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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPORT
109–485

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2007

JUNE 1, 2006.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. LEWIS of California, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

Additional Views

[To accompany H.R. 5521]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes.

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SUMMARY OF BILL

The bill, as recommended by the Committee, provides appropriations for fiscal year 2007 legislative branch operations, which total $3,026,903,000.

Conforming with long practice under which each body of Congress determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, funds for the Senate are not included in the bill as reported to the House. Current appropriations estimates for the Senate for fiscal year 2006, including those under the Architect of the Capitol, total $987,453,000.

A comparative summary of the bill by title and agency follows:

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

[Note.—Excludes Senate items including those Senate items under Architect of the Capitol]

Agency	New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	New budget (obligational) authority recommended in bill	Bill compared with—	
				New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007
TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS					
House of Representatives	$1,089,898,000	$1,156,322,000	$1,137,806,000	+$47,908,000	−$18,516,000
Joint items	19,617,000	24,683,000	24,624,000	+5,007,000	−59,000
Capitol Police	246,961,000	295,083,000	259,100,000	+12,139,000	−35,983,000
Office of Compliance	3,081,000	3,418,000	3,149,000	+68,000	−269,000
Congressional Budget Office	35,096,000	37,026,000	36,329,000	+1,233,000	−697,000
Architect of the Capitol (except Senate office buildings)	357,859,000	477,626,000	363,134,000	+5,275,000	−114,492,000
Library of Congress	554,893,000	588,131,000	570,177,000	+15,284,000	−17,954,000
Government Printing Office	122,193,000	151,516,000	130,520,000	+8,327,000	−20,996,000
Government Accountability Office	477,571,000	502,370,000	488,234,000	+10,663,000	−14,136,000
Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund	13,860,000	14,400,000	13,400,000	−460,000	−1,000,000
John C. Stennis Center	430,000	430,000	430,000		
Grand total, new budget, (obligational) authority (for items considered by House)	$2,921,459,000	$3,251,005,000	$3,026,903,000	+$105,444,000	−$224,102,000

HIGHLIGHTS OF BILL

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Budget estimates.—The budget estimates considered by the Committee total $3,251,005,000. By law, budget requests for the legislative branch are transmitted to the Congress by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the President without change in the amounts submitted by the originating agency.

Committee recommendations.—A total of $3,026,903,000 in new budget (obligational) authority is recommended for fiscal year 2007. The bill does not include Senate items.

Comparison with fiscal year 2006 appropriations.—Compared with the appropriations enacted for fiscal year 2006, the recommendation of $3,026,903,000 in net new budget (obligational) authority for fiscal year 2007 is an increase of $105,444,000 above fiscal year 2006 and $224,102,000 below the budget request.

STRUCTURE OF THE BILL

The bill is divided into two titles:

Title I—Contains the appropriations for the House of Representatives, Joint Items, the Capitol Police, the Office of Compliance, the Congressional Budget Office, the Architect of the Capitol (except Senate office buildings), the Library of Congress, the Government Printing Office, the Government Accountability Office, the Open World Leadership Center, and the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development.

Title II—Contains general provisions.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCHWIDE MATTERS

Dispute Resolution Procedures.—House Report 109–139 accompanying the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill for FY 2006 directed the Office of Compliance to prepare a report with recommendations regarding the duplication of administrative dispute resolution programs between the agencies of the Legislative Branch. The Office of Compliance, engaging in an interactive information gathering process with such agencies, has completed the report which includes recommendations to address the multiplicity of employment dispute resolution procedures within the Legislative Branch. The Committee concurs with the recommendation that the dispute resolution programs should be approached from an evolutionary perspective, rather than by immediate comprehensive legislation. Therefore, the Committee directs that the agencies of the Legislative Branch, exclusive of the House and Senate, establish a council to serve as a coordinating body to engage in collaborative efforts to explore and implement improvements in efficiency and effectiveness, reductions of redundancies, and sharing of functions. The Committee further directs that the agencies organize in a manner such as that of the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council and the Administrative Officers Council and directs the Office of Compliance to convene and facilitate the establishment and operation of the Employment Dispute Resolution Council. The Committee expects that the Council will report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate annually as part of the budget justification process reflecting its efforts and the progress

being made toward the aforementioned goals and the resulting cost savings.

Mass transit benefits.—The Committee has included funding for the Federal Mass Transit Benefit Program for the agencies of the Legislative Branch. The Committee allowance provides a $105 per month allowance to the employees who participate in the program. The Committee encourages the agencies of the Legislative Branch to support employee participation in this very important program.

Appropriations Language.—Each year the agencies of the Legislative Branch submit, as part of their annual budget request, requests for new legislative language and/or changes to existing language. The Committee reminds all agencies that any language submitted as part of the President's annual budget requires full justification and will not be considered unless it is included in the justification of estimates.

Committee Requests.—The Committee is concerned and will no longer tolerate substandard quality and responses to requests for information. Managers are expected to be available for responses during critical phases of the appropriations process and offices should be covered by staff at all times during regular working hours. Managers are expected to respond to requests immediately and if delays are anticipated or deadlines cannot be met, agencies are responsible to keep Committee staff informed of the progress and expected timeline of the responses.

Payroll Projections.—The Committee is concerned with the various approaches demonstrated by the agencies regarding computation and presentation of requested payroll projections. Therefore, the Committee directs the Financial Managers Council with representation from each agency to develop a methodology and presentation format for standard use by all agencies. The Council will provide to the Committee on Appropriations of the House and Senate the recommendations, including formats and supporting documentation, as appropriate, for review by December 31, 2006.

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Committee bill recommends a total of $1,137,806,000 for the operations of the House of Representatives during fiscal year 2007. The allowance is $47,908,000 above the current level and is $18,516,000 below the request.

The following tabulation summarizes the recommendations:

Item	*Amount*
Salaries and expenses:	
House leadership offices	$21,092,000
Members' representational allowances	557,796,000
Committee salaries and expenses	151,348,000
Salaries, officers and employees	159,581,000
Allowances and expenses	247,989,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	$1,137,806,000
Total, House of Representatives	$1,137,806,000

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2006 appropriation	$1,089,898,000

2007 budget estimate	1,156,322,000
Committee recommendation	1,137,806,000

The appropriation for the operations of the House of Representatives is the salaries and expenses appropriation. The account includes the following House activities: House leadership offices; Members' representational allowances; committee salaries and expenses; salaries, officers and employees; allowances and expenses; and the child care center. The amount provided is $1,137,806,000.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

2006 appropriation	$19,844,000
2007 budget estimate	20,766,000
Committee recommendation	21,092,000

The Committee recommends a total of $21,092,000 for the operations of the leadership offices during fiscal year 2007.

The allocation by office follows:

House Leadership Offices

Item	*Amount*
Office of the Speaker	$2,930,000
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	2,213,000
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	3,072,000
Office of the Majority Whip	1,921,000
Office of the Minority Whip	1,458,000
Speaker's Office for Legislative Floor Activities	491,000
Republican Steering Committee	924,000
Republican Conference	1,699,000
Republican Policy Committee	407,000
Democratic Steering and Policy Committee	2,194,000
Democratic Caucus	836,000
Nine Minority Employees	1,473,000
Training and Program Development:	
Majority	290,000
Minority	290,000
Cloakroom Personnel:	
Majority	447,000
Minority	447,000
Total	$21,092,000

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

2006 appropriation	$534,109,000
2007 budget estimate	559,628,000
Committee recommendation	557,796,000

A total of $557,796,000 is recommended for the representational allowances of the Members of the House, the so-called MRA account. The Committee bill provides $399,072,000 for clerk hire salaries, $139,383,000 for official expenses, and $19,341,000 for official mail. It should be noted that these components are fungible under regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration. Each Member has an overall consolidated allowance established by the Committee on House Administration from which staff salaries, office expenses, and mail costs are drawn.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

2006 appropriation	$142,572,000
2007 budget estimate	152,733,000
Committee recommendation	151,348,000

Standing Committees, special and select.—For the salaries and expenses of committees funded in the biennial funding resolution, $124,851,000 is provided.

Committee on Appropriations.—For the salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations (including the studies and investigation activities authorized by section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946), $26,497,000 is provided.

Details of the funding resolution, H. Res. 224 (House Report 109–54) approved by the House for the 109th Congress, follow:

COMMITTEE FUNDING AUTHORIZATIONS, 109TH CONGRESS

Committee	1st session	2nd session	Total
Agriculture	$5,495,805	$5,761,204	$11,257,009
Armed Services	6,292,249	6,533,959	12,826,208
Budget	6,013,239	6,013,239	12,026,478
Education and the Workforce	7,705,970	7,787,316	15,493,286
Energy and Commerce	9,812,619	10,113,068	19,925,687
Financial Services	7,427,648	7,775,452	15,203,100
Government Reform	10,121,443	10,375,642	20,497,085
Homeland Security	6,100,026	7,899,974	14,000,000
House Administration	4,648,683	4,905,885	9,554,568
Intelligence	4,500,653	5,027,217	9,527,870
International Relations	7,946,084	8,352,934	16,299,018
Judiciary	7,461,565	7,851,427	15,312,992
Resources	7,178,224	7,342,738	14,520,962
Rules	3,074,229	3,291,371	6,365,600
Science	6,101,648	6,226,348	12,327,996
Small Business	2,721,600	2,865,373	5,586,973
Standards of Official Conduct	1,891,890	2,398,646	4,290,536
Transportation and Infrastructure	8,856,869	9,251,213	18,108,082
Veterans' Affairs	3,075,732	3,398,686	6,474,418
Ways and Means	8,674,514	9,144,980	17,819,494
Select Committee on Hurricane Katrina (H. Res. 437)	500,000	.....	500,000
Total	$125,600,690	$132,316,672	$257,917,362

Since the funding resolution is done on a biennial basis and the resolution for the 109th Congress will expire on December 31, 2006. This funding will support the first session of the 110th Congress and is provided through December 31, 2008.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

2006 appropriation	$171,249,000
2007 budget estimate	166,848,000
Committee recommendation	159,581,000

The Committee recommendation for the salaries and expenses of House officers and employees of the various activities funded through this consolidated item is $159,581,000. This amount represents an overall decrease of $11,668,000 below the amount enacted in fiscal year 2006 and is $7,267,000 below the request.

Remote Access Capability.— The Committee is pleased with the efforts to date to ensure the continuity of this institution since the events of September 11th and the anthrax and ricin incidents. Considerable effort and resources have been undertaken to enable Members, committees and staff to operate from a single remote location.

The Committee, however, is concerned that in the event access to a central location is compromised, especially during the initial days after an incident, essential communication and coordination

among congressional leaders, Members and key staff may not be established.

