



BILL SUMMARY: Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Bill

Legislation rejects President Trump's steep proposed cuts to scientific research, American competitiveness, and public safety

Washington, D.C. – The Fiscal Year 2026 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations Act provides a total of \$79.711 billion in discretionary funding.

The bill rejects the devastating and misguided funding cuts and program eliminations proposed by President Trump and instead makes smart, targeted investments in a wide range of critical programs that affect the lives of every American. The bill provides \$37 billion, \$1.6 billion more than the fiscal year 2026 budget request, for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to keep Americans safe and invest in lifesaving DOJ grant programs. The Department of Commerce receives \$10.873 billion, \$486 million more than fiscal year 2025, to maintain the current generation of NOAA weather and climate satellites and invest in next-generation satellites that track severe weather, promote and support American businesses and exports, spur economic development nationwide, create cybersecurity and artificial intelligence (AI) standards, promote economic development nationwide, enable sustainable management of ocean resources, conduct periodic censuses, and more. To promote American innovation and scientific discovery, the bill provides \$9 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF), sparing it from the 57% cut proposed in President Trump's budget request. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is funded at \$24.9 billion—\$61 million more than fiscal year 2025—to explore the solar system, advance our understanding of climate change, promote innovation and sustainability in aeronautics, and protect our planet.

Key Points & Highlights

Department of Commerce: The bill provides \$10.9 billion for the Department of Commerce. This includes: \$60 million for the Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Tech Hubs) Program at the Economic Development Administration (EDA)—enough for up to four implementation grants for designated Tech Hubs—and \$175 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program, including bill language requiring the MEP Program to maintain MEP Centers in all 50 States and Puerto Rico.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): The bill provides \$6.14 billion for NOAA, \$1.64 billion above the president's request. NOAA provides critical weather prediction that people, businesses, and communities rely on each and every day. The bill provides \$1.68 billion to maintain the current generation of NOAA weather and climate satellites and to invest in next-generation satellites—\$152 million above President Trump's request.

Census Bureau: The bill provides a \$138 million increase over fiscal year 2025 for the Census Bureau to bolster the agency's preparations for the 2030 Census and its ability to continue producing high-quality data. The Census Bureau's work not only determines congressional apportionment, but it is also relied on to distribute trillions of dollars in federal funds.

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST): The bill rejects the administration's proposal to slash NIST research and standards work by \$150 million and instead invests a total of \$1.605 billion for NIST, including \$1 billion to spur research advances in cutting-edge fields like carbon dioxide removal, artificial intelligence, quantum information science, and cybersecurity. The bill also includes an increase of \$40 million over President Trump's budget request and the fiscal year 2025 level to repair and upgrade major NIST research facilities, including facilities at NIST's main campus in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Climate Research: The bill supports investments to advance critical climate research. In particular, it provides \$224 million for climate research at NOAA, rejecting the administration's proposal to eliminate much of this funding, and \$2.17 billion for NASA Earth Science, rejecting President Trump's proposed 53% budget cut. Funding for NOAA includes \$32 million for the National Ocean and Coastal Security Fund, which improves the resilience of coastal communities around the country.

Addressing and Preventing Violence Against Women: The bill provides \$720 million for grants provided by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). This represents an increase of \$7 million above fiscal year 2025 for these lifesaving programs—\$215 million more than President Trump's budget request. 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, women's shelters, transitional housing, and rural support services.

Continued funding is provided for several OVW programs authorized in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization Act of 2022, including a restorative justice program and the Abby Honold Act. In addition, \$12 million is provided for a grant program, established by Vice Chair Murray, to increase access to sexual assault nurse exams, which will support grants for regional Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) training, salaries for SANEs, and Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs), and technical assistance and resources to increase access to SANEs and SAFEs.

The bill also includes \$10 million in continued funding to incentivize states to adopt laws that protect the rights of sexual assault survivors.

The bill provides \$55 million to support the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, which is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. This program 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. Additionally, the bill provides increased funding for other programs that are critical to assisting survivors, including: \$79.5 million for the Sexual Assault Services Program; \$56 million for Legal Assistance for Victims grants; \$51 million for Transitional Housing Assistance grants; \$51 million for the Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program; and \$12 million for grants to assist governments exercising Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction.

Supporting Crime Victims: The Crime Victims Fund (CVF) provides critical support through direct assistance and programs offered by victim service providers to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, human trafficking, and other violent crimes. The bill makes \$1.9 billion from the CVF available in fiscal year 2026. Of this amount, \$95 million is designated for efforts to assist Tribal victims.

Maintaining Critical DOJ Oversight: The bill rejects President Trump's request to cut DOJ's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by 30%, or \$42 million compared to fiscal year 2025. The bill maintains \$139 million in funding for the OIG, ensuring it can maintain its critical mission to detect waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct at the DOJ.

Strengthening Police-Community Relations: The bill provides \$212.5 million for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office grant programs related to police-community relations. Dedicated funding of \$25 million is provided for the COPS Community Policing Development program, as well as \$20 million for the Law Enforcement Officer De-escalation Act. The bill provides a total of \$35 million for three grant programs dedicated to preventing hate crimes and \$32 million for the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. The bill also provides an increase, to a total of \$55 million, for the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, a proven, evidence-based strategy that reduces violence and saves lives that President Trump's budget request seeks to eliminate.

Supporting State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement: The Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program is funded at \$569 million, of which \$317 million is released from Byrne JAG core funding to states and territories. Funding is also included for programs that support officer mental health and wellness (\$10 million), and the purchase of bulletproof vests (\$30 million). COPS Hiring is funded at \$206 million, which will help hire over 850 more police officers nationwide.

