

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2016

MAY 12, 2015.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2250]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

INDEX TO BILL AND REPORT

	<i>Page number</i>	
	<i>Bill</i>	<i>Report</i>
Highlights of Bill	2	2
Title I—Legislative Branch Appropriations	2	4
House of Representatives	2	4
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress	2	4
Salaries and Expenses	2	4
Joint Items:	9	6
Joint Economic Committee	9	6
Joint Committee on Taxation	9	7
Office of the Attending Physician	9	7
Office of Congressional Accessibility Services	10	7
Capitol Police	10	8
Office of Compliance	12	9
Congressional Budget Office	13	9
Architect of the Capitol (except Senate Office Buildings)	13	9
Library of Congress	19	15
Government Publishing Office	23	18
Government Accountability Office	27	19
Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund	29	19
John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development	30	19

	<i>Page number</i>	
	<i>Bill</i>	<i>Report</i>
Title II—General Provisions	30	20
Bill-wide Reporting Requirements		20
Additional Views		39

SUMMARY OF BILL

The accompanying bill contains recommendations for new budget (obligational) authority for fiscal year 2016 for the Legislative Branch. The following table summarizes these recommendations and reflects comparisons with the budget and with amounts appropriated to date for fiscal year 2015:

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

[Note.—Excludes Senate items, including those Senate items under the Architect of the Capitol]
(Amounts in Thousands)

Recapitulation	FY 2015 enacted	FY 2016 request	Bill	Bill vs. enacted	Bill vs. request
House of Representatives:					
Salaries and Expenses	1,180,736	1,180,736	1,180,736	---	---
Joint Items	19,056	19,767	19,469	+413	-298
Capitol Police	347,959	378,900	369,000	+21,041	-9,900
Office of Compliance	3,959	4,020	3,959	---	-61
Congressional Budget Office	45,700	47,270	47,270	+1,570	---
Architect of the Capitol	505,948	577,010	492,171	-13,777	-84,839
Library of Congress	590,921	624,502	591,431	+510	-33,071
Government Publishing Office	119,993	120,000	110,236	-9,757	-9,764
Government Accountability Office	522,000	553,058	522,000	---	-31,058
Open World Leadership Center	5,700	8,000	5,700	---	-2,300
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	430	---	---
Scorekeeping Adjustment	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
Grand total	3,341,402	3,513,693	3,341,402	---	-172,291
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress	---	---	174	+174	+174

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

The Committee recommends \$3,341,401,898 in discretionary resources for operations of the Legislative Branch of government (excluding Senate items). The fiscal year 2016 recommendation is the same as the current fiscal year level and is a decrease of \$172,291,202 below the budget request as amended.

Conforming to longstanding 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. The budget request for the Senate for fiscal year 2016 including those under the Architect of the Capitol totals \$1,015,150,816 as amended.

This bill reflects a continued acknowledgment that the Legislative Branch must set itself as an example for fiscal restraint while continuing to serve the Nation. This bill will require strict fiscal discipline on the part of all congressional offices and all agency heads in the Legislative Branch.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH-WIDE MATTERS

Zero Base Budgeting.—The Committee continues to be very pleased with the results of the zero-base budgeting exercise directed to be conducted by all the agencies of the Legislative

Branch. The Committee believes that this valuable budgeting process has given agencies the opportunity to take a fresh look at all areas of their operations and make funding reductions and alignments within the current budget base. The Committee believes that there are continued opportunities to realize meaningful savings by carefully reviewing each agency's budget requirements from a zero base and directs all agencies to continue to develop budget requests from a zero base.

Committee Requests, Furloughs and Performance Based Merit Increases.—The Committee directs that adherence to the language carried in House Reports 112–148, 112–511 and 113–417 pertaining to Committee Requests and Furloughs to be continued unless otherwise so directed. Performance Based Merit Increases are not to exceed the maximum allowable for agencies with a certified SES performance appraisal system.

Shared Services Report.—House Report 113–417 directed the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) to prepare a report on the feasibility of shared services between the agencies of the Legislative Branch. The report provided many issues to be considered by the Committee regarding shared services and the Committee acknowledges the excellent work of the (LBFMC) members for their work on this report.

Cyber Security/Information Sharing.—The Committee has concerns regarding the potential of cyber security attacks from not only enemies abroad but domestically. The Legislative Branch agencies are not immune to such attacks. Almost daily there are reports of not only government agency attacks but attacks on our large financial institutions, health providers, and large and small retail operations. The Committee directs the Chief Information Officers (CIO's) to all work together in a collaborative manner by sharing technology information, in such areas as best practices/lessons learned, and potential pitfalls of any new information technology initiatives especially in the cyber security area. Sharing of such information should not only strengthen the position of the Legislative Branch but should avoid the potential of systems and processes that have not proven themselves but should also achieve financial savings.

Cloud Technology.—In late 2014 the Government Publishing Office began moving the agency's internal email system to the cloud. The GPO reported that this would simplify the agency's IT infrastructure, gain greater functionality, and enable faster upgrades for future enhancements. The Committee applauds the GPO on this effort. With the potential for faster service and financial savings the Committee directs that all agencies consider such a change within their individual IT operations, not only for internal mail, but also other IT applications.

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PAYMENT TO WIDOWS AND HEIRS OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF
CONGRESS

The Committee has included the customary gratuity of \$174,000 for Tori B. Nunnelee, widow of Alan Nunnelee, late a Representative from the State of Mississippi.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$1,180,736,000 for the operations and maintenance of the House of Representatives during fiscal year 2016. This amount is the same as the current fiscal year 2015 level and is the same as the budget request. This recommendation marks the third year in a row of no increase in the budget of the House of Representatives.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$22,278,891
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	22,278,891
Recommended in the bill	22,278,891

The Committee recommends \$22,278,891 for salaries and expenses of staff in House leadership offices for fiscal year 2016. This amount is the same as the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and is the same as the budget request.

The allocation by office follows:

Office of the Speaker	\$6,645,417
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	2,180,048
Office of the Majority Whip	1,886,632
Republican Conference	1,505,426
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	7,114,471
Office of the Minority Whip	1,459,639
Democratic Caucus	1,487,258
Total	\$22,278,891

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$554,317,732
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	554,317,732
Recommended in the bill	554,317,732

The Committee recommends \$554,317,732 for the representational allowances of the Members of the House (MRAs). This amount is the same as the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and is the same as the budget request. This level of funding will allow the MRAs to operate at current authorized levels as approved by the Committee on House Administration.

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$147,174,177
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	147,174,177
Recommended in the bill	147,174,177

The Committee recommends \$147,174,177 in total for House Committees. This amount is the same as the current level and the budget request.

This account includes funding for staff salaries and official expenses of Committees including equipment, telecommunications, printing, and contract services. Funding is available until December 31, 2016.

Included in the total is \$23,271,004 for the Committee on Appropriations. The amount is the same as the current level and the budget request.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$171,344,864
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	177,868,679
Recommended in the bill	175,713,679

The Committee recommends \$175,713,679 for the salaries and expenses of House officers and employees of the various activities funded through this consolidated item. This amount is \$4,368,815 above the fiscal year 2015 enacted level and is \$2,155,000 below the budget request.

