



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill provides discretionary funding of \$23.395 billion, which is \$217 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$3.7 billion more than the budget request.

The agencies and programs funded by the Agriculture bill, affect the lives of every American every day. From the nation’s farmers and ranchers to school children to communities in rural America, this bill ensures the nation has the safest food supply in the world. It protects the most vulnerable citizens by providing a safety net through several important nutrition programs. The bill invests in rural America through programs that provide safe drinking water, affordable housing, and funding to assist small businesses. The bill addresses hunger around the world by funding vital international food assistance programs. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is on the front lines ensuring the nation’s food and drug supplies remain safe. Through sound science, this bill invests in FDA’s vaccine approval process, which is important now more than ever.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

##### **Agriculture Research**

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is USDA’s premiere, in-house research agency and continues to be on the cutting edge, focused on agricultural priorities from food safety, livestock production, crop production, and the effects a changing climate has on the nation’s natural resources. The bill provides \$1.492 billion for ARS, Salaries and Expenses, an increase of \$77 million more than fiscal year 2020. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) works closely with the nations universities to advance research, extension, and higher education in the food and agricultural sciences. The research conducted by NIFA and partners benefits all Americans. NIFA is funded at \$1.57 billion, an increase of \$43 million. Included in this funding is \$435 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, \$10 million more than fiscal year 2020.

### **Farm Service Agency**

Farmers and ranchers are the backbone of the nation's agriculture system. To meet the growing demand for farm loans, the bill includes increases for both farm operating and farm ownership loans. Within the Farm Service Agency, \$15 million is included for hiring of farm loan officers, county office trainees, and county office staff to address the severe staffing shortage across the country. This will allow producers to have their loans processed in a more timely manner.

### **Rural Development**

The programs funded within Rural Development serve as a lifeline for many communities in rural America through housing, community facilities, infrastructure and electric programs, and small business programs. The Rural Housing Service gives families and individuals the opportunity to own their own homes and provides assistance to the elderly, disabled, and low income families. Rental Assistance is increased by \$35 million for total funding of \$1.41 billion. This program is as important as ever during the current economic downturn and the increase provided in this bill will ensure low-income families are not rent burdened. The bill also provides \$40 million for Rural Housing Vouchers. This is expected to support 9,107 vouchers, with an average monthly cost of \$366 per voucher.

Many communities in rural America lack basic infrastructure such as water and sewer systems and access to clean drinking water. The bill provides \$463 million for water and waste grants, an increase of \$20 million more than fiscal year 2020. This funding is expected to fund 700 grants to ensure communities have reliable drinking water systems, and sanitary and solid waste disposal.

The ReConnect broadband program is funded at \$635 million. The program will expand access to high-speed broadband to remote unserved and under-served rural areas. This is especially important as our country faces an unprecedented health and economic crisis when many families rely on broadband for work and school.

### **Nutrition**

The nutrition programs funded in this bill will assist the most vulnerable populations. As the economy continues to falter, these programs serve as a safety net for many families across the country. The largest program, SNAP, is funded at \$114 billion, which is \$46 billion more than fiscal year 2020. The bill provides \$25.118 billion for Child Nutrition Programs including \$30 million for school meal equipment grants and \$42 million for the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) program. The bill also allows for expansion of Summer EBT to new states. This program has proven to help elevate hunger for children during the summer months when school is not in session.

The WIC program receives \$6 billion in discretionary funding. Included in this amount is \$90 million for breastfeeding peer counselors and \$14 million for infrastructure.

The bill provides \$325 million for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, an \$80 million increase more than fiscal year 2020. This funding will ensure seniors who rely on this important program will continue to receive additional food each month.

### **International Food Aid**

The bill rejects the budget proposal that would have eliminated important international food aid programs. The PL 480 Title II program is funded at \$1.740 billion, an increase of \$15 million more than fiscal year 2020. The world continues to see increased hunger and food insecurity. This additional funding is vital to address growing humanitarian disasters worldwide.

The McGovern-Dole program is funded at \$230 million, an increase of \$10 million more than fiscal year 2020. This program allows children across the world to attend school. It has proven to reduce hunger and improve literacy, especially among girls. The program also provides funding for local and regional food purchases, so farmers can have this safety net for their own livelihoods.

### **Food and Drug Administration**

The bill provides \$3.215 billion in discretionary funding for the FDA. Overall, total funding for FDA, including user fee revenues, is \$5.89 billion. Increases are provided for medical product safety, food safety, and crosscutting activities. FDA is at the forefront of innovation to protect the public health and safety of all Americans. The food supply is complex and rapidly changing. The bill ensures FDA has the needed resources to maintain the safest food supply in the world. FDA is also responsible for ensuring the drugs Americans take are safe and effective. Vaccine development is also an important activity of the FDA, and this bill provides increases to make sure all vaccines are based on science and are safe. This is more important than ever as the agency works through the vaccine approval process related to COVID-19.

### **Disaster Funding**

The bill repurposes unobligated funds from USDA to ensure the department can provide additional disaster payments to producers who incurred losses during 2018 and 2019. While many farmers and ranchers across the country continue to struggle, these additional funds will serve as a safety net to help producers weather the economic downturn.

### **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)**

APHIS and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) work together to carry out the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (AQI) program to intercept foreign animals, plant pests, and diseases (such as African swine fever, foot and mouth disease, and exotic fruit flies) before they can enter the country. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, APHIS has depleted its reserve funding and continues to receive minimal user fee collections. The agreement provides \$635 million in emergency funding to allow APHIS to continue inspection of passenger airlines and cargo ships to ensure invasive species and diseases are not released into the country, which could severely damage many sectors of the agriculture economy.



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations Bill provides a total of \$71.1 billion in regular discretionary funding, consistent with the Subcommittee’s 302(b) allocation. This amount is \$2.05 billion lower than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$2.2 billion more than the President’s request. The bill also includes \$604 million in emergency supplemental funding to address the impacts of COVID-19 on the Department of Justice, for a total of \$71.7 billion in discretionary spending included in the bill.

The CJS bill invests in a wide range of critical programs that affect the lives of all Americans. The bill provides \$33.8 billion, \$1.1 billion more than fiscal year 2020 and \$789 million more than the President’s request, for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to keep America safe from criminals and terrorists. The Department of Commerce receives \$8.9 billion to warn Americans about severe weather, promote American businesses and exports, create cybersecurity standards, protect American ideas, foster economic development, enable sustainable management of ocean resources, and complete the 2020 Census. This amount is \$6.3 billion less than the fiscal year 2020 level, as significantly less funding is needed for the 2020 Census compared to the last fiscal year when the bulk of the activity to conduct the census took place. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is funded at \$23.3 billion to explore the solar system and protect our planet.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

##### **Strengthening Police-Community Relations**

The bill provides \$153.5 million for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office grant programs related to police-community relations. This is an increase of \$67 million, or 77.5 percent, more than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$144 million more than the President’s request. Dedicated funding is provided for de-escalation training (\$15 million), crisis intervention teams in order to embed mental and behavioral health services with law enforcement (\$10 million), training for properly responding to situations when individuals are mentally ill or disabled (\$7.5 million), and accreditation of law enforcement agencies (\$5 million). The bill also continues to direct DOJ to collect information regarding how police officers across the country are trained, in order to try to

determine what the best baseline of training may be as well as where gaps may exist. This directive, initiated in fiscal year 2016, collects officer training data as part of the Byrne-JAG and COPS Hiring grant programs and provides the information to the Bureau of Justice Statistics in order to establish a data collection set on officer training.

The bill also provides \$5 million for DOJ to create and maintain databases to track both excessive use of force and officer misconduct. In order to ensure that all stakeholders are involved in this development, DOJ is directed to consult not only with State and local law enforcement agencies, but also community organizations and advocacy groups, including those that advocate for the preservation of civil liberties and civil rights. DOJ is directed to establish a Task Force on Law Enforcement Oversight to coordinate the process of the detection and referral of complaints regarding incidents of alleged law enforcement misconduct as well.

The bill also directs DOJ to: develop and implement consistent accreditation standards for federal, state, and local law enforcement; take the lead to ensure implementation of evidence-based training programs on de-escalation, the use-of-force, and the protection of civil rights that are broadly applicable and scalable to all Federal law enforcement agencies; consult with the heads of each Federal law enforcement agency in order to improve the Federal participation in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Use of Force Data Collection (only a quarter of Federal law enforcement agencies currently submit data); and review all Justice law enforcement components' use of force policies and publish these policies on DOJ's website.

### **Responding to Substance Abuse in Our Communities**

The bill provides our communities and first responders a total of \$541.5 million in dedicated grant program funding to respond to substance abuse, including opioids, and drug trafficking, an increase of \$23.5 million more than the fiscal year 2020 funding level and \$136.8 million more than President's request. The largest part of this funding is \$394 million for Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) grants, an increase of \$16 million more than the fiscal year 2020 funding level and \$42 million more than President's request. The bill rejects the Administration's plan to eliminate the anti-heroin task force program within the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office, instead providing \$35 million, the same amount as fiscal year 2020 level. The bill also provides \$15 million for the anti-methamphetamine task force program within the COPS Office, an increase of \$2 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Law Enforcement**

Federal law enforcement agencies within the DOJ including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Marshals Service, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and Bureau of Prisons all receive at least a 2.5 percent increase for salaries and expenses in this bill and are funded at a total of \$22.8 billion, \$726 million more than fiscal year 2020. The bill also rejects the proposal included in the President's request to move High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area grants from the Office of National Drug Control Policy to the DEA. The Byrne-JAG program is funded at \$484 million. Accounting for non-recurrence of \$100 million in nominating convention security grants, this is an increase of \$36.8 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$72.3 million more than the President's request. COPS Hiring is funded at \$237 million, an increase of \$2 million more than the fiscal year 2020

level and \$138 million more than the President's request, which will place approximately 1,300 more police officers on the streets of our communities.

### **Police Officer Mental Health and Wellness**

This bill continues to support the mental health of our police officers, as well as addressing the issue of police suicide. Dedicated grant funding of \$8 million is provided to directly assist state and local law enforcement agencies to improve mental health services, conduct training to reduce the stigma of officers seeking help, and implement programs to better handle repeated exposure to stress and trauma. As no federal agencies currently keep statistics regarding police suicide, DOJ is not only directed to collect data on this critical issue and report on it, but \$3 million is provided for this data collection and analysis.

### **First Step Act Implementation (FSA)**

This bill provides the full request level of \$409.5 million for the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to continue implementation of criminal justice reforms and programming created by the First Step Act (Public Law 115-391). The BOP is further directed to continue to expand programs covered under the FSA including medication assisted treatment programs, recidivism reduction partnerships with non-governmental and faith-based organizations, and assisting with securing identification documentation and benefits when inmates are nearing their release date.

### **Addressing Violence Against Women**

The bill contains \$513.5 million, the highest funding level ever, for grants provided by the Office on Violence Against Women. Funding is provided for multiple competitive and formula grant programs that support training for police officers and prosecutors, state domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions, rape prevention programs, lethality assessment and homicide reduction initiatives, domestic violence hotlines, and women's shelters and transitional housing support services. The bill also provides \$48 million to support the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, which supports multi-disciplinary community response teams tasked with developing and implementing comprehensive reform regarding sexual assault, including reducing the backlog of rape kits at law enforcement agencies.

### **NOAA Research and Grants**

The bill rejects the administration's request to cut funding for climate, weather, and oceans research by 40 percent, and instead funds the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) research at \$614 million, an increase of \$24 million or 4 percent more than the fiscal year 2020 level. This includes a \$12.5 million or 7 percent more than fiscal year 2020 for climate research. Additionally, the bill again rejects the president's proposal to eliminate successful NOAA programs like Sea Grant, Coastal Zone Management (CZM) grants, the National Ocean and Coastal Security Fund, and the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). The Sea Grant program is funded at \$75 million, \$1 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level, which yields \$412 million in economic activity and supports 10,400 jobs and nearly 1,000 American businesses. CZM grants are funded at \$78.5 million, \$1.5 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level, and the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund is funded at \$34 million, an increase of \$1 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level. Our coasts and Great Lakes contribute about \$350 billion to the economy annually and these State-Federal partnerships support sustainable economic development and environmental restoration.

