

over the years, and even though I am no longer chairman but the ranking member at this point, I just want to ensure that the committee continues to enjoy a good relationship with the subcommittee.

I thank the gentleman for the time.

The CHAIRMAN. The Committee will rise informally.

The Speaker pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) assumed the Chair.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The Committee resumed its sitting.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, at this time I would like to yield 1 minute to the distinguished chair of the House Administration Committee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY).

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Chairman, I just want to say a few quick things.

We had a problem in House Administration when Chairwoman MILLENDER-MCDONALD passed away. There was a void. But taking over as chairman, I have a great working relationship with my ranking minority member, Mr. EHLERS. I have a great working relationship with the ranking minority member of this subcommittee, ZACH WAMP. I also have tremendous respect for and a great working relationship with the chairwoman.

We have had some conversations that we did not need to discuss here. I have been assured and am extremely comfortable with the fact that we will be together working out our jurisdictional problems. I thank the gentlewoman for stepping in at a time when it was needed. Again, with my ranking minority member, we have a great relationship. We probably have the best committee in that we get along all the time. We are going to continue to do that. I thank, again, the ranking member.

I look forward to working with you, and I have your assurance that we will be doing that.

Madam Chairman, I want to express my appreciation for the work of the gentlelady from Florida to craft the FY08 appropriations bill for the Legislative Branch. As we are well aware in the Committee on House Administration, working on this bill may not be very glamorous, but it is essential to keeping the House running.

The Committee on Appropriations has done a good job of balancing the many needs of the House—paying our employees, keeping the physical plant running, and operating the various agencies that serve Capitol Hill.

I am particularly pleased to see in this bill an additional \$5 million toward upgrading the radio systems of the Capitol Police. Estab-

lishing a secure communications system for our police force is essential to the security of the Hill.

I also appreciate the Committee's commitment of funds for the "Green the Capitol" initiative. According to the House Chief Administrative Officer's calculations, we can eventually recoup these costs from savings on our utility bills when we make the House more energy-efficient.

I look forward to continuing our strong working relationship in the future.

Finally, as Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, I urge the Members to reject the amendment by the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. FLAKE]. It is essential that the Congressional Printing and Binding Appropriation be funded at least at the level recommended by the Appropriations Committee. The Government Printing Office must have enough resources to provide Congress with the printing and digital services fundamental to our legislative process.

The congressional printing account has been flat-funded since 2005. As a result, in order to deliver what we require to do our jobs in Congress, GPO has had to reach into its own working capital. When GPO depletes its working capital, it consumes funds otherwise available to keep pace with technology, train employees, even to maintain plant and equipment.

GPO receives no salaries-and-expenses appropriation for its printing operations. GPO runs just like a business, and the Congressional Printing and Binding Appropriation is Congress' prepayment for its own orders. As a GPO customer, like many other Federal agencies, Congress has to pay its way and cannot expect GPO to underwrite printing needs, especially as we increase congressional activity in this 110th Congress. If Congress continues to underfund its own printing, GPO will eventually face a financial crisis that we caused, threatening its ability to operate for any of its agency customers. Let's reject the Flake amendment to keep that from happening.

Mr. WAMP. Madam Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, at this time I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I thank her for her excellent work on her maiden voyage as chair.

I have come to say a few words that I think need saying about the performance of GAO with respect to the grand experiment that our committee allowed on pay for performance. We allowed it. We have not tried to interfere with it. But the actions taken by the Comptroller General where you would at least have expected it has produced nothing short of a revolution within, of all places, the GAO workforce.

They were chosen for this grand experiment because they were a fairly upscale part of the Federal workforce. And what have we got? How would you feel if you had worked at or above performance, and yet you were among 300 employees of, what is it, 2 million Fed-

eral employees who did not receive the across-the-board pay increase that everybody else receives? Well, some of you might have sued or filed a claim with the Personnel Appeals Board within the GAO. And those employees, all 12 of them, have received their COLA, have been promoted, and have had their retirement fixed.

But there are 300 employees from 2006, 130 from 2007 who have been punished as to their pensions and pay because the Comptroller did not keep his promise with the Congress, which was that nobody's across-the-board pay would be affected. In fact, what he did was to insert a market-based study without informing the subcommittee, an unvalidated study, and now he has a whole racial claim on top of it because the African Americans have been disproportionately affected by his action.

If the Comptroller wanted some help, he could have gone to the OPM. Instead, he used a market-based study from a consultant. If he wanted to know how to deal with unionization which is now upon him, he could have gone to the OPM. He could have gone to the Federal Labor Relations Authority. Instead, he is spending taxpayer funds in order to try to beat a union within the Federal sector, the first time ever. If we allow taxpayer funds to be used that way, then it seems to me we ought to be called to account.

Mr. WAMP. Madam Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, at this time I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ).

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 2771, the legislative branch appropriations bill. I want to thank Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ranking Member WAMP, and the appropriations staff for their hard work in crafting this fiscally responsible bill.

The bill on the floor today is "lean and mean," providing just the resources that we need to serve the people in an honest, transparent manner.

I strongly believe that as our Nation's elected leaders, we have a responsibility here in the people's House to lead the Nation in creating an environmentally friendly workplace. This is why I crafted two amendments for today's bill that would have directed the Architect of the Capitol to take small but significant steps toward "greening" the Capitol complex.

I am pleased that Subcommittee Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ shares my support for the Speaker's Greening of the Capitol Initiative. Since she has enthusiastically agreed to consider them during conference, I won't be offering them today.

But I would like to draw the House's attention to these two initiatives because they demonstrate how small investments can reap large rewards.

Both initiatives were drawn from the Greening of the Capitol report recently

completed by the Architect of the Capitol, and both are endorsed by the American Society of Landscape Architects.

The first initiative would study the feasibility of constructing a "green roof" on the Ford House Office Building. A green roof is a rooftop that is carefully planted with vegetation. It can be anything from a simple plot of grass to a park-like setting.

Green roofs have proved to be tremendous economic and environmental benefits. They are great insulators, reducing heating and cooling costs often by as much as 25 percent. And they save on maintenance costs as well since they are more protective than traditional roofs. Green roofs cool the surrounding neighborhood by reducing the amount of heat that is reflected back into the surrounding atmosphere, the so-called urban heat island effect. Vegetation on green roofs celebrates our natural heritage and also absorbs rainwater, reducing contaminated runoff.

Even with all these benefits, green roofs have not caught on. They are not very popular yet in the United States. And as Members of Congress, we now have the opportunity to lead by example. A successful demonstration of the economic benefits of green roofs right here in the Capitol Complex can help promote green roofs across the Nation.

My second proposal concerns the planting of more trees around parking lots in the Capitol Complex. My colleagues who closely follow environmental issues already know that trees have a remarkable ability to reduce the air temperature in our urban areas. Trees remove carbon from our atmosphere, shade our buildings and cars, and even reduce asthma by filtering out air pollutants. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, this proposal would even save the taxpayers money.

Without action this year, many of the Speaker's Greening of the Capitol Initiatives, including the two I have just discussed, won't get funding until 2009 or 2010. These proposals would get us started modestly but promptly and don't require additional funds.

I look forward to working with Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ to incorporate these projects into the legislative branch's plans for 2008.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, I yield myself 30 seconds.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from California for her leadership on environmental issues and look forward to working with her on continuing the Speaker's leadership on the Green the Capitol Initiative, both in terms of planting of the trees and the greening of roofs, and I look forward and appreciate her input.

At this time, Madam Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, this place, this House is always at its best when Members of the United States Congress work together. And I want to congratulate the chairwoman of this committee and the ranking member of this committee for working together.

Most people don't understand that the legislative branch creates an atmosphere of hospitality in this place. As I look and see the number of visitors that we have, your responsibility is to secure them and to welcome them. Let me thank you personally for the task that you have undertaken.

I want to thank you for the increase in the House Child Care Center, and I hope that our community does not criticize the fact that we are family friendly so that employees have the opportunity to have child care.

I want to thank you for supporting the Speaker's Green Initiative because we, too, must do what we ask Americans to do.

And, of course, the brave men and women that serve us, I welcome the increase in the Capitol Police, and I also look forward to their continuing to address the questions of discrimination and equality as they increase the numbers of police.

Let me join in the words of Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and hope that we will challenge, if you will, the GAO to be responsible in its dealings with its employees and unionization.

But I came today to be able to offer to the American public the sense of pride and the sense of humbleness that I am now experiencing because of your grand leadership and that of the Appropriations Committee. And my good friend Congressman JESSE JACKSON and, of course, members of the Congressional Black Caucus signed a letter, which I was proud to sign, because this picture reflects something that is near and dear to Texas.

My good friend comes from Tennessee. He knows that we have a lot of continuity or connection between Tennessee and Texas and the good State of Florida.

But we celebrated this week the Emancipation Proclamation. We celebrated, in particular, Juneteenth. Those of us in the South remember Major General Gordon Granger coming 2 years late to indicate that we might be free. Isn't it wonderful that now we will name the Visitors Center, and we hope for our good friends in the other body to be as reasonable, the Emancipation Hall.

I went through the hall just outside this door before I came to the floor, and I saw the name of William Jennings Bryan. I saw the name Wheeler of Alabama, Huey Pierce Long, Lew Wallace, Sequoyah, Sam Houston.

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I met a woman who told me about her grandfather, Levi Coffin, who had helped slaves in the Underground Rail-

road. Her name was Ms. Holt. She was just standing there talking to me.

That's what naming the Emancipation Hall means to America. It reflects the wholeness of America, the wonderment of our history, the dignity of our history. Yes, slaves built this place, but all Americans will be able to go into Emancipation Hall, and it will symbolize the freedom of this Nation. I am so grateful that we have come to this place at this time.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, Emancipation Hall.

Madam Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 2771, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 2008 and to commend Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for her leadership in shepherding this bill through the legislative process. This legislation funds the House, Senate and various entities in the legislative branch, including the Library of Congress, the Capitol Police, the Government Accountability Office, and the Government Printing Office.

But it does more than that, Madam Chairman. The bill provides funding for "Greening the Capitol" to reduce carbon emissions from the operations of House buildings and the Capitol. It makes the necessary investments for critical health and safety needs by funding security upgrades and addressing health hazards and safety requirements in law. In short, this legislation demonstrates a commitment by the new Democratic majority to increased oversight, accountability and fiscal responsibility.

H.R. 2771 appropriates \$3.1 billion for legislative branch entities, including \$1.2 billion for House operations and \$1.9 billion for legislative branch agencies and other offices. The total provided is \$275.7 million (8 percent) less than requested by legislative offices and agencies and only \$122.2 million (4 percent) more than comparable FY 2007 funding. Nearly 25 percent of this increased funding is directly attributable to costs associated with the 2008 presidential election and subsequent inauguration.

