

CANCELLATION OF DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF  
DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY

---

MESSAGE

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT CANCELLING THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998, PURSUANT TO PUB. L. 104-130, SEC. 2(a) (110 STAT. 1201).



JANUARY 27, 1998.—Message and accompanying papers referred to the Committees on Appropriations and the Budget, and ordered to be printed

---

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*Washington, December 2, 1997.*

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, as specified in the attached report, contained in the "Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998" (H.R. 2267). I have determined that the cancellation of this amount will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest. This letter, together with its attachment, constitutes a special message under section 1022 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, as amended.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.



**CANCELLATION OF  
DOLLAR AMOUNT OF DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY  
Report Pursuant to the Line Item Veto Act, P.L. 104-130**

**Bill Citation:** "Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998" (H.R. 2267)

**1(A). Dollar Amount of Discretionary Budget Authority:** \$5,000 thousand for a cooperative agreement with Montana State University for a research program on green buildings on page 37 of the enrolled bill (H.R. 2267) and on page 142 of House Report 105-405 (Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee of Conference), dated November 13, 1997.

**1(B). Determinations:** This cancellation will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest.

**1(C), (E). Reasons for Cancellation; Facts, Circumstances, and Considerations Relating to or Bearing Upon the Cancellation; and Estimated Effect of Cancellation on Objects, Purposes, and Programs:** H.R. 2267 provides \$5 million for a cooperative agreement with Montana State University (MSU) for research on green buildings. This project circumvents the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) research selection process and meets no clear agency need. NIST labs do not provide large, open-ended research grants to external facilities. With the proposed research conducted entirely at MSU, NIST has no leverage to oversee its quality or relevance. Similar grants in FY 1994 and FY 1997 were not requested by the Administration, and have shown no demonstrated benefits to NIST's mission. By diverting scarce resources to a non-federal facility, this project damages NIST's ability to chose projects for their national benefit and technical merit. As the proposed demonstration lab does not meet NIST's research needs and is far from existing facilities, this project's benefits would accrue primarily to Montana State University.

**1(D). Estimated Fiscal, Economic, and Budgetary Effect of Cancellation:** As a result of the cancellation, Federal outlays will not increase, as specified below. This will have a commensurate effect on the Federal budget deficit and, to that extent, will have a beneficial effect on the economy.

Outlay Changes (in thousands of dollars)						
FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003-07	Total
-----	-3,850	-1,050	-100	-----	-----	-5,000

**1(F). Adjustments to Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Limits:**

**Budget authority:** -\$5,000 thousand in FY 1998

**Outlays:** The estimated outlay effect for each year is shown above.

**Evaluation of Effects of These Adjustments upon Sequestration Procedures:** If a sequestration were required, such sequestration would occur at levels that are reduced by the amounts above.

**2(A). Agency:** Department of Commerce

**2(A). Bureau:** National Institute of Standards and Technology

**2(A). Governmental Function/Project (Account):** Research and Development (Scientific and Technical Research and Services)

**2(B). States and Congressional Districts Affected:** Montana, At Large

**2(C). Total Number of Cancellations (inclusive) in Current Session in each State and District identified above:** Montana: five