While the infrastructure now exists to facilitate remote access and enable communication from dispersed location, the arrangement among Members and offices is voluntary, creating a patchwork of compliance and present capability. The Committee has concerns that more should be done to improve current capabilities and therefore directs the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a proactive plan to improve compliance and enable more Members, committee and critical support staff that have redundant capacities to communicate and access their data and electronic resources from dispersed remote locations. Such a plan must include a timetable and cost estimate for meeting this objective and a continuity of government demonstration project to measure the plan's effectiveness.

Disposal of Unwanted Telecommunications Equipment.—The Committee expects the Chief Administrative Officer to fully ensure compliance with the regulations promulgated by the Committee on House Administration regarding the disposal of unwanted telecommunications equipment, as reflected in the "Guide to Outfitting and Maintaining the U.S. House of Representatives." In fulfilling this requirement, the CAO is encouraged to reach out to Member offices to ensure awareness of this policy and to develop user-friendly guidelines and procedures.

Archiving of Member's Official Records.—The Committee encourages the Clerk to expand upon the existing program to provide ongoing records management support for all Members of Congress. The Office of the Clerk is requested to actively contact each member at the start of each session of Congress and provide records management manuals and other materials to assist them in setting up and/or maintaining their records management system. It is also the Committee's desire that the House Archivist be available for consultations with current Member offices. The Clerk of the House is directed to report to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration, no later than February 1, 2007, the need for additional staffing and resources in order to expand the records management program.

The following table summarizes the funding allocation provided to each component of the account.

Salaries, Officers and Employees

Item	*Amount*
Office of the Clerk	$21,505,000
Office of the Sergeant at Arms	6,240,000
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	109,301,000
Office of the Inspector General	4,204,000
Office of Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Operations	3,997,000
Office of General Counsel	959,000
Office of the Chaplain	164,000
Office of the Parliamentarian	1,762,000
Parliamentarian	(1,403,000)
Compilation of Precedents	(359,000)
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House	2,521,000
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House	7,406,000
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs	737,000
Other authorized employees	285,000
Office of the Historian	500,000
Total	$159,581,000

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

2006 appropriation	$222,124,000
2007 budget estimate	256,347,000
Committee recommendation	247,989,000

A total of $247,989,000 is recommended for fiscal year 2007 for allowances and expenses. This amount is $25,865,000 above the current level and is $8,358,000 below the request. These funds include supplies, materials, administrative costs, and Federal tort claims; the costs of official mail for the committees, leadership, and administrative offices; employee benefits; miscellaneous items; Capitol Visitor Center; and Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery. Over 87% of these funds provide the employer share of retirement, health care, and unemployment compensation payments for House employees.

The following table sets forth the various expense categories within this appropriation:

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

Detail	*Recommended 2007*
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	$4,554,000
Official mail (committees, administrative, and leadership offices)	410,000
Government contributions	217,253,000
Capitol Visitor Center	3,410,000
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	21,659,000
Miscellaneous items:	
House automobiles	143,000
Gratuities to beneficiaries of deceased staff	520,000
Interparliamentary receptions	40,000
Subtotal, miscellaneous items	$703,000
Total, allowances and expenses	$247,989,000

CHILD CARE CENTER

The bill provides authority for the House child care center budget, as required by Sec. 312(d)(1) of Public Law 102–990, as presented to the Committee by the Chief Administrative Officer. It should be noted that tuition and other center-generated revenues fund child care center operations.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 101 provides for unspent amounts remaining in Members' Representational Allowances account to be used for deficit reduction. Section 102 increases lump-sum allowances with the approval of the Committee on House Administration. Section 103 provides for the continuation of the duties of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House in the case of the incumbent not being able to fulfill the duties. Section 104 allows the CAO to contract with a public or private entity for the operation of the House Fitness Facility. Section 105 permits Architect of the Capitol employees to receive discounted memberships in exercise facilities under contract to the House. Section 106 extends membership in the House Fitness Facility for employees other than those paid by the House payroll, subject to approval of the House Administration Com-

mittee. Section 107 provides for media support services at Presidential nominating conventions.

JOINT ITEMS

The Committee recommends appropriations totaling $24,624,000 for fiscal year 2007 for the various joint committees and activities carried under this heading. The recommendation is $5,007,000 above the amount provided for fiscal year 2006 and is $59,000 below the request.

The following summarizes the recommendations:

Joint Items

Item	*Amount*
Joint Economic Committee	$4,370,000
Joint Committee on Taxation	9,082,000
Office of the Attending Physician	2,652,000
Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office	8,490,000
Statements of Appropriations	30,000
Total	$24,624,000

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

2006 appropriation	$4,276,000
2007 budget estimate	4,406,000
Committee recommendation	4,370,000

The Committee has provided $4,370,000 for the Joint Economic Committee. This amount reflects an increase of $94,000 above the enacted level and is $36,000 below the revised request.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

2006 appropriation	$8,693,000
2007 budget estimate	9,105,000
Committee recommendation	9,082,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of $9,082,000 for the Joint Committee on Taxation. This amount reflects an increase of $389,000 above the enacted level and is $23,000 below the request.

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

2006 appropriation	$2,520,000
2007 budget estimate	2,652,000
Committee recommendation	2,652,000

The Committee has approved $2,652,000 for medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances of Navy personnel detailed to the Office of the Attending Physician. This amount reflects an increase of $132,000 above the enacted level and is the same as the request.

CAPITOL GUIDE SERVICE AND SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE

2006 appropriation	$4,098,000
2007 budget estimate	8,490,000
Committee recommendation	8,490,000

The Committee bill provides $8,490,000 for the operation of the Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office during the next

fiscal year. This amount reflects an increase of $4,392,000 above the enacted level and is the same as the amended budget request. This amount will support 143 FTE's to address the anticipated increased workload as a result of the opening of the Capitol Visitor Center.

STATEMENTS OF APPROPRIATIONS

2006 appropriation	$30,000
2007 budget estimate	30,000
Committee recommendation	30,000

The sum of $30,000 is included for the preparation of the usual compilation of the statements of appropriations for the 2nd session of the 109th Congress. The House and Senate Committees on Appropriations compile this publication jointly.

CAPITOL POLICE

2006 appropriation	$246,961,000
2007 budget estimate	295,083,000
Committee recommendation	259,100,000

The recommendations in the bill provide a total of $259,100,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the Capitol Police during fiscal year 2007. This amount reflects $220,600,000 for salaries and $38,500,000 for general expenses.

Beginning with the submission of the fiscal year 2008 budget the Committee directs the Capitol Police to include in the Appendix of the Budget of the United States Government complete Program and Finance schedules including Object Classification schedules.

The Committee commends the Department on its plan to conduct a comprehensive workforce planning effort and encourages the following activities: a determination of core mission/responsibilities/expectations with stakeholders; a review of appropriate total FTE manning levels necessary to fulfill core mission requirements and responsibilities; a thorough review of, and compliance with, USCP policies, orders, directives, and operating procedures for alignment with core mission and organizational strategy; an assessment of organizational competencies and individual job category competencies to determine alignment with the requirements of core mission; a review of scheduling practices, especially in areas where the workforce is deployed in shifts; the leveraging of technology, and identification of opportunities for strategic outsourcing to improve workforce flexibilities and reduce costs.

SALARIES

2006 appropriation	$215,281,000
2007 budget estimate	246,700,000
Committee recommendation	220,600,000

The Committee bill provides $220,600,000 for the salaries and benefits authorized for police services throughout the Capitol Police jurisdiction during fiscal year 2007. This is an increase of $5,319,000 over the enacted level and is $26,100,000 less than the request.

This level of funding will support the current staffing level of 1658 sworn, plus an additional 10 FTEs for the Library of Con-

gress, for a total of 1668 sworn FTEs. Funding is also included to support 414 civilian FTEs.

The Committee is encouraged by the efforts of the USCP to thoroughly review its original request of new personnel needed to staff the Capitol Visitor Center. It is noted that through careful application of risk-management strategies, and other means, the Department has managed to reduce its original request from 63 officers and supervisors to a total of 30. The Committee directs the Chief of Police to determine if additional savings can be achieved through further evaluation of posts and assignments, converting vacant civilian positions to sworn, civilianization of appropriate sworn positions, or other means. The Chief of Police is expected to report his findings to the Committee no later than July 7, 2006.

General Expenses

2006 appropriation	$31,680,000
2007 budget estimate	48,383,000
Committee recommendation	38,500,000

The amount of $38,500,000 is recommended for all general expenses of the Capitol Police for fiscal year 2007. This is an increase of $6,820,000 above the enacted level and is $9,883,000 less than the request. In addition, $4,600,000 is available from prior year unobligated balances and fiscal year 2006 projected salary surpluses upon the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Administrative Provisions

Section 1001 authorizes transfers between the various accounts of the Capitol Police. Section 1002 increases the authorization for tuition reimbursement. Section 1003 provides advance payment authority for subscription services. In regard to any advance payment for subscription services, a discount offered to the Capitol Police must exceed the cost of the funds per the rate published by the United States Treasury (I TFM 6–8040.40).

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Salaries and Expenses

2006 appropriation	$3,081,000
2007 budget estimate	3,418,000
Committee recommendation	3,149,000

The bill provides $3,149,000 for the Office of Compliance. This amount is $68,000 above the current level and is $269,000 below the budget request. This amount provides for 20 FTEs.

The Committee has not included the language requested by the Office of Compliance to have its employees defined as "Congressional employees" for the purpose of retirement benefits. The Committee suggests that the Office work with its authorizing committees to address this issue.

Administrative Provision

Section 1101 authorizes lump-sum payments to reward exceptional performance.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2006 appropriation	$35,096,000
2007 budget estimate	37,026,000
Committee recommendation	36,329,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of $36,329,000 for the Congressional Budget Office. This is $1,233,000 above the current year and is $697,000 below the budget request.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

2006 appropriation	$357,859,000
2007 budget estimate	477,626,000
Committee recommendation	363,134,000

The Committee recommends a total of $363,134,000 for fiscal year 2007 for the various operational and maintenance activities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC). Excluded is the Senate office building account, which will be considered by the Senate. This amount is $5,275,000, or 1.5% above the amount provided for fiscal year 2006 and is $114,492,000, or 24% below the request.

