

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 1999

JUNE 23, 1998.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

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

REPORT

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 4112]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes.

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SUMMARY OF BILL

The bill, as recommended by the Committee, provides appropriations for fiscal year 1999 legislative branch operations which total \$1,804,689,700. Of that amount, \$1,113,521,700 is for congressional operations and \$691,168,000 is for other agencies.

A summary of the recommendations follows:

<i>Fiscal year 1999</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Congressional operations	¹ \$1,113,521,700
Other agencies	691,168,000
Total	1,804,689,700

¹ Excludes Senate items, including those Senate items under the Architect of the Capitol.

Conforming with long practice under which each body of Congress determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, funds for the Senate are not included in the bill as reported to the House. Current appropriations estimates for the Senate for fiscal year 1999, including those under the Architect of the Capitol, total \$537,748,000.

A comparative summary of the bill by title and agency follows:

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

[Note.—Excludes Senate items including those Senate items under Architect of the Capitol]

Agency	Bill compared with—				
	New budget (obligational) au- thority, fiscal year 1998	Budget estimates of new (obligational) au- thority, fiscal year 1999	New budget (obligational) authority recommended in bill	New budget (obligational) au- thority, fiscal year 1998	Budget estimates of new (obligational) au- thority, fiscal year 1999
TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS					
House of Representatives	\$709,008,300	\$765,587,600	\$734,107,700	\$25,009,400	—\$31,479,900
Joint items	86,710,500	97,695,000	89,070,000	2,359,500	—8,625,000
Office of Compliance	2,479,000	2,286,000	2,086,000	—393,000	—200,000
Congressional Budget Office	24,797,000	25,938,000	25,671,000	874,000	—267,000
Architect of the Capitol (except Senate and Title II items)	140,135,000	166,142,000	121,434,000	—18,701,000	—44,708,000
Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress	64,603,000	68,461,000	66,688,000	2,085,000	—1,773,000
Congressional printing and binding, Government Printing Office	81,669,000	84,000,000	74,465,000	—7,204,000	—9,535,000
Total, title I—Congressional operations	1,109,401,800	1,210,109,600	1,113,521,700	4,119,900	—96,587,900
TITLE II—OTHER AGENCIES					
Botanic Garden	\$3,016,000	\$3,235,000	\$3,032,000	\$16,000	—\$203,000
Library of Congress (except Congressional Operations)	282,309,000	300,871,000	291,701,000	9,392,000	—9,170,000
Architect of the Capitol (Congressional Cemetery) .....	.....	.....	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Architect of the Capitol (Library buildings and grounds)	11,573,000	16,139,000	11,933,000	360,000	—4,206,000
Government Printing Office (except Congressional printing and binding)	29,077,000	36,200,000	29,264,000	185,000	—6,936,000
General Accounting Office	339,499,000	367,728,000	354,238,000	14,739,000	—13,490,000
Total, title II—Other agencies	665,474,000	724,173,000	691,168,000	25,694,000	—33,005,000
Grand total, new budget, including transfers (obligational) authority for items considered by House)	1,774,875,800	1,934,282,600	1,804,689,700	29,813,900	—129,592,900

HIGHLIGHTS OF BILL

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Budget estimates.—The budget estimates considered by the Committee total \$1,934,282,600. By law, budget requests for the legislative branch are transmitted to the Congress by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the President without change in the amounts submitted by the originating agency. The 1999 proposals appear on pages 391 through 396 of the “Analytical Perspectives” volume, and pages 15 through 42 of the “Appendix” volume of the 1999 Federal Budget (H. Doc. 105–177).

Committee recommendations.—A total of \$1,804,689,700 in new budget (obligational) authority is recommended for fiscal year 1999. The recommendation is \$129,592,900 less than was transmitted to the Congress, a decrease of 6.7 percent under the budget request. The bill, as reported, is \$555.3 million below the 302(b) allocation established by the Committee on Appropriations. The bill does not include Senate items. If the Senate items were included at the level specified in the Committee’s 302(b) limits, the bill would be \$17.3 million below the amount allocated to the Subcommittee on Legislative.

The recommendations in this bill continue the effort to insure the Legislative Branch is a full participant as the Federal budget is brought into balance. With the enactment of this bill, the four-year savings *under* the spending level adopted in the 103rd Congress (Senate items excluded) will total \$575 million. That is the amount of accumulated savings that has resulted from downsizing and reducing legislative branch expenditures compared to the Legislative budget if it had remained at the level appropriated in fiscal year 1995.

Staffing.—For the past several years, the Committee has eliminated legislative branch jobs through the annual funding process, has generally denied funding for net staffing increases, or provided only those positions with very high priority. In this bill, funding or employment ceilings for 438 full time equivalent positions (FTE’s) are being eliminated from legislative agency rolls. Since 1994, the agencies of the legislative branch have eliminated 4,354 FTE positions. That is about 15.7% of this branch of government that has been downsized through efficiencies or program eliminations.

Comparison with fiscal year 1998 appropriations.—Compared with the appropriations enacted for fiscal year 1998, \$1,774,875,800, the recommendation of \$1,804,689,700 in new budget (obligational) authority for fiscal year 1999 is an increase of \$29,813,900, or 1.68%.

Areas of major change.—The recommended amount for fiscal year 1999 is a net increase of \$29,813,900 above the level appropriated for fiscal year 1998. This increase has several components. The sum of \$45,126,500 has been added over fiscal year 1998 in order to pay for mandatory pay and related costs. To meet the costs of inflation necessary to maintain the current level of services requires \$4,089,000. These costs primarily reflect year-to-year price changes for the same amount of services consumed. There will be a decrease of \$19,401,600 for programs, including an increase of \$711,400 due to legislation, a reduction of \$10,434,000 in workload,

and a decrease of \$9,679,000 for equipment, alterations and repairs.

A summary of the areas of major changes recommended by general category follows:

AREAS OF MAJOR CHANGE: COMMITTEE BILL VERSUS FISCAL YEAR 1998 BUDGET AUTHORITY

Item	Program type changes					Total changes
	Mandatory pay and related costs	Price level changes	Legislation	Workload	Equipment, alterations, maintenance, repairs, etc.	
TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS						
House of Representatives	\$22,134,000	\$693,000	—\$288,600	—\$7,079,000	\$9,640,000	\$25,099,400
Joint items	2,208,500	118,000	.....	—56,000	89,000	2,359,500
Office of Compliance .....	.....	—28,000	.....	—279,000	.....	—393,000
Congressional Budget Office	1,137,000	62,000	.....	—20,000	—305,000	874,000
Architect of the Capitol (except Senate and Title II items)	2,864,000	81,000	.....	1,444,000	—23,090,000	—18,701,000
Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress	1,759,000	326,000	.....	.....	.....	2,085,000
Congressional printing and binding, Government Printing Office .....	.....	.....	.....	—7,204,000	.....	—7,204,000
TITLE II—OTHER AGENCIES						
Botanic Garden	16,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	16,000
Library of Congress (except Congressional Research Service)	6,370,000	1,769,000	.....	—2,777,000	4,030,000	9,392,000
Architect of the Capitol (Congressional Cemetery) .....	.....	.....	1,000,000	.....	.....	1,000,000
Architect of the Capitol (Library buildings and grounds)	260,000	10,000	.....	133,000	—43,000	360,000
Government Printing Office (except Congressional printing and binding) .....	.....	187,000	.....	.....	.....	187,000
General Accounting Office	8,464,000	871,000	.....	5,404,000	.....	14,739,000
Total	45,126,500	4,089,000	711,400	—10,434,000	—9,679,000	29,813,900

STRUCTURE OF THE BILL

The bill is divided into three titles:

TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS

Title I—Congressional Operations contains the appropriations for the actual operation of the Congress. Traditionally, Congressional Operations has included the House of Representatives (Senate items will be added by that body), joint items, the Office of Compliance, the Congressional Budget Office, the Architect of the Capitol (except Senate office buildings and Library of Congress buildings and grounds), the Congressional Research Service, and the Congressional printing and binding portion of the Government Printing Office.

TITLE II—OTHER AGENCIES

Title II—Other Agencies contains the budget for several activities that do not provide primary support to the Congress. For instance, the activities of the Library of Congress, except the Congressional Research Service, are carried in this title. This includes such Library activities as the program to provide books for the blind and physically handicapped, the operation of the Copyright Office (including copyright royalty regulation) and Library services to the public and to the government of the United States. The non-Congressional operations of the Government Printing Office are contained in title II, such as the depository library program, which acquires or prints federal publications for distribution to the libraries, and sales of government publications to the general public. Also, although much of the workload of the General Accounting Office is in direct support of the Congress, including work mandated by statute or requested by committees and Members of Congress, the balance of that agency's workload involves its more general legislative requirements. The nature of that work is directed toward the improvement of the operation of the Federal government through review and evaluation of programs and the prevention of fraud and waste, as well as accounting and financial management improvements. The GAO budget, therefore, is carried in title II of the bill. The Botanic Garden and other Architect of the Capitol programs round out the items included in title II.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Title III contains general provisions.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH WIDE MATTERS

The agencies, offices, and joint items included within the bill are reminded that budget justifications are due to the Committee by mid-December.

ART IN THE CAPITOL

Art in the United States Capitol is an important way to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the history of the United States. At this time, the artwork (including paint-

ings, sculptures, and artifacts) in the Capitol severely underrepresents the accomplishments of women in our society. The Committee supports the ongoing work of the House Fine Arts Board, the Joint Committee on the Library, and the Architect of the Capitol and commends the current cooperation between these entities for their efforts to prepare a plan for the Capitol and the House office buildings that is more fully representative of women's contributions to American society.

TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS

The Committee bill recommends a total of \$1,113,521,700 for fiscal year 1999 for those activities in direct support of the operations of the Congress (exclusive of the Senate), an increase of \$4,119,900 above the fiscal year 1998 level, which is less than 4/10 of 1%. Budget estimates considered by the Committee total \$1,210,109,600, which have been reduced by \$96,587,900.

A summary of the recommendations follows:

Title I—Congressional Operations

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
House of Representatives	\$734,107,700
Joint items	89,070,000
Office of Compliance	2,086,000
Congressional Budget Office	25,671,000
Architect of the Capitol (except Senate and Title II items)	121,434,000
Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress	66,688,000
Congressional printing and binding, Government Printing Office	74,465,000
Total	1,113,521,700

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Committee recommends a total of \$734,107,700 for the operations of the House of Representatives during fiscal year 1999. The allowance is \$31,479,900 below the appropriations requested, and \$25,099,400 above the amount appropriated for the current fiscal year.