The following table summarizes the funding allocation provided to each component of the account:

Office of the Clerk	\$24,980,898
Office of the Sergeant-At-Arms	14,827,120
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	115,010,000
Office of the Inspector General	4,741,809
Office of General Counsel	1,413,450
Office of the Parliamentarian	1,974,606
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House	3,119,766
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House	8,352,975
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs	814,069
Other authorized employees	478,986
Total	\$175,713,679

Office of the Clerk.—The Committee recommends \$24,980,898 for the Clerk of the House. This amount is \$971,425 above the current level and is the same as the budget request. This level of funding will enable the Clerk of the House to make necessary purchases of software and new information technology.

Office of the Sergeant at Arms.—The Committee recommends \$14,827,120 for the Office of the Sergeant At Arms (SAA). This amount is \$2,900,391 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is the same as the budget request. This increase provides funding to cover increased costs for Emergency Management and Information Services.

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.—The Committee recommends \$115,010,000 for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). This amount is \$1,910,000 above the current level and is \$2,155,000 below the budget request. The CAO is directed to fund all mandatory/pay related current and projected increases within the current base.

The Committee directs the Chief Administrative Officer to establish a House Technology Task Force, modeled on the successful Bulk Data Task Force established at the Committee's direction by the Clerk of the House in 2012. The Task Force shall be comprised of senior staff representatives of the House officers and such other

offices and entities as may be necessary. The Task Force is directed to identify and report to the Committee opportunities to enhance coordination of information technology efforts in the House, including, but not limited to, IT architecture and life cycle investment strategies, end-user training, network security, and recommendations for shared services that may improve IT effectiveness at a lower overall cost to the House.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$285,620,336
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	279,096,521
Recommended in the bill	281,251,521

The Committee recommends a total of \$281,251,521 for allowances and expenses. This amount is \$4,368,815 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$2,155,000 above the budget request.

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; miscellaneous items; and Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery.

The following table summarizes the funding allocation provided to each major component of the account:

Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	\$3,625,236
Official mail (committees, administrative, and leadership offices)	190,486
Government contributions	254,447,514
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	16,217,008
Transition Activities	2,084,000
Wounded Warrior Program	2,500,000
Office of Congressional Ethics	1,467,030
Miscellaneous items	720,247
Total, allowances and expenses	\$281,251,521

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 101 provides for unspent amounts remaining in Members' Representational Allowances account to be used for deficit or debt reduction.

Section 102 prohibits the delivery of bills and resolutions.

Section 103 prohibits the delivery of printed copies of the Congressional Record.

Section 104 places a limitation on amount available to lease vehicles.

Section 105 places a limitation on print copies of the U.S. Code.

Section 106 prohibits the delivery of report of disbursement.

Section 107 prohibits the delivery of the daily calendar.

JOINT ITEMS

The Committee recommends \$19,469,000 for fiscal year 2016 for the various joint committees and activities carried under this heading. The recommendation is \$413,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$298,100 below the budget request.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$4,203,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	4,254,000
Recommended in the bill	4,203,000

The Committee recommends \$4,203,000 for the Joint Economic Committee. This recommendation is the same as the current level and is \$51,000 below the budget request as amended.

The Joint Economic Committee was created by the Employment Act of 1946. The primary tasks of the Committee are to review economic conditions and to recommend improvements in economic policy. The Committee performs research and economic analysis and monitors and analyzes current economic, financial, and employment conditions.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$10,095,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	10,300,000
Recommended in the bill	10,095,000

The Committee recommends \$10,095,000 for the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT). This recommendation is the same as the fiscal 2015 level and is \$205,000 below the budget request.

The Joint Committee on Taxation operates under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and its predecessors dating to the Revenue Act of 1926. It has responsibility to (1) investigate the operation and effects of internal revenue taxes and the administration of such taxes; (2) investigate measures and methods for the simplification of such taxes; (3) make reports to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance (or to the House and the Senate) on the results of such investigations and studies and to make recommendations; and (4) review any proposed refund or credit of income or estate and gift taxes or certain other taxes set forth in Code section 6405 in excess of \$2,000,000. In addition to these functions that are specified in the Internal Revenue Code, the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the Joint Committee to provide revenue estimates for all tax legislation considered by either the House or the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$3,371,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	3,797,100
Recommended in the bill	3,784,000

The Committee recommends \$3,784,000 for the Office of the Attending Physician. This amount is \$413,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$13,100 below the request. The increase above the current level provides for the increase for the reimbursement to the Navy \$206,000 and miscellaneous medical initiatives \$207,000.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$1,387,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	1,416,000
Recommended in the bill	1,387,000

The Committee recommends \$1,387,000 for the operation of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services. This amount is the same as the current level and is \$29,000 below the budget request as amended.

The Office of Congressional Accessibility Services is a successor office to the Special Services Office following enactment of the Capitol Visitor Center Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-437).

CAPITOL POLICE

The Committee recommends a total of \$369,000,000 for the Capitol Police (USCP). This amount is \$21,041,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$9,900,000 below the budget request.

Use of Grounds.—The Committee understands the need to maintain safety and order on the Capitol grounds and commends the Capitol Police for their efforts. However, given the family-style neighborhood that the Capitol shares with the surrounding community the Committee would instruct the Capitol Police to forebear enforcement of 2 U.S.C. 1963 (“An act to protect the public property, turf, and grass of the Capitol Grounds from injury”) and the Traffic Regulations for the United States Capitol Grounds when encountering snow sledders on the grounds.

Coordination.—The Committee recognizes that the Capitol Police closely coordinate with other Federal, State, and local first responders in the Washington metropolitan region.

In light of recent responses by first responders within the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority system, the Committee wants to ensure that the Capitol Police have standards of operations in place for incident responses, and that incident response plans are coordinated and exercised with other first responders, especially at Metrorail stations close to the Capitol Complex.

The Committee directs the Capitol Police to provide a report not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act detailing the standards of operations that are in place to coordinate incident responses at area Metrorail stations with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Metropolitan Police Department, Federal law enforcement agencies, and any other relevant first responders from the District of Columbia and other jurisdictions, and to include in the report a coordination and exercise plan for applying these standards.

SALARIES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$286,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	307,428,000
Recommended in the bill	300,000,000

The Committee recommends \$300,000,000 for the salaries and benefits authorized for police services throughout the USCP jurisdiction. This amount is \$13,500,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$7,428,000 below the budget request.

Using the latest salary estimates from USCP, the Committee expects this level of funding to support a staffing level of 1,775 of the 1,800 authorized sworn positions and 370 of the authorized 443 civilian positions.

The recommendation for USCP funding is based on only critical requirements necessary to mitigate and address threats and risks. It does not provide for any new initiatives.

New Posts.—The Committee continues to direct the USCP to notify the Committee on Appropriations of the House when new posts are created, including the annualized cost of maintaining the new post, and how the cost will be offset.

GENERAL EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$61,459,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	71,472,000
Recommended in the bill	69,000,000

The Committee recommends \$69,000,000 for all general expenses of the USCP. This amount is \$7,541,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$2,472,000 below the budget request.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Section 1001 provides for deposit of reimbursements for law enforcement assistance in connection with an activity that was not sponsored by Congress.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$3,959,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	4,020,000
Recommended in the bill	3,959,000

The Committee recommends \$3,959,000 for the Office of Compliance. This amount is the same as the current level and is \$61,000 below the budget request.