A summary of the appropriations recommended follows:

Architect of the Capitol (Excluding Senate)

Item	*Amount*
Architect of the Capitol:	
General Administration	$89,413,000
Capitol building	22,396,000
Capitol grounds	7,806,000
House office buildings	61,383,000
Capitol Power Plant	79,327,000
Library buildings and grounds	36,401,000
Capitol Police buildings and grounds	11,621,000
Botanic Garden	8,612,000
Capitol Visitor Center	46,175,000
Total	$363,134,000

Project Overhead Costs. The Committee is pleased that the Architect is taking proactive measures to review and improve the operations and management of the Construction Branch and looks forward to continued updates on the progress of this effort. However, the Committee is concerned that the Architect does not have a systematic relationship between direct project management costs and indirect costs for general or administrative overhead support attributable to the work performed for a project. To provide more transparency and accountability, the Committee directs the Architect to accumulate its direct project management and indirect overhead costs over the last three years, evaluate the rates used to allocate indirect overhead costs to determine whether the allocation was accurate and done in the most cost-effective manner, and report the results to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate by December 31, 2006. The Committee also directs the Architect to use the results of the evaluation to establish a procedure that sets and allocates indirect overhead costs in a more consistent, effective and efficient manner. The Architect shall reevaluate the assessment of its indirect costs every three years and provide for

an independent analysis of its assessment. Further, the Committee is concerned that certain charges to projects are not always charged to the project to which the work directly relates. Therefore, the Architect is directed to include in its review the process by which charges are made to projects to ensure that all charges are in compliance with appropriations law in terms of time and purpose, and also report the results to the Committees by December 31, 2006. The Government Accountability Office is requested to include these concerns in its ongoing review of AOC management functions and to provide advice and assistance to the AOC as required.

Outsourcing. The Committee is concerned that little has been accomplished by the Architect in determining whether any outsourcing opportunities exist for the management and operation of its facilities, the study of those opportunities, and where warranted, the execution of contracts with private companies. The Committee directs the Architect, with the assistance of the Government Accountability Office, to develop a plan using criteria agreed to with the Committee that analyzes the costs, cost effectiveness, benefits, and feasibility of the Architect entering into contracts with private entities for managing and operating its facilities, including operations inside the buildings and the grounds about the same. The Architect shall submit the plan to the Committee by November 30, 2006, and include the appropriate requests with the fiscal year 2008 budget submission.

FTE Management. The Committee is pleased with the progress made by the AOC Workforce Management team in the development and implementation of an automated system that tracks, monitors, projects, and reports full-time equivalent employment for both regular and overtime employment. While there are still certain goals to be met, the team has made great advances in this endeavor including quality checks against payroll data and the monthly report on civilian FTEs (SF–113G); biweekly reports to AOC managers; an enhanced FTE calculator; and the addition into the database of historical data for both regular and overtime FTEs.

The AOC has been cooperative in working with this Committee to set reasonable FTE caps to abate the uncontrolled growth in permanent and temporary positions through the use of additional project FTEs.

The table on full-time equivalent positions follows:

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYMENT CAPS FY 2007

Appropriation	Permanent Cap	New Permanent Recommended [1]	Temporary & Projects	Total Jurisdiction	Construction Branch [2]	Total
General Administration	356	8	6	370	0	370
Capitol Building	150	.....	20	170	8	178
Capitol Grounds	64	.....	0	64	7	71
Senate Office Buildings [3]	437	.....	48	485	77	562
House Office Buildings	481	1	29	511	62	573
Capitol Power Plant	77	.....	2	79	16	95
Library Buildings and Grounds	120	.....	16	136	51	187
Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds	3	.....	.....	3	9	12
Botanic Garden	62	.....	2	64	2	66
Capitol Visitor Center	105	.....	10	115	.....	115

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYMENT CAPS FY 2007—Continued

Appropriation	Permanent Cap	New Permanent Recommended [1]	Temporary & Projects	Total Jurisdiction	Construction Branch [2]	Total
Total	1,855	9	133	1,997	232	2,229

[1] 2 Nurses, 1 Senior accountant, 1 Financial Analyst, 1 PE Assistant, 1 Statutory Inspector General, 1 Deputy Inspector General, 1 Management Analyst, 1 Secretary.

[2] Construction Branch (CB) FTEs reflect estimates only. CB FTEs are charged to appropriations as required by project work and are interchangeable between appropriations.

[3] Senate Office Buildings, for reference only, reflects FY 2005 and FY 2006 actuals for permanent, temporary, and project FTEs and the total cap of 562.

Emergency Preparedness.—While the Committee supports the program for emergency preparedness and has included funding as requested in each appropriation, there is concern that the program needs further development and central management. Therefore, by November 1, 2006, and prior to the obligation of any funds for this purpose, the Committee directs the Safety Officer to submit a detailed plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, subject to approval, further describing the intended use of these funds. This plan will describe comprehensively, on an agency-wide basis, the goals, schedule, staffing and cost requirements of this program for fiscal year 2007 and the subsequent years for which funding will be required. The plan will also detail the coordination of this program with similar programs in other Legislative Branch agencies. This effort should be coordinated by an existing safety position.

Statutory Inspector General.—Due to longstanding lapses in management practices in the Office of the Architect, the Committee is forced to take action to address this situation.

The Committee is continually dismayed with the ongoing difficulties in the Architect's office such as the delays and escalating costs of the Capitol Visitor Center; cost overruns and lack of planning for transition and employee training for the new West Refrigeration Plant; and a complete management breakdown in the handling of safety requirements in the utility tunnels. Therefore, the Committee includes in the bill the establishment of a statutory Inspector General (IG) position to audit and report semi-annually on management and operations issues, and other issues as required. The IG will ensure that the AOC is using appropriate management practices and accounting standards within the limitations of the law. The bill language includes authority for the IG to establish a staff, but for initial staffing purposes the fiscal year 2007 bill includes a total of 5 FTEs and funding for the IG; a Deputy IG, utilizing existing authority for a senior level position; a GS–12 Management Analyst; a GS–7 Administrative Secretary, and the current GS–15 position. This action is not intended to displace the sole GS–15 non-statutory position that is currently assigned similar duties, but rather to enhance and augment these much needed services.

The Committee directs the Architect of the Capitol to enter into a contract with an executive employment search organization to perform a nation-wide recruitment of the Inspector General. The Committee further directs the formation of a panel comprised of the Inspectors General of the House of Representatives and the Library of Congress, and a representative selected by the Senate, to review the applications, interview the top applicants, and forward

a recommendation, including not less than three candidates to the Architect of the Capitol for final consultation on selection with the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Senate Rules and Administration. The final selection will take place not less than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

Continuance of GAO Management Review.—The Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the professional assistance provided by the GAO over the past 3 years in the review of management practices and systems in the office of the Architect and for the resulting recommendations set forth in the GAO report of February 2006. While much progress has been made in the identification of management deficiencies, the Committee requests a continuation of GAO efforts in providing assistance and oversight in the implementation of the recommendations. While the GAO has cited 61 recommendations, none have been fully addressed by the Architect and only 21 have been partially addressed. The Committee believes that the critical nature of the situation requires more fervent intervention. The GAO will intensify and expedite this process by providing full-time, on-site staff to this effort. The Architect is directed to provide work space and equipment to the GAO staff. It is expected that this endeavor will require a long-term commitment and will be reviewed for continuation before the markup of the fiscal year 2008 bill.

Newly Hired AOC Leaders.—The addition of the IG and the continuation of the GAO staff are in no way a reflection of the abilities of the recently hired leaders in the office of the Architect, but instead are provided to ensure that current management practices are improved on a swift and efficient basis. The Committee is pleased, thus far, with the performance exhibited by the Architect's new team and looks forward to a cooperative effort in addressing the management deficiencies.

While the Committee is pleased that the Architect has made recent selections to fill vacant leadership positions, it is clear that the culture of the organization must change. The Committee believes these actions are necessary and warranted to ensure that new managers do not fall into unfavorable situations that may have been created by their predecessors.

Organizational Realignment.—The Architect is directed to place the Office of Equal Employment under the purview of the Inspector General, so that the chance of a conflict in the chain of command is removed. This action will provide that the EEO office can function in an independent and unimpeded manner. Likewise, the Chief Financial Officer will report directly to the Architect to avoid any possibility of conflict through reporting channels. These actions are to take place immediately through this report directive.

Overtime Reform.—The Committee understands that there are definite needs for overtime work to meet emergency requirements and certain Congressional events, but strongly encourages the Architect to avoid the current practice of "scheduled overtime" on a regular basis. Instead, the work schedules should be revised to cover such periods as part of the general work week. The Committee directs the Architect to take immediate action to review overtime usage on an individual and organizational basis to determine potential cost savings and work place efficiencies and to detect any potential abuses or misuses of overtime. Based on the find-

ings, it is directed that policy be drafted on these issues and submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate no later than November 1, 2006. The estimated reductions in overtime payroll funding resulting from this directive should be submitted with the justification of estimates for the fiscal year 2008 budget.

E–85 Ethanol Fuel.—The Committee believes that the federal government should lead by example with regard to compliance with federal energy laws and the use of alternative fuels in flex-fueled vehicles. An increasing number of vehicles leased and operated for Legislative Branch purposes are capable of operating on E–85 Ethanol Fuel, yet there are few commercial or government fueling stations within a close proximity with such fuel. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Architect of the Capitol to complete a study on the feasibility of installing an E–85 tank, pump and related infrastructure for the use of official House of Representative vehicles, within six months of enactment of this Act. It is the Committee's intent that the installation of such equipment should commence within nine months of enactment of this Act.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

2006 appropriation	$76,044,000
2007 budget estimate	103,474,000
Committee recommendation	89,413,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of $89,413,000, for fiscal year 2007. This amount is $13,369,000 above the amount provided in fiscal year 2006 and is $14,061,000 below the budget request. This account provides funds for personal services, equipment, communications, and other central support activities of the Architect of the Capitol. This recommendation provides for the addition of eight FTEs including two nurses for the CVC; two positions to support the new cost accounting system, a senior accountant and a financial analyst; and four for the office of the Inspector General bringing the total FTE complement of the IG office to five.

