

**FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT
APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2024**

JUNE XX, 2023.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. WOMACK of Arkansas, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. XXX]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for Financial Services and General Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

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INTRODUCTION

The fiscal year 2024 allocation is \$11,311,000,000 in addition to \$14,013,000,000 in reallocated funds, for a discretionary spending total of \$25,324,000,000. This is \$1,867,300,000 below the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and \$6,232,084,000 below the President’s budget request for fiscal year 2024.

The Committee report refers to certain organizations, offices, and institutions as follows: the Government Accountability Office as GAO; the Office of Management and Budget as OMB; the Office of Personnel Management as OPM; the Internal Revenue Service as IRS; the General Services Administration as GSA; and full-time equivalent as FTE. References to “the Committee” means the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, unless otherwise noted. In addition, any reference to the “budget request” or “the request” should be interpreted to mean the Budget of the U.S. Government, fiscal year 2024, that was submitted to Congress on March 9, 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

The Financial Services and General Government bill has jurisdiction over a broad and varied range of government functions and services encompassing both the Executive and Judicial branches. These appropriations support the Department of the Treasury, the Executive Office of the President, Federal Payments to the District of Columbia, and the Federal Judiciary. The bill also provides resources for over a dozen independent agencies and commissions, each of which serves the public with a distinct mission.

The fiscal year 2024 FSGG bill promotes fiscal responsibility by reducing non-defense discretionary levels, rescinding unobligated Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding, bringing oversight to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and reducing spending in unauthorized programs.

OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

The Committee strongly believes in the need for careful oversight of government expenditure of taxpayer dollars and is committed to providing the necessary oversight to reduce waste, fraud, and inefficiency in the operations and programs funded by the Financial Services and General Government bill.

To this end, the Committee does not support the administration's request to fund climate change initiatives, staff diversity and inclusion offices, train Federal employees on critical race theory, expand agencies' regulatory agendas, and buy a Federal fleet of electric vehicles. The Committee strongly believes agencies under its jurisdiction should maintain focus on assisting small businesses, providing high levels of customer service, investing in rural and low-income communities, countering illicit finance, cyber threats, and fentanyl trafficking, and maintaining a strong judicial system.

Within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee requires Federal agencies to reinstate and apply their pre-pandemic telework policies, practices, and levels in effect as of December 31, 2019, or they cannot obligate or expend funding for fiscal year 2024. The FSGG bill provides increases for agencies' relocation, building improvements, rental payments, and critical infrastructure, and therefore expects employees to return to the office to provide value to the American taxpayer.

The Committee includes a provision requiring OMB to remind all Federal agencies of the compliance obligations detailed in title VII of this Act.

REPROGRAMMING AND OPERATING PLAN PROCEDURES

Section 608 and Section 739 of this Act detail department and agency responsibilities and procedures relating to reprogramming of funds among programs, projects, and activities. Each department and agency funded in this Act shall follow the directions set forth in this Act and its accompanying report and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. The Committee expects that agencies or entities that fulfill the requirements of Section 608 will also be in compliance with the requirements of Section 739.

Section 608 requires agencies and entities funded by this Act to receive prior approval from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for any reprogramming of funds that (1) creates a new program; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by Congress; (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by the Committee on Appropriations of either the House of Representatives or the Senate for a different purpose; (5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; (6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or (7) creates or reorganizes offices, programs, or activities. In addition, prior to any significant reorganization, restructuring, relocation, or closing of offices, programs, or activities, each agency or entity funded in this Act shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations.

Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency shall submit a report to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2024. The amount appropriated for agencies shall be reduced by \$100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Committees.

Reprogramming procedures shall apply to funds provided in this bill, unobligated balances from previous appropriations Acts that are available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, and non-appropriated resources such as fee collections that are used to meet program requirements in fiscal year 2024.

To assess a reprogramming request, the Committee requires the following information, at minimum: a thorough justification for the reprogramming, the impact of the reprogramming on budget requirements for future fiscal years, and the impact of the reprogramming on carryover funding. These requirements also apply to significant reorganizations or restructurings of programs, projects, or activities, even if such a reorganization or restructuring does not involve reprogramming of funding. The Committee also expects prompt notification of any reprogramming that does not meet the above criteria but might have significant impacts on budgetary requirements for future fiscal years.

The Committee directs that, for purposes of this report and the Act, the term “consult” means a pre-decisional engagement between a relevant Federal agency and the Committee during which the Committee is provided a meaningful opportunity to provide facts and opinions to inform: (1) the use of funds; (2) the development, content, or conduct of a program or activity; or (3) a decision to be taken.

Except in emergency situations, reprogramming requests should be submitted no later than June 30, 2024. Moreover, the Committee notes that when an agency or entity submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Committees on Appropriations and does not receive identical responses from the House and Senate, it is the responsibility of the Department or agency to reconcile the House and Senate differences before proceeding and, if reconciliation is not possible, to consider the request to reprogram funds unapproved.

OTHER MATTERS AND DIRECTIVES

Reports.—The Committee stresses that all reports are required to be completed in compliance with the timeframe outlined for each respective directive. Furthermore, the Committee expects that the specifications and conditions associated with funding appropriated by this Act shall be accomplished in the manner as directed in the report.

Budget Justifications.—Budget justifications are the primary tool used by the Committees on Appropriations to evaluate the resource requirements and fiscal needs of agencies. The Committee is aware that the format and presentation of budget materials is largely left to the agency within presentation objectives set forth by OMB. In fact, OMB Circular A–11, part 1 specifically instructs agencies to consult with Congressional committees beforehand. The Committee expects that all agencies funded under this Act will heed this directive.

The Committee continues the direction that justifications submitted with the fiscal year 2025 budget request by agencies funded under this Act contain the customary level of detailed data and explanatory statements to support the appropriations requests at the level of detail contained in the funding table included at the end of this report. Among other items, agencies shall provide a detailed discussion of proposed new initiatives, proposed changes in the agency’s financial plan from prior year enactment, detailed data on all programs, and comprehensive information on any office or agency restructurings. At a minimum, each agency must also provide adequate justification for funding and staffing changes for each individual office and materials that compare programs, projects, and activities that are proposed for fiscal year 2025 to the fiscal year 2024 enacted levels.

American Flag Purchases.—The Committee once again urges all Federal agencies to only purchase flags that contain 100 percent American-made materials even though the All American Flag Act requires the Federal Government to purchase flags made of only 50 percent American-made materials.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$273,882,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	332,199,000
Recommended in the bill	248,109,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 25,773,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 84,090,000

The Departmental Offices support the Secretary of the Treasury as the chief operating executive of the Department and in their role in determining the tax, economic, and financial management policies of the Federal Government. The Secretary’s responsibilities funded by the Salaries and Expenses appropriation include: recommending and implementing domestic and international economic and tax policy; providing recommendations regarding fiscal policy; governing the fiscal operations of the government; managing the public debt; managing development of financial policy; representing the U.S. on international monetary, trade, and investment issues; overseeing Treasury Department international operations; directing the administrative operations of the Treasury Department; and providing executive oversight of the bureaus within the Treasury Department.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$248,109,000 for Departmental Offices, Salaries and Expenses.

Treasury Forfeiture Fund.—The Department is directed to continue to submit a detailed table each month reporting the interest earned, forfeiture revenue collected, unobligated balances, recoveries, expenses to date, and expenses estimated for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Financial Literacy for Students.—The Committee is encouraged by the Department’s work to help promote financial literacy, par-

ticularly among the school-age population. As of January 2023, 33 states have a high-school personal finance requirement. The Committee strongly encourages the Department to partner with entities offering financial literacy programs, where appropriate, to broaden the scope of the Financial Literacy Education Commission to reach more students to encourage economic inclusion and lasting financial resilience.

Cybersecurity in the Financial Services Sector.—The Committee encourages the Office of Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Protection (OCCIP) to improve resilience to cyberattacks by expanding risk assessment and mitigation capabilities as a part of its role as a Sector Risk Management Agency. OCCIP is further encouraged to engage in efforts to map third-party dependencies in the financial sector, provide analysis of domestic and international cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities, and support bilateral and multilateral engagement on financial sector cybersecurity in strategically important regions, including Eastern Europe and East Asia.

Outbound Investment.—In fiscal year 2023, the Department established a program to address national security concerns arising from outbound investments from the United States into advanced technologies that are critical to U.S. national security. The Department realigned \$7,000,000 from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to implement and administer the program. The Committee looks forward to an update on its progress and the timing of final policy determinations, including an opportunity for public comment.

Relation of Government Sponsored Enterprise Charters and Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements.—The Committee is aware of concerns regarding the Federal National Mortgage Association and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's efforts to develop new activities and operations beyond the authorities vested in their charter, including a pilot program to serve as a title insurer by self-insuring title-related risks. The Committee believes that the terms of the Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements that provide ongoing capital support for the government sponsored enterprises should be construed to restrict the activities of the Government Sponsored Entities to their core mission under the Charter Acts and that deviation from these missions such as by serving as a title insurer could carry unreasonable risks for home buyers and to the Department of Treasury's rights under the Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department within 120 days to provide a report to the Committee outlining any pilots, initiatives or other proposals shared with mortgage originators by the Government Sponsored Enterprises from fiscal year 2022 to present. Further, the Committee encourages the Department to address the issue of the Government Sponsored Entities undertaking actions that expand activities beyond the core secondary market activities outlined in the Charter Acts.

COVID-19 Expenditure Report.—The Committee remains concerned regarding the expenditure of COVID-19 relief money appropriated and directs the Department within 60 days of enactment of this Act to provide a COVID-19 expenditure report to the Committee.

U.S. Dollar Dominance.—The Committee is concerned by recent data showing the decline in global reserves of the United States

dollar. The Department is directed to brief the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the steps the Department is taking to ensure the dominance of the U.S. dollar as the world reserve currency in the future.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES FUND
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$21,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	21,000,000
Recommended in the bill	21,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) was established in 1975 to monitor the impact of foreign investment in the United States and to coordinate and implement Federal policy on such investment. The Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (FIRRMA) expanded the jurisdiction of CFIUS to address growing national security concerns over foreign exploitation of certain national security structures that traditionally have fallen outside of the Committee's jurisdiction, and modernized CFIUS processes to better enable timely and effective reviews of covered transactions. FIRRMA also established the CFIUS Fund to support these expanded functions and responsibilities, and to collect filing fees.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$21,000,000 for the CFIUS Fund. In addition, \$25,570,000 is included under the Salaries and Expenses appropriation for CFIUS activities.

Spending Plan.—The Department is directed to provide a detailed accounting of planned expenditures of the Department and member agencies prior to obligating or transferring amounts available in the CFIUS Fund. The Committee expects funding provided to be used for CFIUS program activities in fiscal year 2024.

OFFICE OF TERRORISM AND FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$216,059,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	244,000,000
Recommended in the bill	206,842,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	-9,217,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-37,158,000

Economic and trade sanctions issued and enforced by the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence's (TFI) Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) protect the financial system from being polluted with criminal and illicit activities and counteract national security threats from drug lords, terrorists, human rights abusers, weapons of mass destruction proliferators, and rogue nations, among others. In addition to the enforcement of sanctions, TFI also produces vital analysis of foreign intelligence and counterintelligence across all elements of the national security community.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$206,842,000 for TFI.

Terrorist Destruction of Energy Facilities in Central America.—The Committee is concerned that widespread theft of electricity and illegal connections to the grid, particularly in Guatemala, directly undermine the function and cause significant interruption of the electric grid in communities from which many Central American migrants originate. Such activity constitutes terrorism under U.S. and Guatemalan law. While the Biden Administration’s Strategy for Addressing the Root Causes of Migration in Central America pledges to support distributed generation, increased electricity reliability, and grid sustainability, the Administration has done nothing to address this illegal activity that also degrades citizen security and drives migration. Financial sanctions are a key tool for asserting U.S. policy by depriving criminals of access to the international financial system to move their illicit proceeds. The Committee directs OFAC to investigate and submit a preliminary report, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on individuals and entities involved in or providing material support to those causing a significant interruption or impairment of a function of an energy facility involved in the transmission or distribution of electricity in Guatemala. A final report shall be submitted not less than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

Strengthening Sanctions Enforcement.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall consult with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding ways to increase sanctions enforcement through the OFAC, including assessment of incentives that might encourage greater penalty collection, and what methods are likely to raise revenue for the Department.

Russian Sanctions.—The Committee is concerned that high-ranking Russian officials and oligarchs are evading sanctions by transferring assets to family members, thereby weakening the sanctions regime on those responsible for Russia’s continued aggression in Ukraine and human rights abuses. The Committee urges OFAC to review the transfer of Russian assets and apply sanctions to personal relatives where appropriate. Such sanctions should be tied to gross human rights abuses such as illegal detainment of prisoners of war and other freedom-fighters.

Report on Illicit Finance in the Northern Triangle.—The Committee is alarmed by reports of significant financial crimes in the Northern Triangle that are impacting U.S. national security, and directs the Department, including TFI to prioritize combatting illicit finance in the region. The Department shall carry out a study on the extent and effect of illicit finance risk relating to the Governments of the Northern Triangle and Northern Triangle firms, including financial institutions; an assessment of the illicit finance risks emanating from the region; those risks allowed, directly or indirectly, by the governments, including those enabled by weak regulatory or administrative controls of the government, and the ways in which increasing trade and investment exposes the international financial system to increased risk relating to illicit finance. The report shall also include a strategy to counter illicit finance in the region. Not later than one year after enactment of this Act, the re-

port will be shared with the Committee in unclassified form, and may include a classified annex.

Sanctions Enforcement in Africa.—The Committee is concerned that corruption continues to be an impediment to social, economic, and political development in nations such as Sudan, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Committee supports the use of funds to enhance regional expertise and capacity to promote the effectiveness of sanctions regimes and international arms embargoes designed to curtail the flow of funding that is fueling wars and contributing to regional destabilization.

CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$100,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	215,000,000
Recommended in the bill	150,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+50,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	–65,000,000

The Cybersecurity Enhancement Account (CEA) is a dedicated account designed to identify and support Department-wide investments for critical IT improvements, including the systems identified as High Value Assets.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$150,000,000 for the CEA. The recommendation includes an increase for Zero Trust Architecture implementation and cloud enterprise cybersecurity enhancements.

Quarterly Reports.—Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the Department is directed to submit a plan for the obligation of funds by quarter for each CEA investment. The plan shall include prior year unobligated balances and delineate planned obligations by source year of appropriation. The plan shall also include anticipated unobligated balances at the close of the fiscal year and the planned obligation of carryover in future years, by quarter, until all funds are obligated. The Department is directed to submit quarterly updates on this plan.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE SYSTEMS AND CAPITAL INVESTMENTS PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$11,118,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	30,881,000
Recommended in the bill	14,600,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+3,482,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	–16,281,000

The Department-wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs account funds capital investments that support the missions of all Treasury bureaus and programs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$14,600,000 for Department-wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs. The recommendation includes an increase for anticipated office moves and critical ren-

ovations and maintenance of the outer shell of the Main Treasury and Freedman’s Bank Building facilities.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$48,878,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	49,180,000
Recommended in the bill	43,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 5,878,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 6,180,000

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) provides agency-wide audit and investigative functions to identify and correct operational and administrative deficiencies that create conditions for fraud, waste, and mismanagement. The audit function provides contract, program, and financial statement audit services. Contract audits provide professional advice to agency contracting officials on accounting and financial matters relative to negotiation, award, administration, repricing, and settlement of contracts. Program audits review and evaluate all facets of agency operations. Financial statement audits assess whether financial statements fairly present the agency’s financial condition and results of operations, the adequacy of accounting controls, and compliance with laws and regulations. The investigative function provides for the detection and investigation of improper and illegal activities involving programs, personnel, and operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$43,000,000 for the OIG to conduct audits of the Department’s highest risk programs and continue its investigative work to prevent, detect, and investigate complaints of fraud, waste, and abuse impacting Treasury programs and operations.

The Committee remains concerned about cyber-based threats and unauthorized access to Treasury networks and systems. The Committee encourages the Inspector General to conduct oversight of high-risk areas within the Department and provide recommendations on whether sufficient protections exist within the Department.

TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$174,250,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	187,368,000
Recommended in the bill	170,250,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 4,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 17,118,000

The Office of Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) conducts audits, investigations, and evaluations to assess the operations and programs of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and its related entities, the IRS Oversight Board, and the Office of Chief Counsel. The purpose of those audits and investigations is as follows: (1) to promote the economic, efficient, and effective administration of the Nation’s tax laws and to detect and deter fraud and

abuse in IRS programs and operations; and (2) to recommend actions to resolve fraud and other serious problems, abuses, and deficiencies in these programs and operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$170,250,000 for TIGTA.

The Committee appreciates TIGTA’s work in assessing IRS’ information technology. The Committee encourages TIGTA to ensure that the IRS takes further steps to improve its information technology program.

FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$190,193,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	228,908,000
Recommended in the bill	166,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 24,193,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 62,908,000

The mission of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is to safeguard the financial system from illicit use; combat money laundering; and promote national security through the collection, analysis, and dissemination of financial intelligence and strategic use of financial authorities. FinCEN supports Federal, State, local, and international law enforcement agency investigations of money laundering and other financial crimes, and fosters interagency and global cooperation against domestic and international financial crimes.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$166,000,000 for FinCEN.

Countering the Financing of Online Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).—The Committee is concerned with increased online child sexual exploitation being monetized through the U.S. financial sector. The Committee recommends \$5,000,000 to improve FinCEN’s ability for oversight and Title 31 investigations involving child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse material. The Committee encourages FinCEN to ensure the U.S. financial sector is adequately complying with existing regulatory requirements mandated through the “Anti-Money Laundering Requirement” of the USA PATRIOT Act: 31 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 5318(h)(1), 31 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1028.210, and 31 CFR § 1020.210 to prevent the facilitation of online child exploitation and sex trafficking through the U.S. financial sector. Such efforts are consistent with FinCEN’s anti-money laundering priorities published in June 2021, which listed combatting human trafficking and human smuggling as a top priority, including combatting crimes against children.

Business Email Compromise.—Email compromise fraud schemes generally entail criminal attempts to compromise the email accounts of victims to send fraudulent payment instructions to financial institutions or business associates in order to misappropriate funds or to assist in financial fraud. The Committee appreciates the report by FinCEN on business email compromise in the real es-

tate sector and encourages FinCEN to continue its work on business email compromise detection, mitigation, prevention and reporting.