### **Weather Satellites**

This bill provides \$658 million to continue construction of NOAA's three new Polar Weather Satellites, equal to the fiscal year 2021 request. Polar satellites provide 85 percent of the data used to forecast the weather, and are a vital component of Americans' personal, property, and economic security. One-third of U.S. GDP is affected by climate and weather, including farmers trying to protect livestock and crops, cities relying on energy from wind turbines and solar panels, and air travelers trying to get home safely and on time. In the first nine months of 2020, the United States experienced 16 separate weather and climate disasters that cost more than \$1 billion dollars each, tying annual records set in 2011 and 2017. The 2020 Atlantic hurricane season also set a new record with 30 named storms. These storms would have cost far more and posed even greater threats to human safety without sufficient warning. The bill also provides \$335 million for NOAA's Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) weather satellites, equal to the fiscal year 2020 request.

### **Economic Development**

For the fourth year in a row, the agreement rejects the administration's request to eliminate the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The bill instead provides \$346 million for EDA, a \$13 million increase more than fiscal year 2020. This includes \$119.5 million for Public Works grants, \$37.5 million for Economic Adjustment Assistance grants, and \$38 million for the Regional Innovation Program. The bill also provides \$16.5 million to support communities dealing with the closure of a nuclear power plant and \$2 million for a pilot program to support science- and tech-related apprenticeships. EDA awards infrastructure and planning grants to all 50 states. The fiscal year 2021 funding level will leverage an estimated \$4.5 billion in local and private investment and support more than 21,000 American jobs. The agreement would also provide \$48 million for the Minority Business Development Agency to help minority-owned businesses adapt and grow. This is an increase of \$6 million or 14 percent more than the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Trade**

The bill provides \$541 million for the International Trade Administration (ITA), a \$20 million increase more than fiscal year 2020, including \$8 million for export promotion and \$10 million for trade enforcement. Over the past three years, ITA has facilitated \$296 billion in U.S. exports and foreign investment, assisting over 77,000 U.S. companies, 80 percent of which are small- and medium-sized businesses. The bill provides \$133 million for the Bureau of Industry and Security, an increase of \$5 million, sufficient support to continue executing the substantial number of exemption requests to the steel and aluminum tariffs. The U.S. International Trade Commission receives \$103 million, an increase of \$3.6 million more than fiscal year 2020 to execute a record enforcement caseload.

### **Census Bureau**

The Census not only determines Congressional apportionment, but also is relied on to distribute \$1.5 trillion in Federal funds. The bill provides \$1.1 billion for the Census Bureau, a decrease of \$6.5 billion below the fiscal year 2020 enacted amount and \$565 million below the President's request. This reduction is typical in the year after the decennial census is conducted as the bulk of the work to prepare for and conduct it have occurred in previous fiscal years. The bill also allows the Census Bureau to spend more than \$1.05 billion in available prior year funds for a

total of \$2.16 billion in available resources for the Census Bureau in fiscal year 2021. In total, the bill provides \$1.03 billion for the 2020 Decennial Census, the entire amount requested by the Department of Commerce's Independent Cost Estimate, including a \$91 million contingency reserve. After a three-month delay of field operations due to the pandemic, the 2020 Decennial Census field operations ended in early fiscal year 2021. The Census Bureau is now in the midst of data processing to ensure data quality and correct any detected anomalies. During this fiscal year, the Census Bureau will deliver the apportionment and redistricting counts to Congress, the President, and the States.

### **National Institute of Standards and Technology**

The bill provides a total of \$1.03 billion for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), an increase of \$500,000 more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$317 million more than the President's base funding request. Funding for NIST measurement labs and research is \$788 million, \$34 million or 4.5 percent more than the fiscal year 2020 level. The bill also rejects the administration's proposal to terminate the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, instead funding the program at \$150 million, a \$4 million increase more than fiscal year 2020. For every dollar of Federal investment, MEP generates \$33.80 in new sales growth for manufacturers and \$32.20 in new investment. This translates into \$4.7 billion in new sales annually. Further, the bill provides \$16.5 million for the Manufacturing USA Program to support the existing NIST-sponsored biomedical institute. The bill also provides \$80 million for NIST facilities, including \$70 million to reduce the more than \$750 million infrastructure state of good repair backlog.

### **NASA**

This bill provides \$23.3 billion for NASA, which is \$642 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$1.98 billion below the President's request. NASA Science is funded at \$7.3 billion which is \$162 million higher than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$995 million more than the President's request. The bill continues funding for projects the request proposed to cancel – the Nancy Grace Roman Wide-Field InfraRed Survey Telescope (\$505.2 million); Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, and Ocean Ecosystem (\$145 million); Climate Absolute Radiance and Refractivity Observatory-Pathfinder (\$24.5 million); and Carbon Monitoring System (\$10 million). It fully supports the James Webb Space Telescope and the Mars 2020 mission, and provides funds to begin planning a 2026 Mars sample return. The bill includes \$726 million for Heliophysics and \$2 billion for Earth Science, an increase of \$28 million for Earth Science more than the fiscal year 2020 level, rather than the \$204 million cut below the fiscal year 2020 level proposed in the President's request.

Aeronautics is supported at \$828.7 million, an increase of \$44.8 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level, to ensure continued U.S. leadership in aviation. Building on 30 years of NASA expertise in repairing satellites in space, the bill includes \$227 million for the Restore-L/Space Infrastructure DEXterous Robot (SPIDER) satellite servicing mission. The proposal to cancel key NASA Education programs is rejected, and these programs continue to be funded in the bill – Space Grant (\$51 million); the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Technology (\$26 million); and the Minority University Research and Education Project (\$38 million).



For human space flight, the bill supports funding to continue the International Space Station (ISS) and to launch American astronauts on American commercial vehicles to ISS during fiscal year 2020. The bill includes significant resources to enable the goal of returning humans to the Moon, including \$1.4 billion for Orion, \$2.6 billion for Space Launch System (SLS), \$590 million for ground systems, the full request for lunar science, \$850 million for lunar landers, and \$699 million for the Gateway.

### **National Science Foundation**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is funded at \$8.49 billion, \$208 million or 2.5 percent more than the fiscal year 2020 level. This funding includes \$6.9 billion for NSF's research and related activities, an increase of \$173 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$697 million more than the President's request. NSF's education and training programs to build tomorrow's innovation workforce are funded at \$968 million, an increase of \$28 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level. NSF's funding level will support approximately 500 additional research and education grants and 6,800 more scientists, technicians, teachers, and students, compared fiscal year 2020.

### **Legal Services Corporation (LSC)**

The bill provides \$465 million for LSC, which is \$25 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level, rejecting the Administration's request to eliminate LSC. LSC is the largest funder of civil legal aid in the country, and its grantees served more than 1.8 million people in 2019, helping them with family law, domestic violence, housing, fraud, and other legal problems.

### **Marine Mammal Commission (MMC)**

The Commission is funded at \$3.8 million, a \$153,000 or 4 percent more than fiscal year 2020. The bill again rejects the elimination of MMC, an independent government agency chartered under the Marine Mammal Protection Act to provide science-based oversight of actions affecting marine mammals.

### **Medical Marijuana**

This bill again contains language preventing the Justice Department from interfering with states that have medical marijuana laws, ensuring that the prescribing and dispensing of medical marijuana in those states is both legal and regulated. Patients and doctors in states that have approved medical marijuana need to know that they are safe from arrest and prosecution by the federal government.

### **COVID-19**

The bill includes \$604 million to address the impact of COVID-19 on the Department of Justice, as follows: \$300 million for the BOP, \$125 million for U.S. Marshals Service's Federal Prisoner Detention (FPD), and \$179 million for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

This funding will allow the BOP to purchase additional medical supplies and items needed for quarantining inmates like isolation beds and tents, provide additional medical services, PPE, COVID-19 testing, and expand the use of home confinement. As of December 18, 27 percent of BOP inmates and 12 percent of BOP staff either currently have confirmed cases of COVID-19, have recovered from COVID-19, or died from COVID-19. The Marshals Service is responsible

for the housing, medical, and transportation costs for all individuals in the federal court system remanded into their custody until they are either acquitted or convicted and delivered to their designated federal Bureau of Prisons facility. This funding will assist with mitigating COVID-19.

Gun purchases have exponentially increased since the start of the pandemic. The FBI has conducted nearly 11 million more checks in 2020 than in 2019, and this funding will provide assistance like hiring additional personnel and upgrading IT systems for the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) at the Criminal Justice Information Services Division in order to keep pace with the ballooning workload.

### **Victims of Crime Act Deposits Fix**

Disappointingly, this bill does not contain a legislative fix that would direct settlements from deferred prosecution agreements and non-prosecution agreements to be deposited into the Crime Victims Fund. Over the past several years, more than \$3 billion has gone to the Treasury as part of these agreements, while deposits in the Crime Victims Fund have steadily declined from collections of \$6.6 billion in fiscal year 2017 to collections just over \$500 million in fiscal year 2020. The Appropriations Committee has worked with victim advocates for many years to try to provide more stability to the Crime Victims Fund since deposits from criminal cases have drastically dropped off.

###



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE

#### FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Department of Defense Appropriations Bill provides \$695.9 billion to the Department of Defense, including \$68.7 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations. The amounts are \$2.1 billion less than the President’s budget request, and \$9.7 billion less than fiscal year 2020 enacted appropriations.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

##### **Supporting Military Families**

The agreement provides \$157 billion for military personnel funding, an increase of \$7 billion over the fiscal year 2020 enacted amount. This funding provides the resources for a military pay raise of 3 percent. The funding also allows for an increase of 10,300 military personnel.

The bill increases efforts to end sexual assault and harassment in the Armed Forces by providing \$46 million for Special Victims’ Counsels, an increase of 32 percent compared to last year.

The bill continues the modernization of public schools located on military bases, which have been identified as having poor or overcrowded conditions, by adding \$284 million for replacement of these facilities. The agreement also includes \$60 million for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program, a 20 percent increase from last year’s level. This program builds new recreation centers, child care centers, and educational programs to enrich the lives of military families.

##### **Innovation at the Department of Defense**

For the third year in a row, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act provides record amounts of funding for research and development programs. The agreement provides \$107.1 billion in military R&D, an increase of 2.5 percent from last year, and \$2.7 billion in defense medical research, a 6 percent increase from last year.

This innovation funding provides increases to next-generation technologies including hypersonics research, unmanned systems, military applications of 5G, and more. The amounts also continue development of major weapons systems including the Army’s Future Vertical Lift program, the Navy’s MQ-25 Stingray unmanned drone, and the Air Force’s B-21 Raider bomber.

The increased defense medical research funding includes funding for research on diseases of significant impact to service members and their families, including \$150 million for breast cancer research, \$175 million for traumatic brain injury and psychological health, \$110 million for prostate cancer research, and more.

### **Modernization**

Along with longer term investment in future military capabilities, the agreement increases investment in the immediate modernization of military equipment by providing \$136.5 billion in procurement, which is a 5 percent increase over the amounts requested by the Administration in fiscal year 2021.

For example, the Trump Administration's military budget request under-funded F-35 production by \$2 billion, the Navy P-8 Poseidon patrol aircraft by \$1.6 billion, and shipbuilding by \$3.4 billion. The agreement corrects these critical shortfalls by adding 17 additional F-35 Lightning II aircraft, nine P-8 airplanes, and one Virginia-class submarine, as well as additional increases to key defense programs.

The agreement includes a new \$100 million program for the Department of Defense to invest in the American defense industrial base and supply chain resiliency. This funding will provide the building blocks to increase U.S. manufacturing jobs, reduce dependence on foreign raw materials and technologies, and increase American innovation for future defense needs.

### **Overseas Contingency Operations**

The agreement provides \$68.7 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). The amounts are sufficient to support foreseeable overseas military operations consistent with the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2021 that require certain studies to be completed before additional troop withdrawals are authorized.

The agreement also eliminates \$2 billion in unneeded spending for the Afghan Security Forces Fund, which has been subject of numerous critical reports by the Special Inspector for Afghanistan Reconstruction. Nearly half of the reduction comes from funds provided last year, but have not been spent.