Cost Accounting. The Committee is encouraged by the progress in the development of a cost accounting system within the AOC. During this critical development and implementation period, the Architect is directed to provide the Committee with a bimonthly progress report beginning on the first of the month following the issuance of this report. The status report will include the schedule, cost estimates, and critical milestones. Ultimately, the Committee looks forward to reports that capture the total cost of a program or project, including all overhead costs, a major goal of this effort.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$48,008,000	$46,744,000
Operations	41,201,000	36,864,000

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—Continued

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$89,209,000	$83,608,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Conversion of Electronic OPF's	$850,000	$400,000
Office Services Van	27,000	27,000
BASNet Back Upgrades	45,000	45,000
Maintenance Van-High Voltage Shop	27,000	27,000
Load Bank (13.2 kv, 1,500kw)	125,000	125,000
CMD Eyewash Station Installation at DC Village	16,000	16,000
ACF HVAC Controls Replacement	560,000	.....
ACF Lightning Protection System Installation	165,000	165,000
Energy Survey of Congressional Buildings	2,100,000	.....
ACF Emergency Vehicle Storage Facility	5,350,000	.....
ACF Land Purchase	5,000,000	5,000,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	$14,265,000	$5,805,000
Total, General Administration	$103,474,000	$89,413,000

CAPITOL BUILDING

2006 appropriation	$23,118,000
2007 budget estimate	31,207,000
Committee recommendation	22,396,000

A total of $22,396,000 is recommended for the operation and maintenance of the Capitol building during fiscal year 2007. This amount is $722,000 below the amount provided in fiscal year 2006 and is $8,811,000 below the budget request.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

CAPITOL BUILDING

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$12,063,000	$12,006,000
Operations	2,601,000	2,577,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$14,664,000	$14,583,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Replacement of Minton Tile	$400,000	$400,000
Computer, Telecom, & Electrical Support	298,000	298,000
Exterior Painting U.S. Capital Building	1,000,000	1,000,000
Legislative Call System Upgrade, USC	150,000	150,000
Design, House Chamber Renovations	4,500,000	.....
Design, Electrical Distribution System Replacement	700,000	.....
Design, Air Handling Unit and Fan Replacements	400,000	400,000
Design, Kitchen Renovations, House and Senate	200,000	.....
Design, Dome Rehabilitation, Phase II	200,000	.....
Design, HAVAC Controls Replacement	175,000	175,000
Minor Construction	3,000,000	3,000,000
Conservation of Wall Paintings	500,000	500,000
Rosa Parks Sculpture	.....	370,000
Egress Door Upgrade, West Brumidi Corridor, USC	480,000	480,000

CAPITOL BUILDING—Continued

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Redundant Fire Pump Installation, Senate Side, USC	1,040,000	1,040,000
Security Improvements, House Chambers, USC	3,500,000	.....
Subtotal, Project Budget	$16,543,000	$7,813,000
Total, Capitol Building	$31,207,000	$22,396,000

CAPITOL GROUNDS

2006 appropriation	$7,436,000
2007 budget estimate	9,400,000
Committee recommendation	7,806,000

The appropriation of $7,806,000 is recommended for the care and improvement of the grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol power plant. This amount is a increase of $370,000 above the fiscal year 2006 level and is $1,594,000 below the request.

In addition to the projects listed below, the Committee recommends an additional $200,000 to provide for an increase in the trash removal contract. The Committee recommends that in lieu of additional funds to provide for a contractual safety officer that the existing AOC safety office provide these services for the grounds. The Committee recommends that the Architect of the Capitol meet with the appropriate officials within the District of Columbia to ensure that the city provides the services for which they are responsible, such as storm drainage adjacent to the parking areas. The Architect is reminded that the funding provided for landscape beautification is provided for a specific purpose as outlined in section 207 and that other uses of this funding require reprogramming approval.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

CAPITOL GROUNDS

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$5,405,000	$5,342,000
Operations	2,135,000	2,174,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$7,540,000	$7,516,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Study/Design Parking Lot Storm Drain	$20,000	.....
Pave Independence Avenue	1,200,000	.....
East Front Plantings	290,000	$290,000
Purchase 60 Ton Snow Melt Unit	310,000	.....
Replace Parking Lot Fencing	40,000	.....
Subtotal, Project Budget	$1,860,000	$290,000
Total, Capitol Grounds	$9,400,000	$7,806,000

House Office Buildings

2006 appropriation	$59,020,000
2007 budget estimate	78,941,000
Committee recommendation	61,383,000

For House office buildings $61,383,000 has been provided. This amount is a decrease of $17,558,000 below the budget request and is $2,363,000 above the amount provided for fiscal year 2006.

The Committee recommends that the Architect perform minor projects such as fixture relamping and air handler cooling coil replacements within funding provided for Minor Construction. The Committee directs the Architect to refrain from requesting additional funds for projects that can be executed through existing funds.

The Committee recommends one additional FTE in the Women's gymnasium to be absorbed from existing personnel funds.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$35,080,000	$34,611,000
Operations	7,146,000	6,967,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$42,226,000	$41,578,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Air Handler Cooling Coil Replacement, FHOB	$150,000	.....
Install Backflow Prevention Devices, HOB	100,000	.....
Design, Roof Replacement, RHOB	400,000	$400,000
Design, Electrical Riser 2–5 Upgrade	90,000	90,000
Design, Main Entry Reconfiguration, RHOB	530,000	.....
Design, Fire Alarm System Upgrade, LHOB	750,000	.....
Design, Egress Improvements, CHOB	250,000	.....
Design, Egress Improvements, RHOB	300,000	.....
Design, Cable TV System Upgrade, FHOB	490,000	.....
Design, FDA Fit-Out Design	3,000,000	.....
Minor Construction	4,910,000	4,910,000
CAO Project Support	5,385,000	5,385,000
480v Switchgear and Transformer Rpl. Ph. 1, RHOB	4,060,000	4,060,000
Kitchen Exhaust System Upgrade, LHOB	8,340,000	.....
Public Restroom Upgrade, Ph. 1 RHOB	3,000,000	.....
Emergency Lighting Upgrade, Ph. 1, RHOB	4,960,000	4,960,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	$36,715,000	$19,805,000
Total, House Office Buildings	$78,941,000	$61,383,000

Capitol Power Plant

2006 appropriation	$64,632,000
2007 budget estimate	89,710,000
Committee recommendation net	79,327,000
Offsetting collections	8,000,000
Total available	$87,327,000

The Committee recommends the appropriation of $79,327,000 for the Capitol power plant for fiscal year 2007, plus offsetting collections of $8,000,000. This is an increase of $21,229,000 above the amount provided in fiscal year 2006 and $2,383,000 below the budget request.

Collections for Steam and Chilled Water Services.—The Committee directs the Architect of the Capitol, with the guidance of the Government Accountability Office, to reevaluate the rates charged to clients for steam and chilled water services. The rates should be established in time to notify clients of any increases that would be included in the fiscal year 2008 budget request.

West Refrigeration Plant.—In 2005, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommended that the Architect develop and implement an updated workload-based staffing plan to address previous GAO and consultant reports related to staffing at the Capitol Power Plant. The recommendation was made in response to potential overstaffing at the Capitol Power Plant. The Committee is disappointed that the Architect has failed to complete an updated staffing plan with its budget request, which shows no reductions in Capitol Power Plant staff. Further, because the West Refrigeration Plant project is nearly complete and the Capitol Power Plant will soon be fully operational, the Architect should be able to complete its updated staffing plan, as well as study the costs, cost effectiveness, benefits, and feasibility of contracting for the management and operation of the Capitol Power Plant. Therefore, the Committee expects the Architect to promptly complete its workload-based staffing plan and provide the Committee with a detailed implementation plan, outlining the new Capitol Power Plant organizational structure and its schedule for achieving the reorganization, within 90 days from the issuance of this report. In addition, the Committee directs that the Architect also provide the Committee with a report within 180 days on its study on contracting for management and operation of the power plant. The Committee requests the GAO to continue to monitor the progress of the Architect in meeting these goals.

Utility Steam Tunnels.—The Committee is very concerned about the Architect's failure to plan, budget for, and address the continuous maintenance and stewardship of the steam tunnels in a timely manner and its development of a catch-up budget request that cannot be prudently addressed in one year. Therefore, the Committee directs that by August 31, 2006, the Architect provide a plan and budget to the Committee that strategically address long term repairs to the steam tunnels over the next five years. The plan should include, at a minimum, an assessment of the tunnel problems that need to be corrected, the priorities from safety and operational standpoints, options for addressing the problems along with the costs and benefits and advantages and disadvantages of each option, the recommended options and schedule for implementation, and the identification of officials who will be accountable. In addition, the Committee directs that by July 31, 2006, the Architect provide a report to the Committee identifying the management breakdowns within the Architect's organization that allowed the lack of an aggressive response to fix problems associated with the tunnels and steps taken and planned by the Architect to prevent such a situation from reoccurring. The Committee also directs the

Architect to provide quarterly reports to the Committee on progress it makes in (1) implementing its strategic plan for making tunnel repairs, (2) fixing management problems that allowed the tunnel problems to go unaddressed for such a long time, and (3) steps being taken-and their effectiveness—to enhance the safety of workers who must go into the tunnels. The Committee requests the GAO to continue to monitor the Architect's progress in meeting these goals.

Electrical Power Co-Generation.—The Committee is aware that there is a real potential for the Capitol Power Plant to co-generate electricity and that several private companies have at one time expressed an interest in operating such a facility. If there is merit in co-generation, the Committee believes the Architect should consider soliciting proposals that could bring private capital to upgrade the plant to co-generate electricity and lower future electric utility expenses and enable the Capitol and the Legislative Branch agencies to meet power reliability and continuity of government needs. The Committee encourages the Architect of the Capitol to complete its feasibility study and proceed in discussions and possible solicitations from the electric power industry. The shutdown last fall of one of the local power plants made it all too clear that the Federal Government and the metropolitan Washington, D.C. region's electric reliability concerns, heightened by ever present threat of terrorists, have not been adequately addressed.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$8,234,000	$8,170,000
Utilities	62,008,000	62,008,000
Operations	12,941,000	12,941,000
Reimbursement	(8,000,000)	(8,000,000)
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$75,183,000	$75,119,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Major Repair to Baghouse Duct Work and Re-insulation	$200,000	$200,000
Boilers #1 and #2 Grate/Drive Replacement	442,000	442,000
Tunnel Asbestos Abatement, Emergency Egress & Structural Repair	1,750,000	1,750,000
Main Dozer	230,000	.....
Backflow Preventer Installations	382,000	382,000
Replace Air Compressors, Boiler Plant	250,000	.....
Upgrade Baghouse Controls	125,000	.....
Demolish East Refrigeration Plant Cooling Towers	100,000	.....
Design, CPP Beautification	1,700,000	1,000,000
Design, Relocate ERP Chillers to WRPE	150,000	.....
Design, Raise North Coal Bunker Wall	200,000	.....
Design, Fire Alarm Upgrade	160,000	160,000
Design, Replace Boiler #1 Tube	119,000	.....
Design, #1 and #2 Burner Replacement Study	221,000	.....
Design, Boilers #1–#3/Economizer Modification Study	224,000	.....
Study, Life Safety Analysis	219,000	219,000
Study, Hazmat Survey	55,000	55,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	$6,527,000	$4,208,000

CAPITOL POWER PLANT—Continued

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Total, Capitol Power Plant	$81,710,000	$79,327,000

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

2006 appropriation	$68,075,000
2007 budget estimate	102,237,000
Committee recommendation	36,401,000

