COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-NY), Ranking Member

2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Division B: Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

2014 enacted level:	\$51.6 billion
2015 budget request:	\$51 billion
2015 Omnibus:	\$50.1 billion

Highlights and key points:

- \$5.4 billion for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is \$126.4 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$954.2 million for National Weather Service operations, which is \$526,000 above the 2014 enacted level.
- \$1.1 billion for the Census Bureau, which is \$143 million more than the FY 2014 enacted level and \$123.4 million less than the budget request.
- \$3.5 billion for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), which is equal to CBO's projection of PTO's FY 2015 fee revenue collections, and \$434 million above the 2014 enacted level.
- \$863.9 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), which is \$13.9 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$8.44 billion for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which is \$93.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$2.03 billion for the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), which is \$15.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$1.2 billion for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which is \$22 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$6.82 billion for the Bureau of Prisons, Salaries and Expenses account, which is \$46 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$376 million for Byrne-JAG grants, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.
- \$208 million for the COPS program, which is \$6 million less than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$430 million for Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs, which is \$13 million above the 2014 enacted level.
- \$18.01 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which is \$363.7 million more than the 2014 enacted level.
- \$7.34 billion for the National Science Foundation, which is \$172.3 million above the 2014 enacted level.
- \$125 million for the ongoing DNA Initiative program which funds the testing of sexual assault kits, the same the FY 2014 level and \$25 million above the request. In addition, \$41 million is included for the new Community Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction program.
- \$73 million for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), which is \$14.5 million more than the 2014 level and \$18 million more than the request.
- \$375 million for the Legal Services Corporation, which is \$10 million above the 2014 level.

Policy Issues

- The agreement rejects House policy riders to: 1) block reporting requirements on multiple sales of rifles/shotguns to the same person, and 2) make permanent two annual riders related to firearms.
- The agreement rejects a House rider to defund certain NSF research related to climate change.
- The agreement rejects House riders to prohibit entering into trade agreements establishing limits on greenhouse gas emissions, and includes a provision prohibiting implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty absent its ratification by the Senate.
- The agreement rejects a House rider to defund grants to state or local law enforcement on the basis of local immigration policy.
- The agreement rejects a House rider prohibiting the Department of Justice from enforcing certain parts of the Fair Housing Act.

In addition, the Commerce-Justice Science act:

- extends the authorization of the nonprofit, public-private Corporation for Travel Promotion, commonly known as Brand USA, through 2020, including its ability to finance its efforts to promote tourist travel to the United States through the collection of a modest fee on tourists from Visa Waiver Program countries;
- extends the authorization of the Economic Development Administration (EDA)'s Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms program for an additional year, allowing the program to service both existing and new client companies in the U.S. that have been negatively impacted by trade agreements; and
- includes the text of the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act, which (1) directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish a Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program to help improve the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and stimulate U.S. leadership in advanced manufacturing, research, innovation, and technology, and (2) extends through 2019 the authorization of the EDA's Regional Innovation Program, designed to encourage and support the development of regional innovation strategies, including regional innovation clusters.