The agreement also includes more than \$16 billion in operation and maintenance funding for non-OCO needs, such as routine maintenance and training. These funds were requested by the Trump Administration in fiscal year 2021 to circumvent defense budget caps. Use of such funding maneuvers calls into question the use of the OCO budget category in future budget requests.

#####



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### ENERGY AND WATER AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The Energy and Water Development fiscal year 2021 appropriations bill totals \$51.752 billion in discretionary budget authority, \$3.4 billion more than fiscal year 2020 and nearly \$8.6 billion more than the President’s request. The bill provides \$9.486 billion to improve the nation’s water infrastructure, which includes a record level of funding for the Army Corps of Engineers’ Civil Works program at \$7.795 billion, an increase of \$145 million over fiscal year 2020. Funding for the Corps will be used to build projects that reduce the risk of flood and storm damage, improve the efficiency of our ports, harbors, and inland waterways, and restores aquatic environments. The bill also includes \$1.691 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation, an increase of \$11 million over fiscal year 2020, to assist the western states in maintaining water supply for Tribes, rural communities, and parts of the country experiencing drought conditions. The bill provides \$7.836 billion for environmental cleanup of defense and non-defense radiological nuclear sites, an increase of \$181 million from fiscal year 2020.

#### **Key Points & Highlights** –

##### **Corps of Engineers**

The bill includes the highest-ever level of funding for the Army Corps’ Civil Works program at \$7.795 billion, \$145 million over fiscal year 2020, and \$696 million over fiscal year 2019. The Corps maintains our inland waterways and ports, manages a portion of our water supply, provides emission-free electricity from dams, restores aquatic ecosystems, looks after our recreational lands and waters, reduces flooding, and provides emergency response to natural disasters. The annual net economic benefit generated by the Corps’ Civil Works mission is estimated to be \$89 billion, which equates to a return of about \$12 for every dollar expended.

##### **Department of the Interior**

The bill provides \$1.691 billion for the Department of Interior, which is \$11 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$253 million more than fiscal year 2019. This amount includes \$21 million for the Central Utah Project and \$1.67 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation.

Funding for the Bureau of Reclamation includes \$206 million to fund Western drought programs under the WIIN Act. These programs fund long-term drought strategies including, water storage, water recycling and reuse, and desalination.

## **Department of Energy (DOE)**

The Energy and Water bill provides \$41.923 billion for DOE. This amount is \$3.3 billion more than the fiscal year 2020 level. These funds include:

### **Scientific Discovery**

The bill provides \$7.026 billion in new directed funding, \$26 million more than fiscal year 2020, for the Office of Science. The Office of Science is the largest federal sponsor of basic research in the physical sciences, and supports 22,000 researchers at 17 national laboratories and more than 300 universities. The bill continues to advance the highest priorities in materials research, high performance computing and biology to maintain U.S. scientific leadership.

### **Applied Energy Research and Development**

The bill provides \$5.914 billion for applied energy programs, \$109.6 million more than fiscal year 2020 in a flat allocation year. This funding supports research, development, demonstration and deployment of an extensive range of clean energy technologies, including for nuclear, fossil and renewable energy applications, that keep the United States at the forefront of energy innovation. This amount includes \$427 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) to develop next-generation, innovative energy technologies, rejecting the President's proposal to terminate the program.

### **Nonproliferation**

The bill provides \$2.260 billion, an increase of \$96 million more than fiscal year 2020. The bill funds efforts to secure radiological materials in the U.S. and abroad, to conduct research and development activities on nuclear proliferation and detonation detection, and installation of radiological detection equipment at border crossing and seaports around the world.

### **Nuclear Weapons**

The bill provides \$15.345 billion for nuclear weapons activities, an increase of \$2.8 billion over fiscal year 2020 levels. The bill fully funds life extension programs for the B61, W88, W76, and W80-4 warheads. The increase also includes funds to address National Nuclear Security Administration deferred maintenance backlog among its facilities.

### **Naval Reactors**

The bill fully funds Naval Reactors at \$1.684 billion, a \$36 million increase from fiscal year 2020. The agreement fully funds operations and infrastructure activities at facilities in New York and Pennsylvania.

### **Renewable Energy**

The agreement provides a historic level of funding of \$2.861 billion for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). This is a \$71 million increase over the fiscal year 2020 level. These increased funds will go towards Weatherization assistance

programs, vehicle technologies, water power, wind energy and advanced manufacturing assisting in the transition to a global clean energy economy.

**Independent Agencies**

The Energy and Water bill provides \$413.9 million, \$6.6 million more than fiscal year 2020, for eight independent agencies, including the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, five regional commissions, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

###



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Senate Financial Services and General Government bill provides \$24.617 billion, which is \$323 million (1 percent) more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level, \$173 million less than the House bill, and \$370 million more than the Senate bill. The bill rejects the Administration’s request to relocate several anti-drug programs, rejects the merger of the OPM and GSA, and rejects the move of the Secret Service into the Treasury Department.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

The bill provides funding for the Department of the Treasury, the Executive Office of the President, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and more than two dozen independent federal agencies.

#### **Treasury Department**

The bill provides \$1.549 billion for the Treasury Department, excluding the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This is \$26 million (2 percent) more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$248 million more than the budget request, and includes an increase of \$5 million (3 percent) for the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence and an increase of \$4.7 million (4 percent) for the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau.

#### **Internal Revenue Service (IRS)**

For the IRS the bill includes \$11.944 billion, which is: \$409 million (4 percent) more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$94 million less than the fiscal year 2021 budget request. This increase represents a step in the right direction; the IRS has been cut by \$1 billion since fiscal year 2010. This increase will allow the IRS to begin to improve its customer services activities and address the agency’s aging IT infrastructure. As important, additional resources will allow the IRS to make progress of reducing the tax gap, the difference between taxes owed and taxes actually collected, which is estimated at almost \$500 billion annually.

#### **Treasury Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund**

The bill provides \$270 million for the CDFI Fund to promote economic and community development in low-income communities, an increase of \$8 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$256 million more than the budget request. These funds support a



variety of projects in low-income communities from proposals that bring grocery stores to communities with no healthy food alternatives to investments in low-income housing.

### **Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)**

The bill includes a total of \$437 million, an \$11 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. The bill rejects the President's proposed move of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) and the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) programs from ONDCP to other agencies. The HIDTA Program is funded at \$290 million, an increase of \$5 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. The DFC program is funded at \$102 million, which is \$750,000 more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) grants are funded at \$5 million, which is \$1 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. These higher funding levels will provide more resources to stop drug traffickers and help prevent drug addiction among the nation's youth.

### **Federal Judiciary**

The bill includes \$7.72 billion for the Judiciary, a \$233 million increase or 3 percent more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. Defender Services is funded at \$1.316 billion, an increase of \$82 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level. The increased funding will help the Judiciary address new workload requirements as a result of recent Supreme Court decisions and help support a strong judicial system that protects the rights and liberties of its citizens. Court security is funded at \$664 million, a \$25 million increase more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level.

### **District of Columbia (DC)**

The bill recommends \$734 million in special federal payments for over a dozen distinct purposes relating to the District of Columbia, an increase of \$20 million from the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$19 million less than the budget request. In addition to the special federal payments, the bill approves the District's annual local operating budget. The bill includes \$22 million to the District of Columbia to offset security and planning costs related to the upcoming Inauguration.

### **Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)**

The bill provides \$304 million for the CFTC, \$20 million more than base funding for the fiscal year 2020 enacted level, and the same as the budget request. This funding will help the CFTC fulfill their responsibility to oversee futures, options and swaps markets.

### **Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)**

The bill funds CPSC at \$135 million, an increase of \$2.5 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and the same as the budget request. Within this amount, \$1.3 million is provided for pool safety grants. The CPSC is the independent regulatory agency responsible for protecting the public against unreasonable risks of injury from consumer products.

### **Election Assistance Commission (EAC)**

The bill provides \$17 million for the EAC, an increase of \$1.8 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$4 million more than the budget request. With this funding, EAC will

ensure that voting systems are tested to federal standards as well as provide information to support the voting process, and effective and efficient election administration.

### **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)**

The bill provides \$374 million for the FCC, an increase of \$35 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$31 million more than the budget request. The FCC would receive new dedicated funding of \$33 million for broadband mapping. Updated broadband maps will provide better data on how internet access service from telephone and cable TV companies is available across the country and help the FCC better target funds to improve access to broadband to underserved areas. The FCC addresses the opportunities and challenges associated with rapidly evolving communications technology and promotes broadband services in underserved areas, in particular, rural communities.

### **Federal Trade Commission (FTC)**

The bill provides \$351 million for the FTC, an increase of \$20 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$21 million more than the budget request. Funds appropriated for the FTC are partially offset by various fee receipts. FTC administers a variety of federal antitrust and consumer protection laws.

### **General Services Administration (GSA)**

The bill provides funding for the Federal Buildings Fund at a level of \$9.065 billion, \$209 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$1.323 billion less than the budget request. For construction, \$230 million is provided for two projects: partial funding for the Hartford, TN courthouse (\$135.5 million) and partial funding for the Chattanooga, TN courthouse (\$94.5 million). The Federal Buildings Fund provides for construction of outdated facilities, repair of federal facilities, lease payments, and building services. For Construction and Acquisition, partial funding is provided for two courthouse projects. For Repairs and Alterations, \$577 million is provided

For other GSA accounts, \$25 million is included for the Technology Modernization Fund, the same level as fiscal year 2020 enacted and \$125 million less than the request, and \$9.9 million is provided for Presidential Transition Expenses.

### **Office of Personnel Management (OPM)**

The bill rejects the merger of OPM and GSA and provides a total of \$362 million for OPM (including the Inspector General), an increase of \$32 million (10 percent) more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$33 million more than the budget request. Of that amount, \$330 million is provided for OPM salaries and expenses, and \$30 million is provided for the OPM IG. For OPM's IT modernization, at least \$9 million is provided. OPM manages federal human resources policy and oversees the merit civil service system.

### **Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)**

The bill includes \$1.926 billion for the SEC, \$101 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and the same as the budget request. In addition, \$18.65 million for costs associated with a replacement lease for the Commission's Washington headquarters, and \$12.677 million for costs associated with a replacement lease for the San Francisco Regional Office are included. Funds

appropriated for the SEC are fully offset with transaction fee receipts. This funding will help the SEC administer and enforce federal securities laws in order to protect investors, maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and promote capital formation.

**Small Business Administration (SBA)**

The bill provides \$922 million for the SBA, \$60 million less than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$90 million more than the budget request. \$15 million is included to fully support the 7(a) loan guarantee subsidy to ensure the program will continue to support small businesses and lenders. The bill also includes \$168 million for SBA disaster loans, which provide assistance to business owners, homeowners, and nonprofits that are rebuilding local communities in the wake of devastating natural disasters. The bill provides \$272 million for Entrepreneurial Development grants, which is \$11 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level, including \$136 million for Small Business Development Centers, \$23 million for Women’s Business Centers, \$35 million for Microloan technical assistance, and \$3 million for a new cybersecurity grant program that will provide small businesses with access to cybersecurity tools.

#####



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) bill provides \$69.859 billion in discretionary appropriations, of which \$17.142 billion is for major disaster response and recovery activities and \$840 million is designated as emergency spending. The net discretionary total is \$51.877 billion. Significant investments are made to protect the nation from all manner of threats, whether land, sea, air, or cyber. Funds are provided to improve preparedness at the federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial level; prevent and respond to terrorist attacks; and hire, train, and equip the DHS frontline workforce.

#### **Key Points and Highlights**

##### **DHS Headquarters Accounts**

The bill provides \$2.307 billion, \$91 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$95 million less than the President’s budget request for DHS Headquarters Accounts. Funds are included for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management, the Management Directorate, Office of the Inspector General, Office of Intelligence, and Operations Coordination.

##### **Customs and Border Protection (CBP)**

The bill provides \$15 billion for CBP, \$123 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$520 million less than the President’s budget request. The bill provides \$1.375 billion for the construction of a barrier system on the southwest border, \$590 million less than the President’s request and equal to the amount that would have been available under a continuing resolution. The bill does not fund the President’s request to hire additional Border Patrol Agents. Separately, the bill provides \$840 million in emergency funding for the Office of Field Operations (OFO) to offset the loss of fees due to the pandemic’s impact on international travel.