Responding to Substance Use Disorder in Our Communities: The bill provides communities and first responders with a total of \$574.5 million in dedicated grant program funding to respond to substance use disorder, including opioids, and to crack down on drug trafficking. The bulk of this funding is for Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act grants, which receive \$418 million to fund specialized court docket programs like drug, mental health, and veteran treatment courts and substance abuse treatment programs administered by state and local correctional facilities. The bill also funds the COPS anti-heroin task force program at \$35 million and the COPS anti-methamphetamine task force program at \$16 million.

Rejecting Trump's Attempts to Gut Federal Law Enforcement and DOJ Grants: The bill rejects President Trump's proposal to merge the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) into the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), while reducing resources for both, thereby gutting the main federal law enforcement agencies charged with enforcing our nation's gun and drug laws and keeping people safe. The bill also rejects President Trump's proposals to absorb the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) Washington into the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) and to dismantle DOJ's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF). The bill also continues to fund and maintain all DOJ grant-making components as independent offices, rejecting President Trump's attempts to gut critical resources that help support victims of crime.

Improving Juvenile Justice: The bill provides \$380 million for grant programs within the Office on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, an increase of \$5 million above fiscal year 2025. The bill increases funding for long-standing programs, including \$105 million for Missing and Exploited Children Program grants; \$43 million for Victims of Child Abuse Act grants; and \$105 million for youth mentoring grants.

Promoting Competition and Enforcing Antitrust Laws: The bill promotes economic freedom and opportunity by guaranteeing at least \$245 million in funding for DOJ's Antitrust Division—a record level that is \$12 million, or 5%, above fiscal year 2025. The bill also includes language allowing the Antitrust Division to retain and use all of the pre-merger filing notification fees it collects in fiscal year 2026—even if those collections exceed the \$245 million appropriation for the agency.

Economic Development: The bill provides \$426 million for community economic development through the Economic Development Administration. This includes \$60 million for the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Tech Hubs) Program—a nearly 50% increase as compared to the fiscal year 2025 funding level and enough for EDA to fund two to four implementation grants. This also includes \$100 million for Public Works grants, \$10 million for newly-authorized Workforce Training Grant Programs, and \$50 million for the Regional Innovation Program. Finally, the bill provides \$5 million for EDA's Assistance to Indigenous Communities program, which is specifically designed to address the needs of indigenous communities that have historically suffered from a lack of investment in core economic development needs. EDA awards infrastructure and planning grants to all 50 States.

Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS): The bill includes \$211 million for the Bureau of Industry and Security, which supports the BIS's enforcement of Russian and Belarussian export controls and other BIS efforts to counter Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. It also supports stringent export control measures on high-end technologies, like semiconductors, with end users in the People's Republic of China.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration: The bill provides \$24.9 billion for NASA, which is \$6 billion above President Trump's request and \$61 million above fiscal year 2025. The bill rejects the administration's devastating proposal to cut NASA Science by 47% and terminate 55 operating and planned missions and instead provides \$7.3 billion. The bill provides \$1.6 billion for Astrophysics, including \$300 million to complete the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope to investigate dark energy and the formation of galaxies and stars and \$150 million to ramp up development of the Habitable Worlds Observatory that will search for potentially habitable planets. The bill also provides \$500 million for the Dragonfly mission to explore Titan, the largest moon of Saturn, and \$300 million for the Near-Earth Object Surveyor mission to find potentially dangerous asteroids and comets.

The bill includes critical resources to support the goal of returning Americans to the Moon and of eventually landing on Mars, providing \$7.78 billion for Exploration, which is \$117 million above fiscal year 2025. The bill supports progress on the Artemis Campaign, including funding for NASA to meet all contractual obligations for both Human Landing Systems in fiscal year 2026.

Aeronautics is supported at \$950 million, \$15 million above fiscal year 2025, to ensure continued U.S. leadership in aviation and to invest in sustainable aviation technologies. The bill rejects President Trump's shortsighted request to eliminate the NASA Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement programs and provides \$148 million. This includes Space Grant (\$63 million), the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Technology (\$26 million), the Minority University Research and Education Project (\$45.5 million).

National Science Foundation (NSF): The NSF is funded at \$9 billion, rejecting President Trump's ludicrous proposal to cut federal investment in this essential scientific research and innovation by 57%—returning NSF to its fiscal year 2000 funding level just as our global competitors are doubling down on their investments. The Senate bill invests \$7.18 billion for NSF's research and related activities, level with fiscal year 2025, to help drive U.S. economic competitiveness, including investments in artificial intelligence and quantum information science, and the Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships. NSF's education and training programs to build tomorrow's innovation workforce are funded at \$1 billion, rejecting President Trump's proposal to eliminate these programs. This funding level for NSF should support more than 10,000 new competitive awards and more than 300,000 scientists, technicians, teachers, and students.

Legal Services Corporation (LSC): The bill rejects President Trump's proposal to eliminate LSC and instead provides \$566 million for LSC—a \$6 million increase above fiscal year 2025. The bill also makes permanent a provision to permit LSC recipients to operate with boards of directors that have as few as 33% attorneys without requiring appointment by bar associations, greatly improving recipients' ability to have fiscal experts and community representatives on their governing bodies. Additionally, the bill includes language to reinforce the existing legal requirement for LSC to receive its appropriation as an annual installment, ensuring that LSC recipients can continue providing services without interruption. LSC is the largest funder of civil legal aid in the country, and its grantees serve millions of low-income Americans every year, helping them with family law, domestic violence, housing, fraud, and other legal matters.