The following tabulation summarizes the recommendations:

House of Representatives

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Payments to Widows and Heirs	\$136,700
Salaries and expenses:	
House leadership offices	13,117,000
Members' representational allowances	385,279,000
Committee salaries and expenses	109,116,000
Salaries, officers and employees	89,991,000
Allowances and expenses	136,468,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	733,971,000
Total, House of Representatives	734,107,700

PAYMENTS TO WIDOWS AND HEIRS OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

1998 appropriation	\$270,300
1999 budget estimate	133,600
Committee Recommendation	136,700

The normal death gratuity is provided to the widow of Steven H. Schiff, late a Representative of the State of New Mexico.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$708,738,000
1999 budget estimate	765,454,000
Committee recommendation	733,971,000

The appropriation for the operations of the House of Representatives is the salaries and expenses appropriation. The account includes the following House activities: House leadership offices; Members' representational allowances; committee salaries and expenses; salaries, officers and employees; allowances and expenses; and the day care center. The amount provided is \$733,971,000, and includes a prospective cost-of-living adjustment for staff salaries (estimated at 3.1% for all Federal employees in the President's budget), increased resources for committee oversight activities, and a continuation of the investments being made in computing resources and telecommunications, i.e., the CyberCongress initiative.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

1998 appropriation	\$12,293,000
1999 budget estimate	12,689,000
Committee recommendation	13,117,000

The Committee recommends a total of \$13,117,000 for the operations of the leadership offices during fiscal year 1999.

The allocation by office follows:

House leadership offices

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Office of the Speaker	\$1,686,000
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	1,652,000
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	1,675,000
Office of the Majority Whip	1,043,000
Office of the Minority Whip	1,020,000
Speaker's Office for Legislative Floor Activities	397,000
Republican Steering Committee	738,000
House Republican Conference	1,199,000
House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee	1,295,000
House Democratic Caucus	642,000
Nine Minority Employees	1,190,000
Training and Development Program:	
Majority	290,000
Minority	290,000
Total	13,117,000

The increase above the budget request is required to fund a training and program development program to be conducted by the majority and minority for the purpose of providing Members and staff with information useful for the conduct of official duties.

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

1998 appropriation	\$379,789,000
1999 budget estimate	412,964,000
Committee recommendation	385,279,000

A total of \$385,279,000 is recommended for the representational allowances of the Members of the House. In recommending this

amount, the Committee was provided with estimates of \$274,600,000 for clerk hire salaries, \$90,764,000 for official expenses, and \$19,915,000 for official mail. It should be pointed out that these components are fungible under regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Oversight. Each Member has an overall consolidated allowance established by the Committee on House Oversight from which staff salaries, office expenses, and mail costs are drawn.

Many Members do not expend their full allowance. That is why the Committee bill does not fully fund this account. The frugality of those Members is already projected in the bill presented by the Committee. Since these prospective savings are already taken in the bill, they reduce the need for appropriated funds and, therefore, contribute directly to the reduction in federal spending and consequently lower the projected deficit. If the Committee bill were to fully fund the currently authorized Members' Representational Allowance, the amount appropriated would have to be increased by \$19.5 million.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

1998 appropriation	\$104,544,000
1999 budget estimate	110,339,000
Committee recommendation	109,116,000

Funding for the salaries and expenses of the 19 standing committees and one permanent select committee of the House is provided, as follows:

Standing Committees, special and select—For the salaries and expenses of committees funded in the biennial funding resolution, \$89,743,000 is provided.

Committee on Appropriations—For the salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations (including the studies and investigation activities authorized by section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946), \$19,373,000 is provided.

Details of the funding resolutions approved by the House for the 105th Congress, follow:

COMMITTEE FUNDING AUTHORIZATIONS, 105TH CONGRESS

Committee	1st session	2nd session	Total
Agriculture	\$3,791,039	\$3,865,123	\$7,656,162
Banking and Financial Services	4,363,817	4,537,800	8,901,617
Budget	4,970,000	4,970,000	9,940,000
Commerce	7,122,959	7,412,447	14,535,406
Education and the Workforce	5,002,127	5,122,986	10,125,113
Government Reform and Oversight	11,702,573	8,317,999	20,020,572
House Oversight	3,042,603	3,007,746	6,050,349
Intelligence	2,358,040	2,457,486	4,815,526
International Relations	5,145,358	5,223,000	10,368,358
Judiciary	5,054,800	5,549,241	10,604,041
National Security	4,719,454	5,002,291	9,721,745
Resources	4,800,014	5,076,536	9,876,550
Rules	2,306,407	2,342,695	4,649,102
Science	4,263,672	4,414,158	8,677,830
Small Business	1,936,471	1,970,470	3,906,941
Standards of Official Conduct	1,276,300	1,180,000	2,456,300
Transportation and Infrastructure	5,992,229	6,192,230	12,184,459
Veterans' Affairs	2,084,368	2,259,792	4,344,160

COMMITTEE FUNDING AUTHORIZATIONS, 105TH CONGRESS—Continued

Committee	1st session	2nd session	Total
Ways and Means	5,366,700	5,670,207	11,036,907
Subtotal	85,298,931	84,572,207	169,871,138
Reserve Fund			7,900,000
Total			177,771,138

Since the funding resolution is done on a biennial basis and the resolution for the 106th Congress will expire on December 31, 2000, FY 1999 committee funding is provided to remain available until December 31, 2000.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

1998 appropriation	\$84,356,000
1999 budget estimate	92,656,000
Committee recommendation	89,991,000

The Committee recommendation for the salaries and expenses of House officers and employees of the various activities funded through this consolidated item is \$89,991,000. This amount represents an overall decrease of \$2,665,000 below the budget request and \$5,635,000 above the amount enacted in fiscal year 1998. Staff cost-of-living increases are provided, as are projected overtime costs.

Minor reductions are taken in the Clerk's operation to reflect reduced needs for stenographic recording contract funds and savings in the closed captioning contract. The Clerk is directed to the discussion later in this report regarding Congressional printing and binding.

The Sergeant at Arms has been funded at \$3,501,000.

The Chief Administrative Officer's (CAO) budget has been set at \$57,211,000, including \$23,074,000 for the net operating costs of House Information Resources (HIR). For the net expenses of telecommunications for the House, \$7,130,000 has been designated within the direct appropriation to HIR. For HIR personnel, funds for 221 FTE's are provided, a reduction of 25 under the current level. It should be noted that the \$6.5 million increase in the CAO budget is comprised of additional equipment necessitated by newly elected incoming Members of Congress (\$5.2 million) and a reduction of \$3 million in estimated revenues from HIR computer user customers, offset by personnel and other reductions. Additional telephones are being purchased with savings in FY1998 funds. If additional savings can be located, other deferred computer application and telecommunication upgrades will be funded as well other high priority needs that cannot be funded in the FY1999 bill. The CAO is directed to consult with the Legislative Branch Financial Manager's Council (LBFMC) regarding plans to replace existing payroll and financial management systems. A report from the CAO, in consultation with the LBFMC, should be submitted to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Oversight regarding the compatibility of such plans and the overall objective of standardization of Legislative Branch financial management systems.

For the Office of the Inspector General, funds for the annual House financial audit have not been provided since it is the intent of the Committee to use FY 1998 funds for those purposes.

Funds for the General Counsel, Chaplain, Parliamentarian, Law Revision Counsel (except for an additional FTE), Legislative Counsel, Corrections Calendar Office, and Technical Assistants in the Office of the Attending Physician are provided as requested.

The administrative staff officers of the House (the Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General) are reminded that funding levels are provided on the basis of a certain number of full time equivalent positions which have been justified and approved in the appropriations request. If additional FTE's are authorized during the fiscal year, or if reallocations of FTE's are contemplated, the officers should determine the source of the additional personnel funding, including the need for a reprogramming of funds, and advise the Committee accordingly. This is the current procedure and is designed to inform the Committee on Appropriations of the potential impact on future year funding needs.

Salaries, officers and employees

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Office of the Clerk	\$15,365,000
Office of the Sergeant at Arms	3,501,000
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	57,211,000
Office of Inspector General	3,953,000
Office of General Counsel	840,000
Office of the Chaplain	133,000
Office of the Parliamentarian	1,106,000
Parliamentarian	(904,000)
Compilation of Precedents	(202,000)
Office of the Law Revision Counsel	1,912,000
Office of the Legislative Counsel	4,980,000
Corrections Calendar Office	799,000
Other authorized employees	191,000
Total	89,991,000

House of Representatives Child Care Center.—The bill provides authority for the House child care center budget, as required by Sec. 312(d)(1) of Public Law 102–90, as presented to the Committee by the Chief Administrative Officer. It should be noted that tuition and other center-generated revenues fund child care center operations.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$127,756,000
1999 budget estimate	136,806,000
Committee recommendation	136,468,000

A total of \$136,468,000 is recommended for fiscal year 1999 for allowances and expenses. This amount is \$338,000 below the budget request and \$8,712,000 above the current level. These funds include supplies, materials, administrative costs, and Federal tort claims; the costs of official mail for the Committees, leadership, and administrative offices; employee benefits; and miscellaneous items. Over 97.3% of these funds provide the employer share of re-

tirement, health care, and unemployment compensation payments for House employees.

The following table sets forth the various expense categories within this appropriation:

Allowances and Expenses

<i>Detail</i>	<i>Recommended 1999</i>
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	\$2,575,000
Official mail	410,000
Government contributions	132,832,000
Miscellaneous items:	
House automobiles	96,000
Gratuities to beneficiaries of deceased staff	500,000
Interparliamentary receptions	55,000
Subtotal miscellaneous items	651,000
Total, allowances and expenses	136,468,000

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 101 removes the Architect of the Capitol from the House of Representatives Page Board. Section 102 increases the authorization for interparliamentary receptions from \$55,000, established twenty years ago, to \$80,000. Section 103 authorizes appropriations to the Majority and Minority Leadership for training and program development. Section 104 makes a technical correction to 2 U.S.C. 59(e)(2) regarding Members' Representational Allowances. Section 105 authorizes an exception to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct regarding the publication of certain information in the Statement of Disbursements of the House. Section 106 authorizes incidental non-official use of supplies and equipment under regulations issued by the Committee on House Oversight. Section 107 authorizes the Speaker and two Leaders to expend funds within their lump sum allowances for consultant services. Section 108 authorizes a transit pass program for House employees. Section 109 continues the requirement that any amount remaining in the Members Representational Allowances account shall be deposited in the Treasury, to be used for deficit reduction.

JOINT ITEMS

The Committee recommends appropriations totaling \$89,070,000 for fiscal year 1999 for the various joint committees and activities carried under this heading. The recommendation is \$8,625,000 under the amounts requested for fiscal 1999 and an increase of \$2,359,500 above the amounts appropriated in FY1998.

The following summarizes the recommendations:

Joint Items

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Joint Economic Committee	\$2,796,000
Joint Committee on Printing	352,000
Joint Committee on Taxation	6,018,000
Office of the Attending Physician	1,383,000
Capitol Police Board	76,381,000
Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office	2,110,000
Statements of appropriations	30,000
Total	89,070,000

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

1998 appropriation	\$2,750,000
1999 budget estimate	2,796,000
Committee recommendation	2,796,000

The Committee has provided \$2,796,000 for the Joint Economic Committee, the amount requested.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

1998 appropriation	\$804,000
1999 budget estimate	804,000
Committee recommendation	352,000

As requested by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, the bill provides \$202,000 for the operations of the joint committee. In addition, \$150,000 is provided to the Committee on House Oversight to carry out additional responsibilities, subject to the enactment of authorizing legislation which devolves the jurisdiction of the Joint Committee to the authorizing committees and other entities.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

1998 appropriation	\$5,815,500
1999 budget estimate	6,018,000
Committee recommendation	6,018,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$6,018,000 for the Joint Committee on Taxation, the amount requested.

