



GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

BRIEFING BOOK

Gulf State Park Pier photo by Billy Pope, ADCNR

70th ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

MARCH 9-12, 2020

THE LODGE AT GULF STATE PARK GULF SHORES, ALABAMA

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Commission Business Meeting

Agenda

Gulf Shores, Alabama
March 12, 2020
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order, Introductions, Opening Comments – D. Ellinor, Chairman
- Brief Overview of Commission Voting Procedures – D. Donaldson
2. Adoption of Agenda – D. Ellinor
3. Approval of Minutes (October 17, 2019) – D. Ellinor A
4. GSMFC Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Law Enforcement Committee – P. Carron
 - b. Technical Coordinating Committee – D. Topping
 1. General Session Briefing on Advanced Technologies in Marine Science
 2. Discussion of IJF Research and Data Projects
 3. Recommendations for Subcommittee SOPs
 4. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. GulfFIN Committee
 - b. Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee
 - c. Crab Subcommittee
 - d. SEAMAP Subcommittee
 - c. S-FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee – S. VanderKooy
5. Sea Grant Fisheries Extension Meeting Report – L. Picariello
6. NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office Comments – R. Crabtree B
7. USFWS Region 4 Office Comments – G. Constant/A. Brown
- LUNCH -
8. Status and Overview of Aquaculture RFPs – S. VanderKooy C
 - a. Oyster Aquaculture Consortium
 - b. Regional Pilot Projects
9. NOAA Fisheries & Fish and Wildlife Service Budget Update – D. Donaldson D E F
10. Update on MRIP Calibration Schedule and Other Issues – R. Cody
11. Deepwater Horizon NRDA Open Ocean Update – J. Reinhardt
12. Presentation and Discussion of GSMFC BREP Project – L. Scott-Denton

13. Presentation of the Young Fisherman Program – A. Rosenberg

– BREAK –

14. *Lyles-Simpson Award* Recipient Selection for 2020 – All G

15. GSMFC Program Reports

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program – S. VanderKooy | H |
| b. SEAMAP – J. Rester | I |
| c. Sportfish Restoration Program – J. Ballard | J |
| d. Aquatic Nuisance Species Program – J. Ballard | K |
| e. Fisheries Information Network – G. Bray | L |

16. Executive Committee Report – D. Ellinor

- a. Hiring New Staff Members
- b. Indirect Cost Rate
- c. NOAA Inspector General Audit
- d. Staff Compensation

17. State Directors' Reports

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| a. Florida – D. Ellinor | |
| b. Alabama – S. Bannon | M |
| c. Mississippi – J. Spraggins | N |
| d. Louisiana – J. Froeba | O |
| e. Texas – L. Robinson | P |

18. Future Meetings – N. Marcellus

- a. October 13-15, 2020 – Florida
- b. March 16-18, 2021 – Texas

19. Review of Committee Listings – All Q

20. Publications List and Web Statistics – D. Donaldson R S

21. Other Business

Adjourn

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Biloxi, MS

Chairman Joe Spraggins called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

The following Commissioners and/or Proxies were present:

Joe Spraggins, *Chairman*, MSDMR, Biloxi, MS
Lance Robinson, TPWD, Austin, TX (*Proxy for Carter Smith*)
Read Hendon, *Citizen Representative from Mississippi*, USM/GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Scott Bannon, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL (*Proxy for Chris Blankenship*)
Chris Nelson, *Citizen Representative from Alabama*, Bon Secour Fisheries, Bon Secour, AL
John Roussel, *Citizen Representative from Louisiana*, Zachary, LA
Senator Brett Allain, Jeanerette, LA
Jason Froeba, LDWF, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (*Proxy for Jack Montoucet*)
Dan Ellinor, FWC, Tallahassee, FL (*Proxy for Nick Wiley*)

Staff

Dave Donaldson, *Executive Director*, Ocean Springs, MS
Nancy Marcellus, *Administrative Officer*, Ocean Springs, MS
Chery Noble, *Administrative Assistant*, Ocean Springs, MS
Steve VanderKooy, *IJF Program Coordinator*, Ocean Springs, MS
Jeff Rester, *SEAMAP/Habitat Coordinator*, Ocean Springs, MS
Gregg Bray, *FIN Program Manager*, Ocean Springs, MS
Joe Ferrer, *Systems Administrator*, Ocean Springs, MS
James Ballard, *Sport Fish Restoration/Aquatic Invasives Coordinator*, Ocean Springs, MS
Donna Bellais, *ComFIN Programmer*, Ocean Springs, MS
Angie Rabideau, *Senior Accountant*, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Roy Crabtree, NOAA Fisheries, St. Petersburg, FL
Glenn Constant, USFWS, Baton Rouge, LA
Allan Brown, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Darin Topping, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Julie Lively, LASG, Baton Rouge, LA
Chris Mace, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Jessica Graham, SARP, Panama City Beach, FL
Paul Mickle, MSDMR, Biloxi, MS
Catherine Krickson, NMFS/MRIP, Silver Spring, MD
Emily Satterfield, MSDMR, Biloxi, MS
Bill Walton, AU, Dauphin Island, AL
Seth Blitch, TNC, Baton Rouge, LA
Julien Lartigue, NOAA Restore Program, Ocean Springs, MS

Brief Overview of Commission Voting Procedures

D. Donaldson gave a brief overview of the Commission's voting procedures and stated there is a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda

D. Donaldson requested to move Items 12 and 15 to before lunch due to travel conflicts. He also requested to give a brief report on the For-Hire Project under *Other Business*. **B. Allain** moved to adopt the Commission Business Session Agenda with the requested changes and addition under Other Business. **S. Bannon** seconded and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes (March 21, 2019)

J. Roussel moved to approve the March 21, 2019 minutes as submitted. **S. Bannon** seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as submitted.

GSMFC Standing Committee Reports

Law Enforcement Committee (LEC)

S. VanderKooy reported the LEC met jointly with the Council's LETC and stated the majority of the agenda was Council items. They discussed the JEA funding, status of state water FADs, and a marine debris project by the MS Commercial Fisheries United and MSU Extension Service. He said the Red Drum TTF held its introductory meeting in June for the purpose of working on a Management Profile for the Gulf of Mexico and Scott Pearce, the LEC Representative on the TTF, will distribute the enforcement material to each state representative to prepare for the next meeting in November. Membership is being formed for a Technical Task Force to work on a Mangrove Snapper Profile. Jason Downey from Alabama will represent the LEC for this Task Force and an introductory meeting for this TTF will be scheduled early summer of 2020. He stated the two publications the LEC contributes to, the Annual License and Fees and the Annual Law Summary are complete. He said each state report was submitted before the meeting and the LEC accepted all of the reports.

R. Hendon moved to accept the LEC Report. **L. Robinson** seconded and the motion passed.

Technical Coordinating Committee Report (TCC)

D. Topping gave the TCC report. He reviewed the topics discussed and the presentations that were given in each Subcommittee meeting. He stated the TCC approved two motions at their meeting and asked for approval from the Commission. The first motion was to accept the IJF Funding Process and the second motion was to establish the Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee under the TCC utilizing the SOPs as amended.

D. Topping stated Steve Brown was elected Chairman and Darrin Stewart was elected Vice Chairman for the Data Management Subcommittee; Ryan Gandy was re-elected Chairman for the

Crab Subcommittee; and Ted Switzer was re-elected Chairman and Jill Hendon was re-elected Vice Chairman for the SEAMAP Subcommittee. Darin Topping was re-elected Chairman and Beverly Sauls was re-elected Vice Chairman for TCC. **D. Topping** then gave a brief overview of the General Session on the *2019 Freshwater Impacts to the Marine Natural Resources Along the Northern Gulf of Mexico*.

The Commission discussed using the SOPs presented for the Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee to be used as a template for all other Subcommittees to establish purpose and need. There was also discussion to include or not include Public Health officials on the Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee. The Commission charged staff to have each Subcommittee establish purpose and need utilizing the Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee SOPs template. The Commission charged staff to review the Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee SOPs to include having Public Health Agencies from each state to participate on an “as needed” basis.

R. Hendon moved to approve the two motions and to accept the TCC Report. **J. Froeba** seconded and the motion passed.

State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee

Discussion and Final Approval of GulfFIN Funding Activities for 2020

Scott Bannon gave the S/FFMC Report and stated a motion was passed to fund Coordination and Administration of FIN Activities, Collecting, Managing, and Disseminating Marine Recreational Fisheries Data, Operation of FIN Data Management System, and Trip Ticket Program Operations for a total budget of \$5.86M. The S/FFMC passed a motion to accept the proposed funding for SEAMAP surveys for 2020 for a total budget of \$1.95M. The S/FFMC moved to approve the proposed funding process for utilizing new IJF program funds developed by the TCC. He said the MAC elected Peter Himchak Chairman; and Scott Bannon was elected Chairman and Paul Mickle was elected Vice Chairman for the S/FFMC.

J. Roussel moved to accept the motion to approve the proposed funding for FIN activities for 2020. **R. Hendon** seconded and the motion passed.

D. Ellinor moved to accept the motion to approve the proposed funding for SEAMAP surveys for 2020. **J. Froeba** seconded and the motion passed.

J. Froeba moved to accept the motion to approve the proposed funding process for utilizing new IJF program funds developed by the TCC. **D. Ellinor** seconded and the motion passed.

R. Hendon moved to accept the S/FFMC Report. **D. Ellinor** seconded and the motion passed.

Sea Grant Fisheries Extension Meeting Report

Julie Lively reported they had 5 members present including one remotely, so they had a quorum. She stated they discussed regional issues including depredation, primarily shark; aging of the fleet and workforce development; and barotrauma. Each state gave updates on current programs and

they were also updated on activities by the Gulf Reef Fish Shareholder's Alliance and Audubon GULF's Program that are relevant to Sea Grant. Laura Picariello will be the new Chairman and Dominic Seibert will be the new Vice Chairman. They have no actions to present to the Commission.

NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office Comments

R. Crabtree reported the full report is in Tab C of the briefing book. He stated the Gulf Council meeting will be held next week in Galveston and the two big issues will be red grouper and modifications to the red snapper and grouper IFQ programs, but he does not expect final action on these issues to be taken at that meeting. He said work is continuing on the electronic reporting program that the council approved for charter boats in both the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic. Over 3,000 vessels will be affected by this program. They are currently working on developing the software and the screens that are necessary for reporting and working on making sure the data will be secure. The data will be housed with ACCSP at the ASMFC. They have been able to hire contract personnel through a grant within NOAA to work on this program. He expects the final rule for the Gulf Program will be made sometime in the fall and that the catch reporting portion of the program will go into place sometime in the spring. The requirements to have a geo-positioning device onboard will come in Phase 2 of the program. This requirement will be necessary for the fishermen to be eligible for reimbursement. This is a very complicated program but progress is being made.

He stated that Fishery Disaster declarations were made in September and \$165M has been appropriated. This includes a whole range of disasters, some on the west coast, two shrimp disaster declarations off South Carolina and Georgia, one for Hurricanes Florence and Michael, as well as the catastrophic fisheries disasters that were declared for Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama caused by the flooding from the Mississippi River.

He said they are working with the USACE and EPA on two finfish aquaculture projects. One is the Velella Epsilon project which proposes to culture albacore jack in a single cage in federal waters about 45 miles southwest of Sarasota. The comment period has ended and they are hoping a decision will be made by EPA soon. The other project is with Manna Fish Farms to establish an 18-cage commercial scale finfish operation about 20 miles off the coast of Pensacola. In addition, NOAA Fisheries is working with a recipient of Department of Energy ARPA-E macroalgae funding who is interested in culturing macroalgae species (*Euchema* spp.) in the Gulf.

Finally, NOAA is involved in a number of artificial reef projects that have gone to the USACE that range from the Gulf of Mexico up to North Carolina. NOAA will be providing Section 7 consultations as some of the proposed projects are in critical habitats and will require biological opinions. NOAA is of the opinion the USACE needs to look more carefully on how these projects fit into the overall goals and objectives of the fishery management plans that the Council has in place.

J. Spraggins thanked R. Crabtree and NOAA for their quick response to declaring the disaster due to the flooding from the Mississippi River in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. He said the states are working very hard to provide all information needed to secure disaster funding.

USFWS Region 4 Office Comments

Alan Brown thanked the Commission for the invitation and for James Ballard's and other staff member's efforts in the administration of their small grants program. Although it is a small amount of funds, it takes a lot of work off their regional office staff. He said he continues to support Glenn Constant's involvement with the Commission and Council in providing his expertise on the issues they are currently involved. He stated as most are aware, the continuing resolution continues through November and it does impact their ability to process and distribute grants and funding that other entities are depending on. He said the FWS fisheries budget was approved in both the house and senate with significant increases. There has also been an increase to states that are trying to manage and control Asian Carp. He said as reported on at the last Commission meeting, the DOI is trying to align all the Bureaus into the same geographic boundaries so the FWS has went from eight regions to twelve effective October 1st. There will be some administrative changes but he does not expect it to affect how the FWS interacts with the Commission or the Council.

Presentation of Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP)

Jessica Graham gave a presentation on the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership. She said the program was first conceived in 2000 and GSMFC was one of the founding members. The mission of the program is how to conserve aquatic resources across traditional boundaries. SARP is formally under the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA), as a joint party committee bringing together state and federal partners across the 14 Southeast states and the MOU forming SARP was signed in 2004. In 2007, SARP was recognized as one of the founding members of the National Fish Habitat Partnership.

The Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan was published in 2008 and it outlines the objectives of the program and since then a number of different products have been published on conserving fish habitat. She reviewed the different activities of the programs under SARP and stated they have an opened RFP through the National Fish Habitat Partnership with a December 6, 2019 deadline and all information is on the website www.southeastaquatics.net. A copy of the full presentation can be obtained upon request to the GSMFC office.

Executive Committee Report

The following Executive Committee Report was submitted to the Commissioners:

Discussion of GSMFC Audit

A. Rabideau reviewed the 12/31/18 Single Audit with the committee. Piltz, Williams and LaRosa was the auditing firm. An unqualified opinion was received which means that the financial statements were fairly presented in all material aspects. **A. Rabideau** pointed out that page 31 of the audit report outlines the summary of the audit results. **S. Bannon moved to accept the audit report. The motion was seconded by D. Ellinor and L. Robinson and passed unanimously.**

Discussion of Department of Commerce IG Audit

D. Donaldson reviewed the final audit report from the Department of Commerce Inspector General audit. He stated that the Commission was awaiting a determination from the NOAA Grants Management Division after submission of the Commission's response following receipt of the final report. If nothing was heard from NOAA by the end of November, **D. Donaldson** would contact the NOAA grants office. **D. Ellinor** expressed concerns that the Commission and gulf states could be held responsible for the approximately \$6 million in questioned costs. **J. Spraggins** suggested that the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources' (MDMR) legal team review the audit report. After the Commission receives a determination from NOAA, the Executive Committee will meet to determine any additional steps in the audit resolution process.

Financial Report

A. Rabideau noted that the commissioners receive the financial report every month by email. She pointed out the new fund code 601 SEAMAP Supplemental or Optimizing Fishery Independent Surveys in the Gulf of Mexico.

Presentation of 2020 Budget

A. Rabideau reviewed the 2020 budget. She pointed out that the commission budget is slightly higher than last year's budget due to projected increases in contractual numbers and an increase in Interjurisdictional Fisheries funding. The total projected budget for fiscal year 2020 is \$8,910,364. Since final numbers haven't been established for IJF and SEAMAP and discussions are being held Thursday morning concerning the FIN budget, the total budget will change. It was determined that the budget should include another column that shows a "proposed" budget and an "actual" budget for the prior year to clearly demonstrate changes to the approved budget. **D. Ellinor moved to accept the 2020 budget. The motion was seconded by S. Bannon and passed unanimously.**

Staff Compensation

The Executive Committee recommended that any increases in staff compensation be postponed until the OIG audit is resolved.

Sen. B. Allain moved to accept these recommendations. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

L. Robinson moved to accept the Executive Committee Report as submitted. B. Allain seconded and the motion passed.

NOAA Fisheries Budget Update

D. Donaldson gave an update on the NOAA Fisheries budget. He said, as mentioned earlier, they are still under a Continuing Resolution but the House has passed an appropriations bill for Commerce, Justice and Science. The full Senate has not passed one yet but the Appropriations Committee and one of their Subcommittee's details on the bills are in Tab C of the Briefing Book. He stated the NMFS budget is on pages 24-28 and they recommended \$955M for NOAA Fisheries which is about \$140M above the President's budget. There is \$171M for Fisheries Data Collection

Surveys and Assessments which is the line item that includes the FINs and SEAMAP. There is \$13M for Aquaculture and the Regional Council and Commission line item is above the President's budget at \$41.5M and it does not approve the proposed reduction in the Interstate Commissions and provides the FY19 funding levels to the Commission. IJF is level funded at \$3.5M and rejects the proposed elimination from the President's budget of IJF, and enforcement is up in the House over \$73M which is almost \$20M above the requested amount and disagrees with the proposed elimination of JEAs and recommends funding at FY19 levels. On the Senate side through the Appropriations Committee budget fisheries data collection and survey is about the same level as the house at \$170M, Aquaculture is a little higher at \$15M, the regional Council's and Commission's line items is about what the House is at \$40M. IJF is level funded and enforcement is a little lower in the House at \$70M.

D Donaldson said there is a couple things to note on Exempting Fishing Permits for Red Snapper Fishing. The committee commended the gulf states for developing a strong proposal for reef fish management and within the fisheries data collection survey and assessment line item they provided an additional \$5M to NMFS to deliver technical support for each of the states to insure successful implementation of each state plan, then \$23M for the FINs which is an increase from last year. There is \$2.5M for the regional pilots for aquaculture to continue on each coast and that is approximately \$500K to each of the Commissions. There is about a 12% increase over the FY18 allocation to the Councils and Commissions. He said he will keep the Commission apprised on any changes and the final budget when available.

Discussion of Legislative Issues and Actions

D. Donaldson reviewed several bills of interest that are in the Briefing Book Under Tabs D-G.

He said there is a discussion draft of advancing the quality and understanding of American Aquaculture, the AQUAA Act, and it essentially establishes a system for marine aquaculture in the EEZ and provides more flexibility for aquaculture activities. The Forage Fish Act is to improve the management of forage fish but this is mainly an East Coast focus. It will give the authority to the Councils to manage forage fish and it was suggested to exclude menhaden from this Act. H.R. 3697 is an act to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes. There have not been any concrete discussions on this amendment. The final Act, S.2166 Regional Ocean Partnership Act, authorizes regional ocean partnerships to coordinate cross-jurisdictional efforts to help reduce duplication and to maximize efficiencies.

Discussion of Wind Farms in the Gulf of Mexico

D. Donaldson reported on the issues of wind farms on the East Coast with marine mammals and fisheries interactions. He said there has been discussions about having wind farms in the Gulf of Mexico but nothing has happened yet. He asked the Commission if they would want the staff to pursue facilitating discussions on this issue or maybe have a general session to discuss avoiding some of the pitfalls the East Coast has encountered before any formal activity takes place to pursue wind farms in the Gulf of Mexico. **L. Robinson** said Texas has had a wind energy industry since 2007 and TPWD has been working actively with them. All of Texas' wind farms are land based

but there have been discussions to have them offshore. He said he would be happy to be involved in any discussions and sharing information. The Commission directed staff to stay apprised of the situation and if they see a reason to have a general session, bring it to the Commission's attention.

Status and Overview of Aquaculture Activities

S. VanderKooy stated a complete report is under Tab I of the Briefing Book. He reported the Commission has been involved with some small grant opportunities through NOAA Aquaculture for a few years. In 2019 the Oyster Program decided to go to a consortium-based approach for funding projects. Nine groups submitted larger, long-term projects that could last as long as 5 years. He said they also started a pilot program for aquaculture projects other than oysters. These totaled \$450K and includes three projects, two of which were continuations of previous work. The RFP has been released for next year and a total of \$600K will be available to fund the new pilot projects.

Discussion of Gulf Shellfish Initiative

Bill Walton and Seth Blitch gave a presentation on the Gulf of Mexico Shellfish Initiative (GoMexSI): A Regional Challenge and Opportunity. The goals of the program are to create new jobs and business opportunities, meet the growing demand for seafood, create additional habitat for important commercial, recreational, endangered and threatened species, focus on species recovery, have cleaner water and nutrient removal, and shoreline protection. There has been a suggestion to create a regional "Mega-hatchery" to produce 100 billion eyed larvae per year but it has not been adopted but has provided a template for states with scaled down goals. GoMexSI has held several stake holder meetings to provide input to the program. A full report is available on the feedback from the meetings <http://masgc.org/assets/uploads/publications/1397/18-015.pdf>. There are now five integrated goals in the revised draft GoMexSI – ensure appropriate quantities of water to support thriving shellfish populations; ensure clean water to protect and enhance shellfish beds; increase the abundance of shellfish to promote commercial shellfish harvest, restore oyster stocks and increase associated environmental benefits by integrating fisheries, restoration and aquaculture; encourage a regulatory and enforcement environment that promotes a sustainable fishery, productive restoration projects and thriving aquaculture; and improve communication among resource managers, regulatory agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations and industry to inform management and promote collaboration. GoMexSI will help leverage external funding, magnify voice to other agencies and increase public awareness, stewardship and support of ongoing and future efforts. There is a living draft and it was suggested to house GoMexSI at Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. The complete presentation can be obtained upon request to the GSMFC office.

The Commission agreed they can provide space to house GoMexSI personnel. D. Donaldson will keep the Commission updated on this issue.

Update on Great Red Snapper Count

M. Dryman gave an update on estimating absolute abundance of Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico. He said the project started August 1, 2017 and the project will end March 31, 2020. He

said when the project was set up it had five milestones – data mining and habitat mapping; calibration and validation; sampling; results; and conclusion. He said they spent the first 30% of the project period collating the amount of habitat data that already exists and building a strong experimental design based off that already existing habitat data. He then showed a map of the distribution of sampling gears and where the sampling is taking place. The second milestone, calibration and validation are nearly complete and has been taking place across all the five gulf states that encompass the great red snapper count. This will ensure accurate estimates of fish density and abundance. In the western Gulf of Mexico, they are using ROV: VideoRay Defender and Towed Camera: TARAS Phantom to compare samples and in the eastern Gulf of Mexico they are using ROV: Outland Technologies and Towed Camera: C-BASS. The third milestone, sampling, is nearly complete. He reviewed the sampling portion of the project and noted the High-reward tagging segment received national coverage by the media. He said they will start working on the results and conclusions to end the project in March 2020 and the final report will go to NOAA Fisheries by the end of June 2020. A copy of the presentation may be obtained from the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's office upon request.

GSMFC Program Reports

Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program (IJF)

S. VanderKooy stated the full report is under Tab J of the Briefing Book. He said they are working on two documents - the Red Drum Management Profile for the Gulf of Mexico and they will begin a Mangrove Snapper Management Profile next spring. Work is continuing on the Otolith Manual and it is near completion. He stated that following the completion of the SEDAR63 Menhaden Benchmark Assessment, the MAC agreed to begin exploring potential reference points for management. The MAC and a number of invited stakeholders participated in two workshops to develop potential objectives that could be acceptable to all and begin exploring candidate reference points for future consideration to meet those objectives. He said MSC Certification was announced yesterday for the Gulf menhaden fishery. He said they are continuing to work on the Gulf Fishery Independent Database (GFID) that was started a couple years ago as an attempt to consolidate all of the fishery independent data into one centralized location. He then gave a presentation on the Tripletail Acoustic Tagging effort. A copy of the presentation may be obtained from the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's office upon request.

SEAMAP

J. Rester reported that since March, SEAMAP has completed the Spring Plankton Survey, Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey, Bottom Longline Survey, reef Fish Survey, and Fall Plankton survey. The Vertical line Survey and Fall shrimp/Groundfish Survey are currently ongoing. More details on these surveys is in the recently distributed *2019 SEAMAP Annual Report to the Technical Coordinating Committee*. He said SEAMAP held a trawl workshop in March where state and federal SEAMAP partners reviewed trawling protocols, discussed gear specifications, reviewed data entry and QA/QC procedures, and reviewed species identifications. The group also discussed recent taxonomic changes and how to handle historical species identifications when taxonomists have now determined that what they thought was one species could actually be two to three species that look very similar. SEAMAP partners have been conducting crew exchanges

the past few years to assure that all SEAMAP trawling operations were being conducted consistently amongst all partners. The workshop continued those efforts as well as serving as a good review for 2019 trawling operations.

He said five weekly and one end of survey real time mailings were distributed this summer during the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish survey to approximately 100 individuals. Several people requested the data right before the Texas Opening. A representative from the Texas Shrimp Association stated many requests have been made for the plots and that they were very useful. This is in stark contrast to twenty years ago when the Texas Shrimp Association asked SEAMAP not to produce the real time plots as it caused pulse fishing.

The Joint Annual SEAMAP meeting with the South Atlantic and Caribbean components was held in July to discuss budget needs, updating the *SEAMAP 2021-2025 Management Plan* and the possibility of hooked gear surveys and the data from the surveys could be used in stock assessments. The Commission continues to manage SEAMAP data and distribute the data to interested parties. The Commission fulfilled 15 SEAMAP data requests since March. The various SEAMAP databases have been downloaded 97 times since March. In the last year, SEAMAP data from the Gulf have been submitted for use in SEDAR stock assessments for Red Grouper, Gray Triggerfish, Gulf Menhaden, Yellowtail Snapper, Vermillion Snapper, Scamp and Blacktip Shark.

Sportfish Restoration Program (SFRP)

J. Ballard stated the SFRP detailed report is under Tab L of the Briefing Book. He gave a brief slide presentation on the current work ongoing under the SFRP. The final draft of the third edition of the ASMFC's and GSMFC's *Guidelines for Marine Artificial Reef Materials* has been distributed to the Technical Coordinating Committee for review and approval. The deadline for changes is January 1, 2020 and hopefully, final action will be taken at the March 2020 meeting. This will be electronically available through the GSMFC and ASMFC websites and it will be a "living document" where individual sections will be updated as needed. He said they are finally starting the field work component of the Gulf Artificial Reef Monitoring and Assessment Program (GARMAP) that started several years ago. He reviewed several slides of the work and gear, and partners participating in the program. He said they continue to support the *Jimmy Sanders Memorial Lionfish Challenge*. This is an effort to try to expand removal of lionfish across the Gulf of Mexico modeled after Florida's efforts. The tournament will run all year long as opposed to just the summer months to improve participation from divers that target red snapper during the summer months. He reviewed recent legislation that will affect the program. He said they will be hosting the next Joint Artificial Reef Subcommittee meeting in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission at the Florida's Artificial Reef Summit in April 2020.

Aquatic Nuisances Species Program (ANS)

J. Ballard stated the detailed report is in Tab M of the Briefing Book. He gave a brief slide presentation on the program. He reviewed the projects that have been funded over the last five years through the small grants program with the USFWS. He then briefed the Commission on the FY2019 Projects selected for funding. He stated the Traveling Trunk has been updated and they have been utilized for 1,469 days since their release in 2012. He reviewed the new GSARP website

and stated the fall ANSTF meeting is scheduled for November 5-7 at the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland and the GSARP's fall meeting is scheduled for November 19-20 in Charleston, South Carolina.

Fisheries Information Network

G. Bray said the report is in Tab N of the Briefing Book and it has all the funding items that will be submitted for 2020. He said all is going as expected for the 2019 fishery dependent and biological sampling and he will give a summary report on the surveys at the March meeting. He said their biggest priority from a fishery dependent standpoint is to try to assist in the process of calibrating state survey data that are used in management. He gave details on the impending Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting program (SEFHIER) and how it will affect for-hire sampling.

He said they have completed an overhaul of the data management system aimed at data modernization, improving the quality control process and developing new data entry systems on the biological side, new and user data query capabilities, and it is all focused on increasing the amount and quality of data and getting it clean so it can be fed into stock assessments quicker. He said they have provided biological data for the King mackerel assessment and they will be providing vermillion snapper data, scamp data, greater amberjack data and gag grouper data in 2020. He said they have received NOAA Fisheries funding to transition the three MRIP states to tablet electronic data collection methods for the MRIP dockside surveys. They are also working to get the GulfFIN 5 Year Cooperative Agreement in place as the current agreement ends on December 31, 2019.

State Directors' Reports

All detailed state reports were submitted before the meeting and are in the briefing book. Each state Director gave a brief overview of their report.

Future Meetings

N. Marcellus reported Alabama will be the host for the March 2020 meeting. She has proposals from the Grand Hotel in Point Clear and the Lodge at the Gulf State Park. She stated Alabama prefers to have the meeting at the new facility at the State Park but they cannot accommodate the Commission during the week the meeting is normally scheduled. They submitted a proposal for the week of March 9-13, 2020 which is the week before the meeting is usually held. **J. Spraggins** asked the Commissioners if they would want to have the meeting that week and they all agreed to do that. **N. Marcellus** stated the October meeting is scheduled for October 13-15, 2020 in Florida and she is working with Dan Ellinor on suggestions for where the meeting will be held.

Publications List and Web Statistics

D. Donaldson stated Tabs U and V of the Briefing Book has the information on publications and the website. He said if there are any questions to contact him or J. Ferrer.

Election of Officers

D. Donaldson reviewed how the officers are elected and the current state rotation. **J. Spraggins** opened the floor for nominations.

R. Hendon moved to elect **D. Ellinor** Chairman. **S. Bannon** seconded the motion and it passed.

D. Ellinor moved to elect **L. Robinson** 1st Vice Chairman. **S. Bannon** seconded and the motion passed.

C. Nelson moved to elect **S. Bannon** 2nd Vice Chairman. **R. Hendon** seconded and the motion passed.

J. Spraggins thanked everyone for their support this past year as Chairman. **D. Donaldson** presented him with an outgoing Chairman's gift. **J. Spraggins** presented **D. Ellinor** with the incoming Chairman's gift.

Other Business

C. Nelson updated the Commission on the importation of European Union Shellfish and the potential risk for spreading the oyster herpes virus (OSHV1) and the concerns of the industry. The AFIS is doing a risk assessment on how it can potentially impact the domestic stocks of oysters if they are allowed to be imported. He wanted to make the Commission aware of what was going on and he will keep the Commission informed on the decision of the risk assessment.

D. Donaldson stated he was contacted by George Lapointe asking the Commission to plan a workshop on electronic reporting. They have the funds for the workshop they just want the Commission to handle all logistics including reimbursing travel. The Commission approved staff to pursue planning for the workshop.

D. Donaldson offered the Commission to administer any disaster funds the states may receive as they have done in the past. He stated there would be administrative costs but wanted to make the Commission aware this is an option if they deem it appropriate.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/region/southeast>

02/10/2020

F/SER:LW

Mr. Dave Donaldson, Executive Director
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
2404 Government Street
Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

With this letter, I am providing you the Regional Administrator's Report for the March 2020 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) meeting. This report highlights the key activities NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office conducted or engaged in from September 2019 through January 2020, and should not be considered inclusive.

AQUACULTURE

NOAA Fisheries continued to support the development of offshore aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) by collaborating with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on two finfish projects.

On August 30, the EPA published a notice requesting comments on the draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) and draft Environmental Assessment for the Velella Epsilon pilot project, which proposes to culture albacore jack in a single cage in federal waters about 45 miles southwest of Sarasota, Florida. On January 28th, the EPA conducted a public hearing on the draft NPDES permit. A transcript of the hearing will be available in late February.

Manna Fish Farms is planning to establish an 18-cage commercial scale finfish operation about 20 miles off the coast of Pensacola, Florida. The applicant is presently working to identify a preferred site within that area. Manna has not yet applied for any federal permits but continues to consult with the EPA, USACE, and NOAA Fisheries as they proceed in developing their permit applications.

NOAA Fisheries is also working with a recipient of Department of Energy ARPA-E macroalgae funding who is interested in culturing macroalgae species (*Euchema* spp.) in the Tampa Bay region.

Lastly, on January 6th, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals (3 judge panel) heard oral arguments on the Gulf Aquaculture final rule litigation. A decision is expected in the coming months; in the meantime, anyone interested in hearing an audio of the court proceedings can contact Jess Beck at the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)

The EFPs NOAA Fisheries issued in 2018 allowed the five Gulf states to manage private anglers targeting red snapper in state and federal waters during the 2018-2019 fishing seasons. Gulf state management resulted in markedly longer fishing seasons for private anglers, compared to recent years. Those EFPs expired December 31, 2019. Landings data for 2018 and 2019 (preliminary) are available online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/state-recreational-red-snapper-management-exempted-fishing-permits>.

In November 2019, NOAA Fisheries issued an EFP to two commercial fishermen to test the commercial viability of a golden crab fishery in the Gulf.

Regulatory Actions

NOAA Fisheries implemented the following actions approved by the Gulf Council:

Reef Fish

- Amendments 50A-F to create a state management strategy for private angler fishing of red snapper.
- A framework action to reduce the red grouper annual catch limit.

NOAA Fisheries is in the process of reviewing or implementing the following actions approved by the Gulf Council:

Reef Fish

- Amendment 51 to adjust the gray snapper stock status determination criteria and annual catch limit.
- A framework action to reduce the greater amberjack commercial trip limit.
- A framework action to increase the red snapper annual catch target for the for-hire sector.

Reef Fish and Coastal Migratory Pelagics (CMP)

- A framework action to allow historical captain permits to be converted to standard for-hire permits.
- A framework action, which proposes to establish electronic reporting requirements for vessels with federal for-hire reef fish and CMP permits, requiring federally permitted charter vessels and headboats to report fishing trip data electronically for each trip before arriving at the dock and establishing a hail-out and hail-in procedure for each trip taken.

Corals

- Amendment 9 to establish 12 new habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC) with fishing regulations, modify the boundary for fishing regulations in the current Pulley Ridge HAPC, establish 7 new HAPCs without fishing regulations, and prohibit dredge fishing in all HAPCs with fishing regulations.

Shrimp

- Amendment 18 to modify the shrimp effort threshold put in place to protect juvenile red snapper.

The Gulf Council approved the following actions for review and implementation by NOAA Fisheries:

Reef Fish and CMP

- A framework action to allow the two-day possession limit for reef fish and CMP for-hire trips to be retained at any time during the trip.

Other actions under development include:

- Reef Fish Amendments 36B and 36C to modify commercial individual fishing quota programs based on a 5-year review of the red snapper program and other input.
- Reef Fish Amendment 48/Red Drum Amendment 5 to develop status determination criteria for reef fish and red drum.
- Reef Fish Amendment 52 to adjust red snapper allocations.
- Reef Fish Amendment 53 to adjust red grouper allocations and annual catch limits.
- A framework action to adjust recreational management measures for greater amberjack.
- A framework action to consider removing a trolling exemption in Madison Swanson and Steamboat Lumps Marine Protected Areas.

