

**Chairman Hal Rogers**  
**House Committee on Appropriations**  
**Fiscal Year 2014 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill**  
**Full Committee Markup**  
**July 17, 2013**  
**Opening Statement As Prepared**

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The meeting will come to order.

Thank you all for being here today. We have two items of business before us – the markup of the Fiscal Year 2014 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill, and the markup of the Fiscal Year 2014 Financial Services Bill.

We've crossed the halfway point of our Committee work on these bills, and I want to thank you all for your time and efforts so far. It hasn't been the easiest of years, but I believe we've lived up to our reputation of having a great working relationship across the aisle, and produced good bills that will work for the American people.

Turning now to our first order of business, the Fiscal Year 2014 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill, I recognize the Chairman of the Subcommittee, Frank Wolf.

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This is an important bill. It helps keep the American people safe both by supporting critical law enforcement to fight criminals and terrorists, as well as weather forecasting satellites that can help Americans prepare for the worst natural disasters.

It works to develop a stronger American economy that leads the way in innovation, and that fosters an environment for job creation and job repatriation. At its core, this bill is about protecting the life, liberty, and property of our citizens.

The funding provided in this bill maintains these key tenets of the American way, while falling in line with a budget allocation that adheres to the law of the land and recognizes the dire need to get our budgets back into balance.

To highlight some of the priorities funded in this bill:

The Department of Justice is funded at a level slightly above the current, sequestration level. This will preserve the safety and well-being of communities nationwide – fighting cyber-intrusion and terrorism, and ensuring those who break the law are brought to justice.

I'm grateful the bill makes great steps to battle the scourge of drugs in this nation, including providing \$335 million to combat prescription drug abuse.

We also directed funding to the highest-priority grant programs, including Violence Against Women, Victims of Trafficking, and missing and exploited children programs.

Important weather satellites receive full funding as well in order to improve forecasting that can save American lives and warn against devastating natural disasters.

Funding for the Department of Commerce and National Science Foundation targets its appropriations to those programs that do the most to grow the U.S. economy and have proven track records. This includes funding to provide training, assistance, and research for U.S. manufacturers, as well as funding for cybersecurity and cyber infrastructure research.

This bill, though, as Chairman Wolf said, is \$2.8 billion below last year's enacted level. To make these cuts, the Subcommittee rooted out all waste and duplication, and made reductions to less essential programs.

In addition, the bill includes several provisions that prevent funding from being used improperly or in contravention of the law – including prohibiting funds for another “Fast and Furious” type program, and prohibiting funds for building or buying a prison in the U.S. to house Guantanamo detainees.

I want to again thank Chairman Wolf, Ranking Member Fattah, the Subcommittee, and the staff for their time and effort in putting together this bill. The end result is a fine piece of legislation that I am happy to endorse.

While making smart choices to make federal spending more sustainable, this bill sufficiently provides for critical federal law enforcement and safety programs, and programs that boost our nation's economic competitiveness and research ability.

I urge this Committee to support this bill today.

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