In recognition that cameras help provide an accurate representation of law enforcement encounters while allowing agents and officers to safely perform their duties, the bill provides \$14 million for new body worn cameras and \$20 million for video recording equipment for border patrol stations. The bill also includes \$95 million for border security technology, \$142 million for priority facility needs, \$52 million for two Multi-Role Enforcement Aircraft, \$28.4 million for lightweight helicopters, and \$5 million to help maintain tribal roads.

The bill continues many fiscal year 2020 oversight requirements and directives for CBP, including, prohibitions on building barriers in certain sensitive locations, reporting requirements on the use of queues at ports of entry for asylum seekers, deaths in CBP custody, reporting requirements on children in CBP custody after three days, and reporting on border searches of electronic devices. The bill requires new reporting on CBP's specialty units, which now includes CBP's tactical units, and requires quarterly reporting on the status of the Northern Border Strategy Implementation Plan.

### **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**

The bill provides \$7.97 billion, which is \$107 million less than fiscal year 2020 and \$1.96 billion less than the President's budget request. The bill funds 34,000 detention beds, which is 26,000 beds less than the President's budget request and 11,274 less than fiscal year 2020. Importantly, the bill does not mandate a floor for detention beds, meaning that ICE is not required to detain a minimum number of people. The bill also rejects the requests to hire more deportation officers and to use USCIS Immigration Examination Fees for ICE investigations. At the same time, the bill includes \$440 million for Alternatives to Detention (ATD), which is approximately \$86 million more than the President's budget request and \$120 million more than fiscal year 2020. In addition to case management services provided by ICE, the bill provides \$5 million for a new ATD case management pilot program administered by the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. The bill also provides \$3.16 million more than the President's request to address ICE's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) backlog.

The bill continues and provides a number of new oversight requirements and directives, including:

- Requiring ICE to report weekly on the number of individuals in ICE custody who are subject to authority pursuant to Title 42;
- Requiring ICE to consider enrollment referrals for the ATD program from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community partners;
- Prohibiting ICE from using any funds to detain or remove a sponsor, or potential sponsor, of an unaccompanied alien child (UAC) based on information shared with DHS by Health and Human Services – with certain exceptions;
- Prohibiting ICE from using restraints on pregnant women held in detention;
- Requiring ICE to publicly report any new agreements relating to section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA);
- Prohibiting ICE from destroying records related to the death of, potential sexual assault against, or abuse of individuals in its custody; and,
- Requiring ICE to sever contracts with detention facilities that fail two consecutive inspections.

### **Transportation Security Administration**

The bill provides \$7.958 billion in total discretionary spending, \$144 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$325 million more than the President's budget request. The total is partially offset by \$2.940 billion in air passenger security fees for a net discretionary total of \$5.018 billion. The bill fully restores important security measures proposed for elimination in the President's budget

request, including the Law Enforcement (LEO) Reimbursement program, the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response (VIPR) program, and exit lanes staffing. The bill also sustains funding for 1,097 canine teams. The bill provides a total of \$100 million, \$71 million more than the President's budget request, for computed tomography (CT) units and credential authentication technology (CAT) machines to improve security and efficiency of passenger screening at TSA checkpoints. Finally, \$30 million is included to reimburse airports for in-line baggage screening systems built after 9/11.

### **Coast Guard**

The bill provides \$12.845 billion, \$879 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$739 million more than the President's budget request. When mandatory funding is excluded, the discretionary total is \$10.975 billion. The bill includes increases for recruitment and retention; training; deferred maintenance; modernization of cutter connectivity, navigation, and domain awareness systems; cybersecurity; and child care. For major acquisitions, the bill includes \$2.264 billion. Investments include \$1.530 billion for vessels, \$312 million for aircraft, and \$363 million for construction of shore facilities.

### **United States Secret Service**

The bill provides \$2.438 billion, \$22 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$77 million more than the President's budget request. A total of \$1.023 billion is for protection of the First Family, other protectees, and associated facilities; \$727 million is provided for domestic and international field operations, including \$6 million as a grant to support missing and exploited children investigations. An increase of \$1.6 million, for a total of \$7 million, is for the Cyber Fraud Task Force.

### **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)**

The bill provides \$2.025 billion, \$9 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$267 million more than the President's budget request. A total of \$1.224 million is for cybersecurity activities, including protection of federal networks and information sharing with nonfederal partners; \$165 million for infrastructure security programs, including 23.9 million for bombing prevention; and \$157 million for emergency communications. The bill also includes \$45 million to provide state and local governments with election security support.

### **FEMA Federal Assistance**

The bill includes \$3.320 billion for grants and training to state, local, tribal, and territorial entities, \$131 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$837 million more than the President's budget request. Grant programs are funded as follows:

- \$610 million for State Homeland Security, of which \$90 million is for Operation Stonegarden, \$90 million is for nonprofit security, and \$15 million is for tribal security;
- \$705 million for the Urban Area Security Initiative, of which \$90 million is for nonprofit security;
- \$100 million for Public Transportation Security, of which \$10 million is for Amtrak and \$2 million is for Bus Security;
- \$100 million for Port Security;

- \$720 million for Assistance to Firefighter and SAFER;
- \$355 million for Emergency Management Performance;
- \$263 million for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis;
- \$130 million for Emergency Food and Shelter;
- \$12 million for Regional Catastrophic Preparedness;
- \$12 million for Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams;
- \$288 million for training, including \$49.3 million for the U.S. Fire Administration and \$21.5 million for the Emergency Management Institute;
- \$5 million (by transfer) to pilot case management for alternatives to detention; and
- \$20 million (by transfer) for Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention.

### **Disaster Relief**

The bill provides \$17.142 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund pursuant to the Budget Control Act disaster relief cap adjustment.

### **United States Citizenship and Immigration Services**

The bill includes \$128 million, \$5 million less than fiscal year 2020 and \$9 million more than the President’s budget request. A total of \$10 million above the request is included to support the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, which provides grants to community-based organizations that assist individuals preparing for citizenship. The bill continues a number of oversight directives, including reporting on USCIS International Operations and refugee admissions and a new requirement that USCIS provide global immigration backlog information and quarterly budget reporting.

### **Science and Technology**

The bill provides \$766 million, \$29 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$122 million more than the President’s budget request. The bill provides full funding for laboratory facilities, and \$44.5 million, \$4 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$22.8 million more than the President’s budget for the University Centers of Excellence Program.

### **Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction**

The bill includes \$402 million, \$30 million less than fiscal year 2020 and \$25 million more than the President’s budget request. Funds are for the coordination with federal, state, local, and territorial governments and the private sector to prevent WMD use against the Homeland and promote readiness against chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and health security threats.

###



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies bill provides a total discretionary funding level of \$36.107 billion, which is \$118 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$4.45 billion more than the President’s request. The bill includes new investments in Federal land management, tribal and cultural programs and implements the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), legislation passed earlier this year that authorizes the Committees on Appropriations to allocate mandatory funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and deferred maintenance programs at Federal land management agencies. The bill allocates the full \$1.9 billion provided by GAOA for deferred maintenance programs at the National Park Service and other agencies and allocates more than \$900 million in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the highest level of funding for LWCF in two decades. The bill also provides \$2.35 billion in a wildfire budget cap adjustment to respond to the increasing incidence of catastrophic wildfires across the country.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

##### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

The bill provides \$9.23 billion for the EPA, \$179 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$2.53 billion more than the President’s budget request. The bill rejects the Administration’s proposals to cut research by 38 percent and cut grants by 33 percent as well as to eliminate climate change programs and several other important funding items, such as the U.S. contribution to the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund and a number of regional restoration programs. The bill also provides an increase of \$2.3 million, or 24 percent, to Environmental Justice programs; a \$13.6 million, or 3 percent, increase to environmental enforcement; and an \$11.7 million, or 3 percent, increase to Clean Air programs.

The bill continues steady funding for the State Revolving Funds, including \$1.13 billion for Drinking Water and \$1.64 billion for Clean Water. The Water Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan program is increased to \$65 million, which will support lending of more than \$12.5 billion. The bill provides \$26.5 million for lead contamination testing at schools and child care centers, \$26.5 million for lead reduction projects in rural areas, and \$21.5 million for water projects in communities working to improve Safe Drinking Water Act compliance. The bill also provides substantial increases to several other infrastructure programs, including \$40 million to address sewer overflow control requirements, \$18 million to provide technical assistance for wastewater treatment operators, \$40 million for U.S.-Mexico Border wastewater infrastructure, \$91 million for Diesel Emissions Reduction, and \$91 million for Brownfields projects.



### **National Park Service (NPS)**

The bill provides \$3.12 billion for NPS, which includes a four percent increase in funding for park operations, for a total of \$2.69 billion. Historic Preservation Fund grants are funded at \$144.3 million, which is nearly \$26 million more than fiscal year 2020. The bill includes increases to the fiscal year 2020 level of \$3 million for State Historic Preservation Offices, for a total of \$55.7 million; \$1.3 million more for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, for a total of \$15 million; \$7.5 million for the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program, equal to the enacted level; \$2.4 million more for Civil Rights grants for a total of \$21.1 million; \$10 million for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, equal to the enacted level; \$9 million more for the Save America's Treasures program, for a total of \$25 million; and \$10 million for a new competitive grant program to support preservation of publicly owned historical sites commemorating the founding of the United States in preparation of the upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Nation. Funding for National Heritage Areas is \$23.9 million, which includes an increase of \$1.9 million to the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)**

The bill fully funds payments to counties through the PILT program, which are estimated at a total of \$515 million.

### **Wildland Firefighting**

The bill provides \$3.744 billion for fire suppression, of which \$2.35 billion is provided in the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund through the budget cap adjustment authorized in the Fiscal Year 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act. This is the second year this additional funding is available for use when a fire season exceeds projections and all regular appropriated funds are spent. Before this wildfire suppression reserve fund, the Forest Service and Interior were forced to borrow from their non-fire accounts when this occurred, putting a hold on other activities and straining resources. The agencies spent \$2.275 billion fighting wildfires in fiscal year 2020, one of the highest years on record.

### **Tribal Programs**

The bill provides \$6.236 billion for the Indian Health Service (IHS), an amount that is \$189 million more than fiscal year 2020. Tribal programs provided through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) are collectively funded at \$3.397 billion, an increase of \$174 million over the fiscal year 2020 level. The bill includes new indefinite appropriations for IHS and BIA to fully fund requirements for tribal leases as authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and fully funds contract support cost requirements.

### **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

In only the second instance since its inception in 1965, LWCF funding in fiscal year 2021 will surpass \$900 million. This bill sets the annual allocations pursuant to the Great American Outdoors Act of 2020, for the various authorized programs, including \$405 million to facilitate federal acquisitions at national parks, national wildlife refuges, national forests, national monuments, and on other public lands, and \$495 million for financial assistance to states to increase and improve outdoor recreation, maintain working forests, preserve battlefields, and protect critical habitat. This is a marked contrast from the President's budget, which proposed \$46 million in total, eliminating state conservation grants and virtually all federal acquisitions. LWCF is critical for improving recreational access to our federal lands, protecting iconic landscapes, delivering grants to states and local governments to create and

protect urban parks and open spaces, and providing farmers and ranchers with easements to allow them to continue to steward their private lands in the face of development pressures.

**Cultural Programs**

The bill provides \$167.5 million each to the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities, an increase of \$5.25 million more for each endowment than the fiscal year 2020 enacted levels, rejecting the Administration’s proposal to terminate these programs and equaling the highest funding levels in the past decade for state arts and humanities support. The bill also provides \$1.033 billion for the Smithsonian Institution, \$176.4 million for the National Gallery of Art, and \$40.4 million for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

###



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill provides \$5.3 billion in discretionary budget authority to conduct oversight, accountability and transparency of federal spending and programs; improve copyright protections; and support the security, safety, and daily operations of the United States Congress and the Library of Congress. Total funding is \$261 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level, and \$303 million less than the fiscal year 2021 budget request. The agreement includes an additional \$10 million in emergency funding for the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct oversight of funding provided to federal departments and agencies for coronavirus response and recovery efforts.

