[FULL COMMITTEE PRINT]

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm 118TH~Congress} \\ {\rm \it 2d~Session} \end{array}$

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT 118–XXX

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2025

,	2024.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole I	House on the State
	of the Union and ordered to be printed	

Mr. VALADAO, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. ____]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

The Committee recommendation for fiscal year 2025 for the activities under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Legislative Branch totals \$5,545,823,000.

These appropriations support the operations of the House of Representatives, the care, and preservation of the historic buildings in which Congress works, and agencies that provide research and analysis to assist the legislative process. They support institutions such as the Library of Congress, one of the leading repositories of knowledge and culture in the world, the Government Accountability Office which provides fact-based information to Congress and investigates Federal spending and performance, and the Government Publishing Office, which publishes official government publications to Congress, Federal agencies, Federal depository libraries, and the public.

In keeping with longstanding practice under which each chamber of Congress determines its housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, the bill does not include funds for the Senate or Senate office buildings. Similarly, the Senate will consider a Legislative Branch appropriations bill that addresses Senate but not House funding.

The bill provides the Legislative Branch the ability to develop legislation to meet national needs, maintain and build analytical capacity to support oversight of government operations, address high-priority technology and security needs, and assist constituents in their dealings with government while also showing responsible fiscal restraint.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH-WIDE MATTERS

RESULTS, OVERSIGHT, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Committee on Appropriations of the House (hereinafter "the Committee") recognizes that effective programs, projects, and activities must set transparent goals and measure progress toward those goals in tangible ways. Data-driven results should be the yardstick for measuring success.

The recommendation continues to prioritize the proper management of taxpayer dollars, including strong internal controls, reduced inefficiency, ineffectiveness, and waste, fraud, or abuse, and a focus on results, and customer service for all agencies under the jurisdiction of this Act. The Committee continues its focus on reducing unnecessary expenditures and expects the agencies funded by this Act to identify cost savings and efficiencies where possible.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Committee believes that development of organizational priority goals and outcomes, such as performance outcome measures, output measures, and efficiency measures, is important for all agencies funded under this bill. The Committee also notes the importance of implementing proper customer service standards for agencies that provide direct services to the public. Development of these service standards should include identifying and surveying target customers and measuring internal performance against those standards.

In addition, the Committee understands that, as the largest advertiser in the United States, the Federal Government should work to ensure fair access to its advertising contracts for small, disadvantaged businesses and businesses owned by minorities and women. The Committee directs each agency under the jurisdiction of this Act to include the following information in its fiscal year 2026 budget justification: expenditures for fiscal year 2024 and expected expenditures for fiscal year 2025, respectively, for (1) all contracts for advertising services; and (2) contracts for the advertising services of (a) socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns (as defined in section 8(a)(4) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(4)), and (b) women- and minority-owned businesses disaggregated by race and gender.

REPROGRAMMING, NOTIFICATION, CONSULTATION, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Committee expects all agencies to notify the Committee of any significant departures from budget plans presented to the Committee in any of the agency's budget justifications. The Committee recommendation grants limited reprogramming authorities to ensure that funds are devoted to the highest priorities, particularly due to changes in circumstances. Agencies funded through this bill are required to notify the Committee prior to any reprogramming of funds in excess of the lesser of 10 percent or \$750,000 between programs, projects or activities, or in excess of \$750,000 between object classifications (except for shifts within the pay categories, object class 11, 12, and 13 or as further specified in each agency's respective section). This includes cumulative reprogrammings that together total at least \$750,000 from or to a particular program, activity, or object classification as well as reprogramming full time equivalents (FTE) or funds to create new organizational entities within the agency or to restructure entities that already exist.

In addition, the Committee must be notified of reprogramming actions that involve less than the above-mentioned amounts if such actions would have the effect of changing an agency's funding requirements in future years or if programs or projects specifically cited in the Committees' reports are affected.

Prior to initial obligation or reallocation of funds, all congressional reprogramming notifications shall, to the maximum extent practicable, contain detailed information about the sources of the funds and why such funds are no longer intended to be used as previously justified.

The Committee emphasizes that all reports are required to be completed in the timeframe noted in each respective directive. Moreover, the Committee expects that the conditions associated with funding appropriated by this Act shall be accomplished in the manner as directed in the report, consistent with congressional intent.

STAFFING DATA IN BUDGET DOCUMENTS

The Committee continues to direct the Legislative Branch agencies to include in their budget justifications data on FTE levels that would be supported by the associated request or enacted funding levels. The Committee also continues to expect the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council to coordinate plans for aligning FTE levels with the Legislative Branch agencies for consistency in reporting.

ZERO BASE BUDGETING

While the Committee continues to direct all agencies of the Legislative Branch to develop budget requests from a zero-base, the Committee is concerned that the zero-based budget documents lack sufficient detail for making funding decisions. The Committee believes that there is room for improvement and directs House agencies to work with the Committee to ensure budget documents contain the necessary information for meaningful savings.

CONGRESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LEGISLATIVE BRANCH CYBER AND PHYSICAL DATA SECURITY

The Committee reiterates that Legislative Branch agencies should consider proactive steps to protect critical Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to secure and protect their data or collections and to plan for disaster recovery. Consistent with the directive in the joint explanatory statement accompanying the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2023, agencies are encouraged to prioritize compliance to assure continuity of operations for the Legislative Branch.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE FOR CONGRESS

The Committee notes the interest among some Members in reinstituting the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), which was de-funded in 1995. The Committee is pleased with both the Congressional Research Service (CRS) and the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) efforts to provide research and policy analysis on current and emerging legislative issues related to science and technology (S&T) and Federal uses and oversight of S&T. The Committee encourages the Director of CRS and the Comptroller General to continue their efforts to meet congressional needs and directs a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act regarding efforts made in relation to bridging the gaps identified in the 2019 NAPA report.

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$1.850.998.000
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Budget request, fiscal year 2025	1,932,655,000
Committee recommendation	1,932,655,000
Change from enacted level	+81,657,000
Change from request	0

The committee recommends \$1,932,655,000 for the operations of the House of Representatives. The Committee recommendation funds the operations of the House of Representatives in a fiscally responsible manner, providing an increase of \$81,657,000 above fiscal year 2024. This funding allows Members to effectively serve their constituents and supports the House in carrying out its legislative responsibilities and fulfilling its important role in providing oversight of the Executive Branch.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$36,560,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	36,560,000
Committee recommendation	36,560,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$36,560,000 for salaries and expenses of staff in House Leadership offices, the same as the fiscal year 2024 enacted total.

