



APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
Majority Caucus

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LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002 Conference Report

SUMMARY

The Legislative Branch appropriations bill from the committee on conference (H.R.2647, H. Rept. 107-259) provides \$2.974 billion in budget authority [BA] and \$2.941 billion in outlays for fiscal year 2002.

As reported, the conferees' agreement exceeds the appropriate 302(b) allocation and violates the Congressional Budget Act. Nevertheless, pursuant to the bipartisan agreement between the Congress and the administration, the House Budget Committee has reported a bill (H.R. 3084) increasing the appropriate levels in the budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 83) and the discretionary spending limits

established in the Deficit Control Act. Enactment of this legislation will allow the Committee on Appropriations to revise its subcommittee allocations and, thus ensure that the bill is in compliance with the budget resolution as revised.

As is customary, the managers for the part of the House have receded to Senate amendments concerning Senate matters, and managers for the part of the Senate have receded to House amendments regarding House matters. This conforms with the long practice under which each chamber of Congress determines its own housekeeping requirements, and the other side concurs without intervention.

Legislative Branch Appropriations Conference Report
(fiscal years; millions of dollars)

	2001 Enacted	Administration 2002 Request	House Passed ^a	Conference
Budget Authority	2,728	2,955	2,240	2,974
Outlays	2,585	2,893	2,369	2,941

^a Excludes Senate-only items.

DISCUSSION

The conference report includes \$86 million more BA than the House-passed measure (after adjusting for Senate-only items), and \$19 million more BA than the President's request. Most of the increase over the House-passed measure

(\$70 million) funds a new Capitol Visitor Center. In addition, the conference report would authorize the Congressional Budget Office [CBO] – which is under the Budget Committee's jurisdiction – to conduct training and

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performance-related regulatory actions; amends CBO’s authority for property disposal; and establishes a student loan payback program. In light of the terrorist attacks of 11 September, and other activities not accommodated in the Legislative Branch Subcommittee’s 302(b) allocation, the report allows the House and the Capitol Police to supercede the current full-

time equivalent [FTE] limits and to take whatever steps are necessary to maintain operational capacity and assure the security needs of the House are met.

The table below provides a comparison of the amounts in the conference agreement and the House-passed bill.

Discretionary Spending in the Legislative Branch Appropriations Conference Report (in millions of dollars)						
	House Passed		Conference		Difference	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
House of Representatives	882	888	878	885	-4	-3
Senate	0	45	606	572	606	527
Library Of Congress	450	478	460	487	10	9
General Accounting Office	422	419	422	419	0	0
Architect of the Capitol	197	219	315	255	118	36
Capitol Police	127	121	129	123	2	2
Government Printing Office	111	119	111	119	0	0
Congressional Budget Office	31	31	31	31	0	0
Other Joint Items	20	49	22	50	2	1

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