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

1998 appropriation	\$1,266,000
1999 budget estimate	1,383,000
Committee recommendation	1,383,000

The Committee has approved \$1,383,000 for medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances of Navy personnel detailed to the Office of the Attending Physician.

CAPITOL POLICE BOARD

1998 appropriation	\$74,054,000
1999 budget estimate	84,469,000
Committee recommendation	76,381,000

The recommendations in the bill provide a total of \$76,381,000 for the expenses and personnel authorized for police services throughout the Capitol buildings and grounds during fiscal year 1999.

The following tabulates the number of FTE's and the funding provided:

Items	Authorized FTE's	Amount
Salaries, Capitol Police on House Payroll	¹ 596	\$35,022,000
Salaries, Capitol Police on Senate Payroll	² 651	37,593,000
Subtotal	1,247	³ 72,615,000
General expenses		3,766,000

Items	Authorized FTE's	Amount
Grand total, all police services		76,381,000

¹ Includes 123 civilian positions.

² Includes 83 civilian positions.

³ Includes overtime funds of \$4,000,000.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

1998 appropriation	\$70,955,000
1999 budget estimate	76,108,000
Committee recommendation	72,615,000

The Committee recommends \$72,615,000 for 1,247 full time equivalent positions for the Capitol Police, of which \$35,022,000 and 596 FTE's are for the House rolls and \$37,593,000 and 651 FTE's are for the Senate rolls. These amounts include \$4,000,000 for overtime, equally divided between House and Senate details. In addition, \$315,000 is provided for annualization of the FY98 pay raise; \$1.2 million, which is fenced pending approval by the appropriate authorities, is provided for a prospective COLA in FY 1999; \$269,000 is provided for longevity increases; and \$457,000 is provided for a net increase in personnel benefits. Savings of \$422,000 are taken due to the salary lapse resulting from the pay differential between departing members of the force and recruits.

CAPITOL POLICE

GENERAL EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$3,099,000
1999 budget estimate	8,361,000
Committee recommendation	3,766,000

The sum of \$3,766,000 is recommended for supplies, materials, equipment, training and other expenses of the Capitol Police force during the next fiscal year. The budgeted amounts for transportation of things and rent, communications and utilities are provided. For travel, half of the requested increase associated with training has been provided. For other services, the Committee has provided a 2% increase in the costs of goods and services plus an additional \$260,000 for a hazardous materials program.

CAPITOL GUIDE SERVICE AND SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE

1998 appropriation	\$1,991,000
1999 budget estimate	2,195,000
Committee recommendation	2,110,000

The Committee bill provides \$2,110,000 for the operation of the Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office during the next fiscal year.

STATEMENTS OF APPROPRIATIONS

1998 appropriation	\$30,000
1999 budget estimate	30,000
Committee recommendation	30,000

The sum of \$30,000 is included for the preparation of the usual compilation of the statements of appropriations for the 2nd session

of the 105th Congress. This publication is compiled jointly by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$2,479,000
1999 budget estimate	2,286,000
Committee recommendation	2,086,000

The bill provides \$2,086,000 for the Office of Compliance. The budget reduction reflects a diminution in the workload of the Office of Compliance because much of the intensive startup activity required since the enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act has been accomplished. The current level of activity does not require the same level of resources. The funding provided supports the current staffing level, which is two below the 19 FTE's funded for fiscal 1998. The Committee will expect further reductions next year in the budget formulated for FY2000. The Office of Compliance should undertake a careful evaluation of their needs and submit a budget plan commensurate with their current reduced program. The normal provision for awards and settlements has been included.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$24,797,000
1999 budget estimate	25,938,000
Committee recommendation	25,671,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$25,671,000 for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The Committee is mindful that CBO requires computing and telecommunications support for their scorekeeping responsibilities, particularly since the House Information Resources (HIR) is planning to replace the mainframe computers now used by CBO. The Committee and others have directed both HIR and the Library of Congress to work out an acceptable solution to CBO's needs.

Effective October 1, 1998, CBO is directed to post on the Internet all papers and publications produced by the Office which can be made available to the public (without regard to whether such papers and publications are first available to the public before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act), and an index to such papers and publications.

Not later than August 30, 1998, or the date the FY1999 Legislative Appropriations Bill Committee of Conference convenes, whichever is earlier, the Director of CBO shall submit to the Speaker, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate, the chairs and ranking minority members of the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the following information:

1. The estimates made by the Office of the revenue generated by changes in Federal tax law enacted in 1978, 1981, 1986, and 1997 (including separate estimates for revenues generated by changes in the rate of tax on capital gains), the detailed assumptions underlying such estimates, a detailed explanation for any discrepancies between such estimates and the revenues actually received, and a description of the steps taken by CBO to prevent such discrepancies in the future.

2. For each of the most recent 5 fiscal years, a detailed explanation of the reasons for each deviation of more than \$25,000,000,000 between the estimated Federal budget deficit or surplus and the actual budget deficit or surplus, together with an explanation of the steps taken by the Office to prevent such discrepancies in the future.

3. For the five most recently completed fiscal years for which first year outlay data are available, (a) a comparison of the first year discretionary outlay estimates for each appropriations account enacted into law categorized under the national defense (function 050), international affairs (function 150), and non-defense budget classifications versus the actual first year expenditures charged against that account and the percentage difference between CBO estimates and actual expenditures; (b) a listing of all accounts showing deviations of plus or minus three percent in two or more consecutive years or plus or minus three percent for any account greater than \$500,000,000; and (c) a case by case explanation for each deviation exceeding \$25,000,000.

4. A detailed explanation of any economic models used by CBO in preparing estimates.

5. A detailed description of any rules, guidelines, or protocols for the creation, dissemination, and peer review of CBO's research and analyses (including self-initiated research and analyses).

The Committee unequivocally supports having an impartial, independent Congressional Budget Office staff protected from political pressure. The Committee will utterly reject any attempt now or in the future to use the appropriations process to pressure the CBO to make revenue forecasts or budget policy forecasts on any basis other than the best professional judgment of the CBO Director and staff.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

(CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT ITEMS ONLY)

1998 appropriation	\$140,135,000
1999 budget estimate	166,142,000
Committee recommendation	121,434,000

The Committee recommends a total of \$121,434,000 for fiscal year 1999 for the various operational and maintenance activities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) that are directly related to the operation of the Congress. Excluded are Senate housekeeping items which are traditionally left for consideration by that body, as well as the appropriations for the Botanic Garden and the structural and mechanical care of the Library of Congress buildings and grounds that are contained in title II of the

bill. This amount is \$44,708,000 below the amount requested, and \$18,701,000 below the fiscal year 1998 appropriation.

A summary of the appropriations recommended follows:

Architect of the Capitol (Excluding Senate and Title II Items)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Architect of the Capitol:	
Capitol buildings and grounds:	
Capitol buildings salaries and expenses	\$40,347,000
Capitol grounds	5,803,000
House office buildings	42,139,000
Capitol Power Plant	33,145,000
Total	121,434,000

CAPITOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Capitol Buildings, Salaries and expenses.—A total of \$40,347,000 is recommended for the operation and maintenance of the Capitol building and the electrical substations of the Senate and House office buildings during fiscal year 1999. An increase of \$1,801,000 for staff pay costs is provided.

The Committee is aware of the significant maintenance backlog that is increasingly difficult to address within current budget constraints. The Architect is directed to develop and submit to the Committee with the FY2000 budget justification a plan that would capture the savings from realized energy efficiencies, and proceeds in excess of costs from the recycling program, within the entire Capitol physical plant to be devoted exclusively to any backlog of maintenance items.

A tabulation of the increases in the annual operating budget and the capital budgets follows:

CAPITOL BUILDINGS
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Operating Budget		
Personnel compensation and benefits	\$24,637,000	\$24,491,000
Travel, rent, and communications	840,600	810,600
Annual maintenance, repairs, and alterations	6,936,000	6,862,000
Supplies, materials, and equipment	751,400	628,400
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$33,165,000	\$32,792,000
Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Budget		
Replace House chamber sound reinforcement system	\$270,000	\$270,000
Conservation of wall paintings	200,000	160,000
Rehabilitate dome	17,500,000	.....
Replace Minton tile	200,000	200,000
Elevator/escalator modernization program	400,000	400,000
Plumbing renovations	400,000	400,000
Upgrade building systems, Capitol	500,000	500,000
Repairs to east front bronze doors	25,000	.....
Analysis & renovation of outside air intake tunnels	50,000	.....
Replace six west front lower terrace windows	150,000	.....
Records Management & Photography Branch equipment	57,000	.....
Roofing repair, around House & Senate chambers	160,000	160,000
Replace windows, restore shutters & upgrade lighting	400,000	.....
Replace electrical wiring in S215, & stairwell by S344	25,000	.....

CAPITOL BUILDINGS—Continued
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Provide steam humidification	210,000	210,000
Replace dimming systems serving east front offices	50,000	.....
Cleaning of historical architectural surfaces	115,000	115,000
Repair/upgrade building birdproofing	50,000	.....
Install cable tray & replace corridor ceiling, east front basement	150,000	.....
Replace sheet metal equipment	115,000	.....
Replace sound systems, committee & hearing rooms	120,000	120,000
Renovation of K-9 Facility, DC village	200,000	50,000
Senate chamber improvements	1,500,000	300,000
Install snow melt system on roof	250,000	250,000
Conduit, pathways & telecom closets upgrade for computer	900,000	900,000
House chamber improvements	300,000	.....
Upgrade the cable television system	1,000,000	.....
Installation of smoke detectors/fire alarms	400,000	400,000
Fire alarm system upgrade for ADA compliance	150,000	150,000
Compliance issues, South Capitol Street warehouse	50,000	50,000
Complex-wide fire & emergency management system	425,000	425,000
ADA requirements	300,000	300,000
Install emergency signs & lighting	80,000	.....
Emergency exit directional signs	25,000	25,000
Roof fall protection/Window Washer Anchors	55,000	.....
Provide infrastructure for security installations	1,000,000	750,000
USCP command center	350,000	.....
USCP communications improvements	1,000,000	.....
Capitol complex integrated security program	475,000	.....
Modifications to South Capitol Street warehouse	150,000	150,000
Chemical & explosive storage facility, D.C. Village	250,000	.....
Install new door locks	155,000	.....
Emergency operations for HVAC systems, Capitol	100,000	100,000
Implementation of AOCNET	400,000	400,000
Integrated Management System (IMS)	650,000	650,000
Computer-Aided Facility Management (CAFM)	650,000	.....
Update electrical system drawings on CAD	60,000	60,000
CAD mechanical database	60,000	60,000
Scanning equipment for drawings and photographs	95,000	.....
Subtotal, Capital Budget	\$22,177,000	\$7,555,000
Total, Capitol Buildings	\$55,342,000	\$40,347,000

¹ Provided in Public Law 105-174, 1998 Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act.