The allocation by office follows:

Office of the Speaker	\$10,499,000
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	3,730,000
Office of the Majority Whip	3,099,000
Republican Conference	2,962,000
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	10,499,000
Office of the Minority Whip	2,809,000
Democratic Caucus	2,962,000

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$810,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	843,605,000
Committee recommendation	843,605,000
Change from enacted level	+33,605,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$843,605,000 for the Members' Representational Allowance (MRA) to support the conduct of official and representational duties to the district from which Members of Congress are elected. The funding provided reflects an increase of MRA spending closer to the authorized amounts compared to recent historical trends.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN MEMBER OFFICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$20,638,800
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	20,638,800
Committee recommendation	20,638,800
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$20,638,800 for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of House Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner. This recommendation maintains the intern allowance cap of \$46,800 per Member office.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE LEADERSHIP

OFFICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$586,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	586,000
Committee recommendation	586,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$586,000 for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of House Leadership. This recommendation includes \$322,300 for the compensation of interns who serve in House Leadership offices of the majority, to be allocated among such offices by the Speaker of the House, and \$263,700 for the compensation of interns who serve in House Leadership offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Minority Floor Leader.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE STANDING, SPECIAL AND SELECT COMMITTEE OFFICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$2,600,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	2,600,000
Committee recommendation	2,600,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$2,600,000 for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of House Standing, Special and Select Committees. This recommendation includes \$1,300,000 for the compensation of interns who serve in Committee offices of the majority, and \$1,300,000 for the compensation of interns who serve in Committee offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, of the Committee on House Administration.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OFFICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$463,000 463,000
Committee recommendation	463,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$463,000 for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of the House Appropriations Committee. This recommendation includes \$231,500 for the compensation of interns who serve in Committee offices of the majority, and \$231,500 for the compensation of interns who serve in Committee offices of the minority, to be allocated by the Chair, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, of the Committee on Appropriations.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$211,881,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	212,156,000
Committee recommendation	212,156,000
Change from enacted level	+275,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$212,156,000 in total for Committee Employees. This account includes funding for salaries and expenses of Committees including equipment, telecommunications, printing, contract services, and supplies. Included in the total is \$174,787,000 for standing and select Committees and \$31,294,000 for the Committee on Appropriations. Funding is available until December 31, 2026.

This account also makes available \$6,075,000 for committee room renovations.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$324,879,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	325,961,000
Committee recommendation	325,961,000
Change from enacted level	+1,082,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$325,961,000, which is \$1,082,000 more than the enacted level for the salaries and expenses of House officers and employees, including the offices of the Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, Chief Administrative Officer, Parliamentarian, and Legislative Counsel, among others.

The following is a summary of the funding allocation provided to each component of the account:

The Committee recommends \$44,984,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, an increase of \$3,529,000 from the

fiscal year 2024 enacted total.

Congressionally Mandated Reports.—The Committee recognizes the value of making statute-required reports more readily available and discoverable. The Committee requests that the Office of the Clerk, in consultation with the Library of Congress, the Government Publishing Office, and the Congressional Data Task Force, author a report describing the challenges and opportunities associated with making these reports more readily available and discoverable. The scope of the report shall include, but not be limited to (1) reports covered by Public Law 117–263 and listed in H. Doc. 118–4; (2) potential impacts, if enacted, of S. 2073, the Eliminate Useless Reports Act of 2023; and (3) if it is feasible that submitted reports to Congress be delivered to House committees electronically via the Clerk's Committee portal in concert with the Government Publishing Office's Congressionally Mandated Reports submission portal or GovInfo. The report shall be submitted to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

The Committee recommends \$34,141,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms (SAA). This amount is a decrease of \$4,652,000 from the fiscal year 2024 enacted total as a result of the nonrecurrence of certain lifecycle replacements in fiscal year 2024.

Incident Management Tools.—The Committee is aware that the House Sergeant at Arms is investigating emergency communications technology in an effort to enhance the safety and security of

Members, their families and staff both on the Hill and in their districts. The SAA is directed to brief the Committee on those efforts

within 90 days after issuance of this report.

Cyber Security for Members of Congress.—The Committee commends the Sergeant at Arms for working with the Chief Administrative Officer to expand the Residential Security Program to include certain cybersecurity and privacy resources for Members of Congress to deter, prevent, mitigate, and remediate threats to their home networks and the potential resulting impact of those threats on official House business and encourages the continuation of the cybersecurity opportunity of the program.

on official House business and encourages the continuation of the cybersecurity opportunity of the program.

Congressional Fellowships.—The Committee believes there should be more formalized guidance provided to congressional offices regarding congressional fellowships. The Committee looks forward to the comprehensive set of best practices governing the onboarding, training, and oversight of fellows serving in congressional fellows serving in congressional fellows serving in congressional fellows serving in congressional fellows.

sional offices as directed in House Report 118–120.

District Office Security.—The Committee is in receipt of the District Office Security report as directed in House Report 118–120 and looks forward to working with the Sergeant at Arms to ensure the protection of congressional district office staff and the constituents served.

Gunshot Detection Systems.—The Committee commends the SAA and the United States Capitol Police (USCP) for reviewing the operational need and feasibility of the use of gunshot detection technology on the grounds of the Capitol complex. The Committee supports the partnership with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the United States Secret Service (USSS) to determine the most operationally and financially beneficial platform. The Committee looks forward to final evaluation and discussion of integration options to determine the best path forward. The SAA is directed to brief the Committee on the progress within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Firearm Detection Software.—The Committee encourages the SAA to work with the USCP to investigate whether a patented firearm detection software would complement the existing security infrastructure throughout the United States Capitol complex as well as district offices as a part of a broader security enhancement option. The software must be developed in the United States, without the use of any third party or open-source data. The Committee looks forward to a recommendation upon completion of the review 90 days after enactment of this Act.

The Committee recommends \$213,072,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), the same as the fiscal year 2024 enacted total.

Office of Talent and Development.—In fiscal year 2024, the Committee supported the CAO in its undertaking to reorganize and streamline internal functions of the House to include (1) creating the Office of Talent and Development; (2) expanding the capacity and ability to promote best practices, tips, and tools available on the House Human Resources Hub; and (3) finding additional efficiencies by eliminating overlap and duplication of programs and service offerings into one central organization. The Committee di-

rects the CAO to issue a report within 90 days of the issuance of this report on the progress and impacts of these efforts.

Access to Childcare.—The House Child Care Center completed its expansion in 2020, but pandemic restrictions required the extra space to be utilized for the reduction in capacity per square feet, allowing the Center to maintain its enrollment size, but not alleviate the three-year waiting list for entry. The CAO is encouraged to continue to expedite the hiring of the faculty necessary to fully utilize the House Child Care Center expansion to reduce the waitlist and maximize this benefit.

Artificial Intelligence Working Group.—The Committee acknowledges the efforts of the CAO's artificial intelligence (AI) working group to investigate how emerging AI tools could improve the efficiency of House operations. The Committee reminds the CAO of the directive in House Report 118–120, to provide monthly progress briefings to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration on its work and looks forward to the report examining the near- and mid-term opportunities for generative AI tools, as well as strategies to mitigate new risks.

Allergy Safety in House Dining Facilities.—The Committee underscores the importance of providing an accessible workplace for those with food allergies and awaits the report directed in House Report 118–120 from the CAO on steps taken by food service providers operating within the House of Representatives to accommo-

date those with food allergies.

International Travel with House Devices.—The Committee recognizes the inherent security risks of taking House devices abroad and notes the House Security Office recommendation that Members and staff use dedicated travel devices when traveling internationally. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the report ordered in House Report 118–120, to identify what additional actions offices can take to keep devices and the House network secure when traveling

Flag Procurement.—The Committee acknowledges the Chief Administrative Officer's commitment to voluntarily support Americans with disabilities in the spirit and intent of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act by offering a wide complement of AbilityOne products in the House Supply Store. The Committee encourages the CAO to continue to explore additional marketing opportunities for AbilityOne products and directs the CAO to investigate any potential cost savings opportunities through the procurement of flags through AbilityOne for the Capitol Flag Program and report its findings to the Committee within 120 days of the issuance of this report.

