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Appropriations Policy Brief

H.R. 2985 – Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for FY 2006

BY THE NUMBERS:

In Millions of Dollars

	FY05	FY06 Bush Request	FY06 Committee	Cmte v. Request	Cmte v. FY05
Appropriations	2,763	3,140	2,870	-270	+107
<i>Emergency Approps</i>	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2,763	3,140	2,870	-270	+107

Note: These figures do not include Senate-only items.

The Committee Bill is:

- **\$107 million (3.9%) more than last year**
- **\$270 million (9.4%) less than the request**

Budget Compliance: According to CBO, the bill is within the 302(b) allocation provided for legislative branch appropriations and thus complies with the Budget Act.

Unauthorized Appropriations: According to the Committee report, the bill contains no unauthorized appropriations.

Items of Note:

Continuity in Representation Act: Includes text almost identical to H.R. 841, which passed the House of Representatives on March 3, 2005, by a vote of 329 to 68. The one change involves the section requiring that, in “extraordinary circumstances,” the executive authority of any state which has a vacancy for the House of Representatives issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy by special election within 49 days (H.R. 841 said within 45 days) of the U.S. House Speaker’s announcement of the vacancy (unless a regularly-scheduled election or other special election for the vacant office is already due to occur within 75 days of the Speaker’s announcement).

The RSC Legislative Bulletin for H.R. 841 can be found at:

<http://johnshadegg.house.gov/rsc/LB%2003-03-05--continuity%20in%20representation.pdf>

Excess MRA Funds for Deficit Reduction: Continues language carried in previous years providing that excess funds in the Members’ Representation Allowance Account shall be used for deficit reduction.

Mounted Horse Unit: Prohibits the Capitol Police from operating its mounted horse unit and transfers all horses, equipment, and supplies to the U.S. Park Police.

Capitol Police Inspector General: Establishes an Office of the Inspector General within the Capitol Police.

Private Vehicles: Prohibits funds in this bill from being used to maintain or otherwise care for private vehicles.

Compensation Limitation: Prevents any Legislative Branch employee from being paid more than a Member of the House or Senate (excluding in-kind benefits and related payments).

Library of Congress Rescission: Rescinds \$16 million from the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program.

Capitol Hill Visitors Center: Provides \$37 million “to complete the cost of construction...as requested by the Architect” of the Capitol. This level of funding is \$36 million under the request. The bill also establishes a Capitol Visitor Center Governing Board composed of Congressional Leadership to address the daily operations of the Visitor Center.

Miscellaneous Items: Provides \$703,000 for “miscellaneous items” including House automobiles (\$143,000), interparliamentary receptions (\$40,000) and “gratuities to beneficiaries of deceased staff [employees of the House]” (\$520,000).

Funding Summaries:

Dollars in Thousands

	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Request	FY 2006 Cmte	Cmte. Vs. FY 2005	Cmte. Vs. Request	Cmte. Vs. FY 2005	Cmte. Vs. Request
House of Representatives							
Office of the Speaker.....	2,708	2,788	2,788	80	0	2.95%	0.00%
Majority Leader.....	2,027	2,089	2,089	62	0	3.06%	0.00%
Minority Leader.....	2,840	2,928	2,928	88	0	3.10%	0.00%
Majority Whip.....	1,741	1,797	1,797	56	0	3.22%	0.00%
Minority Whip.....	1,303	1,345	1,345	42	0	3.22%	0.00%
Speaker Floor Activities.....	470	482	482	12	0	2.55%	0.00%
Republican Steering Cmte.....	881	906	906	25	0	2.84%	0.00%
Republican Conference.....	1,500	1,548	1,548	48	0	3.20%	0.00%
Republican Policy.....	0	307	307	307	0		0.00%
Democratic Steering & Policy Cmte.....	1,589	1,945	1,945	356	0	22.40%	0.00%
Democratic Caucus.....	792	816	816	24	0	3.03%	0.00%
Nine Minority Employees.....	1,409	1,445	1,445	36	0	2.56%	0.00%
Training & Development Programs.....	580	580	580	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Cloakroom Personnel.....	838	868	868	30	0	3.58%	0.00%
Subtotal House Leadership.....	18,678	19,844	19,844	1,166	0	6.24%	0.00%
Members' Representational Allowance (MRA).....	525,195	564,536	538,109	12,914	-26,427	2.46%	-4.68%
Standing Cmtes (except Appropriations).....	113,499	117,913	117,913	4,414	0	3.89%	0.00%