Capitol grounds.—The appropriation of \$5,803,000 is recommended for the care and improvement of the grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol power plant. This amount includes \$242,000 for salary cost increases. A tabulation follows:

CAPITOL GROUNDS
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Operating Budget		
Personnel compensation and benefits	\$3,920,000	\$3,857,000
Annual maintenance, repairs, and alterations	1,215,000	1,211,000
Supplies, materials, and equipment	178,000	145,000
Subtotal, operating budget	\$5,313,000	\$5,213,000

CAPITOL GROUNDS—Continued
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Budget		
Parking lot improvements	\$350,000	.....
Refurbish Taft Memorial carillon	130,000	.....
Maintenance of outdoor sculpture: Peace and Garfield	25,000	\$25,000
Install new irrigation and plantings, RHOB west courtyard	50,000	50,000
Renovate & restore RSOB courtyard	40,000	.....
Wayfinding signage	130,000	130,000
ADA Requirements	25,000	25,000
ADA handicapped ramps, House & Senate terraces	500,000	300,000
Capitol square & Senate grounds security	¹ 20,000,000	.....
CAD database development—site utilities & grounds	60,000	60,000
Subtotal, capital budget	\$21,310,000	\$590,000
Total, Capitol grounds	\$26,623,000	\$5,803,000

¹ Provided in Public Law 105-174, 1998 Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act.

House office buildings.—For House office buildings, \$42,139,000 is provided, including \$572,000 for salary cost increases.

The Committee is concerned about the condition of fire-protection systems in House office buildings. During April and May 1998, three fires in the Longworth and O'Neill Buildings caused injury to Capitol Police Officers and raised serious questions about the effectiveness of fire-protection systems and fire alarms. The Committee believes these incidents may demonstrate that, despite the expenditure of considerable sums to improve fire safety in House office buildings, substantial problems remain, threatening Members, employees and visitors.

The Committee directs the House Inspector General to conduct an audit of fire-protection systems in House office buildings and the House wing of the Capitol. The Inspector General should utilize the services of an independent fire-protection engineering firm, and should at a minimum, test and evaluate the House fire-protection systems, review existing specifications, and inspect House buildings in consultation with the House Sergeant at Arms. The Inspector General shall report his findings to the Committees on Appropriations and House Oversight no later than October 8, 1998.

A tabulation follows:

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Operating Budget		
Personnel compensation and benefits	\$26,698,000	\$26,062,000
Annual maintenance, repairs, and alterations	2,826,000	2,799,000
Supplies, materials, and equipment	1,518,000	1,254,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$31,042,000	\$30,115,000
Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Budget		
Install Sprinklers & Telecom Cable Tray System, RHOB	\$2,564,000	\$2,564,000
Fire alarm system upgrade for ADA, HOB's	150,000	150,000
ADA requirements, HOB's	400,000	400,000

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS—Continued

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Roof fall protection	140,000	.....
Firing Range Ventilation & Egress, RHOB	50,000	50,000
Replace Fire Pump, CHOB	85,000	85,000
Install Emergency Fire Communication System, LHOB	120,000	120,000
Emergency exit directional signs	120,000	120,000
Elevator Modernization Program	700,000	700,000
Escalator Modernization Program, RHOB & CHOB	300,000	300,000
Garage Floor Repairs, CHOB	1,000,000	1,000,000
Refurbish/Replace Windows, CHOB	200,000	200,000
Major Elevator Equipment Improvements	120,000	120,000
Repair Domestic Hot & Cold Water, RHOB	50,000	.....
Repair House East & West Garages	50,000	.....
Repair of Rain Leaders, CHOB	85,000	.....
Replacement of Roof, LHOB 6th & 7th Floors	3,200,000	3,200,000
Replace Existing Secondary Distribution System, LHOB	130,000	130,000
Replace Windows, FHOB	75,000	.....
Repair Steam Condensate Return, LHOB	50,000	.....
Upgrade HVAC System, CHOB	80,000	.....
Upgrade Controls for Air Handling Units, FHOB	60,000	60,000
Upgrade RHOB—Capitol Subway	100,000	.....
Garage Floor Repairs, RHOB	100,000	100,000
Electrical & telecom systems renovations, CHOB	1,200,000	1,200,000
Sound Improvements, Committee Hearing Rooms	450,000	450,000
Lightning Protection System, HOB's	75,000	75,000
Humidification for Air Handling Units, FHOB	100,000	100,000
Conduits & Pathways for Cat 5 & Event Room Cabling	900,000	900,000
Kiosk at Delaware Ave & C St. SW for USCP	52,000	.....
Renovations to B-43, CHOB (Finance Office)	50,000	.....
Subtotal, Capital Budget	\$12,756,000	\$12,024,000
Total, House Office Buildings	\$43,798,000	\$42,139,000

Capitol Power Plant.—The Committee recommends the appropriation of \$33,145,000 for the Capitol power plant for fiscal year 1999, plus offsetting collections of \$4,000,000. An increase of \$249,000 is included for staff COLA's and other mandatory increases. A tabulation follows:

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee Recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Operating Budget		
Personnel compensation and benefits	\$5,260,000	\$5,162,000
Travel, rent, utilities and communications	25,613,000	25,613,000
Annual maintenance, supplies and materials	5,754,000	5,725,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$36,627,000	\$36,500,000
Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Budget		
Replace dealkalizer resin	\$85,000	.....
Replace bladder in sump, West Refrigeration Plant	75,000	\$75,000
Replace valves in steam & chilled water distribution system	100,000	100,000
Replace coal yard belts	160,000	160,000
Optimization of operations, CPP	100,000	100,000
Optimization of chilled water distribution system	150,000	150,000
Cogeneration facility	2,000,000	.....

CAPITOL POWER PLANT—Continued
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee Recommendation
East Plant replacement	5,000,000	.....
Roof Fall Protection	22,000	.....
Update CAD Drawings for CPP	60,000	60,000
Subtotal, Capital Budget	\$7,752,000	\$645,000
Less: Estimated Reimbursements	(4,000,000)	(4,000,000)
Total, Capitol Power Plant	\$40,379,000	\$33,145,000

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

1998 appropriation	\$64,603,000
1999 budget estimate	68,461,000
Committee recommendation	66,688,000

Salaries and expenses.—The Committee recommends \$66,688,000, including an increase of \$2,588,000 for mandatory items and \$325,600 for price level increases, for fiscal year 1999 for the salaries and expenses of the Congressional Research Service. The funding is premised on a personnel replacement policy that will provide entry level funding for the vacancies that will result from impending departures of senior level personnel in the coming years.

CRS management should take immediate steps to preclude a large retirement contingent from depleting the institutional capabilities required of the agency. A forward looking policy that recruits new personnel at lower entry level grades will allow more evenly proportioned staffing grade distributions which should alleviate the anxiety caused by the grade creep that CRS management has allowed to develop. This policy will also provide opportunities to current non-professional staff throughout the Library of Congress who may aspire to and more easily qualify for CRS professional positions. Such employees will benefit from in-service training and on-the-job experience and will provide a professional workforce that will help insulate CRS from the prospects they now envision due to the impending retirement of senior staff. Furthermore, although both the Librarian of Congress and the Director of CRS testified that their highest priority need is to assign staff to areas where attrition may cause subject matter deficiencies, CRS has been singularly unwilling to consider using current vacancies to re-allocate the number needed to these high priority areas. The Committee will consider any reasonable reprogramming request to mitigate these needs, but Library and CRS management must show initiative and flexibility to solve these problems within the resources provided.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING

1998 appropriation	\$81,669,000
1999 budget estimate	84,000,000
Committee recommendation	74,465,000

The Committee has included an appropriation of \$74,465,000 for printing and binding of congressional documents at the Government Printing Office for use by Congress and by-law programs. This level of funding is predicated upon the savings that will be generated from the installation of the direct-to-plate technology and the FTE level at the plant. Current GPO FTE utilization is about 100 below the current ceiling.

There has been a suggestion that the Committee provide this funding directly to the Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate, instead of making the traditional Congressional printing and binding appropriation to the Government Printing Office. The Committee has not done that because, without taking a position on the capabilities of the Senate, the House currently does not possess the printing expertise or staffing to undertake this important additional responsibility. There are also major questions regarding the statutory requirements of Title 44, which governs Congressional printing as well as the printing regulations for the entire Federal government. It is doubtful that the House and Senate can significantly improve the cost-effectiveness or control of the printing program without change to current statutes and practice. A change in the appropriation structure, therefore, would be a major undertaking and create unknown risk in the execution of Congressional printing needs. So the Committee has deferred this suggestion until its ramifications and plans for implementation can be better understood.

It is clear, however, that an evaluation should be undertaken of the future needs for Congressional printing. Improvements in technology, telecommunications, and the emergence of the Cyber-Congress have created many opportunities for the future conduct of acquiring documents or other media to support the operations of the House and Senate. The Committee, therefore, directs the Clerk of the House, in consultation with the Secretary of the Senate and the Public Printer, to evaluate the needs of the House and Senate for document preparation and management and other printing needs, including bills, reports, hearings, journals, the Congressional Record, and all other Congressional documents. The Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Senate, in consultation with the Public Printer and other interested parties, should ascertain the most cost-effective program for providing printed or other media-based publications for House and Senate uses. It may be necessary to conduct some studies or pilot tests in making this evaluation and the Clerk should utilize existing funds for such purposes. Such an evaluation may recommend changes in Title 44 that would be considered by the authorizing committees of jurisdiction. The Clerk is directed to provide a comprehensive report to the Committee on the progress made with this evaluation during the FY2000 appropriation hearings. This report should also be transmitted to the Committee on House Oversight.

A comparative summary of the recommendation by category of work follows:

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING

	Appropriation 1998	Requested 1999	Recommended 1999
Congressional Record program	\$19,725,000	\$18,820,000	.....
Miscellaneous publications	4,290,000	5,220,000	.....
Miscellaneous printing and binding	13,720,000	15,450,000	.....
Details to Congress	1,886,000	1,763,000	.....
Document envelopes and document franks	1,485,000	1,450,000	.....
Business and committee calendars	2,992,000	2,024,000	.....
Bills, resolutions, and amendments	12,064,000	12,810,000	.....
Committee reports	2,924,000	3,150,000	.....
Documents	2,046,000	2,015,000	.....
Hearings	18,941,000	19,698,000	.....
Committee prints	1,596,000	1,600,000	.....
Total	81,669,000	84,000,000	74,465,000

TITLE II—OTHER AGENCIES

A total of \$691,168,000 is recommended for the five programs carried in this title of the bill. This allowance is \$33,005,000 less than requested and \$25,694,000 above the amount appropriated in fiscal year 1998.