For Library buildings and grounds $36,401,000 has been provided. This amount is a decrease of $31,674,000 below the current fiscal year and is $65,836,000 below the request.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$12,031,000	$11,750,000
Operations	9,908,000	9,732,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$21,939,000	$21,482,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Fire Safety Project Management	$250,000	$250,000
Repair Life Safety Deficiencies	386,000	386,000
Backflow Preventer Installation	250,000	250,000
Painting of Interior Arches, TJB	237,000	237,000
Photo-Duplication Asbestos Abatement	725,000	725,000
Preservation Environmental Monitoring	80,000	.....
Replace Partition Supports	250,000	.....
Replace Sidewalks, JAB & TJB	100,000	100,000
Electrical Vault Repairs	200,000	.....
Facility Condition Assessment	1,000,000	1,000,000
Study, Stained Glass Window Repairs, TJB	200,000	.....
Design, Backflow Prevention	75,000	.....
Design, Egress Improvements	1,500,000	.....
Design, Fire Damper & Smoke Control System Modifications	1,000,000	.....
Design, Cable TV System Upgrade	510,000	.....
Study, Tunnel Architecture	200,000	.....
Design, Fire Alarm System Upgrades, JAB	680,000	.....
Design, Drinking Water System Replacement, JAB	350,000	.....
Design, Emergency HVAC Shutdown	200,000	.....
Design, NW & SW Courtyard Renovation, TJB	75,000	.....
Minor Construction	990,000	1,100,000
High Voltage Switchgear Replacement, TJB	1,420,000	1,353,000
Sprinkler System Replacement, West Main Pavilion, TJB	4,370,000	4,162,000
Smoke Detector Upgrades, JMMB	4,260,000	4,058,000
Firefighter Telephones, TJB	910,000	868,000
Logistics Warehouse, Ft. Meade, LOC	54,200,000	.....
Air Handling Unit Replacement, Decks A&B, JMMB	2,890,000	.....
Elevator Modernization, TJB–1&2, JMMB D–1,2,3,4 & Escalator 1&2	2,560,000	.....
Egress Improvements, Phase II, JAB	430,000	430,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	$80,298,000	$14,919,000
Total, Library Buildings and Grounds	$102,237,000	$36,401,000

Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds

2006 appropriation	$14,753,000
2007 budget estimate	20,218,000
Committee recommendation	11,621,000

For Capitol Police buildings and grounds $11,621,000 has been provided. This amount is a decrease of $8,597,000 below the budget request and $3,132,000 below the current level.

The Committee recommends the use of existing funds for security barrier gate arms for existing barriers ($850,000) and for the replacement of the kiosks on the north and south ends of Capitol square ($1,227,000). An amount of $650,000 is provided for 4 kiosks at vehicular barriers; and $300,000 is provided for a minor construction account from which requirements for special events shall be funded. Included in the budget base is $215,000 for the purchase of furniture and $1,000,000 for the purchase of property for the vehicle maintenance facility.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the project budget follows:

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$651,000	$441,000
Operations	8,835,000	8,835,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$9,486,000	$9,276,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Furniture Replacement, USCP	$370,000	$215,000
Basement Code Compliance, USCP 67K Street	45,000	45,000
Stairwell Handrail Retrofit	29,000	29,000
Structural Fireproofing Repairs	56,000	56,000
Design Cable TV System Upgrade	100,000	50,000
Facilities Condition Assessment	20,000	.....
Design, Facilities Security/Communication:		
Room Emergency Power & AC	500,000	.....
Study, Blast Window Assessments	620,000	.....
Design, Security Interface System	40,000	.....
Minor Construction	3,000,000	300,000
Vehicle Maintenance Facility Purchase	1,000,000	1,000,000
Security Barrier Gate Arms for Existing Barriers, USCP	850,000	.....
Police Kiosks on Independence, USCP	2,225,000	.....
Kiosk Replacement, North & South, Capitol Square, USCP	1,227,000	.....
Kiosk at Vehicular Barriers, (4) locations, USCP	650,000	650,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	$10,732,000	$2,345,000
Total, Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds	$20,218,000	$11,621,000

Botanic Garden

2006 appropriation	$7,557,000
2007 budget estimate	9,264,000
Committee recommendation	8,612,000

The amount recommended for the Botanic Garden is $8,612,000. This amount is $652,000 below the budget request and $1,055,000 above the current level.

The Committee recommends $750,000 for the first phase of the restoration of the Bartholdi Fountain.

The following tabulation summarizes the recommendations:

BOTANIC GARDEN

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$5,167,000	$5,100,000
Operations	2,458,000	2,333,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$7,625,000	$7,433,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Budget		
Partnership Support	$297,000	$297,000
Bartholdi Fountain Statue Restoration, Phase 1	750,000	750,000
Bartholdi Fountain Basin and Lighting, Phase 2	460,000	.....
Backflow Prevention Upgrades	132,000	132,000
Subtotal, Project Budget	$1,639,000	$1,179,000
Total, Botanic Garden	$9,264,000	$8,612,000

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

2006 appropriation	$43,758,000
2007 budget estimate	41,175,000
Committee recommendation	46,175,000

Capitol Visitor Center Issues.—The Committee recommends funding in the amount of $46,175,000 for the cost to complete, project fit-out, and operations. This amount is $2,417,000 above the amount provided in the current fiscal year and is $5,000,000 above the request. The amount above the request reflects the Government Accountability Office's estimate of the cost to complete which is higher than the Architect's most current estimate.

The Committee is becoming increasingly concerned about the project's continuing schedule slippages and increasing costs being reported by the Government Accountability Office, the Architect of the Capitol's inability to fix water leaks, and the late discovery of major security and life safety issues affecting the project, including the recent disclosure that the new utility tunnel being constructed may not meet applicable life safety requirements. Accordingly, the Committee directs that by July 31, 2006, the Architect provide a report to the Committee on the major schedule, cost, quality, and coordination issues affecting the CVC project and the steps being taken and planned to address these issues. At a minimum, the Architect's report should include (1) an assessment of the effects of recent schedule slippages on the Architect's proposed opening dates for the Capitol Visitor Center and the House and Senate expansion spaces and the steps being taken to prevent further schedule slippages, including the effectiveness of efforts being taken to address trade stacking, late completion of shop drawings, design and scope changes late in the project, and missed milestones; (2) an updated estimate by the Architect's construction management contractor of the cost to complete the project, reasons for cost increases to date, and steps being taken to prevent further cost increases and assure

that adequate information is available on the causes of delays; and (3) steps being taken to coordinate with appropriate authorities to ensure that security and life safety issues that can affect the project's schedule, cost, functionality, security, and safety are identified and addressed expeditiously. In addition, the Architect's report should address the steps being taken regarding water leaks in the facility and life safety issues associated with the new utility tunnel being constructed to serve the Capitol Visitor Center. The Committee requests the GAO to continue to monitor these issues.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget		
Personal Services	$10,639,000	$10,639,000
Operations	5,402,000	5,402,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	$16,041,000	$16,041,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Project Fit-Out Budget		
CVC Project Fit-Out	$4,534,000	$4,534,000
Subtotal, Project fit-Out	$4,534,000	$4,534,000
Fiscal Year 2007 Construction Budget		
Project Cost-to-Complete	$20,600,000	$25,600,000
Subtotal, Construction	$20,600,000	$25,600,000
Total, Capitol Vistor Center	$41,175,000	$46,175,000

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 1201 authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to enter into agreements for the Rosa Parks statue. Section 1202 adjusts certain positions. Section 1203 makes adjustment for travel and transportation. Section 1204 adjusts the approval process for leasing authority. Section 1205 provides advance payment authority for subscription services. In regard to any advance payment for subscription services, a discount offered to the Architect of the Capitol must exceed the cost of the funds per the rate published by the United States Treasury (I TFM 6–8040.40). Section 1206 establishes an Office of the Inspector General.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Committee recommends appropriations totaling $570,177,000 for the operations of the Library of Congress for fiscal year 2007. The funding provided will support 4,200 FTE's for fiscal year 2007 a reduction of 102 FTE's from the current authorized level.

The Committee has included a new administrative provision (Section 1305) that allows for the transfer of funds between appropriations with the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate. This new provision will provide Library management flexibility to address funding requirements for such

programs as, but not limited to, Library-wide training, space management, information technology, and infrastructure requirements that all appropriations under the heading "LIBRARY OF CONGRESS" can address as agency priorities.

The following table summarizes the allocation of funds by appropriation account:

Library of Congress

Item	*Amount*
Fiscal year 2007:	
Salaries and expenses	$389,672,000
Copyright Office	24,069,000
Congressional Research Service	102,462,000
Books for the blind and physically handicapped	53,974,000
Total	$570,177,000

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2006 appropriation	$385,510,000
2007 budget estimate	402,944,000
Committee recommendation	389,672,000
(Plus: Authority to spend receipts)	(6,350,000)
Total available	$396,022,000

The sum of $389,672,000, plus $6,350,000 in offsetting receipts, is recommended for salaries and expenses, which is the basic appropriation for the operation of Library programs, an increase of $4,226,000 above the current level and a decrease of $13,272,000 below the request. The funding provided will support 2,849 FTE's a reduction of 66 FTE's from the current level.

The amount provided provides $7,808,000 of the requested $10,937,000 for mandatory pay and related costs. The reduction of $3,129,000 below the request reflects a reduction of $910,000 for the recalculation of the FY 2007 cost-of-living increase and a reduction of $2,219,000 for within-grade increases. The Committee believes the Library can manage the decreased funding for within grade increases by managing the hiring rate on current vacant positions.

The funding includes $2,399,000 of the requested $4,451,000 for price level changes. Reductions have been taken in general inflation of $1,670,000 and $382,000 for adjustment in the GSA space rental.

The Committee fully understands the constraints that this funding may place on the Library. However, with the new provision allowing for the transfer of funds between appropriations and appropriate reprogramming, there should be no reason that Library management cannot fulfill the mission of the Library within the funding provided.

The Committee has not included language requested by the Library to provide "Competitive Status" and "Selection Priority for Displaced Library of Congress Employees". The Committee understands that the Library has started a comprehensive review of human resources issues and believes that the Library should continue this effort. The Committee suggests that when the review of the human resources issues is complete the Library should work with its authorizing committees to address competitive status, selection priority and other issues.

Franklin Collection.—The Committee is very interested in the development of the World Digital Library pilot projects, particularly the pilot with Egypt that will cover multiple eras and contain multi-cultural materials and documents pertinent to Ancient Pharaonic Egypt, the Ptolemaic era that brought the Greeks and Romans to Egypt, early Coptic Christianity from the second century AD, and Islamic civilization starting in the seventh century. The Committee looks forward to periodic updates on the World Digital Library as materials are digitized and posted on the Library's website.

The Committee continues to be interested in the availability of multi-language materials for middle and high school teaching as they relate to improved understanding of U.S. history and culture and the ability of Arabic language materials to be made available for language teaching. Acknowledging that the Library possesses copies of 3,000 translated texts from English into Arabic, Farsi, Pashtu, Indonesian and other languages in the Franklin collection, covering a broad range of subjects, the Committee asks that the Library explore a pilot project, within the limitations of copyright law, to digitize and place on its web site translated materials in both English and Arabic. Arabic translated materials would be of interest to large portions of the world's Arabic-speaking and/or reading populations not only in the Near East and North Africa, but also in Sub-Sahara Africa, South and South-East Asia and Central Asia.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

2006 appropriation	$22,429,000
2007 budget request	25,205,000
Committee recommendation	24,069,000
(Plus: Authority to spend receipts)	(34,975,000)
Total available	$59,044,000

Salaries and expenses.—The Committee recommends an appropriation of $24,069,000, plus authority to spend $34,975,000 in receipts, for the Copyright Office. The total available in this recommendation is $1,640,000 above the amount provided in the current fiscal year and is $1,136,000 below the request. The funding provided will support 523 FTE's a reduction of 7 FTE's from the current level. The Committee recommendation includes $1,000,000 for the Records Preservation Project that is funded with offsetting collections.

