

TABLE 16.—ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY
SENATE COMMITTEES OTHER THAN APPROPRIATIONS—Continued
(Fiscal year 2016, \$ billions)

	2016	2016–2020	2016–2025
Outlays	1,891.005	9,512.616	20,901.395

Includes entitlements funded in annual appropriations acts.

TOM PRICE,
TODD ROKITA,
MARIO DIAZ-BALART,
DIANE BLACK,
JOHN R. MOOLENAAR,
Managers on the Part of the House.

MICHAEL B. ENZI,
CHUCK GRASSLEY,
JEFF SESSIONS,
MIKE CRAPO,
LINDSEY GRAHAM,
ROB PORTMAN,
PATRICK J. TOOMEY,
RON JOHNSON,
KELLY AYOTTE,
ROGER F. WICKER,
BOB CORKER,
DAVID PERDUE,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Financial Services:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2015.

Attn: Trevor Kolego,
Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: It is a tremendous privilege to represent the people of the Tenth District of Illinois in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to serve on the Financial Services Committee. However, due to my appointment to the Committee on Ways and Means, I hereby resign my seat on the Financial Services Committee.

I believe that this new position will better allow me to represent the interests of my constituents, and I look forward to getting to work with my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT J. DOLD,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 229

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION: Mr. Walker.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS: Mr. Dold.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RE- LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA- TIONS ACT, 2016

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2029 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 223 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2029.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1430

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes, with Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

Mr. CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. DENT. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, it is my honor and privilege to bring H.R. 2029, the fiscal year 2016 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, to the House of Representatives.

I present this bill alongside my good friend and ranking member on the subcommittee, SANFORD BISHOP from Georgia, who has been an essential

partner all along the way. I greatly appreciate the participation and support of our committee members, both sides of the aisle, as we considered priorities and funding levels for the important programs in our bill.

We analyzed the budget request, developed questions, held oversight hearings to hear directly from members of all the services, the Department of Defense leadership, the Secretary of the VA, the VA inspector general, and the directors of four related agencies. We received over 700 requests from Members—again, from both sides of the aisle—and gave full consideration to each one. It has been a busy spring, and we did our best to accommodate those Member requests.

As we consider this bill, I can't proceed further without noticing that this subcommittee has a formidable level of support from the chair and ranking member of the full committee. Thank you, Chairman ROGERS and Mrs. LOWEY. Your attention to oversight and genuine care for the military and veterans has been inspiring.

To round out our team, we have some great support from our professional staff: Sue Quantius, Sarah Young, Tracey Russell, Maureen Holohan, and Matt Washington on the committee staff and Heather Smith, Drew Kent, and Sean Snyder on my personal staff. We couldn't do it without all of them.

H.R. 2029 demonstrates our firm commitment to fully supporting the Nation's veterans and servicemembers. Our investment of nearly \$77 billion for military construction and Veterans Affairs that is 6 percent—6 percent—over last year's level is unprecedented. This bill provides comprehensive support for servicemembers, military families, and veterans. It supports our troops with facilities and services necessary to maintain readiness and morale at bases here in the States and around the world.

It provides for Defense Department schools and health clinics that take care of our military families, and the bill funds our veterans health care systems to ensure that our promise to care for those who have sacrificed in defense of this great Nation continues as those men and women return home. We owe this to our veterans and are committed to sustained oversight so that programs deliver what they promise and taxpayers are well served by the investments we make.

On the military construction side, this bill provides a total of \$7.7 billion for military construction projects and family housing, including base and overseas contingency operations funding, an increase of \$904 million. That is nearly 12 percent above the enacted fiscal year 2015 level and \$755 million