The bill provides critical funding for the operations of the GAO, the United States Capitol Police (USCP), the Library of Congress (LOC), the Copyright Office, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the Architect of the Capitol (AOC), and the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies of 2021.

**Key Points & Highlights** – The bill makes the following key investments:

#### **Security**

The U.S. Capitol Police ensures the safety, protection and security of the Capitol complex and those who travel to and work within it, including staff, visitors, and Members of Congress. The agreement provides \$515.5 million for the USCP, which is \$51.2 million more than fiscal year 2020. This will cover the necessary increase in retirement benefits and to provide security and overtime costs for the 2021 Presidential Inauguration. The bill continues \$2 million to provide off-campus security for Members in response to increased threats. The agreement also includes commonsense reforms to make the Capitol Police more transparent and accountable and to improve police-community relations, training and workforce diversity.

#### **Campus Safety**

The agreement fully funds the infrastructure build-out and implementation of a new Joint Audible Warning System (JAWS) to replace the now-obsolete legacy annunciator system installed after the 9/11 and anthrax attacks. This is a joint project between the Senate and House Sergeants at Arms, the USCP, and the Architect of the Capitol, which will share the cost of building out this new secure emergency communications system. The agreement also supports the continued Capitol campus deployment of “Stop the Bleed” training, which provides Capitol

Police and congressional staff with basic skills and techniques to immediately control external bleeding until medical help arrives in order to improve survival rates of mass shootings and other life-threatening events.

### **Oversight and Accountability**

As Congress' independent and nonpartisan "watchdog," the GAO audits and evaluates federal agencies to improve government efficiency and effectiveness and root out waste, fraud and abuse. The agreement provides \$661 million for GAO, \$31 million more than fiscal year 2020 enacted. This will allow GAO to maintain current staff, and builds on a multi-year effort to restore GAO staffing to its optimal level.

### **Science and Technology**

The bill provides additional resources for both GAO and the Congressional Research Service (CRS) to hire additional staff for their specialized teams working to fill science and technology policy gaps in Congress. This is in response to increasing calls by Members of Congress and legislative staff to have timely, expert information in order to adequately address and legislate on current and emerging high-tech issues confronting them. CRS, which provides expert, non-partisan policy and legal analysis to Congress, will continue building its capacity to provide research on legislative issues related to science and technology to better meet the growing need of Congress for policy analysis of issues related to rapidly changing technologies. GAO will continue providing Congress with technology assessments, technical assistance, and reports in the areas of oversight of federal technology and science programs through the work of its Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics (STAA) team.

### **Library of Congress**

The Library of Congress (LOC) is an internationally renowned institution that preserves and shares priceless collections, including primary sources and historical and cultural records. The agreement provides \$523.6 million for the LOC, which is \$19.5 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. The agreement includes \$10 million to continue support for the Visitor Experience, a public-private partnership to bring more of the Library's collections and historic artifacts out from the vaults and into exhibition spaces for public display, enabling better public access to the Reading Room, and enhancing basic services to better accommodate visitors. This brings the total federal investment provided thus far for the project to \$30 million.

### **Copyright Protections & Modernization**

The Copyright Office protects the ownership of creative content, supporting both small and large businesses in the arts, information, entertainment, and technology sectors. The agreement provides \$93.4 million, which is \$1.7 million more than in fiscal year 2020. This includes \$48.6 million in direct appropriations. Funding will allow the Copyright Office to continue year three of a five-year, long-awaited effort to create electronic systems for copyright registration and recordation, and also supports digitization of historic copyright records dating to 1870.

### **Safety and Historic Preservation**

The AOC maintains all of the buildings within the Capitol complex to ensure the safety of constituents, visitors, staff, and Members of Congress. The agreement provides \$675 million, which is \$13 million less than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. This funding will help alleviate

part of the deferred maintenance backlog identified by the AOC on both the Capitol campus and at the Library of Congress, including security infrastructure; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades; improvements to building egress; and stone and metal preservation. The bill fully funds \$41.5 million requested for the construction of additional permanent storage space at the Library's Fort Meade campus to alleviate the shortage of collection capacity on Capitol Hill. The project will allow for the long-term preservation of collections by constructing a climate controlled, secure, non-leased storage facility. The agreement provides strong funding for the AOC operating budget, and funds the AOC's highest priority life-safety and critical infrastructure needs.

### **Budget Transparency**

The CBO provides Congress with objective, timely, and non-partisan analyses to inform budgetary and economic deliberations essential to the legislative process. The agreement includes \$57.3 million for CBO, \$2.3 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level, to support CBO's current and planned efforts for improving and promoting transparency and responsiveness, and maintaining the agency's professional independence.

### **Senate Intern Pay**

The agreement provides a total of \$6 million for Senate intern pay, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and provides an average of \$60,000 to each Senator's office for the sole purpose of compensating interns. In its third year, this program will continue to ensure that internships in the Senate are accessible to the broadest pool of qualified, interested candidates, including those who cannot independently afford to work without pay. Financially compensated internships allow more students to explore careers in public service, while allowing them to gain professional experience and serve their country.

### **Coronavirus Response**

The agreement provides \$2 million for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies of 2021 to ensure safe, healthy and inclusive Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies. This responds to unanticipated needs due to the COVID pandemic, which will result in an unprecedented Presidential Inauguration. Funding will cover the costs of testing for all attendees, guests and support staff in the Capitol for the ceremonies; personal protective equipment, such as masks and hand sanitizer; and social distancing furtherance. It also provides \$5 million for the Office of the Attending Physician for the response to COVID-19, including testing and vaccine handling, in the Capitol Complex. Finally, the agreement provides \$10 million in emergency funding for the GAO to conduct oversight of funding provided to federal departments and agencies for coronavirus response and recovery efforts.

#####



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**

December 21, 2020

**Contact:**

Jay Tilton:

(202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

#### FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) Appropriations bill provides a total of \$198.1 billion in discretionary budget authority – \$4.6 billion (+2.36 percent) more than the fiscal year 2020 level and \$20.7 billion more than the President’s budget request. The total funding includes \$174.073 billion in discretionary funding as well as \$1.563 billion in emergency funding and \$1.881 billion in cap adjustment funding to prevent waste, fraud, abuse and improper payments in the Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security programs. In addition, the bill includes \$21 billion in mandatory offsets to help cover the costs of programs, \$11.7 billion more than the fiscal year 2020 level.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

##### **Medical Research**

The agreement provides \$42.9 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), including \$404 million from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, representing an increase of \$1.25 billion over the fiscal year 2020 level and \$4.12 billion more than the President’s request. It provides an additional \$300 million for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias research, \$3.12 billion in all to find treatments and cures for these devastating conditions. It also includes increases of \$60 million for the next phase of the BRAIN Initiative and an increase of no less than 1.5 percent for every NIH Institute and Center to support investments that advance science and speed the development of new therapies, diagnostics and preventive measures, improving the health of all Americans. As in fiscal year 2020, the bill provides \$225 million from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Non-recurring Expenses Fund to support improvements to NIH’s Bethesda campus. Finally, the agreement directs NIH to require its grantees to notify it when key personnel are removed for concerns of harassment, an essential step toward addressing the findings of the 2018 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report on sexual harassment in academia.

##### **Support for Public Schools**

The bill includes an increased investment of approximately \$500 million in the nation’s public schools. This includes \$16.5 billion, an increase of \$227 million more than the fiscal year 2020 level, for the Title I-A grants to local educational agencies program. Title I-A grants assist half

of the nation's schools in their efforts to raise student achievement. These programs provide extra academic support to help students, particularly those in high-poverty schools, meet college and career-ready state academic standards, including through preschool programs for eligible children. The agreement includes an increase of \$181 million—\$13.8 billion in all—for special education state grant programs. The bill also includes increases for a range of other important programs, including \$52 million more for Career and Technical Education state grants, \$10 million more for English Language Acquisition State grants, and \$5 million more for Education for Homeless Children and Youth.

### **College Affordability**

The bill increases the Pell Grant maximum award by \$150, to \$6,495, when combined with mandatory funding, for roughly 7 million college students from low- and middle-income families. This increase builds on previous successes for students, starting with the reinstatement of Year Round Pell Grant authority in fiscal year 2017, and a total increase of \$425 in the maximum award since fiscal year 2018. The President failed to request an increase in the maximum Pell Grant award. The bill also includes roughly \$60 million in additional investments in Federal Work Study, grant aid and other preparation and higher education support programs, many of which the President proposed to cut.

### **Workforce Development and Training**

The bill includes \$9.4 billion for DOL's Employment and Training Administration, which is a \$100 million more than fiscal year enacted. The bill includes \$2.85 billion, an increase of \$26 million for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Training formula grants to states to support the national system of education, skills training, and employment services for workers. The bill provides \$185 million for the Registered Apprenticeship Program, an increase of \$10 million, and rejects the President's proposal to create a lower quality, non-registered apprenticeship program that would open the door to unqualified employers to develop low wage, lower quality programs. The bill includes \$45 million for the Strengthening Community College Training Grants program, an increase of \$5 million, to better align workforce development efforts in in-demand industries with postsecondary education. The bill also provides approximately \$900 million in emergency contingency funding to help states address spikes in unemployment claims due to the ongoing pandemic.

### **Worker Protection Programs**

The bill makes important investments in agencies that help workers receive the pay they earn, ensures that employers provide safe and healthful working conditions, and strengthen trading partner commitments to comply with labor rights under free trade agreements and preference programs. The agreement builds on last year's increases in key worker protections agencies, which were the largest real increases seen in a decade. The Wage and Hour division receives \$246 million, an increase of \$4 million more than fiscal year 2020, and \$17 million or 7.4 percent more than fiscal year 2019. This will strengthen efforts to recover wages for workers who do not receive the pay they are entitled to receive for their work. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) receives \$592 million, an increase of \$10 million more than fiscal year 2020 and \$34 million or 6 percent more than fiscal year 2019, to ensure that employers are following the law and providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. Finally, the agreement includes \$96 million for the International Labor Affairs

Bureau to work with trading partner countries on their commitments to labor requirements under free trade agreements and trade preference programs, work that would have been undermined by the President's proposed \$77 million cut to the agency's budget.

### **Ending the HIV Epidemic**

The bill includes \$443 million for the second year of the domestic HIV/AIDS elimination initiative, an increase of \$132 million. This includes \$207 million within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Community Health Centers and Ryan White programs to increase investments in high need communities and provide PrEP to protect people at highest risk for getting HIV. It also includes \$175 million within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Domestic HIV/AIDS Prevention and Research programs to develop and deploy innovative data management solutions, increase access to PrEP, and better detect and respond to HIV clusters. Within NIH, it includes \$61 million, an increase of \$10 million for the Centers for AIDS Research.

### **Maternal Mortality**

The bill includes \$62 million, an increase of \$9 million, in HRSA and at the CDC for the initiative aimed at reducing the nation's alarmingly high maternal mortality rate. This will fund stronger data systems to improve surveillance and help expand programs that are proven to be successful at reducing maternal mortality.

### **Infectious Diseases**

The bill includes \$596.7 million, a \$35 million increase, for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to support advanced efforts to develop vaccines, diagnostics, drugs, and therapeutics to minimize serious threats of infectious diseases. The bill also includes \$770 million, a \$35 million increase, for Project Bioshield to speed the research, development, acquisition, and availability of medical countermeasures to improve preparedness for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats. Finally, the bill also includes \$287 million, a \$27 million increase, for pandemic influenza preparedness to improve the effectiveness, production, and supply of influenza vaccines and therapeutics to combat seasonal epidemics and pandemics.

### **Opioids & Substance Use**

The bill provides \$3.95 billion in HHS to address opioid abuse, an increase of \$84.6 million over fiscal year 2020 levels. This funding includes: \$1.5 billion to states to address the opioid epidemic; \$91 million for medication assisted treatment; \$476 million for opioid overdose surveillance and prevention at CDC; \$80 million to address the needs of children affected by the opioid crisis; and \$100 million to help affected rural communities.

