)	(284,941)	(+5,732)
(Loan authorization)	(3,937,000)	(3,518,398)	(3,385,583)	(3,248,475)	(3,264,910)	(-672,090)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(109,082)	(110,040)	(110,040)	(110,040)	(110,040)	(+958)
TITLE II - CONSERVATION PROGRAMS						
Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment	745	918	745	761	745	---
Natural Resources Conservation Service:						
Conservation operations	819,641	703,605	850,004	826,635	853,004	+33,363
Watershed surveys and planning	11,124	5,000	11,124	10,000	10,562	-562
Watershed and flood prevention operations	109,285	40,000	90,000	55,000	87,000	-22,285
Watershed rehabilitation program	29,805	10,000	40,000	29,805	29,805	---
Resource conservation and development	50,668	49,943	52,894	51,000	51,947	+1,279
Farm bill technical assistance	---	432,160	---	---	---	---
Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service	1,020,523	1,240,708	1,044,022	972,440	1,032,318	+11,795
Total, title II, Conservation Programs	1,021,268	1,241,626	1,044,767	973,201	1,033,063	+11,795
TITLE III - RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS						
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development	636	913	636	651	636	---
Rural Development:						
Rural community advancement program	901,837	477,864	706,006	767,479	757,425	-144,412
Tree assistance (sec. 747)	---	---	-5,000	---	---	---
(Transfer out)	(-29,805)	---	---	(-30,000)	(-28,000)	(+1,805)
Total, Rural community advancement program	901,837	477,864	701,006	767,479	757,425	-144,412
RD expenses:						
Salaries and expenses	144,789	147,520	146,495	140,922	141,869	-2,920
(Transfer from RHIF)	(429,564)	(482,787)	(447,151)	(439,453)	(443,302)	(+13,738)
(Transfer from RDLFP)	(4,163)	(4,850)	(4,283)	(4,283)	(4,272)	(+109)
(Transfer from RETLP)	(37,587)	(41,562)	(38,166)	(37,920)	(37,853)	(+266)
(Transfer from RTB)	(3,062)	(3,462)	(3,182)	(3,182)	(3,171)	(+109)
Subtotal, Transfers from program accounts	(474,376)	(532,661)	(492,782)	(484,838)	(488,598)	(+14,222)
Total, RD expenses	(619,165)	(680,181)	(639,277)	(625,760)	(630,467)	(+11,302)
Total, Rural Development	1,046,626	625,384	847,501	908,401	899,294	-147,332

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	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Rural Housing Service:						
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:						
Loan authorizations:						
Single family (sec. 502)	(1,037,868)	(1,366,462)	(1,366,462)	(1,359,417)	(1,366,462)	(+328,594)
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(2,845,318)	(2,725,172)	(2,725,172)	(2,725,172)	(2,725,172)	(-120,146)
Subtotal, Single family	(3,883,186)	(4,091,634)	(4,091,634)	(4,084,589)	(4,091,634)	(+208,448)
Housing repair (sec. 504)	(35,000)	(35,003)	(35,003)	(35,004)	(35,004)	(+4)
Rental housing (sec. 515)	(115,805)	(70,830)	(116,545)	(115,052)	(116,545)	(+740)
Site loans (sec. 524)	(5,046)	(5,045)	(5,045)	(5,045)	(5,045)	(-1)
Multi-family housing guarantees (sec. 538)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
Multi-family housing credit sales	(2,000)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(-500)
Single family housing credit sales	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---
Self-help housing land develop. (sec. 523)	(5,011)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(1,623)	(2,400)	(-2,611)
Total, Loan authorizations	(4,156,048)	(4,319,012)	(4,364,727)	(4,352,813)	(4,362,128)	(+206,080)
Loan subsidies:						
Single family (sec. 502)	201,035	126,018	126,018	126,018	126,018	-75,017
Unsubsidized guaranteed	32,388	39,903	39,903	39,903	39,903	+7,515
Subtotal, Single family	233,423	165,921	165,921	165,921	165,921	-67,502
Housing repair (sec. 504)	10,786	9,612	9,612	9,612	9,612	-1,174
Rental housing (sec. 515)	53,649	30,464	50,126	49,484	50,126	-3,523
Site loans (sec. 524)	55	---	---	---	---	-55
Multi-family housing guarantees (sec. 538)	4,471	5,950	5,950	5,950	5,950	+1,479
Multi-family housing credit sales	928	663	663	663	663	-265
Single family housing credit sales	---	---	---	---	---	---
Self-help housing land develop. (sec. 523)	220	154	154	50	75	-145
Total, Loan subsidies	303,532	212,764	232,426	231,680	232,347	-71,185
RHIF administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	429,564	482,787	447,151	439,453	443,302	+13,738
Rental assistance program:						
(Sec. 521)	715,419	734,100	725,100	715,381	578,100	-137,319
(Sec. 502(c)(5)(D))	5,862	5,900	5,900	5,900	5,900	+38
Total, Rental assistance program	721,281	740,000	731,000	721,281	584,000	-137,281
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund	1,454,377	1,435,551	1,410,577	1,392,414	1,259,649	-194,728
(Loan authorization)	(4,156,048)	(4,319,012)	(4,364,727)	(4,352,813)	(4,362,128)	(+206,080)
Mutual and self-help housing grants	34,772	34,000	34,772	34,000	34,000	-772
Rural housing assistance grants	42,222	41,500	42,222	46,222	46,222	+4,000
Farm labor program account	36,071	35,018	36,307	33,015	36,307	+236
Subtotal, grants and payments	113,065	110,518	113,301	113,237	116,529	+3,464
Total, Rural Housing Service	1,567,442	1,546,069	1,523,878	1,505,651	1,376,178	-191,264
(Loan authorization)	(4,156,048)	(4,319,012)	(4,364,727)	(4,352,813)	(4,362,128)	(+206,080)
Historic barn preservation program	---	---	---	2,000	---	---
Rural Business-Cooperative Service:						
Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account:						
(Loan authorization)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	---
Loan subsidy	19,179	17,308	17,308	17,308	17,308	-1,871
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	4,163	4,850	4,283	4,283	4,272	+109
Total, Rural Development Loan Fund	23,342	22,158	21,591	21,591	21,580	-1,762
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:						
(Loan authorization)	(14,967)	(15,002)	(16,120)	(15,002)	(15,002)	(+35)
Direct subsidy	3,176	2,792	3,000	2,792	2,792	-384
Rural cooperative development grants	8,941	11,000	13,000	8,967	24,000	+15,059
Rural empowerment zones and enterprise communities grants	14,870	---	10,967	14,370	12,667	-2,203
Renewable energy program	---	3,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	+23,000
Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service	50,329	38,950	71,558	70,720	84,039	+33,710
(Loan authorization)	(54,967)	(55,002)	(56,120)	(55,002)	(55,002)	(+35)

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	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Rural Utilities Service:						
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account:						
Loan authorizations:						
Electric:						
Direct, 5%	(121,103)	(240,000)	(240,000)	(240,000)	(240,000)	(+118,897)
Direct, Municipal rate	(100,000)	(100,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(+900,000)
Direct, FFB	(2,600,000)	(1,500,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(-600,000)
Direct, Treasury rate	(1,150,000)	(700,000)	(750,000)	(750,000)	(750,000)	(-400,000)
Guaranteed electric	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
Guaranteed underwriting	(1,000,000)	---	---	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	---
Subtotal, Electric	(5,071,103)	(2,640,000)	(4,090,000)	(5,090,000)	(5,090,000)	(+18,897)
Telecommunications:						
Direct, 5%	(75,029)	(145,000)	(145,000)	(145,000)	(145,000)	(+69,971)
Direct, Treasury rate	(300,000)	(250,000)	(300,000)	(250,000)	(250,000)	(-50,000)
Direct, FFB	(120,000)	(100,000)	(120,000)	(120,000)	(120,000)	---
Subtotal, Telecommunications	(495,029)	(495,000)	(565,000)	(515,000)	(515,000)	(+19,971)
Total, Loan authorizations	(5,566,132)	(3,135,000)	(4,655,000)	(5,605,000)	(5,605,000)	(+38,868)
Loan subsidies:						
Electric:						
Direct, 5%	6,870	---	---	---	---	-6,870
Direct, Municipal rate	4,004	---	---	---	---	-4,004
Guaranteed electric	79	60	60	60	60	-19
Subtotal, Electric	10,953	60	60	60	60	-10,893
Telecommunications:						
Direct, 5%	1,275	---	---	---	---	-1,275
Direct, Treasury rate	149	125	125	125	125	-24
Subtotal, Telecommunications	1,424	125	125	125	125	-1,299
Total, Loan subsidies	12,377	185	185	185	185	-12,192
RETLP administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	37,587	41,562	38,166	37,920	37,853	+266
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account	49,964	41,747	38,351	38,105	38,038	-11,926
(Loan authorization)	(5,566,132)	(3,135,000)	(4,655,000)	(5,605,000)	(5,605,000)	(+38,868)
Rural Telephone Bank Program Account:						
(Loan authorization)	(174,615)	---	---	(173,503)	(173,503)	(-1,112)
Direct loan subsidy	2,394	---	---	---	---	-2,394
RTB administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	3,062	3,462	3,182	3,182	3,171	+109
Total, Rural Telephone Bank Program Account	5,456	3,462	3,182	3,182	3,171	-2,285
High energy costs grants (by transfer)	(29,805)	---	---	(30,000)	(28,000)	(-1,805)
Distance learning, telemedicine and broadband program:						
Loan authorizations:						
Distance learning and telemedicine	(300,000)	(50,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	---
Broadband telecommunications	(80,000)	(336,000)	(336,000)	(647,000)	(602,000)	(+522,000)
Total, Loan authorizations	(380,000)	(386,000)	(636,000)	(947,000)	(902,000)	(+522,000)
Loan subsidies:						
Distance learning and telemedicine:						
Grants	46,636	25,000	25,000	40,000	39,000	-7,636
Broadband telecommunications:						
Direct	---	9,116	9,116	15,116	13,116	+13,116
Grants	9,935	2,000	8,000	10,000	9,000	-935
Total, Loan subsidies and grants	56,571	36,116	42,116	65,116	61,116	+4,545
Total, Rural Utilities Service	111,991	81,325	83,649	106,403	102,325	-9,666
(Loan authorization)	(6,120,747)	(3,521,000)	(5,291,000)	(6,725,503)	(6,680,503)	(+559,756)

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Total, title III, Rural Economic and Community Development Programs	2,777,024	2,292,641	2,527,222	2,593,826	2,462,472	-314,552
(By transfer)	(504,181)	(532,661)	(492,782)	(514,838)	(516,598)	(+12,417)
(Loan authorization)	(10,331,762)	(7,895,014)	(9,711,847)	(11,133,318)	(11,097,633)	(+765,871)
TITLE IV - DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS						
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services	599	786	599	611	599	---
Food and Nutrition Service:						
Child nutrition programs	5,830,506	6,819,340	6,718,780	6,718,780	6,717,780	+887,274
Transfer from section 32	4,745,663	4,599,101	4,699,661	4,699,661	4,699,661	-46,002
Discretionary spending	3,974	---	---	---	---	-3,974
Total, Child nutrition programs	10,580,143	11,418,441	11,418,441	11,418,441	11,417,441	+837,298
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC)	4,696,000	4,769,232	4,588,310	4,639,232	4,639,232	-56,768
Food stamp program:						
Expenses	22,772,692	24,208,981	24,203,176	26,403,176	26,403,176	+3,630,484
Reserve	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	+1,000,000
Nutrition assistance for Puerto Rico and Samoa	1,401,000	1,397,000	1,402,805	1,402,805	1,402,805	+1,805
The emergency food assistance program	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	---
Total, Food stamp program	26,313,692	27,745,981	27,745,981	29,945,981	30,945,981	+4,632,289
Commodity assistance program	163,431	166,072	166,072	145,740	150,000	-13,431
Food donations programs:						
Needy family program	1,074	---	---	---	---	-1,074
Nutrition programs administration	135,672	144,849	140,512	138,304	138,304	+2,632
Total, Food and Nutrition Service	41,890,012	44,244,575	44,059,316	46,287,698	47,290,958	+5,400,946
Total, title IV, Domestic Food Programs	41,890,611	44,245,361	44,059,915	46,288,309	47,291,557	+5,400,946
TITLE V - FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS						
Foreign Agricultural Service:						
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation	129,103	140,798	133,924	131,648	132,148	+3,045
(Transfer from export loans)	(3,203)	(3,327)	(3,327)	(3,306)	(3,306)	(+103)
(Transfer from P.L. 480)	(1,026)	(1,066)	(1,066)	(1,059)	(1,059)	(+33)
Total, Salaries and expenses program level	(133,332)	(145,191)	(138,317)	(136,013)	(136,513)	(+3,181)
Public Law 480 Program and Grant Accounts:						
Program account:						
Loan authorization, direct	(154,664)	(132,000)	(132,000)	(131,670)	(132,000)	(-22,664)
Loan subsidies	115,416	103,887	103,887	103,887	103,887	-11,529
Ocean freight differential grants	24,995	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	+3,005
Title II - Commodities for disposition abroad:						
Program level	(1,192,200)	(1,185,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(-200)
Appropriation	1,192,200	1,185,000	1,192,000	1,192,000	1,192,000	-200
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 108-11)	369,000	---	---	---	---	-369,000
Salaries and expenses:						
Foreign Agricultural Service (transfer to FAS)	1,026	1,066	1,066	1,059	1,059	+33
Farm Service Agency (transfer to FSA)	1,019	2,975	2,975	1,075	1,075	+56
Subtotal	2,045	4,041	4,041	2,134	2,134	+89
Total, Public Law 480:						
Program level	(1,192,200)	(1,185,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(1,192,000)	(-200)
Appropriation	1,703,656	1,320,928	1,327,928	1,326,021	1,326,021	-377,635
CCC Export Loans Program Account (administrative expenses):						
Salaries and expenses (Export Loans):						
General Sales Manager (transfer to FAS)	3,203	3,327	3,327	3,306	3,306	+103
Farm Service Agency (transfer to FSA)	829	985	985	846	846	+17
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account	4,032	4,312	4,312	4,152	4,152	+120

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL - FY 2004 (H.R. 2673)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
McGovern-Dole international food for education and child nutrition program grants	---	50,000	56,874	25,000	50,000	+50,000
Total, title V, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs	1,836,791	1,516,038	1,523,038	1,486,821	1,512,321	-324,470
(By transfer)	(4,229)	(4,393)	(4,393)	(4,365)	(4,365)	(+136)
TITLE VI - RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION						
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES						
Food and Drug Administration						
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation	1,373,714	1,394,617	1,389,234	1,384,213	1,386,962	+13,248
Prescription drug user fee act	(222,900)	(249,825)	(249,825)	(249,825)	(249,825)	(+26,925)
Medical device user fee act	(25,125)	(29,190)	(29,190)	(29,190)	(31,654)	(+6,529)
Animal drug user fee act	---	(5,000)	---	---	(5,000)	(+5,000)
Subtotal	(1,621,739)	(1,678,632)	(1,668,249)	(1,663,228)	(1,673,441)	(+51,702)
Mammography clinics user fee (outlay savings)	(16,112)	(16,576)	(16,576)	(16,576)	(16,576)	(+464)
Export and color certification	(6,378)	(6,649)	(6,649)	(6,649)	(6,649)	(+271)
Payments to GSA	(108,269)	(120,045)	(120,045)	(119,152)	(119,594)	(+11,325)
Buildings and facilities	7,948	11,500	6,000	7,948	7,000	-948
Total, Food and Drug Administration	1,381,662	1,406,117	1,395,234	1,392,161	1,393,962	+12,300
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	85,426	88,435	88,435	88,435	90,435	+5,009
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses)	(38,400)	(40,900)	(40,900)	(40,900)	(40,900)	(+2,500)
Total, title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration	1,467,088	1,494,552	1,483,669	1,480,596	1,484,397	+17,309
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS						
Hunger fellowships	2,981	---	3,000	2,981	3,000	+19
National Sheep Industry Improvement Center revolving fund	496	---	499	499	499	+3
Child and adult care feeding program	21,857	---	---	---	---	-21,857
P.L. 480 Title II	248,375	---	---	---	---	-248,375
Tree assistance (sec. 747)	---	---	5,000	---	15,000	+15,000
Northern Great Plains Regional Authority	---	---	---	3,000	1,500	+1,500
Denali Commission	---	---	---	2,000	1,000	+1,000
Food stamp program freeze	---	---	---	2,000	2,000	+2,000
Reduction in travel amounts	---	---	---	-6,000	---	---
CCC tree assistance program (P.L. 108-83)	9,700	---	---	---	---	-9,700
CCC Mormon cricket infestation (P.L. 108-83)	20,000	---	---	---	---	-20,000
Total, title VII, General provisions	303,409	---	8,499	4,480	22,999	-280,410
Grand total:						
New budget (obligational) authority	74,752,926	77,561,060	77,386,274	79,602,414	80,632,273	+5,879,347
(By transfer)	(787,619)	(831,150)	(791,271)	(804,144)	(805,904)	(+18,285)
(Loan authorization)	(14,423,426)	(11,545,412)	(13,229,430)	(14,513,463)	(14,494,543)	(+71,117)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(147,482)	(150,940)	(150,940)	(150,940)	(150,940)	(+3,458)

1/ In addition to appropriation.

□ 1400

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2¾ minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I also want to express my deep appreciation from the Democratic side of the aisle for the over two decades of professional and honest service that Hank Moore has devoted to the people of this country. I thank him for his professionalism and courtesy throughout, and wish him well in the months and years ahead. The Committee on Appropriations will always be his home, and we hope he returns to see us.

I also dedicate my remarks today to Mr. Joe Skeen, who passed this past weekend in New Mexico, and to his wife, Mary, and family. It was a joy to work with him. He was a man who did not lead by partisanship, but by a deep concern for our country. Our Nation and its people are better for the years he devoted here. His perseverance, honesty and intelligence have made their mark. He and his good sense of humor will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the subcommittee, I would like to discuss some issues regarding this conference report. In working with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA), it was not easy to make some of the decisions we were faced with. But first and foremost, I would like to focus on the fact that so many of the decisions, unfortunately because of the time constraints, that relate to Agriculture and the Food & Drug Administration happened behind closed doors and without full sunlight. Therefore, it makes it very difficult to support this bill in its entirety.

In terms of the funding levels, the Agriculture division of this bill is $62 million lower than both the House and Senate bills. It is almost $1 billion below last year's bill, a reduction of almost 5 percent, even though mandatory programs, which do not have the control of this committee exerted upon them, have increased by 12 percent.

On conservation, such an important issue, as we increase in population and as resources become more dear, we find the conference report cuts $70 million more from Farm Bill conservation programs for a total reduction of over $490 million.

Finally, I want to focus on rural housing, also reduced, and I am deeply concerned that our prescription drug title to permit the importation of prescription drugs that are safe into our country was also dropped, even though we asked that it be included, and the House so voted.

I wanted to end by saying that behind closed doors, just a few weeks ago, the country of origin labeling provisions were eliminated from this bill, 2 years past their scheduled implementation date, not just for meat, but produce was added. I would like the American people to know, if we look at the over 600 people who just got sick in Pittsburgh at Chi-Chi's restaurants, one of the ways we get at that problem is by tough country of origin labeling on produce as well as on meat. Behind closed doors, our attempt to do that was absolutely subverted. It is with great disappointment that I come to the floor today and say this bill could have been a lot better than what is before Congress today.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs.

(Mr. KOLBE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present the conference report for the fiscal year 2004 Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs bill which is incorporated as Division D in this Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Mr. Speaker, the foreign operations section significantly furthers our foreign policy objectives and U.S. strategic interests abroad. It is a bill that is innovative and provides increased resources to combat the pandemic of HIV/AIDS. It also creates a new paradigm for foreign assistance, the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

The conference report before the House provides $17.235 billion for foreign operations. This is $115 million more the House bill which passed last July, but nearly $1.2 billion below the amount contained in the Senate-passed bill. Therefore, with this tight allocation, we have made some tough choices and set priorities.

For HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, this conference agreement provides $2.4 billion. When combined with the amounts in the Labor/HHS bill, that is $805 million more than fiscal year 2003, $362 million above the President's request and $325 million more than the House-passed bill.

It provides $400 million to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria, and includes language that gives other donors an incentive to contribute. This bill strongly supports our new AIDS coordinator, Ambassador Randy Tobias, and provides for one additional country outside Africa and the Caribbean to be added to the HIV/AIDS Initiative.

This agreement both creates and appropriates funds for the new Millennium Challenge Corporation. The consolidated appropriations bill provides $1 billion for this exciting, new and innovative model to provide foreign assistance, one that seeks to give a boost to poor nations to enable them to break out of the cycle of poverty. Many have talked about the need to change the way U.S. foreign assistance is provided. President Bush came forward with leadership and vision, and this bill makes that vision a reality.