Following the long-established practice that each house of Congress determines its own housekeeping requirements without interference from the other body, the bill contains no funding for Senate operations. The bill appropriates \$1.2 billion for operations of the House of Representatives, which is \$36.5 million (3 percent) less than requested, but \$54.1 million (5 percent) more than current funding.

The total for the House includes \$581 million for members' offices, also known as MRA's, 5 percent more than current funding, but 5 percent less than requested and \$162.8 million for House committees, 8 percent more than current funding and 4 percent more than requested. The bill also provides \$169.4 million for the various House officers and employees, including the Clerk of the House, the Sergeant at Arms, and the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), 8 percent more than current funding, but 3 percent less than requested.

H.R. 2771 provides \$21.1 million for joint House-Senate items, 13 percent less than current funding and 23 percent less than requested, when the recent June 8 supplemental request for the Capitol guides is taken into account. The appropriated amount includes \$9.4 million for the Joint Committee on Taxation, 7 percent more than current funding.

Madam Chairman, H.R. 2771 provides a total of \$1.9 billion for other offices and legislative branch agencies that directly or indirectly support congressional operations. This funding is \$71.2 million (4 percent) more than current levels but \$232.8 million (11 percent) less than requested. Among the agencies this bill funds are the Architect of the Capitol; the Capitol Police; the Library of Congress; the Government Printing Office, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Government Accountability Office.

For the Architect of the Capitol, the bill provides \$348.4 million, 9 percent less than current funding and 12 percent less than requested. Included in the bill is \$27.5 million for the Capitol Visitors Center. I cite with particular approval that the bill renames the center's Great Hall as "Emancipation Hall" in remembrance of the slave labor that created this mighty edifice.

Earlier this week, the House passed H. Con. Res. 155, which recognized the historical significance of June 19, 1865, or "Juneteenth," the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, TX, with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were now free. But this was 2½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation—which had become official January 1, 1863.

Madam Chairman, I suppose it may just be another irony of life that the U.S. Capitol was rebuilt during the Civil War and completed around the time of Juneteenth. This magnificent symbol of democracy, freedom, and equality could not have been brought in to being without the blood and sweat and unrequited toil of slave labor. For much of our history the contributions to our country by slaves and their descendants has not been fully acknowledged. But in renaming the Great Hall to the Capitol Visitor Center as "Emancipation Hall," we begin to rectify this error. It is a wonderful thing we are doing.

The bill also provides \$3.9 million to implement the "Green the Capitol" initiative, including \$2.7 for shifting from coal to natural gas for heating in the Capitol power plant, and the report requires the House CAO to purchase carbon credits. The bill also requires the hiring of an inspector general.

The bill provides the Capitol Police \$286 million, which is \$13.1 million (4 percent) less than requested, but \$20.3 million (8 percent) more than current funding. The Library of Congress is slated to receive \$572.5 million, \$63.8 million (13 percent) more than the current level, but \$89.1 million (13 percent) less than requested. There is \$125.8 million for the Government Printing Office; \$37.8 million for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO); and \$503.3 million in net funding for the Government Accountability Office (GAO). The bill does not contain any earmarks as defined under House rules.

To conclude, Madam Chairman, I strongly support H.R. 2771 because it makes the necessary investments for critical health and safety needs by funding security upgrades and addressing health and safety hazards. I support this legislation because it reflects the commitment by the new Democratic majority to increased oversight, accountability and fiscal responsibility.

I thank Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for her fine work in bringing this exceptional

legislation to the House floor where it should receive an overwhelmingly favorable vote.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAMP. Madam Chairman, with the understanding that the distinguished Chair from Florida will close, I would like to yield myself 1 minute before yielding the balance of our time to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

I congratulate our chairwoman for just working really hard, having a lot of hearings, digging in, learning a lot, and then finding a way to work together through the process, and I'm grateful.

Also, I want to say, with regard to the GAO issue and outside counsel, using outside counsel is actually commonplace; even the House itself has used it, the legislative branch agencies have used that. And then also to say about the greening of the Capitol issue, what we've heard today should remind us to use great caution because we are all for greening and environmental efficiency, but we need to be careful that the Congress itself is not a guinea pig to try a whole lot of things just to see how they work.

With that, Madam Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Georgia, the former chairman of the subcommittee, Mr. KINGSTON.

Mr. KINGSTON. Thank you, Mr. WAMP. And I thank the Chair and congratulate both of you on your work for this bill.

I want to say, however, I do not support it. I am very disappointed that after the bill left the Appropriations Committee and went to the Rules Committee, a funny thing happened. All this transparency and all this promise of open government and open rules seemed to fade away in a dark corner room up on the third floor of this building, because there were 23 amendments offered, and yet only three of them were accepted.

We talk about bipartisanship and we talk about sunshine in the process, and yet this is the very bill that basically funds and perhaps even governs our own body, our own congressional branch, and yet it has the closed rule. And 20 amendments won't get the sunshine, will not get the debate because of the Rules Committee under Democrat leadership. I would say you need to go back to your campaign brochures and look at all the promises that you made before you pass another rule like this.

One of the casualties of this closed process was an amendment that I offered that deals with contractors who deal with the Federal Government, who work for the Federal Government. I'll give you some examples. December 2005, 22 Mexican nationals were found illegally working in Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico. January 27, 2001, illegal aliens were found working at Fort Benning, Georgia.

March 2007, the Golden State Fence Company was actually fined because, in building a border security fence, they had hired 10 illegal aliens.

It doesn't stop there. In Louisiana, December 2005, a local company was busted working on a Veterans Administration hospital because they had illegal aliens. This is absurd. Now, I've heard from many people the theme of "leading by example." Perhaps one thing we could do and absolutely should do is require that if you are contracting for the Federal Government, that you have a Social Security verification process going in your business, more than the sham, more than the, Yeah, but we have an I-9 kind of approach that we're seeing. And this would actually say you need to be in the ICE, which is the Customs and Immigration Enforcement Service, you need to be in the ICE Basic Pilot Program, which is a way to know that your employees have correct and legal Social Security numbers. That's all the amendment would have done.

I would predict that this amendment would get lots of bipartisan support because we see that the biggest issue facing America, besides Iraq and perhaps energy, is the issue of illegal immigration. And here was an opportunity for us to make a definitive statement, to have a significant amendment added to the bill, and the Democrats said no.

I hope they'll reconsider on future legislation.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I think it's unfortunate that the gentleman from Georgia, the distinguished former chairman of this committee, has chosen this opportunity as a message opportunity, as opposed to working together in a bipartisan way, like the ranking member and I have done, to make sure that we can provide for the safety and security of the facilities of this institution.

He knows full well that the Capitol Visitors Center and the employees of the subcontractors that have been engaged to build that facility, while moving entirely too slowly, and we certainly have decried the cost overruns, are required to hire people who legally may work in this country and are required to ensure that a background check and a security check has been done on them. So his remarks are unfortunate, but everybody makes their own choices.

In conclusion, Madam Chair, I am really proud of the work that the subcommittee and I have engaged in. We offer this legislation to the House and ask for their support. We have endeavored to make sure that this bill is fiscally responsible, provides for the life, safety and security of the needs of the people who work here as well as the people who visit us here, and make sure that we can engage in Congress's oversight role and provide for accountability for the American people.

I look forward to continuing to work with Mr. WAMP from Tennessee on making sure that we can consistently

provide those initiatives for the American people.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Chairman, I rise today to express concerns about GAO's response to GAO employees' petition for a union election, which was filed on May 8 of this year. As a legislative branch agency it is imperative that GAO conduct its labor relations in a manner that is a model for all Federal agencies.

I am particularly concerned by GAO's decision to challenge the eligibility of one-third of the employees covered by the union petition. GAO is asserting that these employees are not eligible for representation because they perform a supervisory role.

The facts of their employment status at GAO strongly suggests otherwise. If these employees are in fact determined to be supervisors, then they are supervisors in name only because they are prohibited from performing supervisory functions. Moreover, GAO would have a 1:3 ratio of supervisors to nonsupervisors. That would be one of the smallest ratios in any public or private organization.

I am deeply concerned that GAO's challenge is an attempt to delay balloting until the end of the year, one that will entail a considerable expenditure of resources that will only distract the agency from carrying out critical investigatory and oversight work for the U.S. Congress.

I strongly urge GAO to reconsider its challenge, which will be costly, undermine agency morale, and distract it from its mission.

Mr. WYNN. Madam Chairman, today I rise to express my concerns with Government Accountability Office, GAO, management's response to the GAO employees' petition seeking a union election.

It should be noted that applicable law strictly prohibits the GAO management from expressing any personal view, argument, opinion, or statements relating to a union election except to: publicize election and encourage employees to vote; correct the record with respect to any false or misleading statement; or inform employees of the Government's policy relating to labor-management relations and representation as long as these statements do contain a threat or reprisal or promise of benefit and are not made under coercive conditions.

Despite these restrictions, Comptroller General Walker was quoted in a January 23, 2007 publication as stating that he "will present to the employees [his] views on the advantages and disadvantages of unionization."

Shortly after this statement was published, attorneys for the union sent a letter advising Comptroller General Walker of his obligation to remain "neutral" during the employees' deliberations regarding unionization.

The GAO's General Counsel responded acknowledging GAO management's legal obligation to maintain strict neutrality during a union organizing campaign.

Further, the Comptroller General met with me shortly before I sent a letter to him regarding his response to the union organizing activities.

In that meeting, the Comptroller General tried to discourage me from sending the letter, and promised not to interfere with the unionization effort. I informed Mr. Walker that I appreciated his assurances but that would be sending the letter all the same.

I have the letter dated February 23rd of this year, and signed by a bipartisan group of 19 House Members and 3 Senators with me and wish to submit it for the RECORD.

I am sorry to say that despite these assurances, and since the union filed the election petition on May 8, 2007, the Comptroller General has made additional statements that are at odds with his obligation to remain neutral.

I am very concerned that I have received reports from GAO employees that Mr. Walker has used his staff meetings to make statements that are seen by employees as a breach of GAO management's neutrality obligation.

For example, they report that Mr. Walker has urged employees to "get all the facts", that a union could "make things different . . . seriously impact agency decision-making", and "slow things down."

He refers to the GAO employees who seek to form a union as a "vocal minority in GAO" and that "[d]ue to union organizing efforts, labor law prevents [him] from helping employees unilaterally. Both of [my] hands are tied due to the union organizing efforts. . . ."

By implication, Mr. Walker asserts that if employees reject union-representation, Mr. Walker will "help" them.

