

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY MR. ROGERS OF  
KENTUCKY, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS REGARDING THE HOUSE AMENDMENT TO  
THE SENATE AMENDMENT ON H.R. 83

CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 2015

The following is an explanation of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015.

This Act includes eleven regular appropriations bills for fiscal year 2015, as well as further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act. The divisions contained in the Act are as follows:

- Division A – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division B – Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division C – Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015;

- Division D – Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division E – Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division F – Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division G – Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division H – Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division I – Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division J – Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division K – Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division L – Further Continuing Appropriations, 2015;
- Division M – Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014; and
- Division N – Other Matters.

Section 3 of the Act states that, unless expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

Section 4 of the Act specifies that this explanatory statement shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of this legislation as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

Section 5 of the Act provides a statement of appropriations.

Section 6 of the Act states that each amount designated by Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (OCO/GWOT), as well as each amount designated by Congress as an emergency requirement, is contingent on the President so designating all such OCO/GWOT or emergency requirement amounts, respectively, and transmitting such designations to Congress. The provision is consistent with the requirements in the Budget Control Act of 2011 for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism and emergency designations by the President.

Section 7 of the Act addresses possible technical scorekeeping differences for fiscal year 2015 between the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office.

Section 8 of the Act prohibits cost-of-living adjustments for Members of Congress under the Legislative Reorganization Act during fiscal year 2015.

Sections 9 and 10 of the Act contain the text of sections 1 and 2, respectively, of the Senate amendment to H.R. 83, “An Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.”

Section 11 of the Act provides \$372,000,000 for payments in lieu of taxes under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code. Together with an additional \$33,000,000 available for fiscal year 2015, and \$37,000,000 available on October 1, 2015, provided by section 3096 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, a total of \$442,000,000 will be available for the program.

The Act does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined by clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.