Fishery Openings and Closings

Recreational

- A fixed seasonal closure for gag occurs annually January 1 through May 31.
- A fixed seasonal closure for shallow-water grouper occurs annually February 1 through March 31 seaward of the 20-fathom contour.
- A fixed seasonal closure for greater amberjack occurs annually November 1 through April 30 and will reopen on May 1, 2020, if the quota has not been reached.

Commercial

- The king mackerel Western and Southern Zones hook-and-line seasons opened on July 1, 2019.
- The king mackerel Southern Zone gillnet season opened January 21, 2020.

Information on recreational and commercial landings, catch limits and quotas, fishing seasons, and closures can be tracked on the SERO Web site

at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/southeast-region-annual-catch-limit-acl-monitoring>.

IFQ landings can be tracked on the SERO Web site at: <https://portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/cs>

Permits

The following data represent permits issued or renewed within the last 12 months, which are valid for use in the respective fishery (expired but renewable limited access permits are noted in parentheses). It does not represent activity in the fishery. As of January 7, 2020, these permits included:

- 1,326 (74) moratorium shrimp permits; 316 royal red shrimp endorsements.
- 1,183 (100) for-hire coastal pelagic moratorium permits; 30 (4) historical captain permits.
- 1,316 (107) commercial king mackerel moratorium permits (includes South Atlantic); 15 (2) commercial king mackerel gillnet permits.
- 1,885 commercial Spanish mackerel permits (includes South Atlantic).
- 1,174 (98) for-hire reef fish moratorium permits; 29 (4) historical captain permits.

- 761 (72) commercial reef fish moratorium permits; 62 (0) longline endorsements.
- 169 commercial spiny lobster permits (includes South Atlantic); 190 tailing permits (includes South Atlantic).

PROTECTED RESOURCES

NOAA Fisheries issued biological opinions to:

- The USACE Jacksonville District for construction of a dock and boatlift installation in Charlotte County, Florida. The opinion analyzes the project's effects on sea turtles (green, Kemp's ridley, and loggerhead), smalltooth sawfish, and smalltooth sawfish critical habitat.
- The USACE Jacksonville District for five shoreline stabilization projects in Lee County, Florida. These opinions analyze each project's effects on sea turtles (green, Kemp's ridley and loggerhead), smalltooth sawfish, and smalltooth sawfish critical habitat.

Also to conserve and recover protected species, NOAA Fisheries:

- Renewed Endangered Species Act Section 6 Cooperative Agreements with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.
- Solicited proposals from each Gulf state's Section 6 representatives for FY20 Species Recovery Conservation Funds.
- Continued participating in the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study to assist with reviewing marine mammal impact study plans. The USACE selected a final coastal storm reduction project and published a draft environmental impact statement for public comment.
- Coordinated with the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, State of Florida Division of Aquaculture, EPA, and federal applicants to help minimize the impacts of proposed aquaculture operations to marine mammals in the Gulf.
- Continued to serve as off-site coordinators for the investigative team evaluating the potential causes of the Unusual Mortality Event we declared on June 10, 2019, for bottlenose dolphins in the northern Gulf.
- Published a final rule to require the mandatory use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) by skimmer trawl vessels 40 feet and greater in length in the Southeastern U.S. shrimp fisheries. This rule takes effect April 1, 2021.

HABITAT CONSERVATION

Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Program Update

- NOAA Fisheries continued managing and participating in engineering and design activities for the Oyster Lake Marsh Creation and Nourishment, No Name Bayou Marsh Creation, Bayou Decade Ridge and Marsh Creation, Island Road Marsh Creation and Nourishment, West Fourchon Marsh Creation and Nourishment, East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment, Fritchie Marsh Creation and Terracing, Breton West Landbridge Marsh Creation, and East Delacroix Marsh Creation and Terracing Projects.
 - Engineering and design work continued on the Oyster Lake Marsh Creation and Nourishment Project, located in Cameron Parish. The updated schedule projects completion of 95% design and competing for construction funds at the end of 2020.

- The Bayou Decade Ridge and Marsh Creation Project, located in Terrebonne Parish, will create 378 acres of marsh habitat after 20 years and 11,131 feet of ridge habitat. Close collaboration with the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) continues to advance the project to 100% design. We expect the construction contract to be advertised in 2020.
- The Island Road Marsh Creation and Nourishment Project, located in Terrebonne Parish, is nearing completion of 30% design. This is the culmination of a six year effort that has developed a constructible design despite challenging site conditions related to deep water and poor soils.
- West Fourchon was selected by the Technical Committee for recommendation to the Task Force to fund construction in January.
- The East Leeville Marsh Creation and Nourishment Project, located in Lafourche Parish, completed 30% design and scopes were awarded to fill in final data gaps. A change in scope will be sought and the 95% design will be completed to seek construction funds in December.
- Surveying scopes of work have been drafted and work is underway or soon to be underway to inform the design of the Breton West Landbridge Marsh Creation and East Delacroix Marsh Creation and Terracing Projects, located in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes.
- The Technical Committee selected one NOAA Fisheries project, North Delacroix Marsh Creation and Terracing, from Priority Project List 29 for recommendation to the Task Force to fund engineering and design in January.
- The NOAA Fisheries team is working on up to 25 project concepts to potentially nominate at the Regional Planning Team meetings for consideration on the Priority Project List 30.
- NOAA Fisheries continued coordinating with the CPRA on operations, maintenance, and monitoring of constructed projects. NOAA Fisheries is working on a proposed path forward to either closeout or transfer constructed projects at year 20, or request the life of these projects be extended.
- NOAA Fisheries continued coordinating with the CPRA, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service preparing an additional construction event for the Delta-wide Crevasses Project located in the Mississippi River Delta. We project the construction contract will be advertised in 2020.

Other Project Updates

- Maintenance construction by Patriot Construction and Industrial, LLC on the Black Bayou Hydrologic Restoration Project located in Cameron Parish has been largely completed; however, final surveys of the Burton Sutton Weir revealed the thickness of rock is out of contract tolerances. Additional grading work has been performed and the revised surveys are under review. It is anticipated that construction is complete at this point and no further work needed. Maintenance included rock dike repairs along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, rock scour protection at the Black Bayou Cutoff Canal, Block's Creek, and Burton Sutton Canal, and replacement of the Burton Sutton weir. Construction was temporarily suspended due to high Mississippi River water delaying rock shipments.
- Expansion of the Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization Project located in Vermilion Parish resumed last Fall but is again interrupted due to limitations in rock supply. Expansion work is projected to provide 155 net acres after 20 years. Construction will be completed in 2020.

- There were minor delays in completing the design work for the Cameron Meadows Marsh Creation and Terracing Project, located in Cameron Parish. The construction contract is expected to be advertised in early 2020.

Habitat Conservation and Protection Activities

NOAA Fisheries:

- Secured \$12K in funding, as co-chair of the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership Coastal Work Group, for the priority issue meeting held February 11-13, 2020. The five Gulf state marine fishery directors identified oyster mariculture siting and associated marine debris lessons learned as the priority issue for 2020.
- Continued participating in the USACE's Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Interagency Workgroup.
- Served on National Estuary Program (NEP) Technical Advisory Committees throughout Florida, including Tampa Bay, Sarasota Bay, and Coastal & Heartland, and on the Tampa Bay NEP Southwest Florida Seagrass Working Group.
- Participated in the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Habitat Resources Team mid-year meeting in Mobile, Alabama. The Habitat Resources Team is working to develop an updated report on the status and trends of seagrasses in the Gulf, a Gulf Coast Adaptation and Resilience Plan, and an ecosystem services valuations study for various restoration techniques.
- Started early engagement on a proposed USACE permit and draft environmental impact statement by the Port of Corpus Christi Authority to deepen the Corpus Christi Ship Channel from the originally authorized depth of -54 feet to -80 feet.
- Continued early engagement in multiple USACE Jacksonville District Coastal Storm Risk Management projects planned along the Florida Gulf Coast.
- Continued to serve as a Cooperating Agency for the USACE's Lake Okeechobee Systems Operation Manual Study estimated for completion in 2022.
- Served on the federal interagency interdisciplinary planning team providing technical guidance designed to minimize Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) impacts resulting from multiple aquaculture projects proposed in the eastern Gulf.
- Continued to work with the Sabine River Authorities and others to install upstream passage for American eels at the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requires eel passage in its license for the facility. Installation of the eelways was delayed while repairs were made to the spillway.
- Continued to serve as a member of the Louisiana Coastal Area Beneficial Use of Dredged Material (BUDMAT) Program, which aims to cost effectively increase the beneficial use of material dredged from federally maintained waterways. Worked on two BUDMAT projects: the Mississippi River Outlets at Venice; and the Mississippi River St. Bernard Wetlands. Both projects are in the engineering and design phase and final acreages of marsh restoration have yet to be determined.
- Provided fishery habitat expertise as a member of the Louisiana Interagency Review Team for mitigation projects. The Team acts as a clearing house for proposed and ongoing mitigation banks in the state, approving credit releases, modifications, and new mitigation banks.
- Provided fishery habitat expertise as a member of the Louisiana Interagency Review Team for mitigation projects. The Team acts as a clearing house for proposed and ongoing mitigation banks in the state, approving credit releases, modifications, and new mitigation banks.
- Participated in federal planning studies to inform the development of environmental impact statements and regional sediment management planning for the USACE's deepening and widening of the Houston Channel, Texas. Continued to support the FERC pre-application EFH

consultation process for numerous liquefied natural gas liquefaction export terminal proposals in the Gulf, including projects in Texas (12), Louisiana (6), and Mississippi (1).

- Completed 492 requests for consultation across the 5 Gulf States to conserve, protect, and restore EFH across the Gulf, received in the first quarter of FY20.
- An interdisciplinary planning team has been formed and is exploring and developing options for amending Council fishery management plans to update EFH information.

Also, NOAA Fisheries is working with the U.S. Maritime Administration and U.S. Coast Guard on EFH consultations for five additional Deepwater Port applications in Texas and one in Louisiana.

GULF RESTORATION

NOAA Fisheries continued to engage external partners and stakeholders to maximize the utility of pre-application planning, technical assistance, and Endangered Species Act, EFH, and Marine Mammal Protection Act reviews of Gulf restoration programs and projects. This included:

- Providing technical and environmental compliance planning and consultation on large-scale restoration activities, including the Mid-Barataria and Mid-Breton, Sediment Diversion Projects, Upper Barataria Marsh Creation Project, and on RESTORE Council Bucket 2 projects planned for the 3rd Funded Priority List.
- Supporting the RESTORE Council Monitoring and Assessment Program (CMAP).
 - The CMAP project management team, including the NOAA principle investigators, began outreach and engagement with regional stakeholders to introduce and demonstrate application of the comprehensive Gulf-wide long-term water quality and habitat monitoring, assessment, and mapping program inventory. These efforts included demonstrating its utility for data gap analyses as they relate to resource restoration and management planning, implementation, and evaluation.
 - The baseline resource assessment inventory is complete. The program and data gap analysis process was initiated during the Gulf of Mexico Monitoring Community of Practice meeting in January 2020 focused on the RESTORE Council requirements related to Funded Priorities List 3 project planning at watershed scales. This inventory will eventually be used across diverse restoration programs.
 - The beta version of web-based data accessibility platform was unveiled at the Gulf of Mexico Alliance mid-year meetings in Mobile, AL.
 - Annual work plans are being developed in coordination with the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Cross-Trustee Implementation Group's Monitoring and Adaptive Management Working Group for future phases of science support for regional restoration program planning and evaluation.
 - Interagency teams are developing implementation plans to ensure coordination across relevant science programs, including but not limited to the NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program, National Academies of Sciences Gulf Research Program, State Centers of Excellence, Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, and Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative.

NOAA Fisheries continues to provide technical support to the Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration Team and to the development of long-term monitoring and adaptive management plans at multiple scales for Gulf restoration programs.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND GRANTS

NOAA Fisheries began the FY20 external grant competition process for four programs:

1) Cooperative Research Program, 2) Saltonstall-Kennedy Program, 3) Bluefin Tuna Research Program, and 4) Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program. Panel meetings will be scheduled for the spring.

- Cooperative Research Program: Thirty applications were received, which are now undergoing technical review..
- Saltonstall-Kennedy: Thirty-two full applications were received and are now being reviewed for technical merit.
- Bluefin Tuna Research Program: Five applications were received and are now being reviewed..
- B-WET: Thirteen applications were received for review..

In addition, NOAA Fisheries awarded new five-year awards to the Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, effective January 1, 2020. The new five-year GulfFIN award is in its final stages of review.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (727) 824-5301 if you have questions about these or other activities.

Sincerely,

CRABTREE.ROY.
E.DR.1365849559

Digitally signed by
CRABTREE.ROY.E.DR.1365849
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Date: 2020.02.10 13:03:30 -05'00'

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

FY2019 Gulf of Mexico Oyster Aquaculture Consortia Award

The three Commissions released a new RFP early this year to request partnership projects in a Consortium approach, funding multiple agency proposals for three to five years which could total \$840,000. Several projects were submitted and a collaboration between the University of Southern Mississippi - Thad Cochran Marine Aquaculture Center, the Auburn University Shellfish Lab - Dauphin Island Sea Lab, the University of Florida - Molluscan Shellfish Aquaculture Laboratory, and the Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi - Agrilife Research Mariculture Center. The potential five-year project will implement a genetic selection program for local stocks to improve production performance and develop disease or water quality resistant oyster stocks through the selective breeding program. Work began June 1 and will continue through next spring. Future years' funding will be determined on an annual basis by progress and available NOAA Office of Aquaculture funds. To date, a total of \$1.6M has been distributed for oyster related projects in the Gulf through the NOAA/GSMFC program.

FY2019 Regional Pilot Projects for Aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico

The second round of funding for pilot projects totaled \$450,000 and includes three projects, two of which were continuations of previous work. The projects began July 1 and include Kampachi Farms and Mote who are working on hatchery techniques for Almaco Jack, intended to support the Velella Epsilon project off Florida; Auburn Univ. who is combining Sea Urchin culture into off-bottom oyster techniques as a natural anti-fouling agent and potential second crop; and the Univ of Southern Miss. which is continuing to move toward a finfish farm in the northern Gulf. The three projects will run until June of 2020.

FY2020 Regional Pilot Projects for Aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico

Despite just completing the award process for the 2019 pilot projects, the Gulf Commission has a limited timetable to begin the third round of pilots due to the end of our five-year cooperative agreement with NOAA. To ensure the funds would be utilized within the Commission's award period, an RFP was released in mid-August with a deadline of mid-September. Projects submitted for potential funding would have to be completed by early 2021. Seven individual projects were funded and began work February 1, 2020. These projects include four potential aquaculture species, an offshore aquaculture working platform, and two hatchery projects for seed production and broodstock development. A total of \$1.6M has been provided to date for various Gulf-based projects targeting species other than oysters for potential commercial development and support.

**DIVISION __—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020**

Report language included in House Report 116–101 (“the House report”) or Senate Report 116–127 (“the Senate report”) that is not changed by this explanatory statement or the Act is approved. The explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where both the House report and the Senate report address a particular issue not specifically addressed in the explanatory statement, the House report and the Senate report should be read as consistent and are to be interpreted accordingly. In cases where the House report or the Senate report directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations (“the Committees”).

Each department and agency funded in this Act shall follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement, and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. Reprogramming procedures shall apply to: funds provided in this Act; unobligated balances from previous appropriations Acts that are available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2020; and non-appropriated resources such as fee collections that are used to meet program requirements in fiscal year 2020. These procedures are specified in section 505 of this Act.

Any reprogramming request shall include any out-year budgetary impacts and a separate accounting of program or mission impacts on estimated carryover funds. Any program, project, or activity cited in this explanatory statement, or in the House report or the Senate report and not changed by this Act, shall be construed as the position of the Congress and shall not be subject to reductions or reprogramming without prior approval of the Committees. Further, any department or agency funded in this Act that plans a reduction-in-force shall notify the Committees by letter no later than 30 days in advance of the date of any such planned personnel action.

When a department or agency submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Committees and does not receive identical responses, it shall be the responsibility of the department or agency seeking the reprogramming to reconcile the differences between the two bodies before proceeding. If reconciliation is not possible, the items in disagreement in the reprogramming or transfer request shall be considered unapproved. Departments and agencies

shall not submit reprogramming notifications after July 1, 2020, except in extraordinary circumstances. Any such notification shall include a description of the extraordinary circumstances.

In compliance with section 528 of this Act, each department and agency funded in this Act shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, for the Committees' review not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

The agreement includes \$521,250,000 in total resources for the International Trade Administration (ITA). This amount is offset by \$11,000,000 in estimated fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of \$510,250,000.

The agreement provides no less than \$333,000,000 for Global Markets and includes \$500,000 for the rural export assistance activities referenced in the Senate report. The agreement does not assume House levels for Industry and Analysis, Enforcement and Compliance, and Executive Direction and Administration. However, ITA is directed to take steps to fill important vacancies across the agency in support of trade promotion, facilitation, and enforcement, as well as additional staff to support the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and the new Anti-Circumvention and Evasion Unit.

Quarterly Updates.—The agreement adopts both House and Senate report language on quarterly briefs updating the Committees on ongoing enforcement work as well as prior quarter expenditures and obligation plans, including current staffing levels, due not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter.

SelectUSA.—Senate report language on Foreign Business Investment in the United States is not adopted. The agreement stipulates that up to \$10,000,000 is provided for SelectUSA, provided that ITA includes a detailed accounting of this spending, by object class, as part of its fiscal year 2020 spending plan.

Office of Inspector General Management Alert.—ITA is directed to address the issues raised by the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General in its memorandum dated November 7, 2019 (OIG-20-005-M), in particular the issue of securing sensitive information.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

~~(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)~~

The agreement includes \$127,652,000 for the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) and does not adopt House report language regarding the division of funds between Export Administration, Export Enforcement, and Management and Policy Coordination.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

The agreement includes \$333,000,000 for the programs and administrative expenses of the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Section 521 of this Act includes a rescission of \$17,000,000 in Economic Development Assistance Programs balances. Such funds shall be derived from recoveries and unobligated grant funds that were not appropriated with emergency or disaster relief designations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The agreement includes \$292,500,000 for Economic Development Assistance Programs. House language on coal-fired plants is modified to encourage EDA to consider projects to repurpose abandoned coal-fired plants. The agreement modifies House language on climate change resiliency to direct EDA to encourage applicants to submit proposals that are resilient to climate change or incorporate green infrastructure solutions. Funds are to be distributed as follows; any deviation of funds shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (in thousands of dollars)	Amount
Public Works.....	\$118,500
Partnership Planning	33,000
Technical Assistance.....	9,500
Research and Evaluation.....	1,500

Trade Adjustment Assistance.....	13,000
Economic Adjustment Assistance.....	37,000
Assistance to Coal Communities	30,000
Assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities.....	15,000
STEM Apprenticeships.....	2,000
Regional Innovation Program Grants	33,000
Total	<u>\$292,500</u>

EDA Programs and Impoverished Communities.— In lieu of House report language regarding EDA scoring of competitive grant applications, the agreement directs EDA to expand outreach and technical guidance to prospective grantees with the goal of ensuring increased quality and quantity of applications for assistance aimed at benefitting residents of persistent poverty counties or high-poverty areas, as defined in the House language. The agreement further modifies this language to direct the Government Accountability Office (GAO), in coordination with EDA, to provide a report to the Committees on the percentage of funds allocated by each program in fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019, and estimates for fiscal year 2020, to serve populations living in persistent poverty counties and high-poverty areas. Such report shall be delivered no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$40,500,000 for EDA salaries and expenses.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The agreement includes \$42,000,000 for the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), an increase of \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level. The agreement directs MBDA to allocate \$26,500,000 of its total appropriation toward cooperative agreements, external awards, and grants, including not less than \$14,000,000 to continue MBDA's traditional

Business Center program and Specialty Project Center program. The agreement provides \$7,000,000 for the Broad Agency Announcements (BAA) program. Senate language on BAAs is not adopted. However, the Committees are concerned about the scope of the 2019 BAA topic areas and direct MBDA to submit a spend plan, which includes the topic areas for fiscal year 2020, to the Committees for these funds 30 days prior to soliciting applications for the fiscal year 2020 awards.

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$107,990,000 for Economic and Statistical Analysis. The agreement assumes full funding for the Bureau of Economic Analysis' (BEA) efforts to produce annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) statistics for Puerto Rico, as requested, and includes no less than \$1,500,000 for the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account.

Income Growth Indicators.—The agreement provides \$1,000,000 to develop income growth indicators and further directs BEA to report the latest available estimates of these measures in calendar year 2020, as described in the Senate report.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

The agreement includes \$7,558,319,000 for the Bureau of the Census,

("the
Bureau")

Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.—In lieu of House report language regarding Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories, the Committees direct the ~~Census~~ Bureau to develop an implementation plan to include all residents of the United States, including those in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories, in the total resident and total population size totals, while maintaining integrity of data sets. Such plan shall be delivered to the Committees no later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

In lieu of House report language regarding the Bureau's anticipated report on the feasibility of including Puerto Rico in additional surveys and Bureau of Justice Statistics data products, submitted to the Committees on November 26, 2019, the agreement directs the Bureau to provide a supplement to this report, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, containing an overall cost estimate and implementation plan for Puerto Rico's inclusion in these

surveys and products. The Bureau is further directed to work with the communities and stakeholders in Puerto Rico, while conducting the Puerto Rico Community Survey, to better understand Puerto Rico's data needs.

CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

The bill provides \$274,000,000 for the Current Surveys and Programs account of the Bureau of the Census, to include funds to continue the level of effort for the Survey of Income and Program Participation, as described in the House report. The agreement does not adopt House report language on the division of funds within the appropriation.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$7,284,319,000 for the Periodic Censuses and Programs account of the Bureau of the Census. The agreement does not adopt the House report language on the division of these funds at the Program, Project, and Activity (PPA) level.

2020 Decennial Census.—In July 2019, the Census Bureau provided an update to the Committees on its 2020 Census Life Cycle Cost Estimate. While the total estimates for the overall Decennial costs remain unchanged, the Census Bureau assumes efficiencies in the program allow for a greater contingency reserve to support potential risks. The agreement provides \$6,696,000,000 for the Decennial Census and does not adopt House recommended levels for the key operational frames, as described in the House report. The agreement includes \$669,000,000 dedicated towards Secretarial contingency needs that may arise during the Census operation such as major disasters or other unforeseen risks realized, and \$263,000,000 in additional sensitivity risks to support additional pay increases and any reduction in self-response rates beyond the current projections of the Census Bureau. The agreement clarifies a previous requirement regarding the notification to the Committees on the obligation of funds within the Bureau's contingency reserve and directs the Census Bureau to report to the Committees no later than 15 days after any obligation of such funds. Such report shall include a description of the work funded from this reserve during the fiscal year. The agreement also supports no less than the level of effort for outreach and communications that was utilized in preparation for the 2010 Decennial Census, adjusted for inflation.

Mobile Questionnaire Assistance Centers.—Within funds provided, the agreement directs the Census Bureau to support this new initiative aimed at increasing response in historically undercounted and hard to count communities. As part of the report on outreach activities in hard to count communities as directed by the House, the Census Bureau shall include details on how the Mobile Questionnaire Assistance Centers will be utilized as a part of these efforts.

Quarterly Briefing.—The agreement continues the requirement for quarterly updates from the Census Bureau to ensure the Committees are regularly apprised of the status of the 2020 Decennial operations, Census systems readiness, Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing, implementation of GAO recommendations, and the American Community Survey. As part of these briefings, the Census Bureau should also include updates on actions it is taking, along with the Department of Homeland Security, to secure the online platform and personal data, as described in the House report, as well as work the agency has done to mitigate risks identified by GAO, as referenced in the Senate report.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$40,441,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The allocation of funding provided in the table in the House report is not adopted, nor is the House language regarding Public Safety Communications.

Accurate Broadband Mapping.—In lieu of section 542 of the House bill, the agreement directs NTIA to report to the Committees, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, regarding NTIA's current and planned efforts to improve the accuracy of measurements of broadband coverage in communities, including the sources of data used to help generate broadband coverage maps.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes language making available to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) \$3,450,681,000, the full amount of offsetting fee collections estimated for fiscal year 2020 by the Congressional Budget Office. The agreement transfers \$2,000,000 to the Office of Inspector General to continue oversight and audits of USPTO operations and budget transparency.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

The agreement includes \$1,034,000,000 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$754,000,000 for NIST's Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) account. The agreement adopts the following within STRS: (1) House and Senate language on pyrrhotite and no less than \$1,500,000; (2) House and Senate language on regenerative medicine standards and \$2,500,000; (3) Senate language on industrial internet of things and no less than \$2,000,000; (4) Senate language on plastic and polymeric materials and \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level; (5) Senate language on graphene research and no less than \$1,250,000; (6) Senate language on unmanned aerial vehicle challenges and no less than \$2,500,000; (7) Senate language on microelectronics technology and no less than \$2,000,000; (8) Senate language on public health risks to first responders and \$2,000,000; (9) House language and funding for the Greenhouse Gas Program and Urban Dome Initiative; and (10) House and Senate language on metals-based additive manufacturing and no less than \$5,000,000.

Disaster Resilience Research Grants.—In lieu of House and Senate language regarding Disaster Resilience Research Grants, the agreement provides no less than \$2,500,000.

Quantum Information Science (QIS).—The agreement adopts House and Senate language on QIS and provides \$10,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level.

Industries of the Future.—The agreement adopts House and Senate language on artificial intelligence and provides \$8,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level.

Forward Looking Building Standards.—House report language regarding forward looking building standards is amended to clarify that it neither directs nor authorizes NIST to undertake any regulatory action.

Forensic Sciences.—In lieu of House and Senate report language, the agreement provides \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for forensic science research. Additionally, the agreement provides \$3,150,000 to support the Organization of Scientific Area Committees and \$1,000,000 to support technical merit evaluations.

Facial Recognition Vendor Test.—Senate language regarding the facial recognition vendor test is adopted, and the agreement further directs NIST to continue efforts to secure personally identifiable information and other sensitive data used by this program.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The agreement includes \$162,000,000 in total for Industrial Technology Services (ITS), including \$146,000,000 for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), an increase of \$6,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level. At this level, NIST is directed to provide an increase of at least \$100,000 for each of the 51 MEP centers. The agreement further provides \$16,000,000 for the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation, also known as Manufacturing USA.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

The agreement includes \$118,000,000 for Construction of Research Facilities, of which \$43,000,000 is for the continued renovation of NIST's Building 1 laboratory.

Safety, Capacity, Maintenance, and Major Repairs (SCMMR).—Within the amount provided for Construction of Research Facilities, the agreement includes no less than \$75,000,000 for NIST to address its most pressing SCMMR projects.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment (SASH).—The agreement adopts House and Senate report language on SASH and provides no less than \$2,000,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall be derived from funding provided to Mission Support, Executive Leadership.

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a total program level of \$3,956,213,000 under this account for the coastal, fisheries, marine, weather, satellite, and other programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This total funding level includes \$3,763,939,000 in direct appropriations; a transfer of \$174,774,000 from balances in the “Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries” fund; and \$17,500,000 derived from recoveries of prior year obligations.

The following narrative descriptions and tables identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act.

National Ocean Service (NOS).—\$598,956,000 is for NOS Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Navigation, Observations and Positioning	
Navigation, Observations and Positioning.....	\$159,456
Hydrographic Survey Priorities/ Contracts.....	32,000
Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Observations.....	39,000
Navigation, Observations and Positioning.....	230,456
Coastal Science and Assessment	
Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration.....	82,000
Competitive External Research.....	19,000
Coastal Science and Assessment.....	101,000
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services	
Coastal Zone Management and Services.....	45,000
Coastal Management Grants.....	77,000
National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund (Title IX Fund).....	33,000
Coral Reef Program.....	29,500
National Estuarine Research Reserve System.....	27,500
Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas.....	55,500
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services.....	267,500
Total, National Ocean Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	\$598,956

Navigation, Observations and Positioning.—Within funding provided, the agreement includes no less than \$6,250,000 for the Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System. The administration’s proposal on funding for Coastal Observing Assets is adopted. The Senate language and funding levels regarding Hydrographic Research and Technology Development are adopted.

Coastal Science and Assessment.—The agreement provides \$44,000,000 for the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and no less than \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for the Marine Debris program.

Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center (DRC).—Senate report language on the DRC is restated to clarify that the intent is for NOAA to fully staff the DRC no later than September 30, 2020.

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs).—The agreement provides \$19,000,000 for Competitive External Research and adopts both House and Senate direction regarding HABs. It further clarifies that no less than \$1,000,000 is provided to sponsor a national study of the economic impacts of HABs as described in the House report.

Regional Data Portals.—The Senate language and funding level regarding Regional Data Portals are adopted.

The National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund.—The agreement provides \$33,000,000 for the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund, also known as Title IX Fund grants. Of the amount provided, not less than \$3,000,000 shall be for project planning and design.

Marine Sanctuaries.—The administration's proposal regarding telepresence is accepted and the continuation of this work is encouraged through Ocean Exploration within Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. NOS is directed to prioritize support for Marine Sanctuaries base funding, especially in light of the designation of the new Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).—\$947,657,000 is for NMFS Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Operations, Research, and Facilities
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Protected Resources Science and Management	
Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species.....	\$122,164
Species Recovery Grants.....	7,000
Atlantic Salmon.....	6,500
Pacific Salmon.....	65,000
Protected Resources Science and Management.....	200,664
Fisheries Science and Management	
Fisheries and Ecosystem Science Programs and Services.....	146,427
Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments.....	173,709
Observers and Training.....	54,968
Fisheries Management Programs and Services.....	123,836
Aquaculture.....	15,250
Salmon Management Activities.....	58,043
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions.....	40,247
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants.....	3,365
Fisheries Science and Management.....	615,845
Enforcement.....	74,023
Habitat Conservation and Restoration.....	57,125
Total, National Marine Fisheries Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities..	\$947,657

Southern Resident Killer Whales.—The agreement includes no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for NMFS to continue its work on Southern Resident killer whales.

North Atlantic Right Whale.—The agreement provides an increase of \$2,000,000 within Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species for North Atlantic right whales-related research, development, and conservation. Additional direction in the House and Senate reports, including the pilot project, is adopted.

Salmon Management Activities.—Within funding provided, the agreement includes no less than \$35,500,000 for implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, which is \$20,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, and \$22,000,000 for the operation and maintenance of Mitchell Act hatcheries. House and Senate language on the Pacific Salmon Treaty is adopted, and the Committees look forward to receiving the requested spend plan in an expeditious fashion.

Fisheries Information Networks.—The agreement provides \$24,000,000 for Fisheries Information Networks and adopts Senate language regarding the disbursement of funds provided above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level.

Gulf of Mexico Electronic Logbooks.—Senate language and funding levels regarding implementing electronic logbooks in the Gulf of Mexico are adopted.

South Atlantic Reef Fish.—Senate guidance on conducting a fishing gear selectivity study is adopted. Additionally, the agreement provides up to \$1,500,000 to employ the independent and alternative stock assessment strategies directed by the House and Senate for the Gulf of Mexico to supplement NMFS assessments of red snapper in the South Atlantic.

NMFS Quarterly Briefings.—In lieu of House report language regarding quarterly updates on red snapper, the agreement directs NMFS to provide quarterly briefings on relevant operational, regulatory, and policy matters.

Modern Fish Act.—The agreement adopts Senate language on data collection for recreational fisheries and provides no less than \$3,000,000 for these purposes.

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing.—The agreement adopts Senate language regarding IUU fishing. In lieu of the House language regarding the Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP), NOAA shall, in consultation with the Task Force on Human Trafficking in Fishing in International Waters, which was codified in Public Law 115-141, determine any gaps in the Task Force's report regarding the nature and extent of human trafficking and related labor abuses in the commercial seafood supply chain. This study shall identify specific countries and fisheries where such activities are believed to be significant, and shall be provided to the Committees within one year of enactment of this Act. NOAA shall notify the Department of Justice if any gaps are found.

Further, NOAA shall evaluate, within the biannual report to Congress on IUU fishing, SIMP's effectiveness regarding (1) the preservation of stocks of at-risk species around the world and (2) the protection of American consumers from seafood fraud; and, within 180 days of enactment of this Act, shall report to the Committees on the metrics it intends to use for such evaluation.

Highly Migratory Species.—House report language regarding Highly Migratory Species is not adopted.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR).—\$548,384,000 is for OAR Operations, Research, and Facilities.

OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Operations, Research, and Facilities

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Climate Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes.....	\$66,500
Regional Climate Data and Information.....	40,000
Climate Competitive Research.....	63,000
Climate Research.....	169,500
Weather and Air Chemistry Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes.....	82,000
U.S. Weather Research Program.....	23,000
Tornado Severe Storm Research/ Phased Array Radar.....	13,634
Joint Technology Transfer Initiative.....	15,000
Weather and Air Chemistry Research.....	133,634
Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes.....	35,500
National Sea Grant College Program.....	74,000
Marine Aquaculture Program.....	13,000
Ocean Exploration and Research.....	42,000
Integrated Ocean Acidification.....	14,000
Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring.....	45,000
National Oceanographic Partnership Program.....	5,000
Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research.....	228,500
High Performance Computing Initiatives.....	16,750
Total, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	\$548,384

National Climate Assessment (NCA).—The agreement provides no less than \$3,000,000 for the NCA.

Earth's Radiation Budget.—In lieu of House language regarding Earth's radiation budget, the agreement provides no less than \$4,000,000 for modeling, assessments, and, as possible,

initial observations and monitoring of stratospheric conditions and the Earth's radiation budget, including the impact of the introduction of material into the stratosphere from changes in natural systems, increased air and space traffic, proposals to inject material to affect climate, and the assessment of solar climate interventions. Within these funds, the agreement further directs OAR to improve the understanding of the impact of atmospheric aerosols on radiative forcing, as well as on the formation of clouds, precipitation, and extreme weather.

Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program (RISA).—The agreement includes an increase of \$1,500,000 for the RISA Program and adopts the House direction.

U.S. Weather Research Program.—The agreement provides no less than \$8,000,000 for the Earth Prediction Innovation Center and adopts the Senate direction. The agreement also adopts the Administration's request for Airborne Phased Array Radar.

Vortex-Southeast (Vortex-SE).—The agreement provides up to \$10,000,000 for OAR to continue collaborating with the National Science Foundation's Vortex-SE initiative.

Phased Array Radar (PAR).—The agreement adopts Senate language on PAR and provides no less than \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level.

Highly Migratory Species.—The agreement does not adopt Senate language relating to Sea Grant research on highly migratory species, as that work is now underway. Available funds shall be used to support the National Sea Grant College Program base.

Cloud Computing for Research.—The agreement adopts House direction regarding cloud computing and provides no less than \$5,000,000 for that purpose.

NOAA Supercomputing Plan.—The agreement adopts Senate bill language and House report language requiring the development of a supercomputing strategy and cloud computing strategy, respectively, but clarifies that these strategies should be submitted as one report.