Casework Assistance for Member Offices.—The Committee commends the ongoing efforts by the Chief Administrative Officer to assist Member offices with casework through programs such as the CAO Coach Program for caseworkers, district office conferences, the Agency Connection Center, and the project to anonymize and aggregate constituent casework data. The CAO is directed to further examine what additional assistance could be provided to Member offices to more effectively assist constituents with casework and provide a report detailing what additional efforts could be provided and the resources necessary to support such efforts within 60 days

of enactment of this Act to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration.

Capitol Switchboard Modernization.—The Committee recognizes the vital role the Capitol Telephone Exchange plays in ensuring constituents have the ability to contact their Representative or Senator. The Committee is interested to understand what opportunities may be available to modernize the current system and directs the CAO to track how the typical constituent is routed to a House office, when the peak call times occur, how often the automated system is utilized, and any other pertinent information that could be used to determine how to maximize the efficiency of the system. The CAO shall report to the Committee on its findings 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds	\$1,250,000
Office of the Inspector General	5,772,000
Office of General Counsel	2,048,000
Office of the Parliamentarian	2,287,000
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House	5,048,000
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House	15,300,000

Legislative Counsel Member Portal.—The House Office of Legislative Counsel (HOLC) provides legislative drafting services on a non-partisan, impartial, and confidential basis. The Committee acknowledges the essential role and services provided by HOLC in support of the House's legislative and constitutional responsibilities and recognizes the significant and growing workload by Members and committees in fully meeting legislative drafting needs. The Committee directs HOLC to work with the Chief Administrative Officer and any other relevant House offices to conduct a feasibility study on the creation of a secure portal, that maintains attorney-client privileges, which would allow House offices the ability to monitor the status of requested bill text and the attorney assigned to each draft. The Committee directs HOLC to report on the feasibility and the resources necessary to create and maintain such a portal within 120 days of the issuance of this report.

Office of Interparliamentary	Affairs	\$994,000
Other authorized employees		\$1,065,000

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$433.390.200
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	480,085,200
Committee recommendation	480.085.200
Change from enacted level	+46,695,000
	1 10,000,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends a total of \$480,085,200 for allowances and expenses.

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

Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	\$1,555,000
Official mail (Committees, administrative, and leadership offices)	190,000
Government Contributions	428,960,200
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	27,428,000
Transition Activities	15,786,000
Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program	3,356,000

Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program.—The Green and Gold program was established to create long-term employment op-

portunities for veterans and families of our fallen within the House of Representatives. The Committee recommendation provides the fiscal year 2025 requested amount of \$3,356,000. Despite the record high average salary ensuring these employment opportunities are competitive, the program has experienced a steep decline in applications. The Committee encourages the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Committee on House Administration to broaden the pool of potential applicants through programmatic changes, such as allowing active-duty spouses to be incorporated into the program and allowing Members to request extensions for participants.

Office of Congressional Ethics	\$1,810,000
Miscellaneous items	1,000,000

House of Representatives Modernization Initiatives Account

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$10,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	10,000,000
Committee recommendation	10,000,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Modernization Initiatives Account continues to be funded at the level of \$10,000,000 to help implement the recommendations of the Modernization Subcommittee, which was created within the Committee on House Administration to continue the work of the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. The Committee believes that investing in these recommendations will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the House of Representatives so that it can better serve the American people.

Some of the recommendations implemented utilizing this funding include e-Discovery software for House Committee digital investigations, an anonymized constituent data pilot, real time payroll information, a committee portal to streamline committee work, and a study on collaborative legislative drafting tools. The Committee looks forward to receiving and evaluating recommendations currently under review by the Modernization Subcommittee such as: better Congress.gov accounting for Member contributions, co-sponsorship gathering tools, visual display enhancements for hearings and events, and additional collaborative staff space in the House Office Buildings.

Congressional Staff Directory.—Modern data software provides opportunities for the legislative branch to significantly improve access to identity data while preserving important security rules concerning this sensitive information. Following the report requested in House Report 117–389 and in support of the recommendation by the Subcommittee on Modernization to establish a shared staff directory to enhance the exchange of information and improve collaboration, the Committee authorized funds to develop a prototype as a proof of concept for a Congressional Staff Directory. The Committee continues to encourage other Legislative Branch entity participation and directs the CAO to keep the Committee apprised of this effort.

Capitol Flag Program.—The Capitol Flag Program allows Members of Congress to request a flag to be flown over the U.S. Capitol

on behalf of their constituents. Each flag is issued a keepsake Certificate of Authenticity with the option to personalize it. The number of requests and the popularity of the Capitol Flag Program grows steadily each year, necessitating the continuous modernization of how orders are fulfilled. In fiscal year 2024, the Committee provided funding to the CAO to develop a flag tracking system to provide constituents the ability to track flags from order to receipt. The Committee commends the CAO for the launch of a flag tracking pilot program and encourages the expansion of the pilot to more House offices.

Administrative Provisions

Section 110 continues to provide for unspent amounts remaining in the Members' Representational Allowances account to be used for deficit or debt reduction.

Section 111 continues a limitation on the amount available to lease vehicles.

Section 112 continues to allow cybersecurity assistance for the House of Representatives.

Section 113 modifies long term lease requirements for the House of Representatives.

Section 114 provides for telecommunications expenses of the House Child Care Center to ensure the Center can receive and transmit critical and emergency communications.

JOINT ITEMS

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$4,283,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	4,283,000
Committee recommendation	4,283,000
Change from enacted level	, ,
Change from request	Õ
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The Committee recommends \$4,283,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC), the same as the fiscal year 2024 enacted total.

The Joint Economic Committee was created by the Employment Act of 1946. The primary tasks of the Committee are to review economic conditions and to recommend improvements in economic policy. The Committee performs research and economic analysis and monitors and analyzes current economic, financial, and employment conditions.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$13,554,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	14,850,000
Committee recommendation	14,450,000
Change from enacted level	+896,000
Change from request	-400,000

The Committee recommends \$14,450,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT), providing an increase of \$896,000 above fiscal year 2024.

The JCT operates under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and its predecessors dating to the Revenue Act of 1926. It has responsibility to (1) investigate the operation and effects of internal rev-

enue taxes and the administration of such taxes, (2) investigate measures and methods for the simplification of such taxes, (3) make reports to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance (or to the House of Representatives and the Senate) on the results of such investigations and studies and to make recommendations, and (4) review any proposed refund or credit of income or estate and gift taxes or certain other taxes set forth in U.S. Code section 6405 in excess of \$2,000,000 (\$5,000,000 in the case of a C corporation). In addition to these functions that are specified in the Internal Revenue Code, the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the JCT to provide revenue estimates for all tax legislation considered by either the House or the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$4,764,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	4,416,000
Committee recommendation	4,416,000
Change from enacted level	-348,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$4,416,000 for the Office of the Attending Physician (OAP). This amount is a decrease of \$348,000 from the fiscal year 2024 enacted total.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$1,766,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	6,121,000
Committee recommendation	1,814,000
Change from enacted level	+48,000
Change from request	-4,307,000

The Committee recommends \$1,814,000 for the operation of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services (OCAS), providing an increase of \$48,000 above fiscal year 2024.

The OCAS provides and coordinates a variety of accessibility services for individuals with disabilities including Members of Congress, staff, and visitors in the United States Capitol complex.

UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$588,627,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	636,546,000
Committee recommendation	619,257,000
Change from enacted level	+30,630,000
Change from request	$-17,\!289,\!000$

The Committee recommends \$619,257,000 for the personnel salaries, benefits, student loan repayment, and overtime requirements, to include the cost of overtime necessary for providing training of the U.S. Capitol Police (USCP). The recommendation provides full funding for 2,126 sworn officers, as requested, in fiscal year 2025. Concept of Operations Plan.—In the joint explanatory statement

Concept of Operations Plan.—In the joint explanatory statement accompanying the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2023, the Committee directed the Department to provide a guide for future operations based on an in-depth, Department-wide assessment. As

part of the Department's evaluation of the report, three foundational program areas were identified as the first step toward implementation of the recommendations provided in the report: Establish a Workforce Management/Staffing Office to optimize utilization of human resources; Conduct an organization-wide training gap assessment; and Conduct a comprehensive Technology Analysis and Future Needs Assessment. The Committee provides \$1,657,000 for the personnel required to build an implementation infrastructure to support future recommendation realization.

Civilian Staffing.—While the Committee supports the Department's authorized number of civilians, the Committee's recommendation includes a reduction to the request as the Department's projections for fiscal year 2024 civilian hiring are below the authorized and appropriated levels. The Committee believes it will be difficult to hire the requested civilians for fiscal year 2025.

Motorized Devices.—As noted in House Report 117–389, the Committee expects the Capitol Police to continue its outreach efforts to dockless scooter and bicycle companies and the District of Columbia, and to work to better educate users, including congressional staff, District residents and visitors, on the appropriate operation of dockless scooters and bicycles on Capitol Grounds.

Risk-Based Protections for Members of Congress.—The Committee continues to expect the U.S. Capitol Police Chief to continue working closely with the House and Senate Sergeants at Arms and local law enforcement partners on the USCP strategy for Members' protection within the NCR while outside the Capitol Grounds, and to educate Member offices on this topic. The Committee instructs the U.S. Capitol Police Chief to coordinate with the House and Senate Sergeants at Arms to direct patrols to buildings or locations where the Members tend to congregate in order to fulfill its mission under 2 U.S.C. 1966.

Use of Grounds.—As instructed in House Report 117–389, the USCP should continue to forebear enforcement of 2 U.S.C. 1963 and the Traffic Regulations for the United States Capitol Grounds when encountering snow sledders on the grounds.

USCP Office of Inspector General.—The Committee includes no less than \$850,000 and supports no fewer than 15 FTE within the USCP Office of Inspector General (OIG). The Committee appreciates the diligent work that the OIG has done with the increased workload due to Committee and Board project requests. As the Department's budget increases, the complexities of the financial statement audit have necessitated its outsourcing so that the OIG may continue to fulfill its statutory responsibilities for auditing Department programs and operations to ensure efficacy and investigation of complaints for potential fraud, waste, or abuse.

GENERAL EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$202,846,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	263,844,000
Committee recommendation	211,043,000
Change from enacted level	+8,197,000
Change from request	-52,801,000

The Committee recommends \$211,043,000 for general expenses to support the responsibilities for law enforcement, Capitol complex physical and technological security, dignitary protection, intelligence analysis, event management, hazardous material/devices, IT, and other specialized responses, as well as logistical and administrative support. Of the total, \$5,848,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029, to support Congressional Continuity of

Operations (C-COOP) initiatives.

General Expenses for Fiscal Year 2025.—The Committee supports resourcing the Department to meet its essential needs and that the Department can fulfill its mission with a minimal increase of funding for general expenses. The Capitol Police's budget has seen a significant increase in recent years, which has been widely supported, but the Committee acknowledges that full execution of funding has been a challenge. The recommendation should not be taken as a lack of support for the Capitol Police or its mission, but rather in line with a requirement for prudent fiscal decisions.

Concept of Operations Plan.—In the joint explanatory statement accompanying the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2023, the Committee directed the Department to provide a guide for future operations based on an in-depth, Department-wide assessment. As part of the Department's evaluation of the report, three foundational program areas were identified as the first step toward implementation of the recommendations provided in the report: Establish a Workforce Management/Staffing Office to optimize utilization of human resources; Conduct an organization-wide training gap assessment; and Conduct a comprehensive Technology Analysis and Future Needs Assessment. The Committee provides \$745,000 to build an implementation infrastructure to support future recommendation realization.

Congressional Continuity of Operations Plan.—The Department's fiscal year 2025 budget included a \$49,400,000 funding request to support the C-COOP. The Committee believes this is a priority as part of the Department's core mission and therefore supports the Department having an independent, in-house response and deployment capability to allow it to respond to changing environments, and, ultimately, to protect Members of Congress and recommends \$5,848,000 to build IT capabilities to establish connectivity and radio communication capabilities, research development and training, as well as physical security requirements including deployable screening equipment, mobile vehicle barriers, mobile kiosks, and deployable barriers.

USCP Office of the Inspector General Report Disclosure.—In response to previous House Reports 117–80 and 117–389, the Committee is encouraged that the Office of the Inspector General has begun making its reports publicly available whenever practicable and has started publishing reports on its website. The Committee is supportive of the process initiated by the Office of the Inspector General to gain approval for the public posting of its reports and directs the Capitol Police Board to further these efforts to expedite

the process.

Wellness Programs for Law Enforcement.—The Committee appreciates the efforts undertaken by the USCP to develop and implement a holistic wellness and resiliency program for its workforce, including the Howard C. 'Howie' Liebengood Center for Wellness. The Committee looks forward to receiving the report directed in House Report 118–120 to gain insights into the wellness program and its accessibility to the USCP workforce.

Administrative Provisions

Section 115 requires authorization for international travel for training purposes.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$8,150,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	8,591,887
Committee recommendation	8,150,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	-441,887

The Committee recommends \$8,150,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (OCWR). The Committee supports the authorized 36 FTE positions and the resources needed to continue OCWR's mandate to administer the Congressional Accountability Reform Act. Of the total, \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026.

Consistent with Section 3(b) of H. Res. 5, One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, no funds are provided to facilitate House Resolution 1096, One Hundred Seventeenth Congress.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$70,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	70,729,101
Committee recommendation	73,259,000
Change from enacted level	+3,259,000
Change from request	+2,529,899

The Committee recommends \$73,259,000 for salaries and expenses of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The CBO is responsible for producing independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues to support the congressional budget process. Each year, the agency produces dozens of reports, including its outlook on the budget and economy, and hundreds of cost estimates for proposed legislation.

Analysis of Legislation.—The Committee looks forward to the report directed in House Report 118–120 from the Congressional Budget Office, in coordination with the Joint Committee on Taxation, on the impacts of adding debt-service costs to CBO's estimates.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

(EXCLUDING SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$808,562,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	805,975,000
Committee recommendation	752,238,000
Change from enacted level	-56,324,000
Change from request	-53,737,000

The Committee recommends \$752,238,000 for the activities of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC). The recommendation is \$53,737,000 less than the request. (These totals do not include appropriations for Senate Office Buildings requested at \$209,996,000 which are

traditionally left for consideration of the Senate.) The Architect is responsible for the maintenance, operation, development, and preservation of the United States Capitol complex. This includes mechanical and structural maintenance of the Capitol, congressional office buildings, the Library of Congress buildings, the United States Botanic Garden, the Capitol Power Plant, and other facilities, as well as the upkeep and improvement of the grounds surrounding the Capitol complex.