Asia-Pacific Region.—The Committee recognizes the importance of FinCEN’s support to law enforcement cases in Hawaii and the U.S. Pacific territories as part of the Bureau’s broader mission to combat money laundering and promote national security. FinCEN is expected to keep the Committee apprised on current trends and methods of money laundering in the Asia-Pacific Region and ongoing efforts to counter this activity.

BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$372,485,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	399,263,000
Recommended in the bill	368,155,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 4,330,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 31,108,000

The mission of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (Fiscal Service) is to promote the financial integrity and operational efficiency of the U.S. Government through accounting, borrowing, collections, payments, and shared services. The Fiscal Service is the Federal Government’s central financial agent. The Fiscal Service also develops and implements reliable and efficient financial methods and systems to operate the government’s cash management, credit management, and debt collection programs in order to maintain government accounts and report on the status of the government’s finances. In addition, the Fiscal Service is the primary agency for collecting Federal non-tax debt owed to the government and is responsible for all public debt operations and the promotion of the sale of U.S. securities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$368,155,000 for the Fiscal Service.

Cybersecurity in the Fiscal Service.—The Committee notes with interest the enhanced cybersecurity needs of the Fiscal Service and encourages the Department to account for the heightened risk and need to protect the Bureau’s work as it relates to the Department’s core mission. Strengthening the cybersecurity capabilities of the Fiscal Service is essential to our national security interests as well as to safeguarding our ability to execute fiscal obligations, such as servicing the national debt.

Transparency in Federal Spending.—Transparency and accountability are critical to a democratic and fiscally responsible government, and USASpending.gov is the primary portal through which the public can review and understand Federal spending. The Committee is pleased by ongoing improvements to the website and expects the Fiscal Service to continue to work with OMB and other Federal agencies that receive appropriations to improve the accessibility, searchability, and reliability of spending information on USASpending.gov. The Committee further directs the Fiscal Service to coordinate with OMB to publish all unclassified vendor contracts and grant awards agreements for all Federal agencies online

at USA Spending.gov. The Committee also directs the Fiscal Service to coordinate with OMB to require all financial and award spending information be reported reporting on at least a monthly basis, rather than a quarterly basis. The Committee expects the Fiscal Service to keep the Committee and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability apprised of its progress in improving data quality and accessibility of transparency regarding Federal spending.

Matured Unredeemed Debt.—Fiscal Service is directed to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its progress regarding the digitization of mature unredeemed debt.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$148,863,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	155,604,000
Recommended in the bill	135,038,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 13,825,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 20,566,000

The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) is responsible for the enforcement of laws designed to eliminate certain illicit activities and the regulation of lawful activities relating to distilled spirits, beer, wine, and nonbeverage alcohol products, and tobacco. TTB focuses on collecting revenue, reducing taxpayer burden, improving service while preventing diversion, and protecting the public and preventing consumer deception in certain regulated commodities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$135,038,000 for the TTB.

Trade Practice Enforcement and Education.—The American beverage alcohol system continues to experience unprecedented growth across the United States. The entry of new products and businesses into the three-tier beverage alcohol system requires a robust TTB with the capacity to enforce the provisions of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act that keep the marketplace safe, fair, and competitive. The recommendation includes \$5,000,000 for TTB to continue its education and enforcement efforts for industry trade practice violations. The Committee urges the TTB to increase its outreach to educate and inform the industry on trade practice laws and regulations.

UNITED STATES MINT

UNITED STATES MINT PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

The United States Mint (the Mint) manufactures coins, receives deposits of gold and silver bullion, and safeguards the Federal Government’s holdings of monetary metals. In 1997, Congress established the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund (Public Law 104–52), which authorized the Mint to use proceeds from the sale of coins to finance the costs of its operations and consolidated all existing Mint accounts into a single fund.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a spending level for capital investments by the Mint for circulating coinage and protective services of \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2024.

Mutilated Coin Redemption.—The Committee is concerned that the United States Mint’s proposed regulations governing redemption of mutilated coins would unfairly restrict participation in the program by private entities and local governments that recover coins during recycling or solid waste management activities. In the course of performing these societally valued services, companies and local governments may recover large amounts of bent, partial, defaced, or otherwise mutilated coins. Making diligent efforts to recover coins rather than destroying or disposing of them should be encouraged, since it is illegal to destroy or damage U.S. currency, including disposal. Without the Mint’s redemption program, entities that are recovering U.S. coinage are left with no reasonable way to manage recovered coins. The Committee expects that the United States Mint will work with these and other parties who present valid coinage in compliance with the existing regulations.

Coin Metal Modification.—In a GAO report from 2019, entitled “Financial Benefit of Switching to a \$1 Coin Is Unlikely,” but Changing Coin Metal Content Could Result in Cost Savings, GAO recommended that Congress consider amending the law to provide the Secretary of the Treasury with the authority to alter the metal composition of circulating coins. The Committee supports changes to the metal content of coins if it reduces costs incurred by the U.S. taxpayers, allows coins to work interchangeably in most coin acceptors, and has a minimal adverse impact on the public and stakeholders.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$324,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	341,478,000
Recommended in the bill	278,617,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 45,383,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 62,861,000

The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund provides grants, loans, equity investments, and technical assistance, on a competitive basis, to new and existing CDFIs such as community development banks, community development credit unions, and housing and microenterprise loan funds. Recipients use the funds to support mortgages, small business, and economic development lending in underserved and distressed neighborhoods and the availability of financial services in these neighborhoods. The CDFI Fund is also responsible for implementation of the New Markets Tax Credits.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$278,617,000 for the CDFI Fund program. Of the amounts recommended, \$170,000,000 is for financial and technical assistance grants, \$30,000,000 is for Native Initiatives, \$35,000,000 is for the Bank Enterprise Award Program,

\$5,000,000 is for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative, \$5,000,000 is for the Small Dollar Loan Program, and \$33,617,000 is for administrative expenses. In addition, the Committee recommends a loan limit of \$500,000,000 for the Bond Guarantee Program.

The Committee notes that the CDFI Fund program received \$1.25 billion through the CDFI Rapid Response Program; \$1.75 billion through the Equitable Recovery Program; and \$2.1 billion in liquidity from the Paycheck Protection Program Liquidity Facility. Further, the Committee notes the CDFI Fund has yet to award grants from the fiscal year 2023 appropriation and expects the CDFI Fund to provide data supporting increased community and economic development in low- and moderate-income areas until additional awards are made.

Updated CDFI Application.—The Committee is concerned about proposed changes to the CDFI certification application that would result in many rural banks losing their CDFI status through stricter rules on interest rates, underwriting standards, risk management tools, disclosure requirements, and target markets. The Committee directs the CDFI Fund within 60 days of enactment to provide a briefing on the steps taken to consider public comments on the revised application and the timeline for finalizing application revisions.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

The Committee bill recommends \$11,237,612,000 for the IRS, which is a decrease of \$1,081,442,000 below the fiscal year 2023 enacted level, to administer the nation's tax systems.

User Fees.—The Committee directs the IRS to submit a user fee spending plan within 60 days of enactment of this Act detailing planned spending on its four appropriations accounts. Specifically, the Committee would like to see how programs, investments, and initiatives funded through each appropriations account are supported by user fees.

Obligations and Employment.—Within 45 days of the end of each quarter for calendar year 2024, the IRS is directed to submit to the Committee an obligation and personnel report. The report shall include information about the obligations made during the previous quarter by appropriation, object class, office, and activity; the estimated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year by appropriation, object class, office, and activity; the number of FTE within each office during the previous quarter; and the estimated number of FTE within each office for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Cloud Adoption.—The Committee directs the IRS to report on its cloud adoption in support of information technology (IT) modernization, and ways in which it is deploying cloud across its enterprise to enhance cybersecurity. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the IRS is directed to report to the Committee on existing and new obligations for commercial cloud computing services in compliance with the Cyber Executive Order and the 2023 Treasury Report on Cloud Use in Financial Services.

A description of the Committee's recommendation by appropriation is provided below.

TAXPAYER SERVICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$2,780,606,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	3,422,449,000
Recommended in the bill	2,780,606,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 641,843,000

The Taxpayer Services appropriation provides for taxpayer services, including forms and publications; processing of tax returns and related documents; filing and account services; taxpayer advocacy services; and assistance to taxpayers to understand their tax obligations, correctly file their returns, and pay taxes due in a timely manner.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$2,780,606,000 for Taxpayer Services.

Backlog of Returns.—The Committee is aware at the end of 2022, the IRS had 10 million unprocessed tax returns and 15.1 million returns requiring manual processing. Additionally, in 2022, 173 million phone calls were placed to the IRS and only 13 percent were actually answered by a customer service representative. The Committee is concerned the IRS has not addressed its backlog and directs the IRS to compile a report by the end of fiscal year 2023 on progress made over the past five years to reduce backlogs, modernize systems (including but not limited to: hardware, software, or software upgrades), and reduce wait times for customer service support. Additionally, the Committee requests the IRS to present a five-year plan to reduce backlogs, modernize systems (including but not limited to: hardware, software, or software upgrades), and reduce wait times for customer service support.

2024 Filing Season.—According to the IRS, it dramatically increased service in Filing Season 2023 as a result of Inflation Reduction Act resources, marking a dramatic improvement over the 2022 filing season due to a lack of resources. The Committee strongly disagrees with the IRS’s assessment. The Committee notes \$2.78 billion was provided in fiscal year 2023 for Taxpayer Services and the IRS obligated approximately \$838,000, or less than one percent, from the IRA for Taxpayer Services. Given the IRS’s plans to obligate \$1 million in fiscal year 2024, the Committee directs the IRS to clearly detail how discretionary versus mandatory IRA funds are being used to support the level of service in the 2024 Filing Season.

ENFORCEMENT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$5,437,622,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	5,904,441,000
Recommended in the bill	4,206,180,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 1,231,442,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 1,698,261,000

The Enforcement appropriation provides for the examination of tax returns, both domestic and international; the administrative and judicial settlement of taxpayer appeals of examination findings; technical rulings; monitoring of employee pension plans; de-

terminations of qualifications of organizations seeking tax-exempt status; examinations of tax returns of exempt organizations; enforcement of statutes relating to detection and investigation of criminal violations of the internal revenue laws; identification of underreporting of tax obligations; securing of unfiled tax returns; and collecting of unpaid accounts.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,206,180,000 for Enforcement. The Committee recommends not less than \$60,257,000 to support IRS activities for the Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement program.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$4,100,826,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	4,520,076,000
Recommended in the bill	4,100,826,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 419,250,000

The Operations Support appropriation provides for overall planning and direction of the IRS, including shared service support related to facilities services, rent payments, printing, postage, and security. Specific activities include headquarters management activities such as strategic planning, communications and liaison, finance, human resources, Equal Employment Opportunity and diversity, research, information technology, and telecommunications.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,100,826,000 for Operations Support.

Information Technology Reports.—Within 30 days of the end of each quarter for calendar year 2024, the IRS is required to submit a report on major information technology project activities to the Committee and to GAO. The Committee expects the reports to include detailed, plain English explanations of the cumulative expenditures and schedule performance to date, specified by fiscal year; the costs and schedules for the previous three months; the anticipated costs and schedules for the upcoming three months; and the total expected costs to complete IRS’s top five major information technology project activities. In addition, the quarterly report should include the date the project was started; the expected date of completion; the percentage of work completed as compared to planned work; the current and expected state of functionality; any changes in schedule; and current risks unrelated to funding amounts and mitigation strategies. The Committee directs the Department of the Treasury to conduct a semi-annual review of IRS’s IT investments to ensure the cost, schedule, and scope of the projects’ goals are transparent.

In addition, the Committee directs GAO to review and provide an annual report to the Committee evaluating the cost and schedule of activities for all major IRS information technology projects for the year, with a particular focus on the projects included in IRS’s quarterly reports.

Outcome Based Contracting.—The Committee is aware the IRS has employed firm-fixed price managed services and outcome based contracting methods for IT software implementation and management that emphasize speed of adoption and rapid modernization. Outcome based managed service contracts establish clear governance to reduce mission creep and scope changes. The Committee believes this contracting approach provides the IRS with lower contract lifecycle costs and better results. Therefore, the Committee encourages the IRS to implement current and future IT software management and software implementation requirements through this outcome based contracting approach.

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	289,619,000
Recommended in the bill	150,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+150,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 139,619,000

The Business Systems Modernization (BSM) appropriation provides funding to modernize key business systems of the IRS.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$150,000,000 for BSM. The Committee continues to support the IRS in its efforts to modernize its business systems, such as CADE 2, the Enterprise Case Management System, and the Return Review Program.

Quarterly Reports.—The IRS is directed to continue to submit quarterly reports to the Committees and GAO, no later than 30 days following the end of each calendar quarter, on the status of BSM-funded items in this bill. In addition, GAO is directed to conduct an annual review of BSM-funded initiatives.

The Committee expects the reports to include detailed, plain English summaries on the status of plans, costs, and results for the IRS Integrated Modernization Business Plan (Plan) including CADE 2, the Individual Master File, the Enterprise Case Management System, and the Return Review Program. The reports should include prior quarter results and expenditures, upcoming quarter deliverables and costs, risks and mitigation strategies associated with ongoing work, reasons for any cost and schedule variances, total expenditures to date by fiscal year, and estimated costs for completing each IT investment or phase of the Plan.

Small Business Earned Tax Credit Processing.—The Committee is concerned that the backlog of 941-X filings continues to grow at an exponential rate. The Committee notes that the delayed processing of payroll tax credits, particularly the employee retention tax credit (ERTC), is creating significant hardship for thousands of small businesses and their employees across the country. The Committee further notes that businesses are having to pay ERTC tax liabilities prior to receiving ERTC funds, which exacerbates liquidity hardships. The Committee strongly urges the IRS to modernize their processing systems and move away from paper-based 941-X forms toward an electronic filing system. The IRS is directed to brief the Committee on its approach to ERTC processing and strat-

egies to reduce the backlog within 90 days after enactment of this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Section 101. The Committee continues a provision that requires the IRS to maintain a training program to include taxpayer rights, dealing courteously with taxpayers, cross-cultural relations, and the impartial application of tax law.

Section 102. The Committee continues a provision that requires the IRS to institute and enforce policies and procedures that will safeguard the confidentiality of taxpayer information and protect taxpayers against identity theft.

Section 103. The Committee continues a provision that makes funds available for improved facilities and increased staffing to provide efficient and effective 1–800 number help line service for taxpayers.

Section 104. The Committee continues a provision that requires the IRS to notify employers of any address change request and to give special consideration to offers-in-compromise for taxpayers who have been victims of payroll tax preparer fraud.

Section 105. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the IRS from targeting U.S. citizens for exercising their First Amendment rights.

Section 106. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the IRS from targeting groups based on their ideological beliefs.

Section 107. The Committee continues a provision that requires the IRS to comply with procedures and policies on conference spending as recommended by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

Section 108. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits funds for giving bonuses to employees or hiring former employees without considering conduct and compliance with Federal tax law.

Section 109. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits funds to violate the confidentiality of tax returns.

Section 110. The Committee continues a provision that provides direct hiring authorities for certain IRS positions.

Section 111. The Committee continues a provision that extends current home to work transportation for the IRS Commissioner for fiscal year 2024.

Section 112. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the IRS from developing its own Free File software before seeking Congressional approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 113. The Committee continues a provision that authorizes the Department to purchase uniforms, insurance for motor vehicles that are overseas, and motor vehicles that are overseas without regard to the general purchase price limitations; to enter into contracts with the State Department for health and medical services for Treasury employees who are overseas; and to hire experts or consultants.

Section 114. The Committee continues a provision that authorizes transfers, up to two percent, between “Departmental Offices—

Salaries and Expenses”, “Office of Inspector General”, “Financial Crimes Enforcement Network”, “Bureau of the Fiscal Service”, and “Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau” appropriations under certain circumstances.

Section 115. The Committee continues a provision that authorizes transfers, up to two percent, between the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration under certain circumstances.

Section 116. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the Department of the Treasury from undertaking a redesign of the one dollar Federal Reserve note.

Section 117. The Committee continues a provision that provides for transfers from the Bureau of the Fiscal Service to the Debt Collection Fund as necessary for the purposes of debt collection.

Section 118. The Committee continues a provision requiring Congressional approval for the construction and operation of a museum by the United States Mint.

Section 119. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits funds in this or any other Act from being used to merge the United States Mint and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing without the approval of the House and the Senate committees of jurisdiction.

Section 120. The Committee continues a provision deeming that funds for the Department of the Treasury’s intelligence-related activities are specifically authorized in fiscal year 2024 until enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2024.

Section 121. The Committee continues a provision permitting the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to use \$5,000 from the Industrial Revolving Fund for reception and representation expenses.

Section 122. The Committee continues a provision requiring the Department to submit a Capital Investment Plan.

Section 123. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the Department from finalizing any regulation related to the standards used to determine the tax-exempt status of a 501(c)(4) organization.

Section 124. The Committee continues a provision requiring a report on the Department’s Franchise Fund.

Section 125. The Committee continues a provision requiring quarterly reports of the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research.

Section 126. The Committee continues a provision providing funding for the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery.

Section 127. The Committee includes a new provision requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to produce a COVID–19 expenditure report to evaluate potential waste, fraud, and abuse in COVID–19 programs.

Section 128. The Committee includes a new provision with respect to the so-called people-to-people category of travel. As set forth in title 31, section 515.565(b)(2) of the Code of Federal Regulations, this category of travel contravenes the explicit prohibition against tourist activities as provided in section 910(b) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000. Because Cuba’s tourism industry is run mostly by the Cuban military, the people-to-people category of travel is also inconsistent with the prohibition on financial transactions with Cuban military, with its affiliated entities as maintained on the State Department’s Cuba Restricted List. Furthermore, the stated purpose of people-to-people

travel, which is to promote the Cuban people’s independence from Cuban authorities, cannot be accomplished through itineraries that mainly feature interactions with representatives of a dictatorship that actively oppresses the Cuban people, nor can it be accomplished through itineraries that do not require meetings with pro-democracy activists or independent members of Cuban civil society.

Section 129. The Committee includes a new provision that requires a report on certain categories of travel to Cuba.

Section 130. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the establishment of a United States Central Bank Digital Currency and prohibits discontinuation of paper currency as legal tender in the United States.