National Weather Service (NWS).—\$1,065,701,000 is for NWS Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Operations, Research, and Facilities

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Observations.....	\$229,862
Central Processing.....	97,980
Analyze, Forecast and Support.....	513,556
Dissemination.....	76,843
Science and Technology Integration.....	147,460
 Total, National Weather Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	 \$1,065,701

National Mesonet Program.—The agreement provides \$20,200,000 for the continuation and expansion of the National Mesonet Program. Of the funds provided, up to \$500,000 may be used for Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System activities, and up to \$500,000 may be used for costs associated with the National Mesonet Program Office.

Facilities Maintenance.—In lieu of House language regarding facilities maintenance, NWS is encouraged to continue addressing the highest priority facilities repair and deferred maintenance requirements at Weather Forecast Offices.

Office of Water Prediction (OWP).—The Senate language and funding levels regarding OWP are adopted. Additionally, the agreement provides \$1,500,000 within Dissemination to expeditiously transition the water resources prediction capabilities developed by OWP into operations.

Tsunami Warning Program.—The agreement provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for the Tsunami Warning Program.

National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS).—\$260,739,000 is for NESDIS Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICE

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems	
Office of Satellite and Product Operations.....	\$166,063
Product Development, Readiness and Application.....	28,434
Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs.....	1,800
Office of Space Commerce.....	2,300
Group on Earth Observations	500
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Environmental Satellite Observing Systems.....	199,097
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National Centers for Environmental Information.....	61,642
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Total, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	\$260,739
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Study on Satellite Instrumentation and Data.—Senate report language on satellite instrumentation and data is amended to clarify that the intent is for NOAA and NASA to submit a study that assesses the enumerated purposes in the Senate report at the out-of-band emissions limits agreed to at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2019. Acknowledging NTIA’s role in managing the Federal use of spectrum, but given that NTIA’s Office of Spectrum Management currently has a limited role in reviewing technical studies related to sharing with satellite operations, the Committees direct NOAA to engage with NTIA, as needed, for review of assumptions on the commercial deployment of 5G telecommunications networks over the life of these satellites; analysis methodology; and interference protection criteria; as well as to verify intermediate results.

Mission Support.—\$290,361,000 is for Mission Support Operations, Research, and Facilities.

MISSION SUPPORT
Operations, Research, and Facilities
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Mission Support	
Executive Leadership.....	\$27,078
Mission Services and Management.....	155,934
IT Security.....	15,079
Payment to DOC Working Capital Fund.....	62,070
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Mission Support Services.....	260,161
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Office of Education	
BWET Regional Programs.....	7,750
José E. Serrano Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions.....	17,200
NOAA Education Program Base.....	5,250
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Office of Education.....	30,200
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Total, Mission Support, Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	\$290,361

José E. Serrano Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions.—The agreement provides \$17,200,000 for the José E. Serrano Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions, which has been re-named in honor of Congressman José E. Serrano for his steadfast leadership and support for increasing the participation of underrepresented communities in the sciences.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO).—\$244,415,000 is for OMAO Operations, Research, and Facilities.

OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS

Operations, Research, and Facilities

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Marine Operations and Maintenance.....	\$194,000
Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services.....	37,750
Unmanned Systems Operations.....	12,665
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Total, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	\$244,415

Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services.—The agreement provides no less than \$1,500,000 within Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services to further programs aimed at recruiting and training pilots for service in the Commissioned Officer Corps of NOAA.

Monitoring of Atmospheric Rivers.—The agreement provides no less than \$1,500,000 within Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services to better observe and predict atmospheric rivers.

NOAA Ship Ronald H. Brown Midlife Maintenance.—OMAO is directed to continue its partnership with the academic research fleet to obtain all required engineering and acquisition requirements to initiate a single phase, 12-month midlife maintenance repair period in fiscal year 2021 on the NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown*.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a total program level of \$1,543,890,000 in direct obligations for NOAA Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (PAC), of which \$1,530,890,000 is appropriated from the general fund and \$13,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations. The following narrative and table identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act:

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION and CONSTRUCTION

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
National Ocean Service	
National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction.....	\$4,500
Marine Sanctuaries Construction.....	3,000
Total, NOS – PAC.....	7,500
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research	
Research Supercomputing/CCRI.....	42,000
National Weather Service	
Observations.....	16,250
Central Processing.....	66,761
Dissemination.....	9,934
Weather Forecast Office Construction.....	10,000
Total, NWS – PAC.....	102,945
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service	
GOES R.....	304,056
Polar Weather Satellites.....	745,000
Systems/ Services, Architecture, and Engineering.....	33,990
CDARS.....	11,350
Space Weather Follow-on.....	64,000
Cosmic 2/ GNSS RO.....	5,892
Satellite CDA Facility.....	2,450
Satellite Ground Services.....	55,707
Projects, Planning, and Analysis.....	31,000
Total, NESDIS – PAC.....	1,253,445
Mission Support	
NOAA Construction.....	40,000
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Fleet Capital Improvements and Technology Infusion.....	23,000
New Vessel Construction.....	75,000
Total, OMAO – PAC.....	98,000
Total, Procurement, Acquisition and Construction.....	\$1,543,890

Research Supercomputing.—The agreement directs NOAA to maximize its research supercomputing capacity within available funds. Therefore, 25 percent of funds for OAR Research Supercomputing are to be withheld until NOAA provides the Committees with a detailed spending plan, by project and by object class, for funding provided for Research Supercomputing.

National Weather Service Observations.—The agreement provides the requested amount for the Next Generation Weather Radar and the Automated Surface Observing System Service Life Extension Programs.

NESDIS Reorganization.—The agreement partially approves the proposed NESDIS budget reorganization by creating a new Program, Project, or Activity titled Systems/Services, Architecture, and Engineering (SAE), which includes funding previously provided for System Architecture and Advanced Planning, Satellite Ground Services, and Commercial Weather Data. Senate language on system architecture and advanced planning and commercial weather data is adopted and should be executed using funds provided to SAE. The Committees expect that the SAE portfolio will manage end-to-end space and ground architecture requirements, support early stage ventures, and serve as the single entry point for commercial partners.

Facilities Maintenance.—The agreement provides \$40,000,000 for high priority facilities repair and deferred maintenance requirements, as described in the Senate Report. NOAA shall prioritize infrastructure projects related to Marine Operations.

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Alaska Homeport Study.—Senate report language directing NOAA to complete and submit the NOAA *Fairweather* homeport analysis is not adopted.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

The agreement includes \$65,000,000 for Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery. The agreement adopts the House approach to the allocation of funds to eligible grantees.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

The agreement includes \$349,000 for the Fishermen's Contingency Fund.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement includes language under this heading limiting obligations of direct loans to \$24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and \$100,000,000 for traditional direct loans.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$61,000,000 for Departmental Management (DM) salaries and expenses.

Working Capital Fund (WCF).—The agreement adopts Senate report language on the Working Capital Fund and further requests that the GAO conduct a review of the Department of Commerce's (DOC) WCF. The Committees request that GAO: (1) determine whether the DOC WCF is adhering to key operating principles to ensure the appropriate tracking and use of funds; (2) evaluate how DOC policies and procedures for managing the WCF are meeting these principles; (3) examine the balances accumulated and retained in the DOC WCF; and (4) assess how the DOC WCF and DOC bureaus account for and grade the services they provide and receive, including whether there is any duplication of services.

Office of the Secretary Travel.—House bill language to prohibit travel for personnel within the Office of the Secretary from funds outside of Salaries and Expenses is not adopted. However, to increase transparency regarding the amounts the Department's bureaus contribute toward travel expenses of the Secretary and the Secretary's immediate staff, the agreement directs the Department to provide in its fiscal year 2021 congressional budget justification the estimated total for travel costs outside of the National Capital Region for all personnel within Executive Direction by office, broken down by bureau contributions at the PPA level and any associated authorities that justify why such expenses are not supported through the "Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses" appropriation. As part of the budget justification, the Department shall also include travel costs associated with fiscal years 2019 and 2020. The Department shall also ensure that these costs are clearly identified in future spend plans.

Section 232 Exclusion Process.—The agreement continues to provide funding for the ongoing exclusion process for Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs, including up to \$6,500,000 within BIS, up to \$8,000,000 within ITA, and up to \$1,000,000 within DM. If

additional funding for the exclusion process becomes necessary, the Department shall report to the Committees at least 15 days prior to the obligation of funds above the totals specified herein. Further, the Committees are concerned by the findings presented in the DOC Office of Inspector General (OIG) Management Alert (OIG-20-003-M) regarding the Section 232 exclusion process. Therefore, the agreement directs the Department to brief the Committees, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, on how the process has been reformed in response to the OIG's recommendations.

Space Commerce.—Senate report language on Space Commerce within DM is amended to clarify that the results of the independent review shall be submitted to the Committees, and all relevant authorizing committees, no later than six months after the Secretary enters into a contract with the National Academy of Public Administration. Additionally, the agreement encourages that the costs of the study be shared by DM and NOAA, within funds provided above the fiscal year 2019 level for the Office of Space Commerce within NOAA NESDIS.

Section 232 Automobiles Report.—In lieu of Senate language on Section 232 Investigations, section 112 of this Act requires that the report on the findings of the Section 232 investigation into the effect on national security of automobile and automotive parts imports be published in the Federal Register no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act. In releasing the report, the Secretary of Commerce shall ensure that no confidential business information or proprietary data is included in the version of the report published in the Federal Register.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

The agreement includes a total of \$1,000,000 for the Renovation and Modernization account. The agreement does not adopt House report language on centralizing Departmental salaries and expenses into one appropriation, but reemphasizes House direction for the Department to evaluate how it can best standardize its appropriations in future years, recognizing transparency of total project costs is a priority.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes a total of \$41,858,000 for the Office of Inspector General. This amount includes \$33,000,000 in direct appropriations, a \$2,000,000 transfer from USPTO, a transfer of \$3,556,000 from the Bureau of the Census, Periodic Censuses and Programs, and

\$1,302,000 from NOAA PAC for audits and reviews of those programs. In addition, \$2,000,000 is derived from the Public Safety Trust Fund for oversight of FirstNet.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes the following general provisions for the Department of Commerce:

Section 101 makes funds available for advanced payments only upon certification of officials, designated by the Secretary, that such payments are considered to be in the public interest.

Section 102 makes appropriations for Department of Commerce salaries and expenses available for hire of passenger motor vehicles, for services, and for uniforms and allowances as authorized by law.

Section 103 provides the authority to transfer funds between Department of Commerce appropriation accounts and requires 15 days advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations for certain actions.

Section 104 provides congressional notification requirements for NOAA satellite programs and includes life cycle cost estimates for certain weather satellite programs.

Section 105 provides for reimbursement for services within Department of Commerce buildings.

Section 106 clarifies that grant recipients under the Department of Commerce may continue to deter child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over their networks.

Section 107 provides the NOAA Administrator with the authority to avail NOAA of resources, with the consent of those supplying the resources, to carry out responsibilities of any statute administered by NOAA.

Section 108 prohibits the National Technical Information Service from charging for certain services.

Section 109 allows NOAA to be reimbursed by Federal and non-Federal entities for performing certain activities.

Section 110 provides the Economics and Statistics Administration certain authority to enter into cooperative agreements.

Section 111 establishes a Department of Commerce Nonrecurring Expenses Fund for information and business technology system modernization and makes appropriations for a business application system modernization.

Section 112 provides for the release of a Department of Commerce report.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$114,740,000 for General Administration, Salaries and Expenses.

Responding to Substance Abuse in Our Communities.—The agreement includes a total of \$518,000,000 in dedicated grant program funding, an increase of \$42,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, to help communities and State and local law enforcement fight substance abuse, including opioids, stimulants, and synthetics. Unless otherwise noted, House and Senate report language regarding these programs is maintained. Of this amount, \$180,000,000 is for the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP), of which no less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available for additional replication sites employing the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) model, with applicants demonstrating a plan for sustainability of LEAD-model diversion programs.

In addition, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is funded at \$2,722,295,000, an increase of \$34,592,000 more than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, to strengthen drug trafficking investigations, including those related to heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamines, as well as the continuation of heroin enforcement teams and other interdiction and intervention efforts, including DEA's 360 Strategy.

Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016.—The agreement includes the fully authorized level of \$13,500,000 for DOJ component agencies to implement the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016, as specified in the House report.

Programmatic priorities.—The Department and its component agencies, including those activities funded under General Legal Activities; United States Attorneys; the United States Marshals Service (USMS); the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the DEA; and the Bureau of Prisons, are directed to make

every effort, within the funding provided, to fully support, fund, or otherwise carry out the programs, projects, activities, and initiatives identified as priorities in the House and Senate reports, and to follow House and Senate direction regarding the allocation of increased funding.

Ashanti Alert Act Implementation.—The Department is directed to provide a report to the Committees no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act which details progress on implementation of the Ashanti Alert Act (Public Law 115-401) as well as a final deadline for implementation no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Working Capital Fund and Non-appropriated Fund Budget Request and Expenditure Plans.—DOJ shall include a detailed breakout of all of its non-appropriated funding sources in its future budget requests, as specified in the House report. DOJ shall include in its fiscal year 2020 spending plans for DOJ components details on non-appropriated funds with regard to the Working Capital Fund, retained earnings and unobligated transfers, and civil debt collection proceeds, at the level of detail specified in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6), and in House and Senate reports.

The spending plans should include reports specified in the Senate report regarding Working Capital Fund carryover funds and Three Percent Fund collections and expenditures. DOJ shall continue to report to the Committees quarterly, and monthly where directed, on the collection, balances, and obligation of these funds, as specified in House and Senate reports.

Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) opinions.—In lieu of House report language regarding OLC, the Attorney General is strongly urged to direct OLC to publish all legal opinions and other materials that are appropriate for publication - in particular those materials that are the subject of repeated requests or that may be of public or historical interest.

Animal fighting.—In lieu of House language on animal fighting, the Department shall make it a priority to investigate and prosecute violations of animal welfare laws, as directed in the Senate report and as previously described in Senate Report 114-239 and codified in Public Law 115-31. The Department shall report to the Committees not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act on the specific steps the Department is taking to enforce such laws, including case development and prosecutions based on referrals from the Federal Bureau of

Investigation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Inspector General, and other Federal agencies.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$33,875,000 for Justice Information Sharing Technology.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes \$672,966,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), of which \$4,000,000 is a transfer from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Immigration ~~Examiners~~ Fee Account. The agreement is \$109,559,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request. Within the funding provided, EOIR shall continue all ongoing programs, and shall comply with House and Senate report language that is not explicitly rescinded or amended below.

Examinations

Immigration Adjudication Performance and Reducing Case Backlog.—The Department shall continue efforts to accelerate the hiring and deployment of Immigration Judge (IJ) teams, giving priority to the highest workload areas, and improving coordination with the Department of Homeland Security, to institute fair and efficient court proceedings in detention facilities and ensure court appearances by non-detained individuals. EOIR shall continue to hire the most qualified IJs from a diverse pool of candidates to ensure the adjudication process is impartial and consistent with due process. In lieu of the House language on alternatives to detention programs, the Committees believe that consistent policies regarding docket management and case adjudication will reduce the impending backlog. EOIR is directed to continue to prioritize cases that are scheduled on the detained docket.

EOIR shall continue to submit monthly performance and operating reports detailing the backlog of cases and the hiring of new IJ teams in the same format and detail provided in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6. These reports shall continue to include statistics regarding the number of cases where visa overstay is a relevant factor and the median

days pending for both detained and non-detained cases. These reports shall also list IJs who are temporarily deployed away from their permanent courtrooms, noting the permanent and temporary duty stations of each IJ and the length of such temporary duty assignments. To the extent that EOIR has adopted new performance measures related to the efficient and timely completion of cases and motions, statistics reflecting those measures shall be included in the report. Finally, these reports shall now also include the cost break out for IJ teams, as detailed in the Senate report.

Videoteleconferencing (VTC) Data and Reporting.—The Committees direct EOIR to collect real-time data indicating each time a master calendar or individual merits hearing is conducted via VTC to allow for better statistical data collection to help determine whether VTC has an outcome determinative impact. This information is to be provided in the quarterly reports submitted to the Committees and should include the number and type of hearings conducted by VTC, including data on appeals cases related to the use of VTC, and the number of in-person hearing motions filed. EOIR shall make publicly available all policies and procedures related to EOIR's use of VTC, including policies and procedures for EOIR's new immigration adjudication centers. Any deviations from EOIR's VTC standard policy and procedures shall be noted and justified in the EOIR's quarterly report to the Committees.

Legal Orientation Program (LOP).—The agreement includes \$18,000,000 for services provided by the LOP, of which \$3,000,000 is for the Immigration Help Desk. LOP funding is also provided for LOP for Custodians (LOPC) and the LOPC Call Center, including efforts, pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-457), for custodians of unaccompanied, undocumented children to address the custodian's responsibility for the child's appearance at all immigration proceedings, and to protect the child from mistreatment, exploitation, and trafficking. ~~The Committees direct EOIR to continue all~~ LOP services and activities without interruption, including during any review of the program. shall

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes \$105,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$13,308,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Parole Commission.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

The agreement includes \$920,000,000 for General Legal Activities.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION TRUST FUND

The agreement includes a reimbursement of \$13,000,000 for DOJ expenses associated with litigating cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–660).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

The agreement includes \$166,755,000 for the Antitrust Division. This appropriation is offset by an estimated \$141,000,000 in pre-merger filing fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of \$25,755,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

The agreement includes \$2,254,541,000 for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the 94 United States Attorneys' offices, of which \$25,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

The agreement includes \$227,229,000 for the United States Trustee Program.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

The agreement includes \$2,335,000 for the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

The agreement includes \$270,000,000 for Fees and Expenses of Witnesses.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$16,000,000 for the Community Relations Service.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

The agreement includes \$20,514,000 for the Assets Forfeiture Fund.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$1,430,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the USMS. The agreement clarifies that the Committees support the budget request for the USMS to lead a review of government-wide protective operations in order to help agencies develop their own protective detail standards and best practices. The USMS is directed to submit a report to the Committees detailing the results of this review.

CONSTRUCTION

The agreement includes \$15,000,000 for construction and related expenses in space controlled, occupied, or utilized by the USMS for prisoner holding and related support.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

The agreement includes \$1,867,461,000 for Federal Prisoner Detention.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$110,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Security Division.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

The agreement includes \$550,458,000 for the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Forces, of which \$382,770,000 is for investigations and \$167,688,000 is for prosecutions.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$9,467,902,000 for the salaries and expenses of the FBI, including \$1,744,451,000 for Intelligence, \$3,869,821,000 for Counterterrorism and Counterintelligence, \$3,269,916,000 for Criminal Enterprises and Federal Crimes, and \$583,714,000 for Criminal Justice Services. House report language on gun violence data does not stand.

CONSTRUCTION

The agreement includes \$485,000,000 for FBI construction, which supports the Senate language on 21st Century Facilities and provides funding above the requested level for the FBI to address its highest priorities outside of the immediate national capital area, in addition to resources dedicated to secure work environment projects.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes a direct appropriation of \$2,279,153,000 for the salaries and expenses of the DEA. In addition, DEA expects to derive \$443,142,000 from fees deposited in the Diversion Control Fund to carry out the Diversion Control Program, resulting in \$2,722,295,000 in total spending authority for DEA.

Controlled Substances Act Data Collection and Sharing.—DEA is directed to continue to establish and utilize data collection and sharing agreements with other Federal agencies, and continue to consider other sources of information to properly assess the estimated rates of overdose deaths and abuse and the overall public health impact regarding covered controlled substances as required under section 306(i) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 826(i)).

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, DEA shall submit a report to the Committees regarding the establishment and utilization of such data collection and sharing agreements.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$1,400,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Illegal Firearms.—House report language is not adopted.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$7,470,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Prison System. The Senate report language on the National Institute of Corrections stands.

Federal Correctional Institutions (FCI).—No proposals to close low security FCIs, including associated camps, in fiscal year 2020 are supported by the agreement.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement includes \$308,000,000 for the construction, acquisition, modernization, maintenance, and repair of prison and detention facilities housing Federal inmates, of which \$181,000,000 is included for construction of new facilities.

Modernization and Repair (M&R) of Existing Facilities.—The agreement provides \$127,000,000 for M&R of existing facilities. BOP is directed to prioritize repairs that protect life and safety and is encouraged to prioritize facilities assessed as having deficiencies of a geological and seismic nature. BOP is encouraged to expeditiously develop and execute plans to make repairs without transferring prisoners to other facilities.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

The agreement includes a limitation on administrative expenses of \$2,700,000 for Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

In total, the agreement includes \$3,278,300,000 for State and local law enforcement and crime prevention programs. This amount includes \$3,161,300,000 in discretionary budget authority, of which \$435,000,000 is derived by transfer from the Crime Victims Fund. This amount also includes \$117,000,000 scored as mandatory for Public Safety Officer Benefits.

STOP School Violence.— In lieu of House report language on school design, the Committees encourage the Department to continue its ongoing work with the Departments of Homeland Security and Education through the School Safety Clearinghouse, which facilitates and coordinates interagency efforts to assess and share best practices related to school security resources, technologies, and innovations as well as identify safe school design practices for use by education agencies, law enforcement agencies, schools, architects, and engineers. The agreement includes \$125,000,000 for STOP School Violence grants, and this funding is directed to be distributed for covered purpose areas provided under the STOP School Violence Act of 2018.

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$502,500,000 for the Office on Violence Against Women. These funds are distributed as follows:

INSERT 37A

Restrictions on OVW Grants.—It was incredibly troubling to learn about the new restriction to not fund more than two discretionary awards to one entity as either the lead or sub-recipient grantee as part of OVW's grant solicitations for fiscal year 2020. This change will

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION
PROGRAMS**

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Amount
STOP Grants.....	215,000
Transitional Housing Assistance.....	37,000
Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women.....	2,500
Consolidated Youth-Oriented Program.....	11,500
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies.....	53,000
<i>Homicide Reduction Initiative</i>	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Victims Services.....	38,000
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement.....	43,500
Violence on College Campuses.....	20,000
Civil Legal Assistance.....	46,000
Elder Abuse Grant Program.....	5,000
Family Civil Justice.....	17,000
Education and Training for Disabled Female Victims.....	6,000
National Resource Center on Workplace Responses.....	1,000
Research on Violence Against Indian Women.....	1,000
Indian Country—Sexual Assault Clearinghouse.....	500
Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction.....	4,000
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act.....	1,500
TOTAL, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs...	\$502,500

**GPO: Set,
don't shoot**

severely disadvantage small states; rural communities; tribal communities; and organizations providing services to specialized populations, which could limit access to critical victim services. While the Department has been directed to reduce program duplication, this restriction is not the appropriate way to accomplish that goal, and OVW is directed to rescind this restriction.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

The agreement provides \$79,000,000 for the Research, Evaluation and Statistics account. These funds are distributed as follows:

INSERT 38A

National Center on Forensics.—In lieu of House report language on Forensics, the Department is directed to follow the Senate report language on the National Center on Forensics.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$1,892,000,000 for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance programs. These funds are distributed as follows:

INSERT 38B

INSERT 38C

Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) Programs. — Funding for these programs is outlined in the Anti-Opioid and Substance Abuse Initiative section of the State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance grant table. In lieu of House report language regarding Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is directed to publish how MAT is used in prison-based programs receiving RSAT funds, to include the number of forms of MAT administered. OJP is further directed to provide training and technical assistance to State and local correctional systems on best practices and approaches to enable these facilities to offer more than one form of

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Amount
Bureau of Justice Statistics.....	43,000
National Institute of Justice.....	36,000
<i>Domestic Radicalization Research</i>	(5,000)
<i>Research on School Safety</i>	(1,000)
<i>National Study of Law Enforcement Responses to Sex Trafficking of Minors....</i>	(1,000)
<i>National Center on Forensics</i>	(2,000)
TOTAL, Research, Evaluation and Statistics.....	\$79,000

**GPO: Set,
don't shoot**

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Amount
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants.....	547,210
<i>Officer Robert Wilson III VALOR Initiative</i>	(12,000)
<i>Smart Policing</i>	(7,500)
<i>Smart Prosecution</i>	(8,000)
<i>NamUs</i>	(2,400)
<i>Academic Based Training Program to Improve Police-Based Responses to</i> <i>People with Mental Illness</i>	(2,500)
<i>John R. Justice Grant Program</i>	(2,000)
<i>Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution</i>	(15,500)
<i>Kevin and Avonte's Law</i>	(2,000)
<i>Regional Law Enforcement Technology Initiative</i>	(3,000)
<i>Project Safe Neighborhoods</i>	(20,000)
<i>Drug Field Testing and Training Initiative</i>	(2,000)
<i>Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review</i>	(5,500)
<i>Managed Access Systems</i>	(2,000)
<i>Collaborative Mental Health and Anti-Recidivism Initiative</i>	(1,000)
<i>Presidential Nominating Conventions</i>	(100,000)
<i>Juvenile Indigent Defense</i>	(2,000)
<i>Community Based Violence Prevention</i>	(8,000)
<i>National Center for Restorative Justice</i>	(3,000)
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.....	244,000
Victims of Trafficking Grants.....	85,000
Economic, High-tech, White Collar and Cybercrime Prevention.....	14,000
<i>Intellectual Property Enforcement Program</i>	(2,500)
<i>Digital Investigation Education Program</i>	(2,000)
Adam Walsh Act Implementation.....	20,000
Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program.....	27,500
<i>Transfer to NIST/OLES</i>	(1,500)
National Sex Offender Public Website.....	1,000
National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative.....	78,290
<i>NICS Act Record Improvement Program</i>	(25,000)
Paul Coverdell Forensic Science.....	30,000
DNA Initiative.....	132,000
<i>Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grants</i>	(102,000)
<i>State and Local Forensic Activities</i>	(19,000)
<i>Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grants</i>	(7,000)

**GPO: Set,
don't shoot**

<i>Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants</i>	(4,000)
Community Teams to Reduce the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Backlog.....	48,000
CASA—Special Advocates.....	12,000
Tribal Assistance.....	38,000
Second Chance Act/Offender Reentry.....	90,000
<i>Smart Probation</i>	(6,000)
<i>Children of Incarcerated Parents Demo Grants</i>	(5,000)
<i>Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement</i>	(4,500)
<i>Pay for Success</i>	(7,500)
<i>Pay for Success (Permanent Supportive Housing Model)</i>	(5,000)
Community Trust Initiative.....	67,500
<i>Body Worn Camera Partnership Program</i>	(22,500)
<i>Justice Reinvestment Initiative</i>	(28,000)
<i>Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program</i>	(17,000)
Anti-Opioid and Substance Abuse Initiative	378,000
<i>Drug Courts</i>	(80,000)
<i>Mentally Ill Offender Act</i>	(33,000)
<i>Residential Substance Abuse Treatment</i>	(31,000)
<i>Veterans Treatment Courts</i>	(23,000)
<i>Prescription Drug Monitoring</i>	(31,000)
<i>Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program</i>	(180,000)
Keep Young Athletes Safe Act of 2018.....	2,500
STOP School Violence Act.....	75,000
Emmett Till Grants.....	2,000
<hr/>	
TOTAL, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance.....	\$1,892,000

**GPO: Set,
don't shoot**

MAT. Other House and Senate direction for programs under the Anti-Opioid and Substance Abuse Initiative stand.

Strategic Mobile and Response Teams (SMART).—In lieu of House language on SMART, the Department is directed to provide the briefing as directed in House Report 115–704 and codified in Public Law 116-6 on the opportunity to conduct pilot programs to implement SMART at the Southwest Border.

National Center for Restorative Justice.—It is noted that the funding, and direction provided in Senate report language, have moved from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to the Bureau of Justice Assistance as NIJ was unable to properly manage this program.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

The agreement includes \$320,000,000 for Juvenile Justice programs. These funds are distributed as follows:

INSERT 39A

Missing and Exploited Children Programs. —Direction in both House and Senate reports on Missing and Exploited Children Programs stands with the exception that the Department is directed to distribute the increased amount proportionally among Missing and Exploited Children programs, excluding research and technical assistance activities.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$141,800,000 for the Public Safety Officer Benefits program for fiscal year 2020.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$343,000,000 for Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs, as follows:

INSERT 39B

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Amount
Part B—State Formula Grants.....	63,000
<i>Emergency Planning—Juvenile Detention Facilities</i>	(500)
Youth Mentoring Grants.....	97,000
Title V—Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants.....	42,000
<i>Prevention of Trafficking of Girls</i>	(2,000)
<i>Tribal Youth</i>	(5,000)
<i>Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal</i>	(500)
<i>Girls in the Justice System</i>	(2,000)
<i>Opioid Affected Youth Initiative</i>	(10,000)
<i>Children Exposed to Violence</i>	(8,000)
Victims of Child Abuse Programs.....	27,000
Missing and Exploited Children Programs.....	87,500
Training for Judicial Personnel.....	3,500
TOTAL, Juvenile Justice	\$320,000

**GPO: Set,
don't shoot**

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Amount
COPS Hiring Grants.....	235,000
<i>Tribal Resources Grant Program</i>	(27,000)
<i>Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance</i>	(6,500)
<i>Regional Information Sharing Activities</i>	(38,000)
<i>Tribal Access Program</i>	(3,000)
<i>Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act</i>	(5,000)
POLICE Act.....	10,000
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces.....	13,000
Anti-Heroin Task Forces.....	35,000
STOP School Violence Act.....	50,000
 TOTAL, Community Oriented Policing Services.....	 \$343,000

**GPO: Set,
don't shoot**

Law Enforcement Training. — The agreement supports the House report language on law enforcement training and encourages the COPS Office to make grant funding available for diversity and inclusion training to organizations with experience in training law enforcement personnel and criminal justice professionals as part of Community Development Policing awards. (TR)

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes the following general provisions for the Department of Justice:

Section 201 makes available additional reception and representation funding for the Attorney General from the amounts provided in this title.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds to pay for an abortion, except in the case of rape or incest, or to preserve the life of the mother.

Section 203 prohibits the use of funds to require any person to perform or facilitate the performance of an abortion.

Section 204 establishes that the Director of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) is obliged to provide escort services to an inmate receiving an abortion outside of a Federal facility, except where this obligation conflicts with the preceding section.

Section 205 establishes requirements and procedures for transfer proposals.

Section 206 prohibits the use of funds for transporting prisoners classified as maximum or high security, other than to a facility certified by the BOP as appropriately secure.

Section 207 prohibits the use of funds for the purchase or rental by Federal prisons of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment, services and materials used primarily for recreational purposes, except for those items and services needed for inmate training, religious, or educational purposes.

Section 208 requires review by the Deputy Attorney General and the Department Investment Review Board prior to the obligation or expenditure of funds for major information technology projects.

Section 209 requires the Department to follow reprogramming procedures prior to any deviation from the program amounts specified in this title or the reuse of specified deobligated funds provided in previous years.

Section 210 prohibits the use of funds for A-76 competitions for work performed by employees of BOP or Federal Prison Industries, Inc.

Section 211 prohibits U.S. Attorneys from holding additional responsibilities that exempt U.S. Attorneys from statutory residency requirements.

Section 212 permits up to 2 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to the OJP to be used for training and technical assistance and permits up to 2 percent of grant funds made available to that office to be used for criminal justice research, evaluation and statistics by the NIJ and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Section 213 gives the Attorney General the authority to waive matching requirements for Second Chance Act adult and juvenile reentry demonstration projects; State, tribal, and local reentry courts; and drug treatment programs.

Section 214 waives the requirement that the Attorney General reserve certain funds from amounts provided for offender incarceration.

Section 215 prohibits funds, other than funds for the national instant criminal background check system established under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, from being used to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to a known or suspected agent of a drug cartel where law enforcement personnel do not continuously monitor or control such firearm.

Section 216 places limitations on the obligation of funds from certain Department of Justice accounts and funding sources.

Section 217 allows certain funding to be made available for use in Performance Partnership Pilots.

Section 218 restates authority related to the Debt Collection Management (“three percent”) Fund, and requires the DOJ to notify the Committees of any transfers from the fund, in compliance with section 505 of this Act.

Section 219 increases the threshold for balances in the United States Trustee System Fund.

TITLE III SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The agreement includes \$5,544,000 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

Research Integrity.—The agreement directs OSTP, as part of its coordinated assessment on current risks and threats to research integrity as directed by the Senate report, to also incorporate and apply the findings of the National Science Foundation JASON study to better protect the merit review system and for grantee institutions to maintain balance between openness and security of scientific research.

NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

The agreement includes \$1,965,000 for the activities of the National Space Council.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The agreement includes \$22,629,000,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

INSERT 43A

SCIENCE

The agreement includes \$7,138,900,000 for Science.

Earth Science.—The agreement includes \$1,971,800,000 for Earth Science and adopts all funding levels designated by the House and the Senate, except as follows.

Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud ocean Ecosystem (PACE).—The agreement includes \$131,000,000 for PACE.

Climate Absolute Radiance and Refractivity Observatory (CLARREO).—The agreement includes \$26,000,000 for CLARREO.

Deep Space Climate Observatory (DSCOVR).—The agreement includes \$1,700,000 for DSCOVR.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Amount
Science	
Earth Science.....	\$1,971,800
Planetary Science.....	2,713,400
Astrophysics.....	1,306,200
James Webb Space Telescope.....	423,000
Heliophysics.....	724,500
Total, Science.....	7,138,900
Aeronautics.....	783,900
Space Technology.....	1,100,000
Exploration	
Exploration Systems Development.....	4,582,600
Orion Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle.....	1,406,700
Space Launch System (SLS) Vehicle Deployment.....	2,585,900
Exploration Ground Systems.....	590,000
Exploration Research and Development.....	1,435,000
Advanced Exploration Systems.....	245,000
Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities.....	600,000
Gateway.....	450,000
Human Research Program.....	140,000
Total, Exploration.....	6,017,600
Space Operations.....	4,140,200
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement	
NASA Space Grant.....	48,000
EPSCoR.....	24,000
Minority University Research Education Project	36,000
STEM Education and Accountability Projects.....	12,000
Total, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement.....	120,000
Safety, Security and Mission Services.....	2,913,300
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration.....	373,400
Office of Inspector General.....	41,700
Total, NASA.....	\$22,629,000

Venture Class Missions.—The agreement includes \$200,000,000 for Venture Class Missions.

Earth Science Research and Analysis.—The agreement directs no less than \$25,000,000 above the requested level for Earth Science Research and Analysis.

Planetary Science.—The agreement includes \$2,713,400,000 for Planetary Science. The agreement modifies House and Senate language regarding the Europa Clipper and Lander missions to reflect launch dates of 2025 for the Clipper and 2027 for the Lander. The agreement includes up to \$300,000,000 for the Lunar Discovery and Exploration program, and up to \$170,000,000 for Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS).

Discovery missions.—The agreement provides up to \$190,400,000 for Discovery missions.

New Frontiers.—The agreement includes up to \$502,700,000 for New Frontiers missions.