The Office of Compliance was established to administer and enforce the Congressional Accountability Act (Public Law 104–091). The Act applies various employment and workplace safety laws to Congress and certain Legislative Branch entities.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$45,700,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	47,270,000
Recommended in the bill	47,270,000

The Committee recommends \$47,270,000 for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). This is \$1,570,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is the same as the budget request.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$505,947,898
Budget request, fiscal year 2016 ¹	577,010,000
Recommended in the bill	492,171,898

¹ Does not include Senate office buildings.

The Committee recommends \$492,171,898 for fiscal year 2016 for the activities of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC). Excluded are Senate items which are traditionally left for consideration by that body. This amount is \$13,777,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$84,839,102 below the budget request.

Within the recommended level the Committee continues its prioritization of projects that: (1) promote the safety and health of workers and occupants, (2) decrease the deferred maintenance backlog, and (3) invest to achieve future energy savings. In addition, by including \$10,000,000 for the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, the bill continues the Committee's commitment to advance planning for major capital renewal projects which

will be essential to sustaining the performance of historic House buildings.

The Committee has included bill language (Section 1104) which places a 25 percent cap on the amount available for any project in excess of \$5 million dollars. The language requires the Architect to submit to the Comptroller General and the Committee on Appropriations, for approval, a plan which includes a description of any changes to the project schedule, cost and description of the accounting and safeguards implemented to ensure the project will be carried out in a timely and cost-effective manner. The projects included based on the information available to the committee are:

Capitol Building—Exterior Stone and Metal Preservation, South Extension

House Office Building—Garage Rehabilitation—Rayburn Building

House Office Building—Restoration and Renovation of the Cannon House Office Building

Capitol Power Plant—West Refrigeration Plant Chiller Replacement

The AOC is responsible for the maintenance, operation, development, and preservation of the United States Capitol Complex. This includes mechanical and structural maintenance of the Capitol, Congressional office buildings, the Library of Congress buildings, the U.S. Botanic Garden, the Capitol Power Plant, and other facilities, as well as the upkeep and improvement of the grounds surrounding the Capitol complex. The following table summarizes the allocation of funds by appropriation account:

Architect of the Capitol:	
Capitol Construction and Operations	\$90,946,000
Capitol building	46,737,000
Capitol grounds	11,880,000
House of Representatives buildings subtotal	159,962,000
House office buildings	(149,962,000)
Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund	(10,000,000)
Capitol Power Plant	91,549,898
Library buildings and grounds	36,589,000
Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds and Security	22,058,000
Botanic Garden	11,892,000
Capitol Visitor Center	20,557,000
	Total
	\$492,171,898

CAPITOL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$91,455,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	95,396,000
Recommended in the bill	90,946,000

The Committee recommends \$90,946,000 for personnel services, equipment, communications, and other central support activities of the AOC. This amount is \$509,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$4,450,000 below the budget request.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$90,946,000.

CAPITOL BUILDING

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$54,665,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	58,052,000
Recommended in the bill	46,737,000

The Committee recommends \$46,737,000 for the operation, maintenance, and care of the Capitol building. This amount is \$7,928,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$11,315,000 below the budget request.

The Committee directs the \$50,000 requested for testing and inspection of the Smoke Control System be provided for within the current base.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$24,000,000. The recommended project budget of \$22,737,000 is composed of the following capital projects:

Item	Committee recommendation
Exterior Stone and Metal Preservation, South Extension, Phase IIB	\$14,287,000
2017 Presidential Inaugural Stands and Support Facilities	4,950,000
Minor Construction	3,500,000
Total	\$22,737,000

CAPITOL GROUNDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$11,973,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	15,273,000
Recommended in the bill	11,880,000

The Committee recommends \$11,880,000 for the care of the grounds surrounding the Capitol. This amount is \$93,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$3,393,000 below the budget request.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$9,880,000. The recommended project budget of \$2,000,000 is composed of the following capital projects:

Item	Committee recommendation
Minor Construction	\$2,000,000
Total	\$2,000,000

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$159,446,898
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	160,282,000
Recommended in the bill	159,962,000

The Committee recommends \$159,962,000 for the operation, maintenance, and care of the House office buildings. This amount is \$515,102 above the current level and \$320,000 below the budget request.

This amount includes \$15,965,000 for the full year lease cost of the Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Office Building. To provide total transparency for the Cannon House Office Building Renewal Project the bill includes a line item of \$62,000,000 for the restoration and renovation of the Cannon Building which has been previously funded from the House Historic Building Revitalization Trust Fund. The bill also includes \$10,000,000 for the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund. Public Law 111-68 established the Fund to finance major repairs and renovations to facilities of the House. Subject to approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the House, the AOC may use these funds for major

renovation projects to preserve and maintain the performance of the iconic buildings of the House of Representatives.

The Committee authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to incur obligations from the House Historic Building Revitalization Trust Fund of not-to-exceed \$162,399,811 for the restoration and renovation of the Cannon House Office Building. This authorization will provide the funding necessary for the continuation of the Cannon Renewal Project to complete Phase-Zero at, \$19,963,848 and Phase-One, Year-One at, \$142,435,963. This will leave a balance of \$19,547,000 in the House Historic Building Revitalization Trust Fund. However, the Architect of the Capitol may not obligate more than 25 percent of the \$162,399,811 from the House Historic Building Revitalization Trust Fund including the \$62 million provided in this Act until the Architect submits to the Comptroller General and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a plan for the use of the funds including a description of any changes to the project's schedule, cost, as well as a description of the accounting and other safeguards the Architect will implement to ensure that the project will be carried out in a timely and cost-effective manner and the Committee on Appropriations approves such plan.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$64,076,000. The recommended project budget of \$95,886,000 is composed of the following capital projects:

Item	Committee recommendation
Garage Rehabilitation, Phase I, RHOB	\$13,226,000
Restoration and Renovation of the Cannon House Office Building	62,000,000
CAO Project Support	3,660,000
Minor Construction	7,000,000
House Historic Building Revitalization	10,000,000
Total	\$95,886,000

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$90,652,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	120,803,000
Recommended in the bill	91,549,898
Offsetting collections	9,000,000
Total available	\$100,549,898

The Committee recommends \$100,549,898 for the Capitol Power Plant. This amount is \$897,898 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$29,253,102 below the budget request.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$86,141,000. The recommended project budget of \$14,408,898 is composed of the following capital projects:

Item	Committee recommendation
West Refrigeration Plant Chiller System Replacement, RPR, Phase IIIA	\$10,408,898
Minor Construction	4,000,000
Total	\$14,408,898

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$42,180,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	65,801,000
Recommended in the bill	36,589,000

The Committee recommends \$36,589,000 for the care and maintenance of the Library buildings and grounds. This amount is \$5,591,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$29,212,000 below the budget request.

The Committee is very concerned with the amount of time it has taken to begin construction of the Library of Congress Book Module 5 at the Fort Meade facility. In September 2013 the Committee provided \$1.2 million dollars towards the cost of Module 5. It was not until July 2014 that the Architect of the Capitol began what is called “Design Re-Fresh Phase” of the project some ten months after the funding became available.

In January 2014 the Committee provided an additional \$18.2 million dollars to complete construction of Module 5 and according to the latest project time line construction is projected to begin in October 2015 with a projected completion date of October 2017. Thus, in summary from the beginning availability of funding for this project, September 2013, until the beginning of actual construction, October 2015, over two years will have elapsed. And from the first availability of funding until end of construction it will take over 4 years.