The MCC is a key component of President Bush's new compact for global development, which links greater contributions from developed nations to greater responsibility from developing nations.

There are a number of important programs and initiatives supported by this foreign operations conference report, too numerous to delineate in the time allotted to me. They include funds for Israel, Egypt, Jordan, for the Andean Counterdrug Initiative, Child Survival and Health Programs Fund, Development Assistance, the Eastern Europe and Baltic States, and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union.

There are a number of structural changes and process improvements in the bill. These changes support the role of Congress in reviewing foreign assistance. There are a number of management improvements in agencies like USAID which help ensure that taxpayer dollars are well spent.

This conference agreement on foreign assistance presents a very good bill which is an important component of this consolidated measure. It does not do everything that we have been asked to do by the administration and others in Congress, but we have necessarily made reductions and sought efficiencies. It is a conference agreement that all Members should support.

Finally, I want to mention two members of our staff who worked very hard on this bill, along with our outstanding committee staff. Rob Blair served on the detail from the Department of State, and Sean Mulvaney of my staff took the lead in developing the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of legislation, and I urge its support.

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and malaria and includes language that gives other donors an incentive to contribute. This bill strongly supports our new AIDS Coordinator, Ambassador Randy Tobias, and provides for one additional country outside Africa and the Caribbean to be added to the HIV/AIDS Initiative.

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The MCC—as it is known for short—is a key component of President Bush's ''new compact for global development,'' which links greater contributions from developed nations to greater responsibility from developing nations.

New resources will flow to those low-income countries that possess a demonstrated commitment to good governance, economic freedom, and investments in their own people. In eligible countries, the new MCC will target investments to overcome the greatest obstacles to economic growth and reduce poverty.

The MCC departs from traditional foreign assistance and draws on lessons learned about development over the past 50 years;

First, that aid is more likely to result in successful sustainable economic development in countries that are pursuing sound political, economic and social policies;

Second, that development plans supported by a broad range of stakeholders, and for which countries have primary responsibility, engender country ownership and are more likely to succeed;

And, finally, that integrating oversight and evaluation into the design of activities boosts aid effectiveness.

I wish to commend the leadership of Chairman HYDE and Mr. LANTOS and the House International Relations Committee, and their Senate Foreign Relations Committee counterparts for their strong support for this initiative.

There are a number of important programs and initiatives supported by this foreign operations conference report. Let me name just a few:

The agreement includes $2.132 billion for the economic support fund. Included is $480 million for Israel, $575 million for Egypt, and $250 million for Jordan.

The agreement provides $241 million for International Narcotics control and law enforcement, and an additional $731 million for the Andean Counterdrug Intitiative—$71 million more than the Senate bill.

The agreement provides $1.835 billion for the Child Survival and Health Programs Fund, and $1.385 billion for Development Assistance.

The conference report includes $445 million for assistance to Eastern Europe and the Baltic States, and $587 million for assistance for the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union. This is one area where reductions have been made as this agreement provides $245 million less for these nations than the FY2003 bill.

The conference agreement provides $353.5 million for nonproliferation, anti-terrorism and demining, an increase of $49.1 million over 2003.

The conference agreement provides $4.450.1 billion for Military Assistance programs. This represents an increase of $221.3 million above FY2003. We have provided $2.160 billion in military assistance for Israel, $1.3 billion for Egypt and $206 million for Jordan. We have fully funded the budget request for international military education and training at $91.7 million.

The conference agreement provides $1.713 billion for multilateral economic assistance, an increase of $223.2 million above FY2003. Included in the agreement is $321.7 million for international organizations and programs, and $913.2 million for the international development association.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of structural changes and process improvements in the agreement. These changes support the role of Congress in reviewing foreign assistance. There are a number of management improvements in agencies like USAID, which help ensure that taxpayers' dollars are well spent.

We have endeavored to accommodate requests from colleagues, though, as always, we have strived to keep foreign assistance free of earmarks. However, I acknowledge that when faced with a Senate bill that included over 200 amendments, this task becomes increasingly more challenging.

Mr. Speaker, this conference agreement on foreign assistance presents a very good bill. It is a very important component of this overall consolidated measure. It does not do everything we have been asked by the administration and others in the Congress. We have necessarily made reductions and sought efficiencies. It is a conference agreement that I think all members of this body should support. It represents a bipartisan bill that supports our President and Nation.

Before closing, I would like to mention two members of our staff who worked very hard on this bill, along with our outstanding committee staff. Rob Blair served on detail from the Department of State and put in some outstanding work for us on the HIV/AIDS and global health issues. He left our subcommittee as detailee only a few days ago and already he is sorely missed. And, I would be remiss if I did not mention Sean Mulvaney of my staff who took the lead on the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and authored the legislation in Title VI of this agreement. As he consistently demonstrates on such issues as trade and international economics, Sean brings a personal commitment and intellectual rigor and honesty to his job. This overall agreement is a better product based on Sean's professionalism and expertise.

I would, of course, also like to thank my ranking member, Mrs. LOWEY; and the minority staff, Mark Murray and Joe Weinstein; and our subcommittee's staff, Charlie Flickner, Alice Hogans, Scott Gudes and Lori Maes.

Mr. Speaker, in closing this is an important piece of legislation, with many priority initiatives of the President and the Congress. I hope that our colleagues in the other body will not delay further the delivery of these important programs, such as the effort to save the lives of those infected with HIV and AIDS.

I urge adoption of the conference report.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL).

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this appropriations bill.

While there are some positive steps taken in this bill in the area of transportation and medical facilities, once again, the public trust is being turned over whole hog to special interests. Taxpayers are being asked to subsidize important special interests, just like we did in the prescription drug bill and as we did in the energy bill. Under those pieces of legislation, taxpayers are being overcharged 40 percent by the pharmaceutical industry when we could have competitive pricing. And in the energy bill, somewhere close to $20 billion, taxpayers are subsidizing the energy industry, the most profitable industry, and underwriting their business mission. They want to drill for oil, they should do it without taxpayers subsidizing their activities.

Today, this bill is cut from the same cloth as the prescription drug and the energy legislation. This measure contains $50 million to build an indoor rain forest, $725,000 for a ''Please Touch Museum,'' $90,000 for olive fruit fly research in Montpelier, France, $75,000 for a North Pole Transit System, all this while we refuse to increase college assistance and Pell Grants for middle-class families, while we refuse to increase funding for the Leave No Child Behind in the area of education.

Sadly, for middle-class families and taxpayers, the culture of dependency, the culture of welfare has dominated these three bills, whether they be the prescription drug bill, the energy bill, or this appropriation bill. We must end welfare as we know it. The culture of dependency that has been dominated by corporate and special interests, and have turned the government, whole cloth, into a subsidy and ATM machine for the special interests.

Mr. Speaker, this is another missed opportunity to end this new form of welfare that is being abused in government. For these reasons, I urge Members to vote against this appropriations bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies.

(Mr. REGULA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge Members to support this bill, but I just want to address a few of the highlights in the Labor, HHS, and Education portions.

One, the Department of Education gets an increase of 4.8 percent which is above the overall rate of inflation, and, I think, recognizes the importance of education. Special education has an additional $200 million over the House-passed number, for a total increase of $1.2 billion over last year.

Reading programs have been increased in the overall bill, as has improving teacher quality, which I think is extremely important. We have a number of programs in here that are important from the standpoint of improving teacher quality, including increasing the number of math and science teachers. Pell Grants are maintained at the highest level ever. Impact Aid is $48 million over last year. After-school programs are $400 million over the President's request because we recognize the importance of these programs to young people. TRIO and Gear-Up are increased, Head Start is increased $148 million over last year, and we maintained comprehensive school reform. That is particularly important in addressing the dropout rate.

Community health centers are expanded. I think most of us know from experience that these are an important part of a community's health program, to have funding for these health centers, and we provide funds to expand them.

National Institutes of Health, we give them an increase of more than 7 percent if we take into account one-time costs in fiscal year 2003. The same is true for a number of activities, such as international HIV, infectious disease, homeland security biodefense. In addition, LIHEAP is fund at $1.9 billion.

I am particularly pleased that in the Labor Department, we are supporting job training programs. The worker training programs are extremely important, particularly as people shift to new types of employment. As the overall job economy changes in our society, it is important that we have a place that people can go and know that there is hope for getting a new job or getting a better job or getting an opportunity. I am glad we were able to do that in this bill.

Overall, I think the Labor-HHS portion of the bill is very responsive to the needs of our people. It is less than 4 percent overall, which is lower than the rate of inflation. It is about 3.4 percent over last year.

Mr. Speaker, given the fact that these programs are very important to people, touch the lives of 280 million Americans in one way or another, the subcommittee and the conference committee tried to address these challenges in the most effective way possible. I urge support of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, Division E of this conference agreement provides funding for a broad range of programs and activities affecting the lives of nearly every American. It provides help to workers looking for retraining or enhancing their job skills, assistance for teachers working hard to educate our children, support for families in need of health services, and funding for scientists seeking to understand and cure disease. The agreement totals $139 billion in discretionary spending, an increase of less than 4 percent over 2003.

In the area of education, I want to begin by laying out a few basic facts. Federal funds for education have more than doubled over the past 8 years. Discretionary appropriations for the U.S. Department of Education have climbed from $23 billion in FY1996 to $55.7 billion in this bill. This is an increase of 141 percent. The problem in American education is not lack of spending. It is lack of accountability for results. With the help of the reforms put in place by the No Child Left Behind Act, being implemented by good teachers and principals and caring parents all across this country, we are changing things for the better.

I will give a few examples of how this bill takes a focused approach to improving education for our Nation's children. First, funding for Special Education for disabled children is increased by $1.2 billion in this bill, bringing total funding to $10 billion. Meeting our Federal commitment in this program has been a priority for the Congress for the past 8 years, and this bill continues that progress.

Second, Title I, which helps children from low-income homes achieve academic success, is increased by nearly $700 million to a total of $12.35 billion. Coupled with the new accountability standards in No Child Left Behind, Title I has the potential to change ''business as usual'' at our public schools.

Third, reading programs, which use sound scientific evidence to help children learn to read effectively, are funded at over $1 billion, representing a tripling of these funds in just 3 years. These programs are important because we know that many children are placed in special education simply because they have not been taught to read properly. By investing in sound reading programs, we can ensure that every child gets the help to excel in reading at a young age.

TCHR QUALITY—COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL REFORM

There are many other good education programs funded in this bill. We have increased funding for training teachers, especially math and science teachers, so that our future workforce can compete in the high-tech, global marketplace. We have included funds for after school and mentoring activities. We have increased funding for student aid programs and other higher education programs to help all students have a chance to realize the dream of graduating from college. Seventy-one education programs have been increased above last year's level in this bill. At the same time, other programs have been cut or eliminated from the budget entirely because they have not proven their results or because they duplicate other programs.

Our conference bill also invests in important health service and research programs. Community health centers, which are the backbone of medical care in many communities, receive an increase of $120 million, which puts our efforts ahead of the benchmark anticipated in the President's 5-year expansion plan. Maintaining the congressional commitment to supporting the important care provided by our pediatric hospitals, the conference agreement provides a $13 million increase for the graduate medical education program for children's hospitals. To ensure that we have enough health care providers for these community clinics and hospitals, we have preserved the health professions and nurse training programs in the face of drastic reductions proposed by the administration.

I'm pleased to report that we were able to provide more than a 30 percent increase for the abstinence education program, which I know many of our Members believe is very important to strengthen their communities.

We continue our commitment to biomedical research to provide the breakthroughs necessary to improve the quality of care we can give our citizens and provide answers to families who are desperate for help. The conference agreement provides over a 3 percent increase for the National Institutes of Health. This year's increase follows the successful campaign to double funding for NIH—in the previous 5 years, the NIH appropriation jumped from $13.6 billion to almost $27 billion. I am confident that the roadmap for future NIH investments developed by the new director of NIH will mold and discipline this investment to ultimately make possible better health care for our communities.

The conference agreement includes $100 million to fund a new substance abuse treatment voucher program, Access to Recovery, which will open new pathways to people who need treatment for addiction. By investing in this new initiative, Congress is giving hope to those who are lost in the cycle of addiction. This program will increase treatment capacity and access to providers by giving vouchers to those most in need.

In the area of faith-based programming, the conference agreement provides a 30 percent increase over last year. Increasing the capacity of small faith-based groups to provide outreach and services to our communities means that more people in need will be served. Programs in this bill with a faith component provide a wide-range of services including mentoring, substance abuse treatment, refugee services, child abuse prevention, and many others.

To provide services to families and individuals who care for their elderly loved ones, $160 million is provided for the Family Caregiver Program within the Administration on Aging. This program provides information, assistance, counseling, respite and supplemental services to the millions of caregivers who are the most important long-term care resource in the country. This support allows our Nation's elderly to remain at home for as long as possible.

For the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, the agreement provides $1.9 billion. Within those funds, the conferees have included $100 million to meet the additional home energy assistance needs arising from a natural disaster or other emergency.

While much more could be said about how this bill will benefit the American people, I will stop here and simply say, it is a responsible bill, crafted during tight budget times, that tries to direct resources to programs that work for people most in need. I want to thank Chairman YOUNG for his assistance in forging this agreement. We had some tough issues to resolve with the other body. Of the nearly 600 programs and activities funded in the bill, 61 percent of them were at different levels between the two bodies. On top of that, several difficult policy items had to be resolved.

I also say to my friend, Mr. OBEY, this year has been difficult for both of us. I respect your deep commitment to the programs in this bill and understand the reason for your opposition. I trust that in the future, we can again be partners.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 12 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a pitiful Christmas tree with such a bad smell that it smells more like a garbage

truck than something appropriate to Christmas. It spectacularly insults the judgment of both the House and the Senate on a number of items.

Both Houses of the Congress voted to provide overtime protections for workers because the administration is trying to take those protections away from 8 million workers.

□ 1415

This bill, without one minute of comment in the conference committee, arbitrarily at the instruction of the Republican leadership rips out those protections.

Both Houses voted on a bipartisan basis to cap the number of television stations that could be owned by media conglomerates around the country. In the Senate, that amendment was offered by a Republican, Senator STEVENS, and in the House it was offered by me. The House and Senate adopted both of them. Despite that fact, again, without a moment's discussion in the conference committee, at the instruction of the leadership, this conference committee has ripped out the judgment of both Houses on that score; and they have come back with a nice cozy insider arrangement that protects all of the major media giants from having to do anything inconvenient. So much for pluralism and democracy.

This House voted to instruct the conferees to allow for drug reimportation. This conference committee has stripped that out. This House earlier reached a compromise in the DOD bill and in Interior on outsourcing. This conference again arbitrarily changes that bipartisan agreement.

Fifthly, there are incredible numbers of American workers who have been unemployed for an extended period of time, and yet this Congress refuses to, in this same omnibus bill, extend long-term coverage for the unemployed. This Congress ought to be ashamed of itself on that score.

This bill gratuitously amends and guts a key provision of the Clean Air Act.

And then on funding levels, this bill on education falls $7 billion below the amount promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. It falls $350 million below the Republican-passed House budget resolution in the funding level it provides for title I, which is the main education program that helps disadvantaged children to try to improve their academic performance. And it falls $1 billion below the amount that was promised in the House budget resolution for helping to educate handicapped children.

In the National Institutes of Health, the committee pretends that it is above the bill that left the House; but by the time you take into account the across-the-board cut that is required in the bill and other financial transactions, this bill is in reality $118 million below the President for the National Institutes of Health, $145 million below the House-passed bill, and $182 million below the Senate-passed bill. It on substance short-sheets and short-changes some of the most basic obligations of government. Yet this conference finds room for over 7,000 individual Member pieces of pork which cost the taxpayers over $7.5 billion.

In 1995, the last year that I chaired the Committee on Appropriations, the House provided virtually no earmarks in the Labor-Health-Education bill. There are well over 1,200 of those special earmarks this year.

In the VA–HUD bill, we have a $1.1 billion plug for projects. $1.1 billion is being spent for earmarked projects. One-quarter of the amount that is reserved for the House goes to three Members, one from New York, one from West Virginia, one from Alaska. If you take a look at the way these projects are distributed, if we distributed the earmarks evenly with every Member getting an equal amount in the Labor-Health-Education bill, for instance, there would be about $2 million per constituent provided for each Member's district. But it is not provided equally.

So if you are from Indiana, if we simply went by basic formulas, Indiana would get about $18 million in special earmarks, but it does not. In this bill, Indiana taxpayers get about 62 cents per capita by way of special earmarks. If you represent Oregon, you bring home to your constituents in this bill about 64 cents per capita in earmarks. North Carolina, you bring home about 85 cents per capita in earmarks. California, about a dollar. But in that same Labor-Health bill, if you are from Alaska, you bring home $47 per person. And then if you look at what else Alaska gets, they get $123 per person in the VA–HUD bill, they get $192 per person in the Transportation bill, and they get $220 per person from the Commerce-Justice bill. That means that special grants to Alaska wind up totaling $638 per person in comparison to the table scraps that I just explained for States like Indiana, Michigan, North Carolina, California and the like.

Mr. Speaker, the appropriations process used to be the main task of government. The main task of the Congress each year was to pass the 13 appropriation bills which funded all of the financial activities of government. The appropriation bills used to provide an opportunity for a debate on priorities. Instead, what has happened is that the number of earmarks, the number of pieces of pork have become so numerous that Members of Congress have changed their focus and today instead of asking ''Where's the beef?'' in terms of funding levels for education or for health care or for science, instead they are asking, ''Where's the pork and how much did I get?''

And what has happened is that these projects are now being used to entice Members into only asking one question: How much did I get in pork? Rather than what were we able to do to improve the program funding for education or health care or environmental protection or you name it. I think that fundamentally corrupts the appropriations process, I think it makes us all simply ATM machines rather than policymakers, and I think it does no credit whatsoever to the Congress as an institution.

I want to point out, in a troubled agency like NASA, in 1995 there were two special earmarks that were provided. Today there are 104. Over the past few years since 1998, $1.7 billion has been diverted from regular NASA appropriations, a very troubled agency with serious safety problems; $1.7 billion has been diverted from those regular programs to industrial parks or museums or other local projects.

In the Commerce-Justice bill in 1995, there were 45 projects costing the taxpayer $104 million. Last year, Mr. Speaker, there were 996, costing the taxpayer over $1 billion. There has been a 4,200 percent increase in earmarks for the Justice Department over that same period of time.

So, Mr. Speaker, I am going to urge that we vote ''no'' on this bill. This bill is a gratuitous insult to every worker who is entitled to overtime pay. It is an outrageous neglect of the workers who ought to see their elected representatives pushing for expanded unemployment compensation for the long-term unemployed. This bill falls seriously short of the funding that this Congress itself promised in the Republican budget resolution just 5 months ago for education. It falls far short of where we need to be in the area of health care. It falls half a billion dollars short of where we ought to be in providing aid to our local and State levels of government for law enforcement assistance. And I think the way in which the earmarking process has gradually moved from something which was a tolerable and understandable effort on the part of the Congress to shift a small number of financing decisions to Congress into a decision-making process in which the total dominant consideration is simply congressional pork rather than substance in programs. I think when we do that, we fundamentally erode the confidence that each individual Member has in this institution, and I think we erode the confidence that every taxpayer has in this institution. I regret that.

This bill is a spectacular example of legislation and political pressure run amuck, and I would urge a ''no'' vote on the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN), chairman of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia.

(Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, the consolidated appropriations conference report before us this afternoon also contains the fiscal year 2004 District of Columbia appropriations bill. This portion of the conference report totals $8 billion, including $545 million for Federal payments to various District programs and projects, $1.8 billion in Federal grants to District agencies, and $5.7 billion in local funds for operating expenses and capital outlays of the District government.

There is much to be proud of in this bill. I believe it reflects Congress' commitment to helping our Nation's capital. This is where we all work and where many of us live. Of the $545 million in Federal payments to various programs and projects, 68 percent of these funds, or $368 million, is for funding of the D.C. courts, public defender services, and the court services and offender supervision agency. These are District functions which we took over as a Federal responsibility in 1997.

The remaining 32 percent, or $177 million, are for programs and projects that directly benefit the District. These include the very popular tuition assistance program for District college-bound students, $17 million; $11 million to reimburse the District for added emergency planning and security costs related to the presence of the Federal Government in the District; $40 million for a three-prong school choice program, promises we delivered upon; $42 million for capital development projects in the District; $5 million for the Anacostia waterfront; $4.5 million for public school facility improvements; and $14 million to improve foster care in the District. These are all initiatives we can be proud of as we vote in favor of this bill this afternoon. I ask that Members support the overall omnibus.

In particular, I want to highlight the funding level for school choice.

When the District of Columbia appropriations bill was on the House floor back in September, there was much criticism that the bill was walking away from the District's request of additional funding for public schools and public charter schools.