Mission to Detect, Track, and Characterize Near Earth Objects (NEO).—While NASA has discontinued efforts on the proposed Near-Earth Object Camera (NEOCam) mission, the agency has continued work with the NEOCam team on a more cost-effective space-based NEO survey mission to fulfill its obligations under the George E. Brown, Jr., Near-Earth Object Survey Act (P.L. 109-155), known as the Space-Based Infra-Red NEO Surveillance System. Within the Planetary Defense funding provided, the agreement includes \$35,600,000 for further development of the NEO Surveillance mission.

Icy Satellites Surface Technology.—The agreement includes up to \$37,800,000 above the requested level for Icy Satellites Surface Technology.

James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).—The agreement includes \$423,000,000 for JWST. The agreement also includes a general provision to maintain the development cost cap for JWST at \$8,802,700,000. NASA and its contractors should strictly adhere to this cap.

Astrophysics.—The agreement includes \$1,306,200,000 for Astrophysics.

Astrophysics Research.—The agreement includes up to \$250,700,000 for Astrophysics Research.

Hubble Space Telescope.—The agreement includes \$90,800,000 for the Hubble Space Telescope.

Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA).—The agreement includes \$85,200,000 for SOFIA’s ongoing scientific mission.

Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST).—The agreement includes no less than \$510,700,000 for WFIRST. Within this total, the agreement also includes up to \$65,000,000 for coronagraph technology development. The agreement emphasizes and reiterates Senate language regarding cost overruns, schedule delays, and adherence to the \$3,200,000,000 cost cap.

Heliophysics.—The agreement includes \$724,500,000 for Heliophysics.

AERONAUTICS

The agreement includes \$783,900,000 for Aeronautics.

Aerosciences Evaluation and Test Capabilities (AETC).—The agreement consolidates and includes full funding for AETC within Aeronautics, as opposed to consolidation within Safety, Security, and Mission Services as recommended in the House report.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

The agreement includes \$1,100,000,000 for Space Technology.

Regional Economic Development Program.—The agreement includes up to \$8,000,000 for the Regional Economic Development Program. NASA is encouraged to expand the program to all 50 states.

Nuclear Thermal Propulsion.—The agreement provides \$110,000,000 for the development of nuclear thermal propulsion, of which not less than \$80,000,000 shall be for the design of a flight demonstration by 2024 for which a multi-year plan is required by both the House and the Senate, within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Restore-L/SPace Infrastructure DExterous Robot (SPIDER).—Senate and House report language regarding Restore-L is adopted. Restore-L will carry the SPace Infrastructure DExterous Robot (SPIDER) as a secondary payload, and the combined Restore-L/SPIDER

mission plans to demonstrate both satellite servicing and in-space robotic manufacturing technologies. Thus, the agreement combines funding for these efforts and provides \$227,200,000 for Restore-L/SPIDER with no less than \$180,000,000 for Restore-L activities.

Solar Electric Propulsion.—The agreement includes up to \$48,100,000 for Solar Electric Propulsion activities.

Flight Opportunities Program.—The agreement includes no less than \$25,000,000 for the Flight Opportunities Program, of which \$5,000,000 is dedicated for competitively-selected opportunities in support of payload development and flight of K-12 and collegiate educational payloads.

Advanced Technologies to Support Air Revitalization Initiative.—The agreement addresses Advanced Technologies to Support Air Revitalization Initiative within the Exploration account.

EXPLORATION

The agreement includes \$6,017,600,000 for Exploration.

Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle.—The agreement includes \$1,406,700,000 for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle.

Space Launch System (SLS).—The agreement includes \$2,585,900,000 for the Space Launch System (SLS). NASA is reminded that section 70102 of title 51, United States Code, explicitly authorizes the use of the SLS for, among other purposes, payloads and missions that contribute to extending human presence beyond low-Earth payloads and missions that would substantially benefit from the unique capabilities of the SLS, and other compelling circumstances, as determined by the Administrator. orbit

Exploration Upper Stage.—The agreement includes \$300,000,000 for the Exploration Upper Stage and directs that it be developed simultaneously with the SLS core stage, to be used to the maximum extent practicable, including for Earth to Moon missions and a Moon landing, as directed in the House report.

Exploration Ground Systems.—In lieu of direction in the House and Senate reports, the agreement includes \$590,000,000 for Exploration Ground Systems.

Second Mobile Launch Platform (MLP-2).— In lieu of the House report language, the agreement includes no less than the request for MLP-2. Current funds for construction are believed to be sufficient for ongoing MLP-2 work which was contracted by NASA on July 25, 2019.

Exploration Research and Development.—The agreement includes \$1,435,000,000 for Exploration Research and Development, and directs that of that amount, \$450,000,000 is for Gateway, \$600,000,000 is for Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities, \$140,000,000 is for the Human Research Program, and \$245,000,000 is for Advanced Exploration Systems.

Lunar Lander Development.—Senate report language regarding Lunar Lander Development is expanded to direct NASA to prioritize the selection of proposals that emphasize designs which reduce risk to schedule and engineering, and, above all, life.

Advanced Technologies to Support Air Revitalization Initiative.—In lieu of the House report language in Space Technology, the agreement provides up to \$3,500,000 for NASA's Advanced Technologies to Support Air Revitalization Initiative.

SPACE OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$4,140,200,000 for Space Operations, including \$15,000,000 for commercial low Earth orbit (LEO) development, as recommended by the Senate.

NASA's Existing Communications Network and Infrastructure.—The fiscal year 2020 President's request includes \$3,000,000 for a new Communication Services Program. The agreement includes up to \$3,000,000 for these activities to explore the feasibility of using commercial communications services for low Earth orbit applications, but does not establish a new program office. It is noted that any transition would not occur until at least 2030, and that any transition or purchase of services would require approval and funding in future appropriations acts.

LEO

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS ENGAGEMENT

The agreement includes \$120,000,000 for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement.

Space Grant Program.—The agreement includes \$48,000,000 for the Space Grant Program; directs that these amounts be allocated to State consortia for competitively awarded grants in support of local, regional, and national STEM needs; and directs that all 52 participating jurisdictions be supported at no less than \$760,000 each.

Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).—The agreement includes \$24,000,000 for EPSCoR.

Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP).—The agreement includes \$36,000,000 for MUREP.

STEM Education and Accountability Projects (SEAP).—The agreement includes \$12,000,000 for the SEAP.

Museums and Planetariums.—No less than \$5,000,000 is provided for the Competitive Program for Science Museums, Planetariums, and NASA Visitor Centers within SEAP, and NASA is encouraged to follow the program's authorized purpose.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

The agreement includes \$2,913,300,000 for Safety, Security and Mission Services.

Challenger Center for Space Science Education Trust.—In tribute to the dedicated crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger, P.L. 100-404 established a trust fund known as the "Science, Space, and Technology Education Trust Fund." There is concern with the continuing lack of availability of investment interest received from the Trust Fund for quarterly disbursements to the Challenger Center for Space Science Education. The agreement directs NASA to work with the Office of Management and Budget to secure the release of amounts previously withheld from the Trust Fund that were intended to support the continuity of the Trust Fund. NASA should work with the Department of the Treasury Fiscal Service to invest the Trust Fund corpus in par-value securities, as may be necessary, to ensure that NASA continues to meet the mandate to

provide a minimum of \$1,000,000 in annual payments to the Challenger Center for Space Science Education from interest earned.

AETC.—The agreement addresses the AETC in the Aeronautics account.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

The agreement includes \$373,400,000 for Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration. Included in this amount is no less than \$130,500,000 for NASA's three highest priority institutional construction of facilities projects. The agreement also includes the request for Construction of Facilities for Science, Exploration, and Space Operations.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes \$41,700,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement directs that not more than 40 percent of the amounts made available in this Act for the Gateway; Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities; Commercial LEO Development; and Lunar Discovery and Exploration, excluding the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, may be obligated until the Administrator submits a multi-year plan.

The agreement also permits a transfer of funds from Exploration to Construction.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The agreement includes \$8,278,330,000 for the National Science Foundation (NSF).

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The agreement includes \$6,737,200,000 for Research and Related Activities, including \$190,000,000 for EPSCoR. The agreement reiterates House and Senate report language

regarding support for existing NSF research and research infrastructure and clarifies that this language excludes funding allocated in fiscal year 2019 for one-time upgrades or refurbishments.

Artificial Intelligence (AI).—The agreement provides no less than the requested level for AI activities across NSF.

U.S. Neutron Monitor Network.—The agreement adopts Senate report language regarding the network, except that NSF shall submit the required report in coordination with NASA and NOAA. It is noted that a multi-agency arrangement is in place to provide for the continuous operation of the Global Oscillation Network Group solar telescope network. NSF and its partner agencies are encouraged to consider a similar solution for neutron monitors.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Excellence in Research Program.—The agreement includes \$18,000,000 for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Excellence in Research program.

Innovation Corps.—The agreement provides an increase of \$5,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for the Innovation Corps program and encourages NSF to facilitate greater participation in the program from academic institutions in States that have not previously received awards.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

The agreement includes \$243,230,000 for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction, including \$65,000,000 for Mid-scale research infrastructure.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

The agreement includes \$940,000,000 for Education and Human Resources, including no less than \$75,000,000 for the Advanced Technological Education program; no less than \$35,000,000 for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program; \$47,500,000 for Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; \$15,000,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program; and \$67,000,000 for the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program.

Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).—The agreement provides \$45,000,000 for the HSI program and adopts Senate report language regarding capacity building at institutions of higher education that typically do not receive high levels of NSF funding.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

The agreement includes \$336,900,000 for Agency Operations and Award Management.

NSF Reprogramming Notification.—In lieu of the Senate report language regarding the funding threshold for submission of reprogramming notifications, the agreement directs NSF to continue its current practice of using the longstanding funding threshold of \$500,000 for reprogramming notifications.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

The agreement includes \$4,500,000 for the National Science Board.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes \$16,500,000 for the Office of Inspector General including additional resources to meet new and increasing investigative workloads.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a provision that describes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds and a provision requiring notification at least 30 days in advance of the divestment of certain assets.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$10,500,000 for the Commission on Civil Rights.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$389,500,000 for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$99,400,000 for the International Trade Commission.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

The agreement includes \$440,000,000 for the Legal Services Corporation.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$3,616,000 for the Marine Mammal Commission.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

The agreement includes a total of \$69,000,000 for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR).

De Minimis Thresholds.—The Committees recognize the importance of securing commercially meaningful de minimis or “duty-free” thresholds in other countries, and strongly support the \$800 de minimis level established in the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement

Act (TFTEA) and the higher de minimis levels in Canada and Mexico secured by USTR through the negotiation of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$54,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of USTR.

TRADE ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$15,000,000, which is to be derived from the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund, for trade enforcement activities and transfers authorized by the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$6,555,000 for the State Justice Institute.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes the following general provisions:

Section 501 prohibits the use of funds for publicity or propaganda purposes unless expressly authorized by law.

Section 502 prohibits any appropriation contained in this Act from remaining available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly provided.

Section 503 provides that the expenditure of any appropriation contained in this Act for any consulting service through procurement contracts shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law or existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

Section 504 provides that if any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of this Act and the application of other provisions shall not be affected.

Section 505 prohibits a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employee; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs, or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments funds for existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

Section 506 provides that if it is determined that any person intentionally affixes a “Made in America” label to any product that was not made in America that person shall not be eligible to receive any contract or subcontract with funds made available in this Act. The section further provides that to the extent practicable, with respect to purchases of promotional items, funds made available under this Act shall be used to purchase items manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States or its territories or possessions.

Section 507 requires quarterly reporting to Congress on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 508 provides that any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions in this Act, or, for the Department of Commerce, from actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property, shall be absorbed within the budgetary resources available to the department or agency, and provides transfer authority between appropriation accounts to carry out this provision, subject to reprogramming procedures.

Section 509 prohibits funds made available in this Act from being used to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products or to seek the reduction or removal of foreign restrictions on the marketing of tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type. This provision is not intended to impact routine international trade services to all U.S. citizens, including the processing of applications to establish foreign trade zones.

Section 510 stipulates the obligations of certain receipts deposited into the Crime Victims Fund.

Section 511 prohibits the use of Department of Justice funds for programs that discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students participating in such programs.

Section 512 prohibits the transfer of funds in this agreement to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except for transfers made by, or pursuant to authorities provided in, this agreement or any other appropriations Act.

Section 513 requires certain timetables of audits performed by Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation and the Legal Services Corporation and sets limits and restrictions on the awarding and use of grants or contracts funded by amounts appropriated by this Act.

Section 514 prohibits funds for acquisition of certain information systems unless the acquiring department or agency has reviewed and assessed certain risks. Any acquisition of such an information system is contingent upon the development of a risk mitigation strategy and a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered under section 514 shall submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations describing reviews and assessments of risk made pursuant to this section and any associated findings or determinations.

Section 515 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

Section 516 prohibits the use of funds to include certain language in trade agreements.

Section 517 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to authorize or issue a National Security Letter (NSL) in contravention of certain laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue NSLs.

Section 518 requires congressional notification for any project within the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Science Foundation, or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration totaling more than \$75,000,000 that has cost increases of 10 percent or more.

Section 519 deems funds for intelligence or intelligence-related activities as authorized by the Congress until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019.

2020

Section 520 prohibits contracts or grant awards in excess of \$5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies that the organization has filed all Federal tax returns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has no unpaid Federal tax assessment.

(RESCISSIONS)

Section 521 provides for rescissions of unobligated balances. Subsection (d) requires the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and NASA, to submit a report on the amount of each

rescission. These reports shall include the distribution of such rescissions among decision units, or, in the case of rescissions from grant accounts, the distribution of such rescissions among specific grant programs, and whether such rescissions were taken from recoveries and deobligations, or from funds that were never obligated. Rescissions shall be applied to discretionary budget authority balances that were not appropriated with emergency or disaster relief designations.

Section 522 prohibits the use of funds in this Act for the purchase of first class or premium air travel in contravention of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Section 523 prohibits the use of funds to pay for the attendance of more than 50 department or agency employees, who are stationed in the United States, at any single conference outside the United States, unless the conference is: (1) a law enforcement training or operational event where the majority of Federal attendees are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States, or (2) a scientific conference for which the department or agency head has notified the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that such attendance is in the national interest, along with the basis for such determination.

Section 524 requires any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track and report on undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

Section 525 requires, when practicable, the use of funds in this Act to purchase light bulbs that have the “Energy Star” or “Federal Energy Management Program” designation.

Section 526 prohibits the use of funds by NASA, OSTP, or the National Space Council (NSC) to engage in bilateral activities with China or a Chinese-owned company or effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at certain facilities unless the activities are authorized by subsequent legislation or NASA, OSTP, or NSC have made a certification pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

Section 527 prohibits the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network that does not block pornography, except for law enforcement and victim assistance purposes.

Section 528 requires the departments and agencies funded in this Act to submit spending plans.

Section 529 prohibits funds to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance or performance that fails to meet the basic requirements of the contract.

Section 530 prohibits the use of funds by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration in contravention of a certain section of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Section 531 prohibits the Department of Justice from preventing certain States from implementing State laws regarding the use of medical marijuana.

Section 532 requires quarterly reports from the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation of travel to China.

Section 533 requires 10 percent of the funds for certain programs be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties.

Section 534 includes language regarding detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Section 535 includes language regarding facilities for housing detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Section 536 limits formulation and development costs for the James Webb Space Telescope.

Section 537 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to require certain export licenses.

Section 538 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to deny certain import applications regarding "curios or relics" firearms, parts, or ammunition.

Section 539 prohibits funds from being used to deny the importation of shotgun models if no application for the importation of such models, in the same configuration, had been denied prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

Section 540 prohibits the use of funds to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

INSERT 58A-58P

58A

(Amounts in thousands)

TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Operations and administration.....	495,000	471,096	521,250	+26,250	+50,154
Offsetting fee collections.....	-11,000	-11,000	-11,000	---	---
Direct appropriation.....	484,000	460,096	510,250	+26,250	+50,154

Bureau of Industry and Security

Operations and administration.....	79,050	87,652	87,652	+8,602	---
Defense function.....	39,000	40,000	40,000	+1,000	---
Total, Bureau of Industry and Security.....	118,050	127,652	127,652	+9,602	---

Economic Development Administration

Economic Development Assistance Programs.....	285,000	---	292,500	+27,500	+292,500
Salaries and expenses.....	39,000	29,950	40,500	+1,500	+10,550
Total, Economic Development Administration.....	304,000	29,950	333,000	+29,000	+303,050

Minority Business Development Agency

Minority Business Development.....	40,000	10,000	42,000	+2,000	+32,000
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March 2020

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

(Amounts in thousands)

58B

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Economic and Statistical Analysis					
Salaries and expenses.....	101,000	107,990	107,990	+6,990	---
Bureau of the Census					
Current Surveys and Programs.....	270,000	264,005	274,000	+4,000	+9,995
Periodic censuses and programs.....	3,551,388	5,885,400	4,784,319	+1,232,931	-1,101,081
2020 Census (H. Res. 293; HR 2021).....	---	---	2,500,000	+2,500,000	+2,500,000
Subtotal.....	3,551,388	5,885,400	7,284,319	+3,732,931	+1,398,919
Total, Bureau of the Census.....	3,821,388	6,149,405	7,558,319	+3,736,931	+1,408,914
National Telecommunications and Information Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	39,500	42,441	40,441	+941	-2,000
United States Patent and Trademark Office					
Salaries and expenses, current year fee funding.....	3,370,000	3,450,681	3,450,681	+80,681	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-3,370,000	-3,450,681	-3,450,681	-80,681	---
Total, United States Patent and Trademark Office	---	---	---	---	---

March 2020

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
National Institute of Standards and Technology					
Scientific and Technical Research and Services.....	724,500	611,719	754,000	+29,500	+142,281
(transfer out).....	(-9,000)	(-9,000)	(-9,000)	---	---
Industrial Technology Services.....	155,000	15,172	162,000	+7,000	+146,828
(manufacturing extension partnerships).....	(140,000)	---	(146,000)	(+6,000)	(+146,000)
National Network for Manufacturing Innovation.....	(15,000)	(15,172)	(16,000)	(+1,000)	(+828)
Construction of research facilities.....	106,000	40,690	118,000	+12,000	+77,310
(Legislative Proposal).....	---	288,000	---	---	-288,000
Working Capital Fund (by transfer).....	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	---	---
Total, National Institute of Standards and Technology.....	985,500	955,581	1,034,000	+48,500	+78,419
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration					
Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	3,596,997	3,058,383	3,763,939	+166,942	+705,556
(by transfer).....	(157,980)	(158,407)	(174,774)	(+16,794)	(+16,367)
Promote and Develop Fund (transfer out).....	(-157,980)	(-158,407)	(-174,774)	(-16,794)	(-16,367)
Subtotal.....	3,596,997	3,058,383	3,763,939	+166,942	+705,556

March 2020

58 C

58 D

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction.....	1,755,349	1,406,236	1,530,890	-224,459	+124,654
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery.....	65,000	---	65,000	---	+65,000
Fishermen's Contingency Fund.....	349	349	---	---	---
Fishery Disaster Assistance.....	15,000	---	---	-15,000	---
Fisheries Finance Program Account.....	-8,000	-8,000	-8,000	---	---
Total, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.....	5,424,695	4,456,968	5,352,178	-72,517	+895,210
Departmental Management					
Salaries and expenses.....	63,000	79,107	61,000	-2,000	-18,107
Renovation and Modernization.....	---	1,100	1,000	+1,000	-100
Office of Inspector General.....	32,744	33,043	33,000	+256	-43
Public Safety Trust Fund transfer.....	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
Department of Commerce Nonrecurring Expenses Fund.....	---	22,000	20,000	+20,000	-2,000
Total, Departmental Management.....	95,744	135,250	115,000	+19,256	-20,250
Total, title I, Department of Commerce.....	11,413,877	12,475,333	15,220,830	+3,806,953	+2,745,497
(by transfer).....	168,980	169,407	185,774	+16,794	+16,367
(transfer out).....	-168,980	-167,407	-183,774	-16,794	-16,367

March 2020

(Amounts in thousands)

58 E

TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

General Administration

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Salaries and expenses.....	113,000	114,740	114,740	+1,740	---
Justice Information Sharing Technology.....	32,000	33,875	33,875	+1,875	---
Total, General Administration.....	145,000	148,615	148,615	+3,615	---
Executive Office for Immigration Review.....	563,407	672,966	672,966	+109,559	---
Transfer from immigration examinations fee account.....	-4,000	-4,000	-4,000	---	---
Direct appropriation.....	559,407	668,966	668,966	+109,559	---
Office of Inspector General.....	101,000	101,646	105,000	+4,000	+3,354
United States Parole Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	13,000	13,308	13,308	+308	---
Legal Activities					
Salaries and expenses, general legal activities.....	904,000	927,453	920,000	+16,000	-7,453
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.....	10,000	13,000	13,000	+3,000	---
Salaries and expenses, Antitrust Division.....	164,977	166,755	166,755	+1,778	---
Offsetting fee collections - current year.....	-136,000	-141,000	-141,000	-5,000	---

March 2020

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020

58 F

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Direct appropriation.....	28,977	25,755	25,755	-3,222	---
Salaries and expenses, United States Attorneys.....	2,212,000	2,254,541	2,254,541	+42,541	---
United States Trustee System Fund.....	226,000	227,229	227,229	+1,229	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-360,000	-309,000	-309,000	+51,000	---
Direct appropriation.....	-134,000	-81,771	-81,771	+52,229	---
Salaries and expenses, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.....	2,409	2,335	2,335	-74	---
Fees and expenses of witnesses.....	270,000	270,000	270,000	---	---
Salaries and expenses, Community Relations Service.....	15,500	---	16,000	+500	+16,000
Assets Forfeiture Fund.....	20,514	20,514	20,514	---	---
Total, Legal Activities.....	3,329,400	3,431,827	3,440,374	+110,974	+8,547
United States Marshals Service					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,358,000	1,373,416	1,430,000	+72,000	+56,584
Construction.....	15,000	14,971	15,000	---	+29
Federal Prisoner Detention.....	1,552,397	1,867,461	1,867,461	+315,064	---
Total, United States Marshals Service.....	2,925,397	3,255,848	3,312,461	+387,064	+56,613
National Security Division					
Salaries and expenses.....	101,369	109,585	110,000	+8,631	+415

March 2020

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

(Amounts in thousands)

586

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Interagency Law Enforcement					
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement.....	560,000	550,458	550,458	-9,542	---
Federal Bureau of Investigation					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,729,250	3,755,738	3,841,128	+111,878	+85,390
Counterintelligence and national security.....	5,462,887	5,501,689	5,626,774	+163,887	+125,085
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	9,192,137	9,257,427	9,467,902	+275,765	+210,475
Construction.....	385,000	51,895	485,000	+100,000	+433,105
Total, Federal Bureau of Investigation.....	9,577,137	9,309,322	9,952,902	+375,765	+643,580
Drug Enforcement Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,687,703	2,722,295	2,722,295	+34,592	---
Diversion control fund.....	-420,703	-443,142	-443,142	-22,439	---
Total, Drug Enforcement Administration.....	2,267,000	2,279,153	2,279,153	+12,153	---
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program.....	---	254,000	---	---	-254,000

March 2020

58 H

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Beau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,316,678	1,368,440	1,400,000	+83,322	+31,560
Federal Prison System					
Salaries and expenses.....	7,250,000	7,061,953	7,470,000	+220,000	+408,047
Buildings and facilities.....	284,000	99,205	308,000	+44,000	+208,795
Limitation on administrative expenses, Federal Prison					
Industries, Incorporated.....	2,700	2,700	2,700	---	---
Total, Federal Prison System.....	7,516,700	7,163,858	7,780,700	+264,000	+616,842
State and Local Law Enforcement Activities					
Office on Violence Against Women:					
Prevention and prosecution programs.....	---	---	---	---	---
(by transfer).....	(497,500)	---	(435,000)	(-62,500)	(+435,000)
Crime Victims Fund (transfer out).....	(-497,500)	---	(-435,000)	(+62,500)	(-435,000)
Violence Against Women Prevention & Prosecution					
Programs	---	---	67,500	+67,500	+67,500

March 2020

58 I

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Justice Programs:					
Research, evaluation and statistics.....	80,000	94,500	79,000	-1,000	-15,500
State and local law enforcement assistance.....	1,723,000	1,482,200	1,892,000	+169,000	+409,800
Juvenile justice programs.....	287,000	238,500	320,000	+33,000	+81,500
Public safety officer benefits:					
Death benefits.....	104,000	117,000	117,000	+13,000	---
Disability and education benefits.....	24,800	24,800	24,800	---	---
Subtotal.....	128,800	141,800	141,800	+13,000	---
Total, Office of Justice Programs.....	2,218,800	1,957,000	2,432,800	+214,000	+475,800
Community Oriented Policing Services:					
COPS programs.....	303,500	---	343,000	+39,500	+343,000
Total, State and Local Law Enforcement Activities.....	2,522,300	1,957,000	2,843,300	+321,000	+886,300
Total, title II, Department of Justice.....	30,934,388	30,612,026	32,605,237	+1,670,849	+1,993,211

58 J

(Amounts in thousands)

TITLE III - SCIENCE

March 2020

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Science and Technology Policy.....	5,544	5,000	5,544	---	+544
National Space Council.....	1,965	1,870	1,965	---	+95
National Aeronautics and Space Administration					
Science.....	6,905,700	6,393,700	7,138,900	+233,200	+745,200
Aeronautics.....	725,000	666,900	783,900	+58,900	+117,000
Space Technology.....	926,900	---	1,100,000	+173,100	+1,100,000
Exploration Technology.....	---	1,146,300	---	---	-1,146,300
Exploration.....	5,050,800	---	6,017,600	+966,800	+6,017,600
Deep Space Exploration Systems.....	---	6,396,400	---	---	-6,396,400
Space Operations.....	4,639,100	---	4,140,200	-498,900	+4,140,200
LEO and Spaceflight Operations.....	---	4,285,700	---	---	-4,285,700
Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics Engagement.....	110,000	---	120,000	+10,000	+120,000

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Safety, Security and Mission Services.....	2,755,000	3,084,600	2,913,300	+158,300	-171,300
Construction and environmental compliance and restoration.....	348,200	600,400	373,400	+25,200	-227,000
Office of Inspector General.....	39,300	41,700	41,700	+2,400	---
Total, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.....	21,500,000	22,615,700	22,629,000	+1,129,000	+13,300
National Science Foundation					
Research and related activities.....	6,449,000	5,591,960	6,666,200	+217,200	+1,074,240
Defense function.....	71,000	71,000	71,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	6,520,000	5,662,960	6,737,200	+217,200	+1,074,240
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction...	295,740	223,230	243,230	-52,510	+20,000
Education and Human Resources.....	910,000	823,470	940,000	+30,000	+116,530
Agency Operations and Award Management.....	329,540	336,890	336,900	+7,360	+10
Office of the National Science Board.....	4,370	4,100	4,500	+130	+400
Office of Inspector General.....	15,350	15,350	16,500	+1,150	+1,150
Total, National Science Foundation.....	8,075,000	7,066,000	8,278,330	+203,330	+1,212,330
Total, title III, Science.....	29,582,509	29,688,570	30,914,839	+1,332,330	+1,226,269

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

58 K

(Amounts in thousands)

58 L

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES					
Commission on Civil Rights					
Salaries and expenses.....	10,065	9,200	10,500	+435	+1,300
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	379,500	355,800	389,500	+10,000	+33,700
International Trade Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	95,000	91,100	99,400	+4,400	+8,300
Legal Services Corporation					
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation.....	415,000	18,200	440,000	+25,000	+421,800
Marine Mammal Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,516	2,449	3,616	+100	+1,167
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative					
Salaries and expenses.....	53,000	59,000	54,000	+1,000	-5,000
Trade Enforcement Trust Fund.....	15,000	10,000	15,000	---	+5,000

March 2020

United States Marine Fisheries Commission

(Amounts in thousands)

58M

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
State Justice Institute					
Salaries and expenses.....	5,971	6,555	6,555	+584	---
Total, title IV, Related Agencies.....	977,052	552,304	1,018,571	+41,519	+466,267
TITLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Crime Victims Fund (transfer out) (Sec. 510).....	---	---	---	---	---
Department of Justice OIG (by transfer).....	---	---	---	---	---
DOC National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Innovation Program (rescission).....	-2,000	---	---	+2,000	---
Economic Development Assistance Programs (rescission), NOAA, Fisheries, Enforcement Asset Forfeiture Funds (rescission).....	-10,000	-35,000	-17,000	-7,000	+18,000
DOC International Trade Administrations, Operations and Administrations Program (rescission).....	---	---	-5,000	-5,000	-5,000
DOJ, Working Capital Fund (rescission).....	-151,000	-3,000	---	---	+3,000
DOJ, Assets Forfeiture Fund (rescission, permanent)...	-674,000	-100,000	-107,000	+44,000	-7,000
FBI, Salaries and Expenses:					
nondefense (rescission).....	-50,439	-24,342	-29,200	+21,239	-4,858
defense (rescission).....	-73,887	-35,658	-42,774	+31,113	-7,116
FBI Construction (rescission).....	---	-159,000	---	---	+159,000
Federal Prison System, Buildings and Facilities (rescission).....	---	-505,000	---	---	+505,000
Violence against women prevention and prosecution					

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Programs (rescission).....	-10,000	---	---	+10,000	---
Office of Justice programs (rescission).....	-70,000	-85,000	-70,000	---	+15,000
COPES (rescission).....	-16,500	---	-13,000	+3,500	-13,000
NASA closeouts (rescission).....	-3,000	---	---	+3,000	---
NASA Science (rescission).....	---	---	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000
DEA salaries & expenses (rescission).....	---	---	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000
Total, title V, General Provisions.....	-1,060,826	-947,000	-363,974	+696,852	+583,026

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR
DISASTER RELIEF ACT, 2019 (P.L. 116-20)

Economic Development Administration

Economic Development Assistance Program (emergency)...	600,000	---	---	-600,000	---
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Operations, Research and Facilities (emergency).....	120,570	---	---	-120,570	---
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (emergency)...	25,000	---	---	-25,000	---
Fishery Disaster Assistance (emergency).....	150,000	---	---	-150,000	---
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE					
U.S. Marshals Service: salaries and expenses (emergency).....	1,336	---	---	-1,336	---
Federal Prison System: buildings and facilities (emergency).....	28,400	---	---	-28,400	---
Related Agencies					

U.S. Marine Fisheries Commission

58 N

580

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation (emergency)...	15,000	---	---	-15,000	---
Total, Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019.....	940,306	---	---	-940,306	---
EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND SECURITY AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER ACT, 2019 (P.L. 116-26)					
Department of Justice: Executive Office of Immigration Review (emergency).....	65,000	---	---	-65,000	---
United States Marshal Service: Federal Prisoner Detention (emergency).....	155,000	---	---	-155,000	---
Total, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance and Security at the Southern Border Act, 2019.....	220,000	---	---	-220,000	---
Total, Other Appropriations.....	1,160,306	---	---	-1,160,306	---

58P

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Grand total.....	73,007,306	72,381,233	79,395,503	+6,388,197	+7,014,270
Appropriations.....	(72,907,826)	(73,325,233)	(77,259,477)	(+4,351,651)	(+3,934,244)
Recessions.....	(-1,060,826)	(-944,000)	(-363,974)	(+696,852)	(+580,026)
Emergency appropriations.....	(1,160,306)	---	---	(-1,160,306)	---
Consensus Cap Adjustment.....	---	---	(2,500,000)	(+2,500,000)	(+2,500,000)
(by transfer).....	666,480	169,407	620,774	-45,706	+451,367
(transfer out).....	-664,480	-167,407	-618,774	+45,706	-451,367

116TH CONGRESS }
1st Session } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
116–101

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2020

JUNE 3, 2019.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. SERRANO, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3055]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in
explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal
year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee has jurisdiction over a diverse group of agencies responsible for promoting economic development; researching climate change and mitigating its impacts; combating violent crime, cybercrime, financial fraud, terrorism, espionage, and drug trafficking; addressing gun violence; promoting criminal justice reform; ensuring access to justice; enforcing trade laws; conducting periodic censuses; forecasting the weather; managing fisheries; exploring space; and advancing science. The activities of these agencies impact every American and are integral to the operations of our government.

The bill provides a total of \$73,895,000,000 in discretionary budget authority for fiscal year 2020. Within the level of funds provided, the bill prioritizes funding for the Constitutionally-required 2020 Decennial Census as well as for numerous other important public investments.

The bill provides a solid down payment toward the nation's infrastructure improvement needs by investing \$540 million in the Economic Development Administration (EDA), an increase of \$236 million above fiscal year 2019, including strong increases for EDA's Public Works program and other EDA programs. These funds provide the foundation for future growth in jobs and our standard of living.

The bill helps expand economic growth in other ways. The recommendation includes a funding increase of ten percent for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program, which helps small- and medium-sized U.S. manufacturers create jobs and expand business growth opportunities. A solid 7.1 percent increase in funding is provided for the International Trade Administration, to create jobs by expanding U.S. exports and fighting the unfair trade practices of other countries. A ten percent increase is provided for the Minority Business Development Agency, which helps create jobs and expand business growth opportunities among minority-owned U.S. companies. Furthermore, the full budget request of \$3,450,681,000 is provided for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), to enable PTO to promote innovation in the United States by protecting our Nation's intellectual property rights both at home and abroad.

The bill also ensures responsible investments in the future of our Nation's economy and workforce by providing strong increases for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), and funding to initiate EDA's newly-authorized STEM Apprenticeship Pilot Program to create and expand STEM apprenticeships and other workforce training models.

The bill prioritizes the Decennial Census by providing a strong funding increase to enable the Census Bureau to conduct a thorough and accurate 2020 Census that counts all persons, as required by the Constitution. Funding is included to enable responsible project management and strong cybersecurity protection for all aspects of the 2020 Census, as the Bureau mounts its largest-ever deployment of information technology resources throughout the coun-

try. The funding will also enable the Bureau to conduct a strong partnership and communications campaign to help maximize the number of persons filling out their census forms and minimize the need for costly follow-up activity by Census enumerators.

The bill provides strong and responsible funding increases for critical efforts to better understand, and prepare for, the Earth's changing climate. Significant funding increases are provided for NASA Earth Science activities as well as for climate research activities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Both areas have been targeted by the Administration for large funding cuts. The recommendation also doubles funding for NOAA's Title IX National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund, from \$30 million in fiscal year 2019 to \$60 million in this bill. This competitive grant program funds natural infrastructure solutions to help protect coastal areas threatened by rising sea level and other impacts of climate change. The recommendation also includes solid funding increases for NOAA's Coastal Zone Management grant program, and to enhance the National Weather Service's ability to accurately forecast extreme weather events.

The bill provides substantial resources to address the opioid epidemic. To assist State and local governments, the bill provides \$501,000,000, an increase of \$33,000,000 over fiscal year 2019, for grants authorized by the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act and other opioid-related activities. For Federal law enforcement, the bill provides strong increases for U.S. Attorneys, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and other Federal law enforcement entities, including increases for the Drug Enforcement Administration and for Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement to enhance Federal law enforcement's ability to investigate and prosecute traffickers in opioids and other dangerous drugs.

