



Policy Brief.....FY 2005 District of Columbia Appropriations

BY THE NUMBERS:

Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars

	FY '04 Enacted	FY '05 Request	FY '05 House
Federal Funds	542	560	560
DC Funds	7,461	8,244	8,244

For Federal Funds, the bill is:

- \$18.2 million or 3.4% above last year; and
- Equal to the request.

For DC Funds, the bill is:

- \$783 million or 10.5% above last year; and
- Equal to the request.

The bill is within the 302(b) allocation of the District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee and thus complies with the Budget Act.

Note: Congress has authority over the local revenues collected by the District of Columbia. As a result, each year the DC appropriations bill provides both the local revenues and an additional federal allotment. During House floor consideration, only amendments regarding the federal portion are in order.

Restrictions on Use of Funds:

Domestic Partner Benefits: Maintains provision that prohibits federal funds, but NOT District funds from being used to provide employment, health, or governmental benefits to unmarried (whether heterosexual or homosexual) domestic partners.

Abortion: Maintains the prohibition on the use of Federal or District funds for abortions (except for the life of the mother or in cases of rape or incest).

Self-Determination: Maintains the prohibition on the use of federal or District funds to seek voting representation in Congress. Prohibits the use of federal funds for salaries, expenses, and other costs associated with the offices of U.S. Senator or Representative.

Needle Exchange: Maintains prohibition on the use of federal or District Funds for the operation of needle exchange programs.

Medical Marijuana: Maintains the prohibition on the use of federal or District Funds to implement any medical marijuana program.

Lawyer Fees for IDEA Cases: Prohibits federal or District funds from being used to pay the fees of an attorney who represents any party in an action against the DC Public Schools under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) in excess of \$4,000 for that action. The language also prohibits the paying of fees of an attorney or firm whom the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia determines to have a pecuniary interest, either through an attorney, officer or employee of the firm, in any special education diagnostic services, schools, or other special education service providers.

Language of Note:

Anacostia Waterfront Initiative: The bill provides \$3 million for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative. Last year, \$4.9 million was provided for the project. According to the Appropriations Committee, the initiative is a multi-year project to revitalize the communities along the Anacostia River by designing and constructing a pedestrian and bike path from the Potomac River to the Maryland border.

Federal Funding:

Dollars in Thousands

	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Request	FY 2005 Cmte	Cmte Vs. FY 2004	Cmte Vs. Request	Cmte Vs. FY 2004	Cmte Vs. Request
District of Columbia--Federal Funds							
Resident Tuition Support.....	16,900	17,000	25,600	8,700	8,600	51.48%	50.59%
Emergency Planning and Security.....	10,935	15,000	15,000	4,065	0	37.17%	0.00%
DC Courts.....	166,775	228,069	202,110	35,335	-25,959	21.19%	-11.38%
Defender Services in DC Courts.....	31,811	41,500	41,500	9,689	0	30.46%	0.00%
Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency.....	167,441	187,490	183,490	16,049	-4,000	9.58%	-2.13%
DC Water and Sewer Authority.....	29,823	10,000	10,000	-19,823	0	-66.47%	0.00%
Anacostia Waterfront Initiative.....	4,971	3,000	3,000	-1,971	0	-39.65%	0.00%
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.....	1,292	1,300	1,300	8	0	0.62%	0.00%
Capital development.....	8,102	0	7,000	-1,102	7,000	-13.60%	
Public school facilities.....	4,473	0	0	-4,473	0	100.00%	
Public school libraries.....	0	0	6,000	6,000	6,000		
Family Literacy Program.....	1,988	0	1,000	-988	1,000	-49.70%	
Foster Care Improvements.....	13,917	0	5,000	-8,917	5,000	-64.07%	
School Improvements.....	39,764	40,000	40,000	236	0	0.59%	0.00%
DC Scholarship Program	12,293	14,000	14,000	1,707	0	13.89%	0.00%
DC Chief Financial Officer.....	32,159	0	19,000	-13,159	19,000	-40.92%	
Public charter school facilities.....	16,889	0	0	-16,889	0	100.00%	
TOTAL, Federal funds to DC.....	541,783	560,359	560,000	18,217	-359	3.36%	-0.06%

Committee Action: The Appropriations Committee reported the bill on July 14, 2004.

Constitutional Authority: The Appropriations Committee, in House Report 108-214, cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 (congressional power to “exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District...”) and Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 (“No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of Appropriations made by law.”).

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