



U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

PRESS RELEASE

Summary: Legislative Branch Subcommittee *FY 2011 Continuing Resolution*

Fiscal Year 2010 Discretionary Spending: \$4.65 billion
H.R. 1 Discretionary Spending: \$4.46 billion
Senate/House FY 11 Agreement: \$4.55 billion

Overall discretionary spending for the Legislative Branch in the Continuing Resolution totals \$4.55 billion. This represents an increase of \$92.8 million (2%) above H.R. 1, but is a decrease of \$103.8 (-2%) below the FY 10 funding level. This bill reflects reductions below the FY 10 funding level in every program with the exception of the U.S. Capitol Police and the Congressional Budget Office. Roughly 80% of the funding provided for the Legislative Branch is for Salaries and Expenses of employees who serve the Congress. There is very minimal programmatic funding, and construction funding is for the maintenance and repair of the U.S. Capitol building, the Library of Congress, and the U.S. Botanical Garden. In making difficult funding decisions, efforts focused on not requiring the Library of Congress, the Government Accountability Office, the Government Printing Office, and the Congressional Budget Office to furlough employees half way through the fiscal year.

United States Senate. The CR provides \$916 million for the offices and operations of the United States Senate, a reduction of \$10 million below the FY 10 enacted level and the H.R. 1 proposed level. Additionally, the allocation cap under which each individual office is allowed to operate is reduced by 5 percent from the FY 2010 enacted level. Further, \$33.5 million in unobligated funds from FY 2009, funding that was not spent by Senate offices during FY 2009, are rescinded.

Architect of the Capitol. The CR provides \$587 million for the Architect of the Capitol, a reduction of \$14.6 million (-2.4%) below the FY 2010 enacted level, but \$14 million (2.5%) above the H.R. 1 proposed level. The funding level provided ensures that the necessary funding is available to repair the Capitol Dome and have the repairs completed before the 2013 inauguration.

Capitol Police. The CR provides \$340.8 million for the U.S. Capitol Police, which is the same level provided in H.R. 1, and \$12.5 million (3.8 %) above the FY 2010 enacted level.

Congressional Budget Office. The CR provides \$46.9 million in funding for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), an increase of \$4.1 million (9.7%) above the level included in H.R. 1. The CR restores CBO to a funding level that would not require them to reduce personnel which would delay analyses of large-scale budget proposals, limit the types and complexity of analyses the agency could undertake, reduce the number and scope of alternative legislative provisions the

agency could examine, and slow the production of cost estimates and mandate statements for pending legislation.

Library of Congress. The CR provides \$629.9 million in funding for the Library of Congress, a reduction of \$13.4 million (-2%) below the FY 10 enacted level, but an increase of \$27.4 million (4.5%) above the level provided in H.R. 1. The funding level provided in the CR proposal will require a hiring freeze, and core services and products will be delayed as staff levels are reduced. By contrast, the funding cuts contained in H.R. 1 would have require the LOC to furlough all Library staff for approximately eight weeks, including a complete closure of Library facilities and services during that period. In other words, for two months of the remaining six months, the Library would have to be closed.

Government Printing Office. The CR provides \$135.3 million for the Government Printing Office (GPO), the same level as provided in H.R.1. As most reductions were taken from the revolving fund, the level of funding provided will allow the GPO to operate at the current level with no service disruptions.

Government Accountability Office. The CR provides \$547.3 million in funding for the Government Accountability Office, a decrease of \$9.5 million (-1.7%) below the FY 2010 enacted level, but \$24.5 million (4.7%) above the funding level provided in H.R.1. This level of funding will allow the GAO to continue operating at a reduced level on behalf of Congress with no disruption of services. By contrast, H.R. 1 would have required the GAO to either implement a reduction-in-force (RIF) impacting over 33 percent of GAO's staff, or an across-the-board furlough of up to 8 days which would have impacted the entire staff.

Such a reduction would have had a significant effect on GAO's ability to provide timely responses to the range of Congressional requests and mandates (In FY 2010, congressionally mandated GAO studies increased by 35 percent). Specifically, in the short term, a reduced staff capacity would require GAO to renegotiate timeframes for responding to congressional requests with all standing committees of the Congress, and in the longer term, Congress would need to consider changes to GAO's statutory authority for responding to congressional mandates.

Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund. The CR provides \$11.4 million in funding for the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund, a decrease of \$600,000 (-5%) below the FY 2010 enacted level but \$6.3 million (123.5%) above the funding level proposed in H.R. 1. The mission of the Center, created by Congress in 2000 as a legislative branch entity, is to enable emerging political leaders from Russia and the Newly Independent States at all levels of government to gain firsthand exposure to the American free market economic system and the democratic political system through visits to comparable governments and communities.

John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development. The CR provides \$430,000 to continue the Stennis Center for Public Service. H.R. 1 proposed to eliminate the program.