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

2006 appropriation	$99,907,000
2007 budget estimate	104,279,000
Committee recommendation	102,462,000

Salaries and expenses.—The Committee recommends $102,462,000 for fiscal year 2007. This amount is $2,555,000 above the current year and is $1,817,000 below the request. The funding provided will support 700 FTE's, a reduction of 29 FTE's from the current level. Funding within this recommendation provides $2,443,000 for mandatory pay and related costs and $511,000 for price level changes.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

2006 appropriation	$53,905,000
2007 budget estimate	55,703,000
Committee recommendation	53,974,000

Salaries and expenses.—A total of $53,974,000 is recommended for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, an increase of $69,000 over the amount provided in fiscal year 2006 and $1,729,000 below the request. This funding will continue to support 128 FTE's.

Newsline Program.—The Committee supports the Library of Congress providing electronic newspapers and magazines to blind and physically handicapped individuals consistent with proposed legislation being considered to provide for a permanent authorization for this ongoing program.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The Committee has included five administrative provisions. Section 1301 provides for expenses related to official representation for the incentive awards program. Section 1302 provides obligation authority for various Library programs. Section 1303 limits the amount of reimbursement to the Department of State for maintenance, upgrade, and construction. Section 1304 changes the audit requirements for the Cooperative Acquisitions Program Revolving Fund. Section 1305 provides authority to transfer funds between Library accounts.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING

2006 appropriation	$87,209,000
2007 budget estimate	100,285,000
Committee recommendation	95,233,000

The Committee has included an appropriation of $95,233,000 for printing and binding of congressional documents at the Government Printing Office for use by Congress. This amount is an increase of $8,024,000 above the current level and is $5,052,000 below the request. The recommendation provides $1,919,000 for price level increases, $4,705,000 for the 2006 edition of the U.S. Code, and $1,400,000 to cover the anticipated shortfall in the current budget that will carry forward into FY 2007.

A comparative summary of the recommendation by category of work follows:

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING

	Appropriation 2006	Requested 2007	Recommended 2007
Congressional Record program	$23,108,000	$22,993,000	
Miscellaneous publications	3,382,000	3,866,000	
U.S. Code and Supplements		4,705,000	
Miscellaneous printing and binding	19,560,000	21,654,000	
Details to Congress	2,881,000	2,881,000	
IT Projects		2,380,000	
Document envelopes and document franks	918,000	957,000	
Business and committee calendars	4,746,000	4,785,000	
Bills, resolutions, and amendments	8,396,000	9,269,000	

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING—Continued

	Appropriation 2006	Requested 2007	Recommended 2007
Committee reports	3,464,000	3,461,000	
Documents	2,037,000	2,572,000	
Hearings	17,869,000	18,857,000	
Committee prints	848,000	1,905,000	
Total	$87,209,000	$100,285,000	$95,233,000

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

2006 appropriation	$33,004,000
2007 budget estimate	43,000,000
Committee recommendation	35,287,000

The Committee recommends the appropriation of $35,287,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Superintendent of Documents, a part of the Government Printing Office. This amount is $2,283,000 above the fiscal year 2006 level and is $7,713,000 below the budget request. The recommendation provides $2,000,000 for the 2006 edition of the U.S. Code and $283,000 for mandatory pay increases.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE REVOLVING FUND

2006 appropriation	$1,980,000
2007 budget estimate	8,231,000
Committee recommendation	.....

The Committee recommendation does not provide any funding for the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund. The bill includes the usual language authorizing the operation of the revolving fund, authority to hire or purchase automobiles, advisory councils, and consultants, and authorization for expenditure of funds for the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission. The limit on full-time equivalent employment has been set at 2,621.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2006 appropriation	$477,571,000
2007 budget estimate	502,370,000
Committee recommendation	488,234,000
Offsetting collections	(6,985,000)
Total available	495,219,000

The Committee has provided $488,234,000 in direct appropriations for the Government Accountability Office, plus $6,985,000 in offsetting collections derived from reimbursements for conducting financial audits of government corporations and rental of space in the GAO building. This amount is an increase of $10,663,000 above the current fiscal year and is $14,136,000 less than the budget request. This funding provides for 3,267 FTEs, an increase of 50 FTE's above the current base. The increase in FTE's will be utilized to address such areas as health care, the Gulf Coast reconstruction, and the war in Iraq.

PAYMENT TO THE OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

2006 appropriation	$13,860,000

2007 budget estimate	14,400,000
Committee recommendation	13,400,000

The Committee recommends $13,400,000 for payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund. This amount is $460,000 below the fiscal year 2006 level and is $1,000,000 below the budget request. This reduction below the budget request should have no adverse impact on the program since on average over the past 3 years the Center has under executed its obligation authority in excess of $1.1 million dollars per year.

In 2003, Congress extended the reach of the Open World Program beyond Russia. The Board of Trustees selected the Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and Lithuania as the first expansion countries. The Committee notes that with increasing emerging democracies in the Middle East and other parts of the world the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center might once again consider the possibility of expanding its outreach. With the formulation of new constitutions and new governments now seems an appropriate time for the Open World Program to further its outreach and begin an exchange program for the new generation of emerging political and civic leaders in other parts of the world. The Committee expects the Board to accomplish this program expansion within existing resources.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

2006 appropriation	$430,000
2007 budget estimate	430,000
Committee recommendation	430,000

The Committee has provided $430,000 for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development. This amount is the same as the fiscal year 2006 level and the fiscal year 2007 budget request.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The customary language regarding emergency assistance for vehicles, fiscal year limitation, positions and allowances, consulting services, awards and settlements, the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council, the Architect to maintain and landscape areas on Washington Avenue SW and a limitation on transfers of funds is included in this bill (Sec. 201–208). The Committee has included two new provisions. Section 209 prohibits the use of funds for the establishment or operation of a smoking area in the cafeteria of the Rayburn House Office Building, Section 210 places the Office of the Architect of the Capitol under receivership of the Comptroller General of the United States.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives states that:

> Each report of a committee on a bill or joint resolution of a public character shall include a statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution.

The Committee on Appropriations bases its authority to report this legislation on Clause 7 of Section 9 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States of America, which states:

> No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of Appropriations made by law. * * *

Appropriations contained in this Act are made pursuant to this specific power granted by the Constitution.

COMPARISON WITH BUDGET RESOLUTION

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an explanation of compliance with section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (P.L. 93–09344), as amended, which requires that the report accompanying a bill providing new budget authority contain a statement detailing how that authority compares with the reports submitted under section 302 of the Act for the most recently agreed to concurrent resolution on the budget for the fiscal year from the Committee's section 302(b) allocation.

This information follows:

COMPARISON WITH BUDGET RESOLUTION

[In millions of dollars]

	Sec. 302(b)		This bill—	
	Budget authority	Outlays	Budget authority	Outlays
Discretionary	$4,030	$4,013	$3,027	[1] $3,214
Mandatory	122	122	122	122
Total	$4,152	$4,135	$3,149	$3,336

[1] Includes outlays from House and Senate prior-year budget authority.
Note.—Bill amounts excludes discretionary Senate-related items.

FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION OF OUTLAYS

In compliance with section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (P.L. 93–09344), as amended, the following table contains five-year projections associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

Five-Year Projection of Outlays

	Millions
Outlays:	
2007	2,592
2008	310
2009	69
2010	70
2011	12

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In accordance with section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (P.L. 93–09344), as amended, the financial assistance to State and local governments is as follows:

The accompanying bill contains no funding for State and local assistance programs.

TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

Indefinite transfer authority is authorized in Library of Congress, Congressional printing and binding, the Superintendent of Documents, and the Capitol Police programs.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is a statement of general performance goals and objectives for which this measure authorizes funding:

The Committee on Appropriations considers program performance, including a program's success in developing and attaining outcome-related goals and objectives, in developing funding recommendations.

RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table is submitted describing the rescissions recommended in the accompanying bill:

The accompanying bill contains no rescissions.

CHANGES IN THE APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1), of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill which directly or indirectly change the application of existing law:

1. The bill provides that certain appropriation items remain available for more than one year where programs or projects are continuing in nature under the provisions of authorizing legislation but for which that legislation does not specifically authorize such extended availability. Most of these items have been carried in previous appropriation bills. This authority tends to result in savings by removing the incentive to commit funds at the end of the fiscal year.

2. The bill includes a number of provisions which place limitations on, or which authorize or reauthorize, the use of funds in the bill, or change or extend existing limitations, appropriations, or authorizations, and which under some circumstances might be construed as changing the application of existing law.

3. There is language that allows reimbursement for service to be used by the servicing entity.

4. The bill continues the practice of providing official reception and representation allowances for officers and offices of the legislative branch.

5. The bill authorizes expenses for employee awards, such as certificates or plaques and related ceremonial presentations, by certain agencies.

6. The bill authorizes salaries and expenses of the House Child Care Center.

7. The bill requires unspent funds remaining in Members Representational Allowances to be used for deficit or debt reduction.

8. The bill authorizes increases lump-sum allowances for certain accounts within the House subject to the approval of the authorizing committee.

9. There is bill language that provides for the continuation of the duties of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House in the case of the incumbent not being able to fulfill the duties.

10. There is language authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer of the House to contract with a public or private entity for the operation of the House Fitness Facility.

11. There is language that authorizes allowances for employees of the Office of the Attending Physician.

12. There is language under "Capitol Police, General Expenses" authorizing advance payments for travel by Capitol Police personnel for training or other purposes, expenses associated with the relocation of liaison or instructor personnel from the Capitol Police force to and from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and for the costs of basic training of police personnel.

13. The bill authorizes the transfer of funds within "Capitol Police, Salaries" and "Capitol Police, General Expenses", subject to approval.

14. The bill authorizes an increase in student loan reimbursements for the Capitol Police.

15. The bill authorizes the Capitol Police to make advance payments for subscription services.

16. There is language under the Office of Compliance providing for the disposal of personal property.

17. There is language under the Office of Compliance authorizing lump-sum payments to reward exceptional performance.

18. There is language under "Capitol Power Plant", Architect of the Capitol, allowing reimbursements for chilled water and steam provided to the Government Printing Office, the Washington City Post Office, the Supreme Court, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, Union Station Complex and the Folger Shakespeare Library to be credited to this appropriation and made available for obligation.