The bill provides strong increases for State and local law enforcement assistance. For programs funded under the Violence Against Women Act, the bill provides \$582,500,000, an increase of \$85,000,000 above fiscal year 2019. For school safety, the bill provides \$125,000,000, an increase of \$25,000,000 over the current year, to fund the STOP School Violence Act of 2018. In addition, the bill increases funding for other activities that will address school violence such as active shooter training for police, youth mentoring, and violent crime and gang reduction programs. The bill also fully funds the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and provides an increase for grants to help States improve their submissions into the NICS system.

The bill affirms a strong commitment to the civil rights of all Americans by providing strong increases for the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice as well as for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Funding is also included in support of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-325) to investigate and prosecute previously unresolved civil rights era "cold case" murders suspected of having been racially motivated, through a partnership among the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, the Civil Rights Unit of the FBI, the Community Relations Service, State and local law enforcement officials, and other eligible entities.

The recommendation makes a strong commitment to ensuring access to justice for all Americans by providing \$550,000,000 for the

Legal Services Corporation, an increase of \$135,000,000 above fiscal year 2019.

The recommendation includes \$75,000,000, as authorized under the First Step Act of 2018, to expand and develop opportunities for incarcerated individuals to participate in evidence-based, recidivism-reducing programming and productive activities.

For NASA, the bill includes \$22,315,000,000, which is an increase of \$815,000,000 above fiscal year 2019, including strong funding levels for NASA's science, human exploration, space technology, aeronautics research, and STEM Education programs, many of which were targeted for reduction or elimination in the Administration's budget request.

The recommendation makes other strong investments in science as well, providing \$8,636,141,000 for the National Science Foundation, an increase of more than \$560,000,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$751,000,000 for scientific and technical research and services of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, an increase of \$26.5 million above fiscal year 2019.

OVERSIGHT AND BUDGET REVIEW

In furtherance of the Committee's oversight responsibilities and to protect hard-earned taxpayer dollars, the Committee has included language that:

- Withholds a portion of funds for Department of Commerce, Departmental Management until a Census Bureau information technology investment plan is updated and submitted.
- Caps total life-cycle costs for programs that have a record of poor performance.
- Prohibits funding for the National Technical Information Service to charge customers for a copy of a document generated by the Legislative Branch unless the customer is informed how to receive an electronic copy free online.
- Prohibits the Executive Office for Immigration Review from using case completion quotas in immigration judge performance evaluations.
- Maintains limitations on the Department of Justice's use of non-appropriated funds, including the Working Capital Fund and the Assets Forfeiture Fund.
- Requires quarterly reporting of unobligated balances.
- Requires agencies procuring sensitive information technology systems to conduct supply chain risk assessments.
- Requires contractors and grantees receiving more than \$5,000,000 to certify that they are not delinquent on their Federal taxes.
- Prohibits funds from being used to purchase first class and premium airline travel.
- Limits the number of agency staff who can attend overseas conferences.
- Requires agencies to track undisbursed grant balances.
- Requires agencies to submit spending plans for the Committee's review.
- Requires agencies to notify the Committee of project cost overruns and mitigation plans.
- Requires agency computer networks to block pornography.

Paper Reduction Efforts.—The Committee urges the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Science Foundation, and NASA to work with the Office of Management and Budget to reduce printing and reproduction costs and directs each agency to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the steps it has taken to achieve this goal. The report should specifically identify how much funding each agency expects to save by implementing these measures.

Performance Measures.—The Committee directs each of the agencies funded by this Act to comply with title 31 of the United States Code, including the development of their organizational priority goals and outcomes such as performance outcome measures, output measures, efficiency measures, and customer service measures. The Committee directs all agencies funded by this Act to report on their implementation plans for these measures within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Customer Service.—The Committee continues to support efforts to improve customer service in accordance with Executive Order 13571—Streamlining Service Delivery and Improving Customer Service. The Committee directs all agencies funded by this Act to develop standards to improve customer service and incorporate the standards into the performance plans required under 31 U.S.C. 1115. The Committee directs all agencies funded by this Act to report on their implementation plans regarding this subject no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

Federal Advertising.—The Committee understands that, as the largest advertiser in the United States, the Federal Government should work to ensure fair access to its advertising contracts for small disadvantaged businesses and businesses owned by minorities and women. The Committee directs each of the agencies funded by this Act to include the following information in its fiscal year 2021 budget justification: Expenditures for fiscal year 2019 and expected expenditures for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, respectively, for (1) all contracts for advertising services; and (2) contracts for the advertising services of all Small Business Administration-recognized socioeconomic subcategory-certified small businesses, as defined in the Small Business Act, and minority-owned businesses.

Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency.—The Committee notes the importance of ensuring access to Federal services and programs for all persons with limited English proficiency. Therefore, the Committee directs agencies and programs funded in this Act to comply fully with the requirements of Executive Order 13166, “Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency,” and on an ongoing basis, review and improve their efforts to provide meaningful access to the programs, services, and information they provide.

REPROGRAMMING PROCEDURES

Section 505 of the bill contains language concerning the reprogramming of funds between programs, projects, and activities. The Committee reminds the departments and agencies funded in this bill that the reprogramming process is based on comity between the Congress and the Executive Branch. This process is intended to provide departments and agencies enough flexibility to meet changing circumstances and emergent requirements not

known at the time of congressional review of the budget while preserving congressional priorities and intent. In the absence of comity and respect for the prerogatives of the Appropriations Committees and the Congress in general, the Committee may opt to include specific program limitations and details in legislation and remove language providing the flexibility to reallocate funds. Under these circumstances, programs, projects, and activities become absolutes and the Executive Branch shall lose the ability to propose changes in the use of appropriated funds except through legislative action.

Each department and agency funded in this bill shall follow the directions set forth in this bill and the accompanying report and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. Reprogramming procedures shall apply to funds provided in this bill, unobligated balances from previous appropriations Acts that are available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2020, and non-appropriated resources such as fee collections that are used to meet program requirements in fiscal year 2020. As specified in section 505, the Committee expects that the Appropriations Subcommittees on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the House and Senate will be notified by letter a minimum of 15 days prior to any reprogramming of funds that—

- (1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity;
- (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
- (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;
- (4) relocates an office or employees;
- (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs, or activities;
- (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;
- (7) augments existing programs, projects, or activities more than \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or
- (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress.

Any reprogramming request shall include any out-year budgetary impacts and a separate accounting of program or mission impacts on estimated carryover funds. The Committee further expects any department or agency funded in this bill that plans a reduction-in-force to notify the Committee by letter at least 30 days in advance of the date of any such planned personnel action.

RELATIONSHIP WITH BUDGET AND COMPTROLLER OFFICES

Through the years the Appropriations Committee has channeled most of its inquiries and requests for information and assistance through the budget offices or comptroller organizations of the various departments, agencies, and commissions. Such relationships are necessary to accomplish the work of the Committee. While the Committee reserves the right to call upon all organizations in the departments, agencies and commissions for information and assistance, the primary contact between the Committee and these entities must be through the budget offices and comptroller organizations, or through a legislative affairs unit designated by the Committee to work on appropriations and budget matters.

The workload generated in the budget process is large and growing; therefore, a positive, responsive relationship between the Committee and the budget and/or comptroller offices is essential for the Committee to fulfill the Constitutional appropriations responsibilities of Congress.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee recommends \$530,000,000 in total resources for the programs of the International Trade Administration (ITA), which is \$35,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$58,904,000 above the request. This amount is offset by \$11,000,000 in estimated fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of \$519,000,000, which is broken out in additional detail below. The recommendation fully supports the staffing requirements requested to help ITA provide critical expertise in both trade promotion and facilitation as well as enforcement. The Committee rejects the proposed \$3,000,000 rescission from ITA's unobligated balances.

Industry and Analysis.—The recommendation provides \$62,571,000 for Industry and Analysis, which is \$10,020,000 above fiscal year 2019. The recommendation includes \$3,000,000 for the Survey of International Air Travelers (SIAT).

Enforcement and Compliance.—The recommendation funds Enforcement and Compliance at \$94,844,000, which is \$6,344,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$1,000,000 above the requested amount to support an increase to ITA's proposed Anti-Circumvention and Evasion Unit above the request. Duty circumvention and evasion schemes used by some foreign exporters and U.S. importers directly harm the U.S. manufacturing, agricultural, and aquaculture sectors. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reports there are approximately 54,704 unpaid anti-dumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) bills covering the period from fiscal year 2011 through 2016, totaling \$2.8 billion in uncollected duties. As this new unit is established, the Committee directs ITA to work with its partner agencies that share a vested interest in combatting trade fraud and evasion to supplement its staffing needs. ITA is directed to provide quarterly briefings on its ongoing enforcement efforts to the Committee, specifically on AD/CVD casework.

Global Markets.—The recommendation provides \$338,635,000 for Global Markets, \$60,653,000 above the request and rejects the Administration's proposal to reduce export promotion and trade analysis efforts. The Committee looks forward to receiving the report on the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service as directed in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–6. The Committee directs ITA to continue this report for fiscal year 2020 and include additional analysis on the location of, and services provided by, the U.S. Export Assistance Centers in relation to the location of small- and medium-sized enterprises that are exporters or potential exporters of products or services. The updated report shall identify those centers that serve disproportionately large numbers of small-

and medium-sized enterprises. The Committee expects this report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Executive Direction and Administration.—The recommendation provides \$22,950,000 for Executive Direction and Administration.

Human Rights Violations.—The Committee is concerned with violence and threats shown towards human rights activists around the world, and notes some of this has occurred in nations with which the United States has trade agreements with enforceable protections. The Committee encourages the ITA to more actively engage with trade partner nations to end these human rights violations.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee recommends \$127,652,000 for the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) as requested and \$9,602,000 above fiscal year 2019. Within the amount provided \$6,244,000 is for Management and Policy Coordination; \$69,126,000 is for Export Administration; and, \$52,282,000 is for Export Enforcement, including the full requested amount for the Office of Antiboycott Compliance.

The funds provided directly support BIS' staffing needs in Export Administration to support an increased caseload following the passage of the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act (FIRRMA) in 2018, which expanded the purview of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) and potentially quadruples the workload as compared to fiscal year 2019. Funding will also enable BIS to undertake increased responsibilities following the passage of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (ECRA) and fulfill its role in the identification and control of emerging and foundational technologies.

The Committee has heard concerns about how exclusions under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 have been implemented. The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the status of imports under the quota exclusions. Further, the Committee directs the Department to continue its quarterly reporting on the Section 232 exclusion process as described in the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–6.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

The Committee rejects the proposal to terminate the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and instead recommends \$540,000,000 for the programs and administrative expenses of the EDA.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Committee provides \$498,350,000 for the Economic Development Assistance Programs account for grants to economically distressed areas. The Committee notes with deep concern the increasing levels of inequality in the Nation and sees EDA as a critical tool in ensuring a good job with a living wage for all Americans no matter where they live. As such, the Committee expects EDA to work more closely with communities that are underserved, be they

in rural areas, impoverished neighborhoods of the biggest cities, or the forgotten corners of the Nation's territories. The Committee is particularly focused on communities that are experiencing economic transitions, including, but not limited to, communities impacted by the decline of the coal and nuclear industries as well as the shrinking manufacturing sector. The Committee also appreciates EDA's diligence in delivering economic assistance to areas of the Nation that have been impacted by recent disasters and urges continued focused attention on providing this aid.

Funds are to be distributed as follows; any deviation of funds shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act:

Public Works	\$250,000,000
Partnership Planning	\$35,000,000
Technical Assistance	\$12,750,000
Research and Evaluation	\$1,600,000
Trade Adjustment Assistance	\$15,000,000
Economic Adjustment Assistance	\$97,000,000
Assistance to Coal Communities	\$35,000,000
Regional Innovation Program	\$30,000,000
Assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities	\$17,000,000
STEM Apprenticeship Pilot Program	\$5,000,000
Total	\$498,350,000

Assistance to Coal Communities.—The recommendation includes \$35,000,000 for Assistance to Coal Communities, which represents an increase of \$5,000,000 above the amount provided in fiscal year 2019. The Committee continues to be concerned about the impact of the downturn in the coal industry and directs EDA to continue implementing this program consistent with direction provided in fiscal year 2019. EDA shall continue to report to the Committee on its efforts to assist coal communities. The report shall include detailed information on how EDA and other Federal agencies have assisted coal communities to date and how the Federal Government plans to assist them in the future.

The Committee further recognizes that abandoned coal-fired plants in coal communities must transition to new uses to return the sites to beneficial use. These plants often sit at key infrastructure choke points and could serve a variety of purposes to reinvigorate communities struggling to reinvent these industrial assets. The Committee therefore encourages EDA to prioritize projects to repurpose abandoned coal-fired plants.

Public Works.—The Committee provides \$250,000,000 for Public Works, which is \$132,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level. The Committee encourages EDA to prioritize projects that are resilient to the changing climate as well as those that incorporate green infrastructure solutions.

Regional Innovation Program.—The Committee encourages EDA to support the development of regional innovation clusters that focus on advanced wood products, which are a growing source of jobs in rural America and contribute to rural economic development. An initiative that successfully increased demand for wood products would also address several key land management priorities, including reducing forest treatment costs and wildfire risks. The Committee also urges EDA to invest in university based, high tech business incubators to encourage entrepreneurship and pro-

mote technology commercialization through business startups. Furthermore, this activity should support private-public partnerships for economic growth and job creation in areas of high unemployment.

Nuclear Power Plant Closures.—The Committee notes that closures of nuclear power plants throughout the United States have had a significant impact on the economic foundations of surrounding communities through sudden job losses and a dramatic reduction to the local tax base. Additional plant closures are expected throughout the country in the coming years. The Committee appreciates the work EDA has undertaken to assist such communities in prior years and provides \$17,000,000 for competitive economic adjustment assistance to expand these efforts, which shall include, but not be limited to, public works investments and economic diversification initiatives in communities impacted by recent or scheduled nuclear power plant closures. The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the status of these efforts.

STEM Apprenticeship Pilot Program.—The Committee notes that over the past decade, the growth in the number of jobs requiring sophisticated science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills was three times faster than growth in non-STEM jobs. Yet, U.S. employers have struggled to fill jobs in these fields. Because more than 50 percent of jobs that require STEM skills do not require a bachelor's degree, nontraditional higher education, such as apprenticeships, will be instrumental in meeting the urgent demand for a STEM-literate workforce. Therefore, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 to establish a STEM Apprenticeship Pilot Program to provide grants to create and expand STEM apprenticeship and other workforce training models, as directed in section 312 of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (Public Law 114–329). The Committee further directs EDA to provide an implementation plan to the Committee which details the proposed launch of this pilot program within 90 days of enactment of this Act and prior to effectuating this plan.

Persistent Poverty.—The Committee is concerned that pockets of high poverty in urban areas are often overlooked by the Federal Government because, in the aggregate, their need is often masked by their affluent neighbors. For purposes of this Act, the term “high-poverty area” means any census tract with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent as measured by the 2013–2017 5-year data series available from the American Community Survey of the Census Bureau and the term “persistent poverty counties” means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. When scoring competitive grant applications, EDA is directed to add additional priority, where practicable, to applications from grantees who can demonstrate that the individuals who will benefit from such grants reside in high-poverty areas or persistent poverty counties. In addition, EDA shall provide guidance to such prospective grantees, especially prior to their application submissions, including to help determine whether they qualify for additional priority. The Committee further directs the Department to submit a report to the Committee on the percentage of

funds allocated by each program in fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019 and estimates for fiscal year 2020 to serve populations living in persistent poverty counties and high-poverty areas. The Department shall report this information to the Committee within 90 days of such data being available and provide a briefing to the Committee not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on how the Department is carrying out this directive.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The recommendation includes \$41,650,000 for EDA salaries and expenses.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The recommendation includes \$44,000,000 for the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), an increase of \$4,000,000 over fiscal year 2019. MBDA is the only Federal agency dedicated to promoting the growth of minority-owned firms and assists small, medium, and large minority business enterprises to expand business opportunities and create jobs. MBDA is directed to allocate most of its total appropriation, including most of its increase above fiscal year 2019, toward cooperative agreements, external awards, and grants, including not less than \$11,500,000 to continue MBDA's traditional Business Center program and Specialty Project Center program. Within the increased funds, the Committee encourages MBDA to expand the number of Business Centers, with priority given to States according to their relative percentage of minority residents. Further, within the overall amount provided, the recommendation includes funding for MBDA to continue to carry out the duties assigned in the Native American Business Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-464).

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends the requested amount of \$107,990,000 for the Economics and Statistics Administration, \$6,990,000 above fiscal year 2019. The recommendation consolidates the industry economic account within the national economic account to support the Bureau of Economic Analysis' (BEA) effort to harmonize the national, State, and industry release of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data. Further, the Committee directs BEA to report to the Committee, no later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, on the status of BEA's efforts to develop and begin reporting on income growth indicators by 2020, as referenced in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116-6.

The Committee applauds BEA's analysis of the impact of outdoor recreation on the U.S. economy and continues funding at no less than the amount spent in fiscal year 2019 for the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account (ORSA) and directs the Department to continue working with the outdoor recreation industry, nongovernmental organizations, and other interested stakeholders to refine the national-level statistics and develop regional statistics. Addi-

tional guidance related to the ORSA is provided under Departmental Management.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

The Committee recommends a total of \$8,450,000,000 for the Bureau of the Census, which is \$4,628,612,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$2,300,595,000 above the request. The decennial census provides Congress with important information about our nation's growth and changes over the previous decade, and there is only one opportunity to make sure it is done right and that all are equally counted and represented. The recommendation allows the Census Bureau to carry out its constitutional mandate without the added concern of not having the resources it needs during its peak operational year due to the Administration's wholly inadequate budget request.

Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.—The Committee directs the Census Bureau to include all citizens of the United States, including those in Puerto Rico and other offshore jurisdictions, in its estimates of U.S. resident population and other national statistics. The Committee looks forward to receiving the Bureau's analysis of the feasibility of including Puerto Rico in additional Census surveys and within Bureau of Justice Statistics data products as directed in House Report 115–704 and recommends the Bureau include cost estimates as part of this study.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Population Data Collection.—The Committee applauds the Census Bureau for taking an important step by including the marital status of same-sex couples as part of the 2020 Decennial Census. The Committee recognizes that the Census Bureau began collecting this information in 2013 in the American Community Survey. However, the fact remains that little else is known about the social and economic circumstances of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) population at large. The Committee believes this information would be useful to policymakers and researchers alike and therefore directs the Census Bureau, within the amounts provided, to study the feasibility of expanding data collection on the LGBT population in its future Federal population surveys and to report to the Committee no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on its revised data collection plans.

Language Assistance.—The Committee remains concerned about the availability of data on small population groups and the availability of language assistance for respondents to the Census surveys, including those who speak Asian languages, Pacific Islander languages, American Indian and Alaska Native languages, African languages, Spanish, and other languages. The Committee directs Census to provide an updated report within 60 days of the enactment of this Act, identifying the languages spoken by respondent populations most in need of language assistance, along with the availability of interviewers and materials for persons speaking these languages, and the steps the Bureau will take to reach these respondents and otherwise ensure the availability and accuracy of data for small population groups. The Bureau is directed to communicate this information on a regular basis to Census Telephone Centers and regional offices to address emerging needs.

CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

The Committee recommends \$275,000,000 for Current Surveys and Programs, which is \$5,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$10,995,000 above the request.

Current Economic Statistics.—The recommendation provides the requested level of \$185,283,000 to support Census programs that provide critical data to both public and private stakeholders about the structure and function of the U.S. economy in areas of business, construction, manufacturing, and general economic statistics including e-commerce that ultimately lead to a more precise measure of the Nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Current Demographic Statistics.—The recommendation provides \$89,717,000 for these programs that local governments rely on to monitor social and economic changes within the population to aid decision making. The recommendation restores funding to continue the level of effort for the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) at the fiscal year 2018 level to ensure statistically reliable estimates, and fully supports the Census Bureau's efforts to evaluate and improve the supplemental poverty measure.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends a total of \$8,175,000,000 for Periodic Censuses and Programs, which is \$4,623,612,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level and \$2,289,600,000 above the request. Bill language withholding the availability of funds until the delivery of the Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing (CEDCaP) spend plan is included under Departmental Management to ensure continuity in operations for the Census Bureau during peak operations. The recommendation provides for a transfer of \$3,556,000 to the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General (OIG) for oversight and auditing of the Census Bureau.

Demographic Statistics Programs.—The recommendation includes \$7,801,453,000 to support the 2020 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey.

2020 Decennial Census.—The decennial census is a cornerstone of our Constitution and vital tool to not only apportion congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, but also to help Congress make better-informed decisions on how to fairly distribute over \$675 billion in annual Federal funds including, community development block grants, homeland security grants, funding for first responders, special education, rural business enterprise grants, and much more. The 2020 Census is expected to be the largest and most technologically advanced census in its 230-year history as it embraces new technology and data collection methods. For the first time, households will have multiple options to fill out their census form including online, over the phone, or in the traditional paper format. While the Committee embraces the Bureau's efforts to modernize the 2020 Census, it expects the Bureau to continue to focus on serving communities without reliable broadband services and households lacking Internet access or familiarity.

In fiscal year 2018, Congress included approximately \$1.1 billion above the President's fiscal year 2018 request towards 2020 preparation activities to ensure a smooth transition through the fiscal

year into fiscal year 2019. This foresight proved vital during the longest partial government shutdown in U.S. history as the Census Bureau was able to maintain 2020 Census operations uninterrupted throughout the continuing resolution and the funding lapse. While the Committee recognizes there is prior-year funding available, the Administration's assumption that approximately \$1.02 billion of this funding will remain available to offset fiscal year 2020 costs is disingenuous and appears to rely on the assumption that Congress will supplement its budget needs when it becomes evident the President's request is inadequate. The Committee does not intend to put the 2020 Census at risk during the most critical year of its operation.

The Committee includes half of the proposed carryover back into the base budget for 2020 response operations and Information Technology (IT) infrastructure requirements. Further, the Committee provides a total of \$496,265,000 for the program management of the 2020 Census and encourages the Census to expeditiously hire current vacancies highlighted by GAO to ensure proper oversight of the IT systems conducting the 2020 Census. The Committee rejects the Administration's proposed \$30,764,000 reduction to the Census Survey and Engineering activities, which is needed to manage the continued delivery of systems needed to meet 2020 performance and scalability requirements. Additionally, the Committee restores the "Secretarial Contingency" originally submitted by the Secretary of Commerce in 2017 as part of the updated 2020 Census lifecycle cost estimate. The Committee believes having adequate contingency funding for many of the unknown variables that the Census Bureau will likely encounter throughout the remainder of calendar year 2019 and into 2020 will enable Census to address emergent concerns quickly and without additional congressional action. To that end, the Committee recommendation also includes an additional \$220,000,000 above the request to its risk-based contingency and a \$500,000,000 increase from its requested amount for non-response follow-up activities to ensure that the Census Bureau can employ an aggressive follow-up strategy if the self-response rate drops lower than anticipated or the amount for which it has budgeted for.

As the Census Bureau prepares for its inaugural year with an online decennial portal, the Committee recognizes that the Bureau may be more susceptible to cyberattacks by nefarious actors who may wish to undermine the 2020 Decennial Census statistics or interfere with participant self-response. The recommendation includes an additional \$253,000,000 in contingency funds for Census IT infrastructure consistent with the Department's 2017 lifecycle cost estimate. The Committee understands that the Census Bureau is actively working with the Cyber Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) under the Department of Homeland Security as well as private stakeholders who specialize in cyber security. The Committee directs the Bureau to brief the Committee quarterly on actions taken to protect the security of the online platform as well as personal data beginning no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act.

While the Committee remains hopeful that individuals will elect to self-respond to the decennial survey, the 2020 Census faces many hurdles with hard-to-reach communities. The Committee has

previously directed the Bureau to prioritize a strong engagement strategy with partners and trusted voices in the community. The Committee recommends the Census Bureau take steps to develop the Mobile Response Initiative as described in the Bureau's report to the Committee on increasing the number of temporary Census offices and partnership staff to support the 2020 Census. The Committee supports such initiatives and encourages the Census Bureau to concentrate its efforts in hard to count communities and work with State, local, and tribal partners to identify locations for the Mobile Response Initiative to target. To that end, the Committee provides an additional \$100,000,000 above the request towards these efforts.

An additional challenge the Census Bureau faces is public perception of its intended use of the data it collects. In January 2019, the Census released the *2020 Census Barriers, Attitudes, and Motivators Study (CBAMS) Focus Group Final Report* that provides a summary of feedback among individuals who are at risk of low self-response, including but not limited to racial and ethnic minorities. The report concluded that many of these participants felt they were politically targeted and conveyed a palpable fear that the government would use their census information against them. Many participants have an overwhelmingly negative perception of the citizenship question itself, which strongly affects their willingness to participate. The Committee stresses the importance of non-response follow-up fieldwork to ensure every person is counted, especially those historically inclined to not respond or difficult to identify and locate, including those with limited access to internet or broadband infrastructure. The Committee directs the Census Bureau to continue its outreach and collaboration with community partner advocates to ensure the most accurate count possible.

The Committee recognizes the Census Bureau's efforts to increase language assistance for the 2020 Census by more than doubling the amount of languages supported both through telephonic support and in its advertising materials as compared to 2010. Additionally, in 2020 the Census Bureau will include 59 non-English languages, including braille, to its language guides. The Census Bureau is encouraged to continue establishing key partnerships and hire those with language skills outside of those languages covered through telephonic support for the 2020 Census.

The Committee remains concerned that the 2020 Census is a Government Accountability Office (GAO) high-risk area as Census Day approaches, with GAO recommendations remaining open to: (1) ensure key innovations will function as planned; (2) strengthen the management and oversight of all IT programs, systems, and contractors supporting the decennial; (3) better address its cybersecurity weaknesses identified by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); and (4) refine reliable cost estimates. To aid the Committee in its oversight function, the Bureau shall continue its quarterly updates to the Committee on the status of implementing GAO recommendations regarding the 2020 Census.

American Community Survey.—The data that the American Community Survey (ACS) collects is critical for communities nationwide as it is the only source of annual data on education, employment, income, housing costs, veterans' issues, and a host of other topics. The recommendation includes \$218,000,000 for this ef-

fort, as requested, and the Bureau is directed to continue the associated quarterly briefing to the Committee.

According to the Census Bureau, expanding data collection annually for the ACS to Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, would create additional cost and respondent burdens to ensure reliable estimates for these areas. Based on the report's findings and recommendations, the Committee encourages the Census Bureau to include these territories in future surveys where feasible and within available resources until changes to the survey are authorized. The Committee also directs Census to increase outreach activities to historically undercounted communities, including colonias, and to submit a report to the Committee detailing these efforts within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Periodic Economic Statistics.—The Committee recommends \$139,607,000 for the Economic Statistics programs, as requested, to support the sixth year of the 2017 Economic Census, and preparations for the 2022 Economic Census, and the 2022 Census of Governments. The Committee recognizes the Census Bureau's efforts to reduce costs through its use of administrative records.

Geographic Support.—The Committee provides \$61,164,000 for the Geographic Support program.

Enterprise Data Collection and Dissemination Systems (EDCaDS).—The Committee supports the Bureau's efforts to develop a more flexible, automated, and secure enterprise architecture that will enable Census to realize economies of scale to support data collection efforts and provides \$169,220,000 for EDCaDS. The amount includes an additional \$3,228,000 above the request to support the planning and delivery of these systems post-decennial to ensure a smooth transition of the current systems to new work for other demographic and economic surveys, the 2022 Economic Census, and early tests for the 2030 Census. The Bureau shall continue to provide quarterly briefings regarding the status of its data systems as directed in House Report 115–704.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$42,441,000 for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which is \$2,941,000 above fiscal year 2019. The recommendation is distributed as shown in the table below:

Domestic and International Policy	\$10,423,000
Spectrum Management	7,962,000
Advanced Communications Research	8,180,000
Broadband Programs	15,606,000
Public Safety Communications	270,000
Total	<hr/> \$42,441,000

The recommendation adopts and fully funds the Administration's proposal to establish a new program activity, "Public Safety Communications", intended to ensure those who serve in our State and local public safety sectors are provided with the tools and expertise needed to remain on pace with advances in technology through

NTIA's Next Generation 911 (NG911) program. However, the Committee does not include the creation of a new, unauthorized program under NTIA to negotiate private leases. While the Committee expects to be kept informed about the status of this and other legislative proposals while the Department works with the appropriate authorizing committees, the Committee cannot recognize the proposals as relevant to the Committee's appropriations work until legislation has been proposed and enacted into law.

National Telecommunications Role in Hate Crimes.—In 1993, NTIA released a groundbreaking report, "The Role of Telecommunications in Hate Crimes" regarding the use of electronic communications to disseminate and promote hate. However, despite the exponential growth of the internet since that time and the concerning rise in violent hate crimes that may be facilitated by various electronic media, the report has not been updated. The Committee directs NTIA, in coordination with the Department of Justice, to provide an update to its prior report to Congress no later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act. The new report should analyze the use of new forms of electronic media in advocating and encouraging the commission of hate crimes and include any recommendations to address such use of telecommunications, consistent with the First Amendment.

Broadband Programs.—According to the Federal Communications Commission's 2018 Broadband Deployment Report, it is estimated that 25 million Americans still lack access to affordable, reliable, modern high-speed broadband capability, of which 19 million or 75 percent, live in rural areas. The recommendation funds the continuation of the broadband mapping effort started in the fiscal year 2018 and 2019 appropriations Acts. An updated map will help identify, for policy makers and providers, regions with insufficient service.

Rural Broadband Coordination.—The Committee continues prior year direction to NTIA to coordinate with the Rural Utilities Service, the Federal Communications Commission, and other related Federal agencies to ensure that policies tied to one Federal program do not undermine the objectives and functionality of another. The Committee encourages NTIA to continue working with the rural communications industry to identify and pursue ways to continue broadband deployment and adoption, and directs NTIA to submit a report on its efforts no later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act. Further, the Committee continues to encourage NTIA to place equal priority on the deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) in rural communities as it does in urban areas.

Outcome-Based Measures.—The Committee directs NTIA to include outcome-based goals and performance measures for its broadband adoption and availability work in its performance plan as soon as practicable.

Spectrum Management.—The Committee recognizes that ensuring access to key portions of spectrum for radio astronomy observations, environmental observations, and other scientific purposes is essential for scientific discovery. The Committee encourages NTIA, in coordination with FCC and other appropriate stakeholders, to preserve spectrum access for scientific purposes as commercial use

of radio spectrum increases. The Committee looks forward to the report highlighting NTIA's ongoing efforts on this front.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$3,450,681,000 for the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), the full amount of fiscal year 2020 fee collections estimated by the Congressional Budget Office. PTO shall continue to provide the Committee monthly reports on PTO's actual and projected fee collections, application volumes, performance, and staffing.

Patent End-2-End (PE2E).—PTO shall continue to provide quarterly reports to the Committee on the status of PE2E, including the proposed retirement of legacy systems, cost savings associated with those retirements, and any efficiencies achieved in patent processing because of these investments.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

The Committee recommends \$1,040,172,000 for National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST), which is \$54,672,000 above fiscal year 2019.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$751,000,000 for NIST's Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) programs, which is \$26,500,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$139,281,000 above the request. The Committee also rejects the proposed reductions to Laboratory Programs, Corporate Services, and Standards Coordination and Special Programs and provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for those programs.

Quantum Information Science.—Within funds appropriated for STRS, the Committee provides no less than \$8,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for Quantum Information Science, as authorized in the National Quantum Initiative Act to support and expand basic and applied quantum information science and technology research and development (R&D) of measurement science and standards. Further, the Committee encourages NIST to expand its collaboration with other entities, including industry, universities, and Federal laboratories, to help advance the field of quantum information science and engineering.

Artificial Intelligence (AI).—The recommendation includes \$4,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for Artificial Intelligence that has the potential to produce transformative technologies and scientific breakthroughs that will improve Americans' lives.

Textile research.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the U.S. textile industry and encourages NIST to pursue advanced textile and apparel research, including manufacturing techniques.

Greenhouse Gas Program and Urban Dome Initiative.—The Committee recognizes the significant value in NIST's Greenhouse Gas

Program and Urban Dome initiative that seeks to leverage existing high-spatial density regional monitoring networks and external R&D partnerships. These cost-effective capabilities substantially expand and broaden NIST laboratory capabilities for investigating and developing measurement tools that support independent means for determining the accuracy of emissions inventory data at urban and regional scales. The Committee has included no less than \$100,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level of funding for the Greenhouse Gas Program and Urban Dome Initiative to continue and expand sensor network deployments.

Cybersecurity and Privacy.—The proliferation of data generation, storage, and use associated with the digital economy is making it increasingly important to protect that data with effective cryptography and privacy standards. The Committee is concerned that individual, corporate, and public-sector data privacy is continuously at risk from attacks by individual actors, criminal organization, and nation-states. The Committee urges NIST to address the rapidly emerging threats in this field by furthering the development of new and needed cryptographic standards and technologies.

Metals-Based Additive Manufacturing.—The Committee provides up to \$5,000,000 for competitive external grants for academic institutions to support research, development, and workforce training to overcome barriers to high-volume additive manufacturing of metals. While the Committee is aware of recent breakthroughs in metals-based additive manufacturing, major technical barriers still exist to dramatically improving build rates that would enable commercial markets to benefit from high-volume, metals-based additive manufacturing.

Pyrrhotite in Concrete Aggregate.—NIST shall consider establishing standards for acceptable levels of pyrrhotite in concrete aggregate and shall continue providing technical assistance to those interested in pyrrhotite detection, prevention, and mitigation tools.

Forward Looking Building Standards.—The Committee is concerned about how climate change will impact the built environment, and that standards previously set with an assumption of a stable climate system will expose many Federal and non-Federal investments to significant, but avoidable, risk. Therefore, the Committee directs NIST, in collaboration with other appropriate Federal agencies and interested non-Federal parties, to identify a consistent and authoritative set of climate information that emphasizes forward-looking climate data and projections that should be utilized in the standard-setting process. This effort shall serve to aid both Federal and non-Federal bodies to develop standards, building codes, and voluntary standards that take into account increasingly extreme weather events and other climate change challenges.

Regenerative Medicine Standards.—The Committee is pleased that NIST, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Standards Coordinating Body continue to work to implement the regenerative medicine standards provisions enacted in the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–255). Currently, work is underway to develop processes and criteria for identifying, prioritizing, and assessing the quality, safety, feasibility, and cost-benefit of such standards. This work will create a foundation that allows industry, regulatory authorities, and other stakeholders to reduce barriers to regenera-

tive medicine research and product development and accelerate the market readiness of these life-changing medical treatments.