While that was true at the time due to the fiscal constraints of the bill, I stated then and at every opportunity after that it was not my intention that that be the case when we come out of conference with the Senate. I fully supported the Mayor's approach and worked with Chairman YOUNG towards a conference allocation that was sufficient to address all three sectors of education in the city. The conference agreement reflects this commitment and provides $13 million for each of the three sectors of education the District leaders requested—scholarships, public schools, and charter schools. We need to provide parents greater choices for parents and their children.

In summary, the fiscal year 2004 District of Columbia Appropriations division is fiscally responsible and balanced and deserves bipartisan support.

I thank Chairman YOUNG for his leadership through a difficult conference.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, let me thank my colleague and the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations for yielding me the time and congratulate him and all of his committee members on a job well done. We can look at a lot of the things that we do around here as though it were a half a glass of water. We just heard a description of the bill from our colleague and friend from Wisconsin describing the glass half empty. I would suggest to all of you that we should really look at this bill today before us as a glass that is half full. The committee, under very difficult circumstances, had a lot of decisions to make; and I think they have made them very well.

In the area of education, an area that I am very interested in as the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, when we passed the No Child Left Behind Act in a broad bipartisan way, our commitment was to adequately fund the reforms in education. There was never any discussion about fully funding to the authorized levels. The commitment was to adequately fund our efforts to renew American education.

□ 1430

In this bill we continue that effort. In the area of Title I, we increase Title I spending by $700 million to $12.4 billion annually. This is more in the last 2 years than we saw in 8 years under former President Clinton in terms of increases to Title I. We should be very proud of that commitment.

Another major area of our concern in education comes to children with special needs, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, where we attempt to fund a portion of the cost for those students that have special needs in our local schools. Congress has been involved in this since 1975, and from 1975 to 1995, as this chart will show, we move spending from zero to about just a little over $3 billion. And since 1995, we are not only just shy of $10 billion, but in this conference agreement the number is now $10.1 billion; $10.1 billion, over a 300 percent increase since 1995. That is something that I think this Congress ought to be very proud of.

Let me make one other point about the bill we have before us. And the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) who just spoke, who chairs the District of Columbia Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, and that is the effort to help children in the District of Columbia who are stuck in very bad schools, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) and I worked diligently over the course of this year to help the Mayor and the School Board who requested our help in helping children that were stuck in failing schools. Of all the big urban systems around the country that have problems, and there are a lot of them, there is none that have bigger problems than the schools right here in the District of Columbia. The children here deserve as good a shot at an education as the children in our own districts. And for those children who are trapped in very bad schools, we believe they ought to have some choice. They ought to have a chance to go to a real school and get a real education. And the $13 million that is in this bill will help about 1,700 students here in the District of Columbia be able to choose a school of their choice, and I do believe this is good for those children, and it will be good for the DC schools because when we bring competition into where children can actually go to school, we have seen the public schools do improve. And I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), and certainly, again, I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and his cardinals and the members of his committee for a job well done.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, once again we have heard the gentleman in the well, on behalf of the Republican Party, try to make the case that somehow the Republican Party was responsible for the education budget increases of the last 2 years. For the Republicans to take credit for increases in education spending over the last 8 years, Mr. Speaker, is like Saddam Hussein taking credit for providing the Third Infantry Division safe passage to Baghdad.

The fact is that the majority party leadership fought every step of the way to prevent us from being able to eventually add the $19 billion in education funding that we provided, because of Democratic pressure over the past 8 years, $19 billion above the amount that the Republicans tried to put in their own education bill when those bills were before the House.

The Republican Party leadership fought us every step of the way. That increase in $19 billion happened over their dead bodies, politically speaking, and in spite of every trick that their leadership could concoct to stop it from happening. They refused to give the subcommittees an allocation that would allow meaningful increases. They broke every arm on their side of the aisle to force people to vote for lower funding levels when the bills went to the floor. When that technique failed, they refused to allow the bills to be considered on the floor. When that did not work, and when they finally had to go to conference, and often they had the conference legislation that had never even been considered in the House because of the inadequacy of their allocation, they then blocked the conferees from reaching agreement between the two Houses because the funding levels for education would be too high in their judgment. They relented only at the very last minute

when conceding on education funding that increases that we were asking for was the only way to end the session and get the Congress out of town.

On one occasion they even agreed to allow a funding level for education to be reported out of the conference and then decided they could not tolerate such a high level of support and forced the bill back into conference to strip out increases in education funding. For the Republican Party members of this House to claim that somehow they were responsible for those education budget increases, makes Pinocchio look like Honest Abe by comparison. The credibility gap that we have on the Republican side of the aisle has grown faster than Pinocchio's nose. So I just want to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that it is crocodile tears to hear the Republicans profess that they really are friends of education.

I also would like to point out one other thing, a newspaper ad which appeared in the Washington Post today. It reads ''The most outrageous Christmas list in America.'' It says ''It's called the omnibus. No, it's not Santa's sleigh, but it is laden with presents. It's coming to Washington D.C. this week. And you better believe the Bush Administration's best friends have front row seats.

''Having failed to pass seven of the Federal Government's 13 budget bills, the White House and Republican congressional leaders have rolled them all into one massive package dubbed 'the omnibus.'

''So who does President Bush think is naughty and nice? Apparently no one is more deserving than Rupert Murdoch and his fellow network moguls. Despite the wishes of Congress and the vast majority of Americans, the President insists the omnibus include a relaxation of media antitrust rules. Now, the biggest networks will be able to acquire more of the hugely profitable local stations they desire.

''American workers, on the other hand, must have been very naughty. The omnibus bill eliminates extended unemployment benefits for millions of jobless. And 8 million workers who currently have Federal overtime protection lose their right to extra pay for those extra hours.''

That is the problem with this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I urge a ''no'' vote.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have only myself left for a brief statement and the majority leader will close for our side.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman has two remaining speakers, I would ask him to use one of them now, and then I will close.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

I extend best holiday greetings and a Merry Christmas to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and to say what a pleasure it is to work with him. He is an honorable opponent. We have many disagreements, but we work together for what we think is the best interest of country and the institution of the House and the Committee on Appropriations. His staff and our staff worked together extremely well. Jim Dyer, as our clerk and chief of staff, and Scott Lilly on the gentleman from Wisconsin's (Mr. OBEY) side worked together very well, and we have a lot of staff and they do work together very well. We try to deal with our differences in a very respectful manner, and I think that the actions over the years have proved that. So I wish all of our colleagues a very Merry Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, and I hope that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) would conclude, yield back his time, and then we will close.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman has one remaining speaker?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the majority leader, and I will close.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I am waiting until the gentleman has one speaker. He does not have the right to two closing speeches. I have got the right to have the second to the last speech.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I understand the gentleman indicates he has two remaining speakers; so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, to accommodate the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

The conference report before us, one of the last bills that the House will pass before we recess for the year, in my opinion, is a fitting end to the legislative session. This omnibus represents the values of discipline, innovation, and conviction we all treasure, values also embodied in the man that we have most to thank for it, and that is the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) of the Committee on Appropriations.

When we pass this bill this afternoon, we will have funded vital priorities, made difficult and important choices, and reaffirmed our commitment to fiscal discipline. For a year that began with a struggling economy and pressing needs at home and abroad, that we have held the growth of discretionary spending to 3 percent is a titanic achievement in fiscal restraint.

I know there has been a lot written, most of it false, about the spending habits of this body. But we have to look at what is going on here. Yes, spending has been out of control for a while, but we started ratcheting it down and we have ratcheted down, ratcheted down to where spending for 2004 will have an increase of only 3 percent. That is the lowest increase in spending in the 9 years we have been in the majority. I think that is significant and important, and we have the Committee on Appropriations, the chairman, to thank for that.

And as far as the projects and earmarks are concerned, they cannot on the one hand decry the fact that they are not getting projects and earmarks and on the other hand argue that this bill is full of projects and earmarks and urge people to oppose the bill because it has earmarks. There is a fundamental difference in how we approach earmarks that has been going on for the last few years. We learned early on in the majority, when we had a Democratic President, that the Congress, being the third branch of government, had the right to direct spending to our districts, rather than wait on some bureaucrat to decide whether it was a useful project or not. The same is going on now. This Congress can state, through earmarks, the importance of spending in certain parts of the country and in our districts.

I will give the Members a perfect example in this bill. There is money that goes to M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, Texas. Some may call that pork, but I will tell the Members what, the thousands of people that are relying on M.D. Anderson to cure them of their cancer do not think of that earmark as pork. They think it is real, it is important, it is important for their health, and it is important for their family and the length of time that they may be on this earth. It is not pork. It is an earmark. And they do not have to wait around for some bureaucrat to wait around and decide whether it is important or not. It is in the bill. The Congress is stating that that money should go to M.D. Anderson as a vital expenditure of taxpayers' money. There are all kinds of stories like that all over this country. And many Members have stood up for the good spending that they think is important in their districts. So I am not ashamed of the fact that there are earmarks in this bill.

Secondly, the real opposition is coming because there is not enough spending, and I say to my colleagues if they want to show real fiscal restraint, we are doing it here in this bill, and we are doing it within the budget that we passed this year. This bill is within the budget we passed. Actually, the Medicare bill, the $400 billion prescription drug benefit, is within the budget that we passed. And it was an agreement between the House and the Senate and the White House to hold the line on spending, and we have done it. Yet opposition is decrying the fact that we are not spending enough. And if they were in charge, they would be spending much more than what we are spending in this omnibus bill. So I am not ashamed of the spending. I think the priorities were set and set well, and I give credit to the appropriators and the hard work that they have done.

□ 1445

But this bill is a success for this House and the American people, not

only for the money it does not spend, but the money it does spend. Included in all the pages of numbers and dollar signs, there are real programs that will benefit real people.

First and foremost, the omnibus includes funding for a school choice initiative in Washington, D.C. Thanks to this program, 1,700 low-income children will be given a chance finally to attend schools that their parents choose, just like children in higher tax brackets always have. District children who have today been held captive by failed schools and bureaucrats will be given a chance to obtain the freedom, hope, and opportunity that a good education provides all of us.

This bill also helps America's veterans to the tune of $2.9 billion in a funding increase in veterans medical benefits over last year. I thank the appropriators for working with the veterans community to meet this very fundamental obligation.

I also want to thank negotiators for acknowledging and maintaining America's national commitment to defend the dignity of human life with the inclusion of the amendment of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) banning the patenting of human organisms.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is full of similar provisions, sound, disciplined policies, funded at responsible, reasonable levels. It is a spending bill worthy of the national challenges it meets, and I urge all Members to support its passage today.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3⅓ minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I simply want to say that I agree very much with the remarks of the distinguished majority leader that this legislation is a fitting close to this session, because this congressional session has been marked from start to finish with an iron-hard determination to do what was necessary to deliver the most to those who have the most in this society.

We started with tax cuts which aimed a huge percentage of the benefits to those who are most well-off in our society, giving huge benefits to the most well-off 1 percent who earn more than $330,000 a year. Yet this same Congress denied tax cuts to persons whose income is so limited that they had to apply for the Earned Income Tax Credit. They were not allowed to come to the table to get their share of the tax cut.

This is the same Congress which, even as it walks out the door, having provided in the energy bill fiscal health to companies like Hooters, this is the same Congress that now says, ''Oh, but, by the way, no, we will not provide a last-minute bit of help to workers who have been out of work for an extended period of time.'' They refuse to allow States to provide additional unemployment compensation for the long-term unemployed.

This truly is a fitting close to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, which we have sadly seen since the beginning of January.

With respect to the gentleman's comments about this Congress being a paragon of fiscal responsibility and virtue, I simply want to announce that I am perfectly willing right here and now to give the majority leader the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, because this is the same Congress and this is the same White House that has shown so much fiscal responsibility that in 3 short years they have taken us from a $230 billion surplus to a record $375 billion-plus deficit. That is some fiscal responsibility. I think Mr. Webster would weep if we asked him to put that definition in the dictionary.

I want to say one more time, Mr. Speaker, with all of the gifts that are given in the energy bill to the special interests, with all of the gifts that are given in this bill to many special interests throughout the land, with all of the gifts that were given to special interests in the tax bill, it seems to me that we could at least provide some additional benefits to the long-term unemployed. But, no, no, no, that does not fit in the Christmas plans for the Scrooges who are running the other party on the other side of the aisle.

The motto for this Congress when it comes to working people ought to be ''Bah, humbug,'' because that is what the record looks like.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a ''no'' vote.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the following article from the December 8 edition of the National Journal's Congress Daily AM bulletin, which comments on the choice of the Appropriation process by the majority party.

[From the Congress Daily AM, Dec. 8, 2003]

THE TRIUMPH OF PETTINESS

(By David Hess)

The partisan bitterness that has suffused Congress over the past decade has reached a new level. Democrats have long grumbled about power-mad Republicans who will stoop to anything to exert their will. Republicans grouse about fault-finding, obstructionist Democrats and speak of getting even for long-ago Democratic abuses. But up to this point, in the rough and tumble of parliamentary skirmishing, both sides have largely refrained from sweeping, systematic legislative blackmail.

Now the wraps are off even that. Furious about opposition to key spending bills, Republican leaders have dropped the hammer on hometown projects—known as ''earmarks''—sponsored mostly by Democrats but also by some Republicans who have balked at runaway spending in some of the bills.

The first round of earmark trashing came in a big bill funding the Labor Department and HHS; that legislation contains about $180 million for local projects. The second came when the GOP leadership wreaked vengeance on 100 members of both parties who voted last summer against the VA–HUD spending bill; approximately $750 million in earmarks are in that legislation. After some finagling, House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee ranking member David Obey, D–Wis., managed to restore about $20 million worth of Democrats' projects and program enhancements in the Labor-HHS spending bill. But major damage to the House's sense of comity had been done.

''If they don't support the bills [in committee and on the floor], then they shouldn't expect to get their projects,'' said Rep. Ralph Regula, R–Ohio, a senior member of the House who chairs the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee.

Coming from regula—who for 40 years has served with distinction from the Ohio General Assembly to the U.S. House and enjoys a reputation as a fair and decent legislator—that was a stunning remark. For it bespeaks a vindictive attitude, prevalent now in the House in both parties, that poisons the diminishing fount of civility in an institution at its best when each party respects the other's right to act in principled opposition—without fear of petty retribution—on the issues of the times.

Beyond that, this brand of political blackmail is misguided. It is the scattershot tactic of ruthless partisans lashing out in fury to inflict damage on critics who have every right—if not the duty to their constituents' interests—to express their criticism of policy choices. And who exactly is being punished? Certainly not the members who dared oppose the legislation on policy grounds. The real victims are the folks back home, Republicans as well as Democrats and independents, taxpayers all, who stand to benefit from the earmarked projects.

In Racine, Wis., for example, citizens will go without a $400,000 water-treatment process to screen out a dangerous pathogen, cryptosporidium, which causes serious and even lethal intestinal disease. Rep. Paul Ryan, R–Wisc., the project's sponsor, had voted against the FY04 VA–HUD bill because it cut spending for veterans below the amount provided in the Republicans' budget resolution.

Then there's the case of Rep. Maurice Hinchey, D–N.Y., a member of the Appropriations Committee, who in last year's Labor-HHS spending bill managed to secure funding for four projects—two for hospitals, two for universities—worth a total of $1.3 billion. This year he voted against both the Labor-HHS and VA–HUD bills, on policy grounds, when they reached the House floor. He paid a stiff price for his opposition votes. Only one project, $150,000 in the Labor-HHS bill to expand an emergency room in Newburgh's St. Luke's Hospital, made the cut. Hinchey is not even certain it would have survived, had New York's senators not supported the project.

The lame excuse is often made that the exigencies of party discipline require stern measures to whip the members into line. But what about the power of good policy ideas and moral suasion to convince, rather than bludgeon, balky members who harbor reasonable doubts about the impact of pending legislation on their districts? Or the effect on principled advocates, liberal and conservative alike, who oppose on deeply felt philosophical grounds the options dictated by party leaders? Are the leaders so hell-bent on winning they must resort to strong-arm tactics, rather than persuasion and the often-small compromises that win over reluctant members?

In reflecting on the head-bashing partisanship so manifest in Congress, this writer wonders what his later mother—a stalwart, lifelong Republican—would have thought about such behavior by the leaders of her party. The GOP embodied the values she held dear: individualism, self-dependence, fiscal integrity, personal enterprise, fair play and charity for the worthy. She would have given short shrift to the small-minded, mean-spirited, punitive and divisive tactics this sort of blackmail entails.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, again I appreciate the opportunity to work with the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), as we bring closure to these final seven appropriations bills which the House had already passed once, as I have said before.

There are several important issues: one, as the majority leader said, is we are within the budget. There are a lot of good increases that we have called attention to, in health care, in education, in veterans care, in embassy security, in counterterrorism activities and all. But we offset those increases with rescissions, so that we were able to stay within the budget.

This is a must-pass bill. Appropriations bills have to pass. They are about the only bills here that have to pass. That is why sometimes they attract some riders that actually cause us more problems in negotiations than the appropriations bills themselves. But it is a give-and-take. Republicans and Democrats in the House, Republicans and Democrats in the Senate, leadership of both parties, the administration, the President, we brought all of those divergent groups together and we came up with a package, and that is what is before us today.

For those who are concerned that we did not spend enough money, we did; but we offset. We could have spent more, because we had requests from Members for over $50 billion worth of Member-adds. For those fiscal conservatives in our body, we found a way to say no to almost all of those requests, the $50 billion. But we bring about as good a fiscally conservative bill that meets the needs of the country as we possibly could.

So, again, Mr. Speaker, as we get ready to pass this bill and hope and pray that the other body will see fit to do similar so that our agencies can get about their business, I want to thank you for the exemplary way in which you conducted this session today, I want to wish you a Merry Christmas, and I want to wish all the Members a Merry Christmas. We look forward to seeing you next year, when we start this appropriations process all over again.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a ''yes'' vote.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the conference report on H.R. 2673. This omnibus appropriations bill, which was thrown together at the last minute, underfunds important programs and proposes dangerous new policies. As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, I would like to detail my many concerns with this legislation.

LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS

The conference report would significantly underfund Federal grants for enhanced law enforcement efforts, for both state and local law enforcement assistance and the Community Oriented Policing Services program (''COPS''). For instance, with respect to actual state and local law enforcement assistance grants (Local Law Enforcement Block Grants, State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, Byrne Grants, Justice Assistance Grants, drug courts, etc.), the Justice Department received $2 billion. This conference report would provide only $1.3 billion, a drastic cut of $700 million (35 percent). This means that important programs like police block grants, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Project ChildSafe, and others will be slashed.

Developed by the Clinton Administration in 1994, COPS has community policing as its cornerstone; police officers concentrate on specific neighborhoods and gain the trust of community residents to prevent and solve crimes. Targeting youth violence has been a major priority for COPS; instead of locking up juveniles after they have committed offenses, the presence of cops on the beat and in schools helps to keep them out of trouble in the first place. In addition to putting cops on the street and in schools, the COPS program has reduced domestic violence, gang violence, and drug-related crimes by helping to create and organize community groups, victims' groups, treatment centers, and community police in various regions around the country. It is also important to note that local law enforcement is a critical component in the war on terrorism; local police in the everyday course of patrol may be the first to learn about potential terrorist acts or terrorists.

Its success has led to COPS being praised by law enforcement and politicians on both sides of the aisle. Fraternal Order of Police, the largest law enforcement organization in the United States, has stated that ''[COPS] is a program that works and one that has had a positive impact on our nation today.'' Also, during his confirmation hearings, Attorney General John Ashcroft promised to continue supporting COPS and, as a Senator, cosponsored legislation to reauthorize it. Finally, Representative JIM KOLBE, a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce-Justice-State-Judiciary, has noted that COPS ''has always played a vital role in community safety and [he was] glad to see Federal money funding such a position.'' This is why it should not be surprising that, initially intended to fund 100,000 officers, the program funded 116,573 officers in September 2002 alone.

The Republican leadership, however, refuses to acknowledge the successes of COPS. Overall, this bill provides $756 million for COPS, a drastic cut from the FY03 level of $978 million. More specifically, the conference report provides only $120 million for the hiring of officers, which is the program's most important component; in FY03, this portion received $199 million (the Senate bill would have given $200 million for hiring). In the September 2003 issue of Washington Monthly, the Chief of the Richmond Police Department, Andre Parker, said he was ''dismayed at the current Administration's attitude toward local law enforcement. . . . [It] has not seemed to grasp what we face.'' It is clear that the Republicans are giving law enforcement and community policing the short shrift.

If we take away funds now, our local communities who have used COPS money to hire police officers will be devastated; many already are hard-pressed financially because of the slowdown in the economy. So there is no question in my mind that reducing funds will lead to police layoffs and an increase in the cycle on crime and violence.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

The conference report also would stifle research on life-saving drugs and treatments. This is because of the report includes an amendment by Representative DAVE WELDON that prohibits the PTO from issuing patents ''encompassing or directed to'' human organisms (section 634 of Division B). While this provision has been marketed as targeted toward human cloning, it would have a much broader effect.