Section 131. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funding for FinCEN to promulgate the beneficial ownership reporting rules that do not reflect Congressional intent.

Section 132. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the Federal Housing Finance Agency from implementing the single-family housing mortgage credit fee pricing framework announced on January 19, 2023.

TITLE II—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

Funds appropriated in this title provide for the staff and operations of the White House, along with other organizations within the Executive Office of the President (EOP) that formulate and coordinate policy on behalf of the President, such as the National Security Council and the Office of Management and Budget. The title also includes funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy and certain expenses of the Vice President.

THE WHITE HOUSE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$77,681,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	81,058,000
Recommended in the bill	55,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 22,681,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 26,058,000

The White House Salaries and Expenses account supports staff and administrative services necessary for the direct support of the President.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$55,000,000 for the White House.

EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$15,609,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	16,088,000
Recommended in the bill	14,050,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 1,559,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 2,038,000

The Executive Residence at the White House Operating Expenses account provides for the care, maintenance, staffing, and operations of the Executive Residence, including official and ceremonial functions of the President.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$14,050,000 for the Operating Expenses of the Executive Residence. The bill continues the same restrictions on reimbursable expenses for use of the Executive Residence as have been included in past years.

WHITE HOUSE REPAIR AND RESTORATION

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$2,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	2,500,000
Recommended in the bill	2,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The White House Repair and Restoration account provides for the repair, alteration, and improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$2,500,000 for White House Repair and Restoration.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$4,903,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	5,056,000
Recommended in the bill	4,120,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 783,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 936,000

The Council of Economic Advisers analyzes the national economy and its various segments, advises the President on economic developments, recommends policies for economic growth and stability, appraises economic programs and policies of the Federal Government, and assists in preparation of the annual Economic Report of the President.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,120,000 for the Council of Economic Advisers.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$17,901,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	18,441,000
Recommended in the bill	12,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 5,401,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 5,941,000

The National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council have been combined to form the National Security Staff, which advises and assists the President on the integration of domestic, foreign, military, intelligence, and economic aspects of national security policy and serves as the principal means of coordinating executive departments and agencies in the development and implementation of national security and homeland security policies.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$12,500,000 for the National Security Council and Homeland Security Council.

Federal Disaster Recovery.—The Committee is concerned about an effort to centralize Federal disaster recovery activities in the National Security Council without adequate input across the Federal interagency or state and local stakeholder organizations. The National Security Council is directed to brief the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the roles and responsibilities of a Federal recovery coordination office, as well as required resources.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$115,463,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	118,546,000
Recommended in the bill	106,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 8,963,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 12,046,000

The Office of Administration is responsible for providing administrative services to the Executive Office of the President. These services include financial, personnel, procurement, information technology, records management, and general office services.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$106,500,000 for the Office of Administration. Of the recommended amount, not to exceed \$12,800,000 is available until expended for modernization of information technology infrastructure within the Executive Office of the President.

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$128,035,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	137,489,000
Recommended in the bill	116,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 12,035,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 21,489,000

OMB assists the President in the discharge of budgetary, economic, management, and other executive responsibilities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$116,000,000 for OMB.

Budget Submission.—The Committee requires OMB to submit the President’s fiscal year 2025 budget request by the first Monday in February as required by section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code and includes a restriction on the obligation of funds until the budget is submitted. The Committee encourages OMB to provide an appropriate number of printed copies of the submission to Congressional committees, including documents such as the Appendix, Historical Tables, and Analytical Perspectives.

Personnel and Obligations Report.—The Committee continues direction to OMB to provide the Committee with quarterly reports on personnel and obligations consisting of on-board staffing levels, estimated staffing levels by office for the remainder of the fiscal year, total obligations incurred to date, estimated total obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and a narrative description of current hiring initiatives.

Unobligated Balances Report.—OMB is directed to report to the Committee within 45 days of the end of each fiscal quarter on available balances at the start of the fiscal year, current year obligations, and resulting unobligated balances for each discretionary account within the jurisdiction of this Act.

Improper Payments.—The Committee encourages OMB to continue working with agencies across the Federal Government to ensure processes are in place to eliminate payments to deceased persons. GAO found that Federal agencies have disbursed an estimated \$281 billion in improper payments, totaling \$2.2 trillion over the past 20 years. OMB has not provided a report to the Committee as requested by House Report 117–393 on how it is reducing improper payments to deceased individuals and what initiatives have proven to be most effective. OMB is directed to brief the Committee within 30 days on its approach to reducing improper payments.

Online Budget Repository.—The Committee repeats language from House Report 117–79 requiring OMB to make available on a website a list of each Federal agency with a link to its budget justification materials.

Build America Buy America Act Implementation.—In February 2023, OMB issued a series of questions and a proposed rule (88 Federal Register 8374) that expands upon previous temporary guidance issued to implement the Build America Buy America Act (BABAA). The Committee is aware of significant concerns from the stakeholder community that OMB’s filing did not follow appropriate administrative processes under the Administrative Procedures Act. There has been no opportunity to provide comment on portions of the proposed rule that address implementation authorities, which OMB expanded beyond authorities provided in the law. It is imperative that OMB provide coordination between Federal agencies to ensure consistency while properly executing BABAA to ensure maximum job creation and benefit in the United States.

North American Industry Classification System.—The Committee is aware that there is significant confusion in the current system on the classification of procurements for Information Technology Value-Added Resellers (ITVARs). OMB shall report to Congress within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the status of reviewing the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and

how creating a specific code for ITVARS might help improve the current NAICS structure.

Food Safety Modernization Act.—The Food Safety Modernization Act (Public Law 111–353), enacted in 2011, gave the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) new authorities to regulate how foods are grown, harvested, and processed and required the FDA to issue various rulemakings and guidance documents. The Committee directs OMB to work closely with the FDA to meet the timelines for promulgation of rules and regulations outlined in the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act. The Committee requests a report every 180 days after the enactment of this Act describing any rule or regulation that is more than 60 days overdue and the reasons why each rule or regulation is overdue.

Antideficiency Act Training.—The Antideficiency Act prohibits Federal agencies from obligating or expending Federal funds in advance or in excess of an appropriation, and from accepting voluntary services. OMB Circular A–11 directs Federal agency approving and certifying officials to have adequate and current training in appropriations law and the budget process. The Committee directs OMB to provide a report within 120 days of enactment detailing Federal agency compliance with Antideficiency Act training requirements including the frequency of the trainings and whether they occur on an annual basis.

Administrative Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2023.—The Committee directs OMB to provide a report within 60 days of enactment on the implementation of the Pay-As-You-Go rule for executive branch actions that increase federal spending.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$1,902,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	1,960,000
Recommended in the bill	1,838,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 64,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 122,000

The Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator (IPEC) was created in 2008 to develop and coordinate overall U.S. intellectual property policy and strategy.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,838,000 for IPEC.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL CYBER DIRECTOR

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$21,926,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	22,586,000
Recommended in the bill	21,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 926,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 1,586,000

The Office of the National Cyber Director (ONCD) was created in the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283) to advise the President on cybersecurity and related emerging technology issues

and to coordinate cybersecurity strategy and policy, including Executive Branch development of an integrated national cybersecurity.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$21,000,000 for the ONCD.

Cyber Coordination.—The Committee notes the increasing regularity of damaging cyberattacks, including attacks against critical U.S. infrastructure, and recognizes that Federal cyber functions are distributed among numerous agencies and offices. As part of the implementation of the National Cybersecurity Strategy, the National Cyber Director shall develop an overarching coordination policy for Federal Cybersecurity Centers’ activities and brief the Committee on such strategy within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

National Cyber Workforce Strategy.—Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the ONCD and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall jointly brief the Committee on interagency efforts with OMB and other relevant agencies to develop a National Cyber Workforce Strategy and any implementation efforts underway. The National Cyber Workforce group is encouraged to examine existing military transition programs that support the recruitment, hiring, training, or education of military veterans to improve their transition into Federal service upon discharge from active duty and to maximize engagement with reservists in civilian cyber workforce roles.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$21,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	22,380,000
Recommended in the bill	18,952,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	–2,548,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	–3,428,000

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) was established by the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. As the President’s primary source of support for counter-drug policy development and program oversight, ONDCP is responsible for developing and updating a National Drug Control Strategy, developing a National Drug Control Budget, and coordinating and evaluating the implementation of Federal drug control activities. In addition, ONDCP manages several counter-drug programs, including the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) and Drug-Free Communities grant programs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$18,952,000 for ONDCP Salaries and Expenses.

Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy.—The Committee remains concerned about narcotics trafficking and related violence in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, home to approximately 3.3 million American citizens, and their effect on U.S. States, especially communities along the Eastern seaboard. The Committee commends ONDCP for including a Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy as a companion to the 2022 National Drug Con-

trol Strategy and expects that ONDCP will continue to include a Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy in forthcoming versions of the National Drug Control Strategy.

FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREAS PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$302,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	290,200,000
Recommended in the bill	296,600,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 5,400,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	+6,400,000

The HIDTA Program provides resources to Federal, State, local, and Tribal agencies in designated HIDTAs to combat the production, transportation, and distribution of illegal drugs; to seize assets derived from drug trafficking; to address violence in drug-plagued communities; and to disrupt the drug marketplace.

There are 33 HIDTAs operating in all 50 States plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each HIDTA is managed by an Executive Board comprised of equal numbers of Federal, State, local, and Tribal officials. Each HIDTA Executive Board is responsible for designing and implementing initiatives for the specific drug trafficking threats in its region. Intelligence and information sharing are key elements of all HIDTA programs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$296,600,000 for the HIDTA Program.

Combating Illegal Opioids and Fentanyl.—Criminal networks engaged in narcotics trafficking and distribution of illegal opioids and fentanyl remain a national security concern. The Committee is aware the HIDTA program seized over 44 million dosage units of fentanyl in 2022, a more than 975 percent increase from 2020, and that 71,238 people died from fentanyl in the United States in 2021, up more than 20 percent from 2020. The Committee supports the HIDTA program’s work to combat fentanyl trafficking and overdose deaths and encourages ONDCP to identify software solutions that could enable information sharing and collaboration between the HIDTA program and Federal, State, local, and Tribal law enforcement to uncover drug traffickers and their networks. The Committee particularly encourages ONDCP, in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, to prioritize discretionary funds towards programs that support fentanyl poisoning and overdose reduction and that enhance opioid and fentanyl seizure and interdiction activities.

OTHER FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$137,120,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	148,950,000
Recommended in the bill	135,450,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 1,670,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 13,500,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$135,450,000 for Other Federal Drug Control Programs. The recommended level for fiscal year 2024 is distributed among specific programs and activities as follows:

Drug-Free Communities	\$109,000,000
Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance	3,000,000
Anti-Doping Activities	14,000,000
World Anti-Doping Agency	3,000,000
Model Acts Program	1,250,000
Community-Based Coalition Enhancement Grants (CARA Grants)	5,200,000

UNANTICIPATED NEEDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$1,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	1,000,000
Recommended in the bill	1,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Unanticipated Needs account enables the President to meet unanticipated exigencies in support of the national interest, security, or defense.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,000,000 for Unanticipated Needs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND REFORM
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$13,700,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	14,166,000
Recommended in the bill	8,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 5,700,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 6,166,000

The Information Technology Oversight and Reform account supports efforts to make the Federal Government's investments in information technology more efficient, secure, and effective.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$8,000,000 for information technology oversight activities.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$6,076,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	6,255,000
Recommended in the bill	4,839,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	-1,237,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-1,416,000

These funds support the executive functions of the Office of the Vice President.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,839,000 for the Office of the Vice President.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$321,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	329,000
Recommended in the bill	311,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	-10,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-18,000

The Official Residence of the Vice President Operating Expenses account supports the care and operation of the Vice President's residence and supports equipment, furnishings, dining facilities, and services required to perform and discharge the Vice President's official duties, functions, and obligations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$311,000 for the Operating Expenses of the Vice President's residence.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 201. The Committee continues a provision permitting the transfer of not to exceed 10 percent of funds among various accounts within the EOP, with advance approval of the Committee. The amount of an appropriation shall not be increased by more than 50 percent.

Section 202. The Committee continues a provision requiring the OMB Director to include a statement of budgetary impact with any Executive Order or Presidential Memorandum issued or rescinded during fiscal year 2024 where the regulatory cost exceeds \$100,000,000.

Section 203. The Committee continues a provision requiring the OMB Director to issue a memorandum to all Federal departments, agencies, and corporations directing compliance with title VII of this Act.

Section 204. The Committee continues a provision requiring OMB to permanently operate and maintain the system to make publicly available, in an automated fashion, all documents apportioning an appropriation including explanations of any footnotes for apportioned amounts.

Section 205. The Committee includes a new provision requiring the OMB Director to report to the Committee on the available balances under certain COVID–19 related provisions of law.

Section 206. The Committee includes a new provision requiring that the President submit annual budget requests to Congress on or before the first Monday in February as required by section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, or the total amount available for obligation will be reduced by \$52,000,000 until the budget is submitted.

Section 207. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the Director of OMB from waiving the offset requirements related to increases in direct spending.

TITLE III—THE JUDICIARY

The funds in title III are for the operation and maintenance of United States Courts and include the salaries of judges, probation and pretrial services officers, public defenders, court clerks, law clerks, and other supporting personnel, as well as security costs, information technology, and other expenses of the Federal Judiciary. The Committee recommends a total of \$8,684,381,000 in discretionary funding for the Judiciary in fiscal year 2024.

In addition to direct appropriations, the Judiciary collects various fees and has certain multiyear funding authorities. The Judiciary uses these non-appropriated funds to offset its direct appropriation requirements.

Consistent with prior year practices and section 608 of this Act, the Committee expects the Judiciary to submit a financial plan, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, allocating all sources of available funds including appropriations, fee collections, and carry-over balances. This financial plan will be the baseline for purposes of reprogramming notification.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$109,551,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	127,036,000
Recommended in the bill	124,201,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+14,650,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 2,862,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$124,201,000 for fiscal year 2024 for the salaries and expenses of personnel and for the cost of operating the Supreme Court, excluding the care of the building and grounds. The Committee directs the Court to include with its budget justification materials a report showing information technology carry-over balances and describing expenditures made in the previous fiscal year and planned expenditures in the budget year.

CARE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$29,246,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	20,688,000
Recommended in the bill	20,420,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 8,826,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 268,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$20,420,000 for Care of Buildings and Grounds, to remain available until expended. The Architect of the Capitol has responsibility for these functions and supervises the use of this appropriation.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$36,735,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	39,682,000
Recommended in the bill	38,991,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+2,256,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 691,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has exclusive national jurisdiction over a large number of diverse subject areas, including government contracts, patents, trademarks, Federal personnel, and veterans' benefits. The Committee recommends \$38,991,000 for the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$21,260,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	22,404,000
Recommended in the bill	22,103,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+843,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 301,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Court of International Trade has exclusive nationwide jurisdiction over civil actions against the United States and certain civil actions brought by the United States arising out of import transactions and administration and enforcement of the U.S. customs and international trade laws. The Committee recommends \$22,103,000 for the United States Court of International Trade.

COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$5,905,055,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	6,370,391,000
Recommended in the bill	6,050,974,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+145,919,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 319,417,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$6,050,974,000 for the operations of the regional Courts of Appeals, District Courts, Bankruptcy Courts, the Court of Federal Claims, and probation and pretrial services offices.

In addition, the Committee recommends a reimbursement of \$9,975,000 from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund to cover expenses of the United States Court of Federal Claims associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986.

DEFENDER SERVICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$1,382,680,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	1,533,015,000
Recommended in the bill	1,411,116,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+28,436,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 121,899,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This account provides funding for the operation of the Federal Public Defender and Community Defender organizations and for compensation and reimbursement of expenses of panel attorneys appointed pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act for representation in criminal cases. The Committee recommends \$1,411,116,000 for Defender Services.

FEES OF JURORS AND COMMISSIONERS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$58,239,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	59,902,000
Recommended in the bill	59,902,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+1,663,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- - -

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$59,902,000 for payments to jurors and commissioners.

COURT SECURITY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$750,163,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	783,465,000
Recommended in the bill	782,727,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+32,564,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 738,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$782,727,000 for Court Security to provide for necessary expenses of security and protective services in courtrooms and adjacent areas. The recommendation will provide for the highest priority security needs identified by the courts and the U.S. Marshals Service.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$102,673,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	112,974,000
Recommended in the bill	107,295,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+4,622,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 5,679,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO) provides administrative and management support to the United States Courts, including the probation and bankruptcy systems. It also supports the Judicial Conference of the United States in determining Federal Judiciary policies, in developing methods to assist the courts to conduct business efficiently and economically, and in enhancing the use of information technology in the courts. The Committee recommends \$107,295,000 for the AO.

Workplace Conduct.—The Committee looks forward to receiving GAO’s review of workplace misconduct in the Federal Judiciary and recommendations for how this office can help foster a better workplace environment for all Judicial employees. The Committee directs the Administrative Office’s Office of Judicial Integrity to continue to inform Congress in their annual Congressional budget on the challenges remaining to provide an exemplary workplace for every judge and every court employee. As the Judiciary collaborates with GAO and other stakeholders on various workplace studies, the Committee expects the Judiciary and the Federal Judicial Center to provide regular and appropriate access to all necessary information requested by GAO and the National Academy of Public Administration so that their work can be completed in a timely manner.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$34,261,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	35,082,000
Recommended in the bill	34,174,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 87,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 908,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Federal Judicial Center (FJC) improves the management of Federal Judicial dockets and court administration through education for judges and staff and through research, evaluation, and planning assistance for the courts and the Judicial Conference. The Committee recommends \$34,174,000 for the FJC.

Bankruptcy Judges Education.—The Committee recognizes the importance of national security considerations in reviewing bankruptcy and investment transactions, and encourages the FJC to continue to educate bankruptcy judges on the role of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and on how bankruptcy court decisions impact national security. Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the FJC is directed to brief the Committee on its plans to continue to incorporate national security considerations into bankruptcy judge educational activities.

Patent Litigation Education.—The Committee encourages the FJC to educate judges on the rise in third-party funded patent litigation and the importance of ensuring that there is disclosure of interested parties including all beneficial owners and investors involved in litigation. Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the FJC is directed to report to the Committee on its plans to incorporate an awareness of disclosure requirements into its educational activities for patent litigation judges.