Forensic Sciences.—The Committee provides \$1,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 amount for forensic science research. Additionally, the Committee provides \$3,000,000 to support the Organization of 22 Scientific Area Committees and \$1,000,000 to support technical merit evaluations previously funded by transfer from the Department of Justice.

5G Telecommunications.—The Committee notes the importance of the development of 5G telecommunications technologies as a matter of job creation, economic development, and national security. The Committee is concerned with a lack of criteria and processes to evaluate evolving threats associated with emerging telecommunications technologies. The Committee also recognizes the importance of efficient spectrum use in the development of 5G networks. The Committee urges NIST to accelerate efforts to coordinate among industry to promote voluntary security standards and the development of measurement tools to increase spectrum efficiency.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Committee recommends \$169,172,000 for Industrial Technology Services, which is \$14,172,000 above fiscal year 2019. The Committee rejects the Administration's proposed elimination of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program and provides \$154,000,000 for MEP as well as \$15,172,000 for the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation, also known as "Manufacturing USA."

Cybersecurity Training.—Within the increase to MEP, the Committee directs NIST to maintain the core services of the MEP and encourages NIST to utilize existing expertise within its Information Technology Laboratory to increase cybersecurity technical training to small manufacturers to strengthen their cybersecurity capabilities given the troubling threats from state and non-state actors and other emerging threats.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

The Committee recommends \$120,000,000 for NIST construction. NIST shall continue to provide updates on the projects funded within this account, to include milestones and total amount of funding necessary for completion.

Safety, Capacity, Maintenance, and Major Repairs (SCMMR).—Within the amount provided for Construction of Research Facilities, the agreement includes no less than \$77,500,000 for NIST to address its most pressing SCMMR projects.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

The Committee recommends a total of \$5,478,974,000 in discretionary funds for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is \$54,279,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$1,022,006,000 above the President's request. The Committee notes that the proposed decrease in Procurement, Acquisitions, and Construction (PAC) for fiscal year 2020 reflects the anticipated reduction in NOAA's flagship weather satellite programs as they enter

the operational phase and the funding reduction is not intended to, nor is it expected to, have any deleterious impact on NOAA's mission.

Extramural research.—The Committee continues to support NOAA's ongoing collaboration with academia and the private sector through cooperative institutes and competitive research. These relationships build broad community engagement, leverage external funding for mission-oriented research, strengthen the science within NOAA, and advance scientific knowledge.

Tribal support.—The Committee encourages NOAA to support mitigation and relocation efforts of coastal tribal communities that are seeking to mitigate the threat of severe weather storms and promote public safety.

Shellfish genetics.—The recommendation includes up to \$10,000,000 to improve shellfish survival and growth rates and to classify and preserve the natural genetic variation of shellfish. NOAA is encouraged to support regional partnerships to classify and preserve natural genetic variation in shellfish. Further, the Committee encourages NOAA to examine the feasibility of tracking its efforts at the species level.

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends a total program level of \$4,105,907,000 under Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF) for the coastal, fisheries, marine, weather, satellite, and other programs of NOAA. This total funding consists of \$3,910,625,000 in direct appropriations, a transfer of \$177,782,000 from balances in the "Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries" account and \$17,500,000 derived from recoveries of prior year obligations. The direct appropriation of \$3,910,625,000 is \$313,628,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$852,242,000 above the President's request.

The following narrative and tables identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act.

National Ocean Service.—The recommendation provides \$642,000,000 for National Ocean Service (NOS) Operations, Research, and Facilities, an increase of \$60,433,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level and \$272,295,000 above the President's request. As noted in the U.S. Global Change Research Program's Fourth National Climate Assessment, the world's oceans and the Great Lakes are increasingly stressed by the warming climate and the absorption of carbon pollution from the atmosphere. Similarly, increases in extreme weather and rising sea levels are impacting coastal areas. In response, the Committee invests in programs within NOS that aim to enhance the resiliency of coastal assets and to understand and mitigate the changing ecological threats to our oceans and the Great Lakes.

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Navigation, Observations, and Positioning	
Navigation, Observations, and Positioning	\$159,000
Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts	32,000
Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Observations	40,500
Navigation, Observations, and Positioning	231,500
Coastal Science and Assessment	
Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration	84,500
Competitive External Research	20,000
Coastal Science and Assessment	104,500
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services	
Coastal Zone Management and Services	46,500
Coastal Management Grants	81,000
Title IX Fund	60,000
Coral Reef Program	33,000
National Estuarine Research Reserve System	29,000
Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas	56,500
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services	306,000
Total, National Ocean Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$642,000

Navigation, Observations, and Positioning.—The Committee provides \$159,000,000 for Navigation, Observations, and Positioning and rejects the Administration’s proposed reductions in funding for repair and replacement of Coastal Observing Assets and the Coastal Mapping Program. The recommendation also rejects the Administration’s elimination of the competitive Regional Geospatial Modeling Grants program and directs NOAA to continue funding no less than the amount provided in fiscal year 2019. The Committee additionally continues funding for the Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System, or PORTS, at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level.

Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts.—The Committee rejects the proposed reduction to Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts and directs NOAA to maintain its prior year level of effort.

Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS).—The recommendation includes \$40,500,000 for Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Observations and rejects the elimination of IOOS grants. The Committee supports IOOS’ efforts to expand its use of underwater gliders and encourages NOAA to fill critical gaps in the current surface mapping system and to ensure streamlined access to data for weather forecasting, detection of ecological phenomena, and safe maritime operations.

Coastal Science, Assessment, Response, and Restoration.—The Committee provides \$84,500,000 for Coastal Science Assessment, Response, and Restoration, including \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for the Marine Debris program to address the pervasive problem of pollution in coastal waters around the country. The Committee encourages NOS to coordinate with States, territories, and local communities on efforts to remove debris from the marine environment and the Great Lakes, with a goal of devel-

oping a cost-effective programmatic solution to land-generated marine debris.

Further, the Committee rejects the proposed elimination of the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) which, amongst many other things, does critical national security work on the changing Arctic region and the impact of rising sea levels on our military installations. The Committee directs NOAA to invest in updating scientific equipment at NCCOS within the amounts provided to Coastal Science, Assessment, Response, and Restoration.

NOAA is further directed to develop new in-situ sensors and technology and expand deployment of new and existing in-situ sensors to increase monitoring and understanding of natural phenomena such as harmful algal blooms and hypoxia—especially where insufficient data is currently available to provide high resolution ecological forecasts. As part of this work, the Committee encourages NOAA to expand partnerships with academic institutions, the private sector, State governments, and other Federal agencies.

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs).—The Committee remains highly concerned about the increasing prevalence of harmful algal blooms in every U.S. State and territory and the corresponding impacts on human health, drinking water, fisheries, and the broader economy. The Committee provides \$20,000,000 to Competitive Research, including not less than \$10,000,000 for HABs research. This research should prioritize further development of methods of intervention and mitigation to reduce the frequency, severity, and impacts of HAB events in freshwater and saltwater systems and provide special attention to research in areas most economically and environmentally impacted by HABs.

The recommendation provides no less than \$1,750,000 for a study to update the estimated annual economic impacts from marine and freshwater HABs in the United States based on new information published since 2006 when the last national economic impacts were reported. The study shall include impacts related to public health, drinking water treatment, commercial fisheries, property values, recreation and tourism, and monitoring and management. The study shall also include an assessment of the estimated annual economic impacts in those U.S. States and territories most impacted by HABs. For all HABs-related work, the Committee encourages NOAA to coordinate with the Interagency Working Group on the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act.

Seafloor Mapping.—The Committee encourages NOS to perform high-priority, cooperative habitat mapping in currently unmapped and disaster-prone areas, with priority given to areas where oil exploration is under consideration to better understand long-term implications.

Coastal Zone Management.—The Committee provides \$46,500,000 for Coastal Zone Management. The recommendation rejects the reduction to Integrated Water Prediction, and instead provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level. Within these funds, the recommendation also includes a \$2,000,000 increase over the fiscal year 2019 level for Regional Ocean Data Portals.

Coastal Zone Management Grants and Title IX Fund.—The Committee does not approve the Administration's proposed elimination

of the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Grants and the Title IX Fund, which are critical programs for preparing coastal areas for measurably rising sea levels. The recommendation instead includes \$81,000,000 for CZM Grants. The Committee also provides \$60,000,000 for Title IX Fund grants, which are to be executed consistent with the approach used in fiscal year 2019.

Coral Reefs.—The Committee is alarmed by the deterioration of the Nation's coral reefs, which are suffering from record levels of bleaching and disease. The recommendation therefore includes \$33,000,000, which is \$6,893,000 above the President's request for the Coral Reef Program. The Committee also rejects the proposed reduction for Innovative Coral Reef Restoration Initiatives. Within the increased funding, NOAA shall expand its collaborative work with external academic partners to advance the goals of the National Coral Reef Action Strategy by conducting scientific research for the conservation of corals and coral reef ecosystems, especially those that are experiencing an increasing prevalence of disease outbreaks.

National Estuarine Research Reserve System.—The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System and instead provides a \$2,000,000 increase over the fiscal year 2019 level for this important partnership between NOAA and the coastal States and territories that protects and studies estuarine systems.

Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas.—The Committee provides \$56,500,000 for Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas, which is \$5,061,000 above the President's request.

National Marine Fisheries Service.—The Committee recommends \$954,650,000 for National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Operations, Research, and Facilities, which is \$142,982,000 above the President's request.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Protected Resources Science and Management	
Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species	\$124,000
Species Recovery Grants	7,500
Atlantic Salmon	6,500
Pacific Salmon	66,420
Protected Resources Science and Management	204,420
2018 Recertification of the Pacific Salmon Treaty	30,000
Fisheries Science and Management	
Fisheries and Ecosystem Science Programs and Services	150,000
Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys, and Assessments.	171,000
Observers and Training	45,100
Fisheries Management Programs and Services	124,000
Aquaculture	13,005
Salmon Management Activities	37,000
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions	41,500
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants	3,500
Fisheries Science and Management	585,105

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE—Continued
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Enforcement	73,500
Habitat Conservation and Restoration	61,625
Total, National Marine Fisheries Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$954,650

Consistent Application of Regulations.—Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, NMFS shall provide a report to the Committee that examines how guidance is being implemented and its consistency across NMFS regions, specifically with regard to the issue of the consideration of the effects of existing structures in conducting Endangered Species Act consultations under section 7(a)(2). Further, NMFS shall complete an assessment of what is causing any observed permit delays and propose measures to improve the permit approval process.

Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species.—The recommendation includes \$124,000,000 for Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species. Within this amount, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act Permitting Capacity and no less than \$4,000,000 for the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance grant program.

Sea Turtles.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for NMFS to continue scientifically advisable operations of, and full funding for, ongoing work on endangered and threatened sea turtle conservation, including captive sea turtle rearing and Turtle Excluder Device research and certification to reduce sea turtle bycatch. NOAA committed to Congress that it would continue its sea turtle stranding and rehabilitation programs until it found suitable non-governmental partners to take over this program in full. Therefore, NMFS is directed to maintain adequate capacity of the sea turtle stranding and rehabilitation program until it can assure Congress that those critical activities have been fully transferred to partner organizations.

Southern Resident Killer Whales.—Within the amount provided for Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species, the Committee provides not less than \$1,500,000 for the Southern Resident Killer Whales program to increase research and monitoring to improve the recovery of the species.

North Atlantic Right Whale.—The Committee remains concerned that North Atlantic right whale populations continue to be critically low. Therefore, the Committee rejects the President's proposal to reduce funds and instead provides \$1,000,000 above the President's budget request within Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species for research and monitoring of North Atlantic right whales, to better understand how the species interacts with fisheries and shipping traffic, and how it is adapting to changing ocean conditions and shifting feeding grounds. Further, the Committee encourages NOAA to prioritize development of a habitat suitability index, along with aerial surveys and passive acoustic monitoring in

the waters of the Northeast U.S. region and development of long-term tagging methods.

Species Recovery Grants.—The Committee rejects the proposed reduction for Species Recovery Grants and recommends \$1,504,000 above the President's request.

Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans.—The Committee provides \$66,420,000 for Pacific Salmon, \$4,679,000 above the requested level, and rejects the reduction to Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs). Instead, the recommendation provides no less than \$5,000,000 within Pacific Salmon to implement NMFS' comprehensive plan to address the backlog of HGMPs submitted to Congress as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–113), including to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State agencies, Tribes, and the Hatchery Scientific Review Group as needed. Failure to approve these HGMPs has exposed NMFS to litigation for failure to fulfill its obligations under the Endangered Species Act. This funding is essential for NMFS to expedite review and approval of the HGMP backlog and prevent hatchery shutdowns.

New Obligations Under the 2018 Recertification of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.—The recommendation includes \$30,000,000 for activities related to the 2018 Recertification of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Within these funds, the Committee directs NOAA to develop and implement a plan to maximize the increase of relevant salmon stocks through the implementation of actions referenced in the treaty and supporting agreements, in addition to activities funded under the Salmon Management Activities line. The Committee is frustrated by the lack of information from the Administration regarding the Federal responsibilities related to the recent recertification of the Pacific Salmon Treaty and directs the Department, prior to the obligation of any funds and within 60 days of enactment of this Act, to brief the Committee on this plan. Further, NOAA is directed to provide the Committee with biannual status reports on these activities and their impact on salmon stocks, beginning no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

Antarctic Research.—The Committee rejects the elimination of Antarctic Research in the budget request and provides funding at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level in Fisheries and Ecosystem Science Programs and Services.

Cooperative Research.—The recommendation does not adopt the proposed reduction for Cooperative Research and continues funding for this activity at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level. Cooperative research shall be used to support external, independent data collection and other research. NOAA shall ensure that this research is ingested into fishery stock assessments in a timely manner.

Fish Information Networks.—The Committee provides \$171,000,000 for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys, and Assessments, \$13,344,000 above the request. Within these funds, \$23,500,000 is provided for Fish Information Networks, the State-Federal cooperative programs that coordinate data collection, data management, and informational management essential for accurate monitoring of commercial and recreational fishing impacts.

Plankton Recorder Survey.—The Committee notes the importance of understanding the distribution of plankton to inform the con-

servation of North Atlantic right whales. Within the amount provided for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys, and Assessments, the Committee provides not less than \$300,000 to conduct a continuous plankton recorder survey in partnership, on a voluntary basis, with research institutions, nonprofit organizations, commercial vessels, and other Federal agencies. The relevant survey samples should be analyzed, stored, archived, and made publicly available as quickly as is practicable. NOAA is further directed to coordinate with the Government of Canada to develop a transboundary understanding of plankton abundance and distribution.

Salmon Management Activities.—The recommendation rejects the proposed reductions to Genetic Stock Identification and Pacific Salmon Treaty within Salmon Management Activities and provides no less than the amounts provided in fiscal year 2019.

Mitchell Act Hatchery Programs.—From the funds provided for Salmon Management Activities and 2018 Recertification of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, NOAA shall provide no less than \$25,000,000 for Mitchell Act activities, which enable Federal agencies to work with Oregon, Washington, and Idaho to establish and operate a series of hatcheries and passage facilities to improve declining fish runs in the Columbia River, ensure conservation of these critical natural resources, maintain economically viable tribal, commercial, and sports fisheries, and provide prey for Southern Resident killer whales.

Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions.—The recommendation provides \$41,500,000 for Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions, which is \$3,847,000 above the President's request. The Committee does not approve the proposed reduction to Interstate Fishery Management Commissions and continues to provide the fiscal year 2019 level. Further, within the funds provided for Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions, \$250,000 is included to implement the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Climate and Communities Initiative and to update the FEP to support climate-ready fisheries and ecosystem-based fisheries management.

State Waters.—The Committee encourages NOAA to ensure Regional Fishery Management Councils work in an open and collaborative way with states during the consideration of any actions that affect state waters.

Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants.—The recommendation rejects the proposed elimination of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants and instead provides \$3,500,000.

Exempted Fishing Permits for Red Snapper Fishing.—The Committee appreciates the work done thus far by the five Gulf States to develop and implement Exempted Fishing Permits. Given these permits will improve recreational fishing access and data collection, within amounts provided for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments, the Committee provides \$10,000,000 for the development, implementation and validation of electronic logbook data for the federally permitted charter-for-hire sector in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic. Within these funds, the Committee also directs NMFS to deliver technical support as needed to the Gulf States to prioritize and ensure successful implementation of each State plan. Additionally, NOAA shall continue to provide the

Committee with quarterly updates on these efforts as directed in fiscal year 2019.

South Atlantic Reef Fish.—NMFS is encouraged to leverage efficiencies learned through the Gulf of Mexico red snapper process to better the science and management of red snapper and other reef fish in the South Atlantic. NMFS shall consider employing the independent and alternative stock assessment strategies directed by the Committee for the Gulf of Mexico to supplement NMFS assessments of reef fish in the South Atlantic. The Committee provides up to \$1,500,000 for these activities and notes deficiencies that have plagued reef fish management in the Gulf of Mexico also affect NMFS management of reef fish in the South Atlantic. The Committee encourages NMFS to incorporate this data into the agency's own stock assessments as expeditiously as possible.

National Catch Share Program.—The Committee reminds NOAA that catch share programs reduce harmful competition between fishing vessels, thereby helping to reduce occupational hazards, avoid market-gluts, maximize profits, and reduce ecological damage. The Committee therefore rejects the proposed reduction of funding and provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for the National Catch Share Program within Fisheries Management Programs and Services. Additionally, within the funds provided for Fisheries Management Programs and Services, NOAA shall develop a priority list of other species that should be considered for inclusion in the Seafood Import Monitoring Program in order to: (1) reduce human trafficking in the international seafood supply chain, (2) reduce economic harm to the American fishing industry, (3) preserve stocks of at-risk species around the world, and (4) protect American consumers from seafood fraud. NOAA shall provide this list to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Enforcement.—The Committee provides \$73,500,000 for Enforcement, which is \$19,428,000 above the request. The Committee disagrees with the proposed elimination of the Cooperative Enforcement Program that includes the execution of Joint Enforcement Agreements. The recommendation instead provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount for the Cooperative Enforcement Program, which is critical for proper surveillance and enforcement of our Nation's fisheries laws. The Committee appreciates the proposal to hire additional enforcement officers and special agents and includes \$1,000,000 above the request to augment the proposed increase in staff. This added staffing and the remaining increase of funds shall be used to expand efforts to reduce illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing related to seafood import traceability and port security as well as to increase joint operations to inspect and enforce import restrictions on IUU products and expand investigations.

Habitat Conservation and Restoration.—The Committee provides \$61,625,000 for Habitat Conservation and Restoration, which is \$23,750,000 above the request. Further, the recommendation rejects the reductions to Essential Fish Habitat Consultations and Fisheries Habitat Grants and provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for each program.

Highly Migratory Species.—NOAA is encouraged to continue its efforts to competitively award studies of highly migratory fish spe-

cies. Additional research is needed to continue to improve management of these species.

Lionfish.—The Committee encourages NOAA to award competitive grants to address Lionfish in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico.

Horseshoe Crabs.—Adequate data is required to ensure states and interstate managers can effectively manage the Horseshoe Crab population, which is important to the biomedical and commercial fishing industries, as well as to the ecology of the Mid-Atlantic region. The Committee directs NMFS to continue the Horseshoe Crab survey to generate the data necessary to ensure that the Horseshoe Crab stock remains on a sustainable path.

Oyster restoration.—The Committee encourages NOAA to competitively select external partners to research alternative substrates for oyster restoration. NOAA shall consider survivability as part of the oyster restoration program in the Chesapeake Bay. Within Habitat Conservation and Restoration, the Committee encourages NOAA to support oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay.

Bycatch Reduction and Incidental Take Permits.—The Committee is concerned by changing ocean conditions that are disrupting ecosystem stability, leading to increased conflicts between commercial shellfish fisheries and protected species. To resolve this conflict, the Committee encourages NMFS to ensure that it dedicates adequate resources (1) to expeditiously evaluate any application that it receives for an incidental take permit for shellfish fisheries, (2) to support the NOAA Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program for research and development of gear innovations to prevent entanglements while allowing for continued fishing in these fisheries, and (3) to continue robust participation in collaborative efforts to reduce fishing gear conflicts.

Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery.—The Committee recognizes the ongoing impacts on the Pacific coast groundfish fishery trawl industry resulting from NMFS's delay in promulgating regulations to collect loan payments for the 2003 fishing vessel and permit buyback program. This delay caused an additional \$4,000,000 in interest to accrue, resulting in an estimated \$10,000,000 of additional loan payments for the Pacific coast groundfish fishery trawl industry. The Committee notes the implementation of the Revitalizing the Economy of Fisheries in the Pacific Act of 2014, section 3095 of Public Law 113–291, which is intended to provide relief related to this legacy issue.

Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.—The Committee recommends \$595,393,000 for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) Operations, Research, and Facilities, which represents an increase of \$70,333,000 over fiscal year 2019 and is \$286,244,000 above the request.

OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Climate Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	\$74,000

OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH—Continued
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Regional Climate Data and Information	41,500
Climate Competitive Research	71,000
Climate Research	186,500
Weather and Air Chemistry Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	82,279
U.S. Weather Research Program	37,400
Tornado Severe Storm Research/Phased Array Radar	12,634
Joint Technology Transfer Initiative	15,000
Weather and Air Chemistry Research	147,313
Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	35,345
National Sea Grant College Program	73,000
Marine Aquaculture Program	12,000
Ocean Exploration and Research	44,000
Integrated Ocean Acidification	20,000
Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring	48,500
National Oceanographic Partnership Program	6,500
Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Research	239,345
High Performance Computing Initiatives	22,235
Total, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$595,393

Climate Research.—The Committee commends the scientists and researchers at NOAA for their exemplary work in preparing the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA), which found that (1) the impacts of climate change are already being felt in the United States, (2) these impacts will intensify in the future, (3) human activity is the primary cause of climate change, (4) there is no credible alternative scientific theory to explain the observational data, (5) the extent of future impacts will depend largely on actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and (6) current global and regional efforts to adapt to these impacts do not approach the scales needed to avoid substantial damages to the U.S. economy, environment, and human health and well-being over the next decades.

These stark facts underscore the need for continued investment in climate research to inform policy decisions across every sector of American society. Therefore, the Committee provides \$186,500,000 for Climate Research, an increase of \$27,500,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$98,991,000 above the President's request. The recommendation rejects the proposal to eliminate funding for the NCA and instead provides \$3,000,000 to continue this work. The Committee further emphasizes that the NCA is congressionally-mandated and shall not be impeded.

Earth's Radiation Budget.—The Committee is aware of significant risks posed by the potential introduction of material into the stratosphere from changes in natural systems, increased air and space traffic, and proposals to inject material to affect climate, which is the subject of a forthcoming National Academies of

Sciences study supported by NOAA and NASA. To monitor and assess these risks requires significant improvements to observations of the chemistry of the stratosphere and the reflectivity of the atmosphere to establish baselines as well as advancements in models for forecasting. Therefore, the Committee provides \$13,000,000 in Climate Research Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes for observations, monitoring, and forecasting of stratospheric conditions and Earth's radiation budget. Within these funds, the Committee further directs OAR to improve the understanding of the impact of atmospheric aerosols on radiative forcing as well as on the formation of clouds, precipitation, and extreme weather.

Arctic Research.—The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of Arctic Research and provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level in both Regional Climate Data and Information and Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes for this work.

Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program.—The Committee rejects the termination of the Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program and instead provides the program an increase of \$3,000,000, as compared to the fiscal year 2019 level, within Regional Climate Data and Information. The Committee directs NOAA to expand the geographical coverage of the program with a long-term goal of providing comprehensive decision-support services and tools to local and regional decision makers in all States and territories. The Committee appreciates the benefits of partnering with academia in these efforts but reminds NOAA that the intent of this program is to be customer-focused rather than purely in the pursuit of science.

National Integrated Drought Information System.—The Committee continues, at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level, funding for the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) to support existing forecasting and assessment programs and partnerships. The Committee encourages the development of a soil moisture monitoring network, the expansion of work on seasonal, sub-seasonal, and low flow water predictions, as well as expanding the network of cooperative institutes and other academic collaborations in these fields.

Climate Competitive Research.—The Committee rejects the elimination of Climate Competitive Research as well as any transfers or eliminations of activities, funds, or staff out of this budget line proposed in the President's budget. Instead, the recommendation includes \$71,000,000 for this critical research, which is \$11,000,000 above fiscal year 2019.

Weather and Air Chemistry Research.—The Committee provides \$147,313,000 for Weather and Air Chemistry Research, which is \$11,933,000 above fiscal year 2019. The recommendation rejects the proposals to close the Air Resources Lab and to decrease funding for Weather and Air Chemistry Research Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes, and instead provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for each of these activities. The recommendation also includes up to \$10,000,000 for Vortex-Southeast.

U.S. Weather Research Program.—The Committee provides \$37,400,000 for the U.S. Weather Research Program. The recommendation approves neither the proposal to terminate the Airborne Phased Array Radar research, nor the proposal to reduce funding and programs within the U.S. Weather Research Program

and instead maintains the funding levels provided in fiscal year 2019.

Infrasonic Weather Monitoring Research.—The Committee believes that advanced infrasound signal processing methodologies and studies have the potential to improve forecast accuracy and encourages NOAA to continue research in this area. The Committee consequently rejects the proposal to terminate Infrasonic Weather Monitoring Research.

Weather Sensor Improvement Research.—Within funding provided for the U.S. Weather Research Program, the Committee encourages NOAA to support external research opportunities with academic institutions to further develop and test severe weather monitoring systems to include technologies in support of the National Mesonet Program. Testing priority shall be given to states most economically impacted by extreme weather.

Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes.—The Committee provides \$35,345,000 for Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Research Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes. The Committee acknowledges that this figure appears to be slightly below the fiscal year 2019 funding amount, but emphasizes that it is in fact a modest increase to these underlying programs as the recommendation shifts the \$3,000,000 that is proposed for the elimination of the Automated Unmanned Vehicle Demonstration Testbed into the new Unmanned Systems program in the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations. The Committee does not approve the proposed termination of the Genomics program and instead directs NOAA to expand this work within the increased available base funds.

Further, the Committee expects NOAA to fully fund these cooperative institutes at appropriate levels in future years, including well-established institutes focused on watershed impacts on marine and Great Lakes ecosystems, remote sensing, and long-term monitoring of the impacts of environmental hazards on marine and Great Lakes ecosystem health.

National Sea Grant College Program.—The Committee once again rejects the President's proposal to eliminate the National Sea Grant College Program. Instead, the Committee provides an increase of \$5,000,000 as compared to the fiscal year 2019 level.

American Lobster Research.—Within increased funding for the Sea Grant program, the Committee encourages the funding of partnerships between State agencies, academia, and industry to address American lobster research priorities. Research should focus on stock resilience in the face of environmental changes, including life history parameters, distribution and abundance, and species interactions, with the purpose of informing future management actions.

Marine Aquaculture Program.—The Committee recognizes the importance of NOAA's Marine Aquaculture research and development activities that help coastal communities maintain a safe and sustainable local seafood supply through research and technology transfer to support and expand America's aquaculture industry. As such, the Committee provides \$12,000,000 for Marine Aquaculture. The Committee further encourages NOAA to partner with Historically Black Colleges and Universities that conduct aquaculture research to reach those urban communities impacted by rising seafood prices.

Ocean Exploration and Research.—The Committee rejects the requested decrease in funding for Ocean Exploration and Research and instead provides \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 amount. The Committee encourages NOAA to use not less than \$7,000,000 to fund non-profit organizations operating ocean-going ships of exploration using tele-presence technology, and applied exploration, to map critically important areas within America's Exclusive Economic Zone, our territory islands, as well as sites of submerged human history, particularly in the Pacific.

Integrated Ocean Acidification.—The Committee is increasingly concerned about the impacts of ocean acidification on coastal communities and industries and therefore rejects the proposed reduction to the Integrated Ocean Acidification program. The recommendation instead includes \$8,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for this important work. Within the increase, NOAA shall, in partnership with academia and the private sector, prioritize efforts at understanding, monitoring, and mitigating coastal ocean acidification, especially where it impacts fisheries and aquaculture.

The Committee encourages NOAA, in coordination with the Office of Science and Technology Policy, to implement a program to competitively award prizes under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) to stimulate innovation to advance the understanding, research, or monitoring of ocean acidification or its impacts, or to develop management or adaptation options for responding to ocean acidification. In prize competitions, the Committee encourages NOAA to prioritize communities, environments, or industries that are currently in distress due to the impacts of ocean acidification.

Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring.—The recommendation does not adopt the requested reduction in funds for Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring and instead provides \$48,500,000. Within the increase, NOAA shall expand coverage of biogeochemical and Deep Argo floats to improve ecological and sub-seasonal-to-seasonal weather forecasting as well as to provide observational data on the health and state of the ocean, particularly in the deep sea, the tropics, and the Arctic.

Cloud Computing for Research.—The Committee supports NOAA's transition to high performance computing on the cloud for its research needs in OAR. The Committee provides not less than \$10,000,000 in High Performance Computing Initiatives to prepare for this transition and to explore long-term contracting options with vendors for these services. The Committee further directs NOAA to develop a long-term cloud computing strategy for its future research needs and to report to the Committee on the strategy within 180 days of the enactment of this Act.

National Weather Service.—The Committee recommends \$1,099,549,000 for National Weather Service (NWS), Operations, Research, and Facilities, which is \$110,251,000 above the President's budget request. The Committee reaffirms its commitment to the weather enterprise and the necessity of maintaining the mission of protecting life and property within the Federal Government. While the Committee does not oppose the continued growth of the private weather industry, the increasing frequency and intensity of

natural disasters epitomize the need for the public provision of this critical information.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
Operations, Research, and Facilities
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Observations	\$230,770
Central Processing	99,797
Analyze, Forecast, and Support	546,300
Dissemination	75,482
Science and Technology Integration	147,200
Total, National Weather Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$1,099,549

NWS Staffing.—The Committee remains concerned about continuing reports of staffing and management challenges within NWS. NOAA and the Department of Commerce are directed to ensure that NWS fulfills its critical mission to protect the lives and property of our Nation's citizens, including by filling all vacancies as expeditiously as possible. In its fiscal year 2020 spend plan, the NWS shall include a separate accounting of all NWS funded positions. In fiscal year 2020, the Committee directs NWS to continue the quarterly management, staffing, and budget briefings first required in fiscal year 2018.

National Ice Center.—The Committee strongly supports the National Ice Center (NIC) and the critical information it provides to our armed forces as well as for the further understanding of our planet. The recommendation accepts the technical transfers to NWS to operationalize the functions of the NIC.

Observations.—The recommendation provides \$230,770,000 for observation activities. The recommendation includes not less than \$22,000,000 for the National Mesonet Program, \$15,500,000 above the request. The recommendation does not adopt the proposed reduction to Marine Observations in support of the tsunami mission and provides not less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to continue those activities. The Committee also rejects the proposed reductions to Tropical Atmosphere Ocean (TAO) Platform and Aircraft-based Observations Data Buy and provides not less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for each activity.

Central Processing.—The recommendation includes \$99,797,000 for Central Processing while rejecting the proposed reduction to the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction System. The Committee further rejects the proposal to terminate 74 Information Technology Officers who are critical to the delivery of timely and actionable forecasts.

Analyze, Forecast, and Support.—The recommendation includes \$546,300,000 for Analyze, Forecast, and Support activities. This level includes up to \$28,000,000, but not less than \$20,000,000, to address the backlog in facilities maintenance. The recommendation does not adopt the proposed NWS workforce savings that would only serve to exacerbate the staffing problems noted above. The Committee further rejects the proposed reduction to the Office of Water Prediction as well as the consolidation of the functions of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction, the Climate Prediction Center, and the Weather Prediction Center.

Tsunami Warning Program.—The Committee rejects the proposed reduction to the Tsunami Warning Program and instead provides not less than \$1,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level. Further, the Committee rejects the closure of any facilities related to the Tsunami Warning Program.

Dissemination.—The Committee provides \$75,482,000 for Dissemination Operations, Research, and Facilities, which includes the technical transfer from Dissemination Procurement, Acquisitions, and Construction proposed in the President's budget.

Science and Technology Integration.—The recommendation includes \$147,200,000 for Science and Technology Integration but approves neither the termination of COASTAL Act or of Aviation Science Research to Operations, nor the reduction to Numerical Weather Prediction.

National Water Center.—The Committee does not adopt the termination of funding for Hydrology and Water Resources within Science and Technology Integration. Instead, the recommendation includes no less than the fiscal year 2019 level to continue research activities to improve fine and large-scale measurements of snow depth and soil moisture data that can be used to expand and improve the National Water Model and contribute directly to the mission of NOAA's National Water Center.

Storm Surge Modeling Technology.—The Committee encourages NOAA to continue to pursue collaborations that will improve upon NOAA's current Sea, Lake, and Overland Surge from Hurricanes model; and encourages NOAA to consider integrating improved technologies into standard modeling operations for storm surge, inland flooding, and the combination of both.

National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service.—The Committee recommends \$281,790,000 for National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS), Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICE
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems	
Office of Satellite and Product Operations	\$186,790
Product Development, Readiness, and Application	28,500
Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs	1,800
Office of Space Commerce	1,800
Group on Earth Observations	500
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems	219,390
National Centers for Environmental Information	62,400
Total, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$281,790

Office of Satellite and Product Operations.—The recommendation includes \$186,790,000 for the Office of Satellite and Product Operations, which includes the proposed transfer of funds associated with the operationalizing of functions in the Polar Weather Sat-

ellites and the Low Earth Orbit programs in the Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction account.

Office of Space Commerce.—The Committee rejects the proposal to transfer the functions of the Office of Space Commerce and Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs and instead maintains their funding within NOAA NESDIS.

National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI).—The Committee recommends \$62,400,000 for NCEI, which includes not less than \$4,000,000 for Regional Climate Centers despite the proposal to terminate them.

Mission Support.—The recommendation includes \$294,666,000 for Mission Support, Operations, Research, and Facilities.

MISSION SUPPORT
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Mission Support	
Executive Leadership	\$28,305
Mission Services and Management	154,712
IT Security	15,079
Payment to DOC Working Capital Fund	62,070
Mission Support Services	260,166
Office of Education	
B–WET Regional Programs	9,000
Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions	20,000
NOAA Education Program Base	5,500
Office of Education	34,500
Total, Mission Support, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$294,666

Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment.—The Committee is highly concerned by the threat of sexual assault and sexual harassment faced by individuals in the workplace, especially those in nontraditional work settings such as NOAA research vessels or private fishing vessels. The Committee recognizes the efforts made by NOAA in addressing these threats and directs no less than \$1,000,000 from the funding provided for Mission Services and Management for continued efforts to reduce these risks and to provide assistance and counseling to victims.