Arguably, any medical treatment is ''directed to or encompasses'' human organisms. This is broad and vague prohibition could prevent patents on, and thus discourage research into, drugs and treatments for Alzheimer's, in vitro fertilization, and virtually any other area of medicine that pertains to the human body. This poorly-drafted provision is an example of why Congress should not legislate on medical practices and should not make important policy decisions without the input of experts in the field.

GUN SAFETY

The Republican leadership also caved to the gun industry by preventing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and explosives (''ATF'') from enforcing gun safety laws. For instance, the conference report includes proposals from Representative TODD TIAHRT that:

Impose a 24-hour limit on destruction of records of approved firearm purchases (section 618 of Division B). The current rule permits the retention of records for 90 days. The new proposal would undermine audits of the system to ensure it is working properly and undermine the ability to retrieve firearms that have been transferred to criminals and other prohibited owners. A June 2002 study by the General Accounting Office stated that 288 of the 235 (97 percent) firearm retrievals initiated during the first 6 months of the current 90-day rule could not have been done under a 24-hour rule; in other words, the new rule would permit 228 prohibited persons (i.e. felons, domestic violence misdemeanants, fugitives) to keep their illegal guns.

Prohibit the ATF from releasing to the public information regarding sales and dispositions of firearms kept by gun dealers and manufacturers, as well as any records of multiple handgun sales (where 2 or more handguns are sold to the same buyer within 5 days) or gun tracing information reported to ATF (title I of Division B). Community residents no longer would be aware of neighbors stockpiling mass quantities of firearms.

Prohibit ATF from requiring dealers to provide a physical inventory (title I of Division B). This precludes the ATF from finalizing a rule it proposed in August 2000 to require annual inventories. The purpose of the proposed rule was to allow dealers to identify missing firearms and report them as such. Had the ATF's proposal been in effect, we could have avoided the situation that occurred in the Washington, DC, sniper case where Bull's Eye Shooter Supply (the dealer from whom the snipers allegedly stole an assault rifle) asserted they did not know the gun was stolen until the ATF traced it to the store.

Prevent ATF from computerizing records of gun dealers who go out of business (title I of Division B). Computerized records are critical with respect to being able to trace guns used in crimes. As a result of this amendment, a gun used in one crime could not be connected to another crime; depriving law enforcement of valuable evidence.

In essence, the conference report would reverse Clinton Administration policies that led to a substantial decrease in the number of gun

dealers from 245,000 in 1994 to 58,500 now. By making it easier to be a gun dealer, the conference report would make gun shops as prevalent as 7–Eleven; there would be one on every corner in every neighborhood in America, open all day and night. Moreover, as Kristen Rand, Legislative Director of the Violence Policy Center, noted on July 23, 2003, ''Representative TIAHRT's proposal would aid criminal gun traffickers and at the same time devastate ATF's already weak oversight authority.'' Make no mistake about it, the only winners under this proposal are criminals and the NRA.

Beyond these matters relating to Judiciary Committee jurisdiction, I am troubled by the conference reports treatment of other programs and initiatives important to everyday Americans.

In a reversal of prior votes of the House and Senate, the conference report would encourage media monopolies. In June 2003, the Federal Communications Commission raised the broadcast ownership cap from 35 percent of the national market to 45 percent of the market. This decision was widely criticized by Congress and the public, so much so that the House passed by a vote of 400–21 an appropriations bill that prevented the FCC from increasing the 35 percent cap. Similarly, the Senate Appropriations agreed by a vote of 29–0 to overturn the FCC decision, using an appropriations bill to retain the cap at 35 percent. Despite these prior votes, the Republican's engaged in backroom dealing to craft a conference report that lifts the cap to 39 percent (section 629 of Division B). This simply is bad policy that will encourage consolidation and discourage the diversity of voices in the media that drives our democracy.

The legislation fails to block a Labor Department regulation that would deny overtime pay to approximately 8 million workers across the country. Both the House and Senate had agreed to prevent this anti-worker provision from becoming effective, but the Republican leadership has turned its back on working Americans.

The House had agreed to permit drug reimportation so Americans with medical needs could reap the benefits of lower drug costs. By reneging on this promise, the Republican leadership is putting the needs of billion dollar corporations ahead of the needs of the sick.

In a blow to public education and home rule, the Republican leadership is authorizing funds for a school voucher program for the District of Colombia. This program will drain needed funds from already-suffering public schools, depriving school-aged children of the education they need and deserve.

Despite public rhetoric about how much it supports our troops, the Republican leadership thinks nothing of our men and women in uniform when they return from the front. The conference report provides veterans' medical programs with $700 million less than the Republican leadership promised in the budget resolution and $900 million less than the veterans groups had sought.

Continuing the Majority's attack on the environment, the Republican leadership weakens the Clean Air Act and prevents 49 states (all except California) from adopting stricter emissions control laws for small engines.

Despite public statements by the President and congressional leaders to support AIDS prevention and treatment, the conference report actually provides less money for AIDS programs than the President's request and other bills. The report requires the National Institutes of Health (''NIH'') to return to the treasury a large portion of non-research funds. As a result, the NIH receives $118 million less than the President's request, $145 million less than the House level, and $182 million less than the Senate level. This translates into an actual cut from current funding levels for AIDS programs.

The Bush Administration touted its ''No Child Left Behind'' package and signed it with great fanfare; not surprisingly, it sought virtually no funds for the program in its next budget. Now, the conference report gives $24.5 billion, which is $7.8 billion lower than the amount authorized in the actual bill. This gives schools just enough money to cover inflation and fails to give funding to cover costs incurred in complying with Federal mandates.

The Republican leadership claims to be concerned about domestic security, but now it underfunds the very Department created to provide that security. For example, the 0.59 percent across-the-board budget cut applies to the Department of Homeland Security, such that the planned increase for border protection will have to be cut by two-thirds.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this conference report.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the conference report on H.R. 2673. Had this been the product of the appropriations committees of the two chambers, I would gladly lend my support to the passage of this funding bill. But the meddling of the Republican Leadership and administration that wants what it wants when it wants it made for legislative product that is not worthy of support.

When I came to Congress in 1996, I made a commitment to my Michigan constituents to put people first. This bill fails to meet that test. This bill fails that test, and I would like to explain my reasons for opposing its passage.

H.R. 2673 excludes a provision to that would prohibit the Department of Labor from issuing a regulation denying overtime pay to more than 8 million workers. The provision to protect the pay of middle-income working Americans was agreed to by a majority of both bodies, and the Republican Leadership removed this provision.

The bill shortchanges education. It provides $39 million less for education than what the House originally passed, after subtracting $318 million in earmarked projects added in conference. The bill does not meet the promises of the ''No Child Left Behind Act''—providing $7.8 billion less than was promised. It shortchanges help with the basics of math and reading by $6.2 billion when compared to the level promised in No Child Left Behind, leaving more than 2 million children behind. It also shortchanges funding for after-school centers by $751 million.

The measure includes $14 million for a new private school voucher program for the District of Columbia. Private school vouchers drain much-needed funding away from public education where all children can benefit.

This funding bill funds state and local law enforcement at $500 million below the level funded last year, even though state and local law enforcement are on the frontlines in keeping our communities safe.

The conference agreement abandoned the bipartisan agreement between both chambers of Congress to block the Federal Communications Commission regulations permitting broadcast networks to expand. The FCC issued rules raising the ceiling on media ownership from 35 to 45 percent. Even though House and Senate conferees originally agreed to keeping the current (35 percent) limit, the White House forced a compromise at 39 percent, which would accommodate to giant media interests.

The bill funds the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) at just $39 million, a sharp decrease from the fiscal year 2003 level of $106 million. The MEP offers small manufacturers a range of services from plant modernization to employee training. These modernization efforts help our beleaguered small and mid-sized American manufacturers stay competitive.

This bill forgets about the unemployed in America. Long-term unemployment in November surpassed a 20-year high. Two million Americans remain out of work and have been out of work for over six months. But the majority in this Chamber is ignoring the calls of the jobless for extending unemployment insurance benefits. Congress will be leaving town this week and after December 21, a half a million workers who are jobless through no fault of their own will lose unemployment benefits.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing the passage of this bill.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I must express my extreme disappointment and dismay at the amount of funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY2004 for the health care of our nation's veterans.

For almost an entire year, the Members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee (both Democratic and Republican) have been fighting for a budget that is worthy of our veterans. The $26.3 billion that is included for the FY2004 VA Medical Care Budget in this appropriations bill is approaching a billion less than the figure recommended by the House VA Committee and by the Independent Budget, the budget that is drafted by veterans. One billion dollars would fund approximately 5000 doctors or 10,000 nurses or 3 million additional outpatient visits.

As many of you know, VA Secretary Anthony Principi has been forced, because of lack of funds, to refuse enrollment to many veterans in the VA health care system. Waiting lists for health care appointments include tens of thousands of veterans who are waiting more than six months for their first health care appointment at the VA. This is not the message that we want to send to our troops who are fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq. Now, at this time more than ever, we must place veterans as a top priority. This appropriations bill does not do that.

Veterans' health care is one of our most important funding issues. We hope and pray that we do not have veterans from the current conflict who become ill with Gulf War illnesses. But we must be prepared for that possibility. We must also not forget the warriors of the first Gulf War who are sick and still waiting to learn the cause and the cure for their illnesses. We must be ready to give treatment and care to all the men and women who have sacrificed for our country. We cannot guarantee that with the budget figures in this bill.

It is time to stop this frustrating and ineffective funding for veterans' health care. It is time to change the process of funding VA medical

care. Congressman LANE EVANS, Ranking Democratic Member of the House VA Committee, has introduced a bill (H.R. 2318), which I have co-sponsored, to automatically increase VA health care funding each year to accommodate inflation and new enrollees. We must change from our current practice of discretionary funding for VA health care to mandatory (or assured) funding, the way we fund many other veterans' benefits. That change would do away with the fight we have to make each year in Congress for our veterans—a fight that, unfortunately, we often end up losing.

We have the resources. It is a question of priorities. It is a question of will. Join me in vowing that this will be the last year we end up with less money than is needed for veterans' health care. Join me in pushing for passage of assured funding for our nation's veterans.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge my colleagues to vote against the Conference Report on the Fiscal Year 2004 Consolidated Appropriations bill.

This Conference Report does a disservice to our constituents and to our country's democratic principles because it fails to respect the votes of Members of Congress and abuses the appropriations process.

For example:

It weakens the prohibition against the new FCC media ownership rules, despite the fact that stronger restrictions were agreed to by both Houses of Congress.

It allows the Labor Department's new overtime regulations to go forward, flouting the will of the House and Senate and jeopardizing overtime pay for over 8 million workers.

It underfunds the No Child Left Behind Act by $8 billion.

Net funding for the NIH is $145 million less than passed by the House and $182 million less than the Senate supported.

This bill fails in other important ways:

It cuts funds for state and local law enforcement by $500 million.

It implements a controversial school voucher program in the District of Columbia.

It provides $230 million less for veterans' benefits than Republicans have promised.

It rescinds $1.8 billion in appropriations—largely from the Department of Homeland Security.

Because of these and many other serious flaws, I cannot in good conscience support this bill and I urge my colleagues to oppose the Conference Report. We could be doing so much more for our country.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to what I believe to have been the unwarranted omission of language from the Omnibus Appropriations Conference Report, originally included in the Senate version of the Agriculture Appropriations bill, that would have designated funds to assist electric ratepayers on the Island of Kaua'i, Hawai'i.

The Rural Community Advancement Program in Division A of the Omnibus Conference Report contained a directive to the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grant assistance to the not-for-profit, consumer-owned Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative under the ''Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Costs Grants Account''.

The Senate language was designed to provide a small amount of vitally needed assistance to families and small businesses on this economically challenged island. The poverty rate on Kaua'i runs at about twenty (20) percent. While unemployment has slightly declined to a somewhat low of 5.3 percent, the jobs available are overwhelmingly very low-paying jobs. With a current electric rate of nearly 27 cents per kilowatt hour, many among the ''working poor'' face a daily decision whether to turn on a few lights, or put food on the table for their family.

Twenty-seven cents per KWh is the highest cost for electricity anywhere in the United States except for two or three very small, remote villages in Alaska. A very large portion of families on Kaua'i must actually rely on the Food Bank to adequately feed their families.

The Senate provision would simply have designated, from within funds otherwise appropriated for the High Energy Costs Grants Account, an amount to offset the expenses incurred recently when island residents took over the utility system as a means to help gradually lower the punishing electric costs being charged by an off-island investor-owned company.

The Senate provision for the cooperative on Kaua'i was just one of several items dropped from the final conference agreement. I understand that the conference committee took a position against hard earmarked projects, relying instead on the Secretary to hopefully recognize the needs and make these allocations within the existing programs at the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, this language would have guaranteed an enormous impact on the Kaua'i community, and I am very concerned that it was not included in the measure before us today. I can only hope that the Secretary does in fact heed the intent of this language, and I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and both sides of the Capitol to assure my constituents this badly-needed relief.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, although I have objections to the overall bill and I oppose the overall conference report on H.R. 2673, the Consolidated Appropriation Act 2004, I rise today to support the additional $1 billion dollars in funding that has been included in the Omnibus spending bill for the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). This funding is in addition to the $500 million request by the President and approved by the House in the Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act of 2004 section of this Omnibus spending bill.

HAVA was signed by the President over a year ago in response to the frustrations experienced by both voters and candidates during the 2000 election cycle. Reportedly, between four to six million Americans went to the polls in November 2000 and for a variety of reasons they were denied their right to vote and to have their vote counted. The causes for this denial of democracy range from faulty machinery to wrongful purges from voter lists to poorly designed ballots.

Thanks to the leadership of the bill's cosponsors, my House Administration colleague, Chairman BOB NEY, and former Ranking Member STENY HOYER, with HAVA we now have the foundation for a much more efficient voting system, and the much needed increase in funding over the $500 million requested by the President necessary for its full implementation.

The additional funding for HAVA will be used to educate voters about voting procedures as well as about their rights; make polling places more accessible to people with disabilities; create statewide voter registration databases that can be more effectively managed and updated; improve ballot review procedures, allowing voters to ensure that the ballots they cast are accurate; and create provisional balloting systems to guarantee that no eligible voter is ever turned away at the polls.

Lastly, I would like to commend the chief sponsors of HAVA in the Senate, Senators CHRIS DODD (D–CT) and MITCH MCCONNELL (R–KY), for their bipartisan efforts to secure the additional funding in the other body. But the fight is far from over; the Senate needs to confirm the four nominees chosen to run the new Election Assistance Commission (EAC). In addition to being charged with overseeing the full implementation of HAVAs, the EAC will function as the clearinghouse for information on election management. This information will be necessary to ensure that the 2004 election cycle runs smoothly, and I would urge the other body to act on these critical nominations as quickly as possible.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in reluctant support of the omnibus appropriations bill. While there were several important reasons for me to vote in favor of this legislations, this bill also had several deep flaws.

I would like to point to several positive items that I have worked for and was able to achieve through this appropriations bill. The bill contains a $50 million increase for the Department of Education's Math and Science Partnerships, which will help bring universities and the private sector together with local school teachers to provide long term teacher training. I hope this will put us on the path of reaching the authorized level of $400 million.

I am also glad to see that the conferees retained a version of the Corzine amendment, which would restore cuts in student aid by blocking the implementation of recent Department of Education changes to financial aid eligibility formulas. The Department's changes would have drastically increased the expected family contributions by underestimating their level of state and local tax payments. In fact, the Department of Education recently determined that the changes in the state and local tax allowances will cause 84,000 students to lose their Pell Grants entirely, and will reduce Pell Grants overall by $270 million. I was happy to work with Congressman RICK KELLER and seventy-five other Members of Congress on a letter to Labor-HHS conferees supporting the Corzine amendment freezing those changes.

I am grateful that the conferees included language to begin a program intended to provide the public with science-based evidence on the safety of foods produced with biotechnology for human consumption.

I have fought on behalf of New Jersey's birth defects registry program and led a bipartisan effort by our delegation to increase funding for birth defects registries. I am therefore pleased to see that this bill does increase the overall level of birth defects funding through the CDC. Funding for birth defects is now $113 million, a rather sizeable increase of $15 million from the previous fiscal year and $26 million over the Administration's budget request.

The bill also provides $1.225 billion for Amtrak, which provides critical rail service for residents in my district and throughout the

Northeast. It also directs Amtrak to continue providing fare discounts to veterans and members of the military.

The budget for the National Science Foundation (NSF) is increased $300 million over last year's level and $130 million over the budget request, bringing FY04 funding to $5.6 billion, the largest NSF budget ever. This will mean a great deal for improving funding for research and development.

The bill also includes $12.1 billion for Section 8 voucher renewals for affordable housing, $810 million more than FY03 and $205 million more than the request. This will fully fund all authorized vouchers based on a 96% lease up rate and the most current cost estimates. I have heard from many constituents about their need for and support of this program.

Once again however, the rhetoric from the House leadership is not being met with adequate resources for education. Congress has passed a sweeping reform of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, created several new programs and mandates, but we don't seem willing to provide the necessary funding. We cannot expect our schools to meet the so-called ''adequate yearly progress'' standard if we cannot provide them the resources they need to do so.

While funding for ''No Child Left Behind'' programs is nominally above last year's level, it is only sufficient to cover inflation and provides local schools with no additional resources to meet federal mandates. This bill provides $7.8 billion less than the amount promised for fiscal year 2004 by the highly touted ''No Child Left Behind'' authorization.

Overall funding for the Department of Education is at $55.7 billion, only $279 million above the level contained in the House-passed bill. That increase, however, includes $318 million in special, member-specific education projects. As a result, regular formula grant or merit-based programs are actually funded less than the level contained in the House bill.

Further, the bill authorizes funds for a voucher program for D.C. schools. This is a poor policy decision that deprives citizens of the District of Columbia of making the decision for themselves and the school system from receiving much needed federal funding.

The bill also fails to provide the resources necessary to increase students' access to higher education. The bill keeps the maximum Pell grant award at $4,050, the same as last year, even as the cost of college is going up all over the country.

The omnibus bill will hurt those who have left school and are now in the workforce. A prohibition against the Labor Department's new overtime regulation was dropped entirely despite the fact that it has the support of solid majorities in both Houses. Allowing this new rule to go through will deny overtime pay to more than 8 million American workers. These are employees who rely on overtime to make ends meet, and it speaks volumes that the Republican leadership is willing to deny hard-working, middle class families that additional pay they earn.

Further, I am concerned that because I opposed the House-passed bill on the principle that we cannot under-fund education and healthcare in this country, the leadership will now punish my constituents. Important projects will not be funded simply because of politics. For example, funding has been denied to naturally occurring retirement communities where the elderly can stay and receive services and $E=Mc^2$, which provides important training to science teachers, will not be funded either.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to say that I reluctantly support this bill in order to keep our government functioning and to fund important new initiatives. I hope that next year we will be able to work in a bipartisan manner so that we can best provide for the needs of all the Americans we proudly represent.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Fiscal Year 2004 Omnibus Appropriations bill. I will vote in favor of this bill because it includes federal funding for a great number of very worthwhile projects in my district of southern West Virginia, many of which I personally sought and others that were provided by the esteemed senior Senator from my state, West Virginia's great champion, Senator ROBERT C. BYRD.

On my account, these projects include funding for technological infrastructure in a historically underserved area, transportation planning and congestion relief funding, funding to help educate the blind, federal assistance for wastewater treatment, and maritime safety training dollars for port security.

In addition, it is with tremendous gratitude for his efforts that West Virginia thanks Senator BYRD for providing much-needed funding of projects such as a road building effort that will enable veterans to access their medical center. He also provided funding for our universities and colleges, funding for economic revitalization efforts, and federal dollars for a great number of other worthwhile endeavors.

However, I cast my vote with great misgivings.

As a result of White House meddling, this bill recklessly strips overtime protection provisions that a tremendous majority of Americans favor and that overwhelmingly passed both the House and the Senate. To do the President's bidding on behalf of his big corporate friends, the Republican leadership in the House and the Senate made sure in this bill that the Department of Labor can gut more than 60 years of worker protections.

As a result of White House meddling, this bill unwisely fails to fund the No Child Left Behind initiative while actually even cutting many programs such as teacher quality grants, technology grants, safe and drug-free schools, and reading first grants.

As a result of White House meddling, this bill unfairly freezes funding for child care and wrongly imposes more stringent work requirements for parents receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

There are also a host of other shortcomings and deficiencies in this bill.

But this is what happens when the Republican leadership of the House and Senate fail once again to complete their Constitutionally-required appropriations bills in a timely manner. A bunch of different bills get rolled into one rather than being considered individually on their respective merits. Then, the White House threatens, as it did here, to veto the entire bill, which would leave many federal agencies without funds and therefore leave many needy people without protection, unless the President once again gets exactly what he and his rich friends want.