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$21,641,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	23,150,000
Recommended in the bill	22,503,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+862,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 647,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The purpose of the U.S. Sentencing Commission (Commission) is to establish, review, and revise sentencing guidelines, policies, and practices for the Federal criminal justice system. The Commission is also required to monitor the operation of the guidelines and to identify and report necessary changes to Congress. The Committee recommends \$22,503,000 for the Commission.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THE JUDICIARY
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 301. The Committee continues language to permit funds for salaries and expenses to be available for employment of experts and consultant services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

Section 302. The Committee continues language that permits up to five percent of any appropriation made available for fiscal year 2024 to be transferred between Judiciary appropriations provided that no appropriation shall be decreased by more than five percent or increased by more than ten percent by any such transfer except in certain circumstances. In addition, the language provides that any such transfer shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under sections 604 and 608 of the accompanying bill and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in those sections.

Section 303. The Committee continues language authorizing not to exceed \$11,000 to be used for official reception and representation expenses incurred by the Judicial Conference of the United States.

Section 304. The Committee continues language through fiscal year 2024 regarding the delegation of authority to the Judiciary for contracts for repairs of less than \$100,000.

Section 305. The Committee continues language to authorize a court security pilot program.

Section 306. The Committee includes a new provision that reduces administrative burdens associated with private panel attorney payments.

TITLE IV—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEDERAL FUNDS

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION SUPPORT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$40,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	40,000,000
Recommended in the bill	40,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Resident Tuition Support program, also known as the D.C. Tuition Assistance Grant program, provides up to \$10,000 annually for undergraduate District students to address the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition rates and makes it possible for them to attend eligible four-year public universities and colleges nationwide. Grants of up to \$2,500 per year are available for students to attend private universities and colleges in the D.C. metropolitan area, private Historically Black Colleges and Universities nationwide, and public two-year community colleges nationwide.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$40,000,000 for the Resident Tuition Support program. The District of Columbia can contribute local funds to this program and is authorized to

prioritize applications based on income and need if there is demand for the program beyond the available level of Federal funds.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SECURITY COSTS
IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$30,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	48,000,000
Recommended in the bill	28,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 2,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 20,000,000

The District of Columbia is the seat of the Federal Government. The Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs is provided to help address the impact of the Federal Government's presence in the District of Columbia.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$28,000,000 for emergency planning and security costs and additional costs incurred by the District of Columbia.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$291,068,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	315,563,000
Recommended in the bill	301,210,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+10,142,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 14,353,000

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, the Federal Government is required to finance the District of Columbia Courts. This Federal payment to the District of Columbia Courts funds the operations of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Superior Court, Court System, and Capital Improvement Program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$301,210,000 for operation of the District of Columbia Courts.

The amount recommended by the Committee includes \$15,655,000 for the Court of Appeals, \$144,035,000 for the Superior Court, \$90,210,000 for the Court System, and \$51,310,000 for capital improvements to courthouse facilities. Funds for capital improvements are provided to improve life safety compliance, conduct general repair projects and upgrades, and move the various court offices into owned space and out of leased space.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA COURTS

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$46,005,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	46,005,000
Recommended in the bill	46,005,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The District of Columbia Courts appoint and compensate attorneys to represent persons who are financially unable to obtain such representation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$46,005,000 for Defender Services in the District of Columbia Courts. The Committee notes the inclusion of a permanent rescission of \$25,000,000 in unobligated balances for Defender Services.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$285,016,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	296,878,000
Recommended in the bill	287,271,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+2,255,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-9,607,000

The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) for the District of Columbia is an independent Federal agency created by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997. CSOSA acquired operational responsibilities for the former District agencies in charge of probation and parole and houses the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia within its framework.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$287,271,000 for CSOSA. Of the amounts provided, \$202,289,000 is for Community Supervision and Sex Offender Registration and \$84,982,000 is for pretrial services. The recommendation includes \$4,253,000 to remain available until September 30, 2026, for the costs associated with relocation under replacement leases for headquarters offices, field offices, and related facilities for CSOSA and \$2,503,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, for the costs associated with a replacement lease and relocation of the Pretrial Services Agency.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$53,629,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	59,551,000
Recommended in the bill	57,329,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+3,700,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-2,222,000

The Public Defender Service (PDS) for the District of Columbia is an independent organization authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997. PDS's purpose is to provide legal representation services within the District of Columbia justice system.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$57,329,000 for PDS for the District of Columbia.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$2,450,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	2,450,000
Recommended in the bill	2,150,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 300,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 300,000

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) provides a forum for District of Columbia and Federal law enforcement to identify criminal justice issues and solutions and improve the coordination of their efforts. In addition, the CJCC developed and maintains the Justice Integrated Information System, which provides for the seamless sharing of information with Federal and local law enforcement.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$2,150,000 to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$630,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	898,000
Recommended in the bill	630,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 268,000

This appropriation provides funding for two judicial commissions. The first is the Judicial Nomination Commission (JNC), which recommends a panel of three candidates to the President for each judicial vacancy in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and Superior Court. From the panel selected by the JNC, the President nominates a person for each vacancy and submits his or her name for confirmation to the Senate. The second commission is the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure (CJDT), which has jurisdiction over all judges of the Court of Appeals and Superior Court to determine whether a judge's conduct warrants disciplinary action and whether involuntary retirement of a judge for health reasons is warranted. In addition, the CJDT conducts evaluations of judges seeking reappointment and judges who retire and wish to continue service as a senior judge.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$330,000 for the CJDT and \$300,000 for the JNC.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$52,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	52,500,000
Recommended in the bill	52,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act authorizes funds to be evenly divided between District of Columbia

Public Schools, Public Charter Schools, and Opportunity Scholarships.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$52,500,000 for school improvement. Based on the statutory funding formula, \$17,500,000 is provided for District of Columbia Public Schools, \$17,500,000 is provided for Public Charter Schools, and \$17,500,000 is provided for Opportunity Scholarships.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$600,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	600,000
Recommended in the bill	600,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program pays the costs of a tuition assistance program for guard members.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$600,000 for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Retention and College Access Program. The Committee acknowledges the unique role of the D.C. National Guard in addressing emergencies that may occur as a result of the presence of the Federal Government.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$4,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	5,000,000
Recommended in the bill	4,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 1,000,000

Approximately two percent of the population of the District of Columbia has been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. This percentage surpasses the generally accepted definition of an epidemic, which is one percent of the population.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$4,000,000 for testing, education, and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$8,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	8,000,000
Recommended in the bill	8,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority supports the D.C. Clean Rivers Project, which is

designed to reduce combined sewer overflows to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and Rock Creek.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS

The Committee continues to appropriate local funds to the District of Columbia in accordance with and required by Article I, Section 8, clause 17 and Article I, Section 9, clause 7 of the Constitution. The bill provides local funds for the operation of the District of Columbia as submitted by the District of Columbia Council and the Mayor.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a Federal payment of \$8,000,000 for implementation of the D.C. Clean Rivers project.

TITLE V—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$3,465,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	3,523,000
Recommended in the bill	3,523,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+58,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS) is an independent agency that studies Federal administrative procedures and processes to recommend improvements to the President, Congress, and other agencies.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$3,523,000 for ACUS.

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---
Recommended in the bill	\$635,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+635,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	+635,000,000

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) was established under title X of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203) as a bureau under the Federal Reserve System. The Act consolidated authorities previously shared by seven Federal agencies under Federal consumer protection laws in the CFPB and provided CFPB with additional authorities to conduct rulemaking, supervision, and enforcement with respect to Federal consumer financial laws.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$635,000,000 for the CFPB.

Five-Member Commission.—The CFPB has oversight over a wide range of consumer financial products. As such, the CFPB’s activities have the potential to significantly affect consumers’ access to credit and the operations of both banks and non-banks. The Committee believes the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act provides inadequate checks on the CFPB’s powers. The Committee’s experience overseeing the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and other Federal agencies with powers to protect consumers and investors leads the Committee to conclude that a five-member commission is more suitable for guiding the CFPB than a single director. A commission ensures that multiple disciplines, experiences, and perspectives are brought to bear on CFPB rules, policies, and enforcement actions. The appointment and removal process and staggered terms of commissioners can provide checks and balances on an agency’s operations and priorities, as well as a measure of continuity that a single director cannot.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Section 501. The Committee includes a new provision bringing the CFPB into the regular appropriations process.

Section 502. The Committee includes a new provision making the CFPB an independent agency led by a commission.

Section 503. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds from being used to implement Section 1071 of the Dodd-Frank Act.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$152,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	212,600,000
Recommended in the bill	139,050,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 13,450,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 73,550,000

The Consumer Product Safety Act of 1972 established the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), an independent Federal regulatory agency, to reduce the risk of injury associated with consumer products.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$139,050,000 for the CPSC. The recommendation includes \$2,000,000 for the Virginia Graeme Baker Grant Program and the associated administrative costs to reduce the number of injuries and deaths associated with pools and spas. The recommendation includes \$2,000,000 for the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Grant Program and the associated administrative costs to ensure that families are protected from carbon monoxide poisoning.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY
COMMISSION

Section 510. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed rule on recreational off-highway vehicles until a study is completed by the National Academy of Sciences.

Section 511. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds made available by this Act from being used by the CPSC to prohibit the use or sale of gas-powered stoves, cooktops, ranges, or ovens in the United States.

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$28,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	33,807,000
Recommended in the bill	20,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 8,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 13,807,000

The Election Assistance Commission (EAC) is a bipartisan Federal commission that helps election officials administer and voters participate in elections. Established by the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), the EAC distributes, administers, and audits HAVA funds, serves as the Nation’s clearinghouse for information on election administration, conducts the Election Administration and Voting Survey and other studies, develops the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines, accredits testing laboratories and certifies voting systems, and administers the National Mail Voter Registration Form in accordance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$20,000,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the EAC, of which \$1,500,000 shall be made available to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for election reform activities authorized under HAVA.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$390,192,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	410,743,000
Recommended in the bill	381,950,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 8,242,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 28,793,000

The mission of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is to implement and enforce the Communications Act of 1934 and assure the availability of high-quality communications services for all Americans.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$381,950,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the FCC, to be derived from offsetting collections. The

Committee also includes a cap of \$136,167,000 for the administration of spectrum auctions.

Broadband Maps.—The FCC has begun releasing versions of a new locations-based National Broadband Map and requested consumers, State, local and Tribal government entities, and other stakeholders to help verify the accuracy of the data in order to identify unserved and underserved locations in communities, which are most in need of funding for high-speed broadband internet infrastructure investments. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will use a version of the National Broadband Map—as modified by the FCC to address accuracy issues identified by stakeholders—to distribute approximately \$42 billion provided by Congress to States and Territories to build broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved eligible areas. States and Territories are then directed to use the National Broadband Map as the basis, with limited updates from a challenge process to ensure accuracy, to award funds for broadband deployments projects. The FCC is directed to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act, regarding the FCC’s approach to resolving filed challenges to the National Broadband Map, any ongoing accuracy issues with the National Broadband Map, and plans for ensuring future accuracy.

Rip and Replace Report.—The Committee is aware the FCC’s ongoing process to address certain Chinese communications equipment and services through the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act of 2019. This Rip and Replace program is intended to ensure the removal of equipment on the Covered List that poses a national security threat; it is essential to remove this untrusted telecommunications equipment, including that made by Huawei and ZTE, from our networks to protect American interests, privacy, and intellectual property. These companies are subject to the whims of the Chinese Communist Party and are known to have engaged in espionage, intellectual property theft, and failures to provide key security. The Committee requests a briefing from the FCC on the status of Chinese technology and equipment eligible for the Rip and Replace program, including information on the number of at-risk networks, the number of grant requests outstanding, and key security vulnerabilities the FCC has identified through the program within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Supply Chain Reimbursement Program.—In the disbursement of Supply Chain Reimbursement Program funds, the FCC has a statutory obligation to disburse funds first to approved applicants that have 2,000,000 or fewer customers for removal and replacement of covered communications equipment. The Committee further recommends the FCC to prioritize those carriers with the eligible telecommunications carrier designation. The FCC’s program is intended to support these networks funded under its High-Cost universal service program in the hardest to serve.

5G Fund.—The Committee continues to recognize the need to address the digital divide, including the need to bring mobile 5G services to unserved and underserved communities. The Committee is concerned that the current \$9 billion budget for the 5G Fund for Rural America will not be sufficient to support nationwide 5G services. The Committee directs the FCC to allocate sufficient resources in the Universal Service Fund (USF) to establish a greater 5G

Fund budget needed to preserve and expand mobile 5G connectivity nationwide and update the 5G Fund framework to reflect changes in technology and service since the FCC established the 5G Fund.

Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation.—The Committee believes the eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) requirement continues to play an important role in safeguarding against waste, fraud, and abuse, and ensuring that Federal high-cost USF support goes to reliable network providers that are capable of offering high quality broadband and voice, including 9-1-1 service. In the context of the high-cost USF program specifically, where significant amounts of ratepayer resources are distributed to a single provider in a given area, as the recent Rural Digital Opportunity Fund proved quite clearly, the ETC requirement promotes local accountability and makes sure states have a role in determining which carrier will become the provider of last resort in the rural areas of each state. Moreover, states are uniquely qualified to examine closely the qualifications of would-be recipients of USF and to carry out the ETC-designation role given their proximity to and familiarity with each state's rural areas and operators.

Enhanced Flight Vision Systems.—The Committee notes that operations of a 95GHz radar for use in Enhanced Flight Vision Systems (EFVS) would provide great public benefit by decreasing the number of flight delays and aborted or delayed landings due to low visibility conditions. The Committee encourages the FCC to take prompt action to make EFVS technology available to the American public.

USF Edge-Provider.—The Committee directs the FCC to brief the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the demands associated with provider data transmitted over rural broadband networks, including an estimate on the quantity of edge provider data transmitted and all costs associated with the process.

E-rate for School Cybersecurity.—The Committee is concerned about the increasing number of ransomware and other cyberattacks on schools and libraries around the country. The FCC's E-Rate program funds broadband connectivity for those institutions but the program's cybersecurity provisions have become grossly outdated. The FCC has initiated a proceeding seeking public comment on potential changes to the E-Rate program's support for cybersecurity products and services. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act and in advance of the FCC's publication of its 2024 Eligible Services List, the FCC is directed to conclude its proceeding by modernizing the E-Rate program to permit schools and libraries to use E-Rate funds for the cybersecurity protections recommended by the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, subject to the program's existing overall cap. Within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the FCC is directed to submit a report to the Committee on its efforts to ensure that schools and libraries have additional flexibility under the E-Rate program to purchase cybersecurity products and services that will help protect their networks and confidential student and employee data from cyberattacks.

Universal Service Fund Comment Period.—In recognition of the ongoing rapidly changing communications industry landscape, the Committee believes it is imperative that: (1) the FCC seek public comment this fiscal year on any reform proposals that have been

submitted to the commission or otherwise previously considered that would promote the sustainability and viability of the USF and resolve inequities in the current contributions structure (the “Reform Objectives”); and (2) the FCC act as soon as possible following review of that record to adopt reforms that will achieve the Reform Objectives.

Affordable Connectivity Program Report.—The Committee commends FCC for its role in implementing both the Emergency Broadband Benefit and its permanent successor the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). ACP in particular was appropriated \$14.2 billion by Congress. According to data published by the Commission, as of February 6, 2023, over 16 million households are participating in ACP. The Committee requests a report on the progress of ACP within 30 days of enactment of this Act, which should include unobligated funding levels as well as household enrollment data and state uptake.

Rural Broadband Access.—The Committee believes that deployment of broadband in rural and economically disadvantaged areas is a driver of economic development, jobs, and new educational opportunities. The Committee supports the FCC’s efforts to judiciously allocate the USF to these areas.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Section 520. The Committee continues a provision extending an exemption from the Antideficiency Act for the USF.

Section 521. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the FCC from changing rules governing the USF regarding single connection or primary line restrictions.

Section 522. The Committee includes a new provision on the Life-line Minimum Service Standard.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$47,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	49,839,000
Recommended in the bill	46,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 1,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 3,339,000

Funding for the OIG at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is provided pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1105(a)(25), which requires a separate appropriation for each OIG established under section 11(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$46,500,000 from the Deposit Insurance Fund and the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation Resolution Fund to finance the OIG.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$81,674,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	93,483,000
Recommended in the bill	74,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 7,174,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 18,983,000

The Federal Election Commission (FEC) administers the disclosure of campaign finance information, enforces limitations on contributions and expenditures, and performs other tasks related to Federal elections.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$74,500,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the FEC.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$29,400,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	33,737,000
Recommended in the bill	28,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 1,400,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 5,737,000

Established by title VII of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) serves as a neutral arbiter in the labor activities of non-postal Federal employees, Departments and agencies, and Federal unions on matters outlined in the Act, including collective bargaining and the settlement of disputes. Establishment of the FLRA recognized the role of the Federal Government as an employer. Under the Foreign Service Act of 1980, the FLRA also addresses similar issues affecting Foreign Service personnel by providing staff support for the Foreign Service Impasse Disputes Panel and the Foreign Service Labor Relations Board.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$28,000,000 for the FLRA.

FEDERAL PERMITTING IMPROVEMENT STEERING COUNCIL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	\$10,000,000
Recommended in the bill	9,775,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+9,775,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 225,000

This account funds the authorized activities of the Environmental Review Improvement Fund and the Federal Permitting Steering Council (FPISC). The FPISC leads ongoing government-wide efforts to modernize the Federal permitting and review process for major infrastructure projects and works with Federal agency partners to implement and oversee adherence to the statutory

requirements set forth in the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$9,775,000 for the FPISC.

Tribal Engagement.—The Committee supports the establishment of a program to transfer funds directly to Federally recognized tribes to facilitate participation in the Federal review and authorization of FAST-41 projects. The Committee directs the FPISC to begin disbursing funds to tribes within 90 days of the enactment of this Act, if it has not done so already, in order to facilitate Tribal engagement in timely, transparent, efficient, and thorough environmental reviews for FAST-41 covered projects.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$430,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	590,000,000
Recommended in the bill	376,530,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 53,470,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 213,470,000

The mission of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is to enforce various Federal antitrust and consumer protection laws. Appropriations for both the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice and the FTC are partially financed by Hart-Scott-Rodino Act premerger filing fees. The FTC’s appropriation is also partially offset by Do-Not-Call registry fees.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$376,530,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the FTC. The Congressional Budget Office estimates \$278,000,000 of collections from Hart-Scott-Rodino premerger filing fees and \$14,000,000 of collections from Do-Not-Call fees, which partially offset the appropriation requirement for this account.