Office of Education.—The Committee rejects all of the proposed cuts to the Office of Education and believes the enactment of these proposals would do great harm to the future of oceanic and atmospheric sciences. The Committee recognizes that the changing climate and increasing degradation of our environment will necessitate greater future investments in these scientific fields and their corresponding workforces. Consequently, the recommendation includes \$34,500,000 for NOAA's Office of Education, an increase of \$6,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, which includes continued support for Environmental Literacy Grants and for improving geographic literacy. Of this amount, \$20,000,000 is provided to continue the Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions, and \$9,000,000 is provided to continue the Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B–WET) regional pro-

grams. NOAA is also encouraged to engage students in live, interactive programming using telepresence technology.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO).—The recommendation includes \$247,859,000 for the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, Operations, Research, and Facilities. The Committee appreciates the clear and concise regular briefings provided by OMAO's leadership and encourages them to continue with the same frequency and detail as in fiscal year 2019. Further, the Committee has found the NOAA Fleet Plan to be very useful in considering the future needs for NOAA's ships and looks forward to receiving a corresponding future-looking fleet plan for NOAA's aircraft.

OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Marine Operations and Maintenance	\$195,547
Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services	37,250
Unmanned Systems Operations	15,062
Total, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, Operations, Research, and Facilities	\$247,859

Marine Operations and Maintenance.—The recommendation provides \$195,547,000 for Marine Operations and Maintenance. Within this amount, no less than \$3,125,000 is provided to mitigate any loss of mission integrity due to unexpected ship failures, including by chartering days at sea with non-NOAA vessels and other measures, as appropriate.

Monitoring of Atmospheric Rivers.— Improving understanding of atmospheric rivers is critical to preparing for concentrated rain storms and flooding along the U.S. West Coast. Therefore, within the amount provided for Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services, the Committee provides no less than \$1,500,000 for use of airborne assets to conduct winter storm observations to better observe and predict these extreme weather events.

Unmanned Systems Operations.—The Committee supports NOAA's proposal to establish a centralized program for Unmanned Systems Operations (UxS), as authorized by the CENOTE Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–394). In support of these efforts, the Committee accepts the closure of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program and the termination of the Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Demonstration Testbed. In lieu of these programs, the Committee provides \$10,397,000 above the request within the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, Unmanned System Operations, to support these activities under this new management structure and directs NOAA to prioritize operations and research for unmanned systems in consultation with the UxS Executive Oversight Board, including OAR. Further, within these funds, the Committee provides not less than \$2,000,000 for the competitive acquisition of unmanned systems data as a cost-effective augmentation to NOAA's observational suite.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION, AND CONSTRUCTION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends a total program level of \$1,509,000,000 for Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction (PAC), of which \$1,496,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund and \$13,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations.

The following narrative descriptions and tables identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION, AND CONSTRUCTION
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
National Ocean Service	
National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction	\$3,000
Marine Sanctuaries Construction	5,000
Total, NOS-PAC	8,000
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research	
Research Supercomputing/CCRI	49,000
National Weather Service	
Observations	21,129
Central Processing	67,000
Dissemination	10,000
Weather Forecast Office Construction	15,000
Total, NWS-PAC	113,129
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service	
GOES R	304,056
Space Weather Follow-on	38,600
Polar Weather Satellites	755,038
CDARS	14,850
Low Earth Orbit (LEO)	33,202
Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO)	25,219
System Architecture and Engineering (SAE)	44,822
Satellite CDA Facility	2,450
Total, NESDIS-PAC	1,218,237
Mission Support	
NOAA Construction	21,000
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Fleet Capital Improvements and Technology Infusion	24,634
New Vessel Construction	75,000
Total, OMAO-PAC	99,634
Total, Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction	\$1,509,000

National Ocean Service Construction.—The Committee does not adopt the proposal to reduce funding for construction within the National Ocean Service. The recommendation includes \$3,000,000 for National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction and \$5,000,000 for Marine Sanctuaries Construction.

Research Supercomputing.—The Committee recognizes the importance of supercomputing capacity to further research efforts re-

garding weather and climate modeling and therefore recommends \$49,000,000 for OAR Research Supercomputing, which is \$23,000,000 above the request.

National Weather Service Observations.—The Committee rejects the proposed reductions to Observations under National Weather Service PAC and provides not less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted levels for the Service Life Extension Program for Next Generation Weather Radar and the Service Life Extension Program for the Automated Surface Observing System.

Integrated Water Prediction.—The Committee provides \$67,000,000 for Central Processing under National Weather Service PAC, which includes not less than the fiscal year 2019 level for Integrated Water Prediction High Performance Computing as well as Research and Development High Performance Computing.

Quarterly Satellite Reports.—The Committee directs the Department of Commerce to continue to provide oversight of NOAA's satellite programs as directed in fiscal year 2019. NOAA shall also continue to provide quarterly briefings to the Committee on all NOAA satellite programs not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter. These briefings shall include the status of obligations for each program, including spacecraft, launch vehicle, sensor, integration, and ground components, and proposed changes to the fly-out charts. NOAA shall also include in these briefings updates on all of its operational satellite systems.

Space Weather Follow-On.—The recommendation includes \$38,600,000 for Space Weather Follow-On and directs NOAA to use the amount above the request to support the GOES-U Integration.

Commercial Data.—The Committee provides the requested levels of funds for both the Commercial Weather Data Pilot and the Commercial Data Purchase in support of NOAA's efforts to develop alternative sources of environmental data.

New Vessel Construction.—The Committee provides \$75,000,000, as in prior fiscal years, for New Vessel Construction and thereby affirms its commitment to NOAA's Fleet Recapitalization Plan. The Committee expects that NOAA will ensure that these new vessels facilitate the reduction of gaps in mission coverage as current ships fall into disrepair or are decommissioned. During the recapitalization process, NOAA is encouraged to evaluate its fleet plan regularly and consider whether there are cost-effective alternatives such as vessel leasing for meeting NOAA's mission requirements.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

The Committee rejects the proposed termination of Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery and recommends \$65,000,000 for this program. In addition, the accompanying bill includes language that requires all funds to be allocated based on scientific and merit principles and prohibits the availability of funds for marketing activities. Bill language is included requiring a 33 percent match from States.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

The Committee recommends \$349,000 for the Fishermen's Contingency Fund, which is the same as fiscal year 2019. This Fund is available to compensate U.S. commercial fishermen for damage or loss caused by obstructions related to oil and gas exploration, and is derived from fees collected by the Secretary of the Interior.

FISHERY DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Committee rejects the elimination of Fishery Disaster Assistance in the President's budget and provides \$15,000,000 to address fisheries disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Committee recommends language under this heading limiting obligations of direct loans to \$24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and \$100,000,000 for traditional direct loans.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Committee recommends \$74,143,000 for Departmental Management, \$21,601,000 below fiscal year 2019 and \$61,107,000 below the request. This amount includes funds for Departmental Salaries and Expenses, Renovation and Modernization, and the Office of Inspector General.

The Committee reminds the Department that oversight of Commerce operations and budget through requests for information, briefings, and hearings are critical to ensuring that the Committee puts forward a well-informed recommendation for the fiscal year. Any action that hinders the Committee's ability to carry out its oversight authorities, such as the Secretary's unwillingness to testify before the Committee on its annual budget request, is unacceptable. The recommendation does not include the transfer of the Office of Space Commerce to the Office of the Secretary and assumes further savings in certain departmental services identified in the President's budget request related to miscellaneous expenses. Further, bill language has been included under Salaries and Expenses withholding \$15,000,000 from expenditure until the submission of the Census Bureau's annual CEDCaP spend plan.

While the Committee supports the Department taking steps to begin the modernization of its financial systems, the recommendation does not include the requested funding. The Committee supports such initiatives but requires additional insight into the multi-year requirements and costs for such acquisitions prior to providing a down payment on such longer-term activities and directs the Department to provide the Committee with the full life cycle cost including project schedule and milestones with a quarterly breakdown by fiscal year no later than 45 days after enactment of this Act.

As the Department looks to modernize and consolidate its financial system it is further directed to evaluate how it can standardize its appropriations and periods of availability (POAs) across the Department for more consistent planning, programming, budgeting, and execution across appropriations and report to the Committee no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act. In the absence of justifications that clearly articulate a multi-year requirement, the Committee recommends agencies clearly articulate any multi-year requirements in accounts that are largely driven by annual salaries and expenses in future budget justifications.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$40,000,000 for Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses, \$23,000,000 below fiscal year

2019 and \$39,107,000 below the fiscal year 2020 request. Within the amounts provided the Committee supports the Department's Continuity of Operations (COOP) and Continuity of Government (COG) efforts to ensure an agile national security response and includes \$2,300,000 for the related technology as well as \$1,185,000 above the request for the operations and maintenance for these mission critical systems. Further, the Committee supports the Department's requested staffing increases for the Offices of Security, Privacy, and Budget as well as the Office of General Counsel's case management system.

Federal Data Service.—The Committee is concerned that the Department continues to fund the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs within BEA with no long-term funding strategy for either the Under Secretary's office or the Federal Data Service for which funding is requested both under BEA and the Bureau of the Census. The Department is directed to report on these plans no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Modernizing economic statistics in Puerto Rico.—The Committee directs the Department to continue its efforts to help the government of Puerto Rico to modernize its economic statistics programs, and commends the Department, through the BEA, for initiating efforts to calculate GDP for Puerto Rico, just as BEA currently does for every other U.S. jurisdiction. The Committee further directs the Department to work toward the inclusion of all U.S. territories—alongside the 50 States and the District of Columbia—in BEA's national level GDP estimates, which will require the territory-level GDP data to meet BEA's quality standards. The Committee urges BEA to produce quarterly economic surveys for the territories and personal income statistics. The Department shall report back to the Committee on these efforts—both of which were recommended by the Congressional Task Force on Economic Growth in Puerto Rico—90 days after the enactment of this Act.

Interstate Commerce.—The Committee has heard concerns about the Electronic Export Information (EEI) requirement located in 15 CFR Part 30, which mandates reporting for certain goods between the States and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Committee directs the Department to work in coordination with the governments of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as other Federal agencies and stakeholders, to identify alternative data sources that provide equivalent statistics on the shipments of goods among the territories and the States to achieve the same statistical objectives, while reducing the impact on commerce, and report their findings and implementation plans to the Committee not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account.—Last year, BEA reported that outdoor recreation represents 2.2 percent of the total GDP and contributes \$734 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The Committee recognizes that a wide range of Federally-funded programs support the outdoor recreation sector such as the Nation's land and waterways management, access, and conservation, and the Federal Government allocated a little over \$20 billion from 2012 through 2016 towards these activities. The Committee directs the Department of Commerce, in coordination with the agencies of the Federal Recreation Council, to continue its efforts to further improve on the collection of this data and the feasibility of identifying amounts al-

located prior to fiscal year 2012. The Department is directed to report its findings to the Committee and to GAO within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Regional Biosecurity Plan.—The Secretary of Commerce shall submit a report alongside its annual budget justifications describing the activities of the Department during the prior fiscal year to implement the Regional Biosecurity Plan for Micronesia and Hawaii—a strategic plan developed jointly by the Department and other Federal and non-Federal entities to prevent and control the introduction of invasive species in the U.S. Pacific region. The report shall include an update of Departmental activities to support implementation and next steps and planned activities, including estimated funding requirements for the subsequent fiscal year.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

The Committee recommends \$1,100,000 for the salaries and expenses needed to continue the operation of the renovation project. As part of the Department's overall effort to evaluate how to best standardize its appropriations, it is recommended that future salaries and expenses for all personnel funded within Renovation and Modernization instead be funded under Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Committee recommends \$33,043,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG), which includes the requested transfers for oversight activities. The Committee expects the OIG to continue its oversight work on cybersecurity, satellite procurements, telework, patent quality, and the 2020 Decennial Census.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Committee recommends the following general provisions for the Department of Commerce:

Section 101 makes funds available for advanced payments only upon certification of officials designated by the Secretary that such payments are considered to be in the public interest.

Section 102 makes appropriations for the Department available for hire of passenger motor vehicles, for services, and for uniforms and allowances as authorized by law.

Section 103 requires notification to the Committee of certain actions. The Committee expects notifications for all capital asset disposals with an initial purchase price greater than \$2,000,000.

Section 104 extends congressional notification requirements for NOAA satellite programs.

Section 105 provides for reimbursement for services within Department of Commerce buildings.

Section 106 clarifies that grant recipients under the Department of Commerce may continue to deter child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over their networks.

Section 107 provides the NOAA Administrator with the authority to avail NOAA of needed resources, with the consent of those supplying the resources, to carry out responsibilities of any statute administered by NOAA.

Section 108 prohibits the National Technical Information Service from charging for certain activities.

Section 109 authorizes NOAA to receive payments from other entities to defray some costs of permitting and regulatory activities.

Section 110 provides authority for the programs of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Bureau of the Census to enter into cooperative agreements in order to assist in improving statistical methodology and research.

Section 111 includes travel authority for the Office of the Secretary of Commerce.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$114,740,000 for Department of Justice, General Administration, Salaries and Expenses, which is \$1,740,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request. The Committee has provided separate funding recommendations by decision unit as follows:

Department Leadership	\$16,189,000
Intergovernmental Relations/External Affairs	10,414,000
Executive Support/Professional Responsibility	15,337,000
Justice Management Division	72,800,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	\$114,740,000

Cold Case Investigations.—The Attorney General is directed to make full use of his authority to support and carry out the objectives of Public Law 115–426, the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018. In addition, the bill includes not less than \$13,500,000 in additional funding for the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Community Relations Service, and in grant assistance to implement the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act.

Federal law enforcement resources in the U.S. Caribbean.—The Committee has serious concerns about the high levels of violent crime in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, where homicide rates are significantly above the national average, and most violent crimes are linked to narcotics trafficking in the Caribbean. The Committee directs the Attorney General to prioritize law enforcement personnel and resources to address such violent crime, and to report not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on current or planned efforts by the Department to prevent, reduce, and address violent crime in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016.—The Committee fully supports the goals of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–325) to investigate and prosecute previously unresolved civil rights era “cold case” murders suspected of having been racially motivated. This effort involves a partnership among the

Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division (CRT), the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Community Relations Service (CRS), State and local law enforcement officials, and other eligible entities. The Committee includes additional funding as authorized for the CRT Cold Case Initiative, for the FBI to pursue Emmett Till Act cold cases; and for CRS to partner with law enforcement agencies and communities to help resolve conflicts resulting from the investigation of unsolved civil rights era cases. Additionally, the Committee directs the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the Office for Victims of Crime to continue providing grants for cold case DNA investigations to aid State and local law enforcement agencies in their investigation and prosecution of unsolved civil rights cold cases. The Department shall include, as part of its annual spending plan, details on actual and projected spending, by agency and appropriation, to carry out the Emmett Till Act.

School to prison pipeline.—The Committee is concerned with the school-to-prison pipeline and believes the Department of Justice should take a more aggressive approach to disrupt it. The Committee encourages the Department to consider the role it can play in this and directs it to report not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on ways in which the Department could partner with relevant stakeholders in government and in the private sector to address this issue.

Expungement.—The Committee recognizes the challenges facing ex-offenders undergoing reentry into society. In previous administrations, the Justice Department has pledged to publish information on ways to reduce unnecessary barriers to reentry by connecting the reentering population with legal services to overcome obstacles such as fines and criminal records expungement. The Committee directs the Justice Department to report not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on ways to expand the Smart on Crime and similar programs to assist non-violent offenders with record expungement.

Intellectual property rights (IPR) enforcement.—The Committee expects the Department to continue to make IPR enforcement an investigative and prosecutorial priority. A new element of criminal copyright infringement enterprises involves devices and software that connect televisions directly to copyright-theft sites. The Department shall submit a report, not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, on its investigation and prosecution of criminal enterprises engaged in IPR cases, particularly in creative content theft and copyright enforcement actions, such as the use of illegal streaming technology.

Real estate wire fraud.—The Committee is aware of the growing problem of so-called “wire fraud” or “business e-mail fraud” in real estate transactions. In a July 2018 public service announcement, the FBI said such crime targets both businesses and individuals performing wire transfer payments and resulted in over \$12.5 billion in losses between 2013 and 2018, with the scam being reported nationwide and in 150 countries. The Committee directs the Department to submit a report not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, describing its ongoing activities to both combat and raise awareness of wire fraud in real estate transactions. Additionally, the report should detail any joint activities to counter such

fraud that the Department conducts with relevant Federal agencies. Finally, the report should make recommendations to Congress for new legislative authority or increased funding that would help these efforts.

Working capital fund and non-appropriated fund budget requests and spending plans.—The Committee directs the Department to continue to include with their budget submissions and expenditure plans detailed breakouts of non-appropriated funding sources, as directed in the fiscal year 2019 Appropriations Act, and to continue quarterly reports on the collections, balances, and obligations of such funds.

User Activity Monitoring (UAM).—The Committee understands that the Justice Management Division (JMD) conducted a successful pilot in 2018 to determine whether replacing ineffective, legacy network monitoring and data loss prevention tools with Modern UAM could help it better identify compromised insiders. The Committee encourages the Department to undertake a competitive process to develop and deploy a new UAM, both for its own environment and with the potential to offer the capability as a service to smaller DOJ components.

Domestic violence and mass shootings.—The Committee directs the Attorney General to undertake a study on the feasibility of using an individual's history of domestic violence to determine the likelihood of such individual committing a mass shooting and submit a report to the Committee on its findings not later than one year after enactment of this Act.

NICS denial notification.—The Committee recognizes the value in notifying State and local law enforcement when prohibited individuals fail a background check in an attempt to make an illegal firearm purchase. The Committee therefore directs the Attorney General to report to State authorities when the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) provides a notice pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 922(t) that the receipt of a firearm in their State or by a potential purchaser residing in their State would violate 18 U.S.C. 922(g) or (n) or State law, and, where practicable, to report the same to appropriate local law enforcement authorities and State and local prosecutors. Reports should be made within 24 hours after the provision of notice, except that reporting may be delayed if needed to avoid compromising an ongoing investigation. Reports shall state the specific provisions of law that would have been violated by such a receipt or purchase, the date and time the notice was provided, the location where the firearm was sought to be received or purchased, and the identity of the person. No such report need be made to the same State authorities who provided the notice.

Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) opinions.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Department shall submit a report to the Committee that lists each OLC opinion currently in effect that has either been: designated by the Attorney General or his designee as final; followed by government officials or government contractors; relied upon to formulate current legal guidance; or cited in another final Office of Legal Counsel opinion. For each such opinion, the Department shall include: (1) the signer of the opinion; (2) the recipient identified in the opinion; (3) the date of issuance; and (4) the title of the opinion, subject only to redactions

provided for by law and where the need to protect a specific interest outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Unintentional firearm discharges.—Unintentional firearm discharges present risks including death, injury, liability, and negative community relations. The Committee encourages the Department to identify and report to the Committee on ways to physically mitigate the unintentional discharge of firearms, particularly standard-issue rifles, such as by protecting the trigger well of firearms in a way that does not impede the purposeful use of the firearm.

Pet and Women Safety.—The Committee directs the Attorney General to enter into consultations with the Secretary of Agriculture as soon as possible, and enter into any memoranda of understanding as directed, in order to establish during fiscal year 2020 the requirements for grant application and execution under Section 12502 of P.L. 115–334, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, to provide emergency and transitional shelter options for domestic violence survivors with companion animals.

Female genital mutilation.—The Committee directs the Department to submit, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, an update of its fiscal year 2018 FGM report, to include its investigations and prosecutions, as well as outreach, education and training with a focus on community- and survivor-centered responses to prevent and respond to incidents of FGM/C.

Cyber fraud.—Cyber fraud and related cyber-enabled crimes pose a severe threat to the national security and economic vitality of the United States. Because of the unique nature of cybercrime, it is very difficult for law enforcement to respond to and prosecute cybercrime in a timely manner, leading to the current low level of deterrence and a rapidly growing threat. The Committee directs the Department of Justice and other relevant agencies to work with the private sector to establish best practices for active cyber defense techniques to better defend American companies from cyberattack.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$33,875,000 for Justice Information Sharing Technology, which is \$1,875,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request. The Committee includes funding as requested for the Joint Security Operations Center (JSOC), a critical cybersecurity investment, and expects the Department will use recovered balances from prior year obligations or use its discretionary transfer authority to meet any other needs for information technology transformation and cybersecurity, subject to the reprogramming procedures included in this Act.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$672,966,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), of which \$4,000,000 is from immigration examination fees. The recommendation is \$109,559,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request.

The recommendation will support the hiring of up to 100 additional immigration judges (IJs) and provide additional support staff and associated facilities.

The Committee was disappointed by the announcement made by EOIR on March 6, 2019, that serious budget constraints in fiscal year 2019 would impede the agency's work of hiring new immigration judges, training staff, acquiring new space, and investing in information technology upgrades. The Committee was not made aware of these budget concerns by the Department prior to the announcement. The Committee expects to be kept up to date regarding unexpected budgetary shortfalls in the future and expects EOIR to be more forthcoming in the future.

Interpreters.—The Committee recognizes that increasing numbers of respondents in immigration courts require the use of interpretation, but EOIR continues to struggle to obtain sufficient interpreters, including for rare languages such as indigenous dialects. The Committee understands that there is a potential budgetary impact for costs associated with these interpretation issues. The Committee is aware of reports that the Department has recently instructed immigration judges to order only one interpreter per morning and afternoon hearing session resulting in rescheduling and delays in hearings, and that respondents who speak rare languages are often forced to proceed with removal hearings in languages they do not speak fluently or have their cases delayed because the immigration court cannot obtain an interpreter. The Committee directs EOIR to provide the Committee, within 90 days of enactment, a plan to ensure appropriate language access for all respondents, including indigenous language speakers, noting any resource needs. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the Committee directs EOIR to report the number of continuances or adjournments issued for reasons related to interpretation, as well as whether the respondent was detained at the time of the continuance. The Committee further directs EOIR to submit a report, jointly with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and within 180 days of enactment, identifying opportunities for sharing of interpretation resources between DHS and EOIR, particularly for rare languages.

Legal Orientation Program (LOP).—For the LOP and related activities the recommendation includes \$25,000,000, of which \$3,000,000 is for the Immigration Court Helpdesk (ICH) program. The LOP improves the efficiency of court proceedings, reduces court costs, and helps ensure fairness and due process. The Committee directs the Department to continue LOP without interruption, including all component parts, including the Legal Orientation Program for Custodians of Unaccompanied Children (LOPC) and the ICH. The recommended funding will allow for the expansion of LOP and ICH to provide services to additional individuals in immigration court proceedings. The Committee supports access to LOP and ICHs and directs EOIR to evaluate the funding required and timeline necessary to allow expansion into all detention facilities and immigration courts. EOIR is directed to report the results of this evaluation to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

Legal Representation.—The Committee is concerned with the low rate of representation in immigration court and the recommenda-

tion provides \$10,000,000 in State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance for competitive grants to qualified non-profit organizations for a pilot program to increase representation.

Immigration case quotas.—The Committee is aware of EOIR's new review standards that went into effect October 1, 2018, which require immigration judges to complete a quota of 700 case completions per year to receive a satisfactory review. Although the Committee appreciates the effort to reduce the backlog, the Committee remains concerned that case quotas will threaten due process and affect judicial independence. Section 218 of the bill will prohibit EOIR's use of case completion quotas for immigration judge performance reviews.

Immigration judges.—For several years, the Committee has been concerned with the slow pace of hiring immigration judges and the unacceptable amount of time it takes to resolve immigration cases. The Committee understands that the Department is working to accelerate the hiring process and is deploying additional resources to those areas with the highest workload, such as the southwest border. EOIR shall hire the most qualified IJs from a diverse pool of candidates that includes a balance of candidates with non-governmental, private bar experience, and government experience. The Committee directs EOIR to continue to submit monthly reports on performance and IJ hiring and shall also include information regarding IJs who are temporarily deployed away from their permanent courtrooms, noting the permanent and temporary duty stations of each IJ and the length of such temporary duty assignments. In addition, EOIR shall continue to publish statistics regarding workloads, including those related to the number of cases where visa overstay is a relevant factor and the median days pending for both detained and non-detained cases.

Immigration Efficiency.—EOIR is encouraged to collaborate with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to explore efficiencies with regard to the co-location of DHS and DOJ components with immigration related responsibilities, including immigration courts, DHS asylum officers, medical care practitioners, and both Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) immigration officers.

Alternatives to detention (ATD) program.—The Committee directs EOIR to increase the priority of individuals enrolled in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement ATD program. Many ATD enrollees will be terminated from the program due to the enormous volume of pending cases on EOIR's non-detained docket schedule. EOIR should coordinate with DHS to ensure that individuals are appropriately identified and scheduled in an expedited ATD docket. The Committee directs EOIR to submit a report on the efforts to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

Video conferencing.—The Committee is concerned about EOIR's rapid expansion of video conferencing (VTC), especially its increased use of VTC in individual merits hearings for vulnerable populations including family units. The Committee directs EOIR to limit the use of VTC to non-determinative proceedings to the extent practicable. EOIR shall make publicly available all policies and procedures related to EOIR's use of VTC, including policies and procedures for EOIR's new immigration adjudication centers, and provide quarterly reports to the Committee on the number and

type of hearings conducted by VTC, including data on appeals related to the use of VTC and the number of in-person hearing motions filed.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Committee recommends \$105,500,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG), \$4,500,000 above fiscal year 2019. This amount fully funds the fiscal year 2020 request, adjustments necessary to sustain current services, and the enhancements requested for data analytics and the cyber investigation office.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$13,308,000 for the United States Parole Commission.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

The Committee recommends \$934,600,000 for General Legal Activities. Within the total provided, the Committee includes \$5,000,000 for the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division to implement the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016. Funding is also included to fund requested positions to strengthen consumer protection enforcement, and funding is continued at not less than the fiscal year 2019 level to sustain Office of International Affairs (OIA) operations and its Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty reforms.

The Committee has provided separate funding recommendations by office and decision unit as follows:

Office of the Solicitor General	\$12,488,000
Tax Division	114,931,000
Criminal Division	197,387,000
Civil Division	299,538,000
Environment and Natural Resources Division	109,552,000
Office of Legal Counsel	7,989,000
Civil Rights Division	153,588,000
INTERPOL	34,444,000
Office of the Pardon Attorney	4,683,000
Total, General Legal Activities	\$934,600,000

Civil Rights Division.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Department shall submit to the Committee a report detailing: the number of investigations opened in each section of the Civil Rights Division; the number of suits filed in Federal court by each section of the Civil Rights Division; and the number of cases that reached a final disposition (settlement, consent decree, or judgment) by each section of the Civil Rights Division. For each case, the report should indicate the animating statute and type of case the Division brought (for instance, if the case was brought under the Civil Rights Act, then the information should detail what type of claim and what Title the claim was brought under). The Department shall detail the number of cases appealed, and the type of case and claim involved. Lastly, the report shall include the number of current staff (and the specific

number of attorneys) assigned to each section of the Civil Rights Division for each time period.

Consent decrees.—The Committee notes the importance of the Department of Justice’s obligation to enforce settlements and consent decrees negotiated under civil rights statutes, including but not limited to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Fair Housing Act of 1968, and the pattern or practice investigations provisions under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The Committee directs the Department to enforce vigorously all consent decrees negotiated under any civil rights statute and directs the Department to report not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the status of its enforcement efforts.

*Impact of *Shelby County v. Holder*.*—The Committee is concerned that as a result of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, the Civil Rights Division has had to undertake resource-intensive litigation in order to fulfill its responsibility under the Voting Rights Act to ensure equal access to elections regardless of race, ethnicity, and linguistic ability. The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committee not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on how the *Shelby County* decision has affected the ability of the Voting Section to enforce Federal voting laws, including its ability to adequately monitor and ensure the fair administration of the 2020 Presidential election.

Fair housing enforcement.—The Committee is deeply concerned about the adequacy of the Department’s enforcement of racial discrimination provisions of the Fair Housing Act of 1968 (FHA), and directs the Department to report to the Committee not later than one year after enactment of this Act on FHA racial discrimination cases brought between fiscal years 2015 and 2020. This report shall list the number of Department of Housing and Urban Development housing discrimination case referrals received, the number of lawsuits filed, the number of consent decrees signed, and the number of any other settlement agreements entered into by the Department for FHA enforcement over this period. This report shall also identify funding and staffing that the Department devoted to disparate impact enforcement cases during this period.

Section 203 compliance.—The Committee appreciates receiving the Department’s 2017 and 2018 report on compliance with Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act and reiterates the importance of enforcing the language assistance provisions of the Voting Rights Act on behalf of the covered language minorities. The Committee believes data about such enforcement efforts should be publicly available, recognizing that the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice has investigated and come to agreements with several counties to bring them into compliance with Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. The Committee directs the Department to include in its fiscal year 2021 budget request an update of that report for fiscal year 2019, to include the number of Section 203 cases investigated, broken down by language(s) involved; the number of investigations opened and number closed, by reason closed (e.g., not enough evidence of non-compliance available, no evidence of non-compliance, etc.); the average number of

Section 203 investigations per attorney; and the average length of time per Section 203 investigation.

Elder justice.—The Committee recognizes the harmful impact of elder fraud, including but not limited to telemarketing, mass-mail, and tech-support fraud schemes. The Committee encourages the Consumer Protection Branch of the Civil Division to redouble its efforts to deter, investigate, and prosecute individuals and entities responsible for elder fraud and abuse, and has included the requested funding increase for consumer protection and fraud investigation.

Human trafficking.—The Civil Rights Division shall prioritize funding for the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit and the Department's Anti-Trafficking Coordination Teams to investigate and prosecute human traffickers. The Committee directs the Department to work with victim service providers and non-governmental organizations assisting trafficking victims in the United States.

Global Magnitsky Human Rights Act.—The Committee encourages the Department to hire additional personnel in the Criminal and Civil Divisions to increase the Department's ability to assemble and vet the large number of case files of individuals and entities subject to Global Magnitsky sanctions under Public Law 114–328, Subtitle F.

Animal Fighting.—Animal fighting is a crime that causes undue suffering to animals and is linked to violent criminal gangs and drug trafficking. The Environment Crimes Section (ECS) of the Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) has responsibility within the Department for criminal prosecutions arising from Federal animal protection laws, including enforcement of animal fighting statutes 7 U.S.C. 2156 and 18 U.S.C. 49. However, the Committee is concerned that the Department has not made it a priority to enforce animal welfare crimes. It therefore directs the Department to report not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on steps ENRD is taking to enforce animal fighting statutes and other animal welfare crimes in the States and U.S. territories; how ENRD measures its performance of this responsibility; and how the Department coordinates its efforts with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Inspector General on enforcement of such laws.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION TRUST FUND

The recommendation includes \$13,000,000, as requested, as a reimbursement from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund for the costs of litigating cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–660).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

The Committee recommends \$166,755,000 for salaries and expenses of the Antitrust Division, \$1,778,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request. The recommended funding level is offset by \$141,000,000 in estimated fee collections for a net direct appropriation of \$25,755,000.

Generic pharmaceutical antitrust.—The Committee is aware of a Federal Trade Commission study showing that some pharmaceutical companies use anticompetitive, pay-for-delay patent settlements that cost consumers \$3.5 billion in higher drug costs every

year by restricting access to effective and less expensive generic drugs. The Committee encourages the Antitrust Division to pursue antitrust cases against such companies and directs the Department to report not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act on the funding and full-time equivalent staffing it devoted to such generic drug pharmaceutical antitrust investigations and litigation for fiscal year 2018 and planned for fiscal years 2019 and 2020. The report should also include the actual and expected numbers of consent decrees, cases filed, and out of court settlements resulting from such efforts.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

The Committee recommends \$2,329,800,000 for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the 94 United States Attorneys' offices, which is \$117,800,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$75,259,000 above the request. The increase is provided to sustain hiring and program operations funded in fiscal year 2019 to meet rising workload for the investigation and prosecution of terrorism, and other serious crime such as drug trafficking and cybercrime, and includes increases of \$5.8 million for violent crime and \$4.3 million for opioid trafficking investigations and prosecutions.

The Committee recommendation includes \$1,747,080,000 for criminal litigation; \$553,329,000 for civil litigation; and \$29,391,000 for legal education.

Human trafficking.—The recommendation continues bill language requiring that each U.S. Attorney participate in human trafficking task forces, and the Department shall continue to submit semiannual reports on the performance of these task forces. The Committee directs the EOUSA, in consultation with the United States Attorneys, to provide sufficient support and training and technical assistance to each Assistant U.S. Attorney designated as the lead human trafficking prosecutor, consistent with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. Designating a point of contact will improve communication and coordination within each jurisdiction, including with victim service organizations, to better serve the victims of human trafficking and forced labor. In addition, the Committee also directs the EOUSA, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, to develop a process to enable survivors with T-visas to obtain expedited letters of support from the Department of Justice when their criminal cases are closed.

Drug trafficking and money laundering enforcement.—The Committee expects the Department to continue to make drug trafficking and money laundering enforcement an investigative and prosecutorial priority for Federal prosecutors, and to report on these efforts in the Department's fiscal year 2021 budget request.

Immigration prosecutions.—The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committee, on a quarterly basis, to begin no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on defendants who are charged with violations of 8 U.S.C. 1325 and 8 U.S.C. 1326 (improper entry or illegal reentry). The data should be broken out by U.S. Attorney district, and if possible, by defendants' nationality, gender, race, and age.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

The Committee recommends \$227,229,000 for the United States Trustee Program.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

The Committee recommends \$2,335,000 for the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, which is equal to the request.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

The Committee recommends \$270,000,000, which is the same amount as fiscal year 2019 and the request, for fees and expenses of witnesses who appear on behalf of the Government in cases in which the United States is a party. This appropriation is considered mandatory for scorekeeping purposes.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$17,000,000 for the Community Relations Service (CRS), and rejects the proposed absorption of CRS into the Civil Rights Division. This includes an increase of \$1,500,000 above fiscal year 2019 to implement Public Law 114-325, the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016. CRS has a unique role to play in the Justice Department. While not a law enforcement agency, CRS operates in all U.S. States and territories to advance justice and reconciliation by working with all parties, including State and local government units, private and public organizations, civil rights groups, and community leaders, to uncover the underlying interests of all involved in conflicts. It facilitates the development of mutual understanding in communities challenged by tension and conflict and helps them develop local capacity and tools to defuse tension and prevent hate crimes from reoccurring.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

The Committee recommends \$20,514,000 for expenses authorized by subparagraphs (B), (F), and (G) of section 524(c)(1) of title 28, United States Code. This amount is the same as the fiscal year 2019 amount and the budget request.

Section 528 of the bill requires the Department to submit a spending plan for fiscal year 2020. The Committee directs the Department to include in this plan proposed spending from the Fund, to include estimates of: Fund balances; equitable sharing payments; Joint Law Enforcement Operations obligations; and obligations by component.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$1,444,600,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Marshals Service (USMS), which is \$86,600,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$71,184,000 above the request. The recommendation sustains initiatives funded in fiscal year 2019; provides for additional Deputy U.S. Marshals for pri-

ority violent crime and gang initiatives; provides for continued aviation support; and supports consolidation of protective detail operations. Within the funding provided, the recommendation supports enhanced enforcement of laws relating to international travel of sex offenders, including through the Angel Watch Center.