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss the importance of the State Assisted Fair Bid provision in the FY2004 Transportation Appropriations bill. The Conference Report contains a provision that will establish a pilot program to assist states that choose to contract with the private sector to provide intercity passenger rail service. I anticipate there will be at least two or three demonstration projects under this proposal in fiscal year 2004. The report provides the Secretary with up to $2.5 million to assist the states in implementing the competitive process. I have spoken with Appropriations Chairman YOUNG, and he has assured me that the funding may be used for any purpose in the implementation of a Fair Bid Demonstration project, including providing insurance to states and operators in a manner that results in the lowest possible insurance costs. Furthermore, I understand that the Secretary is encouraged to use a portion of the $2.5 million in grant money provided to the states to subsidize alternative insurance arrangements as a part of the Demonstration Projects.

I want to be clear in my understanding that the states have a great deal of latitude in proposing Demonstration Projects under this provision. The only statutory requirement is that the state must assist the intercity service with a subsidy of some nature. My friend, Chairman YOUNG, has assured me that this is so. Obviously, all of the current state-assisted operations, which are commonly known as 403(b) service, and are now being operated under contract with Amtrak, are eligible. One example of this service that comes to mind is my state's Missouri Mule, which operates between St. Louis and Kansas City. The state of Missouri attempted a competitive bid for the Missouri Mule service last year when Amtrak increased the state subsidy requirement. The process failed, because Amtrak refused to make facilities and equipment, or even access to its national reservation system, available to any bidder on reasonable terms. In many ways, it is the Missouri Mule example that resulted in the Fair Bid language being contained in this bill. Certainly, the Missouri Mule will be a candidate under this new provision.

However, there are many other candidates. The North Carolina Piedmont and Carolinian provide another example of such trains. The Amtrak Cascades Service between Vancouver, British Columbia and Eugene, Oregon is a 464-mile corridor that is subsidized by the Washington and Oregon DOTs. Services that are not current 403(b) services would also be eligible should the state choose to provide a subsidy. In another more general example, the State of Florida is interested in new conventional intercity passenger rail service along the East Coast, but Amtrak has declined to initiate the operation. In cooperation with the track

owner, the state has the option of putting that service out to competitive bid.

Another example is New York's Empire service between Albany and New York City. That service is currently not subsidized, but Amtrak has requested a subsidy from the state as a condition of operating New York's remanufactured 125 mile per hour turbo trains. The Empire corridor could be put out to competitive bid under the terms of this provision.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the conference report on H.R. 2673. This bill would provide funds, for the fiscal year that began on October 1, for eleven of the fifteen Cabinet departments, several independent government agencies, and the District of Columbia government.

I will oppose this bill because it is a combination of missed opportunities and misplaced priorities. This bill has many shortcomings, but let me focus on three key areas: agriculture, education and homeland security.

Mr. Speaker, I grew up on a tobacco farm, and my district is one of the leading tobacco producing districts in the country. As a Member of the House Agriculture Committee, I know that our farmers are hurting. North Carolina's farm families are watching a way of life that has sustained us for generations vanish without any assistance from the federal government to transition into the future. I have been working throughout this Congress on a bipartisan basis to pass a buyout of the federal tobacco quota program to aid that transition. Having worked to achieve consensus legislation, my colleagues and I sought to attach buyout legislation to this omnibus appropriations bill, the last legislative vehicle of the First Session of the 108th Congress. But the Republican Leadership rejected this effort. As a last ditch effort, I wrote to Speaker HASTERT and asked him to include Congressman WALTER JONES's bill to freeze quota levels that determine how much tobacco farmers can produce. Again, we were denied.

Our tobacco farmers deserve better, and I will vote No to protest the shabby treatment they have gotten from the Republican Congressional Leadership.

As the former Superintendent of North Carolina's public schools, my life's work has been the improvement of educational opportunities for all of our children. In the U.S. House, I chair the Democratic Caucus's special Task Force on Education and Job Training. In the 107th Congress, I voted for the President's landmark No Child Left Behind (NCLB) education reform law because the Administration promised to provide the resources to make the tough new reforms work. Unfortunately, the Administration has broken that promise, and I have been forced to introduce legislation to require full funding for NCLB. This omnibus appropriations bill continues to break the promise of NCLB to our children, their parents, our teachers, taxpayers and schools. The bill shortchanges NCLB by $7.8 billion in fiscal year 2004 alone. This bill also contains misguided private school vouchers in the District of Columbia. Vouchers are bad public policy because they take taxpayer dollars to pay for private school tuition. That is just plain wrong, and I have consistently opposed vouchers throughout my service in public office.

Our children deserve better, and I will vote against this bill because of the harm it does to our schools.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, as a center for the military, agriculture, technology and transportation sectors, North Carolina plays a prominent role in the ongoing effort to secure the homeland against the threat of additional terrorist attacks. As a Member of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security, I have worked throughout this Congress to bolster our nation's homeland security. Although this bill does not fund the Department of Homeland Security, two important provisions of the bill will negatively impact its operation. This legislation forces the rescission of $1.8 billion in prior year supplemental appropriations and a significant portion of those funds are in DHS. In addition, the across-the-board cut contained in this bill will have a dramatic impact on certain areas. For example, the needed increase of 570 Customs and Immigration agents for improving border protection will have to be cut by nearly two-thirds. Also, the bill cuts state and local law enforcement funds by $500 million below last year's level at a time when our state and local governments face massive budget shortfalls.

Our communities deserve better, and I will vote against this bill because of its shortsighted treatment of our homeland security.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, there are many provisions of this bill I do support. I strongly support each of the projects for North Carolina's Second Congressional District that are funded in this bill. But the Republican Leadership chose to craft this bill through an indefensible and incoherent process. The result is a bill that can be summed up as a missed opportunities and misplaced priorities.

The people of my district and this country deserve better. I will vote against final passage of this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, because this bill is coming to the floor as a conference report, I am unable to offer a very important amendment. My amendment would require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to complete and issue its rulemaking in CC Docket 02–33 within 60 days of passage of this bill. This is proceeding pending at the FCC to determine whether broadband facilities provided by telephone companies should be regulated as telephone services under Title II of the Communications Act or as information services under Title I of the Communications Act.

The FCC adopted the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on February 14, 2002. Comments were filed on May 3, 2002 and reply comments on July 1, 2002. The FCC, however, has been sitting on its hands for the last 16 months.

This is the same agency that, once it voted on its triennial review report and order spent another six months before actually releasing the text of the order. The FCC has not ruled on the petitions for reconsideration pending on the triennial review. My amendment will also require the FCC to rule on these petitions for reconsideration within 60 days of passage of this bill. Unfortunately, the FCC's Nero seems to be fiddling again while the telecommunications industry's Rome is burning.

The Industry is in state of regulatory stasis concerning broadband. Companies do not know what the broadband rules will be, so they cannot make sound decisions as to when, where, and even whether to deploy broadband. This is an industry that has lost more than 500,000 jobs during its current economic slide.

This inaction is inexcusable. The delay is further harming an industry already seriously wounded. There is little doubt that ubiquitous deployment of broadband will boost the U.S. economy, and particularly the moribund telecommunications sector. A recently updated study by Robert Crandall, Charles Jackson, and Hal Singer states that ''the cumulative increase in capital expenditures associated with the ubiquitous adoption of current generation (broadband) technologies will result in the cumulative increase in gross domestic product (GDP) of $179.7 billion (over nineteen years) and will sustain an additional 61,000 jobs per year.'' Yet, the FCC continues to ignore the negative economic impact its indecision has on the industry.

All my amendment does is require the FCC to complete something it should have done over a year ago. We've given the FCC enough time. The American people are waiting and the U.S. Congress has had enough of the FCC's paralysis.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2004. In almost every areas of concern for families, this bill is grossly inadequate and detrimental to America's future.

For our Nation's children and schools, the funding shortfalls in the Omnibus are legion. At a time when we are demanding more of our public schools, and as State and local education budgets continue to be cut, funding for No Child Left Behind is frozen. At a time when the average Pell Grant is worth about $50 less in real terms than it was in 1975, the size of the maximum grant is frozen.

The Omnibus also freezes funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, the main source of Federal funding for after school programs. Over 1 million children will not have after school opportunities under this bill. This bill even falls $1 billion short of the level promised in the Republican budget resolution and authorization bill passed earlier this year for IDEA, which educates disabled children. Again, this funding shortfall is passed directly on to local school districts.

For as many as 8 million workers, this bill also represents the end of overtime pay—but not the end of overtime hours. Although this body voted to strip the administration's plan to eliminate overtime coverage for millions of Americans, the Omnibus continues forward with a regulatory agenda determined to make Americans—from paralegals to paramedics—work longer hours for less pay.

Finally, last July this Congress took a giant step forward in overwhelmingly voting to eliminate funding for section 213 of the PATRIOT Act, a provision what allows for so-called ''sneak and peak'' searches, or searches of property without the advanced notification of the person being searched. This action spoke to the anxiety of millions of Americans who believe the PATRIOT Act must be repealed or revised to restore fundamental civil liberties in this Nation. Again, the result of this bi-partisan vote is starkly absent from the Omnibus.

Not only does the Omnibus cut education, it defies the will of the House on overtime pay and civil liberties. Our children and our families suffer and the integrity of the U.S. Constitution remains at risk. Vote against the Omnibus Conference Report.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I will be casting my vote against this bill today because of many serious flaws in this legislation, flaws that were included in the bill despite widespread, overwhelming opposition. Additionally,

the bill tragically underfunds several key programs, such as funding for education reform and veterans.

Included in this legislation is language to delay the implementation of country-of-origin labeling until 2006. Country-of-origin labeling was required by the 2002 Farm Bill and is necessary to give U.S. consumers important information and give U.S. producers credit for the considerable investment they have made in the quality and safety of their products.

Included in this legislation are provisions that could make 8 million women and men lose the overtime pay that they use to feed their families, pay for medicine, and educate their children. These provisions were not approved by a majority of the House and Senate.

Included in this legislation today is language to allow television networks to own as much as 39 percent of a market. Shortly after the Federal Communications Commission made its decision to allow television networks to own stations reaching as much as 45 percent of the country earlier this year, both chambers of Congress went on record for supporting lowering the limit to 35 percent.

In addition, while I support the intentions of last year's education reform promise to leave no child behind, I am also convinced that the success of this new law will be determined in part by the investment made in this historic reform effort. I am deeply disappointed that this funding plan falls more than $7.8 billion short of the resources promised.

I am pleased to have supported the inclusion of a number of important North Dakota projects in this legislation. However, the House could and should consider clean legislation that does not contain those provisions not supported by a majority of representatives. I hope this bill is taken up again in January without these objectionable provisions.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment that the omnibus appropriations package before us, H.R. 2673, does not include provisions passed by both houses of Congress to protect workers' overtime pay nor does it extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation (TEUC) program.

Mr. Speaker, there we are again, the holiday season is upon us and once more, it is time to buy presents for our loved ones. Whether we are celebrating Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa or simply the holiday season, it is a time for sharing gifts, festive meals and caring for others. Unfortunately, the appropriations package before us will strip workers of their overtime rights and does not extend TEUC benefits, possibly resulting in Santa Claus not making stops at everyone's house next year.

Millions of families continue to struggle through the rough fringes of our economy. Currently the official U.S. unemployment rate is at 5.9 percent representing more than 8.5 million unemployed workers, and the rate for Hispanics has moved up to 7.4 percent. As much as these can be seen as mere figures, we must realize that they are more than just numbers. They represent human beings: someone who needs work and whose family may need food and clothing. These are not luxuries; they are the essentials.

Too many Americans are going to wake up New Year's morning to find out that their unemployment insurance has run dry. In the past 2 years, we've seen some 3 million jobs disappear.

Mr. Speaker, we had an opportunity to extend the reauthorization of the TEUC program and we failed to do it.

I joined the efforts to extend those benefits so that working families still looking for jobs can enter the New Year with some place of mind. The leadership in this House, however, saw it differently and blocked our efforts to extend help to out-of-work Americans. They reportedly said the economy's doing so much better than unemployed workers don't need any extra help. Sadly, this failure not only hurts families but also the economy. Worse yet, it comes just a few weeks after these same leaders approved a $12 billion handout to insurance companies.

That's not all. Even those who are fortunate to have jobs have come under attack by the leadership of this House. On March 31, 2003, the Bush administration proposed changes to the overtime pay rules that require additional pay for workers who put in more than 40 hours per week. These changes will impact up to 8 million employees who could find themselves working longer without any additional pay.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, we had an opportunity to include provisions in this massive appropriations package to ensure that the rights of over 8 million workers to receive overtime for their hard work were protected, and we failed.

The new rules will impact workers who make between $22,101 and $65,000 per year. These middle class workers, from journalists to medical technicians, often rely on the extra money they get for overtime and appreciate there being some limit on the time they are expected to work.

Congress votes to stop this change in labor policy, though the vote was particularly close. Despite this action from Congress, the Bush administration has continued to push for the changes. The President even issued a veto threat against this massive appropriations bill if it included any attempt to maintain the overtime protections for these workers and their families.

As we enter the holiday season, it's sad that there's so little compassion for Americans struggling to find jobs and make ends meet. Clearly, the battle for America's working families is not over.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last summer this House in an overwhelming bipartisan fashion adopted H.R. 1950, the foreign relations authorization bill which, among other provisions, authorized the establishment of the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) and the creation of a Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

Today, this House will consider the conference report for the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill as a part of the Omnibus Appropriations bill that we are considering. In it will be authorizing language for the MCA and the MCC which largely reflects many of the priorities and structures incorporated in the MCA bill that Democrats and Republicans so painstakingly crafted in the Committee on International Relations.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight one specific aspect in the creation of a Millennium Challenge Corporation. I believe that the MCC will face a variety of management issues as it begins to administer the MCA. It is critical that the corporation have access to the best advice available to help frame its initial organizational structure and guide its subsequent operations, particularly in developing and fine-tuning policies, procedures and processes.

I strongly encourage the chief executive officer or the interim CEO of the corporation to seek advice from organizations with managerial expertise—such as the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA)—in designing and launching the Millennium Challenge Corporation. The report, which accompanied the MCC legislation reported from the Committee on International Relations made such recommendation, and I believe that it is important that we take note of this counsel since we are passing this legislation in a somewhat different from today.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to make a brief comment on section 534 of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2004 as it relates to assistance to Lebanon.

Mr. Speaker, last year, this House adopted the conference report to H.R. 1646, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 2003, which became Public Law 107–228, included section 1224, a provision restricting foreign assistance to Lebanon until it fully took control of its borders. This provision, which derives from an amendment I offered to the bill and which prevailed on the House floor, reads as follows:

SEC. 1224. ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON.

(a) PROHIBITION—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, $10,000,000 of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2003 or any subsequent fiscal year that are allocated for assistance to Lebanon under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.; relating to the economic support fund) may not be obligated unless and until the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the armed forces of Lebanon have been deployed to the internationally recognized border between Lebanon and Israel; and

(2) the Government of Lebanon is effectively asserting its authority in the area in which such armed forces have been deployed.

(b) REQUIREMENT RELATING TO FUNDS WITHHELD—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds withheld pursuant to subsection (a) may not be programmed in order to be used for a purpose other than for assistance to Lebanon until the last month of the fiscal year in which the authority to obligate such funds lapses.

Section 534 of the FY2004 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, which is contained in this conference report, provides a special authority to provide assistance to Lebanon ''notwithstanding any other provision of law.'' I note that in trying to look at congressional intent to determine how to interpret this ''battle of the notwithstandings,'' I note that identical language to section 534 was contained in past foreign operations appropriations acts prior to the enactment of section 1224 of the Foreign Relations Authorizations Act of 2003. Section 534 and its predecessors were originally clearly designed to deal with issues other than the restriction in section 1224. Moreover, there is no legislative history that would suggest that section 534 was meant to override section 1224. Finally, I understand that in a similar situation last year, after careful consideration, the administration decided not to use identical language in the FY 2003 Foreign operations Act to override section 1224, even though that act was enacted after the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 2003.

On this basis, and particularly in view of the soon to be enacted Syria Accountability Act, which addresses the reasons that Lebanon is unable to deploy its troops to the border, I believe that congressional intent is clear that section 534 of the FY2004 Foreign Operations Act cannot be used to override section 1224 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 2003.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I will vote against this conference report. I can support neither the process by which it was assembled nor the misshapen result of that process.

Once again the House is being asked to vote on a massive omnibus measure that rolls together the thousands of specific accounts that properly should be included in no fewer than seven separate regular appropriations bills. This is exactly what happened last year, and it is just as objectionable now as it was then.

I do not blame our appropriations committee for this. I have the greatest respect for both its Chairman, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. YOUNG, and its ranking member, the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY. They and their colleagues did their work, and the House passed all of the regular appropriations bills, in a timely fashion.

Unfortunately, however, the Senate did not follow suit—and the leadership of both chambers insisted on taking control of the process in order to accommodate the desires of the Bush Administration. As a result, the bill before us today not only has provisions not considered by either chamber, it also omits some things that were approved by both bodies. And while it does provide essential funding for many purposes, in several important respects it falls far short of what is needed.

For example, one of my biggest concerns is how this conference report deals with important scientific facilities of two agencies—the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)—in Colorado.

I voted against the commerce department funding bill when the House considered it earlier this year because it included severe reductions in funding for these facilities. I could not support such cuts, not just because these facilities employ so many Coloradans, but also because the work done there is so important for our country.

Still, even though that part of the House bill was seriously inadequate, I hoped that the Senate would not make the same mistake and that the conference report would more appropriately recognize the needs of these facilities—but, as I have reviewed the conference report, that hope has faded.

NOAA LABORATORY FUNDING

The conference report isn't as clear as it could be. For instance, it hasn't been possible to determine whether or not the report includes $4.5 million to pay rent for NOAA's Boulder labs. In fact, even NOAA's budget office isn't sure whether or not that money was included.

Similarly, it isn't readily apparent how the research funding breaks down and at what levels the Colorado labs are funded—apparently program accounts have been padded with an ''administrative charge,'' though we don't know the amount, there are across-the-board rescissions that also affect program accounts, and there are huge numbers of earmarks in the bill that take from program funds. Furthermore, it isn't yet clear whether or not jobs will be lost at NOAA.

One thing that is possible to discern—through inference—is that NOAA's Space Environment Center (SEC) is funded at $5.3 million. This is barely two-thirds of the base funds needed by SEC, which suffered similar shortfalls last year, and 40 percent less than the President's $8.3 million FY04 request.

This is more than disappointing—in my opinion, it is irresponsible. Let me briefly explain what leads me to that conclusion.

In October, the Science Committee's Environment, Technology, and Standards Subcommittee held a hearing to fully examine the issue of space weather and who should be responsible for its forecasting. We heard testimony from representatives of NOAA, the Air Force, and NASA, along with officials from the electric power, satellite, and airline industries, which are the predominant users of the SEC's forecasts.

From that hearing, it was clear that:

The services that NOAA's SEC provides are relied upon heavily by government and many critical private sector industries;

The SEC functions cannot be easily transferred to another agency without huge expenditures and temporary to intermediate loss of forecasting services; and

Even at the House approved funding level of $5.3 million, the SEC would have to significantly reduce current services at a time when our industries are more vulnerable to space weather.

With our country increasingly vulnerable to these solar events, it is short-sighted and penny-pinching to reduce the services provided by the SEC.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NIST)

The numbers for NIST are no more satisfactory. The overall Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) account is funded at a lower level than both the House and Senate bills, and this lower level also includes $15.5 million in earmarks. The lab account thus will provide only minimal funding to cover mandatory cost-of-living increases, at the same time new responsibilities are being assigned to NIST.

With approximately 55 percent of NIST's STRS budget devoted to personnel compensation and benefits, these cuts in the lab account will lead to more job losses at NISt, only continuing the steady decrease in the number of NIST staff in the laboratories since 1994.

Funding for direly needed construction at Boulder's NIST laboratories is again less than is needed. The NIST Boulder laboratories have contributed to great scientific advances through its key facilities, but these facilities are now over fifty years old, and if they are to continue to make important contributions, they need help.

Of the millions of dollars of work that was shown to be necessary in NIST's 1998 Facilities Improvement Plan, only about $11 million has been appropriated over the years—for the design of an electrical system upgrade at the Boulder facilities and for the first phase of construction of a new central utility plant. The central utility plan still needs $22.6 million, and the electrical services improvements need $5.5 million, yet the conference report includes $23.5 million in earmarks in the NIST construction account. Only about $20 million of about $65 million is left in the report for construction, and it's unclear how that total will be divided between NIST's Gaithersburg and Boulder labs.

NOAA and NIST are not the only Commerce Department accounts that are shortchanged by the conference report—and the damage goes beyond federal agencies to hurt the private sector too.