A summary of the amounts recommended by agency follows:

Title II—Other Agencies

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Botanic Garden	\$3,032,000
Library of Congress (except Congressional Research Service)	291,701,000
Architect of the Capitol: Congressional Cemetery	1,000,000
Architect of the Capitol: Library buildings and grounds	11,933,000
Government Printing Office (except Congressional Printing and Binding)	29,264,000
General Accounting Office (net appropriation)	354,238,000
Total	691,168,000

BOTANIC GARDEN

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$3,016,000
1999 budget estimate	3,235,000
Committee recommendation	3,032,000

The amount recommended for the Botanic Garden is \$3,032,000, including \$16,000 for mandatory salary items. A tabulation follows:

BOTANIC GARDEN

[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Operating Budget		
Personnel compensation and benefits	\$2,937,000	\$2,820,000
Travel, rent, and communications	6,000	6,000
Annual maintenance, repairs, and alterations	69,000	69,000

BOTANIC GARDEN—Continued
[Request versus recommendation]

Item	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Supplies, materials, and equipment	157,000	137,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	\$3,169,000	\$3,032,000
Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Budget		
Roof fall protection	\$16,000	.....
Administrative building renovations & ADA	50,000	.....
Subtotal, Capital Budget	\$66,000	.....
Total, Botanic Garden	\$3,235,000	\$3,032,000

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

(EXCEPT CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE)

The Committee recommends appropriations totaling \$291,701,000 for the operations of the Library of Congress (except the Congressional Research Service, which is carried in title I of the bill) for fiscal year 1999. The following table summarizes the allocation of funds by appropriation account:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Library of Congress</i>	
Fiscal year 1999:	
Salaries and expenses	\$227,972,000
Copyright Office	12,727,000
Books for the blind and physically handicapped	46,824,000
Furniture and furnishings	4,178,000
Total	291,701,000

TOTAL RESOURCES

The Library also receives funds from other appropriations and sources estimated to total \$223,465,000 for fiscal year 1999 including \$66,688,000 for the Congressional Research Service in title I of the bill, and \$11,933,000 appropriated to the Architect of the Capitol for the structural and mechanical care of the Library buildings. The remainder consists of receipts from copyright fees, the sale of catalog records and publications, sponsors of an international database, income from gift and trust funds, and reimbursements for services performed for other Government agencies. Thus, a total of \$515,166,000 from all sources will be available to the Library during the next fiscal year. Of that amount, \$137,983,000 (26.8%) is for support of Congress. The balance is general government or public service in nature, such as the Copyright Office, the National Library Service, the Federal Research Division, and the many services conducted for the Nation's libraries.

The appropriations in the bill for all Library programs will finance the level of full time equivalent positions currently projected for fiscal year 1999, now estimated by the Library of Congress at 4,076. In addition, there are several hundred other positions financed through reimbursable and gift and trust fund programs.

The bill does provide an increase of \$10,241,000 in mandatory costs for the current FTE base, with the assumption that normal salary lapse will include filling vacancies at entry level grade levels. Thus, the Library of Congress has received full funding for their current staffing level.

A breakdown by source and amount of funding follows:

<i>Total resources, Library of Congress, 1999</i>	
<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Annual appropriations:	
Title I—Congressional Research Service	\$66,688,000
Title II—Library (direct)	291,701,000
Architect of the Capitol, Library buildings and grounds	11,933,000
Total annual appropriations (in bill)	370,322,000
Receipts from copyright fees, sale of catalog records and publications, and sponsors of international legal database	28,020,000
Gift, trust and revolving funds	29,847,000
Reimbursement for services performed	86,977,000
Total	515,166,000

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$219,635,000
1999 budget estimate	232,915,000
Committee recommendation	227,972,000
(Plus: Authority to spend receipts)	(6,850,000)
Total available	234,822,000

The sum of \$234,822,000, including \$6,850,000 in offsetting receipts, is recommended for salaries and expenses, which is the basic appropriation for the operation of Library programs, a reduction of \$4,943,000 under the budget request and an increase of \$8,337,000 above 1998. This level of funding provides for 2,692 FTE's, including all necessary mandatory costs, which is the number of FTE's projected for the current year in the salaries and expenses program. For the American Folklife Center, funding is provided for operation and maintenance which is in addition to normal administrative assistance and customary support of its core activities provided by other Library organizations.

No new positions are provided. To the extent additional positions are required, the Library is encouraged to fund them through attrition or reprogramming requests. Price level requests have been limited to 2%, subject to reallocation by the Library for higher priorities. For the purchase of books, \$9,869,000 is provided, in addition to the collections acquired through the copyright program, gifts, and exchange programs.

Funding to begin occupying the remote storage facility at Fort Meade is provided, \$550,700. The Library is reminded that the Committee believes, based on comparable experience at Harvard University and the University of Texas, that part time student assistance will work very nicely at the new facility. Even with a contractor operated facility, such a staffing plan would yield a low cost operation.

The Library has submitted a document describing a spending program for collections security. The program lacks any notion of measurable objectives of the program, or any measures of effective-

ness that can be applied to a decision on the merits of the program. A “spending” plan is not a plan that the Committee will seriously consider. The Library must develop measurements of the extent of the problem they are attempting to solve and evaluate alternatives to achieving reasonable management objectives. The Library needs to develop a serious approach to planning in general. Investments in security, storage buildings, space utilization, and all other perceived needs require analysis beyond a plan to spend additional resources. For example, the Library wants to expand the use of storage building usage at Fort Meade. But when asked to document exactly how much is stored in existing buildings and future storage needs, the Library was unable to provide even basic answers. The cost estimates that were provided regarding future investments at the Culpeper facility were largely discounted because they were based on incomplete analysis due to a last minute rush to obtain the necessary authorization to proceed with the acquisition of the property. Until the Library acquires the necessary internal planning and analysis capability, one not dependent solely on outside consultants (although outside consultants can make important contributions), management will only find reasons to justify more resources instead of finding cost-effective methods and alternatives to decrease costs in order to achieve or to finance expansion of capabilities. The Integrated Library System may become a very good example of cost-effective planning at the Library of Congress, if the savings used to justify the project do materialize and are actually taken.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

1998 appropriation	\$11,935,000
1999 budget request	14,099,000
Committee recommendation	12,727,000
(Plus: Authority to spend receipts)	(21,170,000)
Total available	33,897,000

Salaries and expenses.—A direct appropriation of \$12,727,000 is provided for the Copyright Office during fiscal year 1999, and authority has been provided to spend up to \$21,170,000 in receipts from copyright fees and assessments to the copyright owners fund for the costs of administering the copyright royalty program. This funding provides all mandatory increases and an additional six (6) FTE's, financed from receipts.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

1998 appropriation	\$46,561,000
1999 budget estimate	48,145,000
Committee recommendation	46,824,000

Salaries and expenses.—A total of \$46,824,000 is recommended for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, an increase of \$263,000 over the amount provided in fiscal year 1998. This funding provides for mandatory increases and \$800,000 to increase the number of talking book machines in the field by 3,766. Including funding allowed in last year's bill, over 9,300 playback machines have been added to this program, an increase of over 18%.

FURNITURE AND FURNISHINGS

1998 appropriation	\$4,178,000
1999 budget estimate	5,712,000
Committee recommendation	4,178,000

The bill provides a total of \$4,178,000 for Library furniture and furnishings for fiscal year 1999.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The routine administrative provisions have been approved by the Committee as well as a new provision authorizing the Library to receive funds from participants in, and sponsors of, the global legal information network (GLIN) project at the Law Library.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

1998 appropriation .....	.....
1999 budget estimate .....	.....
Committee Recommendation	\$1,000,000

The bill provides funding, to be matched by privately donated funds, to preserve and maintain historic Congressional Cemetery. The National Trust for Historic Preservation (Trust) cited the Cemetery in 1997 as one of America's eleven most endangered historic places due to neglect, vandalism, theft and deterioration from pollution. The recommended funds provide for a grant to be made by the Architect of the Capitol to the Trust, to be used for routine annual care and maintenance of the cemetery; and it will be matched by donated contributions raised by the Congressional Cemetery Association. There are currently 78 Representatives and 14 Senators buried at the Congressional Cemetery, as well as many other notable persons. Pursuant to an agreement with the Architect of the Capitol and the Cemetery Association, the Trust will invest the grant and matching donated funds in a restricted endowment and make distributions from the fund to the Association for routine annual care and maintenance. The restricted endowment, as well as the transactions made by the Association, will be subject to audit by the General Accounting Office to assure proper use of these funds. In fiscal year 1983, a one-time appropriation and grant was made available to the Congressional Cemetery. It is the Committee's intent that this fund will provide a permanent source of funds to fully support annual, routine care and maintenance. The Committee has presumed that the current level of maintenance by the Department of Veterans Affairs will not be reduced.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

1998 appropriation	\$11,573,000
1999 budget estimate	16,139,000
Committee recommendation	11,933,000

The Committee bill provides \$11,933,000 for the care and maintenance of the Library of Congress buildings and grounds, which is administered by the Architect of the Capitol. Increases for staff pay

costs total \$260,000. A tabulation of annual operating cost increases and the capital budget follows:

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

[Request versus recommendation]

	Amount requested	Committee recommendation
Fiscal Year 1999 Operating Budget		
Personnel compensation and benefits	\$7,456,000	\$7,417,000
Annual maintenance, repairs, and alterations	1,505,000	1,418,000
Supplies, materials, equipment and grounds	704,000	631,000
Subtotal, Operating Budget	<u>\$9,665,000</u>	<u>\$9,466,000</u>
Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Budget		
Elevator/escalator modernization	\$360,000	\$360,000
Replace sprinkler heads, TJB & JMMB	100,000	100,000
Repair roof under east parking lot, TJB	200,000	200,000
Replace deteriorated piping, TJB	100,000	100,000
Replace sidewalks, TJB & JAB	100,000	.....
Replace electrical snow melting equipment, JMMB	100,000	100,000
Restoration of decorative painting, TJB & JAB	100,000	100,000
Replace variable speed drives, TJB & JAB	100,000	100,000
Conservation of Blashfield & other murals, TJB	45,000	45,000
Replace convector controls, JMMB	100,000	100,000
Book stack lighting controls, TJB & JAB	200,000	200,000
Lightning protection, JMMB	40,000	.....
Screening/holding facility	500,000	.....
HVAC improvements NW curtain, TJB	600,000	.....
Preservations environment monitoring	100,000	100,000
Visitors center, TJB	200,000	.....
Copyright Deposit Facility, Ft. Meade	500,000	.....
ADA requirements	200,000	200,000
Replace smoke detectors, JMMB	100,000	100,000
Fire alarm system upgrade for ADA compliance	150,000	150,000
Modify exit doors for compliance	100,000	100,000
Replace HVAC eliminator plates, TJB & JAB	150,000	150,000
Emergency exit directional door signs	62,000	62,000
Roof fall protection	165,000	.....
Compact bookstack safety review, JMMB	200,000	.....
Indoor security improvements—cages & vaults	50,000	.....
Exterior security improvements	600,000	200,000
Install additional readers	652,000	.....
Book conveyor system security	400,000	.....
Upgrade building security systems	200,000	.....
Subtotal, Capital Budget	<u>\$6,474,000</u>	<u>\$2,467,000</u>
Total, Library Buildings and Grounds	<u>\$16,139,000</u>	<u>\$11,933,000</u>

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

A provision has been included that provides authority for the Architect to make a grant to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the care and maintenance of Congressional Cemetery. Another provision limits the portion of appropriated funds that may be expended for improvements to the National Audio Visual Conservation Center to one-third of the amount raised for such purposes through donations.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
(EXCEPT CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING)
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

1998 appropriation	\$29,077,000
1999 budget estimate	30,200,000
Committee recommendation	29,264,000

The Committee recommends the appropriation of \$29,264,000, an increase of \$187,000, for the salaries and expenses of the Superintendent of Documents, a part of the Government Printing Office. The principal component of this activity is the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), which is responsible for supplying about 1,400 designated libraries throughout the country with federal documents.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE REVOLVING FUND

Revolving fund.—The bill includes the usual language authorizing the operation of the revolving fund, authority to hire or purchase automobiles, advisory councils, consultants, and flextime. The limit on full-time equivalent employment has been set at 3,416.