### **Mental Health**

The bill includes increased funding to improve mental health access, including \$250 million for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, a \$50 million increase; \$757.6 million for the mental health block grant, a \$35 million increase for states to create crisis care programs; \$8 million for infant and early childhood mental health; and \$107 million—a \$5 million increase—for Project AWARE, which will expand efforts to identify and help children and youth in need of mental health care.



### **Immunization and Respiratory Diseases**

The bill provides \$201 million, a \$25 million increase, for influenza planning and response to support CDC's efforts to expand vaccine effectiveness monitoring and evaluation, enhance virus characterization, increase genomic testing of influenza viruses, and increase influenza vaccine use by removing barriers to vaccination and promoting vaccination coverage. Improvements in the development and delivery of seasonal influenza vaccine are critical to the nation's ability to prepare for and respond to a potential influenza pandemic.

### **Public Health Emergency Preparedness**

The bill includes \$695 million, a \$20 million increase, to enhance support to State and local health departments in developing and maintaining capable, flexible, and adaptable public health systems to rapidly respond in an emergency.

### **Global Health Security**

The bill provides \$193 million, a \$20 million increase, for Global Health Security to support CDC's efforts to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats and outbreaks around the globe. This funding will allow CDC to continue to build a long-term, sustainable foundation that maintains the agency's capacity to address contagious disease threats where they occur.

### **Head Start**

The bill provides \$10.75 billion, \$135 million more than fiscal year 2020, for Head Start. The bill continues to strongly support Early Head Start Expansion and Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships in order to best meet the needs of local communities to provide continuous high-quality services to low-income infants and toddlers. The bill also includes \$10 million for quality improvement for migrant and seasonal Head Start programs.

### **Child Care**

The bill provides \$5.91 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, \$85 million more than fiscal year 2020. The increase will help states continue to improve the quality and affordability of local child care programs so parents can go to work knowing their children are safe and learning the skills they need to succeed later in life.

### **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**

The bill provides \$3.75 billion for LIHEAP, a \$10 million increase over fiscal year 2020.

### **Expanding Support for Older Americans and Individuals with Disabilities**

The bill includes \$2.3 billion for the Administration for Community Living programs, an increase of \$35 million, to support nutrition and family caregiver programs, home and community based supportive services, and promote strategies that enable older adults and people with disabilities to live in their communities.

### **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**

The bill rejects the President's proposal to eliminate CNCS, and instead includes \$1.1 billion, a programmatic increase of \$40 million, to expand investments that help thousands of nonprofits, schools, faith-based groups, and local governments meet pressing local needs through service and social innovation.

**Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB):** The bill rejects the President’s proposal to phase-out federal support for CPB and end the public-private partnership that supports the public media system of roughly 1,500 locally-owned public radio and television stations throughout the nation. This public media system provides free educational and media programming to all Americans, particularly essential support for smaller stations serving rural areas. The bill instead provides \$475 million, an increase of \$10 million more than fiscal year 2020, for regular operations, and \$20 million to continue investments in public broadcasting’s interconnection system and infrastructure, the second increase in a row after a decade of no increase in federal support of the mission of CPB.

**Emergency Water Utility Assistance:** The agreement includes \$638 million in emergency spending to assist low-income households with water and wastewater bills. This assistance is needed now more than ever as many families struggle to make ends meet during this global health crisis. The funding will go to states and Indian Tribes to assist those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for drinking water and wastewater services. The provision will also help owners and operators of public water systems or treatment works to reduce water utility rates charged to low-income households. As utility shut-off moratoriums are lifted across the country, this provision will help ensure that those most in need will continue to have access to water service.

#####



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The Military Construction, Department of Veterans Affairs and Related agencies fiscal year 2021 appropriations bill provides \$104.4 billion in discretionary dollars for Veterans programs and agencies, over \$12.5 billion more than fiscal year 2020 enacted levels. It further provides \$8.4 billion for military construction programs, including for overseas contingency operations, by the Military Services. This amount is \$250 million more than the President’s budget request for Military Construction. For the related agencies, the bill provides \$278 million, which is \$23 million more than the President’s budget request.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

Key areas of military construction funding provided in this bill:

##### **Child Development Centers**

The bill includes more than \$200 million for the construction of four unfunded child development centers at installations around the country. Increasing childcare capacity and updating deteriorating facilities is critical to improving quality of life for service members and their families.

##### **Privatized Housing Oversight**

The bill includes an increase of \$60 million more than the fiscal year 2021 budget request for the military services to increase staffing to improve responsiveness and oversight for privatized housing programs. Over the past two years Congress has provided more than \$200 million more than the President’s request to ensure military families in privatized housing have access to the resources needed. This will allow the services to hire more personnel to manage the privatized housing programs on military bases and track current and future issues that may affect military families.

##### **Military Installation Resilience**

Recognizing the tremendous cost in taxpayer dollars, time, and Department of Defense operational capabilities, of increasingly intense natural disasters, the bill provides \$15 million more than the President’s budget request to allow the services to plan and design modern facilities that are more resilient and capable of withstanding extreme weather. Military

infrastructure is the foundation of our country's ability to keep our country safe and, as a January 2019 DoD report noted, installations are increasingly more vulnerable due to climate change. This funding will be used to update mapping and modeling tools to improve project siting and design and fund engineering plans for high priority construction projects that improve resilience.

### **PFOS/PFOA**

Within the Base Closure Account, the bill includes \$100 million more than the President's request to assist the services in addressing PFOS/PFOA hazards associated with perfluorinated chemicals on installations that have been previously closed or realigned. This will provide additional funds for the services to continue sampling and monitoring, treatment, remediation, and other mitigation efforts currently underway.

Key areas of funding for veterans and their families:

### **VA Healthcare**

The bill provides \$2.7 billion more than fiscal year 2020 enacted levels for healthcare delivered at VA facilities across the country. The bill fully funds the \$16 billion request for MISSION Act community care, which is \$3.4 billion more than fiscal year 2020 levels, and the bill provides \$16.3 billion advanced for MISSION Act in fiscal year 2022. The bill includes \$1.2 billion for continued implementation of the Caregivers Program, \$485 million over fiscal year 2020 enacted levels. It further provides increases over the President's budget request to programs serving homeless veterans, mental health, and rural health programs.

### **VA Medical Research**

The bill rejects the President's proposed cuts to VA Medical & Prosthetic research, and provides \$815 million in funding for this purpose. This is \$28 million more than the President's budget request, and \$15 million more than fiscal year 2020 funding levels. This program provides critical research funding for VA, including into the impacts of burn pits, developing novel approaches to restoring veterans with amputation, central nervous system injuries, loss of sight or hearing, and other physical and cognitive impairments so that veterans can live full and productive lives.

### **Women Veterans Healthcare**

The bill provides \$660 million in dedicated funding for women veterans healthcare in VA. This is \$76 million more than fiscal year 2020, and \$38 million more than President's budget request. Because women are the fastest growing population of veterans, these funding levels allow for VA to hire additional women primary care providers and psychologists for women veteran clinics, employees for women-specific services, and women peer support specialists.

### **VA Electronic Health Record**

The bill fully funds the requirements for VA to continue to roll out the electronic health record at nine additional VA medical facilities across the country. The bill includes \$2.6 billion to modernize the Department's antiquated health records and allow for interoperability, which is \$1.18 billion over fiscal year 2020 enacted funding levels.

## **VA COVID Response**

The bill provides VA with transfer authorities to allow the Department to mitigate COVID backlogs in disability claims and appeals, as well as memorial ceremonies and the processing of education benefits. The bill includes expanded authority to provide funding to states for COVID-related construction at State Veterans Homes as well as \$100 million in additional funding for State Veterans Homes to address COVID among their residents.

Key areas of funding for small but critical related agencies:

- This bill reflects Congress' unwavering support for Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), and provides \$9 million more than the President's budget request, for a total of \$84.1 million, to ensure that ANC is adequately staffed and has the resources needed to continue to provide its critical mission to our service members and their families.
- Congress provided \$5 million more than the President's request for the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH), to allow AFRH to address several of its most pressing infrastructure projects, such as water and electrical infrastructure at facilities that house and support veterans and their spouses on its Washington campus.

#####



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**

December 21, 2020

**Contact:**

Jay Tilton:

(202) 224-2667

Leahy Press Office:

(202) 224-3693

### SUMMARY

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

The fiscal year 2021 Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill provides \$55.5 billion to project U.S. leadership and protect a wide array of U.S. security, humanitarian, and economic interests around the world. Of this amount, \$8 billion is for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) to support operations and programs in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other countries in conflict, as well as countries in political transition (including in Europe and Eurasia, the Middle East, and Africa) and to respond to humanitarian crises (including in Syria, South Sudan, Burma, Venezuela, and Yemen). The bill totals \$820 million above the fiscal year 2020 level.

Consistent with prior years, the bill reflects a strong bipartisan view that diplomacy and development are indispensable components of U.S. foreign policy and necessary to effectively project U.S. leadership in a manner that is consistent with U.S. values and safeguards U.S. national interests. In doing so, the bill, as in past years, rejects the arbitrary and reckless cuts proposed by the Trump White House, and provides continuity and predictability for Federal agencies, including to support U.S. foreign and civil service personnel and the programs they administer. Millions of Americans travel, work, study, and serve abroad every year, and they rely on the many essential services provided by U.S. embassies and consulates overseas.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

The State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) work around the world to strengthen alliances, combat terrorism, reduce conflict, respond to natural and man-made disasters, combat infectious diseases, strengthen democratic governance, and expand economic opportunities for local populations to reduce poverty and build stronger U.S. partners and markets for U.S. exports. Democrats and Republicans agree that the activities undertaken by the State Department and USAID and the other entities funded in the bill directly enhance U.S. security.

### **State Department and USAID Hiring**

The bill includes funds to continue to restore cuts made by the Trump Administration to State Department and USAID hiring. Now more than ever we need to ensure that our foreign and civil service personnel have the resources to do their jobs.

### **Federal Agency Redesign and Reorganization**

The bill conditions any steps to redesign or reorganize Federal agencies on detailed implementation plans to ensure that such efforts do not undermine effectiveness.

### **Consular Services**

The bill includes an additional \$300 million in emergency appropriations to partially offset the looming shortfall of several hundred million dollars that would otherwise result in resource-driven layoffs of consular personnel in the coming months due to a drastic decrease in passport and visa fee revenue. The bill also includes three authorities that enable the State Department to use certain other fees it collects to support consular services in fiscal year 2021. Consular personnel perform a wide range of essential services for Americans living and traveling overseas, in addition to processing passport and visa applications.

### **International Organizations**

The bill rejects the Trump Administration's antipathy toward multilateralism by providing the funds necessary to pay the full U.S. share of assessments to international organizations, including for the United Nations (UN), and includes \$387.5 million for voluntary contributions to various UN agencies and international organizations for which the White House proposed \$0. However, for the fifth straight fiscal year the bill does not fix the statutory cap on U.S. contributions for UN peacekeeping, which the Trump Administration pledged not to exceed even if provided with the necessary authority, resulting in arrears estimated in excess of \$1 billion through fiscal year 2021. Such arrears undermine U.S. credibility and influence, and weaken UN peacekeeping missions.

### **Oversight, Reforms, and Reducing Government Waste**

The bill contains many of the same conditions on assistance for countries, contributions to international organizations, and other operations and programs as the fiscal year 2020 bill.

The bill also continues certain conditions and reforms included in prior years, and includes new reforms, to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of U.S. foreign assistance, and requirements to reduce waste and corruption and improve oversight, including:

#### **Transparency and Whistleblower Policies**

Imposes conditions on 5 percent of U.S. funding for certain international organizations based on transparency and effective whistleblower policies, as well as each organization's efforts to effectively implement policies limiting first class and business class travel.

#### **Taxation of U.S. Foreign Assistance**

Continues an existing provision prohibiting the taxation of U.S. foreign assistance.

### **Effectiveness of Humanitarian Aid**

Continues and strengthens a provision to enhance the effectiveness of humanitarian aid through the regular and systematic collection of feedback data directly from beneficiaries.

### **International Financial Institutions**

Continues provisions designed to improve the quality, transparency, and oversight of lending by the World Bank and other international financial institutions.