The Committee understands a “re-fresh” of the design of the project was required however, for 10 months to elapse without any action on the part of the AoC is unacceptable. The Committee expects the AoC to review the internal business operations of the AoC organization so as to never allow another lapse of time for any project to begin almost one year after the beginning of funding availability.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$24,943,000 and a project budget of \$11,646,000, including the following capital projects:

Item	Committee recommendation
Direct Digital Controls Upgrade, Phase III, JMMB	\$4,321,000
Emergency Lighting System Upgrade, JAB	3,331,000
Collection Storage Modules 6 & 7 Design, Ft. Meade	1,994,000
Minor Construction	2,000,000
Total	\$11,646,000

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$19,159,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	28,247,000
Recommended in the bill	22,058,000

The Committee recommends \$22,058,000 for Capitol Police buildings, grounds, and security. This amount is \$2,899,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$6,189,000 below the budget request.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$17,533,000 which reflects a reduction of \$600,000 for lease costs associated with the Alternate Computer Facility. In addition in-

cluded is a project budget of \$4,525,000, including the following capital projects:

Item	Committee recommendation
Power Switchgear Replacement, USCP HQ	\$3,525,000
Minor Construction	1,000,000
Total	\$4,525,000

BOTANIC GARDEN

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$15,573,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	12,113,000
Recommended in the bill	11,892,000

The Committee recommends \$11,892,000 for salaries and expenses of the Botanic Garden. This amount is \$3,681,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$221,000 below the budget request.

The recommendation supports an operating budget of \$9,792,000 and a project budget of \$2,100,000, including the following capital projects:

Minor Construction	\$2,100,000
Total	\$2,100,000

Again the Committee congratulates the Botanic Garden on the accomplishments of its education and outreach programs, which have leveraged the Garden’s unparalleled expertise to provide unique educational opportunities. The Committee urges the Garden to continue forming partnerships with national and local organizations, and to utilize House Office Buildings for visitors and constituents, in order to advance educational goals.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$20,844,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	21,043,000
Recommended in the bill	20,557,000

The Committee recommends \$20,557,000 for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center (CVC). This amount is \$287,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and \$486,000 below the budget request.

There are no capital projects in fiscal year 2016.

The CVC was established to improve security for all persons working in or visiting the U.S. Capitol and to enhance the educational experience of visitors.

The Committee has some concerns with the cost of meals in the Capitol Visitor Center (CVC). Therefore, the Committee directs the Architect of the Capitol to review, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer of the House, the costs of meals in the CVC versus the House cafeterias and to make a proposed contract adjustment resulting in the ability of families to have a two meal option per day to eat in the CVC for approximately the same price as in the House cafeterias. The Architect of the Capitol is directed to report to the Committee on Appropriations of the House within 90 days of enactment of this Act the findings and the recommended changes.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Section 1101 prohibits payment of bonuses to contractors behind schedule or over budget.

Section 1102 prohibits expenditure of funds for scrims for projects performed by the Architect of the Capitol.

Section 1103 authorizes acquisition of certain acreage at Fort George Meade from the Maryland State Highway Administration.

Section 1104 limits the obligation of funds provided for large scale projects pending an approved plan by the Comptroller General and the Committee on Appropriations of the House.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Committee recommends \$591,431,000 for the operations of the Library of Congress. This is \$33,071,000 below the budget request and is \$510,000 above the current level. In addition to the appropriation, the Committee recommends offsetting collections of \$42,127,000.

Established by Congress in 1800, the Library of Congress is one of the largest libraries in the world, with a collection of more than 130,000,000 print, audio, and video items in 460 languages. Among its major programs are acquisitions, preservation, administration of U.S. copyright laws by the Copyright Office, research and analysis of policy issues for the Congress by the Congressional Research Service, and administration of a national program to provide reading material to the blind and physically handicapped. The Library maintains a significant number of collections and provides a range of services to libraries in the United States and abroad.

A good business practice for any customer service organization is to periodically survey that customer base to determine if the products and services being provided are meeting the expectations of the customer. A proper survey can help the service provider to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the organization and what if any corrective action needs to be addressed. The Committee believes that such a survey of the Library's customer base would be beneficial. Therefore, the Committee directs the Library of Congress to commission an independent survey of all Members and committees of the House of Representatives to ascertain their fundamental and optimal requirements for services and support from the Library of Congress and especially the Congressional Research Service. A report and analysis of the survey results is to be provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

The Committee has serious concerns regarding the recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on the Information Technology (IT) of the Library of Congress. The examination of the Library IT operations by the GAO was undertaken at the request of the Committee. The Committee believed, as it does with any program, a periodic examination of any agency's operations and processes is the responsibility of good Government oversight. The current GAO report of the Library IT operations and the Copyright Office IT has provided a number of observations and recommendations for needed change in the overall Library IT operations. Although the recommendations are numerous, the Committee believes that the Librarian of Congress, the Register of Copyrights,

and the Library management team can and will address each recommendation in a timely, collaborative, and methodical process that achieves positive results for the Library. The Committee will be working with the Library in the upcoming months to track the progress the Library makes on addressing the recommendations of the GAO reports. The Librarian, the Register of Copyrights, and the entire Library management team will be required to provide quarterly reports to the Committee on Appropriations of the House and Senate on objectives met, milestones reached and overall progress on addressing the GAO recommendations and be prepared to discuss the GAO report at the next budget cycle hearing.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$413,007,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	438,020,000
Recommended in the bill	413,007,000
Offsetting collections	6,350,000
	\$419,357,000
Total available	\$419,357,000

The Committee recommends \$413,007,000, plus authority to spend \$6,350,000 in receipts, for the salaries and expenses appropriation. This amount is \$25,013,000 below the budget request and is the same as the current level.

The Committee expects the Veterans History Project will be maintained at least at the fiscal year 2015 levels. Further, the Committee directs that the \$5,500,000 base provided for the mass deacidification program be maintained to the fullest extent possible.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$20,721,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	23,098,000
Recommended in the bill	21,231,000
Offsetting collections	35,777,000
	\$57,008,000
Total available	\$57,008,000

The Committee recommends \$21,231,000, plus authority to spend \$35,777,000 in receipts, for the Copyright Office. This is \$2,705,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level and is \$1,867,000 below the budget request. The increase above the current level is comprised of \$2,195,000 offset with increased authority to spend receipts and will fund the Copyright Office Registration staffing increase of 20 FTE's. The balance of \$510,000 and 5 additional FTE's will address copyright recordation business process reengineering.

The Committee continues to support the Copyright Office as reflected with the additional fiscal year 2015 funding that was provided to reduce the claims and process processing time for copyright registrations (\$750,000) and to conduct business analysis for the business process engineering of the document recordation function (\$1,500,000). The Committee fully understands the importance of the Copyright Office as it relates to creativity and commercial artistic activity not only within the United States but also on a world-wide basis. In order to serve the copyright owners and the copyright community in the 21st century, a robust modern information technology (IT) operation will be necessary. The \$1.5 million provided in fiscal year 2015 began the effort to determine the re-

quirements for a modern IT environment. With the planning underway, the Committee directs the Register of Copyrights to report, to the Committee on Appropriation and relevant Authorizing Committees of the House on a detailed plan on necessary IT upgrades, with a cost estimate, that are required for a 21st century copyright organization. In addition to the cost estimate, the Register shall include recommendations on a funding strategy and a time frame for completion of a new IT system that is necessary to better serve the public in the digital age. The Register should seek public comments to help inform the Copyright Office with the funding strategy and implementation timeline. The cost estimate is to be provided to the Committee with 180 days of enactment of this Act with the funding strategy to be provided 45 days after public comments are received.