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PROGRAM

The conference report cuts by more than two-thirds the Manufacturing Extension Program, which assists thousands of small and medium-sized manufacturers across this country. This cut effectively guts the program, which was the Bush Administration's intent. With manufacturing jobs still being lost every month and high-tech companies struggling, now is not the time to turn our back on the manufacturing community and our small high-tech entrepreneurs.

It is one thing to make government more lean; it is another thing to cut programs and jobs year in and year out at facilities all over the country—not because there is fat to cut at these facilities, but because the Subcommittee allocation simply doesn't provide enough money to go around. This conference report continues the pattern of bleeding NIST and NOAA dry—agencies that do so much to support our nation's economy and the public's well-being.

Of course, the conference report does include funding for programs to assist veterans, housing programs, and many other worthwhile purposes, including necessary investments in transportation infrastructure—things that I definitely support.

Some of the transportation items are of special importance for Colorado. These include: $8 million for the Boardway Bridge/I–25 interchange complex; $4 million for work on the Santa Fe/C–470 corridor; $3 million for the McCaslin Boulevard/U.S. 36 interchange; $3 million for repairs to the Red Cliff/Arch bridge; $2.5 million for implementation of the incident management plan for Interstate 70; $2.5 million for the Colorado I–225 and Colfax Avenue interchange; $800,000 for the U.S. 36, Wadsworth, and State Highway 128 interchange; $800,000 for the I–70 and State Highway 58 interchange; $500,000 for the Wadsworth Blvd/SH121/Grandview grade separation project; $500,000 for the East 104th Ave. and U.S. 85 intersection improvements; $500,000 for the U.S. 6 and State Highway 121 interchange; $450,000 for the U.S. 36, I–270 interchange; $400,000 for work on State Highway 149; and $200,000 for work on I–76 between Fort Morgan and Brush. In addition, the conference report includes $14 million for buses and bus facility projects of the Colorado Transit Coalition, whose request I strongly supported.

If we had the chance to consider separate final bills for these purposes, I would be glad to support them. But instead they have been rolled into this conference report, with all the serious deficiencies I have mentioned.

And those deficiencies are not the only ones—the conference report before us has other serious defects as well, such as the fact that it does nothing to prevent administrative actions that threaten the right of many workers to receive overtime pay to which they are now entitled, and the omission of the provision passed by both Chambers to make it easier for Americans to travel to Cuba.

The bottom line, Mr. Speaker, is that these many deficiencies make it impossible for me to vote for this conference report.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is a sad commentary on the performance of the Republican leadership who control the White House and both Houses of Congress that they still cannot get the appropriations work done on time. I voted against several of these measures as stand-alone bills. Rolling them together and adding special interest provisions has not made them any better.

Indeed, in several instances this bill represents a repudiation of the will of the public and express decisions of Congress. Examples include the fact that a bipartisan majority of Congress had already voted to prevent the Bush administration regulations that would deny overtime pay to 8 million employees. This bill strips the ban. Additionally, this bill abandons an overwhelming bipartisan agreement of both bodies of Congress to block Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations permitting broadcast networks to expand their reach and consolidate the industry.

This omnibus appropriations bill spends too much on the wrong things and shortchanges critical needs such as education, veterans' healthcare, and state and local law enforcement. It's made all the worse that this funding is borrowed money that will add to our budget deficit. I vote ''no.''

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the bill, H.R. 2673, FY 2004 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Mr. Speaker, this is a disappointing bill in many ways. Not only is it inadequately funded, it is not timely.

For the second year in a row, we will fail to provide the Nation's largest federal health care system, the Veterans Health Administration, with a timely and adequate budget. After another year of fierce battles over funding, we are not likely to pass a budget for veterans' health care until we return in January—after almost a third of the fiscal year is gone. In the worst case scenario, the veterans' health care system will subsist on a continuing resolution through the rest of the fiscal year.

Not only will the budget be late, which wreaks havoc on VA's ability to plan effectively to meet the demands of its burgeoning workload, it will be greatly inadequate and, far less than the $1.8 billion additional funding we promised veterans in the budget last April. What will this likely mean for veterans who rely upon the VA as their health care provider?

Increases in waiting time: VA's workload has increased each year since 1997. Wait times reached a crisis point of hundreds of thousands of veterans waiting more than six months for care, around the beginning of the last fiscal year. VA's budget, on the other hand has not kept pace with the rate of growth in enrollees or medical inflation. VA began to make progress addressing waiting times for its major clinics last year, but with another late and insufficient budget it is likely that waits will be on the rise again.

Possible additional curtailments in enrollment: For the first time since 1997, last January, the Secretary chose to prohibit new veterans in Priority 8—some of whom make as little as $25,000 each year—to enroll in VA for their health care. Fiscal pressure may drive additional prohibitions.

New fees and additional copayments for veterans: Every year, this Administration has proposed new entrance fees and increased copayments for veterans as a means of making its inadequate budgets balance by deterring veterans' utilization of health services and enhancing its scarce revenues.

Continued inabilities to recruit scarce clinical personnel: For the second consecutive year, VA will have missed the prime time in the academic cycle for recruiting physicians—this is particularly damaging for recruitment of those in high-demand specialties. VA has held hundreds of these positions vacant and was relying on a timely and adequate budget, in addition to legislation, to help with these vacancies. Nurse and pharmacist shortages also continue to be problematic.

Inabilities to prepare for returning troops: VA must shore up programs, such as its renowned post-traumatic stress disorder treatment, readjustment counseling, prosthetics, and other programs for special disabilities in order to meet the needs of new veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

This Congress must now seriously consider the question, ''Is this really the best we can do for our veterans in a time of war?''

Our answer must be an unqualified, ''no!''

The time has come for us to assure that an adequate and timely budget is available to our veterans' health care system at the start of each new fiscal year. The time has come for a rational way of determining VA's budgetary needs. The time has come for us to support, H.R. 2318, ''Assured Funding for Veterans Health Care Act of 2003.'' This bill would automatically fund the veterans' health care system by the number of enrolled veterans and the anticipated changes in the hospital inflation rates for each year.

We really can do better by our Nation's veterans.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, there are a number of things both good and bad in this Omnibus Appropriations bill that we're considering today. I want to talk specifically about an issue that is extremely important to me and the people I represent, and one that I've been working on for years.

Our farmers grow the best produce and raise the best livestock in the world. And American consumers know this. Studies have shown that Americans want to buy American commodities, and are even willing to pay a premium to do so. Yet while a consumer can go into a department store and know that their shirt is made in this country, they can't go into the grocery store and have the same certainty about the food they are going to serve their families.

U.S. producers need mandatory labeling in order to compete in the marketplace. Product differentiation is the only way consumers can exercise their choice between purchasing either domestic beef or beef produced by foreign competitors. Our nation's farmers and ranchers produce the best and safest commodities in the world, and our nation's consumers deserve the chance to determine where their food is born, raised, and processed.

For these reasons we had country of origin labeling provisions added to the Farm Bill last Congress. Unfortunately this bill throws another hurdle in front of our consumers and our farmers, delaying implementation of this important law.

Country of Origin Labeling is good for Americans farmers and good for Americans consumers. I am extremely disappointed that the conferees included these delays on country of origin labeling.

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to an authorization provision contained in the conference report we are considering today. This provision—inserted in the eleventh hour—would limit a television broadcaster's potential national audience reach to 39 percent. Not only is this bad public policy, but this provision is more susceptible to a First Amendment challenge than the FCC restriction it replaces. The DC Circuit rule in its 2002 Fox Television decision that the FCC failed to justify its old limitation. The court made it clear that any broadcast ownership limit is subject to at least rational-basis scrutiny under the First Amendment. Consequently, the FCC conducted an exhaustive study and developed a comprehensive record which concluded that a 45-percent limit was supportable. This bill ignores the FCC's findings, as well as the Fox decision, and plucks a 39-percent figure out of thin air. An act of Congress is afforded more deference than an FCC rulemaking, but it is still subject to First Amendment scrutiny. With absolutely no record to support this limit, the provision might very well not withstand judicial review, potentially leaving us with no restriction whatsoever.

The bill's ownership provision is also rooted in a misunderstanding of the FCC's new rule, current levels of concentration, and the state of competition. The FCC's rule measures potential audience reach, not the number of television stations an entity owns. No broadcaster owns anywhere near 45 percent of the nation's more than 1,700 full-power, commercial and non-commercial television stations. In fact CBS and FOX only own approximately 2 percent—the ruling by the FCC's would allow them to purchase only a handful more stations—while NBC owns less than 2 percent, and ABC owns less than 1 percent.

Mr. Speaker, the FCC rule limits a broadcaster to owning television stations whose signals, in the aggregate, serve areas encompassing no more than 45 percent of the nation's television households. This does not mean that viewers are watching the broadcaster's stations, only that the stations' signals are potentially available in the viewers' areas. No broadcaster's actual audience share is close to 45 percent. Even CBS, which currently leads the ratings race, only garners about a 14-percent audience share during primetime. And in fact, the vast majority of the stations carrying CBS programming are independent affiliates not owned by CBS. In terms of actual viewership, no major broadcast network owns stations that, in the aggregate, exceed 3.4 percent of the national viewing audience.

To win viewers, each network still must compete with many other broadcasters, each of which would also theoretically own stations with signals available to 45 percent of the country. Indeed, there are now seven major broadcast networks—ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, UPN, WB, and PAX—as well as foreign-language networks, and many independent broadcasters. Moreover, 85 percent of television households now subscribe to cable or satellite service with access to both broadcast and non-broadcast programming, and entities other than ABC, NBC, CBS or FOX own approximately 75 percent of the more than 100 channels of programming received in the average home. Also, keep in mind that the FCC's

local ownership rules still protect localism and diversity by requiring a minimum number of independent voices in each market. In this context, the drummed-up fear over the FCC's rule is almost as ludicrous as would be the fear over the national availability of Starbucks. Starbucks, it sometimes appears, can be found on every corner. But Starbucks' seemingly ubiquitous presence does not mean that consumers can't drink other brands of coffee, or forgo coffee altogether in favor of tea, juice, soda, or any other beverage.

The FCC granted broadcasters the added flexibility to help preserve free, over-the-air television, which is losing ground to cable and satellite service. Since 2002, cable programming has had more primetime viewers than broadcast programming, and its lead is increasing. This is particularly significant because broadcasters depend exclusively on advertising, while cable and satellite providers benefit not only from rapidly increasing advertising revenue, but subscription revenue, as well. By preventing broadcasters from making limited and reasonable acquisitions to improve their economies of scale and operating efficiencies, we jeopardize the continued viability of free television broadcasting.

Adding insult to injury, this bill will forbid the FCC from raising or lowering the 39 percent limit as market conditions continue to change. In fact, the bill eliminates the FCC's authority to periodically review even ''rules relating to the 39 percent national audience reach limitation.'' Eliminating the FCC's discretion over the national audience-reach limit in this manner is unwise. Congress created the FCC to avoid having to pass legislation every time conditions change. By requiring Congress to act whenever fine-tuning becomes necessary is not only impractical, but it stifles the media marketplace. Moreover, the rush to judgment is not even necessary here, as the Third Circuit has prevented the FCC's rule from taking effect while the court considers it on appeal. Unfortunately Mr. Speaker, the provision contained in this bill may just be yet another nail in the coffin of free, over-the-air television, as broadcasters find it increasingly difficult to grow when faced with the tightened broadcast ownership cap, and as business models continue to turn toward cable and satellite service.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the House is meeting today—69 days after the beginning of the fiscal year—to debate H.R. 2673, a colossal $328 billion spending bill that includes 7 of the 13 annual appropriations measures for fiscal year 2004.

The gentleman from Florida, Mr. YOUNG, and the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY, have worked diligently this year to pass the annual spending bills one-by-one. However, as it became apparent that the Congress could not approve these measures individually, congressional leaders began working to fit them together into one catch-all bill, like the pieces of a $328 billion puzzle. Unfortunately, the pieces of this puzzle are not fitting together in a way that benefits the American people.

I will oppose H.R. 2673 because it breaks promises Congress made regarding education, it cuts necessary Federal funds for State and local law enforcement, and fails to extend unemployment benefits for thousands of Missouri workers who are currently out of work this holiday season.

Education remains a top priority of the people of Missouri. When I am back home, I frequently visit schools to meet with students and teachers. At nearly every location, teachers and administrators inform me of the difficulties they have when it comes to unfunded Federal mandates burdening their districts. School districts throughout the Show-Me State and the Nation are experiencing tough times as the poor economic conditions and the fiscal choices made by this Congress are leading to decreased revenue for schools. The professionals who teach our children and grandchildren deserve to have the resources they need to get the job done. When the Congress approves legislation authorizing specific legislative initiatives, we ought to fully fund them.

H.R. 2673 provides $7.8 billion less than Congress promised in the No Child Left Behind Act and falls 45 percent short in special education funding promised under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) reauthorization bill that passed earlier this year. It also freezes Pell Grant awards at a time when State universities are drastically increasing tuition costs and underfunds by 18 percent the funds necessary for Impact Aid. H.R. 2673 also establishes a private school voucher program for students who live in the District of Columbia, moving Congress a step closer to abandoning our historical commitment to public schools and establishing the first Federal subsidies for getting a private school education.

As a former prosecuting attorney and juvenile officer, I have worked closely with law enforcement officials. Law enforcement personnel play a critical role in protecting Missouri communities from the scourge of methamphetamine abuse and other crimes and from the threats posed by terrorism. Congress has a duty to provide adequate funding for those who protect us in our hometowns. Under H.R. 2673, State and local law enforcement is funded at $500 million below last year's levels.

As the holidays approach, millions of Americans are still facing unemployment. While economic news has indicated that the numbers of jobless Americans decreasing, Congress must work to extend unemployment benefits to those who are not so fortunate. Time and again, we have worked in a bipartisan manner to assist unemployed Americans. I am disappointed that the House leadership has failed in this regard, especially at this time of year.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2673 shortchanges teachers and students, law enforcement personnel, and unemployed Missourians. Appropriations bills should speak to our priorities as a nation. I cannot support this measure that sets our country on a course of misplaced priorities.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Subcommittee Chairman ISTOOK, Subcommittee Ranking Member OLVER, Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member OBEY for including a provision I have been fighting for during the last several years to protect workers negatively impacted by illegal, age discriminatory cash balance pension plans.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, on September 9, 2003, this House overwhelmingly passed by a vote of 258 to 160 an amendment I offered to the Fiscal Year 2004 Transportation-Treasury Appropriations bill barring the Treasury Department from helping to overturn the court decision in the Southern District of Illinois brought by IBM employees against IBM's cash balance pension plan.

The Federal court in that case has determined that, as many of us in this House have argued, IBM's cash balance plan and indeed all cash balance plans inherently violate current Federal anti-age discrimination law. By its terms, my amendment barred Treasury from opposing the IBM employees in that case. One of the intended effects of my amendment was also to bar Treasury from finalizing the proposed regulations on cash balance plans—regulations that were improper because they are contrary to the requirements of Federal age discrimination statutes.

On October 23, 2003, the Senate passed a similar amendment by Senator HARKIN barring Treasury from finalizing these illegal regulations. These two amendments served as the foundation for the final legislative language which requires the Secretary to submit to the Congress proposed legislation to remedy the harm that these cash balance plans do to older workers. This legislative language also bars the Treasury Department from finalizing its illegal regulations on cash balance pension plans.

Now, I understand that report language has been added that attempts to rewrite the legislative history of this provision by stating that the intent of this legislative language is not to call into question the validity of cash balance plans.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that is exactly the intent of this provision. There is no doubt. This legislative provision is included in the final bill before the House because Members of this body and the other body have grave doubts about the legality of cash balance pension plans.

While this report language in no way dilutes the effect of the legislative ban on Treasury finalizing its cash balance regulations, it is a cynical attempt to hoodwink the courts considering the validity of these cash balance plans into believing that Congress has not spoken on this issue. It was no doubt carefully crafted by lobbyists with the express intent of using it in a legal brief.

Mr. Speaker, the debate on my amendment and Senator HARKIN's are clear. None of us in this Chamber are fooled by this non-binding report language and I trust that the esteemed courts of this country will not be either.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, we are nearing the finish of this session of the 108th Congress, and I am sure most Members will be heartily glad to see it end.

Today, we are considering an Omnibus bill making appropriations for departments and agencies that ought to be funded in seven separate appropriations bills, which have been held up by various obstacles, including insufficient allocations and controversial riders—or riders to stop controversial administration policies.

On the matter that should be in a separate bill for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Federal Judiciary, and several important related agencies, we began with a bad budget allocation that has gotten worse and will be further reduced by across-the-board cuts, both within our division of the Omnibus and across the government.

I must say that our chairman, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) is not to blame for the deficiencies in our portion of this bill. Throughout the process, he has been very fair and has sought to produce the best possible bill, given the limited resources his leadership gave him to work with. For that, I thank him very much.

I also cannot thank the staff enough for all their hard work, long hours, and time away from their families. Mike Ringler, Leslie Albright, Christine Ryan Kojac, and John Martens for the majority, as well as Anne Marie Goldsmith and Alan Lang, this year's detailees, have worked closely with Rob Nabors and David Pomerantz of the Democratic staff and Lucy Hand, Nadine Berg, and Diaraf Thiouf of my staff and my Presidential Management Interns Pete Balfe and Erin McKevitt.

However, the allocation is still too small, and I am seriously concerned about its impact on very important government functions in law enforcement, the judiciary, foreign affairs, and other areas. I am alarmed that the amounts we have worked out in conference with the Senate will be reduced by across-the-board cuts. We fought hard for adequate funding, for example, for the FBI and other law enforcement, but even those amounts face devastating cuts.

Among the most worrisome deficiencies are the State and local law enforcement programs. Most of them are at barely acceptable levels, before the across-the-board cuts, but the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, funded at nearly $400 million last year, falls to $225 million this year, before the across-the-board cuts. Even relatively small programs had to be cut, such as the Police Integrity grants, which falls from nearly $17 million in fiscal year 2003 to $10 million. We are asking State and local governments to do more to protect our people, as the resources available to support this work decline.

Another alarming problem is the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, which this year falls from over $106 million to just under $40 million, before the across-the-board cuts. This is a severe blow to a very important program, at a time when manufacturers need help. I can only hope that in fiscal year 2005 we can get back to a more appropriate level.

One last agency I would like to mention is the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) We had tried to stabilize LSC's funding this year, but across-the-board cuts will undercut that goal. Beyond that, there is growing concern that limits on the uses of private money donated to independent LSC grantees are hurting America's low-income families and imposing unwarranted government restrictions on the private sector. The administration does not tolerate such interference with the privately funded religious activities of its faith-based grantees. It—and we—would not tolerate such interference with privately funded secular activities also dedicated to helping families in need. I am hopeful that next year we can address these restrictions on privately donated funds. At this point, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to submit for the RECORD letters I have received on this issue.

I am also alarmed by the process that got us to this point. The Republican leadership has imposed policies that are not supported by the majority of the American people, the Congress, or the conferees—in our subcommittee's division, the dead-of-night ''compromise'' on media ownership. The gun provisions are also different from what was agreed to by the conferees.

Mr. Speaker, if we can find $87 billion for a war we didn't have to fight, we ought to be able to find the resources to support our domestic law enforcement agencies with the personnel and resources they need; the commercial, statistical, and environmental activities of our Commerce Department; our foreign policy establishment; and such crucial agencies as the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the Small Business Administration (SBA).

Mr. Speaker, in the end, however most Members vote on the Omnibus Appropriations bill—and I recognize that many crucial programs would suffer under a long-term continuing resolution—I must emphasize that the resource allocation that has yielded Division B of the Omnibus, which funds the agencies in the jurisdiction of the Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, is grossly inadequate and may prove damaging to the national interest.

NOVEMBER 20, 2003.

Hon. FRANK R. WOLF,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, Committee on Appropriations, Washington, DC.

Hon. JOSÉ E. SERRANO,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary, Committee on Appropriations, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN WOLF AND CONGRESSMAN SERRANO: We write to thank for your tremendous leadership on behalf of America's families by supporting increased funding for the Legal Services Corporation in the Fiscal Year 2004 Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill introduced in your Subcommittee.

However, we also write to express our regret that for the past several years this bill has included a restriction that severely limits the manner in which independent civil legal aid programs funded by LSC can spend their own private, state and local funds.

This ''private money'' restriction annually encumbers more than $300 million in non-federal money, and harms communities in two distinct ways. First, the restriction imposes costly government obstacles to private philanthropy. Second, the restriction closes the doors of justice to many low-income individuals and families unable to afford necessary legal representation in civil matters.

The undersigned groups write to express our support for amending the LSC appropriation in order to end this governmental interference with non-federal funding for legal aid nonprofits. We urge you to continue your tremendous leadership on behalf of America's families by guiding efforts to end this unfairness.

In particular, we hope you will support removal of the private money restriction because the restriction improperly interferes with the right of private philanthropies and other non-federal donors—including state and local governments—to determine the purposes for which their charitable donations will be used. In addition, the restriction interferes with the right of non-federal donors to select those local institutions best equipped to carry out the purposes of their charitable donations.