	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2006	Cmte. Vs.	Cmte. Vs.	Cmte. Vs.	Cmte. Vs.
	Enacted	Request	Cmte	FY 2005	Request	FY 2005	Request
Appropriations Cmte.....	24,726	25,668	25,668	942	0	3.81%	0.00%
Office of the Clerk.....	20,534	21,911	21,911	1,377	0	6.71%	0.00%
Office of the Sergeant at Arms.....	5,879	6,284	6,284	405	0	6.89%	0.00%
Office of Chief Administrative Officer.....	143,645	119,804	116,971	-26,674	-2,833	-18.57%	-2.36%
Office of the Inspector General.....	3,986	3,991	3,991	5	0	0.13%	0.00%
Office of Emergency Preparedness.....	1,000	5,000	5,000	4,000	0	400.00%	0.00%
Office of the General Counsel.....	962	962	962	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Office of the Chaplain.....	155	155	155	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Office of the Parliamentarian.....	1,673	1,767	1,767	94	0	5.62%	0.00%
Office of the Law Revision Counsel.....	2,346	2,453	2,453	107	0	4.56%	0.00%
Office of the Legislative Counsel.....	6,721	6,963	6,963	242	0	3.60%	0.00%
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs.....	687	720	720	33	0	4.80%	0.00%
Other Authorized Employees.....	156	161	161	5	0	3.21%	0.00%
Supplies, materials, admin costs, tort claims.....	4,350	4,179	4,179	-171	0	-3.93%	0.00%
Official Mail.....	410	410	410	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Government Contributions.....	203,900	214,422	214,422	10,522	0	5.16%	0.00%
Misc Items.....	690	703	703	13	0	1.88%	0.00%
Joint Items							
Joint Economic Cmte.....	4,139	4,276	4,276	137	0	3.31%	0.00%
Joint Cmte on Taxation.....	8,366	8,781	8,781	415	0	4.96%	0.00%
Office of the Attending Physician.....	2,508	2,545	2,545	37	0	1.48%	0.00%
Capitol Guide Service.....	3,844	4,268	4,268	424	0	11.03%	0.00%
Statements of Appropriations.....	30	30	30	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Capitol Police Salaries and Expenses.....	241,469	290,139	239,695	-1,774	-50,444	-0.73%	-17.39%
Office of Compliance.....	2,402	3,112	3,112	710	0	29.56%	0.00%
Congressional Budget Office.....	34,640	35,853	35,450	810	-403	2.34%	-1.12%
Architect of the Capitol--Gen'l Admin.....	79,704	76,982	77,002	-2,702	20	-3.39%	0.03%
Capitol Building.....	28,626	27,105	22,097	-6,529	-5,008	-22.81%	-18.48%
Capitol Grounds.....	15,118	7,801	7,723	-7,395	-78	-48.92%	-1.00%
House Office Buildings.....	64,830	68,698	59,616	-5,214	-9,082	-8.04%	-13.22%
Capitol Power Plant, Net.....	56,379	59,255	58,585	2,206	-670	3.91%	-1.13%
Library of Congress Buildings & Grounds.....	39,776	83,318	31,318	-8,458	-52,000	-21.26%	-62.41%
Capitol Police Building and Grounds.....	9,906	34,959	16,830	6,924	-18,129	69.90%	-51.86%
Botanic Garden.....	6,275	10,613	7,211	936	-3,402	14.92%	-32.06%
Capitol Visitor Center, Total.....	0	72,185	36,900	36,900	-35,285		-48.88%
Library of Congress Salaries & Expenses, Net.....	375,294	402,729	381,794	6,500	-20,935	1.73%	-5.20%
Copyright Office, Salaries and Expenses, Net.....	19,973	27,534	22,655	2,682	-4,879	13.43%	-17.72%
Congressional Research Service.....	96,118	105,289	99,952	3,834	-5,337	3.99%	-5.07%
Books for the Blind & Handicapped.....	53,977	55,243	54,049	72	-1,194	0.13%	-2.16%
Government Printing Office -- Congressional Printing....	88,090	92,283	88,090	0	-4,193	0.00%	-4.54%
Gov't Printing Office -- Salaries & Expenses.....	31,697	33,837	33,337	1,640	-500	5.17%	-1.48%
Gov't Printing Office Revolving Fund.....	0	5,000	1,200	1,200	-3,800		-76.00%
General Accounting Office, Net.....	467,205	486,383	482,395	15,190	-3,988	3.25%	-0.82%
Payment to the Open World Leadership Ctr Trust Fund.	13,392	14,000	0	-13,392	-14,000	-100.00%	-100.00%

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