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Appropriations Policy Brief

H.R. 5521 – Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for FY 2007

BY THE NUMBERS:

In Millions of Dollars

	FY06*	FY07 Bush Request*	FY07 Committee*	Cmte v. Request	Cmte v. FY06
Appropriations	2,922	3,242	3,027	-215	+105
<i>Emergency Approps</i>	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2,922	3,242	3,027	-215	+105

*These figures do not include Senate-only items.

The Committee Bill is:

- **\$105 million or 3.6% more than last year**
- **\$215 million or 6.6% less than the request**

Budget Compliance: According to CBO, the bill is within the 302(b) allocation provided for legislative branch appropriations and thus complies with the Budget Act.

Unauthorized Appropriations: According to the Committee report, the bill contains no unauthorized appropriations.

Comparison to the RSC Budget

Congressional Printing. The Congressional Printing division of GPO prints approximately 5,300 copies of the Congressional Record daily when Congress is in session, at a cost of over \$6.5 million annually. Congressional Printing also prints several other large documents on a regular basis, which are delivered to Member offices daily. The Congressional Record, and all other documents distributed by Congressional Printing can be found on the Internet and are easily accessible to all congressional staff and Members. The RSC Budget eliminates funding for Congressional Printing. H.R.5521 provides \$95 million to GPO's combined congressional printing and binding activities.

Government Printing Office. The Government Printing Office (GPO) is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three branches of the federal government. With Internet access now widespread and with innovations in other electronic media, it is no longer necessary to allocate significant sums to the GPO. The RSC Budget proposes reducing the GPO's budget authority by 50 percent. H.R. 5521 provides \$131 million for the GPO, an increase of \$8 million over last year.

Items of Note:

Steering Committee Funding: Provides \$924,000 for the Republican Steering Committee, the entity of Members that decides or "steers" Members to their respective committee assignments. It is not clear why a committee that does no legislative work and holds meetings so infrequently requires roughly \$1 million to perform its function. For point of comparison, the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee would receive \$2.2 million (a significant increase of \$200,000 over last year)—significantly more than the amount of funding for both the Steering Committee and the Republican Policy Committee, \$1.3 million combined.

Committee Funding: Provides \$26.5 million for the Appropriations Committee and \$124.8 million for the other standing committees for the 110th Congress.

Excess MRA Funds for Deficit Reduction: Continues language carried in previous years providing that excess funds in the Members' Representation Allowance Account shall be used for deficit reduction.

Architect of the Capitol Inspector General: Establishes an Office of the Inspector General within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol.

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission: Provides \$600,000 to the Commission, established in 2000 to study activities that may be carried out by the federal government to honor the bicentennial anniversary of Lincoln's birth—February 12, 2009. For more information on the Commission, please visit the committee's website [here](#).

Private Vehicles: Prohibits funds in this bill from being used to maintain or otherwise care for privately-owned vehicles.

Compensation Limitation: Does not contain language from last year's House-passed legislative branch appropriations bill preventing any legislative branch employee from being paid more than a Member of the House or Senate (excluding in-kind benefits and related payments). Last year's provision was stripped in conference committee and was not included in this year's bill.

Capitol Hill Visitors Center: Provides \$46.2 million to complete the cost of construction and begin operating the Visitors Center.

Rosa Parks Statue: Provides \$370,000 for the Architect of the Capitol to construct a statue to honor Rosa Parks.

Miscellaneous Items: Provides \$703,000 for "miscellaneous items" including House automobiles (\$143,000), interparliamentary receptions (\$40,000) and "gratuities to beneficiaries of deceased staff [employees of the House]" (\$520,000).

Open World Leadership Center: Provides \$13.4 million for the Open World Leadership Center which exists to expose political leaders of foreign states to the workings of the U.S. government.

Smoking in Rayburn Cafeteria: Prohibits funds from being used to establish or operate a smoking area in the cafeteria and public dining rooms of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Architect of the Capitol and GAO: Provides the Comptroller General (GAO) with direct authority over the Architect of the Capitol for one year to execute and supervise all contracting, hiring, training, and employee compensation.

Funding Summaries:

In Thousands

	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2006	Cmte.	Cmte. v.	Cmte. v.	Cmte. v.
	Enacted	Request	Cmte	FY 2006	Request	FY 2006	Request
House of Representatives							
Office of the Speaker.....	2,788	2,906	2,930	142	24	5.09%	0.83%
Majority Leader.....	2,089	2,139	2,213	124	74	5.94%	3.46%
Minority Leader.....	2,928	2,999	3,072	144	73	4.92%	2.43%
Majority Whip.....	1,797	1,843	1,921	124	78	6.90%	4.23%
Minority Whip.....	1,345	1,379	1,458	113	79	8.40%	5.73%
Speaker Floor Activities.....	482	491	491	9	0	1.87%	0.00%
Republican Steering Cmte.....	906	925	924	18	-1	1.99%	-0.11%
Republican Conference.....	1,548	1,699	1,699	151	0	9.75%	0.00%
Republican Policy.....	307	407	407	100	0		0.00%
Democratic Steering & Policy Cmte.....	1,945	2,194	2,194	249	0	12.80%	0.00%
Democratic Caucus.....	816	837	836	20	-1	2.45%	-0.12%
Nine Minority Employees.....	1,445	1,473	1,473	28	0	1.94%	0.00%
Training & Development Programs.....	580	580	580	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Cloakroom Personnel.....	868	894	894	26	0	3.00%	0.00%
Subtotal House Leadership.....	19,844	20,766	21,092	1,248	326	6.29%	1.57%
Members' Representational Allowance (MRA).....	534,109	559,628	557,796	23,687	-1,832	4.43%	-0.33%
Standing Cmtes (except Appropriations).....	116,904	126,178	124,851	7,947	-1,327	6.80%	-1.05%
Appropriations Cmte.....	25,668	26,555	26,497	829	-58	3.23%	-0.22%
Office of the Clerk.....	21,911	22,820	21,505	-406	-1,315	-1.85%	-5.76%
Office of the Sergeant at Arms.....	6,284	6,256	6,240	-44	-16	-0.70%	-0.26%
Office of Chief Administrative Officer.....	121,471	114,192	109,301	-12,170	-4,891	-10.02%	-4.28%
Office of the Inspector General.....	3,991	4,212	4,204	213	-8	5.34%	-0.19%
Office of Emergency Preparedness.....	4,000	5,000	3,997	-3	-1,003	-0.08%	-20.06%
Office of the General Counsel.....	962	962	959	-3	-3	-0.31%	-0.31%
Office of the Chaplain.....	161	164	164	3	0	1.86%	0.00%
Office of the Parliamentarian.....	1,767	1,767	1,762	-5	-5	-0.28%	-0.28%
Office of the Law Revision Counsel.....	2,453	2,527	2,521	68	-6	2.77%	-0.24%
Office of the Legislative Counsel.....	6,963	7,425	7,406	443	-19	6.36%	-0.26%
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs.....	720	738	737	17	-1	2.36%	-0.14%
Other Authorized Employees.....	161	285	285	124	0	77.02%	0.00%
Supplies, materials, admin costs, tort claims.....	4,179	4,554	4,554	375	0	8.97%	0.00%
Official Mail.....	410	410	410	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Gov't Contributions.....	213,422	223,252	217,253	3,831	-5,999	1.80%	-2.69%
Misc Items.....	703	703	703	0	0	0.00%	0.00%

Joint Items							
Joint Economic Cmte.....	4,276	4,406	4,370	94	-36	2.20%	-0.82%
Joint Cmte on Taxation.....	8,693	9,105	9,082	389	-23	4.47%	-0.25%
Office of the Attending Physician.....	2,520	2,652	2,652	132	0	5.24%	0.00%
Capitol Guide Service.....	4,098	8,490	8,490	4,392	0	107.17%	0.00%
Statements of Appropriations.....	30	30	30	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Capitol Police Salaries and Expenses.....	215,281	246,700	220,600	5,319	-26,100	2.47%	-10.58%
Office of Compliance.....	3,081	3,418	3,149	68	-269	2.21%	-7.87%
Congressional Budget Office.....	35,096	37,026	36,329	1,233	-697	3.51%	-1.88%
Architect of the Capitol--Gen'l Admin.....	76,044	103,474	69,413	-6,631	-34,061	-8.72%	-32.92%
Capitol Building.....	23,118	31,207	22,396	-722	-8,811	-3.12%	-28.23%
Capitol Grounds.....	7,436	9,400	7,806	370	-1,594	4.98%	-16.96%
House Office Buildings.....	59,020	78,941	61,383	2,363	-17,558	4.00%	-22.24%
Capitol Power Plant, Net.....	64,632	89,710	87,327	22,695	-2,383	35.11%	-2.66%
Library of Congress Buildings & Grounds.....	68,075	102,237	36,401	-31,674	-65,836	-46.53%	-64.40%
Capitol Police Building and Grounds.....	14,753	20,218	11,621	-3,132	-8,597	-21.23%	-42.52%
Botanic Garden.....	7,557	9,264	8,612	1,055	-652	13.96%	-7.04%
Capitol Visitor Center, Total.....	43,758	41,175	46,175	2,417	5,000		12.14%
Library of Congress Salaries & Expenses, Net.....	385,510	402,944	389,672	4,162	-13,272	1.08%	-3.29%
Copyright Office, Salaries and Expenses, Net.....	22,429	25,205	24,069	1,640	-1,136	7.31%	-4.51%
Congressional Research Service.....	99,907	104,279	102,462	2,555	-1,817	2.56%	-1.74%
Books for the Blind & Handicapped.....	53,905	55,703	53,974	69	-1,729	0.13%	-3.10%
Government Printing Office -- Cong. Printing....	87,209	100,285	95,233	8,024	-5,052	9.20%	-5.04%
Gov't Printing Office -- Salaries & Expenses.....	33,004	43,000	35,287	2,283	-7,713	6.92%	-17.94%
Gov't Printing Office Revolving Fund.....	1,980	8,231	0	-1,980	-8,231		100.00%
General Accountability Office, Net.....	477,571	502,370	488,234	10,663	-14,136	2.23%	-2.81%
Payment to Open World Leadership Ctr Trust Fund	13,860	14,400	13,400	-460	-1,000	-3.32%	-6.94%

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