Mr. Walker's statements are not neutral. I find it hard to believe that GAO analysts need to be reminded to "get all the facts" and the very purpose of a union is to "impact" the employer's decision-making.

Further, it cannot be clearer that the reference to potentially "slowing things down" is intended as a negative reference about unionization.

I rise today not only to call on Mr. Walker to stop interfering with GAO employees' right to organize and petition for a union election, but to call on my colleagues to stand together with these GAO employees who serve Congress and the public.

Let us do all we can to help these dedicated public servants get a vote on their union election petition this summer.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chairman, I am grateful for the opportunity to add my voice of support to our valued public servants at the Government Accountability Office, GAO. Just as Congress relies on the GAO for the gold standard of fair and even-handed analysis, so too must we ensure that our GAO workforce receives that same standard of fairness and even-handedness when it comes to matters of their own employment.

The issues that gave rise to the language in today's underlying Legislative Branch Appropriations bill are not new to the Government Oversight Committee on which I sit, or to the Federal employee community I am privileged to serve. Like many of my colleagues on the committee, I have received reports expressing concern about the process surrounding the recent Band II Restructuring Project, as well as the methodology used in the 2004 Watson Wyatt Worldwide, WWW, compensation study. In that regard, I am particularly troubled that the WWW study is being cited as the reason over 300 hard-working GAO employees who met or exceeded their performance expectations have been denied annual cost of living adjustments, notwithstanding public commitments to the contrary.

As a majority of GAO analysts have now exercised their employment rights to organize a union, it is critical that the requisite election process go forward expeditiously and without interference. I thank my colleagues for this opportunity to voice my support for the GAO workforce and the rest of our valued Federal employee community.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Chairman, I want to begin by taking the time to congratulate Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for her excellent work on this bill as well as in the subcommittee the past couple of months. It has been a pleasure to work with you and I look forward to working with all other Members as we continue to address the concerns of all people working in and visiting the Nation's Capitol.

I would also like to commend Ranking Member WAMP for his work. Together the chairwoman and ranking member have fostered a collegial bipartisan atmosphere.

The bill before us is a good bill, a bill that brings us necessary security upgrades, that shows a commitment to increased oversight, and does it in a fiscally responsible manner.

Among the bill's many important provisions is funding for the Greening the Capitol Initiative. This initiative will enable us to start switching from coal to cleaner burning natural gas for the running of the Capitol powerplant. Pages live in the shadow of the Capitol powerplant. It will allow us to purchase energy efficient light bulbs, and will allow us to begin other energy savings operations throughout the Capitol Complex.

The bill includes necessary funding for the Office of Compliance, which will allow that office to conduct oversight of the utility tunnel improvement efforts and health and safety issues. During hearings in the subcommittee, I have raised concerns, along with several of my colleagues, about the utility tunnels and workers and I am pleased to see that the Office of Compliance will receive the resources it needs to oversee the ongoing situation.

This bill also includes funding for the Library of Congress and several of its extremely important programs, such as the Books for the Blind Program, which provides services to blind and physically handicapped patrons including the production and distribution of books and magazines in Braille and electronic media.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and thank Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Ranking Member WAMP for the efforts they have put in to the subcommittee this year to ensure that the Capitol Complex and various agencies around us are run well and efficiently.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2771

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, namely:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, \$1,198,560,000, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, \$23,648,000, including: Office of the

Speaker, \$4,761,000, including \$25,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, \$2,188,000, including \$10,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, \$4,090,000, including \$10,000 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, \$1,894,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, \$1,420,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Speaker's Office for Legislative Floor Activities, \$499,000; Republican Steering Committee, \$943,000; Republican Conference, \$1,631,000; Republican Policy Committee, \$325,000; Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, \$1,295,000; Democratic Caucus, \$1,604,000; nine minority employees, \$1,498,000; training and program development—majority, \$290,000; training and program development—minority, \$290,000; Cloakroom Personnel—majority, \$460,000; and Cloakroom Personnel—minority, \$460,000.

**MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES
INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL
EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL**

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, \$581,000,000.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, \$133,000,000: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2008.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, \$29,800,000, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2008.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, \$169,393,000, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including not more than \$13,000, of which not more than \$10,000 is for the Family Room, for official representation and reception expenses, \$22,881,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages, and including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$7,024,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, \$116,891,000, of which \$6,269,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, \$4,457,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Operations, \$3,111,000, to remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, \$1,202,000; for the Office of the Chaplain, \$166,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, \$2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than \$1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$1,828,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, \$3,046,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the

House, \$7,406,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, \$752,000; for other authorized employees, \$170,000; and for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Historian, \$459,000.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, \$261,719,000, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, \$3,688,000; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, \$410,000; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, and other applicable employee benefits, \$237,410,000; supplies, materials, and other costs relating to the House portion of expenses for the Capitol Visitor Center, \$2,308,000, to remain available until expended; Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, \$17,200,000, of which \$5,408,000 shall remain available until expended; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, \$703,000.

CHILD CARE CENTER

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives Child Care Center, such amounts as are deposited in the account established by section 312(d)(1) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1992 (2 U.S.C. 2112), subject to the level specified in the budget of the Center, as submitted to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. (a) REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES" shall be available only for fiscal year 2008. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2008 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) **REGULATIONS.**—The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) **DEFINITION.**—As used in this section, the term "Member of the House of Representatives" means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

SEC. 102. CONTRACT FOR EXERCISE FACILITY.—(a) Section 103(a) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-447; 118 Stat. 3175), is amended by striking "private entity" and inserting "public or private entity".

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005.

SEC. 103. DEPOSITS.—(a) The second sentence of section 101 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1996 (2 U.S.C. 117j) is amended by striking "deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts" and inserting "deposited in the Treasury for credit to the account of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer".

(b) The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 104. HOUSE SERVICES REVOLVING FUND.—(a) Section 105(b) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005 (2 U.S.C. 117m(b)) is amended by striking "the Chief Administrative Officer" and inserting the following: "the Chief Administrative Officer, including purposes relating to energy and water conservation and environmental activities carried out in buildings, facilities, and grounds under the Chief Administrative Officer's jurisdiction".

(b) The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 105. ADJUSTMENT.—The first sentence of section 5 of House Resolution 1238, Ninety-first Congress, agreed to December 22, 1970 (as enacted into permanent law by chapter VIII of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1971) (2 U.S.C. 31b-5), is amended by striking "step 1 of level 6" and inserting "step 7 of level 11".

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, \$4,398,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, \$9,416,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and his assistants, including: (1) an allowance of \$2,175 per month to the Attending Physician; (2) an allowance of \$725 per month each to four medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician; (3) an allowance of \$725 per month to two assistants and \$580 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and (4) \$2,023,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, \$2,820,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

CAPITOL GUIDE SERVICE AND SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE

For salaries and expenses of the Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office, \$4,448,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

STATEMENTS OF APPROPRIATIONS

For the preparation, under the direction of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, of the statements for the first session of the 110th Congress, showing appropriations made, indefinite appropriations, and contracts authorized, together with a chronological history of the regular appropriations bills as required by law, \$30,000, to be paid to the persons designated by the chairmen of such committees to supervise the work.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay differential, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, \$224,500,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, 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, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and not more than \$5,000 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$61,500,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended for a radio modernization program, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for fiscal year 2008 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 1001. TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2008 for the Capitol Police may be transferred between the headings “SALARIES” and “GENERAL EXPENSES” upon the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 1002. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Section 908 of the Emergency Supplemental Act, 2002 (2 U.S.C. 1926, Public Law 107-117; 115 Stat. 2319), as amended, is further amended in subsection (c) by striking “\$40,000” and inserting “\$60,000”.

SEC. 1003. ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the United States Capitol Police is authorized to make advanced payments for obligations when it has been determined that making such payments is in the best interest of the government.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Compliance, as authorized by section 305 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1385), \$3,806,000, of which \$780,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2009: *Provided*, That the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance may, within the limits of available appropriations, dispose of surplus or obsolete personal property by interagency transfer, donation, or discarding: *Provided further*, That not more than \$500 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 1101. LUMP-SUM PAYMENTS.—(a) The Executive Director of the Office of Compliance shall have the authority to make lump-sum payments to reward exceptional performance by an employee or a group of employees.

(b) Subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2007.

SEC. 1102. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR PERSONNEL. (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

§ 4122. Training for employees of the Office of Compliance

“(a) The Executive Director of the Office of Compliance may, by regulation, make appli-

cable such provisions of this chapter as the Executive Director determines necessary to provide for training of employees of the Office of Compliance. The regulations shall provide for training which, in the determination of the Executive Director, is consistent with the training provided by agencies under the preceding sections of this chapter.

“(b) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall provide the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance with such advice and assistance as the Executive Director may request in order to enable the Executive Director to carry out the purposes of this section.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 4122 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following: “4122. Training for employees of the Office of Compliance.”.

SEC. 1103. REIMBURSEMENT.—(a) Section 415 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) REIMBURSEMENT.—

“(1) NOTIFICATION OF PAYMENTS MADE FROM ACCOUNT.—As soon as practicable after the Executive Director is made aware that a payment of an award or settlement under this chapter has been made from the account described in subsection (a), the Executive Director shall notify the head of the office to which the payment is attributable that the payment has been made, and shall include in the notification a statement of the amount of the payment.

“(2) REIMBURSEMENT BY OFFICE.—Not later than 180 days after receiving a notification from the Executive Director under paragraph (1), the head of the office involved shall transfer to the account described in subsection (a), out of any funds available for operating expenses of the office, a payment equal to the amount specified in the notification.”.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payments made under section 415 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than \$4,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$37,805,000.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for surveys and studies in connection with activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol; for all necessary expenses for the general and administrative support of the operations under the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; electrical substations of the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than \$5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, \$81,733,000, of which \$400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, \$24,567,000, of which \$8,790,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, \$9,310,000, of which \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, \$66,151,000, of which \$25,400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Printing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, \$83,017,000, of which \$4,945,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That not more than \$8,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2008.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, \$31,638,000, of which \$10,140,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computer Facility, and AOC security operations, \$16,109,000, of which \$2,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2012.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, \$8,310,000: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon vouchers approved by the Architect or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For an additional amount for the Capitol Visitor Center project, \$20,000,000 to remain available until expended, and in addition, \$7,545,000 for Capitol Visitor Center operation costs: *Provided*, That the Architect of the Capitol may not obligate any of the funds which are made available for the Capitol Visitor Center project without an obligation plan approved by the Committees on

Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 1201. ROSA PARKS STATUE.—(a) Section 1(a) of Public Law 109-116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Joint Committee may authorize the Architect of the Capitol to enter into the agreement required under this subsection on its behalf, under such terms and conditions as the Joint Committee may require.”.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of Public Law 109-116.

