

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY MRS. LOWEY,
CHAIRWOMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
REGARDING H.R. _____

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

The following is an explanation of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019.

This Act includes 6 regular appropriations bills for fiscal year 2019. The divisions contained in the Act are as follows:

- Division A – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019
- Division B – Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019
- Division C – Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2019
- Division D – Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019
- Division E – Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2019

- Division F – Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019
- Division G – Other Matter

Section 1 of the Act is the short title of the bill.

Section 2 of the Act displays a table of contents.

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 states 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) is contingent on the President so designating all such OCO/GWOT amounts and transmitting such designations to Congress. The provision is consistent with the requirements in the Budget Control Act of 2011.

The Act includes language in Division G to provide departments and agencies funded in the Act with the necessary authorities to provide backpay to employees as soon as practicable in accordance with section 1341(c) of title 31, United States Code (as added by the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019). It is the Committee's intent to cover all required obligations for Federal employees for the period which began on or about December 22, 2018 during which there occurred a lapse in appropriations. In addition, Division G includes language to reimburse State, or other Federal grantees consistent with prior precedent following a lapse in appropriations.

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.