The Government Printing Office has purchased a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) financial software product to support its standard general ledger accounting requirements. The Committee directs GPO to coordinate the implementation of this COTS product with the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) to ensure that the new system supports the vision and goals statement adopted by the LBFMC. In addition, the Committee directs that the Public Printer implement the recommendations of the recent management audit conducted by Booz-Allen and Hamilton Inc., as appropriate. A report should be prepared annually, coincident with the submission of the annual budget; such report to be transmitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on House Oversight, and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

The request for \$6,000,000 for building equipment has not been allowed. One of the purposes of the GPO revolving fund is to supply the capital for such improvements, which should be supported by revenues from GPO customers.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

1998 appropriation	\$339,499,000
1999 budget estimate	367,728,000
Committee recommendation	354,238,000
Offsetting collections	(2,000,000)
Total available	356,238,000

The Committee has provided \$356,238,000 in direct appropriations for the General Accounting Office, of which \$2,000,000 is in offsetting collections derived from reimbursements for conducting financial audits of government corporations. This level of funding

will support 3,225 FTE's, a small increase above the number currently expected to be utilized in fiscal 1998. The Committee continues to believe that GAO can maximize effectiveness by using consulting firms and other experts in lieu of internal staff. Several recent examples have demonstrated the utility of this approach, which gives maximum flexibility to the agency and assures the requisite expertise for Congressional customers. GAO management has allocated only token funds to contract program evaluation or audit work, instead giving higher priority to hiring more internal staff. That approach loses the advantage of the significant success of the recent downsizing effort and may lead to another staff build-up that will create agency inflexibility and added bureaucracy. GAO should be concentrating on providing the professional staff with contract management skills in addition to the highly developed professional expertise they already possess.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The customary language regarding emergency assistance for vehicles, positions and allowances, consulting services, buy American and the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council is included. There is a provision that authorizes the Architect to enter into energy savings performance contracts with energy service companies (ESCO's) and provisions that provide authority to the Architect of the Capitol and the Public Printer to establish retirement incentive programs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Clause 2(1)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives states that:

Each report of a committee on a bill or joint resolution of a public character shall include a statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution.

The Committee on Appropriations bases its authority to report this legislation on Clause 7 of Section 9 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States of America, which states:

No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of Appropriations made by law. * * *

Appropriations contained in this Act are made pursuant to this specific power granted by the Constitution.

COMPARISON WITH BUDGET RESOLUTION

Section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-344), as amended, requires that the report accompanying a bill providing new budget authority contain a statement detailing how that authority compares with the reports submitted under section 302(b) of the Act for the most recently agreed to concurrent resolution on the budget for the fiscal year.

This information follows:

[In millions of dollars]

	Sec. 302(b)		This Bill	
	Budget au- thority	Outlays	Budget au- thority	Outlays
Discretionary	\$2,360	\$2,340	\$1,806	\$1,798
Mandatory	94	94	77	77
Total	\$2,454	\$2,434	\$1,883	\$1,875

The bill provides no new spending authority as described in section 401(c)(2) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-344), as amended.

FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION OF OUTLAYS

In accordance with section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-344), as amended, the following table contains five-year projections of the outlays associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

Five-year projection of outlays

	<i>Millions</i>
Budget authority	\$1,883
Outlays:	
1999	1,561
2000	167
2001	35
2002	9
2003	3

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In accordance with section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-344), as amended, the Committee is required to report new budget authority and outlays providing financial assistance to State and local governments. The accompanying bill contains no funding for State and local assistance programs.

TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule X of the House of Representatives, the following is submitted describing the transfers of funds recommended in the accompanying bill:

No transfers of funds are included.

RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule X of the House of Representatives, the following is submitted describing the rescissions recommended in the accompanying bill:

There are no rescissions recommended in the bill.

CHANGES IN THE APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3, rule XXI of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of pro-

visions in the accompanying bill which directly or indirectly change the application of existing law:

1. The bill provides that certain appropriation items remain available for more than one year where programs or projects are continuing in nature under the provisions of authorizing legislation but for which that legislation does not specifically authorize such extended availability. Most of these items have been carried in previous appropriation bills. This authority tends to result in savings by removing the incentive to commit funds at the end of the fiscal year.

2. The bill includes a number of provisions which place limitations on, or which authorize or reauthorize, the use of funds in the bill, or change or extend existing limitations, appropriations, or authorizations, and which under some circumstances might be construed as changing the application of existing law.

3. There is language that allows reimbursement for service to be used by the servicing entity.

4. The bill continues the practice of providing official reception and representation allowances for officers and offices of the legislative branch.

5. The bill authorizes expenses for employee awards, such as certificates or plaques and related ceremonial presentations, by certain agencies.

6. There is language removing the Architect of the Capitol from the House Page Board.

7. There is language authorizing a training and development program, the use of consultants, the incidental use of supplies and equipment, and a technical correction to the use of Members Representational Allowances.

8. There is language authorizing a delay until after the end of a Congress for publishing certain information in the Report on Disbursements; and another provision which authorizes a transit pass program.

9. There is language which provides that amounts remaining after payments are made from the account for Members Representational Allowances shall be used for deficit reduction.

10. There is language under "Capitol Police Board, General Expenses" authorizing advance payments for travel by Capitol Police personnel for training or other purposes, expenses associated with the relocation of liaison or instructor personnel from the Capitol Police force to and from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia, and for the costs of basic training of police personnel.

11. The bill authorizes the transfer of funds within "Capitol Police, Salaries", and between "Capitol Police, Salaries", and "General Expenses", subject to approval.

12. There is language under "Capitol Power Plant", Architect of the Capitol, allowing reimbursements for chilled water and steam provided to the Government Printing Office, the Washington City Post Office, the Supreme Court, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, Union Station Complex and the Folger Shakespeare Library to be credited to this appropriation and made available for obligation.

13. There is language under "Congressional Research Service" which prohibits the publication of material unless approved by the appropriate committees, and language is extended regarding the compensation of the Director.

14. There is language under "Congressional printing and binding" restricting the use of funds appropriated to the Government Printing Office for the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners, or Delegates, and language providing that appropriations recommended shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years, primarily due to the unpredictability of the volume of work generated by the Congress. Also, the FY98 bill has been amended to clarify that a funds transfer is a limitation, and that unused funds remain with the revolving fund.

15. There is authority to expend funds collected under the authority of 2 U.S.C. 150, the balance to remain available until expended.

16. There is a limitation on funding for attendance at meetings for the Library of Congress; a limitation on top-level management participation in compressed work schedules; and authority to accept funds from users of an international legal information data base.

17. There is a limitation on the number of indirect employees that are paid from appropriated funds received by the Library of Congress from other agencies. These funds are generated by performing reimbursable work for these other agencies and are used to cover general and administrative overhead work generated by these reimbursable programs.

18. A grant, with appropriate terms and conditions, for the care and maintenance of Congressional Cemetery, is authorized.

19. There is language establishing a 3:1 ratio for private to public funding for an audio visual center.

20. There is language under "Salaries and Expenses", Office of Superintendent of Documents, which limits travel expenses and which authorizes the use of current appropriations for printing certain publications for the depository library program.

21. There is language authorizing the operation of the GPO revolving fund, and which authorizes travel expenses for advisory councils.

22. Under the GPO revolving fund, there is language that provides expenses not to exceed \$75,000 for attendance at meetings.

23. The bill includes a limitation on GPO employment of not more than 3,416 full-time equivalent work years.

24. There is a limitation on the participation of top-level GPO management in flexible or compressed work schedules.

25. There is language relating to the General Accounting Office authorizing the direct procurement of expert and consultant services under 5 U.S.C. 3109, at certain rates; authorizing the hire of one passenger motor vehicle, as required by 31 U.S.C. 1343; authorizing the General Accounting Office to make advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3324; and to provide certain benefits, including rental of living quarters in foreign countries; appropriations are authorized for administrative ex-

penses of any other member department or agency to finance an appropriate share of the costs of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP); the American Consortium on International Public Administration (ACIPA), and the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum. The ACIPA language satisfies the requirements of P.L. 100–202.

26. In Section 301, there is language prohibiting the use of funds in the Act for the maintenance or care of private vehicles except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House issued by the Committee on House Oversight and for the Senate by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

27. Section 303 provides that whenever any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 is appropriated for herein or whenever the rate of compensation or designation of any position appropriated for herein is different from that specifically established for such position by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation of the position, or either, appropriated for or provided herein, shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: Provided that the provisions herein for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House, and clerk hire for Senators and Members shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

28. Section 304 requires that certain information regarding consulting services shall be a matter of public record.

29. Section 305 is a sense of Congress provision regarding American-made products.

30. There is a provision which authorizes legislative branch entities to share the costs of the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council.

31. There is a provision that authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to enter into energy savings performance contracts.

32. The Architect of the Capitol and the Public Printer are authorized to conduct a retirement incentive program.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, CL. 3 (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in *italic*, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 311 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1991

SEC. 311. (a) * * *

* * * * *

(e)(1) * * *

(2) The Official Mail Allowance—

(A) shall be available for postage for franked mail sent at a first class, third class, or fourth class rate;

(B) with respect to a Member of the House of Representatives, shall be available, in a session of Congress, in a total amount, as determined under paragraph (1)(A), of not more than the product of (i) 3 times the single-piece rate applicable to first class mail, and (ii) the number (as determined by the Postmaster General) of addresses (other than business possible delivery stops) in the congressional district, as such addresses are described in section 3210(d)(7)(B) of title 39, United States Code; *and*

(C) with respect to any other person entitled to use the congressional frank in the House of Representatives (including any Member of the House of Representatives who receives an allocation under subsection (a)(2) with respect to duties as an elected officer of, or holder of another position in, the House of Representatives), shall be available, in a session of Congress, in a total amount determined under paragraph (1)(A) [; and].

[(D) shall not be available for payment of any nonpostage fee or charge, including any fee or charge for express mail, express mail drop shipment, certified mail, registered mail, return receipt, address correction, or postal insurance.]

* * * * *

[(4) The Members' Representational Allowance shall be available to a Member of the House of Representatives for the payment of nonpostage fees and charges referred to in paragraph (2)(D) and for postage for mail for official business sent outside the United States.]

* * * * *

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1047, NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS

That (a) * * *

(b) For payment of expenses incurred in carrying out subsection (a) of this section, there shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, until otherwise provided by law, such sums as may be necessary but not to exceed ~~[\$55,000]~~ \$80,000 in any calendar year. Such payments shall be made on vouchers signed by the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and approved by the Committee on House Administration.

* * * * *

SECTION 2 OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 611, NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

SEC. 2. (a) The Page Board shall consist of—

(1) two Members of the House appointed by the Speaker and one Member of the House appointed by the minority leader; *and*

(2) the Clerk and the Sergeant at Arms of the House [; and].

[(3) the Architect of the Capitol.]

* * * * *

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

* * * * *

TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS

* * * * *

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized printing and binding for the Congress and the distribution of Congressional information in any format, printing and binding for the Architect of the Capitol; expenses necessary for preparing the semimonthly and session index to the Congressional Record, as authorized by law (44 U.S.C. 902); printing and binding of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and printing, binding, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, **[\$81,669,000, of which \$11,017,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Government Printing Office revolving fund under section 309 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided,*** **\$70,652,000: *Provided, That an additional amount of not more than \$11,017,000 may be derived by transfer from the Government Printing Office revolving fund under section 309 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further,**** That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under 44 U.S.C. 906: *Provided further,* That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years.

