

# *House Appropriations Committee*

*Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen*

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

## **Fiscal Year 2018 Homeland Security Bill**

### *Bill targets funds to security operations, border and immigration enforcement*

The fiscal year 2018 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations bill targets funding for critical programs such as border security, immigration enforcement, aviation security, customs activities, protection against cyberterrorism, natural disaster response, and efforts to stop the smuggling of drugs and people into the U.S.

The legislation includes \$1.571 billion for physical barriers and associated technology along the Southwest border. This amount provides for more than 90 miles of “border wall system,” going beyond the Administration’s budget request for 74 miles in fiscal year 2018.

In total, the legislation directs \$47.7 billion in discretionary funding for DHS, an increase of \$5.3 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. In addition, the bill includes \$7.4 billion – \$573 million above the President’s request – for disaster relief and emergency response activities through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

### **Securing our Borders and Enforcing our Laws:**

- **Customs and Border Protection (CBP)** – The bill contains \$14 billion in discretionary appropriations for CBP – an increase of \$1.8 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. These resources ensure our borders are protected by putting boots on the ground, improving infrastructure and technology, and helping to stem the flow of illegal goods both into and out of the country. Within this total, the legislation includes:
  - \$1.571 billion for border security assets and infrastructure with over 90 miles of **physical barrier construction** along the Southern border – including replacement, bollards, and levee improvements;
  - \$170 million in **surveillance technology**;
  - \$7 million to hire 351 new **law enforcement officers**;
  - \$190 million for new **aircraft and sensors**; and
  - \$263.6 million for new, **non-intrusive inspection and trade equipment**.
  
- **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)** – The bill provides \$7.1 billion for ICE – \$640.6 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. Within this total, the legislation includes:

- \$15.6 million to hire 65 additional **law enforcement officers** and 70 attorneys and support staff;
  - \$2.2 billion – an increase of \$79.6 million above the requested level – for domestic and international **investigations programs**, including efforts to combat human trafficking, child exploitation, cybercrime, visa screening, and drug smuggling;
  - \$4.1 billion for **detention and removal** programs, including:
    - 40,520 detention beds, an increase 1,196 beds over fiscal year 2017;
    - \$159 million to support the identification, location, and arrest of removable aliens in the United States, including 129 Fugitive Operations teams;
    - \$319 million for Criminal Alien Program operations, including the addition of 31 new communities to the 287(g) program, which partners with local law enforcement to process, arrest, and book illegal immigrants into state or local detention facilities; and
    - \$184.4 million for Alternatives to Detention to monitor 79,000 average daily participants.
  - \$122 million for **critical infrastructure and equipment** recapitalization.
- **Coast Guard** – The bill contains \$12.1 billion for the U.S. Coast Guard – an increase of \$1.7 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The bill provides for a 2.4 percent military pay increase, and targets resources to improve readiness. Specifically, the bill includes:
    - \$7.4 billion for **operations and training**, military personnel costs, aviation and cutter hours, and maintenance of assets required to sustain readiness and response capabilities; and
    - \$2.7 billion for modernization and recapitalization of **vessels, aircraft, and facilities**. This includes funding for the Polar Icebreaking Vessel program, the acquisition of two National Security Cutters, six Fast Response Cutters, an Offshore Patrol Cutter, an HC130-J aircraft, and facility improvements at multiple locations throughout the U.S.

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA)** – The bill includes \$7.9 billion for TSA – an increase of \$114.6 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This includes full funding for Transportation Security Officers (\$3.2 billion), privatized screening operations (\$184.9 million), and 1,047 canine teams (\$151.8 million) to speed processing and wait times for travelers and cargo. The bill includes an increase of \$64 million above the request to accelerate the procurement and testing of more effective and capable screening equipment.

**Cybersecurity and Protection of Communications** – To combat increasingly dangerous and numerous cyber-attacks, the bill includes a total of \$1.9 billion for the National Protection and Programs Directorate to enhance critical infrastructure and prevent hacking.

Within this amount, \$1.1 billion is provided to help secure civilian (.gov) networks, detect and prevent cyber-attacks and foreign espionage, strengthen and protect our election infrastructure,

and enhance and modernize emergency communications. Funds are also included to enhance emergency communications capabilities and to continue the modernization of the Biometric Identification System.

**Secret Service** – The bill provides \$1.99 billion for the U.S. Secret Service – a decrease of \$53 million below the fiscal year 2017 enacted level due to the completion of the 2016 campaign cycle. This funding level includes investments in investigations and cybersecurity, and continues funding for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** – To respond to both natural and man-made disasters, the bill funds FEMA’s disaster relief account (DRF) at a total of \$7.9 billion.

The legislation also includes \$3 billion for FEMA grant programs. This includes:

- \$507 million for the State Homeland Security Grant Program;
- \$630 million for the Urban Area Security Initiative, including \$50 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program;
- \$700 million for firefighter assistance grants;
- \$249.2 million for Predisaster Mitigation grants; and
- \$262.5 million for flood mapping.

**Other Provisions** – The bill includes several provisions to save taxpayer dollars and increase accountability at DHS. The legislation:

- Does NOT include an increase TSA passenger fees;
- Does NOT includes a redirection of Brand USA Travel Promotion fees; and
- Requires extensive reporting, including spending plans and benchmarks, to ensure funds are being spent appropriately and as intended.

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