Stopping Unethical Domestic Adoption Practices.—The Committee is highly concerned by the proliferation of unlicensed adoption intermediaries increasingly engaging in fraudulent or deceptive practices concerning domestic private adoption. The Committee is aware of the growing practice of entities operating on a for-profit basis and charging exorbitant fees (e.g., ‘finder’s fee’ or ‘matching fee’) to hopeful adoptive parents in exchange for matching services and/or facilitating interstate adoption services. In many cases, these brokers engage in illegal or deceptive advertising practices potentially in violation of consumer protection laws. The Committee directs the FTC to address this issue by investigating unfair, deceptive, and fraudulent business practices and to evaluate the necessary resources for the enforcement of statutory violations in these matters. The FTC shall provide a report to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act on the findings and enforcement actions taken on this issue.

Marketing Claims.—The Committee is aware of ongoing coordinated efforts by the FTC to review guidelines for marketers with regard to environmental claims, including the review of the FTC’s

Green Guides. The Committee directs the FTC to engage in comprehensive efforts on this matter and to provide a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the progress of the review.

Company Trade Secrets.—The Committee is concerned about the sharing of company trade secrets as well as commercial and financial information with third parties and external stakeholders. The Committee would like to remind the FTC of the numerous statutes that address this matter including 15 U.S.C. § 46(f), the Federal Trade Commission Act.

Contact Lenses.—The Committee continues to support the long-standing regulation and oversight of the contact lens marketplace, including enforcement of the Contact Lens Rule’s verification requirements and coordination with the Food and Drug Administration to protect patient safety.

Unfair Practices Enforcement Cases.—The FTC is directed to include in the budget a description of each enforcement action brought using an administrative or judicial process for “unfair or deceptive acts or practices” under Section 5(a) of the FTC Act. The description for each such enforcement action shall include a summary of the budgetary resources used to pursue the case. Each description shall also provide a brief summary of the evidence and facts used by the FTC to prove that the (1) practice causes or is likely to cause substantial injury to consumers, (2) the injury is not reasonably avoidable by the consumers themselves, and (3) the injury is not outweighed by countervailing benefits to consumers or competition.

HSR Aggregation.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Hart-Scott-Rodino Improvements Act (HSR) to protect consumers from anticompetitive behavior. The Committee cautions the FTC against using the Act in a way that was not intended by Congress, specifically with respect to aggregation requirements for HSR filings that would apply to registered investment companies. Mutual funds, including those managed by a common investment adviser, are by law separate entities with independent investment objectives and strategies that are wholly owned by respective fund shareholders. Requiring the aggregation of holdings across multiple funds that share a common adviser and other entities will lead to arbitrary investment caps, increased costs to funds due to additional HSR filings, and index fund tracking errors due to the required pause in carrying out transactions, among other detrimental effects. This will impair the ability of funds to meet their shareholders’ investment objectives, including saving for retirement and education. Further, aggregation will harm US issuers who rely on investments by funds and other institutional investors to raise capital. An aggregation requirement is inconsistent with how the HSR Act is fundamentally intended to apply to transactions for investment-only purposes. The Committee expects the FTC to respect congressional intent with respect to HSR rulemakings.

Direct Selling.—The committee is aware the FTC has proposed complicated and comprehensive rulemakings that would have significant impact on entrepreneurs and industry. The Committee is concerned that the FTC’s proposed rules will unnecessarily hamper entrepreneurs and place an undue burden on the industry. The Committee expects the FTC to ensure that any final rule avoids

broadly sweeping in direct selling companies as the FTC indicated it would be “too blunt an instrument” for the industry and that broad coverage of the rule for direct sellers provided “no counter-vailing benefit to consumers.”

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Section 530. The Committee includes a new provision to prohibit funds for the implementation and enforcement of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Trade Regulation Rule.

Section 531. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting further regulatory action on the Earning Claims and Business Opportunity rulemakings until a clear statement of need is made or other industry analysis is conducted.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The Committee continues several reporting requirements for General Services Administration (GSA) for fiscal year 2024 and includes new reporting requirements.

Takings and Exchanges.—Using existing statutory authorities, GSA has been working to dispose of properties that no longer meet the needs of Federal agencies in exchange for assets of like value. Some of these exchanges are very complex in nature and involve multi-year, multi-party, and multi-billion-dollar contracts. GSA also has the statutory authority to take properties. The Committee believes that, in some instances, employing such authorities can result in savings to the taxpayer when appropriately executed. In order to provide increased transparency and remain informed, the Administrator is directed to report to the Committee not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter on the use of these authorities. The report shall include a description of all takings and exchange actions that occurred or were considered during the most recently completed quarter of the fiscal year, including the costs, benefits, and risks for each action. The report shall also include the planned or considered use of takings and exchange authorities during the remainder of the fiscal year, including the costs, benefits, and risks of each action.

Spending Report.—Within 50 days of the end of each quarter, GSA is directed to submit a spending report to the Committee. The reports shall include actual obligations incurred and estimated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year for each appropriation in the Federal Buildings Fund and regular discretionary appropriations. The reports must also include obligations by object class, program, project, and activity.

State of the Portfolio.—Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee a report on the state of the Public Buildings Service real estate portfolio for fiscal year 2023. The content included in the report shall be comparable to the tabular information provided in past State of the Portfolio reports, including, but not limited to, the number of leases; the number of buildings; amount of square feet, revenue, expenses by type, and vacant space; top customers by square feet and annual rent; and completed new construction, completed major repairs and alterations, and disposals, in total and by region where appropriate. The report should include an estimate on unoccupied space

in federally owned buildings and privately owned buildings with Federal leases.

Future of Federal Office Space.—As required by the explanatory statement for Public Law 117–328, GSA has not provided periodic briefings to the Committee on how the Federal Government can reduce its office space requirements based on the lessons learned from the use of telework during the COVID–19 pandemic. The Committee is concerned that GSA has not adequately planned for the optimal size of the Federal real estate inventory post-pandemic. Given that over half of Federal leases are expiring in the next five years, GSA is directed to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, on specific, detailed plans for Federal office space that remains unoccupied and what workspaces will return to pre-pandemic occupancy rates or should be consolidated in Federally-owned buildings and Federal leases in privately owned buildings.

Login.gov Compliance with Digital Identity Standards.—According to the GSA OIG, GSA officials misled their Federal agency customers by claiming that login.gov was compliant with Federal digital identity guidelines published by NIST. The Committee is concerned that GSA knowingly billed their customers over \$10 million for login.gov even though the system did not include a biometric comparison. In addition, GSA received \$187 million from the Technology Modernization Fund for the login.gov program to increase cybersecurity and identification and improve identity verification. Within 30 days after the enactment of this Act, GSA must brief the Committee on how GSA has incorporated the OIG recommendations in the login.gov program and how GSA used the funds. GSA is directed to submit a report to the Committee, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, on these items, as well as its plans to re-vamp the login.gov program and include biometric comparison capabilities that meet the NIST guidelines.

REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF REVENUE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Limitations on Availability of Revenue:	
Limitation on availability, fiscal year 2023	\$10,013,150,000
Limitation on availability, budget request, fiscal year 2024	10,902,187,000
Recommended in the bill	9,297,817,000
Bill compared with:	
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2023	– 715,333,000
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2024 request	– 1,604,370,000

The Federal Buildings Fund (FBF) finances the activities of the Public Buildings Service (PBS), which provides space and services for Federal agencies in a relationship similar to that of landlord and tenant. The FBF, established in 1975, replaces direct appropriations with income derived from rent assessments, which approximate commercial rates for comparable space and services. The Committee makes funds available through a process of placing limitations on obligations from the FBF as a way of allocating funds for various FBF activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a limitation on the availability of funds of \$9,297,817,000 for the FBF.

Historically, prior to obligating funds for prospectus-level construction, alterations, or leases, GSA has waited for the project to be authorized through a resolution approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the House and the Committee on Environment and Public Works in the Senate as required by title 40 of the United States Code and in accordance with the proviso included in the FBF appropriations limiting the obligation of funds to prospectus-level projects approved by the authorizing committees. The Committee supports this process and believes that prospectus-level projects warrant a thorough review from both the Appropriations Committee and the authorizing committees. The Committee expects GSA to continue to follow this process.

Improving Building Resiliency.—GSA is instructed to brief the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the criteria GSA promulgated and issued for Federal resiliency and sustainability standards for public buildings as directed by Public Law 117–328.

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Court Space.—The Committee is concerned with the lack of necessary facilities for immigration judges on the U.S.-Mexico border. In Federal locations along the U.S.-Mexico border, the Committee encourages GSA to identify and prioritize the acquisition of available space for use by EOIR as courtrooms, including courtrooms where the cases of detained aliens subject to the Migrant Protection Protocols may be heard. GSA should consult with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of the Principal Legal Advisor to explore ways to co-locate Federal agencies involved in the immigration court process. The Committee directs GSA to submit a report on its efforts within 90 days of enactment of this Act that includes the resources necessary to carry out this request.

Ground Source Heat Pumps at Federal Facilities.—The Committee encourages GSA to consider the full lifecycle cost and emissions reduction benefits of ground source heat pumps. The Committee directs GSA to brief the Committee on the current status of its technology acceleration program for GSA facilities, as directed by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. The briefing should include an update on GSA's review of cost-effective lighting and ground source heat pumps, as directed by the Act, and the possible inclusion of these technologies.

Automated External Defibrillators in Public Buildings.—Sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death for Americans, and early intervention and timely use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) significantly improves the chances of survival. In 2001, Congress required the creation of a public access defibrillator program that included voluntary guidelines for deployment of AEDs in Federal buildings. However, GSA does not systematically require AED placement as a condition of occupancy of Federal buildings. The Committee encourages GSA to consider including AED placement requirements in future revisions to its P100 facilities standards for public buildings. Such requirements should harmonize with the ex-

isting guidelines published by the Department of Health and Human Services.

CONSTRUCTION AND ACQUISITION

Limitations on Availability of Revenue:	
Limitation on availability, fiscal year 2023	\$807,809,000
Limitation on availability, budget request, fiscal year 2024	239,235,000
Recommended in the bill	28,290,000
Bill compared with:	
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2023	- 779,519,000
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2024 request	- 210,945,000

The construction and acquisition fund finances the project cost of design, construction, and management and inspection costs of new Federal facilities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$28,290,000 for the following projects:

State	Description	Amount
PR	Clemente Ruiz-Nazario U.S. Courthouse	28,290,000

Mexico-American Border Infrastructure Coordinators.—Mexico is the second largest importer of all goods into the U.S., in addition to being the second largest recipient of all goods exported by the U.S. The Committee is concerned that a lack of coordination between Customs and Border Protection, GSA, the Department of Transportation, and other relevant Federal agencies is hampering freight infrastructure development at the southwest border, critical to maintaining this bilateral trade relationship. In fiscal year 2020, the Committee directed GSA to designate a border infrastructure coordinator in each region along the southwest border and report to the Committee on its efforts and any additional resources necessary to establish these positions. The Committee looks forward to receiving an update on these efforts within 90 days of enactment of this Act and directs GSA to continue funding these coordinators in fiscal year 2024.

Land Ports of Entry Study.—The Committee directs GSA to submit a preliminary report, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on the status of obligated funds and prioritization of funds for modernizing land ports of entry as obligated in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58).

Renovation of Tomochichi U.S. Courthouse.—The Committee is concerned about the progress of the repair and alteration of the Tomochichi U.S. Courthouse in Savannah, Georgia. The Committee directs GSA to provide a status update of the ongoing renovation within 30 days of enactment and as necessary thereafter to ensure the improvements are completed in a timely manner without further harm.

Courthouse Feasibility Study.—The Committee recognizes that Riverside County, California has seen substantial growth over the past twenty years and recognizes that the George E. Brown, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse currently lacks sufficient space for additional judges and support staff as reflected in the Courthouse receiving a significant Urgency Evaluation score. The Committee commends the decision by the United States Judi-

cial Conference to approve a GSA phase I feasibility study of the George E. Brown Courthouse and looks forward to a thorough and punctual review process that will help address the urgent space needs of the court. The Committee directs GSA, 180 days after enactment of this Act, to provide the Committee with a briefing on the status of the study.

Flexible Workspace Services.—The Committee has not yet received GSA’s report on the agency’s implementation of its flexible coworking services contracts, as required in House Report 117–393. GSA is directed to brief the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this Act on their preliminary findings.

REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS

Limitations on Availability of Revenue:	
Limitation on availability, fiscal year 2023	\$662,280,000
Limitation on availability, budget request, fiscal year 2024	1,865,268,000
Recommended in the bill	568,848,000
Bill compared with:	
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2023	– 93,432,000
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2024 request	– 1,296,420,000

The repairs and alterations activity funds the project cost of design, construction, management and inspection for the repair, alteration, and modernization of existing real estate assets in addition to various special programs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$568,848,000 to remain available until expended for repairs and alterations.

Major Repairs and Alterations.—The Committee recommends \$106,405,000 for repairs and alterations projects that exceed the prospectus threshold. The funds are provided to address GSA’s highest priority facility needs as detailed in the budget submission.

KY	Paducah, KY Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse.	\$40,479,000
OK	Holloway U.S. Courthouse and U.S. Post Office ..	\$65,926,000

Basic Repairs and Alterations.—The Committee recommends \$388,710,000 for non-recurring repairs and alterations projects between \$10,000 and the current prospectus threshold of \$3,613,000.

Special Emphasis Programs.—The Committee recommends \$73,733,000 for special emphasis programs. This funding includes:

Consolidation Activities	\$11,733,000
Fire Protection and Life Safety Program	\$32,000,000
Judicial Capital Security Program	\$30,000,000

RENTAL OF SPACE

Limitations on Availability of Revenue:	
Limitation on availability, fiscal year 2023	\$5,561,680,000
Limitation on availability, budget request, fiscal year 2024	5,724,298,000
Recommended in the bill	5,719,298,000
Bill compared with:	
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2023	+157,618,000
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2024 request	– 5,000,000

The rental of space program funds lease payments made to privately-owned buildings, temporary space for Federal employees during major repair and alteration projects, and relocations from

Federal buildings due to forced moves and relocations as a result of health and safety conditions.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$5,719,298,000 for rental of space. The Committee expects GSA to continue its efforts to reduce its leased inventory.

U.S. Space Command Headquarters Leases.—The Committee is concerned about the waste of taxpayer dollars associated with GSA leases for the United States Space Command headquarters facilities. Therefore, the Committee directs the Administrator, in coordination with the Secretary of the Air Force, to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this Act regarding all lease agreements associated with the United States Space Command headquarters. The report shall include, at a minimum, the leasing agency requirements, the Occupancy Agreement, the Lease Agreement, and the timeline with all events for each lease.

BUILDING OPERATIONS

Limitations on Availability of Revenue:	
Limitation on availability, fiscal year 2023	\$2,981,381,000
Limitation on availability, budget request, fiscal year 2024	3,073,386,000
Recommended in the bill	2,981,381,000
Bill compared with:	
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2023	---
Availability limitation, fiscal year 2024 request	- 92,005,000

The building operations account funds services that Federal agencies in GSA-owned buildings and occasionally in GSA-leased buildings, when not provided by the lessor, directly benefit from, such as building security; cleaning; utilities; window washing; snow removal; pest control; and maintenance of heating, air conditioning, ventilating, plumbing, sewage, electrical, elevator, escalator, and fire protection systems. In addition, this account funds all the personnel and administrative expenses for carrying out construction and acquisition, repair and alteration, and leasing activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$2,981,381,000 for building operations and maintenance. Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee a spend plan, by region, regarding the use of these funds.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

GOVERNMENT-WIDE POLICY

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$71,186,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	74,389,000
Recommended in the bill	68,720,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 2,466,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 5,669,000

The Office of Government-Wide Policy provides Federal agencies with guidelines, best practices, and performance measures for complying with all the laws, regulations, and executive orders related to acquisition and procurement, personal and real property man-

agement, travel and transportation management, electronic customer service delivery, and use of Federal advisory committees.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$68,720,000 for the Office of Government-wide Policy.

Chinese Technology and Equipment in Federal Government Buildings and Leases.—The Committee is aware of GSA's ongoing process to identify equipment in certain Federal properties and Federally-leased properties that is on the Federal Communications Commission Covered List (List of Equipment and Services Covered by Section 2 of the Secure Networks Act), which leaves Federal agencies unnecessarily exposed to cyber vulnerabilities and foreign espionage. It is essential to our national security that all Chinese technology or equipment, including that made by Huawei, ZTE, Hikvision, Hytera, and Dahua, installed in or on Federal Government property or Federally-leased properties is removed and replaced expeditiously. These companies are known to be backed, owned, or operated by the Chinese Communist Party. The Committee requests an inventory from GSA on the status of Chinese technology and equipment on Federal property or privately-owned buildings with Federal leases within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

First Aid Kit Enhancements.—The Committee is aware that first aid products endorsed by the Department of Defense's Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (CoTCC) help to reduce death or trauma as a result of bleeding. To improve outcomes in crisis situations, the Committee encourages GSA to incorporate CoTCC-supported dressings in first aid kits in Federal buildings, Federal courthouses, and Federal law enforcement vehicles.

System for Award Management.—The Committee is aware of challenges with the implementation of GSA's System for Award Management (SAM) modernization, including delays in issuing unique entity identifiers to registrants. Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, GSA is instructed to report to the Committee on the steps being taken to resolve these issues, the cost overruns experienced in this program, and a strategic plan for SAM's future. This report should include a comparison of the initial cost estimates for the changes to the SAM registration process and the actual costs realized to date. It should also include the baseline costs of any contracts let for the implementation of this program compared to the amounts spent since award of these contracts, and any other contracts related to improving SAM. The report should include a delineation of the steps GSA is taking to repair the problems that have been identified, and a timeline for completing these repairs. Finally, the report should lay out GSA's strategic plan for the future of SAM, including plans to ensure competition in the acquisition of support services and to perform fraud screening.

Per Diem Rate Review.—Given the substantial changes in population following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee encourages GSA to review per diem rates and determine if metropolitan statistical areas should be used as boundary areas instead of county lines. GSA should particularly focus on non-standard per diem rates in cities that have significantly increased in population since

fiscal year 2021, such as Austin, Charlotte, Dallas, Miami, and Phoenix.

OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$54,478,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	58,733,000
Recommended in the bill	50,955,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 3,523,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 7,778,000

This account provides appropriations for activities that are not feasible for a user fee arrangement. Included under this heading are personal property utilization and donation activities of the Federal Acquisition Service; real property utilization and disposal activities of the PBS; select management and administration activities including support of government-wide emergency management activities; and top-level, agency-wide management communication activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$50,955,000 for Operating Expenses. Within the amount provided, \$27,380,000 is for Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal and \$23,575,000 is for the Office of the Administrator.

CIVILIAN BOARD OF CONTRACT APPEALS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$10,352,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	10,597,000
Recommended in the bill	9,580,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 772,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 1,017,000

This account provides appropriations for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals (CBCA). The CBCA is charged with facilitating the prompt, efficient, and inexpensive resolution of disputes through the use of alternate dispute resolution.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$9,580,000 for the CBCA.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$74,583,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	78,618,000
Recommended in the bill	69,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 5,583,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 9,618,000

The GSA IG provides agency-wide audit and investigative functions to identify and correct GSA management and administrative deficiencies that create conditions for existing or potential instances of fraud, waste, and mismanagement. The audit function provides internal and contract audits. Internal audits review and evaluate all facets of GSA operations and programs, test internal control systems, and develop information to improve operating efficiencies and enhance customer services. Contract audits provide professional advice to GSA contracting officials on accounting and

financial matters relative to the negotiation, award, administration, repricing, and settlement of contracts. The investigative function provides for the detection and investigation of improper and illegal activities involving GSA programs, personnel, and operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$69,000,000 for the GSA IG.

ALLOWANCES AND OFFICE STAFF FOR FORMER PRESIDENTS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$5,200,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	5,500,000
Recommended in the bill	5,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+300,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

This appropriation provides pensions, office staff, and related expenses for former Presidents Jimmy Carter, William Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Donald Trump.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$5,500,000 for allowances and office staff for former Presidents.

FEDERAL CITIZEN SERVICES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$90,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	90,000,000
Recommended in the bill	55,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 35,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 35,000,000

The Federal Citizen Services Fund provides for the salaries and expenses of GSA's Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies. The Fund enables citizen access and engagement with government through an array of operational programs and direct citizen-facing services. The Fund also provides electronic or other methods of access to and understanding of Federal information, benefits, and services to citizens, businesses, local governments, and the media.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$55,000,000 for the Federal Citizen Services Fund.

PRE-ELECTION PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	\$10,413,000
Recommended in the bill	10,413,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+10,413,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The Committee recommends \$10,413,000 for the Pre-Election Presidential Transition appropriation. In accordance with the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, GSA will provide suitable office

space for Pre-Election transition activities, acquire communication services and information technology equipment, provide for printing and supplies associated with the presidential transition.

TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$50,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	200,000,000
Recommended in the bill	---
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 50,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 200,000,000

This account provides appropriations for the Technology Modernization Fund (TMF) which is a full cost recovery fund that finances the transition of IT systems for Federal agencies to modern IT platforms.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommendation does not include funding for the TMF. The Committee notes that the TMF received \$1,000,000,000 in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-2). As of the first quarter of 2023, more than \$350,000,000 remains unobligated.

As the TMF approaches the 5-year mark, the Committee directs GSA and the TMF Board within 60 days of enactment of this Act to provide a full accounting of TMF project repayments.

ASSET PROCEEDS AND SPACE MANAGEMENT FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	\$16,000,000
Recommended in the bill	4,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+ 4,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 12,000,000

This account provides appropriations for the purposes of carrying out actions pursuant to the recommendations of the Public Buildings Reform Board consistent with Public Law 114-287.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,000,000 for the Asset Proceeds and Space Management Fund.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$5,900,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	11,300,000
Recommended in the bill	4,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 1,900,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 7,300,000

This account is a revolving fund that finances GSA's administrative services. Examples of these core support services include: IT management; budget and financial management; legal services; human resources; equal employment opportunity services; procurement and contracting oversight; emergency planning and response; and facilities management of GSA-occupied space. The Working

Capital Fund offices also provide external administrative services such as human resource management for other Federal agencies, including small boards and commissions on a reimbursable basis.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$4,000,000 for the Working Capital Fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 540. The Committee continues a provision providing authority for the use of funds for the hire of motor vehicles.

Section 541. The Committee continues a provision providing that funds made available for activities of the Federal Buildings Fund may be transferred between appropriations with advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate.

Section 542. The Committee continues a provision requiring funds proposed for developing courthouse construction requests to meet appropriate standards and the priorities of the Judicial Conference.

Section 543. The Committee continues a provision providing that no funds may be used to increase the amount of occupiable square feet, provide cleaning services, security enhancements, or any other service usually provided, to any agency which does not pay the assessed rent.

Section 544. The Committee continues a provision that permits GSA to pay small claims (up to \$250,000) made against the Federal Government.

Section 545. The Committee continues a provision requiring the Administrator to ensure that the delineated area of procurement for all lease agreements is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus unless prior notice is given to the committees of jurisdiction.

Section 546. The Committee continues a provision requiring a spend plan for certain accounts and programs.

Section 547. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting GSA, or any other Department or agency, from leasing temporary or permanent facilities for use by the United States Space Command for headquarters operations until the GSA Administrator, in coordination with the Secretary of the Air Force, submits a report to Congress on U.S. Space Command leased facilities.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$3,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	3,000,000
Recommended in the bill	2,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 500,000

The Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation is an independent agency established by Congress in 1975 (Public Law 93–642) to encourage exceptional college students to pursue careers in public service through the Truman Scholarship program. The Truman

Scholarship is a merit-based award available to college juniors who plan to pursue careers in government or elsewhere in public service.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$2,500,000 for the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$52,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	61,533,000
Recommended in the bill	49,345,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 2,655,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 12,188,000

The Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency established to protect the civil service merit system. The MSPB adjudicates appeals primarily involving personnel actions, certain Federal employee complaints, and retirement benefits issues. The MSPB reports to the President whether merit systems are sufficiently free of prohibited employment practices.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$47,000,000 for the MSPB. The recommendation includes a transfer of \$2,345,000 from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$1,800,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	2,000,000
Recommended in the bill	1,800,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- - -
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 200,000

The General Fund payment to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund is invested in Treasury securities with maturities suitable to meet the needs of the Fund. Interest earnings from the investments are used to carry out the activities of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation. The Foundation awards scholarships, fellowships, and grants, and funds activities of the Udall Center. The Foundation also supports training programs for professionals in healthcare policy and public policy, such as the Native Nations Institute (NNI). NNI, based at the University of Arizona, provides Native Americans with leadership and management training and analyzes policies relevant to tribes.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,800,000 for the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund.

ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$3,943,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	4,044,000
Recommended in the bill	3,296,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 647,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 748,000

The John S. McCain III National Center for Environmental Conflict Resolution is a Federal program established by Public Law 105-156 to assist parties in resolving environmental, natural resource, and public lands conflicts. The National Center is part of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation and serves as an impartial, nonpartisan institution providing professional expertise, services, and resources to all parties involved in such disputes. The National Center helps parties determine whether collaborative problem solving is appropriate for specific environmental conflicts, how and when to bring all the parties together for discussion, and whether a third-party facilitator or mediator might be helpful in assisting the parties in their efforts to reach consensus or to resolve the conflict. In addition, the National Center maintains a roster of qualified facilitators and mediators with substantial experience in environmental conflict resolution and can help parties in selecting an appropriate neutral professional.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$3,296,000 for the Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$427,520,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	443,213,000
Recommended in the bill	427,250,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 270,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 15,963,000

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is an independent agency established in 1934 to identify, access, protect, preserve, and make available for use the important documents and records of all three branches of the Federal Government. Today, NARA's responsibilities also include publishing the Federal Register, mediating Freedom of Information Act disputes, and coordinating controlled unclassified information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$427,250,000 for NARA to support basic operations, services to the public, operation of Public Libraries, and declassification review.

NARA is also directed to provide to the Committee, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, with comprehensive financial projec-

tions—including revenue and operational cost estimates—for the Federal Records Centers Program for the next five years and legislative recommendations for the future of the program.

National Personnel Records Center (NPRC).—The Committee is aware that veterans have waited up to 18 months for access to certain military records required by various Federal and civilian agencies. The Committee directs the NPRC to comply with the fiscal year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act that requires NARA to maintain the “staffing levels and telework arrangement that enable the maximum processing of records requests possible in order to achieve the performance goal of responding to 90 percent of all requests in 20 days or less . . . ”. Additionally, NARA shall report to the Committee within 90 days after enactment of this Act on the current status of staffing at the NPRC, any backlog of records requests, and the steps it is taking to eliminate the backlog. In addition, the Committee directs NARA to prioritize and quickly address any backlogs in digitalizing paper-based military personnel files and processing veterans’ paperwork, which is necessary for veterans’ claims to be processed.

Transition to Electronic Records.—The Committee supports efforts by OMB and NARA to implement the government’s transition to electronic records, including the issuance of OMB NARA Memorandum M–23–07. The Committee urges NARA to work with agencies to minimize any delays to the deadlines specified in M–23–07.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$5,980,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	6,400,000
Recommended in the bill	6,400,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+420,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The NARA OIG provides audits and investigations and serves as an independent, internal advocate to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within NARA.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$6,400,000 for the NARA OIG.

REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$22,224,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	8,000,000
Recommended in the bill	8,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 14,224,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The NARA Repairs and Restoration account provides for the repair, alteration, and improvement of Archives facilities and Presidential libraries nationwide. It enables NARA to maintain its facilities in proper condition for visitors, researchers, and employees, as well as to ensure the structural integrity of its buildings.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$8,000,000 for Repairs and Restoration.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION
GRANTS PROGRAM

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$12,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	10,000,000
Recommended in the bill	10,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	-2,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	---

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) program provides for grants to preserve and publish records that document American history. Administered within NARA, the NHPRC helps State, local, and private institutions preserve non-Federal records; helps historical organizations publish the papers of major figures in American history; and helps archivists and records managers improve their techniques, training, and ability to serve a range of information to users.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$10,000,000 for NHPRC grants.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$3,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	4,000,000
Recommended in the bill	3,500,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-500,000

The Community Development Revolving Loan Fund Program (CDRLF) was established in 1979 to assist officially designated low-income credit unions in providing basic financial services to low-income communities. Low-interest loans and deposits are made available to assist these credit unions. Loans or deposits are normally repaid in five years, although shorter repayment periods may be considered. Technical assistance grants are also available to low-income credit unions. Earnings generated from the CDRLF are available to fund technical assistance grants in addition to funds provided in appropriations acts. Grants are available for improving operations as well as addressing safety and soundness issues.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$3,500,000 for the National Credit Union Administration's (NCUA) CDRLF for technical assistance grants.

CDRLF Oversight.—To ensure proper oversight capabilities are in place for CDRLF grant and loan recipients, the NCUA is directed to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on how the program is overseen including how the NCUA ensures grant and loan dollars are used according to the rules of the program.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$24,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	23,037,000
Recommended in the bill	22,377,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 2,123,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 660,000

The Office of Government Ethics (OGE), established by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, partners with other executive branch Departments and agencies to foster high ethical standards. OGE issues and monitors rules, regulations, and memoranda pertaining to the prevention and resolution of conflicts of interest, post-employment restrictions, standards of conduct, and financial disclosure for executive branch employees. OGE is also responsible for creating and running an electronic financial disclosure system under the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge (STOCK) Act.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$22,377,000 for the OGE.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF TRUST FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$385,708,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	461,764,000
Recommended in the bill	339,648,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 46,060,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 122,116,000

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is the Federal agency responsible for management of Federal human resources policy and oversight of the merit civil service system. OPM provides a government-wide policy framework for personnel matters, advises and assists agencies (often on a reimbursable basis), and ensures that agency operations are consistent with requirements of law. OPM oversees the examination of applicants for employment; issues regulations and policies on hiring, classification and pay, training, and investigations; and manages many other aspects of personnel management. The agency also operates a reimbursable training program for the Federal Government's managers and executives. In addition, OPM is responsible for administering the retirement, health benefits, and life insurance programs covering most Federal employees, retired Federal employees, and their survivors.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$164,934,000 for OPM's General Fund. The Committee also recommends \$174,714,000 for administrative expenses to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds.

The Committee reminds OPM of its obligation to engage in prior consultation with and notify the Committee of any reorganizations,

restructurings, new programs, or elimination of programs as described in title VI of this Act.

Low Staffing at Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Facilities.—The Committee is concerned with the consistently low staffing levels at BOP facilities. Low staffing levels forces the BOP to utilize augmentation staffing, which makes the facilities less safe and restricts their ability to offer reentry programming and implement the First Step Act. OPM is directed to analyze how the General Schedule levels for BOP employees can be modified or reformed to address concerns about pay-related matters, and to report on these efforts no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Direct Hire Authority at BOP Facilities.—The Committee is concerned with the long process for hiring BOP employees, particularly when facing a facility-wide staffing crisis. Six BOP facilities were recently granted direct hire authority to address their staffing crises, and all six facilities have successfully improved their staffing levels. Based on this success, OPM is directed to develop procedures to grant direct hiring authority to all BOP facilities to address the Bureau-wide staffing crisis, and to report on these efforts no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Cybersecurity Workforce.—OPM is directed to expand efforts to teach Federal personnel responsible for hiring, retention, and employee development programs government-wide to more effectively utilize existing hiring authorities, compensation flexibilities, employee development programs, and other resources for Federal cyber workforce development.

Retirement Services.—The Committee is concerned with the lengthy delays to process retirement and survivor claims and update health insurance benefits, as well as other critical changes that impact retirement benefits. These delays cause hardships for Federal annuitants and their families. OPM is directed to brief the Committee quarterly on OPM's efforts and progress to reduce these delays. OPM is directed to post on its website monthly reports indicating the length of time it takes to process initial retirement claims, applications for survivor benefits, annuitant health benefit adjustments, and other Federal Employee Health Benefits and Federal Employee Group Life Insurance adjustments. Additionally, OPM is expected to keep the Committee informed on the measures OPM is taking to decrease the processing delays and improve customer service levels, including the average time it takes a caller to reach an OPM operator and the number and percentage of unanswered calls.

Federal Financial Systems.—The Committee continues to support OPM's efforts to modernize and replace the Federal Financial Systems, which is the core centralized accounting system used to manage OPM's trust funds. OPM is directed to continue to brief the Committee as outlined in House Report 116-456.

Quarterly Briefings on Modernization.—The Committee is concerned with OPM's modernization efforts and requests the continuation of quarterly briefings to the Committees. Each briefing should include the total IT modernization budget broken out by project; obligations and unobligated balances by project; and the progress, anticipated completion date, and significant concerns for each project.

OPM IT Working Capital Fund.—In fiscal year 2022 OPM created the Information Technology Working Capital Fund (IT-WCF) utilizing the authority provided to Federal agencies by the Modernizing Government Technology Act (Public Law 115–91). The IT-WCF provides sustained funding to improve and replace OPM’s legacy systems and enhance their cybersecurity posture. Within 90 days after enactment of this Act, OPM is directed to brief the Committee on the IT-WCF’s balance, oversight and management, and projects funded through the IT-WCF.

Federal Executive Boards (FEBs).—The Committee opposes OPM’s plan to make FEB funding mandatory for agencies by requiring them to pay specific sums set by OMB into the OPM revolving fund, which is intended for voluntary, fee for service transactions.

Improper Payments.—The Committee is concerned that the OPM lacks a plan to establish a mechanism to monitor, identify, and remove ineligible family members who are already enrolled in Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) plans. The OPM IG has cited in their October 2022 report on Top Management Challenges for FY 2023, that this oversight resulted in estimated improper payments for the program of up to \$3 billion. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, OPM is directed to brief the Committee on their plan to monitor, identify, and ensure the eligibility of family members on FEHB plans.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$36,395,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	45,784,000
Recommended in the bill	33,233,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 3,162,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 12,551,000

This appropriation provides for the OIG’s agency-wide audit, investigative, evaluation, and inspection functions, which identify management and administrative deficiencies, fraud, waste, and mismanagement. The OIG performs internal agency audits and insurance audits and offers contract audit services. Internal audits review and evaluate all facets of agency operations, including financial statements. Evaluation and inspection services provide detailed technical evaluations of agency operations. Insurance audits review the operations of health and life insurance carriers, health care providers, and insurance subscribers. Contract auditors provide professional advice to agency contracting officials on accounting and financial matters regarding the negotiation, award, administration, repricing, and settlement of contracts. The investigative function provides for the detection and investigation of improper and illegal activities involving programs, personnel, and operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a general fund appropriation of \$5,150,000 for the OIG. In addition, the recommendation includes \$28,083,000 from the appropriate trust funds.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$31,904,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	33,759,000
Recommended in the bill	31,904,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-1,855,000

The Office of Special Counsel (OSC): (1) investigates Federal employee allegations of prohibited personnel practices (including reprisal for whistleblowing) and, when appropriate, prosecutes before the Merit Systems Protection Board; (2) provides a channel for whistleblowing by Federal employees; and (3) enforces the Hatch Act. The OSC may transmit whistleblower allegations to the agency head concerned and require an agency investigation and a report to Congress and the President when appropriate. Additionally, OSC is responsible for the enforcement of the civilian employment and reemployment rights of military service members under the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$31,904,000 for the OSC.

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$10,600,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	14,385,000
Recommended in the bill	13,700,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+3,100,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-685,000

The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (the Board) is an independent agency within the Executive Branch whose purpose is to (1) analyze and review actions the Executive Branch takes to protect the nation from terrorism, ensuring that the need for such actions is balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties; and (2) ensure that liberty concerns are appropriately considered in the development and implementation of laws, regulations, and policies related to efforts to protect the nation against terrorism. The Board consists of four part-time members and a full-time chairman.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$13,700,000 for the Board.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS REFORM BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$4,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	4,000,000
Recommended in the bill	3,605,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	-395,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	-395,000

The Public Buildings Reform Board was created under the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to identify opportunities for the Government to significantly reduce its inventory of civilian real property and reduce cost to the Government.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$3,605,000 funds for the Public Buildings Reform Board.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$2,209,770,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	2,475,488,000
Recommended in the bill	2,039,321,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 170,449,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 436,167,000

The primary mission of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is to protect investors, maintain the integrity of the securities markets, and assure adequate information on the capital markets is made available to market participants and policymakers. To facilitate this, the SEC monitors the capital markets, ensures full disclosure of all appropriate financial information, regulates the Nation’s securities markets, and takes action to prevent fraud and malpractice in the securities and financial markets.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$1,999,663,000 for SEC Salaries and Expenses, to be fully derived from offsetting fee collections. In addition, the Committee recommends \$25,243,000 for costs associated with the SEC’s District of Columbia headquarters facilities and \$14,415,000 for costs associated with the SEC’s Atlanta regional office, to be fully derived from offsetting fee collections. The Committee expects the SEC to keep the Committee informed of any notable developments.