The Committee understands the Copyright Office has offered its expertise on copyright matters to the Executive Branch, including participation in international discussions, and expects the Office to continue that important role.

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$106,945,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	111,956,000
Recommended in the bill	106,945,000

The Committee recommends \$106,945,000 for salaries and expenses of the Congressional Research Service (CRS). This amount is \$5,011,000 below the budget request and is the same as the current level.

CRS works for Members and committees of Congress to support their legislative, oversight, and representational functions by providing nonpartisan and confidential research and policy analysis.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$50,248,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	51,428,000
Recommended in the bill	50,248,000

The Committee recommends \$50,248,000 for salaries and expenses of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS). This amount is \$1,180,000 below the budget request and is the same as the current level.

The NLS has successfully administered a free national reading program for blind and physically handicapped residents of the United States and U.S. citizens living abroad since 1931. NLS provides direction for the production of books and magazines in braille and recorded formats and audio playback machines for distribution through a nationwide network of 56 regional and 65 sub-regional libraries.

The Committee recognizes the importance of technology in ensuring that blind and physically handicapped United States residents and citizens are afforded access to reading material in a timely manner. In order to preserve the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped today and ensure it is prepared to meet the needs of future generations, the Committee directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review the services provided by the National Library. This review should include, but is not limited to, a review of the NLS's user base, a comparison of

services and playback equipment offered by the NLS to private sector services and technologies currently used by the blind and physically handicapped community, to include an evaluation of possible cost efficiencies in utilizing private sector technologies, availability of alternate distribution methods and other aspects of the NLS's services that the GAO deems relevant. The GAO is to prepare a report of its findings and report back to the Committee on Appropriations of the House and Senate no later than December 31, 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Section 1201 authorizes obligational authority for reimbursable and revolving funds.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

The recommendation provides \$110,236,000 in budget authority for the Government Publishing Office (GPO), in addition to any offsetting collections which the GPO may earn under separate authority. This amount is \$9,757,000 below the current level \$9,764,000 below the budget request.

GPO provides publishing and dissemination services for Federal government publications to Congress, Federal agencies, Federal depository libraries, and the American public.

CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$79,736,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	79,736,000
Recommended in the bill	79,736,000

The Committee recommends \$79,736,000 for Congressional Publishing. This amount is the same as the fiscal year 2015 level and is the same as the budget request. The amount is provided as a lump sum to cover various categories of printing.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$31,500,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	30,500,000
Recommended in the bill	30,500,000

The Committee recommends \$30,500,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents. This amount is \$1,000,000 below the fiscal year 2015 level and is the same as the budget request.

The Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents account funds the mailing of government documents for Members of Congress and Federal agencies, as statutorily authorized; the compilation of catalogs and indexes of government publications; and the cataloging, indexing, and providing of government publications in digital and tangible formats to the Federal Depository and International Exchange libraries and to other individuals and entities, as authorized by law.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$8,757,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	9,764,000
Recommended in the bill	---

The Committee has not provided funding for the Business Operations Revolving Fund. This is a decrease of \$8,757,000 below the fiscal 2015 level and \$9,764,000 below the budget request.

The bill continues language authorizing the operation of the revolving fund and authority to hire or purchase automobiles, advisory councils, and consultants.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$522,000,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	553,058,000
Recommended in the bill	522,000,000
Offsetting Collections	25,450,000
Total available	\$547,450,000

The Committee recommends \$522,000,000 in direct appropriations for the Government Accountability Office (GAO), plus \$25,450,000 in offsetting collections derived from reimbursements for conducting financial audits of government corporations and rental of space in the GAO building. This amount is an increase of \$1,700,000 above the fiscal year 2015 level, and is \$31,058,000 below the budget request. The increase of \$1,700,000 above the current level is offset with offsetting collections.

GAO was established by the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921. GAO works for Congress by responding to requests for studies of Federal Government programs and expenditures. GAO may also initiate its own work.

The Committee recognizes the important work that the Government Accountability Office does on a daily basis to provide oversight, transparency, and accountability for Congress and the American people.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Section 1301 authorizes details of personnel to the Government Accountability Office.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$5,700,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	8,000,000
Recommended in the bill	5,700,000

The Committee recommends \$5,700,000, the same as the current level and \$2,300,000 below the budget request.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Appropriation, fiscal year 2015	\$430,000
Budget request, fiscal year 2016	430,000
Recommended in the bill	430,000

The Committee recommends \$430,000 for fiscal year 2016. This amount is the same as the fiscal year 2015 level and is the same as the budget request.

The Committee believes that the services provided by the John C. Stennis Center are laudable. Further the Committee believes that the Center should continually work to raise private sector funds in order to be self-sustaining should the need arise.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The customary language regarding emergency assistance for vehicles, fiscal year limitation, positions and allowances, consulting services, the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council, the maintenance and landscaping on Square 580, a limitation on transfers of funds and language regarding maintaining staff-led tours. (Sections 201–208). In addition section 209 authorizes battery recharging stations at the Library of Congress, Section 210 is related to cost of living adjustment for Members of Congress, and section 211, provides for a spending reduction account.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT REQUIREMENTS

The following items are included in accordance with various requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

COMPARISON WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget Act requires the report accompanying a bill providing new budget authority to contain a statement comparing the levels in the bill to the suballocations submitted under section 302(b) of the Act for the most recently agreed to concurrent resolution on the budget for the applicable fiscal year. That information is provided in the table headed “Comparison of Reported Bill to Section 302(b) Suballocation.”

[In millions of dollars]

	302(b) Allocation		This bill—	
	Budget authority	Outlays	Budget authority	Outlays
Comparison of amounts in the bill with Committee allocations to its subcommittees: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch				
Discretionary	\$4,300	\$4,243	\$3,341	¹ \$3,515
Mandatory	135	134	135	¹ 134
Total	\$4,435	\$4,377	\$3,476	\$3,649

¹ Includes outlays from both House and Senate prior-year budget authority.
Note.—Bill amounts exclude discretionary Senate-related items.

FIVE-YEAR OUTLAY PROJECTIONS

In compliance with section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Public Law 93–344), as amended, the following table contains five-year projections prepared by the Congressional Budget Office of outlays associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

[In millions of dollars]

Budget Authority	\$3,476
Outlays:	
2016	¹ 2,926
2017	354
2018	81
2019	35
2020	10

¹Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Pursuant to section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, (Public Law 93–344), as amended, the amount of financial assistance to State and local governments is as follows:

The accompanying bill contains no funding for State and local assistance programs.

PROGRAM DUPLICATION

No provision of this bill establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

DIRECTED RULE MAKING

The bill does not direct any rule-making to the Executive Branch.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following lists the transfers of funds included in the accompanying bill:

Indefinite transfer authority is authorized in Joint items disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House, Library of Congress, Congressional Printing and Binding, the Superintendent of Documents, and the Capitol Police programs.

RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following details the rescissions in the accompanying bill:

The accompanying bill contains no rescissions.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is a statement of general performance goals and objectives for which this measure authorizes funding:

The Committee on Appropriations considers program performance, including a program's success in developing and attaining outcome-related goals and objectives, in developing funding recommendations.

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill which are not authorized by law for the period concerned:

The accompanying bill contains no appropriations not authorized by law.

