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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVES 302(b) ALLOCATIONS

WASHINGTON – Today, the House Appropriations Committee approved the appropriations subcommittee allocations – known as 302(b)s – for fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills.

The subcommittee allocations recognize the economic realities facing the country, while allowing for modest but important investments in key priorities.

The 302(b) allocations conform to the Budget Enforcement Resolution that the House adopted on July 1, 2010, which calls for a \$14.5 billion reduction to the President's discretionary request, as adjusted for programs proposed as mandatory but which must be funded as discretionary because the Administration has not submitted the necessary legislation.

To meet that reduction, all but two appropriations bills – Military Construction/VA and Homeland Security – are cut below the budget request. Ten bills – Agriculture, Defense, State Foreign Operations, Energy & Water, Financial Services, Labor HHS, Legislative Branch, Interior, and Transportation – have allocations that are below the President's request.

FY 2011 302(b) Allocations

(discretionary budget authority; in millions of dollars)

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		FY 2011		2011 Allocations Compared to:			
	FY 2010 Enacted	Pres. Budget (CBO resstimate)	FY 2011 Allocations	2010 Enacted		Pres. Budget	
				\$	%	\$	%
Defense	508,122	530,870	523,870	15,748	3.1%	-7,000	-1.3%
Homeland Security	42,534	43,636	43,636	1,102	2.6%	О	0.0%
Milcon/VA	76,601	75,997	75,998	-603	-0.8%	1	0.0%
State, Foreign Operations	48,764	56,656	53,983	5,219	10.7%	-2,673	-4.7%
Subtotal "Security"	676,021	707,159	697,487	21,466	3.2%	-9,672	-1.4%
Agriculture	23,304	23,127	23,100	-204	-0.9%	-27	-0.1%
Commerce, Justice, Science	64,315	60,539	60,536	-3,779	-5.9%	-3	0.0%
Energy & Water	33,465	35,308	34,669	1,204	3.6%	-639	-1.8%
Financial Services	24,186	25,253	24,500	314	1.3%	-753	-3.0%
Interior & Environment	32,240	32,374	32,240	О	0.0%	-134	-0.4%
Labor, HHS, Education	144,432	152,960	151,450	7,018	4.9%	-1,510	-1.0%
Pell/LIHEAP Adjustment	19,295	24,962	24,962	5,667	29.4%	0	0.0%
Legislative Branch	4,656	5,124	4,656	O	0.0%	-468	-9.1%
Transportation, HUD	67,900	68,738	67,400	-500	-0.7%	-1,338	-1.9%
Subtotal Domestic	413,793	428,385	423,513	9,720	2.3%	-4,872	-1.1%
Total	1,089,814	1,135,544	1,121,000	31,186	2.9%	-14,544	-1.3%
Grand Total w/OCO	1,219,814	1,294,881	1,280,337	60,523	5.0%	-14,544	-1.1%
OCO (war)	130,000	159,337	159,337				

Compared with 2010, the 302(b)s reflect:

- A 3.2%, or \$21.5 billion, increase over 2010 for those bills known as "security" bills Defense, Homeland Security, Military Construction/VA, and State Foreign Operations; and
- A 2.3%, or \$9.7 billion, increase over 2010 for all other bills.
 - Close to 60% of the \$9.7 billion increase over 2010 in the non-security bills is due to funding needs of the Pell grant program. The state of our economy created a \$5.7 billion shortfall in the Pell program this year because more people qualify to receive grants to attend college. The Committee has no choice but to fund this increase, because unless cuts are enacted to the small amount of grants that students receive, the Congressional Budget Office will charge the Committee with that funding level.
 - Nearly 12%, or \$1.15 billion, of the increase over 2010 is for nuclear security programs -- weapons, nonproliferation, and naval reactors -- in the Energy and Water bill.
 - The remainder of the increase over 2010 is to meet the safety net challenges imposed by the economic crisis and for nuclear and renewable energy loan guarantees.