### **Congressional Oversight**

Includes provisions that ensure congressional oversight of decisions to reorganize, reduce, or terminate offices within foreign assistance agencies or overseas missions.

### **Diverted or Destroyed Assistance**

Continues a provision requiring notification when U.S. assistance is diverted or destroyed.

### **Professional Security Forces**

Maintains human rights conditions on a portion of assistance for several countries to help build professional security forces that respect the rights of civilians, and requires the Secretary of State to submit reports on actions by certain security forces to help improve congressional oversight.

### **Ex-post Evaluations**

Includes a new provision and \$10 million to expand the use of ex-post evaluations to assess the sustainability of U.S. foreign assistance programs and improve program design.

### **USAID Accountability**

Includes a new directive to enhance USAID accountability mechanisms for individuals and communities who may be adversely affected by USAID-funded projects.

### **International Military Education and Training Programs**

Continues an existing provision requiring enhanced monitoring and evaluation of International Military Education and Training programs.

### **USAID's Local Works Program**

Includes \$55 million (\$5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level) for USAID's Local Works program that provides small grants to local entities that have not traditionally received USAID funding, to encourage locally-led development.

## **COVID Response and Bolstering Global Health**

In previous emergency supplemental appropriations bills the Congress provided \$2.4 billion to respond to the COVID pandemic overseas. That fell far short of what is needed for countries whose rudimentary public health systems are overwhelmed, to pay for the procurement, transport and distribution of vaccines, and to help mitigate the extreme economic disruption and hardship caused by the virus. This bill includes an additional \$4 billion for The GAVI Alliance for COVID vaccine procurement and delivery. This is a significant infusion of urgently needed resources to enable GAVI to ratchet up its response and save lives. However, it is still only a



fraction of what is required for the global pandemic response.

Other infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, Ebola, Zika, tuberculosis, and malaria are a constant reminder of the threats to millions of Americans who travel, live, study, and serve overseas, as well as here at home. Hundreds of millions of people in the poorest countries, especially children, die or suffer from debilitating diseases that can be prevented or treated. The bill maintains or increases funding for these life-saving global health programs.

### **HIV/AIDS**

A total of \$6.26 billion to combat HIV/AIDS, including \$4.37 billion for Department of State programs in support of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR); \$1.56 billion for a U.S. contribution to the Global Fund; and \$330 million for USAID's HIV/AIDS programs, each of which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Polio**

The bill provides \$65 million, which is \$4 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, for polio prevention programs to build local capacity to identify and monitor outbreaks and plan for and implement immunization programs.

### **Family Planning/Reproductive Health**

The bill provides \$575 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to support access to voluntary family planning services and other related health care. (See "Key Deficiencies" below for information on UNFPA and the Mexico City Policy). Democrats and some Republicans favored increases for voluntary family planning/reproductive health programs, which save the lives of women and children and reduce the incidence of abortion, but were blocked by the White House and the Republican leadership.

### **Maternal and Child Health**

The bill provides \$855 million, which is \$4 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, for maternal and child health programs. Within these funds, \$290 million is included for The GAVI Alliance. These funds save lives in countries where easily preventable diseases, like measles, continue to kill hundreds of thousands of children each year.

### **Nutrition**

The bill provides \$150 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, for nutrition programs. Malnutrition contributes to almost half of all the deaths of children under the age of five.

### **Malaria**

The bill provides \$770 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to combat malaria.

### **Tuberculosis**

The bill provides \$319 million, which is \$9 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, to combat tuberculosis. Multi-drug resistance presents increasing threats in countries where TB is prevalent.

### **Global Health Security**

The bill provides \$190 million, which is \$90 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, to strengthen the ability of target countries to prevent, detect, and respond to future zoonotic viruses and other infectious diseases, and to identify unknown zoonotic viruses.

### **Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)**

The bill provides \$102.5 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, for NTDs. More than one billion people worldwide suffer from one or more debilitating tropical diseases like River Blindness, which disproportionately afflict poor and rural populations.

## **Combating Poverty and Promoting Development and Democracy**

The bill provides a total of \$7.8 billion for economic growth and development programs, including for agriculture and food security, basic and higher education, democracy and governance, environmental protection, water and sanitation, microenterprise, and women's leadership programs.

### **Education Programs**

The bill provides \$950 million for education programs, which is \$75 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, for basic education programs to improve the quality of and access to education; and \$235 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, for higher education programs, including \$35 million for partnerships between U.S. and foreign higher education institutions. An additional \$50 million is provided to assist higher education institutions in countries in the Middle East and Asia impacted by economic crises.

### **Water and Sanitation Programs**

The bill provides \$450 million water and sanitation programs, including \$225 million for programs in sub-Saharan Africa, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation, improve water resource management, and mitigate conflicts that arise from water scarcity.

### **Microenterprise Programs**

The bill provides \$265 million for microenterprise programs, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to combat poverty by helping micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (including smallholder farmers) access financing and market opportunities and increase incomes.

### **Democracy Programs**

The bill provides \$2.4 billion for democracy programs, which is \$17 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, for democracy programs to strengthen governance; freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion; human rights; independence of the media; and the rule of law. These programs improve citizen access to information and political participation, and provide alternatives to radicalization.

### **Environment and Energy Programs**

The bill provides \$320 million to protect biodiversity, which is \$5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, for USAID conservation programs that protect forests, marine ecosystems, and

endangered species; \$75 million to address ocean plastic pollution, which is \$63 million above the fiscal year 2020 level; \$356 million for renewable energy and adaptation programs; \$139.6 million for the Global Environment Facility; and \$32 million for the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund.

### **Gender-Based Violence and Women's Leadership**

The bill provides \$165 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to prevent and respond to gender-based violence; and \$50 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, for programs to increase leadership opportunities for women in the public and private sectors.

### **Protection of Civil Society Activists and Journalists**

The bill provides \$25 million, which is \$5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, to protect and support civil society activists, including human rights and environmental defenders and journalists who are threatened, harassed, or attacked in foreign countries. The bill also requires an updated strategy to improve U.S. support for such activists.

### **International Freedom of Expression**

The bill provides \$15 million, which is \$5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, for programs to promote and defend freedom of expression and the independence of the media in countries where such rights are restricted or denied.

## **Supporting Key Allies**

The bill provides substantial funding for key allies, including:

### **Israel**

The bill provides \$3.3 billion for military aid for Israel, which is equal to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Jordan**

The bill provides \$1.65 billion in economic and military aid to Jordan, in addition to humanitarian aid for Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Jordan, which is \$375 million above the current MOU and equal to the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Tunisia**

The bill provides \$241 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to expand economic growth, strengthen security services, support civil society, and strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law.

### **Countering Russian Influence Fund**

The bill provides \$290 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to counter Russian influence and aggression by promoting good governance, energy independence, and economic stability in countries under pressure from Russia, and ensuring our allies can protect their territorial integrity.

### **Countering Chinese Influence Fund**

The bill provides \$300 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to expand U.S. partnerships and counter Chinese pressure globally, which is in addition to funds made available for bilateral operations and programs.

### **Central America**

The bill provides \$506 million to address the causes of migration of undocumented Central Americans to the United States, including to combat corruption and impunity, counter gang violence, and create educational and employment opportunities, which is \$14 million below the fiscal year 2020 level. Fifty percent of the funds made available for the central governments in the Northern Triangle countries are subject to conditions related to migration, human rights, and corruption.

### **Colombia**

The bill provides \$461 million to support ongoing programs and implementation of the peace agreement between the Colombian Government and the FARC, which is \$13 million above the fiscal year 2020 level. Portions of the funds are subject to conditions related to counter-narcotics and human rights.

### **Special Immigrant Visas**

The bill provides authorization and funding for an additional 4,000 Special Immigrant Visas for Afghans, and their families, whose lives are threatened as a result of the work they performed in support of the United States in Afghanistan, subject to certain conditions.

## **Combating Crime and Corruption**

The bill provides \$1.39 billion for the International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement account, including to sustain efforts to combat human trafficking; counter wildlife trafficking and poaching, which threaten endangered species and are a source of funding for criminal organizations; professionalize police; and strengthen independent judiciaries.

### **Programs to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Modern Slavery**

The bill provides \$99 million, which is \$5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, to work with nongovernmental organizations, partner governments, and others to prevent human trafficking, prosecute traffickers, and provide services for victims, including up to \$25 million to combat modern slavery.

### **Counter Wildlife Trafficking**

The bill provides \$101 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to combat wildlife trafficking and poaching.

### **Combating Corruption**

The bill provides \$45 million for attorneys general and other entities to fight corruption and impunity in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, and additional funds for programs to support independent judiciaries, prevent mass atrocities, and strengthen the rule of law globally.

## **Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremist Organizations**

The bill makes funds available to stem the flow of foreign fighters seeking to join violent extremist organizations (VEOs), as well as to combat VEOs by addressing the causes of radicalization, which includes countering extremist propaganda, strengthening the capacity of foreign governments to address the grievances of citizens, holding individuals who have committed terrorist acts and other crimes accountable, and assisting victims of extremism.

The bill includes \$100 million for the Prevention and Stabilization Fund to implement the Global Fragility Act, which is the first appropriation specifically for such purpose.

## **Protecting Human Rights**

The bill continues conditions on aid to foreign governments where there is a history of abuses by security forces, including Sri Lanka, Honduras, Egypt, Nepal, Philippines, and Colombia. \$75 million in military aid for Egypt – where a wrongfully imprisoned American citizen died in custody earlier this year – is conditioned on “clear and consistent progress” in releasing political prisoners and providing detainees with due process of law.

In addition, the bill includes \$15.5 million to support forensic anthropology programs to locate and identify the remains of victims of armed conflict and crimes against humanity.

The bill directs the Secretary of State to deny visas to foreign officials who use threats or the judicial process to try to silence independent journalists.

## **Responding to Humanitarian Crises**

The bill provides \$7.8 billion to assist tens of millions of refugees and IDPs uprooted as a result of war and natural disasters in Venezuela, Colombia, Sudan, Bangladesh, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level. The bill also directs that such funds for refugees shall be administered by the Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration, which is consistent with prior years.

## **Promoting U.S. Exports**

In response to economic competition from China and other countries, as well as expanding U.S. trade with developing countries, the bill provides funding equal to the fiscal year 2020 levels to promote exports of U.S. goods and services for the Export-Import Bank and the Trade and Development Agency.

## **Private Sector Investment**

The bill includes a significant increase for the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), as authorized in the BUILD Act of 2018, including \$450 million for equity investments and other DFC activities to spur private sector led development in less developed

countries, which is \$270 million above the fiscal year 2020 level for such activities, in addition to authority to transfer of up to \$50 million from the Department of State and USAID.

### **Payments to Victims of Terrorism and Assistance for Sudan**

The bill includes emergency appropriations to pay claims of victims of terrorism and to support the political transition in Sudan, including \$150 million for payments to naturalized American citizen victims of the 1998 bombings at U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; \$120 million for multilateral debt relief for Sudan at the IMF; and \$700 million for a World Bank Trust Fund for economic assistance and for USAID global health programs for Sudan. The bill also includes \$111 million for bilateral debt relief for Sudan.

### **Other Key Programs**

#### **Educational and Cultural Exchanges**

The bill provides \$740 million for Educational and Cultural Exchanges, which is \$10 million above the fiscal year 2020 level. Of this amount, \$274 million is for the Fulbright Program, which is \$2 million above the fiscal year 2020 level, including to expand engagement with Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority Serving Institutions.

#### **Embassy Security**

The bill provides \$6.1 billion for embassy security, which is \$692 million above the President's request and equal to the fiscal year 2020 level, to meet the full cost of the State Department's share for overseas capital security and to protect U.S. diplomats and development personnel abroad.

#### **International Commissions**

The bill provides \$177 million for International Commissions to directly benefit the livelihoods of Americans through the management of commercial and recreational fisheries that generate billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs, to manage transboundary issues on the northern and southern borders, and for other purposes, which is \$14 million above the fiscal year 2020 level.

#### **Peace Corps**

The bill provides \$410.5 million for the Peace Corps, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level.