19. There is language under the Architect of the Capitol, Botanic Garden that authorizes expenditures for the National Garden.

20. There is language under the Architect of the Capitol, Capitol Visitor Center, restricting the obligation of funds without prior approval.

21. There is language that transfers the authority of certain positions in the Architect of the Capitol.

22. There is language that authorizes travel and transportation expenses for applicants for certain positions with the Architect of the Capitol.

23. There is language under the Architect of the Capitol regarding leasing authority approval.

24. There is language authorizing advance payments for subscriptions for the Architect of the Capitol.

25. There is language under the Architect of the Capitol establishing an office of Inspector General.

26. There is authority to expend funds collected under the authority of 2 U.S.C. 150 and for international legal information, the balance to remain available until expended.

27. There is language authorizing the expenditure of funds for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

28. There is language authorizing expenditure of receipts for the Copyright Royalty Judges.

29. There is language under "Congressional Research Service" which prohibits the publication of material unless approved by the appropriate committees.

30. There is language authorizing the temporary transfer of funds under the heading "Library of Congress, Salaries and Expenses".

31. There is language regarding the audit requirements of certain Library of Congress funds.

32. There is language authorizing the transfer of funds between the account under the heading "Library of Congress", subject to approval.

33. There is language under "Congressional printing and binding" restricting the use of funds appropriated to the Government Printing Office for the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives and Senators, Resident Commissioners, or Delegates, and language providing that appropriations recommended shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years, primarily due to the unpredictability of the volume of work generated by the Congress, limiting the printing of certain documents to a time certain, and authorizing the transfer of unobligated balances.

34. Authorization of appropriations for Congressional printing and binding is included.

35. There is language under "Salaries and Expenses", Office of Superintendent of Documents, which authorizes the use of current appropriations to pay for printing certain publications in prior years for the depository library program. There is language authorizing the transfer of unexpended balances.

36. There is language authorizing the operation of the Government Printing Office revolving fund, and which authorizes travel expenses for advisory councils.

37. There is language authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Government Printing Office revolving fund for the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission.

38. The bill includes a limitation on GPO employment of not more than 2,621 full-time equivalent work years.

39. There is language relating to the Government Accountability Office authorizing the direct procurement of expert and consultant services under 5 U.S.C. 3109, at certain rates; authorizing the hire of one passenger motor vehicle, as required by 31 U.S.C. 1343; authorizing the General Accounting Office to make advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3324; and to provide certain benefits, including rental of living quarters in foreign countries; appropriations are authorized for administrative expenses of any other member department or agency to finance an appropriate share of the costs of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum.

40. In Section 201, there is language prohibiting the use of funds in the Act for the maintenance or care of private vehicles except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under

regulations relating to parking facilities for the House issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

41. Section 203 provides that whenever any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 is appropriated for herein or whenever the rate of compensation or designation of any position appropriated for herein is different from that specifically established for such position by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation of the position, or either, appropriated for or provided herein, shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: Provided that the provisions herein for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House, and clerk hire for Senators and Members shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

42. Section 204 requires that certain information regarding consulting services shall be a matter of public record.

43. Section 206 authorizes legislative branch entities to share the costs of the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council.

44. Section 207 authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to maintain certain property.

45. Section 208 limits the transfer of funds in this Act.

46. Section 209 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to be used to establish or operate a smoking area in the Rayburn House Office Building cafeteria.

47. Section 210 places the office of the Architect of the Capitol into receivership.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, CL. 3(e) (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, CL. 3(e) (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 7 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1943

[SEC. 7. That hereafter in case of the death, resignation, separation from office, or disability of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, the accounts of the Chief Administrative Officer may be continued and payments made in his name by the disbursing clerk of the House of Representatives for a period extending not beyond the quarterly period during which a new Chief Administrative Officer shall have been appointed. Such accounts and payments shall be allowed and settled in the General Accounting Office, and the checks signed in the name of the former

Chief Administrative Officer shall be honored by the Treasurer of the United States, in the same manner as if the former Chief Administrative Officer had continued in office. The former Chief Administrative Office or his estate shall not be subject to any legal liability or penalty for the official acts and defaults of such disbursing clerk acting in the name or in the place of the former Chief Administrative Officer under this section, bush such disbursing clerk shall be responsible therefor. The bond for the disbursing clerk of the House of Representatives shall be in the same amount as the bond required of the Clerk of the House of Representatives. The Secretary of the Treasury may, from time to time, require such disbursing clerk to renew his bond to the United States. The accounts and payments referred to in the second sentence shall be audited by the Inspector General of the House of Representatives.]

SECTION 208 OF THE LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1946

SEC. 208 (a) * * *

(b) Any person appointed pursuant to this section shall exercise all the duties, shall have all the powers, and shall be subject to all the requirements and limitations applicable with respect to one chosen by the House of Representatives to fill the office [involved; but nothing in this section shall be held to amend, repeal, or otherwise affect section 7 of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1943 (2 U. S. C., sec. 75a).] *involved.*

* * * * * * *

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

DIVISION G

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

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SEC. 103. CONTRACT FOR EXERCISE FACILITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall enter into a contract on a competitive basis with a [private entity] *public or private entity* for the management, operation, and maintenance of the exercise facility established for the

use of employees of the House of Representatives which is constructed with funds made available under this Act.

* * * * * * *

SECTION 908 OF THE EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL ACT, 2002

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES

SEC. 908. (a) * * *

* * * * * * *

(c) LIMIT ON AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—The total amount paid by the Capitol Police with respect to any individual under the program under this section may not exceed [$40,000] *$60,000*.

* * * * * * *

ACT OF DECEMBER 1, 2005

(Public Law 109–116)

AN ACT to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks and to place the statue in the United States Capitol in National Statuary Hall, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. PLACEMENT OF STATUE OF ROSA PARKS IN NATIONAL STATUARY HALL.

(a) OBTAINING STATUE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Joint Committee on the Library shall enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks, under such terms and conditions as the Joint Committee considers appropriate consistent with applicable law. *The Joint Committee may authorize the Architect of the Capitol to enter into the agreement required under this subsection on its behalf, under such terms and conditions as the Joint Committee may require.*

* * * * * * *

SECTION 1203 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

SEC. 1203. DEPUTY ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER. (a) * * *

* * * * * * *

(e) ACTION PLAN.—

(1) * * *

* * * * * * *

[(3) ADDITIONAL SENIOR POSITIONS.—Notwithstanding section 108(a) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C. 1839), as amended by section 129(c) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2002, the Architect of the Capitol may fix the rate of basic pay for not more than 3 additional

positions at a rate not to exceed the highest total rate of pay for the Senior Executive Service under subchapter VIII of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, for the locality involved.]

* * * * * * *

SECTION 108 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1991

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 108. (a) The Architect of the Capitol may fix the rate of basic pay for not more than [12] *15* positions at a rate not to exceed the highest total rate of pay for the Senior Executive Service under subchapter VIII of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, for the locality involved.

* * * * * * *

SECTION 5721 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE

§ 5721. Definitions

For the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) "agency" means—

(A) * * *

* * * * * * *

(G) the Architect of the Capitol;

[(G)] *(H)* the Government Printing Office; and

[(H)] *(I)* the government of the District of Columbia;

* * * * * * *

SECTION 521 OF THE NATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION POLICY ACT

SEC. 521. DEFINITIONS.

As used in the part—

(1) The term "Federal agency" means—

(A) * * *

(B) each entity specified in paragraphs (B) through [(H)] *(I)* of subsection (1) of section 5721 of title 5, United States Code.

* * * * * * *

SECTION 1102 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SEC. 1102. LEASING OF SPACE. (a) * * *

(b) CONDITIONS TO LEASE SPACE.—The Architect of the Capitol may lease space under subsection (a) upon submission of written notice of intent to lease such space to, and approved by—

(1) the [Committee on Rules and Administration] *Committees on Appropriations and Rules and Administration* of the Senate for space to be leased for the Senate;

(2) [the House Office Building Commission] *the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the House Office Building Commission* for space to be leased for the House of Representatives; and

(3) the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives*, for space to be leased for any other entity under subsection (a)*.

* * * * * * *

SECTION 207 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SEC. 207. (a) * * *

* * * * * * *

[(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than March 31 of each year, the Librarian of Congress shall prepare and submit to Congress an audited financial statement for the revolving fund for the preceding fiscal year. The audit shall be conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards for financial audits issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.]

(e) AUDIT.—The revolving fund shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General at the Comptroller General's discretion.

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Clause 3(f)(1), rule XIII requires a table of all appropriations in the bill that are not authorized by law. Appropriations included in this bill have been previously authorized by law.

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each rollcall vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are required to be included in the Committee report. No rollcall votes were ordered on an amendment to, or the motion to report, this bill.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2006
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2007
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker	2,788	2,906	2,930	+142	+24
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	2,089	2,139	2,213	+124	+74
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	2,928	2,999	3,072	+144	+73
Office of the Majority Whip	1,797	1,843	1,921	+124	+78
Office of the Minority Whip	1,345	1,379	1,458	+113	+79
Speaker's Office for Legislative Floor Activities	482	491	491	+9	---
Republican Steering Committee	906	925	924	+18	-1
Republican Conference	1,548	1,699	1,699	+151	---
Republic Policy Committee	307	407	407	+100	---
Democratic Steering and Policy Committee	1,945	2,194	2,194	+249	---
Democratic Caucus	816	837	836	+20	-1
Nine minority employees	1,445	1,473	1,473	+28	---
Training and Program Development:					
Majority	290	290	290	---	---
Minority	290	290	290	---	---
Cloakroom Personnel:					
Majority	434	447	447	+13	---

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Minority	434	447	447	+13	---
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices	19,844	20,766	21,092	+1,248	+326
Members' Representational Allowances Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail					
Expenses	534,109	559,628	557,796	+23,687	-1,832
Committee Employees					
Standing Committees, Special and Select	116,904	126,178	124,851	+7,947	-1,327
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations)	25,668	26,555	26,497	+829	-58
Subtotal, Committee employees	142,572	152,733	151,348	+8,776	-1,385
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk	21,911	22,820	21,505	-406	-1,315
Office of the Sergeant at Arms	6,284	6,256	6,240	-44	-16
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	121,471	114,192	109,301	-12,170	-4,891
Office of the Inspector General	3,991	4,212	4,204	+213	-8
Office for Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Operations	4,000	5,000	3,997	-3	-1,003
Office of General Counsel	962	962	959	-3	-3
Office of the Chaplain	161	164	164	+3	---
Office of the Parliamentarian	1,767	1,767	1,762	-5	-5