EARMARKS

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, this bill, as reported, contains no Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI.

CHANGES IN THE APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(A) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill that 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.

2. The bill includes a number of provisions which place limitations on 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. The bill continues the practice of providing official reception and representation allowances for officers and offices of the Legislative Branch.

4. The bill authorizes disbursement of funds for various agencies.

5. The bill authorizes transfer authority between accounts for certain agencies in the bill.

6. The bill includes language allowing the use of funds for studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personnel services. Funds can also be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed.

7. The bill includes language providing funds for the Family Room, the Superintendent of Garages, Office of Emergency Management, and preparing the Digest of Rules.

8. The bill includes language providing funds for House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities.

9. The bill requires unspent funds remaining in Members' Representational Allowances to be used for deficit or debt reduction.

10. The bill includes language that prohibits funds being used for the delivery of bills and resolutions.

11. The bill includes language that prohibits funds being used for the delivery of the Congressional Record.

12. The bill includes language that places a limitation on the amount that a Member can spend on a leased vehicle per month.

13. The bill includes language that places a limitation on printed copies of the U.S. Code for the House of Representatives.

14. The bill includes language that prohibits funds being used for the delivery of the Reports of Disbursements.

15. The bill includes language that prohibits funds being used for the delivery of the daily calendar.

16. The bill authorizes allowances for employees of the Office of the Attending Physician and provides reimbursement to the Department of the Navy.

17. The bill authorizes expenses of the Capitol Police for motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, and relocation expenses.

18. The bill provides that the cost of Capitol Police basic training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center be paid by the Department of Homeland Security.

19. The bill includes language that authorizes reimbursement for law enforcements assistance provided in connection with any activity that was not sponsored by Congress.

20. The bill allows the Architect of the Capitol to purchase or exchange, maintain, and operate two passenger motor vehicles.

21. The bill includes authorization allowing reimbursements for chilled water and steam provided to the Government Publishing 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 the AOC Capitol Power Plant appropriation and made available for obligation.

22. The bill allows the Architect of the Capitol to expend funds to maintain, care for, and operate the National Garden.

23. The bill contains language that prohibits the Architect of the Capitol from expended funds for incentive or award payments to contractors for work for which the contractor is behind schedule or over budget.

24. The bill contains language that prohibits the Architect of the Capitol from expended funds for scrims containing photographs of building facades during restoration or construction projects.

25. The bill contains language that authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to acquire from the Maryland State Highway Administration a parcel of real property located with the portion of Fort George Meade that transferred to the Architect by the Secretary of the Army.

26. The bill contains language that restricts the obligation of funds large scale projects subject to a plan submitted to the Comptroller General and approved by the Committee and the Comptroller General.

27. The bill provides the authority to expend funds collected under the authority of 2 U.S.C. 150 and for international legal information, the balance to remain available until expended.

28. The bill establishes that the amount available for obligation by the Library of Congress is reduced by offsetting collections.

29. The bill provides funds for the digital collections and educational curricula program, and the American Folklife Center.

30. The bill allows the Library of Congress to hire or purchase one passenger motor vehicle.

31. The bill allows funds from offsetting collections to be used for the Library's Copyright Office.

32. The bill includes language authorizing the expenditure of receipts, with the exception of salaries and benefits, for the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program.

33. The bill contains language which provides that no funds in the Congressional Research Service can be used to publish or prepare material to be issued by the Library of Congress unless approved by the appropriate committees.

34. The bill provides funds to provide newspapers to the blind and physically handicapped.

35. The bill contains language under the Library of Congress placing a limitation on obligations for Reimbursable and Revolving Fund activities.

36. The bill contains language restricting the use of funds appropriated to the Government Publishing Office for the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives and Senators, 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, limiting the printing of certain documents to a time certain, and authorizing the transfer of unobligated balances.

37. The bill includes authorization of appropriations for Congressional Publishing.

38. The bill includes language authorizing the Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents to pay for printing certain publications in prior years for the depository library program. There is language authorizing the transfer of unexpended balances.

39. There is language authorizing the operation of the Government Publishing Office revolving fund, and which authorizes travel expenses for advisory councils, the purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles and that the revolving fund may be used to provide information in any format.

40. The bill includes language relating to the Government Accountability 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 Government Accountability Office to make advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3324; and providing certain benefits, including rental of living quarters in foreign countries. Appropriations are authorized for administrative expenses of any other member department or agency to finance an appropriate share of the costs of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum.

41. The bill includes language that permits the detail of employees from other government agencies to the Government Accountability Office.

42. In Section 201, 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 Administration and for the Senate by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

43. Section 203 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, 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.

44. Section 204 requires that certain information regarding consulting services shall be a matter of public record.

45. Section 205 authorizes Legislative Branch entities to share the costs of the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council.

46. Section 206 authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to maintain certain property.

47. Section 207 limits the transfer of funds in this Act.

48. Section 208 prohibits funds in this Act being used to eliminate or restrict staff led guided tours.

49. Section 209 authorizes battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the Librarian of Congress at no net cost to the Federal Government.

50. Section 210 is related to cost of living adjustment for Members of Congress.

51. Section 211 provides for a spending reduction account, excluding Senate items.

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

In compliance with clause 3(e) 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 2802 OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

* * * * *

SEC. 2802. (a)(1) Any funds received by the Capitol Police as reimbursement for law enforcement assistance from any Federal, State, or local government agency (including any agency of the **[District of Columbia]** *District of Columbia*), and from any other source in the case of assistance provided in connection with an activity that was not sponsored by Congress shall be deposited in the United States Treasury for credit to the appropriation for "general expenses" under the heading "United States Capitol Police", or "security enhancements" under the heading "United States Capitol Police".

(2) Funds deposited under this subsection may be expended by the Chief of the United States Capitol Police for any authorized purpose, including overtime pay expenditures relating to **[**law en-

forcement assistance to any Federal, State, or local government agency (including any agency of the District of Columbia) *any law enforcement assistance for which reimbursement described in paragraph (1) is made*, and shall remain available until expended.

(b) This section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act and shall apply to fiscal year 2001 and each fiscal year thereafter.

* * * * *

TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE

* * * * *

Subtitle I—GENERAL

* * * * *

CHAPTER 7—GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

* * * * *

Subchapter III—PERSONNEL

§ 731. General

(a) The Comptroller General may appoint, pay, assign, and remove officers (except the Deputy Comptroller General) and employees the Comptroller General decides are necessary to carry out the duties and powers of the Government Accountability Office.

(b) The Comptroller General may establish for appropriate officers and employees a merit pay system consistent with section 5401 of title 5, as in effect on October 31, 1993.

(c) The annual rate of basic pay of the General Counsel of the Government Accountability Office is equal to the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule.

(e) The Comptroller General may procure the services of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5 at rates not in excess of the daily rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule, except that the services of not more than 20 experts and consultants may be procured for terms of not more than 3 years, but which shall be renewable.

(f) The Comptroller General shall prescribe regulations under which officers and employees of the Office may, in appropriate circumstances, be reimbursed for any relocation expenses under subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5 for which they would not otherwise be eligible, but only if the Comptroller General determines that the transfer giving rise to such relocation is of sufficient benefit or value to the Office to justify such reimbursement.

