

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES
 APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2008

JULY 19, 2007.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
 the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. MOLLOHAN, from the Committee on Appropriations,
 submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3093]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in
 explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for
 Commerce, Justice, Science, and related agencies for the fiscal year
 ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

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SUMMARY OF ESTIMATES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a total of \$53,551,000,000 in discretionary budget authority for the departments and agencies funded in this bill. The recommendation is \$2,312,478,000 above the request and \$3,206,957,000 above the amount enacted for the current fiscal year. The Committee also recommends \$228,300,000 for mandatory programs funded within this bill.

Note that the amounts contained in the table below and the tables throughout the report do not contain the 2007 supplemental appropriations of \$546,400,000. The 2007 supplemental contains \$356,000,000 for the Department of Justice; \$170,400,000 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and \$20,000,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The following table provides a comparison of the new budget authority recommended in the accompanying bill with the amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2007, and the budget request for fiscal year 2008.

(In millions of dollars)

	FY 2007 enacted excluding supplementals	FY 2008 request	Recommendation	Compared with	
				FY 2007 enacted	FY 2008 request
Discretionary	50,344	51,238	53,551	+3,207	+2,312
Mandatory	228	228	228	—	—
Total	50,572	51,466	53,779	+3,207	+2,312

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

Major initiatives and highlights contained in the recommendation follow:

TITLE I.—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(In millions of dollars)

	FY 2007 enacted including supplements	FY 2008 request	Recommendation	Compared with	
				FY 2007 enacted	FY 2008 request
Discretionary	6,454	6,596	7,063	+609	+467

Selected increases and/or restorations:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \$4.0 billion, \$141 million over the FY08 request, including an additional \$73.3 million for global climate change efforts and \$47.7 million to assist in protecting our coasts and oceans.
- Periodic censuses and programs including the 2010 Census: \$1.2 billion, \$339 million over FY07 and \$2 million over the FY08 Request, including \$19 million for full implementation of the Survey of Income and Program Participation and \$13 million for additional partnership and outreach efforts.

President's request for fiscal year 2008 terminates this program which bolsters State and local law enforcement. The Committee rejects this proposal and includes \$20,578,000 for MET teams. In addition, in order to help State and local law enforcement address the methamphetamine epidemic, the recommendation provides \$600,000,000 for the Justice Assistance Grants program, \$85,000,000 for meth-specific COPS grants, \$40,000,000 for Drug Court programs, and \$10,000,000 for State Prison Drug Treatment programs. The Committee rejects the Administration's proposal to eliminate all of these programs. Instead, the recommendation includes significant increases for each program over current year funding levels.

Funds provided above the request are intended to support current operation levels, and to provide limited relief toward the lifting of the DEA's hiring freeze. The Committee encourages the Department to submit a fiscal year 2008 budget amendment providing sufficient additional resources for a full lifting of the freeze.

With the resources provided by the Committee in this bill and in the FY 2007 supplemental, the Administration's proposed reduction for "hollow FTE" is not accepted by the Committee. Some FTE and positions that had been proposed for elimination will be needed to support the restored staffing levels.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Fiscal Year 2007 enacted	\$984,097,000
Fiscal Year 2008 request	1,013,980,000
Recommended in the bill	1,013,980,000
Bill compared with:	
Fiscal Year 2007 enacted	+29,883,000
Fiscal Year 2008 request	0

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is a principal law enforcement agency within the Department of Justice (DOJ) dedicated to preventing terrorism, reducing violent crime, and protecting our Nation. The men and women of ATF perform the dual responsibilities of enforcing Federal criminal laws and regulating the firearms and explosives industries. The combined efforts of special agents and industry operations investigators allow ATF to effectively identify, investigate, and recommend for prosecution violators of the Federal firearms and explosives laws; additionally, this teamwork enables ATF to ensure that licensees are operating within established laws and regulations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommendation includes \$1,013,980,000 for the ATF, the same as the request and \$29,883,000 above fiscal year 2007.

The recommendation includes a base adjustment for the Arson and Explosives decision unit. The Committee does not provide an additional \$10,000,000 for the requested purpose of restoring funds due to the lack of adoption of an explosives poundage fee in fiscal year 2007. The Committee directs the Department to fully justify requests and not request funds to supplement proposals rejected by the Committee in the previous year. Instead the Committee expects