#### **Debt Relief**

The bill provides the second and final tranche of bilateral debt relief for Somalia, and the first tranche of bilateral debt relief for Sudan. This debt relief is urgently needed due to the economic impacts of the COVID pandemic and Sudan's fragile democratic transition. The bill also provides more funding for, and fewer restrictions on, bilateral assistance for Sudan.

#### **Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)**

The bill provides \$912 million for MCC, which is \$7 million above the fiscal year 2020 level. MCC supports economic growth programs that create jobs in countries that meet key anti-corruption and poverty reduction criteria. The bill also extends for one year the time available

for completing pending compacts that were delayed due to the coronavirus.

### **Global Internet Freedom**

Not less than \$70 million for programs to promote Internet freedom in countries whose governments restrict freedom of expression. Efforts include countering repressive Internet-related laws and regulations and enhancing digital security for activists, which is \$4.5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **U.S. Institute of Peace**

The bill provides \$45 million, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Inter-American Foundation and U.S. African Development Foundation**

The bill provides \$38 million for the IAF, which is \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2020 level; and \$33 million for the USADF, which is equal to the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **Hong Kong**

The bill provides \$3 million for democracy programs for Hong Kong, which is \$1.5 million above the fiscal year 2020 level.

### **West Bank**

The bill provides \$75 million for economic development programs implemented by international and nongovernmental organizations that benefit the Palestinian people and are intended to advance U.S. interests by increasing stability, including for people-to-people exchanges between Israelis and Palestinians, to be made available consistent with applicable provisions of law. The bill also provides \$75 million for security cooperation programs with the Palestinian Authority.

### **Nita Lowey**

The bill also includes an authorizing bill, named after Chairwoman Nita Lowey, to codify people-to-people programs between Israelis and Palestinians and an investment initiative in the Palestinian private sector economy.

## **Key Deficiencies**

While the bill includes funding for many programs with strong bipartisan support, funding for several key programs was prohibited, significantly reduced, or not included in the bill, including:

### **Family Planning/Reproduction Health**

The agreement continues funding for USAID family planning/reproductive health programs and for UNFPA at the fiscal year 2020 levels, despite significantly higher funding levels in the House bill. However, it does not include a Senate poison pill to codify the Mexico City Policy (Global Gag Rule).

### **Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities**

As in fiscal years 2017-2020, the bill retains the cap on funding for U.S. peacekeeping assessments at 25 percent of total UN peacekeeping, despite the Trump Administration's vote in favor of the current UN peacekeeping budget and the 27.9 percent U.S. assessment rate, which

undermines U.S. credibility and influence and has negative operational impacts for UN peacekeeping missions.

**Green Climate Fund**

As in fiscal year 2020, no funding is provided for a U.S. contribution to the Green Climate Fund. In fact, the words “climate change” do not appear in the 337 page bill.

#####





# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## VICE CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2020

**Contact:**  
Jay Tilton: (202) 224-2667

### SUMMARY

#### TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2021 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations bill provides \$75.35 billion in discretionary budget authority – \$1 billion more than fiscal year 2020 – rejecting the President’s proposal to cut more than \$16.1 billion from critical public safety, affordable housing, community development, and infrastructure programs.

The programs and activities supported by this bill include significant responsibilities entrusted to the Federal government and its partners to protect human health and safety by providing additional resources to prevent and end homelessness, as well as housing stability for nearly 5 million low-income households nationwide, the majority of which are elderly or disabled. The bill also sustains strong investments into the safety and efficiency of our transportation networks.

#### **Key Points & Highlights**

The bill provides funding for the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and other related agencies.

The bill rejects the President’s proposed \$3.1 billion cut to DOT programs and instead provides \$86.7 billion in total budgetary resources. Within this total, the bill provides \$25.3 billion in discretionary appropriations and \$61.4 billion in obligation limitations. The \$484 million increase from fiscal year 2020 will allow for significant, supplemental investments into our nation’s transportation infrastructure in order to address multimodal demands for safety and capacity improvements. The bill also disagrees with the President’s plan to change the longstanding, collaborative federal-state partnership for passenger rail services that would result in states and local jurisdictions paying more or facing the elimination of environmentally friendly mobility options for millions of commuters. Instead, the bill continues key investments in transportation projects that address population growth and congestion and improve the overall safety and infrastructure of our nation’s roads, bridges, and railways.

For HUD programs, the bill provides \$60.3 billion in budget authority for fiscal year 2021, of which \$49.6 billion is from discretionary appropriations and \$10.7 billion is from offsetting receipts. The bill reflects an increase of \$3.8 billion in programmatic funding compared to fiscal year 2020, and \$12.3 billion more than the President’s budget request. The bill rejects the

President's proposal to totally eliminate our federal affordable housing and economic development programs, including the Public Housing Capital Fund, HOME, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and Choice Neighborhoods. These Federal investments provide critical resources for states and local communities to address the nation's growing affordable housing crisis. As half a million people go without shelter on any given night and families are forced to choose between lifesaving medications and putting a roof over their children's head, preserving and investing in affordable housing programs is fundamentally necessary to prevent more families from falling into unsafe housing situations or homelessness.

## **Department of Transportation**

### **Federal Aviation Administration**

The bill provides \$17.9 billion in budgetary resources, which is \$347 million more than the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$444 million more than the President's budget request. This funding level includes \$3.75 billion for Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants, which support airport safety, terminal, and noise mitigation projects. The bill increases funding for aviation safety and certification in order to strengthen the safety inspector workforce and enable the Department to address oversight weaknesses identified by multiple investigations in the wake of the Boeing 787 Max accidents that claimed the lives of 346 people.

### **Federal Highways**

The bill includes a total of \$49.1 billion for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) activities. Of this total, \$2 billion is for discretionary increases to FAST Act authorized and other programs including: \$1 billion for bridge repair and replacement, \$641 million to the State Transportation Block grant program, \$100 million for the Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal transportation program, \$100 million for the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS), and \$50 million for competitive grants to improve highway-railway crossings.

### **Transit and Rail**

The bill provides more than \$15.7 billion for transit and rail-related activities, an increase of more than \$1.4 billion over the President's budget request. Of the amounts provided, \$2.8 billion is included for the Federal Railroad Administration, Amtrak, and rail infrastructure grants. The agreement sustains funding levels for Amtrak at \$2 billion and continues the multi-year investment into the replacement of Amtrak's 40-year old fleet. The bill rejects the President's proposal to eliminate the Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair program and instead provides \$200 million to fund the replacement, rehabilitation, or repair of major infrastructure assets that are utilized for providing intercity passenger rail service. The bill also includes \$375 million for the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program to support a range of railroad projects, including the deployment of railroad safety technology, such as Positive Train Control (PTC), station, platform, or rail line improvements, as well as planning and environmental activities. This level of funding is an increase of \$50 million from fiscal year 2020 and \$45 million from the President's budget request.

For transit investments, the bill includes nearly \$13 billion in budget authority, which is \$254 million more than the President's budget request. Of this amount, the bill includes a \$516 million increase to FAST Act and other programs, including \$125 million for Low and No Emission Buses grants, \$40 million for formula grants for rural areas, \$40 million for high

density state apportionments, and \$15 million for areas of persistent poverty among other activities. This increase in resources will allow transit agencies to purchase buses and rail cars, building maintenance facilities, and address a \$90 billion transit state-of-good-repair backlog across the country.

### **Department of Housing and Urban Development & Related Agencies**

#### **Preserves Affordable Rental Housing**

The bill provides nearly \$48 billion to preserve the nation's affordable housing for low-income HUD-assisted households currently served through the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing, and Project-based Rental Assistance programs, and other assisted rental housing programs. This level of funding is an increase of more than \$3.5 billion from fiscal year 2020 and an increase of more than \$8.5 billion from the President's budget request. The bill rejects the President's proposed rent reforms and mandatory work requirements that would force already vulnerable families to choose between maintaining childcare or paying for medical expenses and homelessness. The bill also rejects the President's proposal to eliminate funding for Public Housing Capital Formula Grants, the sole federal resource for the repair and maintenance of the nation's public housing stock. Specifically, the bill includes:

- \$25.8 billion for the Tenant-based Rental Assistance account to preserve affordable housing for 2.2 million low-income households, as well as expands housing opportunities for youth aging out of foster care, victims of domestic violence, and veterans at risk of or experiencing homelessness;
- \$7.8 billion to help preserve the nation's public housing for 1 million low-income households currently served through the program;
- \$13.5 billion for the preservation of Project-based Section 8 assistance for more than 1.2 million low-income households;
- \$855 million for the Housing for the Elderly program to continue rental assistance for over 130,000 low-income elderly households and renew grants for 1,600 service coordinators, and includes \$52 million for new grants to modify or repair homes; and
- \$227 million for the Housing for Persons with Disabilities program to renew assistance for more than 30,000 households served through the program, and includes \$54 million for new grants to modify or repair homes.

#### **Increases Homelessness Prevention**

The bill includes \$3 billion to help communities design and implement local solutions to end homelessness, an overall increase of \$223 million from fiscal year 2020 and an increase of \$227 million from the President's budget request. Of this amount, \$2.569 billion is included for the Homeless Assistance Grant (HAG) program in order to fully meet the program's renewal need, and no less than \$290 million is for Emergency Solutions Grants. The bill also includes HAG funding to support:

- \$82 million in targeted resources for youth to build on the \$280 million previously provided since fiscal year 2017; and
- \$52 million for new rapid rehousing projects that serve victims and survivors of domestic violence, building on the \$150 million provided since fiscal year 2018, which will also

help communities implement emergency transfer plans required by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 2013.

The bill includes an additional \$43.4 million to provide approximately 4,100 new tenant-based housing choice vouchers for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including victims of domestic violence, veterans and families, and provides an additional \$25 million to support families and youth aging out of the foster care system through the Family Unification program.

The bill rejects the President's proposal to eliminate funding for new vouchers under the HUD-VASH program by including \$40 million to support 5,100 new incremental rental vouchers for veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness, a critical resource for the more than 37,000 veterans experiencing homelessness. This funding will build upon the nearly \$800 million in investments already made through this program since 2008, which has to lead a 40 percent reduction in veteran homelessness nationwide.

### **Expands Affordable Housing and Community Development Opportunities**

Overall, the bill provides more than \$4.8 billion to preserve and expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income renters and homeowners and support local economic development projects for over 1,200 communities. Specifically, the bill rejects the President's proposal to eliminate the HOME program—the only federal program solely dedicated to affordable housing production and preservation—and instead provides \$1.35 billion, equal to fiscal year 2020. This investment in HOME will provide gap financing for development projects and leverage an additional \$10 billion in public-private investments for local affordable housing production and rental assistance to assist nearly 55,000 low-income households.

The bill rejects the President's proposal to eliminate CDBG, a critical funding source for state and local community and economic development, and includes \$3.475 billion, \$50 million more than fiscal year 2020. CDBG provides grants to benefit approximately 6.8 million low-income Americans through public service programs, including services for seniors and persons with disabilities, employment training, and food banks. This level of funding will assist more than 86,000 households with down payment assistance, housing construction and rehabilitation, and energy efficient improvement programs and will create and retain over 19,000 jobs. This funding level also includes \$25 million to continue piloting a housing program that provides grants to states that are most impacted by the drug overdose epidemic to provide stable temporary housing to individuals in recovery, as authorized in Section 8071 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act.

### **Addresses Lead-Based Paint and Other Environmental Hazards**

The bill provides a combined \$420 million to address lead-based paint and other environmental hazards in low-income and HUD-assisted housing. Of this amount, \$360 million is provided for the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, an increase of \$70 million from fiscal year 2020. This includes up to \$278 million for lead hazard reduction grant activities, of which no less than \$95 million is reserved for communities with the highest lead-based paint abatement needs, which will serve approximately 8,200 low-income households with young children.

**Eviction Prevention**

The number of renters at risk of eviction is anticipated to grow exponentially to up to 40 million in the coming weeks as eviction moratoriums expire. This looming crisis is particularly harmful for the more than 7.7 million renters that were already rent burdened prior to the pandemic. To rapidly respond to the rental housing and evictions crisis, the agreement includes \$20 million for a new competitive grant program to provide legal aid at no cost for low-income tenants at risk of eviction.

#####