SEC. 1202. (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.—There is established in the Office of the Architect of the Capitol the Office of the Inspector General, headed by the Inspector General of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Inspector General”).

(b) INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Inspector General shall be appointed by the Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability in accounting, auditing, financial analysis, law, management analysis, public administration, or investigations.

(2) TERM OF SERVICE.—The Inspector General shall serve for a term of 5 years, and an individual serving as Inspector General may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional terms.

(3) REMOVAL.—The Inspector General may be removed from office prior to the expiration of his term only by the Architect of the Capitol. Upon such removal, the Architect shall promptly communicate the reasons for the removal in writing to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(4) SALARY.—The Inspector General shall be paid at an annual rate equal to \$1,500 less than the annual rate of pay in effect for the Architect of the Capitol.

(c) DUTIES.—

(1) APPLICABILITY OF DUTIES OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT.—The Inspector General shall carry out the same duties and responsibilities with respect to the Architect of the Capitol as an Inspector General of an establishment carries out with respect to an establishment under section 4 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 4), under the same terms and conditions which apply under such section.

(2) SEMIANNUAL REPORTS.—The Inspector General shall prepare and submit semiannual reports summarizing the activities of the Office of the Inspector General in the same manner, and in accordance with the same deadlines, terms, and conditions, as an Inspector General of an establishment under section 5 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 5). For purposes of applying section 5 of such Act to the Inspector General, the Architect of the Capitol shall be considered the head of the establishment.

(3) INVESTIGATIONS OF COMPLAINTS OF EMPLOYEES.—

(A) AUTHORITY.—The Inspector General may receive and investigate complaints or information from an employee of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol concerning the possible existence of an activity constituting a violation of law, rules, or regulations, or mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial

and specific danger to the public health and safety.

(B) NONDISCLOSURE.—The Inspector General shall not, after receipt of a complaint or information from an employee, disclose the identity of the employee without the consent of the employee, unless the Inspector General determines such disclosure is unavoidable during the course of the investigation.

(C) PROHIBITING RETALIATION.—An employee of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol who has authority to take, direct others to take, recommend, or approve any personnel action, shall not, with respect to such authority, take or threaten to take any action against any employee as a reprisal for making a complaint or disclosing information to the Inspector General, unless the complaint was made or the information disclosed with the knowledge that it was false or with willful disregard for its truth or falsity.

(4) INDEPENDENCE IN CARRYING OUT DUTIES.—Neither the Architect of the Capitol nor any other employee of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol may prevent or prohibit the Inspector General from carrying out any of the duties or responsibilities assigned to the Inspector General under this section.

(d) POWERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General may exercise the same authorities with respect to the Architect of the Capitol as an Inspector General of an establishment may exercise with respect to an establishment under section 6(a) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 6(a)), other than paragraphs (7) and (8) of such section.

(2) STAFF.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General may appoint and fix the pay of such personnel as the Inspector General considers appropriate. Such personnel may be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, regarding appointments in the competitive service, and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that no personnel of the Office (other than the Inspector General) may be paid at an annual rate greater than \$500 less than the annual rate of pay of the Inspector General under subsection (b)(4).

(B) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Inspector General may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, at rates not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title.

(C) INDEPENDENCE IN APPOINTING STAFF.—No individual may carry out any of the duties or responsibilities of the Office unless the individual is appointed by the Inspector General, or provides services procured by the Inspector General, pursuant to this paragraph. Nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to prohibit the Inspector General from entering into a contract or other arrangement for the provision of services under this section.

(D) APPLICABILITY OF ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL PERSONNEL RULES.—None of the regulations governing the appointment and pay of employees of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol shall apply with respect to the appointment and compensation of the personnel of the Office, except to the extent agreed to by the Inspector General. Nothing in the previous sentence may be construed to affect subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(3) EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES.—The Architect of the Capitol shall provide the Office with appropriate and adequate office space,

together with such equipment, supplies, and communications facilities and services as may be necessary for the operation of the Office, and shall provide necessary maintenance services for such office space and the equipment and facilities located therein.

(e) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.—

(1) TRANSFER.—To the extent that any office or entity in the Office of the Architect of the Capitol prior to the appointment of the first Inspector General under this section carried out any of the duties and responsibilities assigned to the Inspector General under this section, the functions of such office or entity shall be transferred to the Office upon the appointment of the first Inspector General under this section.

(2) NO REDUCTION IN PAY OR BENEFITS.—The transfer of the functions of an office or entity to the Office under paragraph (1) may not result in a reduction in the pay or benefits of any employee of the office or entity, except to the extent required under subsection (d)(2)(A).

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1203. FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULES.—For purposes of subchapter II of chapter 61 of title 5, United States Code, during fiscal year 2008 the Office of the Architect of the Capitol shall be treated as an agency under section 6121(1) of such title.

SEC. 1204. TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION.—(a) Section 5721 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) and (H) as subparagraphs (H) and (I); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following new subparagraph:

“(G) the Architect of the Capitol;”.

(b) Section 521(1)(B) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8241(1)(B)) is amended by striking ““(B) through (H)” and inserting ““(B) through (I)”.

SEC. 1205. EASEMENTS.—(a) Subject to subsection (e), the Architect of the Capitol may grant easements upon such terms and conditions as he considers advisable (including the payment of monetary consideration) for rights-of-way over, in, and upon the grounds of the United States Capitol or the grounds of any other facility under the jurisdiction and control of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol to any person for—

(1) railroad tracks;

(2) gas, water, sewer, and oil pipe lines;

(3) substations for electric power transmission lines and pumping stations for gas, water, sewer, and oil pipe lines;

(4) canals;

(5) ditches;

(6) flumes;

(7) tunnels;

(8) roads and streets;

(9) poles and lines for the transmission or distribution of electric power;

(10) poles and lines for the transmission or distribution of communications signals (including telephone and telegraph signals) and structures and facilities for the transmission, reception, and relay of such signals; and

(11) any other purpose that the Architect considers advisable.

(b)(1) No easement granted under this section may include more land than is necessary for the easement.

(2) In lieu of, or in addition to, any monetary consideration provided in exchange for granting of an easement under this section, the Architect may accept in-kind consideration with respect to the easement for—

(A) maintenance, protection, alteration, repair, improvement, or restoration (including environmental restoration) of property or facilities which are subject to or affected by the easement;

(B) construction or acquisition of new facilities;

(C) provision of other property or facilities;

(D) support for facilities operation; and

(E) provision of such other services as the Architect considers appropriate.

(c)(1) There is established in the Treasury a special account for the Architect of the Capitol into which the Architect shall deposit all of the funds which are paid as consideration for the granting of easements under this section, and all other proceeds received pursuant to the granting of easements under this section.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), amounts in the special account established under this subsection shall be available to the Architect, in such amounts provided in appropriations acts, for the following purposes:

(A) The maintenance, protection, alteration, repair, improvement, or restoration (including environmental restoration) of property or facilities.

(B) The construction or acquisition of new facilities.

(C) Support for facilities operation.

(3) Any amount paid as consideration for the granting of an easement, or received pursuant to the granting of an easement, which is deposited in the special account established under this subsection may not be used by the Architect for any purpose which is not related to the same property or facility over which the easement was granted unless such use is approved—

(A) in the case of an amount paid as consideration for the granting of an easement with respect to property under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives, by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(B) in the case of an amount paid as consideration for the granting of an easement with respect to property under the jurisdiction of the Senate, by the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(C) in the case of an amount paid as consideration for the granting of an easement with respect to any other property, by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(d) The Architect of the Capitol may terminate all or part of any easement granted under this section for—

(1) failure to comply with the terms and conditions under which the easement was granted;

(2) nonuse of the easement for a two-year period; or

(3) abandonment of the easement.

(e) The Architect of the Capitol may grant an easement under this section upon submission of written notice of the intent to grant the easement (including notice of the amount or type of consideration to be received in exchange for granting the easement) to, and approval of the notice by—

(1) in the case of an easement proposed to be granted with respect to property under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives, the House Office Building Commission;

(2) in the case of an easement proposed to be granted with respect to property under the jurisdiction of the Senate, the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate;

(3) in the case of an easement proposed to be granted with respect to any other property, the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the House Office Building Commission; and

(4) in the case of an easement proposed to be granted with respect to any other property, the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(f) This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 1206. DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACTS.—(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Architect of the Capitol may use the two-phase selection procedures authorized in section 303M of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253m) for entering into a contract for the design and construction of a public building, facility, or work in the same manner and under the same terms and conditions as the head of an executive agency under such section.

(b) This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 1207. ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—During fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year, the Architect of the Capitol may make payments in advance for obligations of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol for subscription services if the Architect determines it to be more prompt, efficient, or economical to do so.

SEC. 1208. CASUALTY AND OTHER INSURANCE FOR EXHIBITS AND WORKS OF ART.—(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Architect of the Capitol may use funds made available to the Office of the Architect of the Capitol during a fiscal year to acquire insurance against the loss of or damage to any exhibit or work of art which is loaned or leased to the Architect for the United States Capitol, the Capitol Visitor Center, or the Botanic Garden.

(b) This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 1209. CVC MAINTENANCE.—Any expenses for the maintenance of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be treated as expenses for the maintenance of the Capitol under the heading “Architect of the Capitol, Capitol Building”, and shall be subject to the same financial management and reporting requirements applicable to amounts under such heading.

SEC. 1210. LEASING AUTHORITY.—(a) Section 1102(b) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2004 (2 U.S.C. 1822(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Committee on Rules and Administration” and inserting “Committees on Appropriations and Rules and Administration”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “the House Office Building Commission” and inserting “the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the House Office Building Commission”; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, for space to be leased for any other entity under subsection (a).”

(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2004.

SEC. 1211. (a) The great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known and designated as “Emancipation Hall”, and any reference to the hall in any law, rule, or regulation shall be deemed to be a reference to Emancipation Hall.