* * * * *

TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE

CHAPTER 55—PAY ADMINISTRATION

* * * * *

SUBCHAPTER IX—SEVERANCE PAY AND BACK PAY

* * * * *

§ 5595. Severance pay

(a) For the purpose of this section—

(1) “agency” means—

(A) * * *

* * * * *

(F) the Office of the Architect of the Capitol~~], but only with respect to the United States Senate Restaurants~~];
and

(2) “employee” means—

(A) an individual employed in or under an agency; and
 (B) an individual employed by a county committee established under section 590h(b) of title 16;
 but does not include—

(i) * * *

* * * * *

(viii) an employee [of the United States Senate Restaurants] of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, who is employed on a temporary when actually employed basis; or

* * * * *

SECTION 310 OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SEC. 310. (a) * * *

* * * * *

(b) **EARLY RETIREMENT.**—(1) This subsection applies to an employee [of the United States Senate Restaurants] of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol who—

(A) voluntarily separates from service on or after the date of enactment of this Act and before October 1, [1999;] 1999 *(or, in the case of an individual who is not an employee of the United States Senate Restaurants, on or after the date of the enactment of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1999 and before October 1, 2001)*; and

* * * * *

(c) **VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.**—(1) In this subsection, the term “employee” means an employee [of the United States Senate Restaurants] of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, serving without limitation, who has been currently employed for a continuous period of at least 12 months, except that such term shall not include—

(A) * * *

* * * * *

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order to avoid or minimize the need for involuntary separations due to a reduction in force, reorganization, transfer of function, or other similar action affecting the agency, the Architect of the Capitol shall establish a program under which voluntary separation incentive payments may be offered to encourage [not more than 50] eligible employees to separate from service voluntarily (whether by retirement or resignation) during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act through September 30, [1999] 1999 *(or, in the case of an individual who is not an employee of the United States Senate Restaurants, on or after the date of the enactment of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1999 and before October 1, 2001)*. The number of employees of the United States Senate Restaurants to whom voluntary separation incentive payments may be

offered under the program established under the previous sentence may not exceed 50.

* * * * *

(e) RETRAINING, JOB PLACEMENT, AND COUNSELING SERVICES.—

(1) In this subsection, the term “employee”—

(A) means an employee **of the United States Senate Restaurants** of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol; and

* * * * *

(3) A former employee may not participate in a program established under this subsection, if—

(A) the former employee was separated from service with **the United States Senate Restaurants of** the Office of the Architect of the Capitol for more than 1 year; or

* * * * *

SECTION 5595 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE

§ 5595. Severance pay

(a) For the purpose of this section—

(1) * * *

(2) “employee” means—

(A) an individual employed in or under an agency; and

(B) an individual employed by a county committee established under section 590h(b) of title 16;

but does not include—

(i) * * *

* * * * *

(viii) an employee of the United States Senate Restaurants of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, who is employed on a temporary when actually employed basis; **or**

(ix) *an employee of the Government Printing Office, who is employed on a temporary when actually employed basis; or*

[(ix)] (x) such other employee as may be excluded by regulations of the President or such other officer or agency as he may designate.

(b) Under regulations prescribed by the President or such officer or agency as he may designate, an employee who—

(1) * * *

* * * * *

is entitled to be paid severance pay in regular pay periods by the agency from which separated. However, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States may prescribe regulations to affect the application and operation of this section to the agencies specified in subsection (a)(1)(E) of this section. The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe regulations to effect the application and operation of this section to the agency specified in subsection (a)(1)(F) of this section. *The Public Printer may prescribe regulations to ef-*

fect the application and operation of this section to the agency specified in subsection (a)(1)(G) of this section.

* * * * *

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1998 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1999 PERMANENT NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY—TRUST FUNDS

[Becomes available automatically under earlier, or “permanent” law without further, or annual, action by the Congress. Thus, these amounts are not included in the accompanying bill. All amounts are in the form of “appropriations” unless otherwise indicated]

[In millions of dollars]

Agency and item	New budget (obligational) authority, 1998 ¹	Budget estimate of new (obligational) authority, 1999 ¹	Increase (+) or decrease (–)
Library of Congress			
Gift and trust fund accounts, non-revolving	\$23	\$23	
Cooperative Acquisitions Revolving Fund	3	3	
U.S. Capitol Preservation Commission			
Trust funds	1	1	
Architect of the Capitol, Botanic Garden			
Gifts and donations	1	8	+7
Library Buildings and Grounds, Structural and Mechanical Care			
Gifts and donations		2	+2
John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development			
Trust funds	1	1	
Total, Trust funds	29	38	+9

¹ Amounts as estimated and shown in the February 1998 budget document. Some items are indefinite in amount, and thus are subject to later reestimation.

PERMANENT NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY—FEDERAL FUNDS

[Becomes available automatically under earlier, or “permanent” law without further, or annual, action by the Congress. Thus, these amounts are not included in the accompanying bill. All amounts are in the form of “appropriations” unless otherwise indicated]

[In millions of dollars]

Agency and item	New budget (obligational) authority, 1998 ¹	Budget estimate of new (obligational) authority, 1999 ¹	Increase (+) or decrease (–)
House of Representatives			
Congressional use of foreign currency	\$2	\$2	
International conferences and contingencies: House and Senate expenses	1	1	
Compensation of Members and related administrative expenses	74	75	+1
Library of Congress			
Payments to copyright owners (indefinite, special fund)	238	268	+30
Total, Federal funds	315	346	+31

¹ Amounts as estimated and shown in the February 1998 budget document. Some items are indefinite in amount, and thus are subject to later reestimation.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1998 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1999**

Agency and item (1)	Appropriated, 1998 (enacted to date) (2)	Budget esti- mates, 1999 (3)	Recommended in bill (4)	Bill compared with appro- priated, 1998 (5)	Bill compared with budget estimates, 1999 (6)
TITLE I - CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS					
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Payments to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress					
Gratuities, deceased Members	270,300	133,600	136,700	-133,600	+3,100
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker	1,590,000	1,705,000	1,686,000	+96,000	-19,000
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	1,626,000	1,669,000	1,652,000	+26,000	-17,000
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	1,652,000	1,696,000	1,675,000	+23,000	-21,000
Office of the Majority Whip	1,024,000	1,053,000	1,043,000	+19,000	-10,000
Office of the Minority Whip	998,000	1,026,000	1,020,000	+22,000	-6,000
Speaker's Office for Legislative Floor Activities	397,000	406,000	397,000	.....	-9,000
Republican Steering Committee	736,000	753,000	738,000	+2,000	-15,000
Republican Conference	1,172,000	1,205,000	1,199,000	+27,000	-6,000
Democratic Steering and Policy Committee	1,277,000	1,310,000	1,295,000	+18,000	-15,000
Democratic Caucus	631,000	648,000	642,000	+11,000	-6,000
Nine minority employees	1,190,000	1,218,000	1,190,000	.....	-28,000

Training and Development Program:					
Majority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+ 290,000
Minority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+ 290,000
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices	12,293,000	12,689,000	13,117,000	+ 824,000	+ 428,000
Members' Representational Allowances					
Expenses	379,789,000	412,964,000	385,279,000	+ 5,490,000	-27,685,000
Committee Employees					
Standing Committees, Special and Select (except Appropriations)	86,268,000	90,608,000	89,743,000	+ 3,475,000	-865,000
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations)	18,276,000	19,731,000	19,373,000	+ 1,097,000	-358,000
Subtotal, Committee employees	104,544,000	110,339,000	109,116,000	+ 4,572,000	-1,223,000
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk	16,804,000	15,817,000	15,365,000	-1,439,000	-452,000
Office of the Sergeant at Arms	3,564,000	3,611,000	3,501,000	-63,000	-110,000
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	50,727,000	58,829,000	57,211,000	+ 6,484,000	-1,618,000
Office of Inspector General	3,808,000	4,379,000	3,953,000	+ 145,000	-426,000
Office of General Counsel .....	.....	840,000	840,000	+ 840,000	.....
Office of the Chaplain	133,000	136,000	133,000	.....	-3,000
Office of the Parliamentarian	1,101,000	1,106,000	1,106,000	+ 5,000	.....
Office of the Parliamentarian	(852,000)	(904,000)	(904,000)	(+ 52,000)	.....
Compilation of precedents of the House of Representatives	(249,000)	(202,000)	(202,000)	(-47,000)	.....

**COMPARATIVE STATES OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1998 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1999—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) Appropriated, 1998 (Enacted to date)	(3) Budget esti- mates, 1999	(4) Recommended in bill	(5) Bill compared with appro- priated, 1998	(6) Bill compared with budget estimates, 1999
Office of the Law Revision Counsel	1,821,000	1,957,000	1,912,000	+ 91,000	-45,000
Office of the Legislative Counsel	4,827,000	4,980,000	4,980,000	+153,000	.....
Corrections Calendar Office	791,000	810,000	799,000	+ 8,000	-11,000
Other authorized employees	780,000	191,000	191,000	-589,000	.....
Former Speakers	(594,000)	.....	.....	(-594,000)	.....
Technical Assistants, Office of the Attending Physician...	(186,000)	(191,000)	(191,000)	(+ 5,000)	.....
Subtotal, Salaries, Officers and Employees	84,356,000	92,656,000	89,991,000	+5,635,000	-2,665,000
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	2,225,000	2,706,000	2,575,000	+ 350,000	-131,000
Official mail (committees, leadership, administrative and legislative offices)	500,000	500,000	410,000	-90,000	-90,000
Government contributions	124,390,000	132,949,000	132,832,000	+ 8,442,000	-117,000
Miscellaneous items	641,000	651,000	651,000	+10,000	.....
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses	127,756,000	136,806,000	136,468,000	+ 8,712,000	-338,000
Total, salaries and expenses	708,738,000	765,454,000	733,971,000	+ 25,233,000	-31,483,000
Total, House of Representatives	709,008,300	765,587,600	734,107,700	+ 25,099,400	-31,479,900

JOINT ITEMS					
Joint Economic Committee.....	2,750,000	2,796,000	2,796,000	+46,000	.....
Joint Committee on Printing.....	804,000	804,000	352,000	-452,000	.....
Joint Committee on Taxation.....	5,815,500	6,018,000	6,018,000	+202,500	.....
Office of the Attending Physician					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances.....	1,266,000	1,383,000	1,383,000	+117,000	.....
Capitol Police Board					
Capitol Police					
Salaries:					
Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives.....	34,118,000	36,603,000	35,022,000	+904,000	-1,581,000
Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.....	36,837,000	39,505,000	37,593,000	+756,000	-1,912,000
Subtotal, salaries.....	70,955,000	76,108,000	72,615,000	+1,660,000	-3,493,000
General expenses.....	3,099,000	8,361,000	3,766,000	+667,000	-4,595,000
(By transfer).....	(4,000,000)	.....	.....	(-4,000,000)	.....
Subtotal, Capitol Police.....	74,054,000	84,469,000	76,381,000	+2,327,000	-8,088,000
Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office.....	1,991,000	2,195,000	2,110,000	+119,000	-85,000
Statements of Appropriations.....	30,000	30,000	30,000	.....	.....
Total, Joint items.....	86,710,500	97,695,000	89,070,000	+2,359,500	-8,625,000
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,479,000	2,286,000	2,086,000	-393,000	-200,000
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses.....	24,797,000	25,938,000	25,671,000	+874,000	-267,000

