

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

Fiscal Year 2018 Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill

Legislation increases security and protection, and ensures a safe and well-functioning Capitol Complex

The fiscal year 2018 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill provides annual funding for the offices of Members of the House of Representatives, the support agencies of Congress, security and police forces, services for visitors, and Capitol operations and maintenance.

The total included for the House and joint operations, excluding Senate-only items, is \$3.7 billion. This is \$198 million above the fiscal year 2017 level. Additional funding is included to increase security for Members of Congress, staff, constituents, and visitors.

House Operations – The bill contains \$1.2 billion to fund the operations of the House – an increase of \$11 million above fiscal year 2017. This account provides funding for Members’ Representational Allowances (MRAs), leadership, committees, and officers of the House. This additional funding will:

- Enhance security for Members when they are away from the Capitol complex;
- Provide cybersecurity enhancements;
- Provide mandatory workplace harassment training;
- Create the Office of Employee Advocacy, which will provide an advocate for House employees in proceeding before the Office of Compliance and Committee on Ethics; and
- Expand the House child care center.

Capitol Police – The bill funds the Capitol Police at \$426.5 million, an increase of \$33.2 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This will fund critical safety and enhanced security functions for all Members, staff, and visitors of the Capitol Complex, and maintain public access to the Capitol and its office buildings.

Increased funding is included to address concerns related to security and protection. This includes \$7.5 million to enhance protection for increased training, equipment, and technology-related support items.

Architect of the Capitol (AoC) – The legislation provides \$712 million for the AoC including the Senate, which is \$95 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The increase in funds is directed to essential health and safety improvements to aging or damaged facilities to protect Members, staff, and visitors. The legislation will allow the AoC to prioritize essential projects that promote the safety and health of those who visit and work in the Capitol Complex, and address deferred maintenance projects.

This includes \$62 million for the continuation of the restoration and renovation of the Cannon House Office Building, \$31 million for the continuation of the Rayburn House Office Building Garage

Rehabilitation project, \$45 million for the Library of Congress collection storage module at Fort Meade, and \$10 million for the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Fund.

Library of Congress – The legislation provides \$669 million for the Library of Congress, an increase of \$38 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This increase will allow for enhancements to the public exhibits and visitor services, which will improve the Library’s ability to bring the nation’s collections and history out of the vaults into public spaces, and provide for information technology modernization within the Library, the Copyright Office, and the Congressional Research Service (CRS), and additional full-time equivalents for Congressional Research Service to be more responsive to congressional requests. Also, language is included to allow public access to all non-confidential CRS reports.

Government Accountability Office (GAO) – The bill contains \$579 million in funding for the GAO, \$34 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level, to continue GAO’s critical oversight work providing Congress with accurate, nonpartisan reporting of federal programs and tracking of how taxpayer dollars are spent. Funding will allow for information technology projects, and facility management and services projects.

Government Publishing Office (GPO) – The legislation includes \$117 million for GPO, the same as the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

Open World Leadership Center (OWLC) – The bill includes \$5.6 million for the OWLC, the same as the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

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