By removing the private money restriction, but keeping intact restrictions that control activities financed with federal LSC funds, Congress would properly place independent LSC recipients in the same position as nonprofit grantees of other federal entities which are permitted to use their non-federal funds free of unwarranted restrictions. This would bolster the mission of LSC as a model public-private partnership dedicated to supporting independent and accountable local programs that set their own priorities based on community need.

Furthermore, Congress's removal of the LSC private money restriction may well encourage increased charitable donations to the more than 150 independent LSC recipients that serve the working poor, veterans, the elderly, victims of domestic violence, family farmers and people with disabilities in every county and Congressional District in the Nation.

Thank you very much for your support and continued leadership on behalf of America's families.

Sincerely,

Brennen Center for Justice at NYU School of Law; International Union, UAW; National Legal Aid and Defender Association; Center for Law and Social Policy; National Organization of Legal Services Workers, UAW Local 2320; National Immigration Law Center; Open Society Policy Center; Association of the Bar of the City of New York; Community Service Society of New York;

National Council of La Raza; Council on Foundations Independent Sector; National Council of Nonprofit Associations; National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy; OMB Watch; Charity Lobbying in the Public Interest; Alliance for Justice; Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, September 23, 2003.

Hon. JOSÉ SERRANO,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SERRANO. We greatly appreciate your efforts to secure additional funding for the Legal Services Corporation in the 2004 Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (CJS). You know as well as any of us the importance of providing affordable legal services to our country's most needy.

We write today because, like you, we are increasingly concerned about an unfair and unnecessary provision in the CJS Appropriations bill that restricts the use of private and other non-federal funds by independent legal service providers funds in part by LSC. The ''private money restriction'' encumbers more than $300 million annually in non-federal funds—money that could be used to provide critical legal assistance to our society's most vulnerable individuals and families. The private money restriction burdens independent legal service providers with unwarranted costs; it impedes private charitable initiatives, and it undermines our Nation's promise of equal justice for all.

It is our hope that the Committee on Appropriations will revisit the private money restriction when it considers the 2005 CJS Appropriations bill. We urge you to continue your leadership on behalf of America's families by guiding efforts in your Subcommittee to end this unfairness.

Sincerely,

John Conyers Jr., Howard L. Berman, Rick Boucher, Robert C. Scott, Zoe Lofgren, Maxine Waters, William D. Delahunt, Tammy Baldwin.

Adam B. Schiff, Jerrold Nadler, Melvin L. Watt, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Martin T. Meehan, Robert Wexler, Anthony D. Weiner, Linda T. Sanchez.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the conference report (108–401) for H.R. 2673, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, contains very important language within the FAA, operations section regarding improving our existing commercial air fleet's flight data and cockpit voice recorder standards.

Specifically, this language request that the FAA seriously review the potential of transferring the U.S. military's deployable flight data recorder technology into our commercial air fleet.

I am very pleased that this language was included as it reflects the goals I am seeking to implement within the legislation that I introduced earlier this year, H.R. 2632, the Safe Aviation Flight Enhancement (SAFE) Act.

Congress has previously showed interest in the deployable technology and requested within the FY2001 Transportation Appropriations Bill, that the FAA issue a report to Congress on the benefits and advisability of using deployable flight recorders in the commercial fleet. This report was issued in the December 4, 2001 Future Flight Data Collection Committee Final Report and detailed the United States military's successful use of the deployable recorder technology, concluding that it would be acceptable to incorporate the deployable recorder technology within the NTSB's 1999 recommendation to improve flight recorder standards.

The 1999 NTSB recommendations that the FAA's report is referring to were issued as a result of a history of delay in black box recovery and lost data due to crash damages in some of our countries most recent and devastating air accidents.

Following a series of air accidents where critical flight recorder information was lost, the NTSB issued recommendations A–99–16 through 18, which called on the FAA to require improved recorder capabilities and the installation of two sets of combination flight data and cockpit voice recorders in commercial aircraft to ensure the survival and recovery of at least one set of recorders.

It is important to note that the intention of the Conferee's language on deployable recorders within the FAA, operations section of the FY2004 Omnibus appropriations conference report is that the FAA evaluate the deployable technology within the context of incorporating the deployable recorder system as one of the two combination recorder systems recommended in the NTSB's 1999 recommendations.

I am hopeful that the FAA will move swiftly on this, since 4 years have passed and these recommendations have yet to be addressed.

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 opened the Nation's eyes to the face that our skies are vulnerable to more than mechanical or human error. One of our best examples of what can occur when we do not have immediate access to this information following a crash was demonstrated in the aftermath of the TWA 800 crash. This accident clearly illustrated the pressures investigators are under to rule out the potential of terrorism and quickly identify the safety concerns. At the outset of TWA 800 crash investigation, there was intense speculation that a ground-to-air missile was the cause of this disaster. For every day that went by as we search the ocean floor for the recorders, the speculation and questions mounted about the potential of terrorism. Ultimately, it took 7 days and millions of dollars to recover those fight recorders from the bottom of the ocean and eventually, investigators and explosive's experts led us to the understanding that it was an accidental fuel tank explosion, not terrorism that was responsible for the crash.

Post 9/11, we cannot afford to be faced with a similar situation of uncertainty. Our national security teams and transportation safety officials must have immediate access to the flight recorders to determine the appropriate response.

The deployable technology presents us with ability to ensure immediate and complete access to the flight recorders today, as our United States Navy has successfully tested, developed and used the deployable recorder technology for years on aircraft including the Navy's F/A–18EF Super Hornet fleet. The deployable technology is capable of meeting the needs of the commercial industry and is designed to ''deploy'' from the aircraft during a accident, which allows it to land outside of the crash impact site, thus avoiding becoming ensnared within the aircraft wreckage and the direct impact forces and fire intensity of the crash. The deployable recorder is also designed to float indefinitely in cases of a water crash.

The use of the deployable recorder in the commercial air fleet would provide the same benefits that it does for the military and would present an obvious way to maximize our ability to ensure the survivability and quick recoverability of flight recorders.

Again, I am pleased that Congress addressed this very important issue to encourage the FAA to move expeditiously in formulating regulations to address the need for improved flight recorders and that Congress would like the deployable technology to be considered within the context of the dual-combination recorder recommendation issued by the NTSB in 1999.

Such improvements will help us ensure that our safety and security officials will have immediate and complete access to the recorders following an aviation crash and make great strides in protecting the American people.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on July 22, 2003, I introduced an amendment to provide congressional support for the current U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) policy and practice against approving patent claims directed to human organisms, including human embryos and human fetuses. The House of Representatives approved the amendment without objection on July 22, 2003, as section 801 of the Fiscal Year 2004 Commerce/Justice/State Appropriations Bill. The amendment, now included in the Omnibus appropriations bill as section 634 of H.R. 2673, reads as follows: ''None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be sued to issue patents on claims directed to or encompassing a human organism.''

The current Patent Office policy is that ''non-human organisms, including animals'' are patentable subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101, but that human organisms, including human embryos and human fetuses, are not patentable. Therefore, any claim directed to a living organism must include the qualification ''non-human'' to avoid rejection. This amendment provides unequivocal congressional support for this current practice of the U.S. patent office.

House and Senate appropriators agreed on report language in the manager's statement on section 634. The statement reads: ''The conferees have included a provision prohibiting funds to process patents of human organisms. The conferees concur with the intent of this provision as expressed in the colloquy between the provision's sponsor in the House and the ranking minority member of the House Committee on Appropriations as occurred on July 22, 2003, with respect to any existing patents on stem cells.''

The manager's statement refers to my discussion with Chairman DAVID OBEY, when I explained that the amendment ''only affects patenting human organisms, human embryos, human fetuses or human beings.'' In response to Chairman OBEY's inquiry, I pointed out that there are existing patents on stem cells, and that this amendment would not affect such patents.

Here I wish to elaborate further on the exact scope of this amendment. The amendment applies to patents on claims directed to or encompassing a human organism at any stage of development, including a human embryo, fetus, infant, child, adolescent, or adult, regardless of whether the organism was produced by technological methods (including, but not limited to, in vitro fertilization, somatic cell nuclear transfer, or parthenogenesis). This amendment applies to patents on human organisms regardless of where the organism is located, including, but not limited to, a laboratory or a human, animal, or artificial uterus.

Some have questioned whether the term ''organism'' could include ''stem cells''. The answer is no. While stem cells can be found in human organisms (at every stage of development), they are not themselves human organisms. This was considered the ''key question'' by Senator HARKIN at a December 2, 1998 hearing before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education regarding embryonic stem cell research. Dr. Harold Varmus, then director of the NIH testified ''that pulripotent stem cells are not organisms and are not embryos . . .'' Senator HARKIN noted: ''I asked all of the scientists who were here before the question of whether or not these stem cells are organisms. And I believe the record will show they all said no, it is not an organism.'' Dr. Thomas Okarma of the Geron Corporation stated: ''My view is that these cells are clearly not organisms . . . in fact as we have said, are not the cellular equivalent of an embryo.'' Dr. Arthur Caplan agreed with this distinction, saying that a stem cell is ''absolutely not an organism.'' There was a unanimous consensus on this point at the 1998 hearing, among witnesses who disagreed on many other moral and policy issues related to stem cell research.

The term ''human organism'' includes an organism of the human species that incorporates one or more genes taken from a non-human organism. It includes a human-animal hybrid organism (such as a human-animal hybrid organism formed by fertilizing a non-human egg with human sperm or a human egg with non-human sperm, or by combining a comparable number of cells taken respectively from human and non-human embryos). However, it does not include a non-human organism incorporating one or more genes taken from a human organism (such as a transgenic plant or animal). In this respect, as well, my amendment simply provides congressional support for the Patent Office's current policy and practice.

This amendment should not be construed to affect claims directed to or encompassing subject matter other than human organisms, including but not limited to claims directed to or encompassing the following: cells, tissues, organs, or other bodily components that are not

themselves human organisms (including, but not limited to, stem cells, stem cell lines, genes, and living or synthetic organs); hormones, proteins or other substances produced by human organisms; methods for creating, modifying, or treating human organisms, including but not limited to methods for creating human embryos through in vitro fertilization, somatic cell nuclear transfer, or parthenogensis; drugs or devices (including prosthetic devices) which may be used in or on human organisms.

Jamed Rogan, undersecretary of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, has stated in a November 20, 2003, letter to Senate appropriators: ''The USPTO understands the Weldon Amendment to provide unequivocal congressional backing for the long-standing USPTO policy of refusing to grant any patent containing a claim that encompasses any member of the species Homo sapiens at any stage of development . . . including a human embryo or human fetus . . . The USPTO's policy of rejecting patent application claims that encompass human lifeforms, which the Weldon Amendment elevates to an unequivocal congressional prohibition,, applies regardless of the manner and mechanism used to bring a human organism into existence (e.g., somatic cell nuclear transfer, in vitro fertilization, parthenogenesis).'' Undersecretary Rogan concludes: ''Given that the scope of Representative WELDON's amendment . . . is full consistent with our policy, we support its enactment.''

The advance of biotechnology provides enormous potential for developing innovative science and therapies for a host of medical needs. However, it is inappropriate to turn nascent individuals of the human species into profitable commodities to be owned, licensed, marketed and sold.

Congressional action is needed not to change the Patent Office's current policy and practice, but precisely to uphold it against any threat of legal challenge. A previous Patent Office policy against patenting living organisms in general was invalidated by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1980, on the grounds that the policy has no explicit support from Congress. In an age when the irresponsible use of biotechnology threatens to make humans themselves into items of property, of manufacture and commerce, Congress cannot let this happen again in the case of human organisms.

I urge my colleagues to support this Omnibus in defense of this important provision against human patenting.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the privatization provisions of this bill, provisions that govern when federal jobs are given to private contractors under an obscure Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular called A–76.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the Bush administration has declared war on federal employees. Under the guise of reform, it has stripped hundreds of thousands of federal employees of basic rights, like the right to appeal unfair treatment and the right to collective bargaining. It has opposed modest cost-of-living increases for rank and file employees while at the very same time supporting large cash bonuses for political employees.

But the Administration's most direct assault on federal employees is the effort to terminate federal jobs and hire private companies to perform the same work. The President's ''Competitive Sourcing Initiative'' is aggressively forcing federal agencies to allow private contractors to bid for hundreds of thousands of jobs currently being performed by federal employees. Earlier this year, the Administration rewrote the rules governing competitions between public employees and private sector contractors.

The House is on record as rejecting those new rules because those rules so blatantly favored contractors over federal employees. And on a bipartisan basis, appropriations conferees last month agreed to certain basic protections for all federal employees. Unfortunately, after the conference was closed on the Transportation Treasury Appropriations bill, OMB registered last minute objections, and the Republican leadership rewrote the bill to eliminate or truncate those basic protections for federal workers.

For example, the bill, before us no longer includes language giving federal employees the right to contest agency competitive sourcing decisions, and it no longer even requires that an agency achieve significant cost savings on all privatizations. Mr. Speaker, it is time to end the assault on federal workers. Vote no on this bill. We can do better.

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues, I have concerns with numerous provisions in this omnibus bill. Among them are three that may actually contribute to violent crime in our communities and aid terrorists. These NRA-backed provisions were added in the dead of night to the benefit of gun manufacturers and criminals who obtain guns illegally.

The first weakens the highly successful Brady Bill by requiring federal authorities to destroy all firearm purchase records within 24 hours instead of 90 days as under current law. This provision weakens law enforcement's ability to stop illegal gun purchases and rejects a July 2002 GAO study which concluded that a ''next-day destruction policy . . . would have public safety implications and could lessen the efficacy of current operations.'' Nearly one million illegal gun purchases have been stopped since the Brady law went into effect. Now is not the time to tie the hands of law enforcement officials who tirelessly work to keep guns out of the hands of criminals.

Another provision would protect ''bad apple'' gun dealers. For example, the snipers who terrorized Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. obtained the assault rifle used in their sniper attacks from a Tacoma, Washington gun store called Bull's Eye Shooter Supply. After the sniper suspects were apprehended and the gun was recovered and traced, Bull's Eye claimed to have no record of selling the gun, and did not even know it was missing until the shooting spree was over. The snipers' gun was just one of more than 238 firearms ''missing'' from Bull's Eye's inventory during the previous three years.

This provision would essentially block ATF from requiring gun dealers like Bull's Eye to take regular inventories of their firearms. In August 2000, ATF issued a proposed rule requiring licensed dealers to do annual physical inventories. The rulemaking proceeding is still pending. If anything, Congress should require ATF to issue this rule. Instead, this legislation would block ATF from ever issuing this requirement as a final rule. This would severely hamstring ATF's ability to address what it has stated is a serious problem.

And lastly, language was included to prevent public scrutiny of corrupt gun dealers.

ATF has indicated analysis of crime gun traces and multiple sale reports has yielded a series of gun ''trafficking indicators'' that can be linked to particular firearms dealers.

ATF has always made this information available to the public through Freedom of Information Act (''FOIA'') requests, which allow for vital public oversight of the effectiveness of the Agency. Under the provision in the omnibus appropriations bill, ATF will not be allowed to release trace or multiple sale data, thereby gutting the purposes of FOIA, and effectively shielding the most corrupt firearms dealers from public scrutiny.

The NRA lobbied hard for these favors which do nothing to keep American families safe, but rather advance another well-connected special interest. Worse, they could actually contribute to more illegal gun purchases, meaning more criminals with guns.

We should be working to prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands. Instead, this Administration and Congressional leadership continues to roll back commonsense gun safety measures that save lives. We can, and must, do better.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the House will consider the conference report on H.R. 2673, the Agriculture Appropriations bill for FY 2004. This has become the omnibus spending bill for enacting the remaining seven appropriations bills—Agriculture, VA–HUD, Labor-HHS, District of Columbia, Commerce-Justice-State, Foreign Operations, and Treasury-Transportation. The bill would fund, for the fiscal year that began two months ago, 11 of the 15 Cabinet departments, several independent government agencies, and the District of Columbia government—and makes up $328 billion of the total discretionary budget for the year. Currently, these departments are operating under a continuing resolution funding the government through January 31, 2004.

This measure is not only an irresponsible way to govern, but more importantly it represents misplaced priorities. This session of Congress has proven again that Republican policies are making it harder for Americans to succeed. Democrats want to put American families first. We will continue to fight to create jobs, make health care more affordable, honor our veterans, and return America to prosperity. The following highlights some of the deficiencies of the omnibus bill.

This measure excludes a provision to block Bush Administration regulations that would deny overtime pay to 8 million employees. This provision to protect the pay of middle-income Americans was agreed upon by a majority of both bodies, and yet was dropped in the backroom deals at the 11th hour at the insistence of the Bush Administration. At a time when people are working harder and longer just to make ends meet, this measure permits a cut in the pay of millions of workers, including firemen and policemen, licensed practical nurses, and air traffic controllers.

Even though education is a top priority of the American people, this measure provides $39 million less for education than the inadequate House bill, after subtracting the $318 million in earmarked projects added in conference. This measure fails to meet the promised education investment promised in the No Child Left Behind Act—providing $7.8 billion

less than was promised. Like the House-passed bill, this measure shortchanges help with the basics of math and reading by $6.2 billion compared to that promised in No Child Left Behind—leaving more than 2 million children behind. It also falls $751 million short for after-school centers promised in the No Child Left Behind Act. The additional funds would have provided expanded learning opportunities for 1 million children. The conference report bill falls $352 million short of the $3.3 billion promised (in real terms) to states for improving teacher quality; as a result, approximately 78,000 fewer teachers will receive high quality, federally-supported professional development. This conference report falls 45 percent short in special education funding promised under the IDEA—Individuals with Disabilities Education Act—reauthorization bill passed earlier this year.

Not only does it shortchange education reform, it contains private school vouchers which harm public schools. The measure includes $14 million for a new private school voucher program for the District of Columbia. Private school vouchers drain much-needed resources away from public education where all children can benefit, and reduces accountability.

Mr. Speaker, I am gratified by what is in the bill regarding veterans' health care, paid for by cutting funds to process veterans' benefits and compensation claims. The conference agreement provides $1.1 billion more than the President requested veterans' health care, but still fails to keep the promise made by Republicans in the budget resolution—taking into account the across-the-board cut and not counting rescinded funds. After Republicans voted to cut veterans' health care by $14 billion, they agreed to provide an additional $1.8 billion in the budget resolution because of Democratic pressure.

However, this conference agreement subjects all veterans' programs to a 0.59 percent across-the-board cut—so some of the increase in veterans' health care is in effect paid for through cuts to other veterans' programs. The most dramatic is the cut in funds needed to speed up processing of applications for veteran benefits and compensation. Currently, there are 448,000 claims pending, with the average time to provides a claim at 157 days. The across-the-board cut will reduce funding for the claims administration by $6 million—resulting in an estimated loss of 100 employees needed for veterans claims processing and benefits administration. Unfortunantly, State and Local Law Enforcement was also cut. State and local law enforcement is funded at $500 million below the FY 2003 level, even though state and local law enforcement are on the frontline in keeping our communities safe—dealing with crime and homeland security.

The Omnibus funds the Manufacturing Extension Partnership at just $39 million, a sharp decrease from the FY 2003 level of $106 million. The highly successful Manufacturing Extension Partnership offers small U.S. manufacturers a range of services from plant modernization to employee training. It particularly helps manufacturers adopt advanced manufacturing technologies—based on the latest R&D. These modernization efforts help our beleaguered small and mid-sized American manufacturers stay competitive.

The conference agreement abandons the bipartisan agreement of both bodies of Congress to block FCC regulations permitting broadcast networks to expand. In June, the FCC relazed several media ownership rules and raised the television station cap, saying broadcast networks can buy more stations and expand their reach to 45 percent of the national audience, up from 35 percent. Both the House and the Senate passed provisions to keep the cap at 35 percent, but the conference agreement specifies that the TV station cap will be raised to 39 percent of the national audience—allowing several networks to expand their reach and consolidate the industry. However, Mr. Chairman, even though I will not be supporting this bill, there are some very good things in this bill. I am glad for the AIDS funding which:

Provides a total of $1.646 billion global assistance to combat HIV/AIDs, tuberculosis and malaria, most of which is within the Child Survival and Health Programs Fund. $754 million in global assistance is anticipated in the Labor-HHS appropriations, bringing total funding to $2.4 billion;

International HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria programs are funded at $754 million are increased $50 million over the request. I like the fact the bill has the Ryan White AIDS program which is increased by $64 million over FY03 with total funding of $2 billion; and

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) is funded at the president's request of $297 million, $7 million above last year.

SECTION 8 HOUSING

Disabled Housing—Section 811—is funded at the requested level of $250 million.

Includes $12.1 billion for Section 8 voucher renewals, $810 million more than FY03 and $205 million more than the request. This will fully fund all authorized vouchers based on a 96% lease up rate and the most current cost estimates.

