

Chairman Rodney Alexander
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives Budget Hearing
March 19, 2013
Opening Statement As Prepared

Today we will receive testimony from the Officers of the House of Representatives: The Honorable Dan J. Strodel, the Chief Administrative Officer, The Honorable Karen L. Haas, the Clerk of the House and The Honorable Paul D. Irving, the Sergeant at Arms. Also in attendance are: Ms. Grafenstine, the Inspector General; Mr. Kircher, General Counsel; Ms. Strokoff, Legislative Counsel; and, Mr. Seep, Law Revision Counsel. We are pleased to welcome you here today and thank each of you and your employees for your dedication and service to the House.

The fiscal year 2014 budget request that we will consider is \$1.2 billion, the same level as provided in the continuing resolution through March 27, 2013. We have reduced the House's appropriation by over \$135 million, or 10.5% since January 2011. And, due to sequestration we must reduce the appropriation for the House by another \$62 million. In total, the Officers of the House comprise 13% of the appropriation for the House. It is a small portion of the budget, but an invaluable one. As we move through this hearing today, I am looking forward to highlighting past efforts and focusing on where we go in the future.

In the past two years, you have reduced your appropriations in total by 11%. Each of your offices has played a role in accomplishing these reductions. While your entire statements will be made part of the record, I would like to ask you to summarize your remarks and highlight your efforts of the past year.

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