Digital Asset Accounting Standards.—The SEC issued Staff Accounting Bulletin 121 (SAB 121), new regulatory guidance relating to the accounting treatment of digital assets for public companies. The SEC is directed to consult with the prudential regulators to determine how SAB 121 affects insured depository institutions and revise SAB 121 to conform with existing prudential standards on insured depository institutions for the custody of digital assets.

Economic Analysis.—The Committee encourages the SEC to consider an SEC Memorandum published on March 16, 2012, on “Current Guidance on Economic Analysis in SEC Rulemakings”. The Committee notes that this Memorandum restates statutory obligations to conduct regulatory economic analysis. The Committee is concerned that the separation of analysis of overlapping rulemakings has minimized projected economic costs. Before finalizing rules classified by the Office of Management and Budget as Significant Economic Rulemakings, the Committee directs the SEC to conduct a full economic analysis on the aggregate impact of the SEC’s proposed and final rulemakings since 2021.

Reporting on Influence of Public Companies.—The Committee is concerned that managers of large index funds which file short-form disclosures on Schedule 13G instead of 13D may have a control purpose or effect with some of their portfolio companies which should preclude their ability to use Schedule 13G. The Committee notes that Schedule 13D allows regulators and investors more information on concessions or direction given or negotiated by large asset managers to their public portfolio companies which will shed light onto the strategies employed by these large asset managers to influence public companies. The Committee directs the SEC to report to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this Act on large asset managers' compliance with Section 13D and their ability to control or influence their portfolio companies.

Private Fund Advisers Rule Analysis.—The Committee directs the SEC to reconduct a full economic analysis for the Private Fund Advisers proposal before finalization of the rule, ensuring the analysis adequately considers the disparate impact on underserved businesses and communities. The Committee notes that more detailed analysis will not only improve the quality of proposed rules, but also help increase public confidence in the SEC's regulatory process.

Reforming the Registration Process for Registered Index Linked Annuities.—The Committee is concerned that the current registration process for registered index linked annuities (RILAs) is cumbersome and requires significant information not needed for other registered insurance products and is pleased that the SEC is currently creating a tailored filing form for RILAs as required by Congress that will address those concerns. In this respect, when creating the new form, the Committee encourages the SEC to permit the use of financial statements that are prepared based upon state insurance accounting standards.

Consolidated Audit Trail.—It is critically important to both investors and U.S. capital markets that the SEC fortify its cybersecurity threat detection, response, and mitigation process. The SEC is collecting an increasing amount of market-sensitive data and personally identifiable information (PII), including through Form N-PORT and the consolidated audit trail (CAT). As a repository for sensitive market data and a likely target for those who wish to manipulate U.S. markets, the security of the CAT system and data is paramount. The Committee strongly supports the SEC's efforts to strengthen and protect its information technology systems and systems it oversees maintained by the self-regulatory organizations, including the CAT system and EDGAR (the Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval system). The Committee also strongly urges the SEC, in its oversight of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), to ensure the CAT has adequate breach notification policies in place so affected participants are promptly notified of critical security events.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION

Section 550. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds to finalize or enforce the proposed Climate Disclosure rule titled “The Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors”.

Section 551. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds to implement or enforce the proposed regulation titled “Open-End Fund Liquidity Risk Management Programs and Swing Pricing: Form N-Port Reporting”.

Section 552. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds to finalize, implement, or enforce the rulemakings entitled “Regulation Best Execution”, “Order Competition Rule”, and “Regulation NMS: Minimum Pricing Increments, Access Fees, and Transparency of Better Priced Order”.

Section 553. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds by the SEC to compel a private company to make a public offering through a change in the definition of “held of record”.

Section 554. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds to finalize, implement, or enforce the rulemaking entitled “Safeguarding Advisory Client Assets”.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$31,700,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	31,300,000
Recommended in the bill	31,300,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 400,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– – –

The Selective Service System was established by the Selective Service Act of 1948. The mission of the System is to be prepared to supply manpower to the Armed Forces adequate to ensure the security of the United States during a time of national emergency. Since 1973, the Armed Forces have relied on volunteers to fill military manpower requirements, but selective service registration was reinstated in July 1980.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$31,300,000 for the Selective Service System.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Small Business Administration (SBA) assists and protects the interests of small businesses through programs including loans, loan guarantees, counseling, and contracting preferences.

The Committee recommends a total of \$823,114,000 for SBA.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$326,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	394,277,000
Recommended in the bill	278,378,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 47,622,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 115,899,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$278,378,000 for SBA Salaries and Expenses.

Veteran Certification.—The recommendation includes \$20,500,000, as requested, to support costs related to the certification of veteran-owned small businesses and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

Assisting America's Rural Small Businesses.—The Committee recognizes the importance of small businesses to rural communities across the nation as a driver of goods and services and as employers of rural Americas. The Committee encourages the SBA to support rural small businesses and to enhance its outreach and communication to small businesses that serve less densely populated areas. Within 120 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs the SBA to report to the Committee on its efforts to reach underserved rural small businesses.

Small Business Administration Responsiveness.—The SBA currently administers several types of programs to support small businesses, including tools to enhance small businesses' access to capital; contracting programs to increase small businesses' opportunities in federal contracting; homeowners, and businesses to aid in their recovery from natural disasters; and small business management and technical assistance training programs to assist in business formation and expansion. Recently, there have been concerns about the agency's ability to respond to constituents that utilize or seek to utilize its services. Within 120 days of enactment of this Act, the SBA is directed to brief the Committee on how it approaches customer service, its response time for requests, and planned customer service enhancements.

Oversight Report.—The Committee is concerned with the oversight capabilities of the SBA as its government guaranteed lending programs continue to grow, especially in the aftermath of the Paycheck Protection Program, and other COVID-19 relief measures, and given the recent finalized rule that removes the moratorium on Small Business Lending Companies (SBLCs) that operate within the SBA's 7(a) Loan Program that has been in place since the early 1980s due to a lack of oversight at the SBA. The Committee directs the SBA to provide a comprehensive report within 120 days after enactment of this Act on the oversight capabilities of the SBA in light of new non-traditional lenders entering the SBA's programs. This report should include an analysis of the subsidy rate over the next seven fiscal years within each of its programs, especially the 7(a) Loan Program given the final rulemaking entitled "Small Business Lending Company (SBLC) Moratorium Rescission and Removal of the Requirement for a Loan Authorization".

COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loans.—The Committee recognizes that when the Coronavirus Economic Injury Disaster Loan (COVID EIDL) program closed on May 6, 2022, there were a significant number of applicants in process whose applications for funding were hindered by processing delays at the Internal Revenue Service. The Committee directs the SBA to gather data on the number of COVID EIDL applicants who were in the process of applying when program funds were exhausted. The SBA should assess the number of applicants impacted by the IRS delays, quantify their unfunded awards, and report to Congress on the number and dollar amount of unfunded awards by state within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

COVID-19 Assistance and Foreign Based Small Businesses.—With the SBA disbursing over \$1 trillion in assistance over the last three years to small businesses, it is imperative to protect and safeguard American taxpayer dollars. Given this exorbitant amount, the SBA is directed to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act, regarding the amount of funding going to foreign-based small businesses.

Privacy Personnel Report.—The Committee directs the SBA to provide a report on the actions taken to address GAO’s recommendation that the Administrator of SBA fully define and document a process for ensuring that the senior agency official for privacy or other designated privacy official involved in assessing and addressing the hiring, training, and professional development needs of the SBA with respect to privacy.

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$320,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	334,000,000
Recommended in the bill	299,250,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	– 20,750,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	– 34,750,000

SBA’s Entrepreneurial Development (ED) programs support non-credit business assistance to entrepreneurs. The appropriation includes funding for a network of resource partners located throughout the United States that provide training, counseling, and technical assistance to small business entrepreneurs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$299,250,000 for ED. The Committee recommendations, by program, are displayed in the following table:

7(j) Technical Assistance Program (Contracting Assistance)	\$3,500,000
Entrepreneurship Education	1,250,000
Federal and State Technology (FAST) Partnership Program	6,000,000
HUBZone Program	3,000,000
Microloan Technical Assistance	41,000,000
National Women’s Business Council	1,500,000
Native American Outreach	5,000,000
PRIME Technical Assistance	7,000,000
Regional Innovation Clusters	8,000,000
SCORE	17,000,000
Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)	140,000,000
State Trade & Export Promotion (STEP)	20,000,000
Veterans Outreach *	19,000,000
Women’s Business Centers (WBC)	27,000,000
Total, Entrepreneurial Development Programs	\$299,250,000

*Veterans Outreach includes funding for: Boots to Business, Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOC), Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-Wise), Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV), and Boots to Business reboot.

The SBA shall not reduce these non-credit programs from the amounts specified above and SBA shall not merge any of the non-credit programs without advance written approval from the Committee. The Committee strongly supports the development programs listed in the table above and will carefully monitor SBA’s support of these programs.

Small Business Development Centers.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the SBA’s Small Business Development Centers

(SBDCs) and their critical role in the health of the nation’s smallest businesses by helping to provide access capital needed for growth, providing advice on regulations, preparing for changes in the economy and technology, and responding when disaster strikes. The Committee supports efforts by the SBA to fully utilize the country’s entire SBDC network.

Women’s Business Centers.—The Committee supports the over 150 Women’s Business Centers across the nation and their efforts to assist the nation’s smallest businesses with growth expansion, and job creation.

SCORE.—With more than 200 SCORE chapters across America, the Committee recognizes the value of mentorship within the small business ecosystem. The Committee supports the efforts of the SBA to ensure the nation’s smallest businesses have access to experienced business leaders from all industries.

Native American Outreach.—The Committee directs the SBA to enhance its Native American Outreach activities and brief the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act regarding the specific steps it has taken to reach Native American businesses.

Investment in Central Appalachia.—The Committee directs the SBA to strengthen its outreach to distressed counties within the Central Appalachian region, especially those affected by the 2022 flooding. Such outreach should focus on helping communities and regions that have been affected by job losses in coal mining, coal power plant operations, and coal-related supply chain industries due to the economic downturn of the coal industry.

Expanding Opportunities for Small Business Owners with Disabilities.—The Committee notes the progress being made within the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund to better serve individuals with disabilities. To this end, the Committee encourages the SBA to better integrate their programs with business planning, technical assistance, and business counseling services for small business owners with disabilities. The Committee directs the SBA to submit a report within 60 days after the enactment of this Act and twice a year thereafter to the Committee that outlines the steps the SBA is taking to ensure the SBDCs, WBCs, and SCORE chapters are thoroughly prepared and serving entrepreneurs and innovators with disabilities. The report should include, but should not be limited to, a summary of the tools in place, as well as measurable outcomes such as the number of businesses assisted and jobs created.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$32,020,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	47,704,000
Recommended in the bill	32,020,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	---
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 15,684,000

The mission of the OIG is to provide independent, objective oversight to improve the integrity, accountability, and performance of SBA and its programs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$32,020,000 for the SBA OIG.

OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$10,211,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	10,600,000
Recommended in the bill	9,466,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 745,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 1,134,000

The Office of Advocacy was established by Congress in 1976 to serve as the independent voice for small business within the Federal Government.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$9,466,000 for the Office of Advocacy. The Committee supports the Office's mission to reduce regulatory burdens that Federal policies impose on small businesses.

BUSINESS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$171,300,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	168,000,000
Recommended in the bill	169,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 2,300,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	+ 1,000,000

The SBA Business Loans Program serves as an important source of capital for America's small businesses. The recommendation supports the 7(a) Business Loan Program at a level of \$32,500,000,000; the 504 certified development company program, which includes the 504 commercial real estate refinance program, at a level of \$12,500,000,000; the Secondary Market Guarantee Program at a program level of \$15,000,000,000; and Small Business Investment Company debenture authority of \$5,000,000,000.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a total of \$169,000,000 for the Business Loans Program Account. The recommendation includes \$6,000,000 for loans subsidy for the Microloan Program to support a program level of \$110,000,000.

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$179,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	175,000,000
Recommended in the bill	* 178,000,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 1,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	+ 3,000,000

*The recommendation includes \$143,000,000 in disaster relief funding.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a total of \$178,000,000 for the Disaster Loans Program, of which \$143,000,000 is designated as being for disaster relief for major disasters.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 560. The Committee continues a provision authorizing transfers of up to five percent among SBA appropriations, provided that transfers do not increase an appropriation by more than 10 percent. The provision also requires that transfers be treated as a reprogramming of funds.

Section 561. The Committee continues a provision authorizing the transfer of not to exceed 3 percent of funding available under the SBA “Salaries and Expenses” and “Business Loans Program Account” appropriations to the SBA “Information Technology System Modernization and Working Capital Fund”.

Section 562. The Committee includes a new provision to prohibit funds to carry out enforcement actions for a disaster loan recipient if that individual is unable to make monthly payments if the loan recipient is eligible for duplication of benefits relief but has not yet received Community Development Block Grant Funds for which they are eligible.

Section 563. The Committee includes a new provision to prohibit the SBA from further funding or transferring funds to the COVID-19 era Community Navigators program.

Section 564. The Committee includes a new provision to prohibit the SBA from funding climate change initiatives from its Salaries and Expenses account.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$50,253,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	75,528,000
Recommended in the bill	35,424,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 14,829,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 40,104,000

The United States Postal Service (USPS) is funded almost entirely by Postal ratepayers, rather than taxpayers. Funds provided to USPS in the Payment to the Postal Service Fund include appropriations for revenue forgone, including for providing free mail for the blind and for overseas absentee voting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$35,424,000 for Payment to the Postal Service Fund. The recommendation funds free mail for the blind and overseas voting and includes a reconciliation adjustment.

Previously, the annual appropriations Act has included a provision requiring the Postal Service to deliver mail six days per week. Section 202 of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (PSRA) (Public Law 117-108) requires that the “Postal Service shall maintain an integrated network for the delivery of market-dominant and competitive products” and that “Delivery shall occur at least six days a week, except during weeks that include a Federal holiday, in emergency situations, such as natural disasters, or in geographic areas where the Postal Service has established a policy of delivering mail fewer than six days a week as of the date of enactment

of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022.” In lieu of continuing the provision in the annual appropriations Act, the Committee expects USPS shall maintain six-day delivery as specified in the PSRA. Additionally, the Committee requests that the USPS notify respective Members of Congress of planned postal facility closings and/or consolidations in their district.

Discontinue Pilot Program.—The Committee is concerned about the USPS pilot program that allows business checks to be cashed for gift cards in postal offices. The Committee believes the Postal Regulatory Commission should approve these type of financial transactions at post offices. The Committee strongly believes the pilot program should not be extended and the USPS should focus on its core mission of providing the nation with reliable, affordable, universal mail service.

Election Mail.—The Committee is concerned about the slow counting of election ballots in recent elections and directs the USPS to report to Congress within six months of enactment of this Act, on current processes of election mail prioritization.

Location of Cluster Box Units.—The Committee continues to remain concerned about mail theft at external, residential Cluster Box Units (CBUs) and the vandalizing of these units. Therefore, the Committee directs USPS to update its handbooks and guidance to ensure external CBUs in all newly developed residential neighborhoods are located within the residential area they serve in a manner that reduces mail theft and vandalism while ensuring CBUs remain visible and accessible to the residents. The Committee directs USPS to report to the Committee on implementation of this directive 90 days after enactment of this Act, and every 30 days thereafter.

Mail Theft.—The Committee continues to remain very concerned about mail theft in the United States and the adverse impact it is having on postal customers, including extended disruptions of regular service and theft of personally identifiable information. The Committee also recognizes that the current process for victims of mail theft in some localities places an undue burden on customers. Therefore, the Committee directs USPS to implement a system to provide customers impacted by two or more instances of mail theft from external, residential CBUs the option to receive a temporary Post Office Box at the nearest available USPS-owned and operated facility, free of charge, until regular mail service can be resumed to a secure CBU. The Committee directs USPS to report to the Committee on implementation of this directive 90 days after enactment of this Act, and every 30 days thereafter.

In addition, the Committee directs the USPS to report to the Committee no later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act detailing actions it has taken to combat this rise in mail theft from fiscal years 2020 through 2023. The report should include the USPS’ plan to prevent the theft of mail.

U.S. Postal Service Landscaping.—The Committee is concerned that some U.S. Postal Service properties are not being well-maintained. The Committee requests that the Postal Service provide a written report within 180 days detailing how the Postal Service ensures its properties are maintained and landscaped. The report should describe a process by which senior leadership of the Postal Service will provide adequate oversight over postal facilities and

properties nationwide to ensure they do not fall into a state of disrepair due to neglect or poor maintenance.

Accurate Address Listing.—The Committee directs USPS to conduct an internal review on the numerous instances, nationwide, where assigned zip-codes overlap municipal jurisdictions resulting in multiple city listings or incorrect listings. Given that the USPS recognizes the importance of last-line city designations, the Committee directs the USPS to provide a detailed report of their findings within 120 days of enactment of this Act, including what solutions could be utilized to ensure proper designations in the future, including options to designate a single, unique zip code for jurisdictions affected by this issue including Miami Lakes, Florida.

Mail Theft Notifications.—The Committee reminds the USPS of the importance of notifying the affected public when it is evident that mail has been stolen. Timely notifications can help victims of mail theft take actions to prevent identity theft, fraud, and other crimes. The Committee urges the USPS to make these notifications a priority.

Postal Work Safety.—The Committee is concerned by the increase in assaults and robberies committed against USPS employees. The Committee directs the USPS to report to the Committee no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act on the actions taken by the USPS to protect its employees from robberies and assaults during fiscal years 2020 to 2023. The report should include any plan or strategies the USPS plans to deploy in the future to keep its employees safe.

Processing Centers.—The Committee remains concerned about the impact on the citizens of Virginia's Sixth Congressional District as it relates to closed processing centers and looks forward to the submission of the report required by House Report 117–393 on this topic.