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1998 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1999—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) Appropriated, 1998 (enacted to date)	(3) Budget esti- mates, 1999	(4) Recommended in bill	(5) Bill compared with appro- priated, 1998	(6) Bill compared with budget estimates, 1999
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL					
Capitol Buildings and Grounds					
Capitol buildings, salaries and expenses	44,477,000	55,342,000	40,347,000	-4,130,000	-14,995,000
Capitol grounds.....	25,116,000	26,623,000	5,803,000	-19,313,000	-20,820,000
House office buildings.....	36,610,000	43,798,000	42,139,000	+ 5,529,000	-1,659,000
Capitol Power Plant.....	37,932,000	44,379,000	37,145,000	-787,000	-7,234,000
Offsetting collections.....	-4,000,000	-4,000,000	-4,000,000	.....	.....
Net subtotal, Capitol Power Plant.....	33,932,000	40,379,000	33,145,000	-787,000	-7,234,000
Total, Architect of the Capitol.....	140,135,000	166,142,000	121,434,000	-18,701,000	-44,708,000
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Congressional Research Service					
Salaries and expenses	64,603,000	68,461,000	66,688,000	+ 2,085,000	-1,773,000
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE					
Congressional printing and binding 1/	81,669,000	84,000,000	74,465,000	-7,204,000	-9,535,000
Total, title I, Congressional Operations	1,109,401,800	1,210,109,600	1,113,521,700	+ 4,119,900	-96,587,900

1/ Includes transfer from revolving fund of \$11,017,000.

TITLE II - OTHER AGENCIES					
BOTANIC GARDEN					
Salaries and expenses	3,016,000	3,235,000	3,032,000	+ 16,000	-203,000
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses	227,504,000	239,415,000	234,822,000	+ 7,318,000	-4,593,000
Authority to spend receipts	-7,869,000	-6,500,000	-6,850,000	+ 1,019,000	-350,000
Net subtotal, Salaries and expenses	219,635,000	232,915,000	227,972,000	+ 8,337,000	-4,943,000
Copyright Office, salaries and expenses	34,361,000	35,269,000	33,897,000	-464,000	-1,372,000
Authority to spend receipts	-22,426,000	-21,170,000	-21,170,000	+ 1,256,000	.....
Net subtotal, Copyright Office	11,935,000	14,099,000	12,727,000	+ 792,000	-1,372,000
Books for the blind and physically handicapped, salaries and expenses	46,561,000	48,145,000	46,824,000	+ 263,000	-1,321,000
Furniture and furnishings	4,178,000	5,712,000	4,178,000	.....	-1,534,000
Total, Library of Congress (except CRS)	282,309,000	300,871,000	291,701,000	+ 9,392,000	-9,170,000
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL					
Congressional cemetery .....	.....	.....	1,000,000	+ 1,000,000	+ 1,000,000
Library Buildings and Grounds .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Structural and mechanical care	11,573,000	16,139,000	11,933,000	+ 360,000	-4,206,000

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1998 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1999—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) Appropriated, 1998 (enacted to date)	(3) Budget esti- mates, 1999	(4) Recommended in bill	(5) Bill compared with appro- priated, 1998	(6) Bill compared with budget estimates, 1999
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE					
Office of Superintendent of Documents	29,077,000	30,200,000	29,264,000	+ 187,000	-936,000
Salaries and expenses.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Government Printing Office Revolving Fund		6,000,000	.....	.....	-6,000,000
GPO revolving fund .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total, Government Printing Office.....	29,077,000	36,200,000	29,264,000	+ 187,000	-6,936,000
GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses.....	346,903,000	369,728,000	356,238,000	+9,335,000	-13,490,000
Offsetting collections	-7,404,000	-2,000,000	-2,000,000	+5,404,000	.....
Total, General Accounting Office	339,499,000	367,728,000	354,238,000	+ 14,739,000	-13,490,000
Total, title II, Other agencies.....	665,474,000	724,173,000	691,168,000	+ 25,694,000	-33,005,000
Grand total.....	1,774,875,800	1,934,282,600	1,804,689,700	+ 29,813,900	-129,592,900

TITLE I - CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS				
House of Representatives.....	709,008,300	765,587,600	734,107,700	+ 25,099,400
Joint Items	86,710,500	97,695,000	89,070,000	+ 2,359,500
Office of Compliance.....	2,479,000	2,286,000	2,086,000	-393,000
Congressional Budget Office	24,797,000	25,938,000	25,671,000	+ 874,000
Architect of the Capitol	140,135,000	166,142,000	121,434,000	-18,701,000
Library of Congress: Congressional Research Service	64,603,000	68,461,000	66,688,000	+ 2,085,000
Congressional printing and binding, Government Printing Office	81,669,000	84,000,000	74,465,000	-7,204,000
Total, title I, Congressional operations	1,109,401,800	1,210,109,600	1,113,521,700	+ 4,119,900
TITLE II - OTHER AGENCIES				
Botanic Garden.....	3,016,000	3,235,000	3,032,000	+ 16,000
Library of Congress (except CRS)	282,309,000	300,871,000	291,701,000	+ 9,392,000
Architect of the Capitol (Congressional Cemetery and Library buildings and grounds)	11,573,000	16,139,000	12,933,000	+ 1,360,000
Government Printing Office (except congressional printing and binding)	29,077,000	36,200,000	29,264,000	+ 187,000
General Accounting Office	339,499,000	367,728,000	354,238,000	+ 14,739,000
Total, title II, Other agencies.....	665,474,000	724,173,000	691,168,000	+ 25,694,000
Grand total.....	1,774,875,800	1,934,282,600	1,804,689,700	+ 29,813,900
				-31,479,900
				-8,625,000
				-200,000
				-267,000
				-44,708,000
				-1,773,000
				-9,535,000
				-96,587,900
				-203,000
				-9,170,000
				-3,206,000
				-6,936,000
				-13,490,000
				-33,005,000
				-129,592,900

ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF HON. DAVE OBEY

CBO INDEPENDENCE

I am deeply troubled by misguided attempts of the House Republican leadership to use the appropriations process as a club to pressure the Congressional Budget Office to make more politically advantageous forecasts.

The report accompanying this bill requires the Congressional Budget Office to assess its track record in making key revenue, deficit, surplus, and outlay projections used in the legislative process. This is useful information and I support such assessments.

Regrettably, it has become obvious to all that the House Republican leadership's intent in mandating this review is not to exercise high-minded oversight. It is instead to be used to wage a campaign of intimidation to ultimately force the CBO to cook the books when estimating the cost of their election year tax cuts.

This was made crystal clear in a June 9, 1998 letter on this subject to the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee chairman from the Speaker and four other members of the House Republican leadership. This letter says in part:

We are deeply concerned about the increasing evidence that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) is utterly unable to predict consistent and accurate future revenues or even the fiscal implications of changes in budget policy. Because of these failures, I (sic) urge you to direct the CBO to address these shortcomings immediately.

. . . The CBO must address this problem. *If it does not, I (sic) believe we must review the structure and funding for the CBO in the appropriations cycle.* [Emphasis added]

The reasons behind this desperate act stem from the failure of the House leadership to craft a coherent Budget Resolution this year. In short, the House Republican leadership has crafted a Budget Resolution promising a huge election year tax cut with no way to pay for it. The plan that it originally put forward, which called for paying for this tax cut with additional cuts in Medicare, Medicaid, federal employee health benefits, education, and highway construction among other things, fell on deaf ears with the American People and had to be withdrawn. This left the Republican leadership with a hollow budget plan—numbers with no policy to back it up other than the desire to have a large election year tax cut.

Since they can't find the program reductions to pay for their tax cut, we now see the Republican leadership turning its attention on the relatively defenseless CBO to bail them out. They want the CBO to reverse its professional judgment and decree that the Republican tax cut plan costs less than it really does. If the CBO

doesn't give in, they have threatened their jobs by taking retribution in the appropriations process.

We have seen this sort of bullying tactic used by the House Republican leadership before. Two-and-a-half years ago they tried to bully this President into a bad budget deal by shutting down the government. Ironically, at that time, Republicans were insisting that the President use CBO revenue and spending estimates because they were "honest" (Speaker Gingrich), "very real" (Majority Whip DeLay), and had "no smoke and mirrors" (Rules Committee Chairman Solomon).

Now, we learn that the House Republican leadership really thinks the CBO "is utterly unable to predict consistent and accurate future revenues" and that "the CBO's low estimates have been consistently wrong—and wrong by a country mile." (Letter to Congressman Walsh from Congressman Gingrich, Armey, DeLay, Boehner, and Cox, June 9, 1998).

It should be highly objectionable to Members on both sides of the aisle for the Congressional leadership to threaten CBO's administrative budget, and therefore the jobs of its career staff members, in order to push through a tax cut that can't be paid for in the light of day.

If the Republican leadership succeeds in this endeavor, the credibility and the integrity of the entire congressional budget process is called into question.

That is why I was gratified that my proposal in full committee to add report language expressly rejecting these tactics was accepted on a bipartisan basis. This language states:

The Committee unequivocally supports having an impartial, independent Congressional Budget Office staff protected from political pressure. The Committee will utterly reject any attempt now or in the future to use the appropriations process to pressure the CBO to make revenue forecasts or budget policy forecasts on any basis other than the best professional judgment of the CBO Director and staff.

The Committee's considered opinion is that it will require \$25.671 million to continue the operations of the CBO unabated.

ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF HON. STENY H. HOYER, HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO, HON. ZACH WAMP, HON. VIC FAZIO, HON. FRANK WOLF, HON. JAMES P. MORAN, HON. ROGER WICKER, HON. DAVID OBEY, HON. CHET EDWARDS, HON. JULIAN C. DIXON, HON. NANCY PELOSI, HON. ROSA DeLAURO, HON. W.G. (BILL) HEFNER, HON. NITA LOWEY, HON. MARCY KAPTUR, HON. DAVID PRICE, HON. JOHN MURTHA, HON. MARTIN O. SABO, HON. ED PASTOR, HON. ALAN MOLLOHAN, AND HON. JOHN OLVER

There are many good provisions in this bill. Among the best is Section 108, to provide Members and other employing entities discretionary authority to offer eligible House employees transit passes to encourage use of public transportation. This program, permanently authorized five years ago, is used successfully by over 31,000 employees in 139 federal agencies, and by thousands of employees in the private sector. Here in the Legislative Branch, the Senate, Architect of the Capitol, and Congressional Budget Office offer this benefit, which is paid for entirely out of existing funds and requires no additional appropriation.

A bipartisan majority of the House has co-sponsored an identical measure by Representative Earl Blumenauer. We believe the House should finally implement this program so we can do our part to ease congestion, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and clean the air.

STENY HOYER.
 JOSÉ E. SERRANO.
 VIC FAZIO.
 JIM MORAN.
 CHET EDWARDS.
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