AOC Office of Inspector General.—The agreement includes no less than \$6,110,000 to support no fewer than 25 FTE within the

AOC OIG.

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

Capital Construction and Operations	\$165,000,000
Capitol Building	
Capitol Grounds	
House Office Buildings	153,500,000
Capitol Power Plant	127,414,000
Library Buildings and Grounds	86,043,000
Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds and Security	95,016,000
Botanic Garden	21,214,000
Capitol Visitor Center	29,127,000

The Committee recommendation funds the operating expenses, less the Senate office building request, throughout these accounts.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$152,507,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	190,316,000
Committee recommendation	165,000,000
Change from enacted level	+12,493,000
Change from request	

The Committee recommends \$165,000,000 for campus-wide architectural and engineering design; project, property, and construction management; financial management; procurement; personnel services; equipment; communications; and other central support activities of the AOC. Of the total, \$1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029.

Item	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$164,000,000
Projects: Capital Planning and Programming	1,000,000

Budget Justifications.—The Committee thanks the AOC for including in the congressional budget justifications the description of the activities of the AOC Construction Division, as requested. The Committee requests that this information identifying the number and scope of projects, and the number of staff funded through Construction Division activities, and the funding provided to the Division from AOC jurisdiction accounts continue to be included in the budget justification material. The Committee directs that the justifications include, in each jurisdiction's section, the appropriations bill language requested, along with any changes to be identified with brackets and italicization.

Nursing Mothers Locations.—The Committee commends the AOC for its role in maintaining private areas for nursing mothers

throughout the Capitol complex. The Committee encourages the Office of Attending Physician to make these services known to the congressional community.

CAPITOL BUILDING

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$95,688,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	53,193,000
Committee recommendation	41,002,000
Change from enacted level	-54,686,000
Change from request	-12,191,000

The Committee recommends \$41,002,000 for the operation, maintenance, and care of the U.S. Capitol and Capitol Visitor Center (CVC). Of the total, \$6,599,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029.

Item	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$34,403,000
Minor Construction	6,000,000 599,000

Wireless Connectivity.—The Committee recognizes the necessity for wireless connectivity throughout the Capitol complex. The Committee continues to urge the Architect to assess the feasibility of upgrading the wireless local area network to ensure the highest level of connectivity in all areas of the Capitol complex.

Recognition of Women in Congress.—The Committee continues to support the work of the Architect of the Capitol, the House Curator, and the Capital Historical Society to increase images of women in public spaces in Congress.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$16,600,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	34,867,000
Committee Recommendation	33,922,000
Change from enacted level	+17,322,000
Change from request	-945,000

The Committee recommends \$33,922,000 for the care of the grounds surrounding the Capitol. Of the total, \$18,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029.

ltem	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$15,622,000
Minor Construction	3,000,000 15,300,000

Road Conditions Surrounding the House Office Buildings.—To mitigate traffic and pedestrian safety concerns, the Committee continues to encourage the AOC to work with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to evaluate and improve road conditions to the roads immediately surrounding the House Office Buildings.

Bike Lanes.—As stated in House Report 117–389, the Committee continues to support the AOC's efforts to develop a safe and acces-

sible street system to better connect all road users to the U.S. Capitol, Union Station, and the National Mall.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$166,426,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	157,067,000
Committee recommendation	153,500,000
Change from enacted level	-12,926,000
Change from request	-3,567,000

The Committee recommends \$148,000,000 for the operation, maintenance, and care of the Rayburn, Cannon, Longworth, Ford, and O'Neill House Office Buildings, and the House underground garages. Of the total provided, \$64,050,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029, and \$5,000,000 for the continuation of the Cannon House Office Building renovation project, shall remain available until expended.

In addition, \$5,500,000 shall remain available for the House Historic Building Revitalization Trust Fund for House Office Building major renovation projects until expended.

Item	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$78,950,000
Projects:	
Minor Construction	10,250,000
CAO Project Support	13,200,000
Air Handling Unit Replacement, Rayburn	3,900,000
Mechanical System Replacement, Rayburn	20,300,000
Electrical Distribution Switchgear Upgrade, Longworth	10,900,000
HOB Security Improvements	5,500,000
Cannon Building Restoration	5,000,000
House Historic Building Revitalization Trust Fund	5,500,000

Cannon House Office Building Renewal.—The Committee has fully supported the funding necessary to address the urgent need to complete the Cannon Building renewal, which continues to replace outdated building systems, conserve historic aspects of the building, and optimize the functionality of Member suites, among other improvements. Now in its final year of funding, the Committee expects the AOC to use lessons learned from this renewal project as it moves forward in planning for other building restoration and renewal projects.

The AOC is reminded of the administrative provision in the bill prohibiting funding for incentive or award payments to contractors

for projects that are behind schedule or over budget.

Integrated Pest Management.—The Committee recognizes the im-

Integrated Pest Management.—The Committee recognizes the importance of proactive pest management and mitigation to ensure a safe, healthy, and productive workplace. The Committee is in receipt of the Architect of the Capitol's Integrated Pest Management Program report and has included the funding necessary to enhance pest control measures for the House Office Buildings to support the AOC's efforts in proactive pest management and mitigation.

Working and Service Dog Necessities.—In House Report 117–389, the Committee directed the AOC to provide a report on what facilities currently exist around the Capitol Complex for K–9s and service dogs and to provide recommendations to address any shortcomings. Based on the recommendations provided in the report, the

AOC is encouraged to complete planned studies and previously funded projects to increase the space available for K–9s and coordinate with the House Office Building Commission to identify proposed locations for service relief areas that are accessible, meet ADA standards, and Architectural Review Board standards to preserve the historic fabric of the Capitol complex. In addition, to encourage responsible pet ownership and to maintain a clean and hygienic environment, the AOC is directed to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the requirements, suggested locations, and funding necessary to provide and maintain pet waste disposal stations on the House Office Building grounds. House Office Building Pedestrian and Traffic Safety.—The Com-

House Office Building Pedestrian and Traffic Safety.—The Committee recognizes the importance transportation studies have on the safety of our roadways and pedestrian traffic. To advance a more efficient and safer traffic pattern on the roadways surrounding the House Office Buildings, the Committee directs the AOC to use findings from the 2022 AOC Transportation and Mobility Study and coordinate with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to make near-term traffic light signalization improvements within the House perimeter. In addition, the AOC shall share the findings of the report with the United States Capitol Police to assist the Department in determining which barricades would be most advantageous to open at what times. The AOC is further directed to provide a briefing on progress made by these efforts within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

House Office Building Audit.—The Committee is concerned about the increased regularity of elevator outages and general restroom infrastructure malfunctions in the House Office Buildings. The Committee requests the AOC provide the AOC-wide Elevator Modernization Study that was recently completed for Committee review as well as a summary of the recent facility condition assessments for all restrooms in the House Office Buildings, no later than 30

days after the enactment of this Act.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$148,650,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	130,505,000
Committee recommendation	127,414,000
Change from enacted level	-21,236,000
Change from request	-3,091,000

The Committee recommends \$127,414,000 in direct appropriations for the operations of the Capitol Power Plant, which is the centralized provider of utility services for the Capitol campus. Of the total, \$21,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029. In addition, \$10,000,000 in offsetting collections is available from reimbursements for steam and chilled water.