(b) This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library’s catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the cus-

tody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, \$401,000,000, of which not more than \$6,000,000 shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2008, and shall remain available until expended, under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150) and not more than \$350,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2008 and shall remain available until expended for the development and maintenance of an international legal information database and activities related thereto: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$6,350,000: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$16,451,000 shall remain available until expended for the partial acquisition of books, periodicals, newspapers, and all other materials including subscriptions for bibliographic services for the Library, including \$40,000 to be available solely for the purchase, when specifically approved by the Librarian, of special and unique materials for additions to the collections: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than \$12,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$4,010,000 shall remain available until expended for the digital collections and educational curricula program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$600,000 shall remain available until expended, and shall be transferred to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission for carrying out the purposes of Public Law 106-173, of which \$10,000 may be used for official representation and reception expenses of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$6,500,000 shall remain available until expended for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, \$49,827,000, of which not more than \$29,826,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2008 under section 708(d) of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That \$10,000,000 shall be derived from prior year unobligated balances: *Provided further*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than \$4,398,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2008 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(2), 803(e), 1005, and 1316 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections and unobligated balances are less than \$44,224,000: *Provided further*, That not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an “International Copyright Institute” in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for

the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than \$4,250 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, \$104,518,000: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), \$67,741,000, of which \$20,704,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$650,000 shall remain available until expended for telecommunications services for the blind.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 1301. INCENTIVE AWARDS PROGRAM.—Of the amounts appropriated to the Library of Congress in this Act, not more than \$5,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for the incentive awards program.

SEC. 1302. REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2008, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed \$122,529,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the legislative branch.

(c) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—During fiscal year 2008, the Librarian of Congress may temporarily transfer funds appropriated in this Act, under the heading “LIBRARY OF CONGRESS” under the subheading “SALARIES AND EXPENSES” to the revolving fund for the FEDLINK Program and the Federal Research Program established under section 103 of the Library of Congress Fiscal Operations Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-481; 2 U.S.C. 182c): *Provided*, That the total amount of such transfers may not exceed \$1,900,000: *Provided further*, That the appropriate revolving fund account shall reimburse the Library for any amounts transferred to it before the period of availability of the Library appropriation expires.

SEC. 1303. AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—Section 207(e) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1998 (2 U.S.C. 182(e)) is amended to read as follows:

“(e) AUDIT.—The revolving fund shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General at the Comptroller General’s discretion.”.

SEC. 1304. TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2008 for the Library of Congress may be transferred between any of the headings for which the amounts are appropriated upon the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized printing and binding for the Congress and the distribution of Congressional information in any format; printing and binding for the Architect of the Capitol; expenses necessary for preparing the semi-monthly and session index to the Congressional Record, as authorized by law (section 902 of title 44, United States Code); printing and binding of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and printing, binding, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, \$87,892,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Printing Office revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications and their distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, \$35,434,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than \$2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and other related publications for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Printing Office revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the ap-

proval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund, \$2,450,000 for workforce retraining and restructuring, information technology development, infrastructure, and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Printing Office may make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Printing Office revolving fund: *Provided further*, That not more than \$5,000 may be expended on the certification of the Public Printer in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Public Printer shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the revolving fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund and the funds provided under the headings “OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS” and “SALARIES AND EXPENSES” may not be used for contracted security services at the GPO passport facility.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than \$12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6), and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, \$503,328,000: *Provided*, That not more than \$5,413,000 of payments received under section 782 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available for use in fiscal year 2008: *Provided further*, That not more than \$2,097,000 of reimbursements received under section 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available for use in fiscal year 2008: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided \$2,500,000 shall remain available until expended for technology assessment studies: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall

be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SEC. 1401. ANNUITY OF THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—(a) Section 772 of title 31, United States Code, is repealed.

(b) Title 31, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) In section 735(a), by striking “772, 775(a) and (d)” and inserting “or 775(b)”.

(2) In the second sentence of section 773(a), by striking “or, if an election is made” and all that follows and inserting a period.

(3) In section 774(b)(2), by striking “or while receiving an annuity under section 772 of this title”.

(4) In section 775—

(A) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (a) through (d);

(B) in subsection (a) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by striking “sections 772 and 773” and inserting “section 773”, and

(ii) by striking “subsection (d)” and inserting “subsection (b)”;

(C) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated), by striking “subsection (c) or (d)” and inserting “subsection (a) or (b)”; and

(D) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by striking “sections 772 and 773” and inserting “section 773”, and

(ii) by striking “subsection (d)” and inserting “subsection (b)”.

(5) In section 776(d)(1), by striking “section 775(d)” and inserting “section 775(b)”.

(6) In section 777(b), by striking the first sentence.

(c) The table of sections for subchapter V of chapter 7 of subtitle I of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 772.

(d) The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to any individual who is appointed as Comptroller General after the date of the enactment of this Act.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

For a payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund for financing activities of the Open World Leadership Center under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), \$6,000,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SEC. 1501. (a) TRANSFER OF OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—On October 1, 2008, there shall be transferred (1) to the Department of State, the Open World Leadership Center established by section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151) and all functions, personnel, assets, and obligations of the Center; and (2) to the Secretary of State, all authority of the Board of Trustees and the Library of Congress under such section 313.

(b) MAINTENANCE AS DISTINCT ENTITY.—Following the transfer under subsection (a), the Open World Leadership Center shall be maintained as a distinct entity within the Department of State and, except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151) shall continue to apply to the Center.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of State shall consult with the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center to plan and implement the transfer required by subsection (a).

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), \$430,000.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES.—No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used 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 of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SEC. 202. FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION.—No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2008 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

SEC. 203. RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION.—Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

SEC. 204. CONSULTING SERVICES.—The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

SEC. 205. AWARDS AND SETTLEMENTS.—Such sums as may be necessary are appropriated to the account described in subsection (a) of section 415 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415(a)) to pay awards and settlements as authorized under such subsection.

SEC. 206. COSTS OF LBFMC.—Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed \$2,000.

SEC. 207. LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE.—The Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the District of Columbia, is authorized to maintain and improve the landscape features, excluding streets and sidewalks, in the irregular shaped grassy areas bounded by Washington Avenue, SW on the northeast, Second Street SW on the west, Square 582 on the south, and the beginning of the I-395 tunnel on the southeast.

SEC. 208. LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS.—None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made

by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

This Act may be cited as the ‘Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2008’.

The CHAIRMAN. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in House Report 110-201. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. INGLIS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 110-201.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 1 offered by Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase light bulbs unless the light bulbs have the “ENERGY STAR” or “Federal Energy Management Program” designation.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 502, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. I thank the gentlelady.

I rise with the support of several Members of this amendment. The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), the gentlelady from California (Ms. HARMAN), and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and I are offering an amendment that would require that light bulbs purchased in the Leg Branch appropriations would comply with the ENERGY STAR and Federal Energy Management Program identifications. The idea here is to save some money easily and to save a lot of energy, and of course energy is money.

Most Americans are still using, and most of the light bulbs in my house are incandescent bulbs that Thomas Edison invented more than 100 years ago. But only 10 percent of the energy of those light bulbs turns out to be light; 90 percent is wasted as heat. So we've got something better. And like many, I'm switching to CFLs. Those lights provide much more efficient lighting. And it's amazing to think that if every American just switched one incandescent bulb to an energy-efficient alternative, we would collectively save more than \$8 billion in energy costs, prevent the burning of 300 billion pounds of coal, and remove 2 million cars' worth of greenhouse gas emissions from our atmosphere.

This small step in this amendment is part of something else that Mr. LIPINSKI and I are working on, which is a Bulb Replacement in Government and High Efficiency Technology, BRIGHT we call it, Energy Savings Act, along with Representative HARMAN, that would require GSA to replace burned out light bulbs with more efficient options like compact fluorescent lighting.

The BRIGHT Act has 82 cosponsors, and we look forward to its adoption. This amendment is a good step toward that goal.

Madam Chair, I am happy to yield to the gentlelady from California (Ms. HARMAN).

Ms. HARMAN. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and commend him for the role that he is playing on a bipartisan basis to assure that existing standards, the ENERGY STAR standards and the Federal Energy Management Program standards are adhered to. This effort that we're making on every appropriations bill will ensure that our practice complies with our law.

I agree with him that CFLs offer much more efficiency. There are also LEDs. And hopefully the incandescent bulb makers in America will adjust their own manufacturing so that they produce efficient light bulbs as well.

Another bill that we're all cosponsoring that's pending in the Energy Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce will provide incentives to U.S. manufacturers to produce more efficient lighting and set proper goals.

Finally, I want to say that bipartisanship has been hailed all morning. It takes 270 Members of Congress and 60 Members of the Senate and hopefully one willing President to change the light bulb policy, and I think we're proceeding that way this morning.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Madam Chair, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. I would just like to compliment the gentleman for his leadership on this issue, Mr. LIPINSKI and Ms. HARMAN. We are seeing efforts move. And we've learned already that if everyone did this across the country, we would save 65 billion kilowatts of energy, which is the equivalent of 80 coal-fired plants. Obviously this is something we want the Federal Government to do.

I compliment Chairman OBEY and Ranking Member LEWIS on the floor for allowing us to proceed without a lot of debate, knowing that we have strong support for this. I look forward to having this adopted.

Mr. WAMP. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. WAMP. I just want to commend the authors, commend the ENERGY STAR Program. This is the kind of greening initiative that actually resonates. We will accept the amendment.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Madam Chair, we appreciate very much

the committee's willingness to accept this amendment. It is a good step forward.

Mr. MICA. Will the gentleman yield? Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. MICA. Madam Chair, I'm pleased to see we're doing something about this, but the Members should be aware of the procedure in the House of trying to change a light bulb. I tried to change one. It took filling out forms. This is to get an energy efficient one. Then two people appeared several days later, one with a form, one with a light bulb; an incredible waste of time, energy and taxpayer money to put in one fluorescent light bulb. I hope the procedure improves in the House.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. I agree with the gentleman. I certainly hope that we can improve that procedure.

In the meantime, we're improving the bulbs, making us more energy efficient here in the Capitol, and hopefully throughout these appropriations bills in this season.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition even though I am supportive of the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, very briefly, I fully support this amendment and appreciate the bipartisan cooperation that was endeavored in moving it forward.

I do want to express some concern about how the light bulbs will be adapted to the historical lighting that we have in this facility, in the Capitol complex.

I look forward to working with the sponsors of the amendment as we move this legislation through conference to ensure that that occurs.

Ms. HARMAN. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I would be happy to yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. HARMAN. We do have language in our bill that I just described, the one pending in the Energy and Commerce Committee to exempt historical lighting from the new goals. Hopefully we can invent light bulbs for historical lighting that are more efficient too, but we're trying to be reasonable here.

In response to earlier comments by Mr. PETERSON, the goal is to help the domestic industry be able to produce efficient lighting. And the goal is also to set tough enough standards so that we save the enormous amount of energy that Mr. UPTON was just mentioning.

Mr. UPTON. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I am happy to yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. UPTON. We just want to be on the record for this. Working with the Parliamentarians to make sure that the amendment is germane, we were not able to use the words "or equivalent" when we said "ENERGY STAR or equivalent." We would like to see that happen in the conference, but we know that that is legislating on an appropriation bill.