HOPE VI MONEY

Appropriates $150,000,000 for the revitalization of severely distressed public housing program (HOPE VI), instead of $195,115,000 as proposed by the Senate and $50,000,000 as proposed by the House.

PUBLIC HOUSING MONEY

Modernization for public housing is funded $2.7 billion, the same as last year's level and $71 million above the request.

Public Housing Operating Subsidies are funded at $3.6 billion, $26 million above the request and $25 million above FY03.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

The Community Services Block Grant Act is funded at $735,686,000 including for making payments for financing construction and rehabilitation and loans or investments in private business enterprises owned by community development corporations.

ETHIOPIA

Under the ''Child Survival and Health Programs Fund'', $34,000,000 shall be made available for family planning, maternal and reproductive health activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Haiti, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Russia, Albania, Romania, and Kazakhstan.

NASA

NASA is funded at the President's request of $15.5 billion, $80 million over last year.

VETERANS' HEALTH

Provides total resources of $28.6B for the Veterans Health Administration: $17.9 billion plus $1.6 billion from the collections fund for Medical Services; $5 billion for Medical Administration; $4 billion for Medical Facilities and $408 million for Medical Research—a total of $1.57 over the budget request.

Fully funds the President's request for Veterans State Extended Care Facilities bringing total funding to $102 million, $3 million above last year's level.

The conference agreement includes $57,000,000 from local funds for making refunds associated with disallowed Medicaid funding as proposed by both the House and Senate.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that the Democrats were locked out of the appropriations process and that the Democrats were not able to participate, which is one of the many reasons why I cannot support this legislation.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged by the conferees direction regarding NASA at this critical time. In the wake of the Columbia tragedy, NASA's practice of over-promising, over-marketing, and under-estimating the costs for its programs cannot be tolerated any longer.

I applaud Chairman WALSH for his commitment in getting NASA to rethink its priorities relating to human space flight. We must now ensure that the return to flight of the Space Shuttle is not a return to business as usual. I support the Science Committee Chairman's position that we cannot perpetuate the Space Shuttle and Space Station indefinitely, and that any new program has to come with an affordable price tag. I do believe, however, that we need a bold vision for NASA. I think we should return to the Moon, but this time to stay.

When the notion of an Orbital Space Plane was introduced, I welcomed it as a significant sea change in NASA's approach to space transportation development. One year later, however, NASA is still struggling with what it has touted as a simple design. According to NASA, OSP doesn't replace the Shuttle, and it's not clear how OSP night support any future mission. At an estimated cost of $18 billion over the next decade, NASA should not go forward until there is consensus between the Administration and the Hill concerning the direction of the U.S. space program. For too long, we endured costly development programs that failed to deliver results. Unfortunately, OSP is poised to head down the same path. We have been down this road before.

Although the conference report calls for the NASA Administrator to report to Congress on a ISS re-supply plan by June 2004, the conferees do not go far enough in ensuring that Alternative Access to Station Program (AAS) remains viable. Current funding for this program runs out in January 2004, and the work of the private sector involved with this program could be potentially lost. It has been my belief that this program has the potential to address the national need for a viable, near-term cargo transfer capability as an alternative to the Space Shuttle. With the grounding of the Shuttle fleet, America is now at a vital crossroad concerning its ability to access space. NASA seems to be limiting its options in this regard to foreign launch capabilities. And to think several years ago we were concerned with the Russians in the Space Station Program's critical path. We must look to domestic, commercial solutions to address the critical need to re-supply the Space Station.

Given my concerns, however, the NASA portion of this appropriations package is a good first step to help NASA prepare for the next chapter in the American space experience.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the fiscal year 2004 conference agreement on Foreign Operations. The agreement as contained in Division D of this omnibus package represents a bipartisan agreement, and most importantly, provides critical funding for a host of essential programs that are vital to our national security.

I want to thank Chairman KOLBE, and Senators MCCONNELL and LEAHY, for working with me to finalize this agreement. The Foreign Operations portion of this bill represents a fair agreement between the two Houses that stays within our overall allocation of $17.235 billion.

The agreement provides a total of $1.64 billion for HIV/AIDS, an increase over the House level of more than $200 million. We have provided $400 million for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, as well as increased funding for bilateral programs. With the $150 million for the Fund in the Labor HHS bill, the total U.S. contribution to the Global Fund for 2004 will be $550 million.

Funds have been provided to the new Global AIDS coordinator, and we have clarified the authorities under which AIDS funds are provided in order to ensure that programs continue with a balanced approach to HIV/AIDS prevention, awareness and treatment.

It is my understanding that the Labor HHS bill provides $443 million in direct funding for AIDS programs, and an additional unspecified amount in the National Institutes of Health budget for AIDS research. I want to clarify that, while we will hear that total AIDS funding in 2004 will be $2.4 billion, my calculations put us at just over $2.3 billion.

The agreement increases Child Survival funding in every category from amounts provided last year, and funds Basic Education at $326 million. I want to thank Chairman KOLBE for joining with me to acknowledge the importance of Basic Education. Unfortunately our priorities had shifted away from Basic Education in the years leading up to September 11th. This level of funding will continue the reversal of that unfortunate trend by increasing funding by 30% over last year.

The agreement contains $650 million for the Millennium Challenge Corporation and the attendant authorization. While this corporation will be independent, we have built in requirements for the involvement of the State Department and USAID for coordination and decision-making. I have been opposed to the concept of creating a new independent agency, and I remain concerned that little to no attention has been paid to how these funds will be spent, monitored or audited.

The authorization provisions provide Congress with ample opportunity to consult with the Chairman of the Corporation as the effort moves forward.

An additional $350 million for the Millennium Challenge Corporation was added to this bill at the request of the President, and will be paid for with a combination of across-the-board cuts and rescission of unexpended balances from FY 2003 and prior supplementals.

I would like to note that there is no way that these additional funds—bringing the total provided for the MCC to $1 billion—can be spent wisely next year.

In putting together our recommendations for this bill, my top priorities were the core development and health accounts. The President has pledged that all funding for the Millennium Challenge Initiative would be in the form of increases above current foreign aid spending. Given that our 302(b) allocation was $1.7 billion below the President's request, we had to make some critical choices. The bottom line is that we could only afford $650 million for the Millennium Challenge Corporation in our bill.

Apparently, if a program is a ''Presidential Initiative,'' it is not subject to budget targets, or a rational approach to how much can actually be spent wisely in a given year. The addition of the extra $350 million clearly violates the President's pledge that all MCC funding be additive.

As we go forward, I intend to ensure that the President's pledge is kept. Outstanding White House commitments to increase other areas of foreign aid spending and currently unknown requirements for Iraq and Afghanistan will take foreign aid spending well over $20 billion next year. We cannot allow funding for this yet-to-be-formed MCC to take precedence over vital ongoing assistance programs.

The conference agreement contains funding for a host of different countries and programs, which I fully support. I want to thank the Chairman for including the requirement that organizations administering refugee programs adhere to a ''sexual code of conduct.'' Together with funds provided in the recent supplemental, we have made a total of $65 million available specifically for programs to meet the special needs of Afghan women. In addition $11 million is made available for women's leadership training.

With respect to the issues surrounding family planning and reproductive health, I regret that the bill does not reverse the current restrictive Bush Administration policies on family planning. Many of us wanted simply to require that organizations providing assistance in foreign countries not be subject to laws more restrictive than the requirements of U.S. law.

Unfortunately, inclusion of this language would have drawn a Presidential veto. The agreement does provide a total of $466 million for family planning, which is a substantial increase above last year. It also provides at least $34 million to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), based on a Presidential certification. I hope that we can take the President at his word in terms of his commitment to work with China. We should work to reverse its objectionable family planning policies so that funds can flow to UNFPA and so that we do not punish poor women around the world because of the policies of one country.

The agreement contains full funding for Israel, Egypt and Jordan and appropriate conditions on Palestinian statehood and direct assistance. We have also included language urging the United Nations Relief Works Agency to implement the recommendations of the recent GAO report regarding terrorism.

The bill restricts military training to Indonesia unless the President certifies that the Indonesian military is fully cooperating in the FBI investigations into the killing of American citizens in Papua.

The bill funds the request for Colombia but requires certification on compliance with human rights standards and the safety of chemicals used in aerial spray eradication programs.

As with all conference reports, every element in the bill isn't perfect. However, I want to again thank Chairman KOLBE for his friendship and for working with me to accommodate many of my priorities.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank the conferees of the Fiscal Year 2004 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for their support of a food biotechnology education program. I am aware of the difficult challenges the conferees faced while crafting this bill, and I am pleased that the conferees included language in the conference report that takes us one step closer to full implementation of this program.

I would like to specifically thank Chairman BONILLA, Ranking Member KAPTUR, Chairman GOODLATTE, and Ranking Member STENHOLM for their cooperation and assistance during this process. I hope that we can continue to work together to find funding for this much-needed education program.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to the Omnibus Appropriation Bill on which we will be voting today. This is an important bill. It funds 11 federal agencies and appropriates more than $820 billion. And although it contains many important provisions that I support, I regret to say that the bad in this bill far outweighs the good. In process, it was undemocratically constructed, often over-riding the will of the majority in both houses. In substance, it is laden with individual pork projects that benefit few, while it under-funds critical and vital government programs that could benefit many more.

Let's first look at the process. A prohibition against the FCC change in the rules for media ownership was significally weakened in this Omnibus bill and the Labor Department's new overtime regulation was dropped entirely, despite the fact that both were agreed to by solid majorities in both Houses of Congress.

But these are not the only reasons I have decided to vote against this bill. I oppose this bill both because of the priorities it represents as well as for those it fails to represent.

Remember ''No Child Left Behind'', the President's education bill that passed with such fanfare earlier this year? This Omnibus bill provides a total of $24.5 billion for this program—$7.8 billion below the amount the Republicans promised for Fiscal Year 2004.

In addition to this broken promise, the Majority has left our veterans behind, too. The veterans medical programs portion of the bill provides $230 million less than Republicans promised in their own budget resolution and $1.7 billion below the amount proposed by veterans' organizations.

This bill does serious damage to several veteran programs. The most dramatic is the cut in funds needed to speed up the processing of applications for these benefits. At the present time, the Department is taking, on average, 157 days to process a claim. The Administration request, which the Committee funded, would have added no additional staff for processing claims. Veterans are not spared the 0.59 percent across the board cut. The cut will reduce funding for the administration of claims by $4 million, which will result in the estimated loss of 100 employees needed for claims processing.

Although the Department of Homeland Security is not funded in this legislation, Homeland Security will be significally affected by

two provisions in this bill. This legislation forces the rescission of $1.8 billion in prior year supplemental appropriations, including a significant portion of funds for the Department of Homeland Security.

Homeland Security will feel the sting of the 0.59 percent across-the-board cut and will have a dramatic impact on certain areas in particular. The planned increase of 570 Customs and Immigration agents for improving border protection will have to be cut by nearly two-thirds.

It is true that passing appropriations bills is about making choices, about identifying priorities. I happen to believe that funding Veterans' Services and Homeland Security to protect our borders with additional Customs and Border personnel is a critical piece to this Nation's future.

The Omnibus fails to provide for our children's education. It shuns our veterans in their time of need. It undermines the security of all of our citizens. It was done behind closed doors and thwarts decisions made earlier this year by both Houses.

This bill is a failure of process and substance. I fear this bill will fail the American people. I would urge my colleagues to reject the unfair process and the unwise policies that flawed process has produced.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, In a recent speech, the President described democracy as when ''governments respond to the will of the people, and not the will of an elite.''

Well, Well.

For the past four years, the House has voted to end the ban on travel by Americans to Cuba. This year, the Senate overwhelmingly supported an identical provision.

But it's not in the bill before us now.

The President wants to keep the embargo intact, and believes that respecting the right of Americans to travel to Cuba would be a concession to Castro. A majority in both the House and Senate disagree. Our fundamental rights as Americans should never be viewed as a bargaining chip.

When the Congress clashes with the White House, the President can do what he threatened to do: veto the bill. Sadly, his agents in Congress took a more cowardly path.

Quietly and secretly, they took the conference report and had the provision erased. No debate. No vote. No democracy. All so the President doesn't have to decide whether to fulfill or break his promises to veto the bill.

Recently, during his visit to Britain, the President said that democratic governments honor the aspirations and dignity of their own people. I submit that the best place to lead by example is in this Capitol building.

This is now bigger than the Cuba debate. This is about the fundamental credibility of the legislative branch of our government.

If the outcome is predetermined by the White House, no matter how many rules get broken in the process, then let's suspend the sermons on democracy. If the fix is in, let's stop pretending.

Senator HAGEL has said the White House treats Congress like a nuisance. I ask my colleagues, is that all we are?

If this institution is to be more than a mere nuisance, then allow democracy to work. Here. And now. When the Congress votes to end the Cuba travel ban, send the provision to the President. And let the system work as the founding fathers intended.

That would show what democracy is really all about.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2673, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2003. Despite the adequate funding provided for a number of district priorities, this legislation contains countless flawed provisions which will harm American families.

The Administration's proposal to dramatically alter overtime rules for American workers will make it substantially more difficult for American workers to make ends meet. This provision will take money away from Americans willing to work longer hours to provide for their families.

This legislation also features severe cuts to critical national priorities. State and local law enforcement is funded at $500 million below current levels when we are asking these heroes to do more every day to provide for our homeland security.

The bill also dramatically underfunds our educational needs. The No Child Left Behind Act will receive $7.7 billion less than was authorized by the Act thus there will be fewer resources for programs in teacher training, bilingual education, and Safe and Drug Free Schools. In my own district, the teachers and faculty of Primitivo Garcia Elementary School, located in Westside Kansas City, have been working hard to meet the demands of the No Child Left Behind Act. They are already struggling to help their students succeed with limited Title I resources. This legislation fails to offer the students and faculty of Primitivo and schools across the country the Federal support they need for our children. The measure also fails to address our nation's higher education needs. Programs such as the Pell Grant which offer higher education funding to the neediest American students will not receive enough funding to meet current demands.

The Omnibus measures also does serious funding damage to veteran programs. The most dramatic is the cut in funds needed to speed up the processing of applications for veteran benefits. Currently there are 448,000 claims pending, of which 95,000 have been in the system for more than 6 months without a disposition. On average the Department is taking 157 days to process a claim. The administration request would have added no additional staff for processing claims. The 0.59% across the board cut will reduce funding for the administration of claims by $4 million and that will result in the estimated loss of 100 employees needed for claims processing. This comes at a time when the number of claims is likely to skyrocket as Iraqi war veterans apply for benefits. In my district, the Kansas City VA Medical Center provides quality service to thousands of veterans each year. The hospital's need for skilled health care professionals continues to grow. This bill fails to provide adequate funding to meet these needs.

This legislation includes funding for a number of projects within the Kansas City area. Among the programs and departments receiving funding are a stormwater project in Belton, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the Cabot Westside Clinic and the Liberty Memorial Museum, which will use $100,000 for renovation and $50,000 for education. The Omnibus spending bill also includes more than $7 million for transportation projects, such as reconstruction of the Grandview triangle and expansion of the Lewis and Clark Expressway. Other recipients are the Kansas City Region Job Access Program, which will receive $500,000 for their programs to link low income families and welfare recipients to employment centers and employment related services; and the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, which will use $4.7 million in funding for replacement, upgrades and improvements to basic transit infrastructure, including buses.

As much as I was encouraged that these items were included in the bill, many important projects in Kansas City and around the nation were left unfunded for partisan reasons. In my own district, funding for the St. Vincent Family Service Center's Operation Breakthrough, the Independence School District, and St. Mark's United Inner City Services, all of which received previous Federal funding, were all denied funding because of this partisan vendetta. This is a dangerous precedent and I would urge the appropriators to consider the value of projects independent of partisan politics. The American taxpayers deserve no less.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this legislation. We can do better. Let's work together to protect the overtime of American workers, adequately provide for our students and veterans, and give communities the support they need.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this irresponsible Omnibus spending bill. This Republican bill is a stealth attempt to impose an extremist agenda on America—an agenda that most Americans don't support. But, therein lies the Republican's deceitful strategy: to hide numerous controversial provisions in the minutia and complexity of a huge Omnibus bill, then ram it through with less than a few hours of debate.

Let's take a moment to see what this bill actually includes.

It will deny workers their right to overtime. It gives President Bush—despite all his false rhetoric about caring for working families—the green light to impose government regulations denying overtime pay to millions of hard-working Americans. That's right, it takes away worker protections for fair pay.

Does the bill then at least make sure workers who can't find jobs receive extended unemployment benefits? No. Nowhere in this bill is there a dime for working Americans who are unemployed. Why? Well, because Republicans simply refuse to extend unemployment benefits to the over 2 million Americans who are suffering from long-term extended unemployment. These are folks who have been out-of-work for 26 weeks or more unable to find a job. His father, when he was President, extended federal unemployment benefits for these people, but this President Bush doesn't see any need to be that compassionate.

While the President talks about recent minimal job growth as if it was ''mission accomplished'' on the economy, it isn't enough to make up for the millions of jobs that have disappeared since he took office. There are still 14 million Americans either out of work or making due with part time employment. We must do more to help these families survive. But, nothing is included in this last bill that Congress will consider this year.

Of course this Republican Omnibus doesn't stop at making life harder for working Americans or ignoring Americans out of work. It also goes after America's veterans. It cuts the budget for the Veterans Administration by $443 million. This includes a $15 million cut

for medical care. Putting veterans health care on a shoestring budget isn't the way to reward those who have fought for this country or those who have come back critically injured from their duty in Iraq.

This bill also hurts women's reproductive rights. It prevents federal employees from accessing reproductive health services under the health plans they pay into. It prohibits the District of Columbia from offering assistance for low-income women to access needed reproductive services. These women should not be singled out and prevented from exercising their constitutional right to reproductive choice. But, that is exactly the path this bill sets us on.

This bill shortchanges America's public schools. It does this by taking a first step toward a federal program of vouchers for private schools by creating a school voucher demonstration program for Washington, DC. It doesn't matter that this demonstration will take money away from the DC public school system which serves all DC's students, while providing necessary funds for only a few students to attend private schools.

This bill also undermines the diversity of our media marketplace by opening the door for the concentration of corporate power and influence over the public's airwaves. Even though the House and Senate each voted to maintain the existing Federal Communication Commission limitations on media ownership, this bill permits the FCC to allow greater concentration of media ownership. It will diminish the diversity of viewpoints and programming placing our very marketplace of ideas in the hands of a few major media conglomerates.

With Republicans controlling the House, the Senate and the White House, this type of appropriations process in which everything is thrown into one, huge bill should be unnecessary. But, the facts is that this bill exists because the Republican leadership could not get their job done. Congress did not pass 7 of the nation's 13 spending bills that are required to keep the government operating.

But, I also suspect that the Republican leadership has done this on purpose—using the Omnibus bill to all their extreme objectives enacted when they couldn't pass on their own. After all, the House already voted down destroying overtime pay for America's workers. The Senate had been unwilling to vote on school vouchers. And, both the House and Senate voted down new media ownership rules. Yet, they have all reared their ugly heads again in the Omnibus bill that will be the final business the House will consider this year.

If most Americans were allowed to hear a real debate on this shameful and irresponsible bill, they would urge us to vote it down. I urge my colleagues to do just that.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 242, nays 176, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 676]

YEAS—242

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachus
Baker
Ballenger
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Bell
Bereuter
Berkley
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boucher
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carson (IN)
Carter
Case
Chocola
Clyburn
Coble
Cole
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Culberson
Cunningham
Davis (AL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emerson
English
Everett
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Greenwood
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley (OR)
Houghton
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Lampson
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Manzullo
Marshall
McCarthy (NY)
McCotter
McCrery
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Mica
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Murphy
Murtha
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neugebauer
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Oxley
Pastor
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Rush
Sabo
Sandlin
Saxton
Schrock
Scott (GA)
Serrano
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Spratt
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tauzin
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

NAYS—176

Abercrombie
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Ballance
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Becerra
Berman
Berry
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boyd
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Castle
Chabot
Clay
Collins
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Cox
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeMint
Deutsch
Dingell
Dooley (CA)
Duncan
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Flake
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gephardt
Green (WI)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hefley
Hensarling
Hill
Hinchey
Honda
Hostettler
Hoyer
Inslee
Isakson
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kleczka
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Majette
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Michaud
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (NC)
Moran (VA)
Musgrave
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Otter
Owens
Pallone
Paul
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pomeroy
Rangel
Rodriguez
Rohrabacher
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sanchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velazquez
Waters
Watson
Watt
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—17

Burton (IN)
Carson (OK)
Cubin
Doggett
Filner
Fletcher
Gallegly
Janklow
Lantos
Lynch
Miller, George
Nadler
Pascrell
Taylor (NC)
Waxman
Wexler
Young (AK)

□ 1523

Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ROYCE, and Mr. TOOMEY changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 676, due to urgent constituent support commitments in my Congressional District, I missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted ''nay.''

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 850

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 850.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.