Energy Resiliency and Efficiency.—The Committee recognizes the AOC's Capitol Power Plant cogeneration project and the energy savings performance contracts at the Capitol, House, Senate, and Library of Congress have resulted in roughly \$200,000,000 in cost avoidance and serve as an important effort in grid resiliency and domestic renewable energy production. The AOC is encouraged to continue to address facility needs in an energy efficient and fiscally responsible manner and seek ways to increase Capitol campus resiliency and efficiency.

Item	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$106,414,000
Minor Construction Electric Feeder and Communication Duct Banks	5,000,000 16,000,000

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$94,978,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	73,202,000
Committee recommendation	86,043,000
Change from enacted level	-8,935,000
Change from request	+12,841,000

The Committee recommends \$86,043,000 for the care and maintenance of the Thomas Jefferson Building, James Madison Memorial Building, John Adams Building, Packard Campus, Ft. Meade Collection Storage Facility, National Library Services Facility, and the St. Cecilia Special Services Facilities Center. Of the total, \$45,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029.

Item	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$40,543,000
Minor Construction Fire Alarm System Repairs, Jefferson Fire Sprinkler System Replacement, Jefferson	4,000,000 14,100,000 27,400,000

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$85,207,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	113,352,000
Committee recommendation	95,016,000
Change from enacted level	+9,809,000
Change from request	-18.336.000
	-,,

The Committee recommends \$95,016,000 for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police and AOC security operations. Of the total, \$26,200,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029.

Item	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$68,816,000
Minor Construction	8,000,000
Fire Alarm and Sprinkler System Replacement, Offsite Facility	11,900,000
Air Conditioning Unit Replacement, Offsite Facility Lease Space Buildout for USCP	5,300,000 1,000,000

BOTANIC GARDEN

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$20,506,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	22,859,000
Committee recommendation	21,214,000
Change from enacted level	+708,000
Change from request	-1,645,000

The Committee recommends \$21,214,000 for the improvement, operation, care, and maintenance of the United States Botanic Gar-

den (USBG) Conservatory; the National Garden; the Administration Building; the Bartholdi Park and Fountain; heritage and other plant collections; and the USBG Production Facility at DC Village. Of the total, \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2029.

	Committee recommendation
Operating Expenses	\$16,214,000
Projects: Minor Construction	5,000,000

Collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).—The Committee continues to recognize the value of the USBG supporting the evolution of urban agriculture. The Committee encourages USBG to continue to collaborate with USDA to support the USBG's efforts to host and serve as an educational and training location for local and national audiences.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$28,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	30,614,000
Committee recommendation	29,127,000
Change from enacted level	+1,127,000
Change from request	$-1,\!487,\!000$

The Committee recommends \$29,127,000 for the operations of the Capitol Visitor Center (CVC). The CVC was established to provide a secure public environment to welcome and manage the large number of visitors and to protect the Capitol, its occupants, and guests in an atmosphere of open access.

Dome Tour Transparency.—The Committee understands the special privilege afforded only to Members of Congress to schedule tours of the U.S. Capitol Dome. Due to the uniqueness of this opportunity and the volume of requests, it has become increasingly challenging for Member offices to reserve a Dome tour. Accordingly, the Committee directs the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center in coordination with other relevant entities to provide a report on policies and procedures associated with Dome tours and to develop recommendations for how the reservation process can become more efficient, to include recommendations for an online booking platform. The report should include short and long-term recommendations for actions that can be implemented to improve equitable access to Member offices to reserve Dome tours and be provided no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Section 116 prohibits payment of bonuses to contractors behind schedule or over budget during fiscal year 2025.

Section 117 authorizes cooperative agreements for the purposes of the Capitol Grounds and Arboretum.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$852,158,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	873,239,000
Committee recommendation	883,439,000
Change from enacted level	+31,281,000
Change from request	+10,200,000

The Committee recommends \$883,439,000 for the activities of the Library of Congress (LOC). Established by Congress in 1800, the Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, with a collection of more than 170,000,000 print, audio, and video items in 470 languages. Among its major programs are acquisitions, preservation, administration of United States copyright laws by the Copyright Office, research and analysis of policy issues for the Congress by the Congressional Research Service, and administration of a national program to provide reading material to the blind and print disabled. The LOC maintains a significant number of collections and provides a range of services to libraries in the United States and abroad.

LOC Office of Inspector General.—The agreement includes no less than \$4,500,000 to support no fewer than 14 FTE within the LOC OIG

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

Salaries and Expenses	\$617,000,000
Copyright Office	59,747,000
Congressional Research Service	141,487,000
National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled	65,205,000

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$592,411,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	614,578,000
Committee recommendation	617,000,000
Change from enacted level	+24,589,000
Change from request	+2,422,000

The Committee recommends \$617,000,000 for Salaries and Expenses. The recommendation makes the following amounts available until expended: \$10,698,000 for the Teaching with Primary Sources Program, \$1,547,000 for the Legislative Branch Financial Management System, \$150,000 for the Surplus Books Program, and \$4,409,000 for the Veterans History Project.

Preservation of the Collection.—As a means to preserve the LOC's literary and historical treasures, the Committee provides \$1,000,000 to continue the deacidification preservation program.

Archival Preservation of Central and Eastern European Collections.—The Committee recognizes the cultural contributions of the American diasporic groups from nations and communities of the former Soviet Union and its Republics and appreciates the value in preserving their histories and traditions. The Committee commends the important work the Library of Congress is doing to identify, collect, and archive stories, documents, and other historical materials from cultural and ethnic diasporas across Europe and requests the Library further strengthen its partnerships with museums, non-profits, and ethnic heritage centers across the country to collect additional stories, documents and visual materials and recordings from families and institutions dedicated to Eastern and

Central European historical collections, and encourages the Library

to disseminate them for public use.

Preservation of America's Civil Rights Legacy Abroad.—The Committee continues to support the Library of Congress's efforts to make available, as appropriate, their expertise for projects aimed at preserving America's civil rights history abroad.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$57,537,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	57,543,000
Committee recommendation	59,747,000
Change from enacted level	+2,210,000
Change from request	+2,204,000

The Committee recommends \$59,747,000 in direct appropriations to the Copyright Office. An additional \$45,895,000 is made available from receipts for salaries and expenses for a total of

\$105,642,000.

Copyright Modernization.—Few government bodies are more important to the growth of creativity and commercial artistic activity in our nation than the Copyright Office. The Committee continues to support the Copyright Office's efforts to modernize its IT infrastructure to effectively serve its customers. The Librarian of Congress shall coordinate with the Director of the Copyright Office in implementing its information technology continuous development plan, and the Library shall expend funds on IT infrastructure for the Copyright Office in furtherance of that plan. The Committee encourages the Librarian of Congress to remain sensitive to the specialized requirements of the Copyright Office as the Office implements its IT continuous development in conjunction with the overall Library IT modernization effort.

Copyright Expertise.—The Committee continues to support the Office's use of funds to offer expertise on copyright matters to the Executive Branch, including participation in international discussions. Consistent with historical practice, the Committee expects the Library to continue to defer to the copyright expertise of the Register of Copyrights and to ensure direct consultation between

the Copyright Office and Congress.

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$136,080,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	142,860,000
Committee recommendation	141,487,000
Change from enacted level	+5,407,000
Change from request	$-1,\!373,\!000$

The Committee recommends \$141,487,000 for salaries and expenses of Congressional Research Service (CRS), which supports Members and Committees in legislative, oversight, and representational functions by providing nonpartisan and confidential research and policy analysis. The organization provides an important service for Members and staff, publishing hundreds of reports annually and providing briefings on pertinent policy issues considered by

Congress. The expert nonpartisan analysts at CRS keep Congress informed, contributing to intelligent and responsible policymaking.