We would also like to have a provision for historical lighting. Again, that needs to happen in conference, it cannot happen on the House floor, and that's why we proceeded in that way. We look forward to working with all parties to make sure those concerns are addressed.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Reclaiming my time, I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. I think that, as Ms. HARMAN just pointed out and as the Chair of the committee has pointed out, there are some issues involving the aesthetics. You've got to choose the right light bulb, that's for sure. We've heard some discussion this morning about how they glow moon glow, or whatever. Well, if you pick the wrong kind, they do glow moon glow. I've got some in my garage, and it's a really freaky kind of look in there. But I've got some in the house that look yellow and nice.

So you've got to pick the right bulbs. And of course in the historical context we have to pick the right bulbs. And we do have to deal with the recycling of these. Just like we don't have a sufficient program for recycling lead batteries around, we toss those in the trash, we have a problem with the mercury in these. But we can get there. We start by saving an awful lot of money and a lot of energy.

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Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Chairman, I did not mention earlier and would like to say that the Speaker's initiative, her Green Initiative, does also address this issue of trying to move away from inefficient incandescent bulbs. One more time, our goal would be to make incandescent bulbs, as well as other bulbs, more efficient.

We are not choosing winners in this effort. But surely, everyone must understand that it takes 18 seconds to change a light bulb. This is something all of us can do quite quickly, except you have to comply with the House procedures that we just heard about.

I am very excited about the notion that we are setting an example in this House and in this Congress about more efficient lighting.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I look forward to working with all of my colleagues and Mr. WAMP as we move through the conference process and commend them, as well as Speaker

PELOSI, for including the shifting from the light bulbs we use now to energy-efficient and environmentally friendly light bulbs as part of the initiative of the greening of the Capitol.

I yield back my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 110-201.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 2 offered by Mr. FLAKE:

In the item relating to "Government Printing Office—Congressional Printing and Binding", insert after the dollar amount the following: "(reduced by \$3,200,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 502, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the Chair.

I brought with me today a stack of CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS. All of us are familiar with these. We used to use them quite a bit, but today not so much. Today most of us just simply go on the computer and have a searchable version that is much faster, searchable back to 1989. With the click of a button, you can find what you are looking for. So we don't use these as much. Unfortunately, we haven't caught up with the times.

These are just a few of the thousands and thousands that are delivered that are never read. This was just from one office, the Legislative Research Center in the Cannon Building near my office. These are those that are just going to be thrown away today. One office that collects a few of these will throw these away just today.

This year alone these records will cost the American taxpayer over \$25 million. Recently my office did an informal survey of about 100 offices. We went in and said, "What do you do with the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that comes?" Virtually all of them, nearly every one of those 100 offices, said, "We throw them away. We wish they would stop delivering them." We had some offices say that they had requested that they stop being delivered. They are still delivered.

So they stack up. They are thrown away. They fill up landfills. I believe the figure is something like 57 tons of paper each year are thrown away just here.

Before the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD was put on line, as I mentioned, they were useful, but they are not now. We obviously do have to have some paper copies. We simply don't need so many.

Our amendment would simply do this, and I should add, this amendment

was offered by myself and Mr. BLUMENAUER 2 years ago and was accepted by the then majority. It was simply taken out in the conference. I think we would do well to accept it again today.

This amendment would simply save \$3.2 million annually by instructing the Government Printing Office to print only half as many copies. Today only 5,600 are printed. Half would do us just fine. That amendment would not reduce the funding for preparation, data collection or other aspects of the RECORD. It would simply reduce the ink-and-paper copies for half of what we print. So those who might oppose this amendment might say that it is going to cut deep and cut personal and others. It won't as long as fewer records are printed. The costs will go down.

This is simply a good way to save taxpayer money. It will show the country that we are interested ourselves in cleaning up our own house, making sure that we move ahead in a fiscally responsible manner.

Mr. WAMP. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FLAKE. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. WAMP. I thank the gentleman.

You know, when we were in the majority, we supported and accepted this approach. I believe this is part, or should be part, of the Speaker's Green the Capitol Initiative. This is a lot of trees. It is a space efficiency issue. They are storing all this paper. It is a government efficiency issue.

Why don't we, Madam Chair, just accept this amendment, as we have in previous years, address this issue in conference, move right along and get Members on their way this afternoon?

I thank the gentleman for offering this amendment. I certainly support it.

Mr. FLAKE. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment for a number of reasons.

While I support the gentleman, who is from the same generation that I am, in his endeavor to make sure that we can communicate and receive information in an electronic format, the approach that the gentleman is taking is absolutely inappropriate and won't accomplish his goal.

We have crafted a tight and fiscally responsible bill. As I outlined in general debate, we have held the bill to a 4.1 percent increase. We actually held it to \$276 million below the total request.

In their traditional views, the minority agreed. They said that, on balance, the funding provided in this bill to operate the legislative branch agencies is

fiscally responsible. This amendment would add to existing shortfalls. It would add to what is already a growing funding shortfall in this account.

To be fiscally responsible, we have had to make some tough choices, including funding levels for GPO. The bill already, our colleagues should know, holds congressional printing and binding \$62,000 below what was provided in fiscal year 2007. GPO is expecting an \$8 million shortfall in this account in fiscal year 2007 in addition to a \$3 million shortfall in fiscal year 2006. These shortfalls are due to the flat funding provided to this account since fiscal year 2007, in spite of increasing costs and workloads. These shortfalls will continue in fiscal year 2008. Eventually they are going to have to be paid.

This amendment would make that situation even worse. Most of the appropriation for congressional printing and binding goes towards Congress' printing requirements. I want to point out that the gentleman is incorrect when he states that there is a statute. While there is a statutory number in the Code that the GPO is told to print, they only print the number that is requisitioned. In other words, they only print, on a daily basis, the number that they are asked for. We have a deficit in the account that allows them to print the number that is asked for. GPO has no control over those requirements. It's required by law to produce the information.

If the gentleman is concerned about the number of printed materials being produced, he should take it up with the authorizing committee, the Joint Committee on Printing, and seek reductions in the amount of material that GPO is required to print in the Code.

Simply gratuitously cutting out and leaving people with the impression that we are doing something, when we are not, and all we are doing here is cutting \$3.2 million when GPO will still be required to print the Code, is the wrong approach. The suggestion that this amendment was accepted previously but then cut out in conference also leads people to believe that we have done something when we have not.

I refuse to be disingenuous when it comes to being forthright with the American people. We do need to make sure that in the future the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is produced electronically. This is not the right way to do it. It is irresponsible. I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. May I inquire as to the time remaining.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman controls 1½ minutes.

Mr. FLAKE. Before yielding 1 minute to the gentleman from Oregon, let me point out, here is the Code. The Code states that we are supposed to print 30,000 a day, yet we only print 5,600. So, it is not the case that the GPO has to follow what the statute says. They are

required to do by demand. And they already do under; they can simply do less and save a lot of money.

I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate the opportunity to join with my colleague again in this effort to try and reduce this output. I respect my friend, the chairwoman of the subcommittee, but I do think it is time for us to take a more aggressive action to reduce what is a gratuitous waste of resources and is a signal, I think, for us all to find ways to be able to deal with the electronic era.

This is a holdover. We have attempted in the past to be able to scale it down. I have also checked with legislative counsel to find out what we need to repeal. But I have been told that simply by enacting our amendment today, we will, in fact, achieve that objective in terms of reducing the number of unnecessary printed copies.

□ 1215

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I just want to point out that the amendment offered by Mr. FLAKE does not say anything about reducing the number of copies printed of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. It simply cuts \$3.2 million out of the Congressional Printing and Binding account. It provides no direction. It simply cuts that funding. There is no assumption that any of what the gentleman is suggesting would occur. It would simply further add to the deficit.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. Will the gentlelady yield, since I am out of time?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I believe the gentleman has his own time.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. How much time do I have left?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman controls 1½ minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I yield the gentleman 30 seconds.

Mr. FLAKE. Thank you. I appreciate the courtesy.

Let me point out, just as with any program that is not an entitlement, everything is subject to appropriation. The Government Printing Office is not bound, no pun intended, to print as many copies as they think they need. They can print as many as they have money for. We were very careful in taking \$3.2 million, to take only the printing costs for half of the number that are printed already. I think that is reasonable.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I really believe that we should approach this in the appropriate way. If we want to change the statute and go to electronic production of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that is what we should do. We should not simply hamstring the GPO by requiring them to print a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and not ensuring they have adequate funds to do that, when they are already in a deficit situation.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the amendment.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is simple: by instructing the Government Printing Office (GPO) to print half the number of CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS daily, we will save \$3.2 million in taxpayer dollars and 57 tons of paper annually.

An unofficial survey of House offices revealed that many swiftly discard their daily copy of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. And why shouldn't they? The full, easily searchable text of the RECORD is available online back to the year 1989. As electronic viewing of this resource becomes more widespread, we must continue to adjust the number of printed copies accordingly. In fact, since 1995 we have reduced the number of daily printed CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS from 18,000 to 5,600 per day.

We have an opportunity to save millions of dollars by taking advantage of paperless technology and pushing House operations into the 21st Century. I commend Speaker PELOSI in her recent effort to "Green the Capitol" and this is a common-sense amendment that is consistent with that initiative.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. JORDAN OF OHIO

The CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 110-201.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 3 offered by Mr. JORDAN of Ohio:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. ACROSS-THE-BOARD REDUCTION.—Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act that is not required to be appropriated or otherwise made available by a provision of law is hereby reduced by 4 percent.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 502, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. I thank the Chair.

I want to thank the Chair of the committee and the ranking member for their good work and the committee's work. I know for the Chair in particular, I want to congratulate her on the first bill coming through her subcommittee, a very important subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. So I appreciate the fine work

done there and the oversight of the visitors center. The passion with which the ranking member spoke about Emancipation Hall I thought was right on target. So I appreciate the work done.

This amendment, just like the amendment I offered last night to the Foreign Operations bill, simply says this: instead of increasing spending by 4 percent, let's hold the line. I articulated reasons last night in the long debate that this body had over why that is appropriate, why that makes sense. Because there is in fact a crisis looming for this country if we don't get control of the spending here in the United States Congress, in the United States Senate and the United States Government.

It is important that we recognize that. I articulated last night too, don't take my word for it. Yesterday's Washington Post talked about this growing problem that is coming in the very near future, and it is important we understand that.

I won't go through all the arguments again here, because I know we have had a long debate and people want to get on their way and get back to their district.

