

that I have also signed, provides an increase of \$286 million over fiscal 1996 for FAA operations. The FAA manages the world's largest and safest aviation system.

To address the recent tragic aviation incidents, I asked Vice President Gore to chair a Commission on Aviation Security and report back with recommendations for improving aviation security. I am pleased that in the omnibus appropriations bill, the Congress fully funds my request of \$201 million for the Department of Transportation to implement the Vice President's September 9 recommendations.

The Act includes \$150 million to capitalize my proposed new State Infrastructure Banks (SIBs). It also lifts the limit on the number of banks, allowing all States to apply. SIBs are an innovative use of private sector financing ideas that will permit States to leverage infrastructure investment.

I am particularly pleased that the Congress, in the omnibus appropriations bill, fully funded

my request for the Alameda Corridor project, which connects the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, California. This intermodal project will speed the transportation of goods from these ports throughout the country and will also help sustain our Nation's competitive edge in Pacific Rim trade.

The Act provides funding for most of the Department's high-priority programs. I commend the Congress for not including any new earmarked highway projects. States can better determine how to use these funds to meet their transportation infrastructure priorities.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
September 30, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 3675, approved September 30, was assigned Public Law No. 104-205. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 1.

## Statement on Signing the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1997

*September 30, 1996*

Today I have signed into law H.R. 3816, the "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1997."

The Act provides \$20 billion in discretionary budget authority for programs of the Department of Energy (DOE), portions of the Interior and Defense Departments, the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), and several smaller agencies.

The Act provides \$11.4 billion for atomic energy defense programs, \$0.3 billion above my request. I am disappointed that the Congress has funded unrequested increases for nuclear weapons management and related programs, while curtailing investments in important civilian activities. Nevertheless, I am pleased that the Act will provide for a significantly enhanced Science-Based Stockpile Stewardship and Management program that will continue DOE's strong commitment to ensuring the safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile. This Act will also enable the Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management program to

aggressively address the environmental legacy of previous weapons activities.

I am pleased that the Congress dropped a provision that would have made funding for the nuclear waste management program contingent upon congressional passage of a subsequent authorization bill. This language could have led to the immediate suspension of ongoing work at the Yucca Mountain site.

I am also pleased that the Congress provided \$45 million to the International Nuclear Safety program, which assists nations of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in improving the safety of Soviet-designed nuclear reactors.

I am disappointed that the Act cuts \$93 million from my request for solar and renewable energy research programs. Investments in the development of advanced renewable energy technologies, which have a large potential export market, will create new jobs and reduce pollution, thereby addressing climate change and protecting human health and the environment. I am also concerned by the cuts in funding for

DOE departmental administration and program direction in civilian research and defense programs that may jeopardize the Department's ability to perform its missions and maintain its financial management responsibilities.

I am disappointed that the Act includes over \$210 million in unrequested funds for Corps' construction, studies, and operation and maintenance programs. The Congress should have used these funds to restore reductions it made to

other priority DOE and Corps programs, such as the Corps' wetlands regulatory program.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
September 30, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 3816, approved September 30, was assigned Public No. 104-206. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 1.

## Statement on Signing Legislation Waiving Certain Enrollment Requirements

*September 30, 1996*

Today I have signed into law House Joint Resolution 197, which waives the printing requirements of sections 106 and 107 of Title 1 of the United States Code with respect to any appropriations measure of the 104th Congress that is presented to me after the enactment of H.J. Res. 197. I have done so to avoid any confusion as to my ability to act on any form of legislation presented to me after certification by the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives that the form is a true enrollment.

In signing this joint resolution, I express no view as to whether it is necessary to waive the

provisions of Title 1 before I exercise my prerogatives under Article I, section 7 of the Constitution where the Congress has presented to me any form of bill or resolution it considers to be a true enrollment.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
September 30, 1996.

NOTE: H.J. Res. 197, approved September 30, was assigned Public Law No. 104-207. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 1.

## Statement on Signing the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997

*September 30, 1996*

I have signed into law H.R. 3610, the fiscal year 1997 omnibus appropriations and immigration reform bill.

This bill is good for America, and I am pleased that my Administration could fashion it with the Congress on a bipartisan basis. It moves us further down the road toward our goal of a balanced budget while protecting, not violating, the values we share as Americans—opportunity, responsibility, and community.

Specifically, the legislation restores needed funds for education and training, the environment, science and technology, and law enforce-

ment; fully funds my anti-drug and counter-terrorism initiatives; extends the Brady Bill so that those who commit domestic violence cannot buy handguns; provides needed resources to respond to fires in the western part of the Nation and to the devastation brought by Hurricanes Fran and Hortense; and includes landmark immigration reform legislation that cracks down on illegal immigration without punishing legal immigrants.

The bill restores substantial sums for education and training, furthering my agenda of lifelong education to help Americans acquire the