(g) The Comptroller General shall prescribe regulations under which key officers and employees of the Office who have less than 3 years of service may accrue leave in accordance with section 6303(a)(2) of title 5, in those circumstances in which the Comptroller General has determined such increased annual leave is appropriate for the recruitment or retention of such officers and em-

ployees. Such regulations shall define key officers and employees and set forth the factors in determining which officers and employees should be allowed to accrue leave in accordance with this subsection.

(h) The Comptroller General may by regulation establish an executive exchange program under which officers and employees of the Office may be assigned to private sector organizations, and employees of private sector organizations may be assigned to the Office, to further the institutional interests of the Office or Congress, including for the purpose of providing training to officers and employees of the Office. Regulations to carry out any such program—

(1) shall include provisions (consistent with sections 3702 through 3704 of title 5) as to matters concerning—

- (A) the duration and termination of assignments;
- (B) reimbursements; and
- (C) status, entitlements, benefits, and obligations of program participants;

(2) shall limit—

(A) the number of officers and employees who are assigned to private sector organizations at any one time to not more than 15; and

(B) the number of employees from private sector organizations who are assigned to the Office at any one time to not more than 30;

(3) shall require that an employee of a private sector organization assigned to the Office may not have access to any trade secrets or to any other nonpublic information which is of commercial value to the private sector organization from which such employee is assigned;

(4) shall require that, before approving the assignment of an officer or employee to a private sector organization, the Comptroller General shall determine that the assignment is an effective use of the Office's funds, taking into account the best interests of the Office and the costs and benefits of alternative methods of achieving the same results and objectives; and

(5) shall not allow any assignment under this subsection to commence after the end of the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this subsection.

(i) An employee of a private sector organization assigned to the Office under the executive exchange program shall be considered to be an employee of the Office for purposes of—

- (1) chapter 73 of title 5;
- (2) sections 201, 203, 205, 207, 208, 209, 603, 606, 607, 643, 654, 1905, and 1913 of title 18;
- (3) sections 1343, 1344, and 1349(b) of this title;
- (4) chapter 171 of title 28 (commonly referred to as the "Federal Tort Claims Act") and any other Federal tort liability statute;
- (5) the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.);
- (6) section 1043 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and
- (7) chapter 21 of title 41.

(j) Funds appropriated to the Government Accountability Office for salaries and expenses are available for meals and other related reasonable expenses incurred in connection with recruitment.

(k) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DETAILS.—The activities of the Government Accountability Office may, in the reasonable discretion of the Comptroller General, be carried out by receiving details of personnel from other offices of the Federal Government on a reimbursable, partially-reimbursable, or nonreimbursable basis.

* * * * *

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

ROLL CALL NO. 1

Date: April 30, 2015

Measure: Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, FY 2016

Motion by: Ms. Wasserman Schultz

Description of Motion: Report language directing the Chief Administrative Officer of the House to issue a solicitation for and select a food services contractor who provides a livable wage.

Results: Defeated 21 yeas to 29 nays.

Members Voting Yea

Mr. Bishop
Mr. Cuellar
Ms. DeLauro
Mr. Farr
Mr. Fattah
Mr. Honda
Mr. Israel
Ms. Kaptur
Mr. Kilmer
Ms. Lee
Mrs. Lowey
Ms. McCollum
Ms. Pingree
Mr. Price
Mr. Quigley
Ms. Roybal-Allard
Mr. Ruppertsberger
Mr. Ryan
Mr. Serrano
Mr. Visclosky
Ms. Wasserman Schultz

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aderholt
Mr. Amodei
Mr. Calvert
Mr. Carter
Mr. Cole
Mr. Crenshaw
Mr. Culberson
Mr. Dent
Mr. Diaz-Balart
Mr. Fleischmann
Mr. Fortenberry
Mr. Frelinghuysen
Ms. Granger
Mr. Graves
Dr. Harris
Ms. Herrera Beutler
Mr. Jenkins
Mr. Jolly
Mr. Joyce
Mr. Rigell
Mrs. Roby
Mr. Rogers
Mr. Rooney
Mr. Simpson
Mr. Stewart
Mr. Valadao
Mr. Womack
Mr. Yoder
Mr. Young

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress.....	---	---	174	+174	+174
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker.....	6,645	6,645	6,645	---	---
Office of the Majority Floor Leader.....	2,180	2,180	2,180	---	---
Office of the Minority Floor Leader.....	7,114	7,114	7,114	---	---
Office of the Majority Whip.....	1,887	1,887	1,887	---	---
Office of the Minority Whip.....	1,460	1,460	1,460	---	---
Republican Conference.....	1,505	1,505	1,505	---	---
Democratic Caucus.....	1,487	1,487	1,487	---	---
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices.....	22,278	22,278	22,278	---	---
Members' Representational Allowances Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail					
Expenses.....	554,318	554,318	554,318	---	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Committee Employees					
Standing Committees, Special and Select.....	123,903	123,903	123,903	---	---
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations).....	23,271	23,271	23,271	---	---
Subtotal, Committee employees.....	147,174	147,174	147,174	---	---
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk.....	24,009	24,981	24,981	+972	---
Office of the Sergeant at Arms.....	11,927	14,827	14,827	+2,900	---
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.....	113,100	117,165	115,010	+1,910	-2,155
Office of the Inspector General.....	4,742	4,742	4,742	---	---
Office of General Counsel.....	1,341	1,413	1,413	+72	---
Office of the Parliamentarian.....	1,952	1,975	1,975	+23	---
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House.....	4,088	3,120	3,120	-968	---
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House.....	8,893	8,353	8,353	-540	---
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs.....	814	814	814	---	---
Other authorized employees.....	479	479	479	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries, officers and employees.....	171,345	177,869	175,714	+4,369	-2,155

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims.....	4,153	3,625	3,625	-528	---
Official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House.....	190	190	190	---	---
Government contributions.....	256,636	252,164	254,448	-2,188	+2,284
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery.....	16,217	16,289	16,217	---	-72
Transition activities.....	3,737	2,084	2,084	-1,653	---
Wounded Warrior program.....	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Office of Congressional Ethics.....	1,467	1,524	1,467	---	-57
Miscellaneous items.....	720	720	720	---	---
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses.....	285,620	279,096	281,251	-4,369	+2,155
Total, House of Representatives (discretionary).....	1,180,735	1,180,735	1,180,735	---	---
Total, House of Representatives (mandatory).....	---	---	174	+174	+174
JOINT ITEMS					
Joint Economic Committee.....	4,203	4,254	4,203	---	-51
Joint Committee on Taxation.....	10,095	10,300	10,095	---	-205

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of the Attending Physician					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances.....	3,371	3,797	3,784	+413	-13
Office of Congressional Accessibility Services.....	1,387	1,416	1,387	---	-29
Total, Joint items.....	19,056	19,767	19,469	+413	-298
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries.....	286,500	307,428	300,000	+13,500	-7,428
General expenses.....	61,459	71,472	69,000	+7,541	-2,472
Total, Capitol Police.....	347,959	378,900	369,000	+21,041	-9,900
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,959	4,020	3,959	---	-61
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses.....	45,700	47,270	47,270	+1,570	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL					
Capitol Construction and Operations 1/.....	91,455	95,396	90,946	-509	-4,450
Capitol building.....	54,665	58,052	46,737	-7,928	-11,315
Capitol grounds.....	11,973	15,273	11,880	-93	-3,393
House of Representatives buildings:					
House office buildings.....	89,447	90,282	149,962	+60,515	+59,680
House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund	70,000	70,000	10,000	-60,000	-60,000
Capitol Power Plant.....	99,652	129,803	100,550	+898	-29,253
Offsetting collections.....	-9,000	-9,000	-9,000	-	-
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant.....	90,652	120,803	91,550	+898	-29,253
Library buildings and grounds.....	42,180	65,801	36,589	-5,591	-29,212
Capitol police buildings, grounds, and security.....	19,159	28,247	22,058	+2,899	-6,189
Botanic Garden.....	15,573	12,113	11,892	-3,681	-221
Capitol Visitor Center:					
CVC operations.....	20,844	21,043	20,557	-287	-486
Total, Architect of the Capitol.....	505,948	577,010	492,171	-13,777	-84,839