I will just say this: ever-increasing spending inevitably leads to ever-increasing taxes. The American families, the American people are overtaxed because our government spends too much. It has been a problem for both parties. We need to get it under control.

Millions of families, millions of families across this country are going to live on last year's budget. It is not too much to ask the United States Government, in particular the United States Congress, to do the same.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, this is a fiscally responsible bill. Again, we have held the bill to a 4.1 percent increase, only \$122 million over actual spending in fiscal year 2007, and if you take into consideration the \$50 million rescission in the CR, we are at a 2.3 percent increase. That is \$276 million below the total budget request.

Again, I want to point to the minority views, where the minority agreed this bill is fiscally responsible. They say, "On balance, the funding provided in this bill to operate the legislative branch agencies is fiscally responsible."

This bill funds the must-have's, not the nice-to-have's, by targeting increases towards keeping the agencies running, providing Congress with the tools it needs to perform its oversight responsibility, and funding critical security and life safety projects.

The amendment, if adopted, would eliminate \$50 million worth of critical health and safety and security projects that we would be unable to fund if a 4 percent across-the-board reduction were adopted.

This amendment would eliminate funding for things like the \$5 million we have in this bill to ensure that the Capitol Police have interoperable radios. According to the new police chief, a new radio system is their number one priority. The existing radio system is 20 years old. It is antiquated and outdated. It is not encrypted nor secure, and it is not interoperable. Hurricane Katrina showed the importance of interoperable communications during a crisis.

It also would eliminate funding potentially monitoring the utility tunnel abatement. We had tunnel workers who were subjected to horrendous conditions and have been exposed to asbestos, and we are endeavoring to make sure that we can make up for that and provide the funding for the abatement. That would be impossible if this amendment were adopted.

We provide \$1.2 million for escape hoods for our Library visitors, \$1 million for emergency exit signs and lighting in the capital, and emergency lighting upgrades in Rayburn.

The amendment would also impair our agency's work. It would put the legislative branch agencies back to a fiscal year 2006 funding level since there was no increase in 2007.

In practical terms, the impact of this would be less capability on the part of GAO to assist Congress in its oversight responsibilities; fewer and less timely products from CRS to assist Members in their legislative duties, a further reduction in CBO's ability to score Member bills, which was pointed out in the Rules Committee as already being a problem; elimination of the digital talking book conversion program for the blind; a reduced ability for the Office of Compliance to pursue health safety issues around the Capitol complex, even as we get ready to add new space with the approaching opening of the CVC; the Architect's operations would be strained to keep up with increases in utility costs; and, finally, since 77 percent of this bill is labor costs, as is most of the increase, this amendment would surely result in a reduction in our workforce.

It is irresponsible. Mr. WAMP and I have endeavored to put forward a bill that is fiscally responsible, fiscally tight, and ensures the life, safety and security needs of the people who work and visit here.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP), the distinguished ranking member of the committee.

Mr. WAMP. I wasn't going to say anything, but I just want to say that because we have not accepted common-sense amendments like the previous amendment, and because the Rules

Committee only granted three amendments in order, we are losing a lot of support for this bill on this side of the aisle unnecessarily because I do think we worked hard to make it fiscally responsible. But they are making a strong case, and we have closed the process down instead of opening it up.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING), the chairman of the Republican Study Committee.

Mr. HENSARLING. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I want to thank him for his outstanding leadership on the issue of fiscal responsibility, coming to the floor and offering this series of amendments.

I do want to thank the chairman of the subcommittee and the ranking member. Certainly relative to many other appropriations bills that we have seen and will see on this floor, relatively speaking, this is a more fiscally responsible bill.

But we can never forget that this is not our money; this is the people's money. And every time we are increasing some aspect of the Federal budget, we are taking it away from some family budget. We are taking it away from some family that had a dream of having a down payment on their first home. We are taking it away from some family who was putting that money away for college tuition for one of their children.

So contrary to the debate we hear and the rhetoric about cuts, what this amendment does is say, you know, let's lead by example. In the big scheme of the Federal budget, I know this isn't a huge amount of money. But when you think about having to save us from the single largest tax increase in history that the Democrat majority put in their last budget, shouldn't we lead by example? Is this apocalyptic vision that we hear, is this going to happen if we give the legislative branch the same money they had last year? Somehow there are families all across America who are having to make do on the same income they had last year.

Now, again, relative to other bills, this is more fiscally responsible. But it comes down to a simple choice: Do you want to put us on the path for the largest single tax increase in American history that would impose \$3,000 of additional tax burden on American families, or do you want to put us on the path of fiscal responsibility? We should support the gentleman's amendment.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, how much time do I have left?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman controls 2 minutes. The gentleman from Ohio controls 1 minute.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I would ask that he speak for 1 minute and then we will close in opposition.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. I will be brief and just point out this: we heard some of the terrible things that are going to happen if we keep the spending at the same level we had last year.

The American people need to understand this, Madam Chair: \$3.1 billion is what this bill spends. My amendment would say \$3 billion, \$3 billion to run the United States Congress. You ask American families that, they would probably say, you know, that is probably enough. They can probably get by on \$3 billion versus \$3.1 billion. That is all this does. As the gentleman from Texas pointed out, in the course of the appropriation bills we have been dealing with, this is fairly fiscally responsible. But \$3 billion is enough to run the United States Congress.

That is all this amendment would do, keep us where we are right now. Things are working fine now. Why can't we do that in the future?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Chair, at this time I yield the balance of our time to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), the former ranking member of this subcommittee.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Virginia is recognized for 2 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. I thank the Chair, and I particularly want to congratulate Chairman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, because she took on a very difficult responsibility and she has performed in a conscientious, extraordinarily fiscally responsible manner.

This is a bill that all of the Members have an interest in, and all of the Members have issues within this bill that they would particularly like to see increased, and some decreased. But it is a difficult one.

She has told me how much she appreciates the ranking member, Mr. WAMP, and I hope Mr. WAMP is listening, how much she appreciates Mr. WAMP's cooperation in coming up with a bill that was acceptable to the overwhelming number of the full Appropriations Committee members when they reported it out to the floor.

Now, this bill is \$276 million below the President's request. That is extraordinary, and it is the first time that the Legislative Branch appropriations bill has reflected that deep a cut versus the President's request. So if you are looking for fiscal responsibility, you will find it in this bill, more than any other appropriations bill. We congratulate Mr. WAMP, as well as the chairwoman, for coming up with a bill that accomplishes that kind of fiscal responsibility.

But if anybody else wants to cut another \$100 million, which this amendment would do, below that, then it is concomitant upon the proponent of that amendment to say exactly where you would make those cuts. Because this is the result of a lot of give and take, a lot of compromise, a lot of very conscientious investigation.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

Mitchell	Reynolds
Murphy, Patrick	Rogers (AL)
Murphy, Tim	Rogers (KY)
Musgrave	Rogers (MI)
Myrick	Rohrabacher
Neugebauer	Ros-Lehtinen
Pearce	Roskam
Pence	Royce
Peterson (PA)	Ryan (WI)
Petri	Sali
Pickering	Saxton
Pitts	Schmidt
Platts	Sensenbrenner
Poe	Sessions
Price (GA)	Walberg
Putnam	Shadegg
Radanovich	Shays
Ramstad	Shimkus
Regula	Shuster
Rehberg	Smith (NE)
Reichert	Smith (NJ)
Renzi	Smith (TX)
	Souder

Stearns	Weiner
Taylor	Wilson (OH)
Terry	Woolsey
Thornberry	Wexler
Tiabrt	
Tiberi	Baker
Turner	Fortuño
Upton	Bonner
Brown (SC)	Hastert
Brown-Waite,	Brown (SC)
Ginny	Hastings (FL)
Carter	Hunter
Cramer	Johnson (GA)
Cubin	LaHood
Davis, Jo Ann	Sullivan
Everett	McGovern
Faleomavaega	Tancredo
	McMorris
	Rodgers
	Waxman
	Moran (KS)
	Napolitano

NOT VOTING—29			
Baker	Fortuño	Nunes	Yarmuth
Bonner	Hastert	Ortiz	Young (FL)
Brown (SC)	Hastings (FL)	Paul	
Brown-Waite,	Hunter	Pryce (OH)	
Ginny	Johnson (GA)	Sanchez, Loretta	
Carter	LaHood	Sullivan	
Cramer	Sullivan		
Cubin	McGovern	Tancredo	
Davis, Jo Ann	Tancredo		
Everett	McMorris	Waxman	
Faleomavaega	Rodgers	Wicker	
	Moran (KS)		
	Napolitano		

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN
The CHAIRMAN (during the vote).
Two minutes left in this vote.

□ 1259

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, on Friday, June 22, 2007, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 546. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on agreeing to the Jordan of Ohio Amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER) having assumed the chair, Ms. BALDWIN, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2771) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, pursuant to House Resolution 502, she reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted by the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

□ 1300

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. KINGSTON

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. KINGSTON. I am in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Kingston moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 2771, to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

On page 16, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(decreased by \$16,000,000)".

On page 16, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(decreased by \$16,000,000)".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I offer this amendment to bring something to the Members' attention that I think is very important.

We are about to create a fourth building for the House of Representatives. We have Cannon, we have Rayburn, we have Longworth. We are about to put on another 200,000-square-foot building. I think you should know about it, and I think we deserve a vote on it.

Number one, this is an earmark. Now, we have been talking weeks and weeks and months and months about transparency and ending earmarks. Yet if you will look in the report on page 20, there is a \$16 million earmark for a new House office building. There is no explanation of the project, no total cost, there have been no hearings and no oversight, and it is not in the Democrat budget. It was not requested by the Architect of the Capitol, and, yet, it's in the bill.

Now, looks like a duck, walks like a duck, could be an earmark. That's where we are on this.

Number two, I think Members have the right to vote on a fourth office building. As former chair of this committee, one of the big frustrations I have about the Capitol Visitors Center is none of us owned the project. There wasn't one person that you could say it's his or her fault. It was all diluted and by committee. We never had a vote on it.

Indeed, when I was a chairman of this committee, a staffer put in \$18 million to renovate the House floor, which none of us knew about. I took the money out of it, as did Chairman LEWIS last year.

But things get stuck in the bills that we don't know about that we deserve a vote on. This gives you an opportunity, unlike the CVC, which started out as a \$260 million project, with partial private funding, and now is up to \$600 million.

This motion to recommit gives you the opportunity to vote on something and say no to something that has already cost this House \$140 million. This is a 200,000-square-foot building. That's the size of 15 House floors. It's the size of four White Houses. It's five football fields big. This isn't incidental swing space.

