



Legislative Bulletin.....June 8, 2012

H.R. 5882 — FY 2013 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act

BY THE NUMBERS:

In Millions of Dollars

	FY12	FY13 Request	FY13 Committee	Cmte v. Request	Cmte v. FY12
Appropriations	3,365	3,523	3,333	-190	-32
<i>Emergency Approps</i>	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3,365	3,523	3,333	-190	-32

Excluding Emergency Appropriations, the Committee Bill is:

- **\$32 million or 1.0% less than last year**

Spending Discussion: The bill provides a spending level of \$3.3 billion, \$32 million (1.0%) *less* than last year. The House Appropriations Committee approved 302(b) allocations for the twelve spending bills that total \$1.028 trillion—consistent with the 302(a) allocation provided under the FY 2013 House-passed budget resolution. This allocation is a \$19 billion cut compared to the *cap* under the Budget Control Act, and a \$15 billion cut compared to last year. The RSC budget’s 302(a) allocation would have been \$931 billion (\$97 billion lower).

Order of Business: H.R. 5882 is scheduled to be considered under a structured rule making in order 7 amendments (10 minutes of debate each) and providing for an hour of general debate. *The summaries of amendments made in order begin on page 4.* The rule provides that the chair and ranking minority member or their designees may offer pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate at any time. The rule also waives Clause 2 of Rule 21, which prevents appropriations bills from containing unauthorized appropriations or legislative provisions.

The rule does not make in order several amendments to reduce spending or place limitations on spending. This includes:

- a Blackburn (R-TN) amendment to reduce spending by 1% to all accounts;

- a Blackburn (R-TN) amendment, as well as a Huelskamp (R-KS) amendment, to prevent spending on the Senate Budget Committee;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to cut spending from House allowances and expenses by \$10 million;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to cut spending from the Joint Economic Committee by \$4 million;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to cut spending from the Joint Economic Committee by \$420,000;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to provide a 10% cut to the Joint Committee on Taxation;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to provide a \$500,000 cut to the Congressional Budget Office;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to provide a \$7 million cut to Capitol grounds;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to cut GAO salaries and expenses by \$4.2 million;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to keep GAO at the FY 2012 level;
- a Broun (R-GA) amendment to keep the Botanic Garden at the FY 2012 level (the rule does, however, make in order an amendment to return this spending to FY 2009 levels);
- a Flake (R-AZ) amendment to require the cost of a mass mailing to constituents to be printed on the mailer; and
- a Landry (R-LA) amendment to reduce the Members' Representational Allowance (MRA) by 11%.

Funding Summaries:

In Thousands

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2013	Cmte.v.	Cmte. v.	Cmte. v.	Cmte. v.
	Enacted	Request	Cmte	FY2012	Request	FY 2012	Request
House of Representatives							
Office of the Speaker.....	6,943	6,943	6,943	----	----	----	----
Majority Leader.....	2,278	2,278	2,278	----	----	----	----
Minority Leader.....	7,433	7,433	7,433	----	----	----	----
Majority Whip.....	1,971	1,971	1,971	----	----	----	----
Minority Whip.....	1,525	1,525	1,525	----	----	----	----
Republican Conference.....	1,573	1,573	1,573	----	----	----	----
Democratic Caucus.....	1,554	1,554	1,554	----	----	----	----
Members' Representational Allowance (MRA).....	573,939	573,939	573,939	----	----	----	----
Standing Cmtes (except Appropriations).....	125,965	126,365	125,965	----	-400	----	-0.3%
Appropriations Cmte.....	26,666	26,666	26,666	----	----	----	----
Office of the Clerk.....	26,114	22,370	22,370	-3,774	----	-14.3%	----
Office of the Sergeant at Arms.....	12,585	13,828	12,585	----	-1,243	----	-9.0%
Office of Chief Administrative Officer.....	116,782	116,782	116,782	----	----	----	----
Office of the Inspector General.....	5,045	4,692	4,692	-353	----	-7.0%	----
Office of the General Counsel.....	1,415	1,415	1,415	----	----	----	----
Office of the Chaplain.....	179	179	179	----	----	----	----
Office of the Parliamentarian.....	2,060	2,060	2,060	----	----	----	----