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses.....	419,357	444,370	419,357	---	-25,013
Authority to spend receipts.....	-6,350	-6,350	-6,350	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	413,007	438,020	413,007	---	-25,013
Copyright Office, Salaries and expenses.....	54,303	58,875	57,008	+2,705	-1,867
Authority to spend receipts.....	-33,582	-35,777	-35,777	-2,195	---
Subtotal, Copyright Office.....	20,721	23,098	21,231	+510	-1,867
Congressional Research Service, Salaries and expenses, Books for the blind and physically handicapped, Salaries and expenses.....	106,945	111,956	106,945	---	-5,011
	50,248	51,428	50,248	---	-1,180
Total, Library of Congress.....	590,921	624,502	591,431	+510	-33,071

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE					
Congressional publishing	79,736	79,736	79,736	---	---
Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents,					
Salaries and expenses	31,500	30,500	30,500	-1,000	---
Government Publishing Office Business Operations					
Revolving Fund	8,757	9,764	---	-8,757	-9,764
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Government Publishing Office	119,993	120,000	110,236	-9,757	-9,764
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses.....	545,750	578,508	547,450	+1,700	-31,058
Offsetting collections.....	-23,750	-25,450	-25,450	-1,700	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Government Accountability Office.....	522,000	553,058	522,000	---	-31,058

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
 (Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND					
Payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund.....	5,700	8,000	5,700	---	-2,300
JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT					
Stennis Center for Public Service.....	430	430	430	---	---
GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Scorekeeping adjustment (CBO estimate).....	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
Grand total.....	3,341,401	3,513,692	3,341,575	+174	-172,117
Discretionary.....	(3,341,401)	(3,513,692)	(3,341,401)	---	(-172,291)
Mandatory.....	---	---	(174)	(+174)	(+174)

1/ Formerly named General Administration

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR 2015 AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2016
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2016 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
RECAPITULATION					
House of Representatives (discretionary).....	1,180,735	1,180,735	1,180,735	---	---
House of Representatives (mandatory).....	---	---	174	+174	+174
Joint Items.....	19,056	19,767	19,469	+413	-298
Capitol Police.....	347,959	378,900	369,000	+21,041	-9,900
Office of Compliance.....	3,959	4,020	3,959	---	-61
Congressional Budget Office.....	45,700	47,270	47,270	+1,570	---
Architect of the Capitol.....	505,948	577,010	492,171	-13,777	-84,839
Library of Congress.....	119,993	624,502	591,431	+510	-33,071
Government Publishing Office.....	522,000	120,000	110,236	-9,757	-9,764
Open World Leadership Center.....	5,700	553,058	522,000	---	-31,058
Stennis Center for Public Service.....	430	8,000	5,700	---	-2,300
General Provisions.....	-1,000	430	430	---	---
	3,341,401	3,513,692	3,341,575	+174	-172,117
Grand total.....	(3,341,401)	(3,513,692)	(3,341,401)	---	(-172,291)
Discretionary.....	---	---	(174)	(+174)	(+174)
Mandatory.....	---	---	---	---	---

ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF NITA LOWEY AND DEBBIE
WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

The Legislative Branch appropriations bill is essential to Congress' ability to serve the Nation and fulfill its constitutional duties as an equal branch of government.

Regrettably, this bill falls short in providing Congress with the resources needed to fulfill its constitutional duties. The Legislative Branch bill provides another year of flat funding, the third in a row. The bill reflects the Republican budget that set discretionary spending at levels not sufficient to grow the economy or invest in infrastructure. The President put forward a specific plan to avoid sequestration's harmful budget cuts and reduce the deficit in a balanced way. Unfortunately, the Republican Budget does not even meet the President's plan half way.

In the Legislative Branch Appropriations bill we see the effect of the Republican Budget most starkly on the Architect of the Capitol, where several projects with life and safety elements were left unfunded. The Office of Compliance issued a citation to the Library of Congress stating "lack of exit stairwells and exit pathways in the Thomas Jefferson Building that are effectively protected against fire, smoke, or toxic fumes poses an undue danger to the lives and safety of the building occupants." Not surprisingly, the Architect ranked the Library of Congress North Exit Stair B as its second most critical project in need of funding. Nonetheless, this bill provides no funds for that and other necessary life and safety projects, including Library of Congress Elevator Modernization, South Stair E Phase I, and Fire Alarm and Audibility Upgrades.

The bill not only insufficiently funds the Architect but also includes language to withhold seventy-five percent of funding for any project or phase of a project funded in the bill over \$5 million until the House Committee on Appropriations and the Government Accountability Office approve a plan for use of funds. The provision adds an overly burdensome requirement that will unnecessarily hold up the progress of essential projects. The low threshold of \$5 million threatens to insert the Committee into the management of projects rather than promote the Committee's appropriate oversight role.

The largest reduction in the bill is to the Government Publishing Office (GPO), which was cut by over 8 percent from the fiscal year 2015 level. The office was formerly known as the Government Printing Office until the Committee changed the name of the agency in the fiscal year 2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill to reflect the digital transformation of the agency. GPO publishes information online and plays a vital role in Congress' transparency. Unfortunately, the bill denies GPO's request to continue to improve its Federal Digital System. The National Academy of Public Administration in 2013 recommended that GPO explore charging fees for

access to online legislative data to ensure the long-term preservation of digital government publications. Congress should reject NAPA's recommendation to charge fees and adequately fund GPO through appropriations to ensure free access to government data.

The bill rightfully continues the subcommittee's effort to improve the Copyright Office's business practices. As some of the requested increase for Copyright was provided in the bill, the subcommittee also directed the office to provide to the Committee a detailed plan on necessary Information Technology upgrades, including cost estimates. The Copyright Office must improve the backlog of registrations as well as their business processes. Currently customers can only submit documents on paper, which the Copyright Office turns into a digital format—a glaring inefficiency. This bill recognizes that the effort to transform the Copyright Office will require a long commitment and strong oversight by the legislative branch appropriations subcommittee.

Finally, the Ranking Member of the subcommittee put forward a commonsense amendment during Full Committee consideration that would have taken steps to ensure House of Representatives cafeteria workers are paid a livable wage. The amendment directed the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to solicit and select a food service contractor who provides a livable wage to its employees to meet basic needs for food and shelter. The amendment set no amount for wages but required the contractor to use local economic indices to establish these wages. Regrettably, this amendment was defeated 29–21 with Republican Members voting against and Democratic Members voting in the affirmative. The Democratic Members of the Committee will continue to strive to require that contractors doing business with the House of Representatives pay wages and provide benefits that allow their employees to live above poverty levels and move into the middle class.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
NITA M. LOWEY.