Expanding the Congressional Liaison Directory.—Congressional constituent service staff rely on the Congressional Research Service's online directory of about 200 congressional liaison offices to determine appropriate contacts for casework. To further assist staff in expediting communications and correspondence with government agencies on behalf of constituents, CRS is directed to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act, on the feasibility of expanding the legislative liaison list to include localized and regional agency contact information as well as including agency policies regarding Privacy Act release forms in its directory.

Congressional Research Service Detailees.—CRS analysts detailed to Congressional committees can offer a tremendous asset to both organizations, though it is noted that details are less common now than in the past, partially due to staffing challenges and the structure of CRS portfolios making an analyst's absence pronounced and management of congressional inquiries more difficult. Given the interest in CRS details to Congressional committees, the Committee requested a report from the Director of CRS in House Report 118—

120 and looks forward to its findings.

Continuing Education for Congressional Staff.—In House Report 117–80, the Committee recommended the creation of a Legal Institute with introductory and advanced programs, geared towards senior Congressional staff who have not attended law school, which would educate participants on legal fundamentals that inform Congress's lawmaking and oversight functions. The Committee commends CRS on the success of the Congressional Legal Education Forum and provides \$1,000,000 to continue to develop and expand the program.

NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$66,130,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	58,258,000
Committee recommendation	65,205,000
Change from enacted level	-925,000
Change from request	+6,947,000

The Committee recommends \$65,205,000 for salaries and expenses of the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS).

The NLS is a free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent low vision, blindness, or a disability that prevents them from reading or holding the printed page. Through a national network of regional and sub-regional libraries, NLS circulates books and magazines in braille and audio formats, which are delivered by postage-free mail or are instantly downloadable.

BARD Modernization.—The Committee continues to support the modernization of Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) Infrastructure, which distributes audio and electronic braille materials

Braille eReader and Talking Book Machine Initiative.—The Committee continues to support the modernization of the Braille

eReader and Talking Book Machine initiatives throughout NLS's nation-wide network of libraries.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Section 118 limits to \$318,789,000 the amount that may be obligated during fiscal year 2025 from various reimbursements and revolving funds available to the Library of Congress.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

The Government Publishing Office (GPO) publishes and disseminates Federal Government publications to Congress, Federal agencies, Federal depository libraries, and the American public.

Congressional Publishing

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	33,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	33,000,000
	33,000,000
Change from enacted level	´ ´ 0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$83,000,000 for Congressional Publishing. This account funds the costs of publishing congressional information products in both digital and print formats.

formation products in both digital and print formats.

GPO Office of Inspector General.—The agreement includes no less than \$6,899,000 to support no fewer than 25 FTE within the GPO OIG.

Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$37,388,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	41,664,000
Committee recommendation	41,664,000
Change from enacted level	+4,276,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$41,664,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents.

This appropriation primarily supports the cataloguing cataloging and indexing of Federal Government publications (the results of which are now available online) and for operating the Federal Depository Library system and providing Federal documents to the network of 1,133 depository libraries nationwide.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS

REVOLVING FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$11,611,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	11,425,000
Committee recommendation	11,425,000
Change from enacted level	-186,000
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$11,425,000 for the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund, which fi-

nances GPO's publishing operations.

This business-like fund is used to pay GPO's costs in performing or procuring from private-sector sources, congressional and agency publishing, information product procurement, and publication dissemination activities. The fund is reimbursed from payments from customer agencies, sales to the public, appropriations to the fund, and transfers from GPO's two annual appropriations.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$811,894,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	915,957,000
Committee recommendation	896,700,000
Change from enacted level	+84,806,000
Change from request	$-19,\!257,\!000$

Established by the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) works for Congress by responding to requests for studies of Federal Government programs and expenditures and may also initiate its own work. The Committee recommends \$896,700,000 in direct appropriations for GAO. In addition, \$33,424,000 is available in offsetting collections derived from reimbursements for conducting financial audits of government corporations and the rental of space in the GAO building. The Committee recommendation includes an increase to the direct appropriation in large part due to the significant decrease in offsetting collections for fiscal year 2025.

Agency Responsiveness to Congressional Inquires on Behalf of Constituents.—The Committee requests the Government Accountability Office, within 270 days of enactment of this Act, to study the current status of responsiveness to House of Representative office inquiries on behalf of constituents seeking assistance at select Federal agencies. The study should make recommendations for minimum standards and agency personnel and technology needs to provide accurate and timely responses to Congressional inquiries,

as appropriate.

Driving Implementation of Open GAO Recommendations.—GAO report recommendations have the potential to save billions of dollars and greatly improve government operations. The Committee believes that a way to increase recommendation implementation and hold agencies accountable for implementing them in a timely way is for GAO to establish a timeframe in which a recommendation should be able to be fully implemented. As such the Committee directs GAO to develop and implement a pilot to evaluate the efficacy of including implementation timeframes when it makes recommendations. Among other things, the pilot will examine whether including this information increases agencies' implementation rates and timeliness. GAO should brief the Committee on the results of this pilot and make recommendations of whether the pilot should be made permanent within two years of the start of the pilot. The Committee expects agencies to provide GAO the necessary information to develop implementation timeframes.

Community Funding Projects.—The Committee directs the GAO to again undertake an audit of Community Project Funding contained in fiscal year 2025 appropriations legislation. The audit shall include the same characteristics GAO adhered to in its fiscal year 2022 CPF directive after consulting with the Committees on Appropriations. In conducting its audit, GAO shall provide periodic briefings and reports based on available data to the Committees.

Outreach to Congressional Staff.—The Committee requests that legislative support agencies take steps to ensure that their products, services, and outreach are designed to adapt and meet the customer needs of an evolving Congress. As such, the Committee requests that GAO expand its outreach to better inform Congress of the products and services the agency provides.

Duplicative Government Programs.—Each year, GAO identifies and reports on Federal agency programs with fragmented, overlapping, or duplicative goals or activities and ways to reduce costs or enhance revenue. The Committee continues to direct GAO to issue these reports and urges the Executive Branch to address duplicative programs.

GAO Office of Inspector General.—The agreement includes no less than \$2,451,000 to support no fewer than 14 FTE within the GAO OIG.

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$6,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2025	7,200,000
Committee recommendation	6,600,000
Change from enacted level	+600,000
Change from request	-600,000

The Committee recommends \$6,600,000 for salaries and expenses of the Congressional Office for International Leadership.

Financial Audit.—The Committee acknowledges that while the Library of Congress's Office of Inspector General traditionally conducts the annual financial statement audit for the Congressional Office for International Leadership (COIL), the agency is considering using an alternative contractor as a potential cost savings measure. COIL is directed to keep the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration apprised of any plans to replace, cease, or modify its existing relationship with its current auditor.

Ukraine.—The Committee continues to be deeply troubled by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and supports COIL's engagement with Ukrainians outside of Ukraine to maintain democratic advancement throughout wartime.

Poland.—The Committee continues to support COIL's efforts to explore increased exchange with Poland as a former Communist country.