Office of the Law Revision Counsel.....	3,258	3,258	3,258	----	----	----	----
Office of the Legislative Counsel.....	8,814	8,814	8,814	----	----	----	----
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs.....	859	859	859	----	----	----	----
Other Authorized Employees.....	347	485	485	138	----	39.8%	----
Office of the Historian.....	170	170	170	----	----	----	----
Official Mail.....	201	201	201	----	----	----	----
Gov't Contributions.....	264,848	270,905	272,548	7,700	1,643	2.9%	0.6%
Misc Items.....	760	760	760	----	----	----	----
Joint Items							
Joint Economic Cmte.....	4,203	4,219	4,203	----	-16	----	-0.4%
Joint Cmte on Taxation.....	10,004	10,004	10,004	----	----	----	----
Office of the Attending Physician.....	3,400	3,433	3,467	67	34	2.0%	1.0%
Capitol Police	340,137	373,769	360,137	20,000	-13,632	5.9%	-3.6%
Office of Compliance.....	3,817	4,206	3,817	----	-389	----	-9.2%
Congressional Budget Office.....	43,787	44,637	44,280	493	-357	1.1%	-0.8%
Architect of the Capitol--Gen'l Admin.....	496,381	588,796	443,881	-52,500	-144,915	-10.6%	-24.6%
Capitol Power Plant, Net.....	123,229	118,533	108,616	-14,613	-9,917	-11.9%	-8.4%
Library Buildings and Grounds.....	46,876	53,594	30,660	-16,216	-22,934	-34.6%	-42.8%
Botanic Garden.....	12,000	12,140	12,140	140	----	1.2%	----
Capitol Visitor Center.....	21,276	21,588	21,276	----	-312	----	-1.5%
Library of Congress.....	587,344	603,589	592,642	5,298	-10,947	0.9%	-1.8%
Government Printing Office -- Cong. Printing.....	126,200	126,200	126,200	----	----	----	----
Government Accountability Office.....	511,296	526,233	519,802	8,506	-6,431	1.7%	-1.2%
Payment to Open World Leadership Ctr Trust Fund	10,000	10,000	1,000	-9,000	-9,000	-90.0%	-90.0%

Items of Note:

Senate Funding: The bill includes no funding for the Senate, which will be added by the Senate.

Members' Representational Allowance (MRA): \$574 million—the same as last year.

MRAs/Deficit Reduction: Section 101 of the bill requires leftover MRA funds to be used for deficit reduction.

Leadership Offices: The bill provides a funding level of \$23.3 million—the same as last year.

House Appropriations Committee: \$26.7 million—same as last year.

Other Committees: \$126 million—same as last year.

Subsidy to John C. Stennis Center: The bill **eliminates** this program. The Stennis Center was created as a living tribute to Senator John C. Stennis (D-MS), a segregationist during the legislative battles over civil rights in the 1950s and 1960s, who served in the Senate from 1947 to 1988.

Among other things, Senator Stennis (D-MS) also has an aircraft carrier (one of two non-presidents to be so-honored) and a space center named after him. The Center's mandate is to attract young people to a career in public service, which may be inappropriate at a time when reducing the size of government is a priority. The RSC's Spending Reduction Act (H.R. 408) would also have eliminated this program.

Capitol Police: \$360.1 million—\$20 million or 5.9% above last year.

Open World Leadership Trust Fund Payment: \$1 million—\$9 million or 90% below last year. According to the [website](#), this is an exchange program intended to bring young leaders from Eurasia to the U.S. with the hopes that this leads to increased devotion to democracy in these countries.

Amendments:

1. **Gosar (R-AZ).** The amendment would save taxpayers \$1.2 million by returning spending on the Botanic Gardens to FY 2009 levels.
2. **Broun (R-GA).** The amendment would save taxpayers \$878,000 by returning spending on the Congressional Research Service (CRS) to FY 2009 levels.
3. **Holt (D-NJ).** The amendment would increase and then reduce funding for the Government Printing Office by \$218,000. According to the author, the point of the amendment is to “address the availability of pocket versions of the United States Constitutions for members of the House. Currently the House has no additional pocket constitutions for members to disburse to their constituents.”
4. **Scalise (R-LA).** The amendment would save taxpayers \$1 million by zeroing out funding for the Open World Leadership Center.
5. **Moran (D-VA).** The amendment prohibits funds to “obtain polystyrene products for use in food service facilities of the House of Representatives.”
6. **Harper (R-MS).** The amendment prohibits taxpayer money from being used to print more than 50 copies of any edition of the U.S. Code for circulation to all congressional offices.
7. **Flake (R-AZ).** The amendment would prohibit funds from being used to “purchase paid advertisements on any Internet site other than an official site of the Member, leadership office, or committee involved.”

Earmarks: According to the committee report, the legislation contains no earmarks.

Committee Action: H.R. 5882 was reported out of the House Appropriations Committee as an original measure on June 1, 2012.

Cost to Taxpayers: The bill appropriates a total of \$3.3 billion in FY 2013.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No CBO score is available listing any possible mandates.

Constitutional Authority: The [Committee Report](#) states:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ‘No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law...’ In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ‘The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States...’ Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.”

RSC Staff Contact: Brad Watson, brad.watson@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9719