Protection of Private Information.—Millions of Americans received free COVID–19 tests that were delivered by the USPS after completing an online form. The Committee seeks assurance by the USPS, that personally identifiable information is and has always been protected by the USPS, and that no Privacy Act protected information has been disclosed beyond necessary to deliver the COVID–19 test kits. The Committee directs the Postal Service to provide a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment on how they protected this data.

First-Class Service Standards.—The Committee remains concerned about service standards for market-dominant mail products and looks forward to the report requested in House Report 117–393.

USPS Recruitment and Retention.—The Committee is concerned about the impact of workforce shortages on timely delivery of mail. The USPS Inspector General reported that the USPS continues to struggle with a high rate of non-career postal employee turnover. Although the Postal Service has been working to stabilize the non-career employee turnover rate, the Inspector General reported the rate was 58.9 percent for fiscal year 2022. The Committee directs the USPS to report to Congress within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the progress it has made on the IG's recommendations included in their April 2023 audit report titled, *Postal Service's Non-Career Employee Turnover Follow-Up*.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
 SALARIES AND EXPENSES
 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$271,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	290,579,000
Recommended in the bill	274,467,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	+3,467,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 16,112,000

The USPS OIG conducts audits, reviews, and investigations and keeps Congress informed on the efficiency and economy of USPS programs and operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$274,467,000 for the OIG, which includes sufficient funds for the OIG to continue its aggressive drug interdiction efforts.

UNITED STATES TAX COURT
 SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	\$57,300,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	65,700,000
Recommended in the bill	46,375,000
Bill compared with:	
Appropriation, fiscal year 2023	- 10,925,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2024	- 19,325,000

The United States Tax Court adjudicates controversies involving deficiencies in income, estate, and gift taxes. The Court also has jurisdiction to determine deficiencies in certain excise taxes, to issue declaratory judgments in the areas of qualifications of retirement plans and exemptions of charitable organizations, and to decide certain cases involving disclosure of tax information by the Commissioner of the IRS.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$46,375,000 for the U.S. Tax Court.

TITLE VI—GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT
 (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Section 601. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting pay and other expenses for non-Federal parties in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

Section 602. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting obligations beyond the current fiscal year and prohibits transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 603. The Committee continues a provision limiting procurement contracts for consulting service expenditures to contracts that are matters of public record and available for public inspection.

Section 604. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting transfer of funds in this Act without express authority.

Section 605. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to engage in activities that would prohibit the enforcement of section 307 of the 1930 Tariff Act.

Section 606. The Committee continues a provision concerning compliance with the Buy American Act.

Section 607. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds by any person or entity convicted of violating the Buy American Act.

Section 608. The Committee continues a provision specifying reprogramming procedures. The provision requires that agencies or entities funded by this Act obtain prior approval from the Committee for any reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates a new program; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress; (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by the Committee on Appropriations of either the House of Representatives or the Senate for a different purpose; (5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; (6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or (7) creates or reorganizes offices, programs, or activities different from the budget justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations or the tables in the report accompanying this Act, whichever is more detailed. The provision also directs agencies to consult with the Committees prior to any significant reorganization, restructuring, relocation, or closing of offices, programs, or activities and directs the agencies funded by this Act to submit operating plans for the Committee's review within 60 days of the bill's enactment.

Section 609. The Committee continues a provision providing that fifty percent of unobligated balances may remain available through September 30, 2025, for certain purposes.

Section 610. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funding for the EOP to request either a Federal Bureau of Investigation background investigation or Internal Revenue Service determination with respect to section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, except with the express consent of the individual involved in an investigation or in extraordinary circumstances involving national security.

Section 611. The Committee continues a provision regarding cost accounting standards for contracts under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program.

Section 612. The Committee continues a provision regarding non-foreign area cost-of-living allowances.

Section 613. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the expenditure of funds for abortions under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Section 614. The Committee continues a provision that provides an exemption from section 613 if the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of an act of rape or incest.

Section 615. The Committee continues a provision waiving restrictions on the purchase of non-domestic articles, materials, and supplies in the case of acquisition of information technology by the Federal Government.

Section 616. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting officers or employees of any regulatory agency or commission funded by this Act from accepting travel payments or reimbursements from a person or entity regulated by such agency or commission.

Section 617. The Committee continues a provision requiring certain agencies in this Act to consult with GSA before seeking new office space or making alterations to existing office space.

Section 618. The Committee continues a provision providing for several appropriated mandatory accounts. These are accounts where authorizing language requires the payment of funds.

Section 619. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits funds for the Federal Trade Commission to complete the draft report on food marketed to children.

Section 620. The Committee continues a provision requiring that the head of any executive branch agency ensure that the Chief Information Officer has authority to participate in the budget planning process and approval of the information technology budget.

Section 621. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds in contravention of the Federal Records Act.

Section 622. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting agencies from requiring Internet Service Providers to disclose electronic communications information in a manner that violates the Fourth Amendment.

Section 623. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds to be used to deny inspectors general access to records.

Section 624. The Committee continues a provision relating to Universal Service Fund payments for wireless providers.

Section 625. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting any funds made available in this Act from being used to establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

Section 626. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting any funds made available in this Act from being used to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance.

Section 627. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds made available under this Act from being used for certain travel and conference activities unless an agency or entity determines that the travel is in the national interest and advance notice is provided to the Appropriations Committees.

Section 628. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds made available under this Act from being used to fund first-class or business-class travel in contravention of Federal regulations.

Section 629. The Committee continues a provision providing an additional \$850,000 for the Inspectors General Council Fund to expand and update the Federal-wide Inspectors General website oversight.gov.

Section 630. The Committee continues a provision relating to contracts for public relations services.

Section 631. The Committee continues a provision relating to advertising and educational programming.

Section 632. The Committee continues a provision relating to statements by grantees regarding projects or programs funded by this agreement.

Section 633. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits funds for the SEC to finalize, issue, or implement any rule, regulation, or order requiring the disclosure of political contributions, contributions to tax-exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations in SEC filings.

Section 634. The Committee continues a provision requiring agencies funded in this Act to submit to the Committees quarterly budget reports on obligations.

Section 635. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the procurement of electric vehicles, electric vehicle batteries, electric vehicle charging stations or infrastructure.

Section 636. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the implementation of section 205 of Executive Order 14008 until a stable supply of domestic-mined critical minerals can be achieved.

Section 637. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the promotion or advancement of Critical Race Theory.

Section 638. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the implementation of Executive Orders 13985, 14035, and 14091.

Section 639. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds to support, directly or indirectly, the Wuhan Institute of Virology or any laboratory owned or controlled by the governments of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela under the regime of Nicolás Maduro Moros, or any other country determined by the Secretary of State to be a foreign adversary.

Section 640. The Committee includes a new provision that repeals the Federal Elections Commission's prior approval requirement for corporate member trade association Political Action Committees.

Section 641. The Committee includes a new provision that prohibits the use of funds to discriminate against a person who speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief, or moral conviction, that marriage is, or should be recognized as, a union of one man and one woman.

Section 642. The Committee includes a new provision rescinding certain unobligated balances of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in Public Law 117–169.

TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS—GOVERNMENT-WIDE

DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 701. The Committee continues a provision requiring agencies to administer a policy designed to ensure that all of its workplaces are free from the illegal use of controlled substances.

Section 702. The Committee continues a provision establishing price limitations on vehicles to be purchased by the Federal Government with an exemption for the purchase of electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Section 703. The Committee continues a provision allowing funds made available to agencies for travel to also be used for quarters allowances and cost-of-living allowances.

Section 704. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the employment of noncitizens with certain exceptions.

Section 705. The Committee continues a provision giving agencies the authority to pay GSA bills for space renovation and other services.

Section 706. The Committee continues a provision allowing agencies to finance the costs of recycling and waste prevention programs with proceeds from the sale of materials recovered through such programs.

Section 707. The Committee continues a provision providing that funds made available to corporations and agencies subject to 31 U.S.C. 91 may pay rent and other service costs in the District of Columbia.

Section 708. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting interagency financing of groups absent prior statutory approval.

Section 709. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds for enforcing regulations disapproved in accordance with the applicable law of the United States.

Section 710. The Committee continues a provision limiting the amount of funds that can be used for redecoration of offices under certain circumstances.

Section 711. The Committee continues a provision to allow for interagency funding of national security and emergency telecommunications initiatives.

Section 712. The Committee continues a provision requiring agencies to certify that a Schedule C appointment was not created solely or primarily to detail the employee to the White House.

Section 713. The Committee continues and modifies a provision prohibiting the payment of any employee who prohibits, threatens, or prevents another employee from communicating with Congress.

Section 714. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting Federal training not directly related to the performance of official duties.

Section 715. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, propaganda, publicity, and lobbying by executive agency personnel in support or defeat of legislative initiatives.

Section 716. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting any Federal agency from disclosing an employee's home address to any labor organization, absent employee authorization or court order.

Section 717. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds to be used to provide non-public information such as mailing, telephone, or electronic mailing lists to any person or organization outside the government without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

Section 718. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds for propaganda and publicity purposes not authorized by Congress.

Section 719. The Committee continues a provision directing agency employees to use official time in an honest effort to perform official duties.

Section 720. The Committee continues a provision authorizing the use of funds to finance an appropriate share of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board.

Section 721. The Committee continues a provision authorizing the transfer of funds to GSA to finance an appropriate share of various government-wide boards and councils and for Federal Government priority goals under certain conditions.

Section 722. The Committee continues a provision that permits breastfeeding in a Federal building or on Federal property if the woman and child are authorized to be there.

Section 723. The Committee continues a provision that permits interagency funding of the National Science and Technology Council and provides for a report on the budget and resources of the National Science and Technology Council.

Section 724. The Committee continues a provision requiring documents involving the distribution of Federal funds to indicate the agency providing the funds and the amount provided.

Section 725. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to monitor personal access or use of Internet sites or to collect, review, or obtain any personally identifiable information relating to access to or use of an Internet site.

Section 726. The Committee continues a provision requiring health plans participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program to provide contraceptive coverage and provides exemptions to certain religious plans.

Section 727. The Committee continues language supporting strict adherence to anti-doping activities.

Section 728. The Committee continues a provision allowing funds for official travel to be used by departments and agencies, if consistent with OMB Circular A-126, to participate in the fractional aircraft ownership pilot program.

Section 729. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds for the implementation of OPM regulations limiting detailees to the legislative branch and placing certain limitations on the Coast Guard Congressional Fellowship program.

Section 730. The Committee continues a provision that restricts the use of funds for Federal law enforcement training facilities.

Section 731. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits Executive Branch agencies from creating prepackaged news stories that are broadcast or distributed in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of such news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency. This provision confirms the GAO opinion dated February 17, 2005 (B-304272).

Section 732. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting use of funds in contravention of section 552a of title 5, United States Code (the Privacy Act) and regulations implementing that section.

Section 733. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds from being used for any Federal Government contract with any foreign incorporated entity which is treated as an inverted domestic corporation.

Section 734. The Committee continues a provision requiring agencies to pay a fee to OPM for processing retirement of employees who separate under Voluntary Early Retirement Authority or who receive Voluntary Separation Incentive payments.

Section 735. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds to require any entity submitting an offer for a Federal contract to disclose political contributions.

Section 736. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds for the painting of a portrait of an employee of the Federal Government, including the President, the Vice President, a Member of Congress, the head of an executive branch agency, or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

Section 737. The Committee continues a provision limiting the pay increases of certain prevailing rate employees.

Section 738. The Committee continues a provision requiring agencies to submit reports to Inspectors General concerning expenditures for agency conferences.

Section 739. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting funds to be used to increase, eliminate, or reduce funding for a program or project unless such change is made pursuant to reprogramming or transfer provisions.

Section 740. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting agencies from using funds to implement regulations changing the competitive areas under reductions-in-force for Federal employees.

Section 741. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of funds to begin or announce a study or a public-private competition regarding the conversion to contractor performance of any function performed by civilian Federal employees pursuant to OMB Circular A-76 or any other administrative regulation, directive, or policy.

Section 742. The Committee continues a provision ensuring contractors are not prevented from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse by signing confidentiality agreements that would prohibit such disclosure.

Section 743. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the expenditure of funds for the implementation of certain nondisclosure agreements unless certain provisions are included in the agreements.

Section 744. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to enter into any agreement with any corporation with certain unpaid Federal tax liabilities unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the government.

Section 745. The Committee continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to enter into any agreement with any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation within the preceding 24 months unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the government.

Section 746. The Committee continues a provision eliminating the automatic statutory pay increase for the Vice President and certain senior political appointees.

Section 747. The Committee continues a provision related to impoundment of resources.

Section 748. The Committee continues a provision requiring that any executive branch agency notify the Committee if an apportionment of an appropriation for such agency is not approved in a timely and appropriate manner.

Section 749. The Committee continues a provision addressing interagency funding for the United States Army Medical Research and Development Command and the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs and the National Institutes of Health research programs.

Section 750. The Committee continues a provision addressing accessibility to government electronic and information technology for individuals with disabilities.

Section 751. The Committee continues a provision authorizing the transfer of funds to GSA to finance an appropriate share of various information technology projects among Government-wide boards and councils under certain conditions.

Section 752. The Committee continues a provision requiring the retention of certain records pertaining to certain GAO audits.

Section 753. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds to States, cities, or localities that allow non-citizens to vote in Federal elections.

Section 754. The Committee includes a new provision restricting funds to make investments under the Thrift Savings Plan in certain mutual funds that make investment decisions based primarily on environmental, social, or governance criteria.

Section 755. The Committee includes a new provision restricting funds for certain labeling of information.

Section 756. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds to recruit, hire, promote or retain any person convicted of a child pornography or a sexual assault charge, is a registered sex offender, or has been formally disciplined for using Federal resources to access, use, or sell child pornography.

Section 757. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds for insurance plans in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program to cover the cost of surgical procedures or puberty blockers or hormone therapy for purpose of gender affirming care.

Section 758. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the implementation of Executive Order 14019 with certain exceptions.

Section 759. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funding until Federal agencies return to specified telework policies, practices, and levels.

Section 760. The Committee continues a provision concerning the non-application of these general provisions to title IV and to title VIII.

TITLE VIII—GENERAL PROVISIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 801. The Committee continues a provision that allows the use of local funds for making refunds or paying judgments against the District of Columbia government.

Section 802. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of Federal funds for publicity or propaganda designed to support or defeat legislation before Congress or any State legislature.

Section 803. The Committee continues a provision that establishes reprogramming procedures for Federal funds.

Section 804. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of Federal funds for the salaries and expenses of a shadow U.S. Senator or U.S. Representative.

Section 805. The Committee continues a provision that places restrictions on the use of District of Columbia government vehicles.

Section 806. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of Federal funds for a petition or civil action that seeks to require voting rights for the District of Columbia in Congress.

Section 807. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of Federal funds in this Act to distribute, for the purpose of preventing the spread of blood borne pathogens, sterile needles or syringes in any location that has been determined by local public health officials or local law enforcement authorities to be inappropriate for such distribution.

Section 808. The Committee continues a provision that concerns a “conscience clause” on legislation that pertains to contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans.

Section 809. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits Federal funds to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative. In addition, section 809 prohibits Federal and local funds to enact any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for recreational purposes.

Section 810. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of funds for abortion except in the cases of rape or incest or if necessary, to save the life of the mother.

Section 811. The Committee continues a provision that requires the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to submit a revised operating budget no later than 30 calendar days after the enactment of this Act for agencies the CFO certifies as requiring a reallocation to address unanticipated program needs.

Section 812. The Committee continues a provision that requires the CFO to submit a revised operating budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools, no later than 30 calendar days after the enactment of this Act, which aligns schools’ budgets to actual enrollment.

Section 813. The Committee continues a provision that allows for transfers of local funds between operating funds and capital and enterprise funds.

Section 814. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the obligation of Federal funds beyond the current fiscal year and transfers of funds unless expressly provided herein.

Section 815. The Committee continues a provision that provides that not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances from Federal appropriations for salaries and expenses may remain available for certain purposes. This provision applies to the District of Columbia Courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, and the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.

Section 816. The Committee continues a provision that appropriates local funds during fiscal year 2025 if there is an absence of a continuing resolution or regular appropriation for the District

of Columbia. Funds are provided under the same authorities and conditions and in the same manner and extent as provided for in fiscal year 2024.

Section 817. The Committee continues a provision that provides the District of Columbia authority to transfer, receive, and acquire lands and funding it deems necessary for the construction and operation of interstate bridges over navigable waters, including related infrastructure, for a project to expand commuter and regional passenger rail service and provide bike and pedestrian access crossings.

Section 818. The Committee continues a provision that requires each Federal and District of Columbia government agency appropriated Federal funding in this Act submit to the Committees quarterly budget reports on obligations.

Section 819. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds to carry out the Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act of 2014 (D.C. Law 20–261) or to implement any rule or regulation promulgated to carry out such Act.

Section 820. The Committee includes a new provision repealing the Death with Dignity Act of 2016 and prohibit the D.C. Council from passing laws related to physician-assisted suicide in the future.

Section 821. The Committee includes a new provision directing the District of Columbia to submit a report to the Committees regarding how the District of Columbia has complied with the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act, including if violations of the law have taken place. If violations have taken place, the report should detail the number of violations in the past five years, the District of Columbia's response to the violations, whether the District of Columbia preserved each child's remains for appropriate examination during the investigation, and other pertinent information on violations.

Section 822. The Committee includes a new provision requiring a report on maternity care access for District of Columbia residents. The report should be organized by ward and include the birth rate, the pregnancy-related death rate, the maternal death rate, and other important factors.

Section 823. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds used by the District of Columbia to enact or carry out any law which prohibits motorists from making right turns on red, including D.C. Law 24–0214.

Section 824. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting funds used by the District of Columbia to carry out DC Automated Traffic Enforcement.

Section 825. The Committee includes a new provision repealing the inclusion of D.C. Public Charter Schools from the exemption list in the District of Columbia's Corrections Oversight Improvement Omnibus Amendment Act of 2022.

Section 826 specifies that references to "this Act" in this title or title IV are treated as referring only to the provisions of this title and title IV.

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

Section 901. The Committee includes a new provision establishing a “Spending Reduction Account” in the bill.