Hungary.—The Committee continues to support COIL's efforts to explore increased exchange with Hungary as a former Communist country.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2024	\$430,000 430,000
Committee recommendation	430,000
Change from enacted level	0
Change from request	0

The Committee recommends \$430,000 for salaries and expenses for the Stennis Center. The Center provides congressional staff training and development opportunities to promote and strengthen public service leadership in America.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Committee continues several provisions from prior years, including language regarding maintenance and care of private vehicles, fiscal year limitation, rates of compensation and designation, consulting services, the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council, a limitation on transfers, guided tours of the Capitol, and

prohibition on certain operational expenses.

Includes a new provision prohibiting certain telecommunications equipment procurement, a new provision standardizing the salary rates for certain Legislative Branch officials to the salary rates equitable to other Legislative Branch officials, a new provision to exempt the practice of medicine from the fiduciary relationship restrictions for a Member of Congress, a new provision to prohibit funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, a new provision to prohibit funding for discriminatory actions against certain religious beliefs, and a spending reduction account.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024	FY 2025		Bill vs.	Bill vs.
	Enacted	Request	Bill	Enacted	Request
			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker	10,499	10,499	10,499	:	1
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	3,730	3,730	3,730	,	;
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	10,499	10,499	10,499	;	;
Office of the Majority Whip,	3,099	3,099	3,099	:	;
Office of the Minority Whip	2,809	2,809	2,809	:	;
Republican Conference	2,962	2,962	2,962	;	1 1
Democratic Caucus	2,962	2,962	2,962	;	•
Total, House Leadership Offices	36,560	36,560	36,560		

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Members' Representational Allowances					
Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail	810,000	843,605	843,605	+33,605	;
Allowance for Compensation of Interns					
House Member Offices	20,639	20,639	20,639	1 1	;
House Leadership Offices	586	586	586	:	* *
House Standing, Special and Select Committee Offices	2,600	2,600	2,600	:	: :
House Appropriations Committee Office	463	463	463	:	•
Total, Allowance for Compensation of Interns	24,288	24,288	24,288	; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ;	1 2 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Committee Employees					
	180,587	180,862	180,862	+275	:
committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations)	31,294	31,294	31,294	:	;
Total, Committee Employees	211,881	212,156	212,156	+275	1

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	Bi11	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk	41,455	44,984	44,984	+3,529	
Office of the Sergeant at Arms,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		34,141	34,141	-4,652	;
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer		213,072	213,072	:	:
Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds		1,250	1,250	;	:
Office of the Inspector General	5,512	5,772	5,772	+260	;
Office of General Counsel		2,048	2,048	+61	1
Office of the Parliamentarian		2,287	2,287	+47	1 1 5
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House		5,048	5,048	+1,148	:
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House		15,300	15,300	+629	t #
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs	934	994	994	09+	:
Other authorized employees	1,065	1,065	1,065	;	:
Total, Salaries, Officers and Employees	324,879	325,961	325,961	+1,082	#

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	1118	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal cost claims	1,555	1,555	1,555	}	;
administrative offices of the House	190	190	190		:
Government contributions	392,368	428,960	428,960	+36,592	3 8 3 4 1 1
Transition activities	5,895	15,786	15,786	+9,891	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program	3,356	3,356	3,356	:	•••
Office of Congressional Ethics	1,762	1,810	1,810	+48	:
Miscellaneous items	1,000	1,000	1,000	1 1	*
Total, Allowances and Expenses	433,390	480,085	480,085	+46,695	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
House Modernization Initiatives Account==	10,000	10,000	10,000	* 11 *	; (1); (1); (1); (1); (1); (1); (1); (1)
Total, House of Representatives	1,850,998	1,932,655	1,850,998 1,932,655 1,932,655 +81,657	+81,657	# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #

-4,307

1

-4,707

-3,079

24,963

29,670

28,042

Total, Joint Items.....

Salaries and expenses...... Office of Congressional Accessibility Services

1,766 6,121 1,814 +48 -4,307

1,766

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

Bill vs. Request

- 400

Bill vs. Enacted -3,675 -348 8111 4,283 4,416 FY 2025 Request 4,283 4,416 FY 2024 Enacted 4,283 3,675 13,554 4,764 Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances. Office of the Attending Physician JOINT ITEMS

		11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11		14 15 15 11 11 11 14 14 14
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries General expenses	588,627 202,846	636,546 263,844	619,257	+30,630	-17,289
Total, Capitol Police	791,473	900,390	830,300	+38,827	. 70,090
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS					
Salaries and expenses	8,150	8,592	8,150	!	- 442

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	E111	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	70,000	70,729	73,259	+3,259	+2,530
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL (AOC)					
Capital Construction and Operations	152,507	190,316	165,000	+12,493	-25,316
Capitol building	95,688	53,193	41,002	-54,686	-12,191
Capitol grounds	16,600	34,867	33,922	+17,322	-945
House office buildings	166,426	151,567	148,000	-18,426	-3,567
House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund	:	5,500	5,500	+2,500	1 1 1
Subtotal, AOC House Buildings	166,426	157,067	153,500	-12,926	-3,567
Capitol Power Plant	158,650	140,505	137,414	-21,236	-3,091
Spending from offsetting collections	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000	t ; t	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant	148,650	130,505	127,414	-21,236	-3,091
Library buildings and grounds	94,978	73,202	86,043	-8,935	+12,841
Capitol police buildings, grounds and security	85,207	113,352	95,016	608'6+	-18,336
Botanic Garden	20,506	22,859	21,214	+708	-1,645
Capitol Visitor Center	28,000	30,614	29,127	+1,127	-1,487
Total, Architect of the Capitol			752,238		-53,737

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
; ; ; ;
Congressional Research Service, Salaries and expenses: Salaries and expenses
. 66,130
f fl 1 es 1 bs 1 bs 1 ls 1 ls 1 ls
131,999

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	1118	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE				6 6 1 1 6 6 7 7 8 1 1 1	
Salaries and expenses	885,870 -73,976	949,381		+44,254	
Total, Government Accountability Office	811,894	915,957	896,700 +84,806	+84,806	-19,257
CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND Payment to the Congressional Office for International Leadership (COIL) Fund	000'9	7,200	009'9	009+	009-
JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT					
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	430		
Total, Title I, Legislative Branch	5,359,706	5,680,926	5,359,706 5,680,926 5,544,823 +185,117 -136,103	+185,117	-136,103

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	1118	Bill vs. Enacted	Bil Re
TITLE II - GENERAL PROVISIONS					1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Adjustments to Compensation (CBO estimate)	-4,000		1 4 3	+4,000	1
Authority to Make Puchases of Materials and Services During Emergencies (Sec. 131)	53 2 61 3 81 5 81 61 61 61 61 61 61 61	26,000	0 1 H 1 H 2 H 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	10 1	-26,000
Total, Title II, General Provisions	-4,000	26,000	26,000 +4,000	+4,000	-26,000
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS					
FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024 (P.L. 118-22)					
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress	174	;	•	-174	;
					14 14 14 11 11 11 11 11 11
Total, Other Appropriations	174	1	171.	-174	H

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2024
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2025
(Amounts in thousands)

FY 2024 FY 2025 Bill vs. Bill vs. Enacted Request Bill Enacted Request	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Grand total. Appropriations. Offseting collections	5,355,880 (5,439,856) (-83,976)	5,706,926 (5,750,350) (-43,424)	5,544,823 (5,588,247) (-43,424)	+188,943 (+148,391) (+40,552)	-162,103 (-162,103)