What is this needed for? In case we renovate the Cannon House Office Building. Now, don't you want to vote on that? I haven't had a debate on renovating the Cannon Office Building, but I want to know about it. This is a big building of substance, and you deserve a vote.

Incidentally, this isn't going to be the only new building. We are adding 580,000 square feet in the form of the Capitol Visitors Center.

NOES—231

Abercrombie	Filner	Miller, George
Ackerman	Fortenberry	Mollohan
Allen	Frank (MA)	Moore (KS)
Andrews	Gerlach	Moore (WI)
Arcuri	Gilchrest	Moran (VA)
Baca	Gillibrand	Murphy (CT)
Baird	Gillmor	Murtha
Baldwin	Gonzalez	Nadler
Barrow	Gordon	Neal (MA)
Bean	Green, Al	Norton
Becerra	Green, Gene	Oberstar
Berkley	Grijalva	Obey
Berman	Gutierrez	Olver
Berry	Hall (NY)	Pallone
Bishop (GA)	Hare	Pascarella
Bishop (NY)	Harman	Pastor
Blumenauer	Herseth Sandlin	Payne
Bordallo	Higgins	Perlman
Boren	Hill	Peterson (MN)
Boswell	Hinchey	Pomeroy
Boucher	Hinojosa	Porter
Boustany	Hirono	Price (NC)
Boyd (FL)	Hodes	Rahall
Boyd (KS)	Holden	Rangel
Brady (PA)	Holt	Reyes
Braley (IA)	Honda	Rodriguez
Brown, Corrine	Hooley	Ross
Butterfield	Hoyer	Rothman
Capps	Inslee	Royal-Allard
Capuano	Israel	Ruppersberger
Cardoza	Jackson (IL)	Rush
Carnahan	Jackson-Lee (TX)	Ryan (OH)
Carney	Jefferson	Salazar
Carson	Johnson, E. B.	Sánchez, Linda T.
Castor	Jones (OH)	Sarbanes
Chandler	Kagen	Schakowsky
Christensen	Kanjorski	Schiff
Clarke	Kaptur	Schwartz
Clay	Kennedy	Scott (GA)
Cleaver	Kildee	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Kilpatrick	Serrano
Cohen	Kind	Sestak
Conyers	Kirk	Shea-Porter
Cooper	Klein (FL)	Sherman
Costa	Kucinich	Shuler
Costello	Kuhl (NY)	Simpson
Courtney	Langevin	Sires
Crowley	Lantos	Skelton
Cuellar	Larsen (WA)	Slaughter
Cummings	Larson (CT)	Smith (WA)
Davis (AL)	LaTourette	Snyder
Davis (CA)	Lee	Solis
Davis (IL)	Levin	Space
Davis, Lincoln	Lewis (GA)	Spratt
DeFazio	Lipinski	Stark
DeGette	Loebssack	Stupak
Delahunt	Lofgren, Zoe	Sutton
DeLauro	Meehan	Tanner
Dicks	Meek (FL)	Tauscher
Dingell	Maloney (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Doggett	Markey	Thompson (MS)
Donnelly	Matheson	Tierney
Doolittle	Matsui	Towns
Doyle	McCarthy (NY)	Udall (CO)
Edwards	McCullom (MN)	Udall (NM)
Ehlers	McDermott	Van Hollen
Ellison	McIntyre	Velázquez
Ellsworth	McNulty	Visclosky
Emanuel	Meehan	Walz (MN)
Emerson	Meek (FL)	Wasserman
Engel	Meeks (NY)	Schultz
Eshoo	Melancon	Waters
Etheridge	Michaud	Watson
Farr	Miller (NC)	Watt

This building is huge. To move forward, it's going to cost us not the \$16 million that's in the bill, but actually \$56 million, and then another \$12 million to lease it, plus \$18 million for furniture for it.

Think about it. How many times have we heard from some Members in a rather preachy fashion, we need to control our carbon footprints? Ladies and gentlemen, all of those of you who want to reduce our carbon footprint, here is your opportunity. Say "no" to a 200,000-square-foot boondoggle which we are about to put in.

This has not had the proper oversight, it has not had the proper hearings. The contracts have all been verbal. That's why we are all in the situation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I claim the time in opposition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I want to point out and remind my colleagues that Mr. WAMP and I are proud to report to you that we have brought the legislative branch appropriations bill in at \$276 million below the request. The easiest thing in the world to do is jump on the table and to cry waste.

I want to also point out that this is a security upgrade, funding for security upgrades requested by former Speaker HASTERT and continued by Speaker PELOSI so that we can ensure that we provide swing space for our very cramped space so that we can properly renovate the Cannon and Longworth House Office Buildings.

I ask my colleagues to come over and look at these pictures of the deterioration of our facilities. These are pictures of the 100-year-old Cannon House Office Building. If you take a look at the deterioration and life, safety and security upgrades that this facility needs, we can no longer wait to make these upgrades, and to make sure that we can protect the people who work here and the people who visit us. They are deteriorating and badly in need of renovation.

What the gentleman from Georgia's motion to recommit would do is delay for years, if not make it impossible, for us to begin renovation and repairs on our aging House facilities.

My colleagues, this committee does not deal with the sexiest of subjects that confront us every day, and I have only been here for 2 years and the chair of this subcommittee for the last 5 months. You don't earn a reputation as an institutionalist in that short period of time, but it is my hope to be able to do that over time.

We are stewards of this great institution, but we are also stewards just as much of these facilities. My colleague on the Appropriations Committee, JOSE SERRANO of New York, recently made a wonderful suggestion to remind

us of the history embedded even in what may seem mundane, the space we occupy each day. He suggested that we each have plaques in our offices with the names of our predecessors in Congress who occupied that space before us. My own office, I was thrilled to learn, was once occupied by former Congressman Lyndon Johnson.

My point is they may seem like buildings and office space to the outside world, but we know better. How many of us countless times have found ourselves approaching this beautiful building we are now in and marveling privately to ourselves, wow, I work here, what an incredible privilege.

But with privilege comes responsibility. We must think about the institution, but we must also think about our hard-working staff. The number of hours they toil in these facilities is mind-boggling. You might be surprised to learn that the average work space for each of our staff is about 36 square feet. And I want to show you what 36 square feet is. This is 36 square feet. That is how much space that we allot, on average, to our employees.

GSA recommends an average of 100 square feet of space per employee. We need to renovate so that we can make sure we are not cramming our staff into unreasonable boxes for hours on end. Our staff make incredible sacrifices to serve the public, our constituents, and they help us do our job. We must make sure that we keep these facilities, the place they work every day and night, safe for them. We must make sure we keep these facilities safe and in good condition for our constituents and our successors.

Mr. KINGSTON's amendment is well-meaning, but it is not responsible, and it is not an eye toward the future with respect for our past. I strongly urge you to vote against the motion to recommit.

Mr. HOYER. Would the gentlelady yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. It was my understanding you indicated this is the initiative of Speaker HASTERT; am I accurate?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Yes, it is. It is an initiative from former Speaker HASTERT.

I strongly urge you to vote against the motion to recommit.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 181, noes 217, not voting 34, as follows:

[Roll No. 547]

AYES—181

Aderholt	Gilchrest	Neugebauer
Alexander	Gillmor	Pearce
Alttaire	Gingrey	Pence
Bachmann	Gohmert	Peterson (PA)
Bachus	Goode	Petri
Barrett (SC)	Goodlatte	Pickering
Bartlett (MD)	Granger	Pitts
Barton (TX)	Graves	Platts
Biggert	Hall (TX)	Poe
Bilbray	Hastings (WA)	Porter
Bilirakis	Hayes	Price (GA)
Bishop (UT)	Heller	Putnam
Blackburn	Hensarling	Radanovich
Blunt	Herger	Ramstad
Boehner	Hobson	Regula
Bono	Hoekstra	Rehberg
Boozman	Hulshof	Reichert
Boustany	Inglis (SC)	Renzi
Brady (TX)	Issa	Reynolds
Buchanan	Jindal	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (MI)
Buyer	Jones (NC)	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Jordan	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp (MI)	Keller	Roskam
Cannon	King (IA)	Royce
Cantor	King (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Capito	Kingston	Sali
Castle	Kline (MN)	Saxton
Chabot	Knollenberg	Schmidt
Coble	Kuhl (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Cole (OK)	Lamborn	Sessions
Conaway	Latham	Shadegg
Crenshaw	LaTourette	Shays
Culberson	Lewis (CA)	Shimkus
Davis (KY)	Lewis (KY)	Shuster
Davis, David	LoBiondo	Simpson
Davis, Tom	Lucas	Smith (NE)
Deal (GA)	Lungren, Daniel	Smith (NJ)
Dent	E.	Smith (TX)
Diaz-Balart, L.	Mack	Souder
Diaz-Balart, M.	Manzullo	Stearns
Doolittle	Marchant	Terry
Drake	Marshall	Thornberry
Dreier	McCarthy (CA)	Tiahrt
Duncan	McCaull (TX)	Tiberi
Ehlers	McCotter	Turner
Emerson	McCreary	Upton
English (PA)	McHenry	Walberg
Fallin	McHugh	Walden (OR)
Feeney	McKeon	Walsh (NY)
Ferguson	McMorris	Wamp
Flake	Rodgers	Weldon (FL)
Forbes	McNerney	Weller
Fortenberry	Mica	Westmoreland
Foxx	Miller (FL)	Whitfield
Franks (AZ)	Miller (MI)	Wilson (NM)
Frelenghuyzen	Miller, Gary	Wilson (SC)
Galligan	Murphy, Tim	Wolf
Garrett (NJ)	Musgrave	Young (AK)
Gerlach	Myrick	Young (FL)
	NOES—217	
Abercrombie	Butterfield	Davis (IL)
Ackerman	Campbell (CA)	Davis, Lincoln
Allen	Capps	DeFazio
Andrews	Capuano	DeGette
Arcuri	Cardoza	Delahunt
Baca	Carnahan	DeLauro
Baird	Carney	Dicks
Baldwin	Carson	Dingell
Barrow	Castor	Doggett
Bean	Chandler	Donnelly
Becerra	Clarke	Doyle
Berkley	Clyburn	Edwards
Berry	Cohen	Ellison
Bishop (GA)	Conyers	Ellsworth
Bishop (NY)	Cooper	Emanuel
Blumenauer	Costa	Engel
Boren	Costello	Eshoo
Boswell	Courtney	Etheridge
Boucher	Crowley	Farr
Boyd (KS)	Cuelar	Fattah
Brady (PA)	Cummings	Filner
Braley (IA)	Davis (AL)	Frank (MA)
Brown, Corrine	Davis (CA)	Giffords

