



Chairman Tom Graves

*Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch
House Committee on Appropriations*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FY2017 BUDGET REQUEST

MARCH 2, 2016

OPENING STATEMENT AS NEEDED

Today we will begin our hearings on the fiscal year 2017 budget request of the House of Representatives.

I would like to welcome the Officers of the House:

The Honorable Karen Haas, Clerk of the House

The Honorable Paul Irving, Sergeant at Arms

Mr. Will Plaster, our new Chief Administrative Officer – - congratulations on your new position, I look forward to working with you.

Also in attendance are:

Mr. Kerry Kircher, General Counsel

Ms. Sandy Strokoff, Legislative Counsel

Mr. Ralph Seep, Law Revision Counsel

Ms. Theresa Grafenstein, Inspector General

The fiscal year 2017 budget request for the House agencies is \$1.187 billion which is \$6.6 million over FY2016's enacted amount.

Much of the work each of you and your offices do on a daily basis is in an ideal world -- invisible.

If everything goes well your work stays behind the scenes and unnoticed. However this Committee notices and appreciates the work you all do to keep the House secure both virtually and physically and ensure the Members have the proper tools to do their jobs in a safe environment.

I look forward to working with each of you on the challenges facing us in fiscal year 2017.

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