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	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of the Parliamentarian	(1,546)	(1,407)	(1,403)	(-143)	(-4)
Compilation of precedents of the House of Representatives	(221)	(360)	(359)	(+138)	(-1)
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House	2,453	2,527	2,521	+68	-6
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House	6,963	7,425	7,406	+443	-19
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs	720	738	737	+17	-1
Other authorized employees	161	285	285	+124	---
Office of the Historian	405	500	500	+95	---
Subtotal, Salaries, officers and employees	171,249	166,848	159,581	-11,668	-7,267
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	4,179	4,554	4,554	+375	---
Official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House	410	410	410	---	---
Government contributions	213,422	223,252	217,253	+3,831	-5,999
Capitol Visitor Center	3,410	3,410	3,410	---	---
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	---	24,018	21,659	+21,659	-2,359
Miscellaneous items	703	703	703	---	---
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses	222,124	256,347	247,989	+25,865	-8,358
Total, Salaries and expenses	1,089,898	1,156,322	1,137,806	+47,908	-18,516
Total, House of Representatives	1,089,898	1,156,322	1,137,806	+47,908	-18,516

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JOINT ITEMS					
Joint Economic Committee	4,276	4,406	4,370	+94	-36
Joint Committee on Taxation	8,693	9,105	9,082	+389	-23
Office of the Attending Physician					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances	2,520	2,652	2,652	+132	---
Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office	4,098	8,490	8,490	+4,392	---
Statements of Appropriations	30	30	30	---	---
Total, Joint items	19,617	24,683	24,624	+5,007	-59
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries	215,281	246,700	220,600	+5,319	-26,100
General expenses	31,680	48,383	38,500	+6,820	-9,883
Total, Capitol Police	246,961	295,083	259,100	+12,139	-35,983
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE					
Salaries and expenses	3,081	3,418	3,149	+68	-269

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	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	35,096	37,026	36,329	+1,233	-697
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL					
General administration	76,044	103,474	89,413	+13,369	-14,061
Capitol building	23,118	31,207	22,396	-722	-8,811
Capitol grounds	7,436	9,400	7,806	+370	-1,594
House office buildings	59,020	78,941	61,383	+2,363	-17,558
Capitol Power Plant	64,632	89,710	87,327	+22,695	-2,383
Offsetting collections	-6,534	-8,000	-8,000	-1,466	---
Net subtotal, Capitol Power Plant	58,098	81,710	79,327	+21,229	-2,383
Library buildings and grounds	68,075	102,237	36,401	-31,674	-65,836
Capitol police buildings and grounds	14,753	20,218	11,621	-3,132	-8,597
Botanic garden	7,557	9,264	8,612	+1,055	-652
Capitol Visitor Center					
CVC Project (cost-to-complete)	41,481	20,600	25,600	-15,881	+5,000
CVC Project Fit Out	---	4,534	4,534	+4,534	---
CVC Operations	2,277	16,041	16,041	+13,764	---
Total, Capitol Visitor Center	43,758	41,175	46,175	+2,417	+5,000
Total, Architect of the Capitol	357,859	477,626	363,134	+5,275	-114,492

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	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses	391,796	409,294	396,022	+4,226	-13,272
Authority to spend receipts	-6,286	-6,350	-6,350	-64	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses	385,510	402,944	389,672	+4,162	-13,272
Copyright Office, salaries and expenses	58,015	59,189	59,044	+1,029	-145
Authority to spend receipts	-35,586	-33,984	-34,975	+611	-991
Subtotal, Copyright Office	22,429	25,205	24,069	+1,640	-1,136
Congressional Research Service, salaries and expenses	99,907	104,279	102,462	+2,555	-1,817
Books for the blind and physically handicapped, Salaries and expenses	53,905	55,703	53,974	+69	-1,729
Subtotal, Library of Congress	561,751	588,131	570,177	+8,426	-17,954
Rescission, Chapter 9, Division A, Misc. Appropriations Act, 2001	-6,858	---	---	+6,858	---
Total, Library of Congress	554,893	588,131	570,177	+15,284	-17,954
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE					
Congressional printing and binding	87,209	100,285	95,233	+8,024	-5,052

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	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of Superintendent of Documents					
Salaries and expenses	33,004	43,000	35,287	+2,283	-7,713
Government Printing Office Revolving Fund	1,980	8,231	---	-1,980	-8,231
Total, Government Printing Office	122,193	151,516	130,520	+8,327	-20,996
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	484,664	509,355	495,219	+10,555	-14,136
Offsetting collections	-7,093	-6,985	-6,985	+108	---
Total, Government Accountability Office	477,571	502,370	488,234	+10,663	-14,136
OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER					
Payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund	13,860	14,400	13,400	-460	-1,000
STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE					
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	430	---	---
Grand total	2,921,459	3,251,005	3,026,903	+105,444	-224,102

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
RECAPITULATION					
House of Representatives	1,089,898	1,156,322	1,137,806	+47,908	-18,516
Joint Items	19,617	24,683	24,624	+5,007	-59
Capitol Police	246,961	295,083	259,100	+12,139	-35,983
Office of Compliance	3,081	3,418	3,149	+68	-269
Congressional Budget Office	35,096	37,026	36,329	+1,233	-697
Architect of the Capitol	357,859	477,626	363,134	+5,275	-114,492
Library of Congress	554,893	588,131	570,177	+15,284	-17,954
Government Printing Office	122,193	151,516	130,520	+8,327	-20,996
Government Accountability Office	477,571	502,370	488,234	+10,663	-14,136
Open World Leadership Center	13,860	14,400	13,400	-460	-1,000
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	430	---	---
Grand total	2,921,459	3,251,005	3,026,903	+105,444	-224,102

ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF THE HON. DAVID OBEY

The $3,026 million provided in this bill to operate the legislative branch agencies under the jurisdiction of the House seems straight forward and fiscally responsible. Excluding the 16 percent increase requested by the Senate, the 3.6 percent increase in the bill reported by the Committee is $225 million below the requests and only marginally above the rate of inflation.

Of the reductions recommended by the Committee, $114 million comes from the Architect of the Capitol's request by eliminating most new construction starts based on the view, which I share, that the Office of the Architect is not able to manage new projects at this time. Beyond the Architect, most initiatives proposed to the Committee by other legislative agencies, which are not absolutely required, have been rejected or scaled back. This includes funds for increased staffing for the Government Printing Office, the Capitol Police and the Government Accountability Office, and funding for technology upgrades at a number of agencies. While many of these increases are justified on their merits, the funding is just not available.

I am worried, however, that in approving a 3.6 percent increase in this Legislative Branch bill that the Congress is taking better care of itself financially than the Majority's budget allows for almost every other part of the domestic budget. The 6.5 percent increase anticipated in the Committee's 302(b) allocation for the Legislative bill (including the funding for the Senate) is larger than the increase for the Defense and Homeland Security bills. It is double the rate of increase for any other domestic bill with the exception of the bill funding aid to our veterans. The problem is not that the amounts in this bill to run the Congress are unjustified; it is that the amounts for programs which serve the needs of typical American families are too low under the budget policies which the Republican Leadership has imposed on this Committee.

I am, however, very uncomfortable providing $363 million of the public's money to the Architect of the Capitol, an organization which has proven itself to be incompetent to the task. I have discussed previously, both in Committee and on the House floor, my concerns regarding the management fiasco which we call the Capitol Visitor Center (CVC). At the Committee's hearings in March we confirmed further delays and cost overruns. The CVC will almost certainly not open until late summer or fall of 2007, a full two years behind schedule and the latest GAO cost estimate of $555 to $584 million is more than double the estimate submitted in the Spring of 2002. The history of increasing cost for the CVC has been one of constant escalation beginning with a price tag of $100 million in June of 1995, increasing to $265 million in June of 2001, $347 million in May 2003, $421 million in May of 2004, $517 million in May 2005 and now to the current estimate by GAO of near-

ly $600 million. Further delays and cost increases are still likely and I personally don't expect the CVC to be fully open until 2008. Now we hear that the new Visitor Center leaks.

The failures in managing the Visitor Center project do not fall solely on the Architect and his staff. Insufficient attention has been given to these issues by those within the Majority responsible for oversight of the Architect's operations. This lack of oversight is also evident in their management of the federal budget, including the resulting escalation in the federal deficit.

But the Architect's problems do not stop with the Visitor Center. The recent reports of the mismanagement of worker safety issues in the utility tunnels is for me the straw that broke the camel's back. As Members will recall, Congress found out for the first time in February that there were serious worker safety issues in the tunnels involving both structural hazards and asbestos. We did not hear about this from the Architect. We heard about it from the press because of a formal worker safety complaint filed by the Office of Compliance—the first formal complaint ever filed by that Office.

Even after the filing of a formal complaint by the Compliance Office, the Architect did not seem to take these concerns seriously. He testified before our Committee on March 14th that his office was on top of the issue and made no further request for funds. On March 30th, he sent a formal memo to the Committee again reviewing everything that had been done and they were planning to do to address the utility tunnel problems. Again, there was not hint of the need for significant additional funding. The message to the Committee was, basically, "We have a handle on this." Then on April 12th, without any notification to the Committee in advance, the Architect submitted a stunning $118 million proposal for emergency repairs and upgrades to the tunnels with indications that the total cost of repairs could exceed $200 million.

I am committed to do everything necessary to protect the workers in these tunnels. This includes supporting the $28 million for repairs added by the Senate in the fiscal year 2006 Supplemental. But, I have no confidence of what to do about tunnel repairs long term because I have no confidence in the Architect's ability to evaluate the tunnel safety problems, estimate the cost of the repairs or manage the construction.

I think the scope, if not every detail, of the Architect's performance problems are obvious to most Members of the Houses and I commend the Chairman for the language in the Committee report which lays out these issues very accurately. Unfortunately, I am concerned that this is not an institutional problem which can be solved with an institutional change alone. I believe it is a personnel problem related to the current management of the Office of the Architect, which is just not up to the job. For this reason I offered, and the Committee accepted by voice vote, an amendment which essentially places the Office of the Architect in receivership under the supervision of the Comptroller General. It will immediately transfer all authorities currently exercised by the Architect to the Comptroller or his designee. This includes all authority related to execution and supervision of contracts and all authorities related to the hiring, firing and supervising of staff.

I recognize that Congressionally mandated receivership is an imperfect solution to this problem. The Comptroller General is not an architect or a construction manager, though he and his staff are already overseeing both the Visitor Center and the utility tunnels projects at the request of the Committee. I also recognize that this is a radical solution, but I see no alternative. This receivership is a temporary solution which deals with the immediate problem of assigning responsibility for managing the 2007 funding in a manner which protects the taxpayer and will manage existing projects more effectively until a new Architect is confirmed. Despite its imperfections, inclusion and debate on this proposal is the only way in which the Full House can express itself on the mismanagement by the Office of the Architect. I urge that the language be protected from points of order by the Rules Committee so the House can express its will on this matter.

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