The Committee has provided separate funding recommendations by decision unit as follows:

Judicial and Courthouse Security	\$485,215,000
Fugitive Apprehension	563,478,000
Prisoner Security and Transportation	268,379,000
Protection of Witnesses	61,163,000
Tactical Operations	66,365,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	\$1,444,600,000

Coordinated Information Sharing to Ensure Integrity of Sex Offender Tracking Systems.—Law enforcement agencies require the best information on criminals under their jurisdiction. The Committee encourages USMS, within funding provided, to support the National Sex Offender Targeting Center (NSOTC) in implementing coordinated information sharing to ensure the integrity of Federal, State and local sex offender tracking systems through the NOTICE, NSA Connect, and Alert 10–23 programs. The Committee hopes such support will help the NSOTC improve the exchange of information on offenders and communication among registry personnel.

CONSTRUCTION

The Committee recommends \$15,000,000, which is the same amount as fiscal year 2019, and \$29,000 above the request, for construction and related expenses in space controlled, occupied or used by USMS for prisoner holding and related support. The Committee expects USMS to apply this funding to its top priority projects.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

The Committee recommends \$1,792,461,000 for Federal Prisoner Detention, which is \$240,064,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$75,000,000 below the request. The increase in funding will help the USMS support anticipated increases for housing, medical, and transportation costs of the USMS detainee population.

USMS Contract Detention.—Within 120 days of enactment of this Act, the USMS shall submit a report on detention facilities used for Federal Prisoner Detention as of October 1, 2019. The report should list, for each such facility: its location; whether it is owned by a Federal, State, local law enforcement or private entity, and whether it is operated under contract with a private entity. The report should also identify, for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, any USMS contracts that allowed non-DOJ Federal agency detainees to be held in a USMS-contracted facility; the number of times such provisions were exercised; and the number of non-USMS detainees housed in USMS or USMS-contracted facilities.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$109,585,000 for the National Security Division (NSD), which is \$8,216,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request. This amount will help NSD meet its growing national security and counterterrorism workload, including its responsibilities under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA). Additional resources, as requested, are included to enable NSD to meet intensifying cyber and intelligence threats, and support expanded responsibilities related to foreign investment reviews.

Foreign Agent Registration Act.—The Committee is concerned about the Department's current guidance regarding the FARA commercial exception. The Committee believes the guidance has allowed U.S. agents of some state-owned enterprises, which are wholly-owned by their governments, to dodge FARA requirements, even though such enterprises take actions that directly promote the political and policy interests of their government owners. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Department to issue updated guidance requiring U.S. agents of wholly state-owned enterprises to register under FARA in those circumstances where the lobbying and public-relations efforts of such foreign firms promote not only the commercial interest of the entity, but also the foreign government's stated political and policy interests. In addition, the Committee directs the Department to report to the Committee not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the feasibility of requiring all filings by foreign agents to be made in an electronic data format that could be published in a digital format available to the public.

Counsel for Domestic Terrorism.—The growing threat posed by domestic terrorism, particularly homegrown violent and racist extremism, justifies a commensurate response by the Department. The Committee encourages the Department to consider elevating the position of Counsel for Domestic Terrorism to the rank of Deputy Assistant Attorney General, with sufficient staff and resources to meet rising investigative and prosecution workload.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

The Committee recommends \$570,000,000 for Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement, which is \$10,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$19,542,000 above the request. Funds included under this heading will support interagency Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF), which target high-level drug trafficking organizations through coordinated, multi-jurisdictional investigations. This funding level will sustain initiatives begun in fiscal year 2019. \$2,000,000 of the increase is provided for the National Opioid Initiative to support the anticipated rising number of opioid cases.

Decision unit subtotals.—The recommendation includes \$396,000,000 for investigations and \$174,000,000 for prosecutions. The Committee expects OCDETF to enhance its investigative, in-

telligence, and prosecutorial efforts through OCDETF-led activities, including the OCDETF Fusion Center, OCDETF Co-located Strike Forces and the International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center, and direct collaboration with State and local law enforcement, United States Attorneys' offices and the Criminal Division. The Committee expects OCDETF to focus additional resources on targeting opioid trafficking organizations.

Full-Time Equivalents (FTE).—The Committee directs the Department to submit an updated report on historical investigative and prosecutorial FTE levels for OCDETF concurrent with its fiscal year 2021 budget request at the level of detail provided in its December 12, 2018, report to the Committee. The report should include actual and projected investigative and prosecutorial FTE devoted to OCDETF cases for fiscal years 2020–2022, broken out by agency and funding source.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$9,455,928,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which is \$263,791,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$198,501,000 above the request. The increase will sustain programs carried out in fiscal year 2019, despite the interruption caused by the 2019 lapse in appropriations. Increased funding is included to further the FBI's critical missions to counter terrorism and protect national security, enhance counterintelligence and weapons of mass destruction programs, investigate white-collar and hate crime, target domestic extremism, defeat cyber threats, and pursue transnational organized criminal enterprises. The funding supports the Department's requests to boost the capacity and speed of the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), support FBI review of foreign travelers and visa applicants, includes an additional \$5 million to implement the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016, and maintains funding for shared operational costs of the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center.

In addition to support for FBI security missions, the Committee expects the FBI will use additional resources provided to increase investigation of white-collar, fraud, and hate crimes. Increased resources are included to build on fiscal year 2019 human trafficking investigations and the squads dedicated to such efforts. The additional resources should also support deployment of resources to high-crime jurisdictions across the United States and all its territories.

The Committee continues its direction to the FBI to allocate its agents and support staff based on unique threats and workload of each of the FBI's field offices to ensure that resources are effectively deployed to address the agency's highest priorities.

The Committee has provided separate funding recommendations by decision unit as follows:

Intelligence	\$1,755,037,000
Counterintelligence and National Security	3,871,639,000
Criminal Enterprise and Federal Crimes	3,249,270,000
Criminal Justice Services	579,982,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	\$9,455,928,000

Human trafficking investigations.—The Committee recognizes the complex nature of human trafficking investigations and includes funding to sustain and expand them, as well as associated intelligence collection, analysis, and sharing. The Director is encouraged to allocate additional resources for human trafficking cases and continue to designate a lead agent in each field office as a point of contact for slavery and human trafficking investigations. The Committee applauds the FBI for its collaboration with Federal, State, and local partners, and hopes it will use these relationships to address human trafficking across the country.

Universal Crime Report.—The Universal Crime Report (UCR) provides valuable information to local law enforcement, policy makers, researchers and others on crimes and their incidence. The UCR provides information on homicides regarding type of weapon used, including firearms, but not data on non-fatal shootings associated with robberies and aggravated assaults. Such information would help law enforcement agencies and researchers better assess the impact of policies aimed at reducing gun violence. The Committee directs the FBI to report to the Committee not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the feasibility of collecting non-fatal firearms-related incidents as part of the UCR, with an estimate of resources needed to accomplish this goal.

Aviation modernization.—The Committee directs the FBI to provide a briefing on its aviation modernization and upgrade programs not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act at the same level of detail as required by the fiscal year 2017 and 2018 appropriations Acts. The briefing should also cover plans and requirements for any programs to counter unmanned aircraft systems.

Hate Crimes Statistics Act (HCSA).—The Committee urges State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to include the cost of participation in the FBI's Hate Crimes Statistics Act (HCSA) program for the purposes of calculating extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes under Public Law 111–84 section 4704(b)(3).

Integrated medical support for tactical operations.—The Committee continues to support FBI use of external partnerships through its Operational Medicine Program to assist medical contingency planning and leverage the strengths of academic medical center partners to optimize medical support for critical missions. The Committee expects the FBI will pursue such work and integration across mission areas as appropriate and where medical support benefits are identified.

DNA analysis.—The Committee is aware of past concerns regarding delays in uploading DNA data from private laboratories to the FBI's CODIS database. The FBI is encouraged to continue monitoring profiles awaiting review to ensure no backlog exists and ensure efficient review and uploading of data to ensure no obstacles exist for rapid DNA matching.

Racial extremist recruitment.—The Committee is aware that a recent Military Times poll showed that one in four U.S. service members reported witnessing examples of white nationalism among their fellow troops. The Committee has also noted reports of members of white extremist organizations serving in the Armed Forces. The Committee directs the FBI to update its July 7, 2008 report, "White Supremacist Recruitment of Military Personnel since 9/11".

The update should cover all incidents in which members of white supremacist organizations attempted or were successful in joining the Armed Forces, or in which white supremacist organizations attempted to recruit active duty members of the Armed Forces.

Gun violence data.—The Committee is aware of the 2014 FBI/Texas State University study A Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the United States Between 2000 and 2013, and that the FBI has subsequently published more recent data using the methodology from that study. The Committee is also aware that non-governmental organizations, both academic and journalists, have compiled and published data on mass shootings. The Committee directs the FBI, in collaboration with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the National Institute of Justice, to report not later than 120 days after enactment of the Act on efforts to compile, analyze, and share gun violence data, and how such efforts can improve both documentation of mass shootings and understanding of mass-shooter motivation.

Cyber-stalking and threat crimes.—The Committee is concerned that the FBI and the Department have not yet submitted the report on their actions to address cyber-stalking and threat crimes as required by the fiscal year 2018 Appropriations Act. The Department shall submit this report without delay.

Canine detection of weapons of mass destruction.—The Committee expects the Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate (WMDD) to continue research, development, education and training of Federal, State and local canine detection teams to enhance their ability and capacity to detect chemical, biological, and emerging threats. The Committee understands that the United States relies on foreign breeders for the highest quality detection canines, which remains a concern. The Directorate is directed to work with academic partners, industry, and other government agencies to identify long-term solutions to ensure reliability of domestic supply.

Internet Crime Complaint Center.—The Committee includes funding to support the Internet Crime Complaint Center, which is an online crime complaint reporting mechanism used to report information to the FBI from either the actual victim or from a third party to the complainant on any Internet-facilitated criminal activity. Information is analyzed and disseminated, for investigative and intelligence purposes, to law enforcement and for public awareness.

CONSTRUCTION

The Committee recommends \$51,895,000, which is the same as the request, for the construction of FBI facilities and related activities. Funding in this account will facilitate and expedite work on current design and construction projects at Quantico, as requested, and address necessary secure work environment (SWE) building and modifications.

FBI Headquarters.—The President requested no funding, and the Committee includes no funding, for Headquarters consolidation or construction. As the Committee noted last year, the informal draft plan released on February 12, 2018, left most questions regarding a new headquarters unanswered, including the revision of long-standing security requirements and capacity requirements in the national capital region. The Committee is greatly concerned about the risks and continuing costs associated with operating in the cur-

rent, unsatisfactory headquarters. The Department should answer the concerns raised by the Committee and take steps to submit a formal prospectus to be reviewed and approved by the appropriate committees of Congress.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends total budget authority of \$2,800,000,000 for Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) salaries and expenses, of which \$443,142,000 is derived from fees deposited in the Diversion Control Fund, and \$2,356,858,000 is provided by direct appropriation. The recommended appropriation is \$89,858,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$77,705,000 above the request. The funding sustains activities funded in fiscal year 2019 and provides additional funds for at least five new heroin enforcement teams; enhanced cyber investigative staff and resources; enhanced capabilities for dismantling transnational criminal organizations; and sustaining Aviation Division equipment refreshment. The Committee has provided separate funding recommendations by decision unit for salaries and expenses as follows:

International Enforcement	\$492,289,000
Domestic Enforcement	1,850,547,000
State and Local Assistance	14,022,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	\$2,356,858,000

The Committee urges the Drug Enforcement Administration to expeditiously process any pending applications for authorization to produce marijuana exclusively for use in medical research.

Diversion control.—The recommendation includes \$443,142,000 for the regulatory and enforcement activities of DEA's Diversion Control Program. The Diversion Control Program is funded by fee collections.

Methamphetamine lab cleanup.—The funding recommendation includes \$10,000,000 to assist State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies in efforts to remove and dispose of hazardous materials at methamphetamine labs, to include training, technical assistance, purchase of equipment and a container program.

Prescription drug and heroin abuse.—The Committee continues to place a priority on reducing the crisis of prescription drug abuse and the record levels of mortality from overdoses of heroin, fentanyl and other opioids. The Committee expects DEA to provide the briefing on heroin and prescription drug diversion investigations as required pursuant to the fiscal year 2019 appropriations Act, to include related drug price and quantities, and prosecutions.

Drug Disposal and Takeback Programs.—The Committee is concerned by reports that 90 percent of Americans do not appropriately dispose of prescription drugs. The Committee supports DEA efforts to help the public safely dispose of unused and unwanted prescription drugs through drug takeback days and permanent drug disposal sites but believes more can be done. The Committee encourages DEA to consider in-home drug deactivation and disposal solutions that meet the agency's regulatory definition of non-retrievable, and evaluate their effectiveness, particularly in areas with high rates of opioid misuse or abuse, rural areas, areas

with high populations of individuals with limited mobility, and areas that lack permanent disposal sites.

Handheld opioid identification technology.—The Committee wishes to see DEA's State and Local Clandestine Laboratory Training and Clandestine Drug Laboratory Cleanup Program equipped with the most accurate trace and bulk detectors, as well as effective personal protective equipment. As DEA laboratories are acquiring new trace detection capability, the Committee encourages the agency to provide its field agents access to technology that allows them to identify opioids at low concentrations or at trace levels, as well as industrial-standard personal protection equipment. The Committee directs DEA to include, with its submission of its fiscal year 2021 budget request, a report on requirements for handheld detection technology and personal protection equipment, the status of providing such equipment, and the cost associated with fielding it.

Destruction of unwanted controlled substances.—The Committee encourages DEA to meet with commercial hazardous waste management industry members, including many who are reverse distributors for the receipt and destruction of unwanted controlled substances. Such meetings should include discussions about alternative methods of disposal, other than incineration, to meet DEA's non-retrievable standard, as well as alternative safety measures for the transportation of controlled substances for disposal, including secure tamper-proof evidence packages or security tape sealed drums.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$1,439,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), which is \$122,322,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$70,560,000 above the request. The recommendation fully funds the requested enhancements, provides resources for sustaining the enhancements provided in fiscal year 2019, and increased funding for both reducing the backlog of National Firearms Act applications and the hiring of additional Industry Operations Investigators to improve ATF's oversight of Federal Firearms Licensees.

National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN).—The Committee is encouraged by the promise of improved crime gun intelligence and information sharing, and expects funding provided in this bill will aid in interdicting crime guns and preventing gun trafficking through the NIBIN. The Committee encourages ATF to establish a NIBIN presence on the Southwest border and looks forward to receiving the update described in House Report 115–704.

Illegal firearms.—The Committee is aware that firearms enter the illegal market through a limited number of channels, such as straw purchasers, corrupt firearms licensees, unlicensed sellers, and firearms theft. Law enforcement needs transparent data about these channels in order to develop the most effective enforcement strategies to reduce firearms trafficking. The last time ATF provided a report describing the channels of firearms trafficking was in the year 2000. Since that time, the National Tracing Center has collected over five million traces of crime guns. Despite explicit authorization to release “statistical aggregate data regarding firearms

traffickers and trafficking channels, or firearms misuse, felons, and trafficking investigations,” since 2008 ATF has only released statistical aggregate data regarding the geographical location where crime guns were first sold at retail. Within one year of the date of enactment of this Act, ATF is directed to release a new report providing updated statistical aggregate data regarding trafficking channels and trafficking investigations.

Training and research.—The Committee supports the work of the National Center for Explosives Training and Research regarding both investigating criminal acts related to explosives, bombings, and explosives threats, and training involving State and local levels of government, and military units.

Firearms tracing.—The Committee is concerned about the high number of incorrect submissions by law enforcement agencies to ATF for firearms tracing. The Committee urges ATF to increase trace submission training for law enforcement agencies.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$7,325,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP), which is \$75,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$263,047,000 above the request. The Committee includes funding to fully fund required staffing and program costs to implement Public Law 115–291, the First Step Act of 2018, as well as requested increases for medically assisted treatment, correctional innovations, and initiatives to detect and interdict contraband cellphones.

The Committee has provided separate funding recommendations by decision unit as follows:

Inmate Care and Programs	\$2,807,544,000
Institution Security and Administration	3,372,594,000
Management and Administration	250,643,000
Contract Confinement	894,219,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	\$7,325,000,000

First Step Act.—The Committee includes \$75,000,000, as authorized under the First Step Act of 2018, to expand and develop opportunities for incarcerated individuals to participate in evidence-based, recidivism-reducing programming and productive activities.

Augmentation.—Although the Federal inmate population continues to decline from its 2013 high, overcrowding remains a serious threat to correctional officer safety, particularly at high- and medium-security facilities. The Committee repeats its direction to BOP to end its overreliance on augmentation; hire more full-time correctional officers to eliminate the need to augment them with non-custody employees; and improve staffing beyond mission critical levels in custody and all other departments. BOP shall continue to submit quarterly reports on inmate-to-officer ratios, including confirmation that at least two correctional officers are on duty for each shift at BOP facilities that house high security inmates, as specified in the fiscal year 2019 Appropriations Act.

Trauma-informed programs for female inmates.—The Committee supports the provision of trauma treatment to all female inmates during the first 12 months of their sentences to maximize the impact of such programs and commends the benefits of the BOP's Trauma Treatment Program, such as the Resolve trauma therapy program. The Committee, however, remains concerned about the lengthy waiting list for this therapy program, as well as for the prerequisite course. The Committee also regrets the lack of trauma programming for non-English speaking inmates. The Committee urges BOP to prioritize these programs, make them available to all inmates, at the inmates' discretion, within the first 12 months of incarceration, and expand language access for this trauma programming. The Director shall report to the Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on the implementation of these recommendations, to include the status of the waiting list for participation in such programs.

Menstrual hygiene products.—The First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–391) requires the BOP Director to provide menstrual hygiene products to prisoners at no cost. The Committee directs the Director to provide guidance on the distribution and accessibility of these products to all prisoners in BOP custody, whether in a Federally-owned facility or one administered by a private detention entity, to ensure each prisoner who requires these products receives a quantity the prisoner deems sufficient. The Committee also directs the Director to issue guidance that no visitor is prohibited from visiting an incarcerated individual due to such visitor's use of menstrual hygiene products. The Director shall report to the Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on the implementation of this policy.

Contraband cell phones.—The Committee encourages the Department to continue to work with the Federal Communications Commission to address the issue of contraband cell phones and other devices. These devices are being used nationwide by inmates to plan attacks, promote the distribution of controlled substances and weapons, engage in gang activity, and intimidate victims, witnesses, and correctional staff. The Committee directs BOP to follow up on the efforts described in its 2016 report to Congress on cell phone detection, managed access systems, and signal blocking technology approaches to thwart such devices. BOP must ensure that incarcerated individuals who use these illicit devices will no longer have access to the networks and spectrum to direct activities in or beyond the prison.

First aid kit enhancement.—The Committee is aware that first aid products endorsed by the Department of Defense Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (CoTCCC), such as hemostatic dressings, help reduce death or trauma caused by bleeding. To improve outcomes in crisis situations such as assaults by inmates on staff and on other inmates, the Committee encourages BOP to incorporate CoTCCC-supported dressings in first aid kits at Federal prisons.

Inmate calling rates.—The Committee directs the Department, in consultation with the Federal Communications Commission, to submit a report to the Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act detailing the rates and fees paid by people to communicate with inmates held in Federal correctional facilities since

the D.C. Circuit's decision in *Global Tel*Link v. Federal Communications Commission*, 866 F.3d 397 (D.C. Cir. 2017). The report shall include inmates incarcerated in all types of Federal correctional facilities across the country, including contract facilities. The report shall also include all types of communications services including telephone, video visitation, email, and other types of electronic communication.

Medication assisted treatment.—The Committee encourages BOP to make evidence-based relapse prevention treatment options available to inmates with a history of opioid dependence.

Personal firearms.—The Committee recognizes BOP's responsibility to control the use of firearms on BOP facilities and directs the Bureau to implement fully the Lieutenant Osvaldo Albarati Correctional Officer Self-Protection Act of 2018.

Parenting programs for pregnant inmates.—The Committee recognizes the Mothers and Infants Together (MINT) Program that promotes and facilitates mother-child bonding, and the Residential Parenting Program, which allows eligible female inmates to reside with their child for up to 30 months post-delivery. The Committee, however, is concerned about the underutilization of these programs, and thereby directs BOP to issue guidance to communicate parenting program opportunities and eligibility criteria to each employee and pregnant inmate, and to collect relevant data to assess pregnant inmates' interest and participation. Lastly, the Committee urges the Bureau to adhere to the Female Offender Manual and allow, at the least, a minimum of six months participation in the MINT Program. The Committee directs BOP to submit a report not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on the strategic plan to address these concerns.

Prison Rape Elimination Act.—The Committee expects BOP will continue to implement the Prison Rape Elimination Act and notes that facility audits are a key component in helping agencies move their sexual abuse prevention and response policies from written documents to everyday practices. Congress recently made changes to the audit process to ensure greater oversight of the audit process and improved audits. The Committee supports the Department providing the necessary resources to carry out this work.

Prison recidivism animal programs.—Section 608(a)(2) of Public Law 115–391 directs BOP to establish pilot programs that incorporate training programs with prisoners and abandoned or vulnerable animals to reduce the recidivism of incarcerated individuals, better preparing them for reentering society upon release. The Committee urges the Department of Justice and BOP to implement this section and report to the Committee not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the steps it has taken to achieve this goal.

Rapid testing for infectious diseases.—The Committee notes the healthcare challenges posed by infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C and acknowledges that such challenges are likely to grow as opioid epidemic-related infection rates continue to increase. BOP is encouraged to examine opportunities to increase rapid testing for these diseases and ensure affected individuals are aware of their health status.

Educational programs.—The Committee supports the Department's coordination and collaboration with Historically Black Col-

leges and Universities to provide educational programs for recently-released and soon-to-be-released criminal offenders to assist them in obtaining skills that will help them successfully transition back into their communities and reduce recidivism rates.

Formerly incarcerated women.—The Committee is concerned about the many challenges faced by formerly incarcerated individuals —particularly women, who make up the fastest growing incarcerated population in the country—as they reintegrate into their communities. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Department of Justice to conduct a study on the most common challenges faced by formerly incarcerated women (unemployment, underemployment, family reunification, job training and skills development re-entry programing, access to stable housing, mental health and substance abuse services) and provide its findings and recommendations on ways to better mitigate recidivism of formerly incarcerated women at the time it submits its fiscal year 2021 budget request.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The Committee recommends \$150,000,000 for the construction, acquisition, modernization, maintenance, and repair of prison and detention facilities housing Federal inmates. This amount is \$114,000,000 below fiscal year 2019, and \$50,795,000 above the request.

The Committee directs the Bureau to apply the funding, including the increase above the request, to reduce its longstanding maintenance and repair backlog, including communication equipment to support the BOP mission. BOP shall continue to provide monthly status of construction reports and notify the Committee of any changes reflected in those reports.

Detention facility infrastructure.—The Committee supports efforts to ensure that Federal detainees are held in humane conditions, especially those who are detained in Federally-operated facilities. The Committee was disturbed by reports of critical HVAC and electrical systems failures at Metropolitan Detention Center, Brooklyn. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to conduct and publish a report by October 1, 2020, on the current state of detention facility infrastructure in facilities operated by BOP, and facilities housing Federal detainees in private contracted facilities, including those that house BOP detainees on a contractual agreement basis with other Federal agencies. Such report should outline and define inadequate facility conditions that would potentially constitute a violation of the Federal right, as defined in section 3626, under Subchapter C of chapter 229 of Part II of title 18, United States Code. Such report shall include the number of facilities that exhibit conditions potentially violating the Federal right, including infrastructure deficiencies and challenges relating to the maintenance or repair thereof. For the purposes of determining if a deficiency may potentially constitute a violation of the Federal right, such deficiencies shall include, but are not limited to: (1) building core heating; (2) cooling and electrical systems; (3) emergency or backup systems; (4) building shell insulation; and (5) water leaks, mold, or mildew-related conditions impacting water infrastructure. The report shall also describe the mechanisms to be employed by BOP to repair, remedy, mitigate, or resolve such potential violations, and the estimated cost of such mechanisms.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, FEDERAL PRISON
INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

The Committee recommends a limitation on administrative expenses of \$2,700,000 for Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, which is the same as fiscal year 2019.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

In total, the Committee recommends \$3,401,800,000 for State and local law enforcement and crime prevention grant programs, including \$2,702,300,000 in discretionary appropriations.

STOP School Violence Act.—The recommendation provides \$125,000,000 for the STOP School Violence Act grant program. Within this amount, \$93,750,000 is provided to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for evidence-based school safety programs outlined in the Act and \$31,250,000 is provided to the Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) program. Through the STOP School Violence Act program, school districts should use funds for security hardening measures; evidence-based school threat assessments and trainings for school personnel and students to identify threats of school violence; locks, lighting, ballistic glass and other deterrent measures; safety and security of school premises by utilizing design elements and principles; and technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency.

The Committee reminds the Department of Justice that the COPS Hiring program may include grant award categories for School Resource Officers and directs the Department to provide a preference for hiring such officers.

The Committee recognizes the vital role of school design in the development and achievement of evidence-based strategies and programs related to school facility safety and security. Through the STOP School Violence Act grant program, school districts should consider using funds to compose school building design plans that strengthen the safety and security of school premises by utilizing design elements, principles, and technology that guarantee layers of security throughout the school premises and uphold the aesthetics of the school premises as a learning and teaching environment. The Committee clarifies that architecture and design services related to safe school design are allowable uses of STOP School Violence Act grant funding.

First STEP Act implementation.—The Committee acknowledges that an improved risk assessment system is essential for the accurate measurement of the dynamic risks and needs of incarcerated people. The Committee recognizes the importance of a transparent and timely process for setting up the Independent Review Committee (IRC). Furthermore, the Committee recognizes the importance of appointing members to the IRC who are geographically representative of all correctional facility communities across the U.S. and who have extensive knowledge of dynamic risk and needs assessment in both institutional and community settings. The Committee encourages the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to move forward on implementation of the IRC as quickly as feasible.

Office for Victims of Crime (OVC).—The recommendation provides \$2,838,000,000 for the Crime Victims Fund. Within available resources, OVC may implement Vision 21, which seeks to bring

better technology, planning, research, and data into the crime victims services field. The Committee recognizes the importance of grants for national hotlines serving victims and directs the Department to continue funding these programs.

The Committee directs OVC to provide an updated report to the Committee, not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, on the actions it is taking to ensure Crime Victims Fund resources are reaching communities most affected by violence.

Tribal assistance.—The recommendation includes the requested seven percent set-aside for tribal grants.

Opioids.—The Committee directs the Department, unless otherwise specified, to dedicate no less than the fiscal year 2019 levels of opioid-related funding for opioid activities in non-Opioid Initiative programs.

Persistent Poverty.—The Committee is concerned about access to DOJ grant funding in high-poverty areas and persistent-poverty counties. For purposes of this Act, the term “high-poverty area” means any census tract with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent as measured by the 2013–2017 5-year data series available from the American Community Survey of the Census Bureau and the term “persistent poverty counties” means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. When scoring competitive grant applications, the Department is directed to add additional priority, where practicable, to applications from grantees who can demonstrate that the individuals who will benefit from such grants reside in high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties. In addition, the Department shall provide guidance to such prospective grantees, especially prior to their application submissions, including to help determine whether they qualify for additional priority.

In addition, the Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committee on the percentage of funds allocated by each program in fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019 and estimates for fiscal year 2020 to serve populations living in persistent poverty counties and high-poverty areas. The Department shall report this information to the Committee within 90 days of such data being available and provide a briefing to the Committee not later than 180 days of enactment of this Act on how the Department is carrying out this directive.

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$582,500,000 for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), which is \$85,000,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$90,000,000 above the request. Funds are to be distributed as follows:

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
STOP Grants	\$222,000
Transitional Housing Assistance	41,000
Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women	3,000
Consolidated Youth-Oriented Program	20,000
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	62,000
Homicide Reduction Initiative	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Victims Services	50,000
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement	50,000
Violence on College Campuses	26,000
Civil Legal Assistance	57,000
Elder Abuse Grant Program	9,000
Family Civil Justice	22,000
Education and Training for Disabled Female Victims	9,000
National Resource Center on Workplace Responses	1,000
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	1,000
Indian Country—Sexual Assault Clearinghouse	1,000
Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction	5,000
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act	3,500
TOTAL, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs	\$582,500

Human trafficking.—The Committee encourages OVW to ensure that the Transitional Housing Program can assist victims of human trafficking, and the Committee urges DOJ to take these victims into consideration when distributing OVW funds.

Rural victims.—Victims of sexual assault living in rural communities are typically reluctant to report to law enforcement for fear of being exposed. The Committee encourages the OVW to implement projects that reduce barriers to the reporting of crime in rural areas, colonias, and persistent poverty counties and report to the Committee within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

Grant administration.—The Committee supports OVW plans to streamline grant administration, management, and oversight functions by converting manual processes and related forms to a web-based, online workflow process.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

The Committee recommends \$80,000,000 for Research, Evaluation and Statistics, which is the same as fiscal year 2019 and \$14,500,000 below the request. Funds are distributed as follows:

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Bureau of Justice Statistics	\$43,000
NCS-X Implementation Program	(5,000)
National Institute of Justice	37,000
First Step Act	(1,500)
Domestic Radicalization Research	(5,000)
Research on School Safety	(1,000)
Juvenile Online Victimization Survey	(1,000)
National Center for Restorative Justice	(3,000)

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS—Continued
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Corrections Related Research	(3,000)
TOTAL, Research, Evaluation and Statistics	\$80,000

Pretrial detention.—The Committee directs the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to collect information analyzing the population of individuals detained pretrial in local jails, State and Federal facilities, and private facilities under contract to Federal, State, and local authorities and report back to the Committee within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act. The report should include the number of individuals detained pretrial; the median duration of the pretrial detention period; the number of individuals detained pretrial who were offered financial release or not offered financial release; and the number of individuals who were offered financial release but remained detained because they could not pay the amount required. All data should be disaggregated by demographic and the level of the offense charged.

Misdemeanors.—The Committee is concerned with the lack of reliable data from States and local jurisdictions on the processing of misdemeanor arrests. As the largest aspect of our criminal system, it is vitally important to ensure justice is being administered in a fair and equitable manner. In recognition of limited resources, the Committee therefore urges the BJS to collect demographic data from a select number of large metropolitan jurisdictions that includes information on the race, ethnicity, and gender, as well as key socioeconomic factors, of each misdemeanor defendant, the type of offense charged, and the sentence imposed. The Committee also urges the Bureau to report on its progress within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Forensics.—The Committee encourages National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to explore partnerships with accredited universities of higher education for the purpose of providing national learning opportunities for law enforcement, district attorneys, and primary care physicians within functioning forensic laboratory and death investigation facilities. These partnerships should focus on collaboration between State departments of forensic science working in partnership with universities and local district attorneys, to provide a facility of prominence for forensic science education, training, research, and service, which will benefit current practitioners in the field as well as future forensic scientists.

Human trafficking research.—The Committee acknowledges the difficulty in estimating the prevalence of human trafficking, and the corresponding difficulty in gauging the effectiveness of the criminal justice system's response to the problem. Research can play an invaluable role in understanding prevalence and effectiveness through improved data collection and analysis. The Committee encourages the NIJ to continue funding research into human trafficking.

Opioid research.—The Committee recognizes that in-depth examination of fatal opioid overdoses, including fatalities following prior non-fatal overdoses, and trends in the evolution, trafficking, and

use of illegally manufactured opioid analogues, in combination with existing illegal drugs, can yield valuable information for law enforcement, hospitals, treatment providers, and prosecutors as they identify effective policy, interventions, and prevention strategies. The Committee urges NIJ to support regional efforts to undertake such comprehensive opioid fatality research.

Cybercrime.—The Committee remains concerned about the lack of information on crimes committed against individuals and facilitated by the interstate telecommunications system and notes that the fiscal year 2019 Appropriations Act required NIJ to issue a report analyzing these crimes. The Department is directed to submit the report in a timely manner to ensure the Committee has the information necessary to assess and deal with these crimes.

High-risk vehicle events.—The Committee encourages the BJS to develop a data collection process to accurately capture the number of deaths and injuries from police pursuit and high-risk vehicle events.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$1,933,000,000 for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance programs, which is \$210,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$450,800,000 above the request. Funds are distributed as follows:

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants	\$530,250
Officer Robert Wilson III VALOR Initiative	(15,000)
Smart Policing	(7,500)
Smart Prosecution	(10,000)
Juvenile Indigent Defense	(4,000)
Convention security	(100,000)
NamUS	(3,600)
Training Program to improve Responses to People with Mental Illness	(2,500)
John R. Justice Grant Program	(2,000)
Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review	(7,000)
Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution	(15,500)
Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance	(2,000)
Managed Access Systems	(2,000)
Kevin and Avonte's Law	(2,000)
Regional Law Enforcement Technology Initiative	(3,000)
Community Based Violence Prevention	(8,000)
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	260,000
Victims of Trafficking Grants	100,000
Economic, High-tech, White Collar and Cybercrime Prevention	14,000
Intellectual Property Enforcement Program	(2,500)
Digital Investigation Education Program	(2,000)
Adam Walsh Act Implementation	20,000
Bulletproof Vests Partnerships	25,000
Transfer to NIST/OLES	(1,500)
National Sex Offender Public Website	1,000
National Instant Criminal Background Check Systems (NICS) Initiative	80,000
NICS Acts Record Improvement Program	(27,500)
Paul Coverdell Forensic Science	30,000
DNA Initiative	142,000
Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grants	(100,000)
State and Local Forensic Activities	(30,000)

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE—Continued
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grants	(8,000)
Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants	(4,000)
Community Teams to Reduce the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Backlog	49,000
CASA—Special Advocates	12,000
Second Chance Act/ Reoffender Reentry	106,500
Smart Probation	(6,000)
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demo Grants	(5,000)
Pay for Success	(7,500)
Pay for Success (Permanent Supportive Housing Model)	(5,000)
Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement	(4,000)
STOP School Violence Act	93,750
Center for Campus Safety	(2,000)
Community Trust Initiative	80,000
Body Worn Camera Partnership Program	(25,000)
Justice Reinvestment Initiative	(35,000)
Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program	(20,000)
Opioid Initiative	375,000
Drug Courts	(83,000)
Veterans Treatment Courts	(25,000)
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment	(33,000)
Prescription Drug Monitoring	(30,000)
Mentally Ill Offender Act	(35,000)
Other Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act activities	(159,000)
Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)	(10,000)
Keep Young Athletes Safe Act of 2018	2,500
Immigration Representation Pilot	10,000
Emmett Till Grants	2,000
TOTAL, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance	\$1,933,000

Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne/JAG) program.—The recommendation includes \$530,250,000 for the Byrne/JAG program. Funding under this formula program is authorized for law enforcement programs including those that promote data interoperability between disparate law enforcement entities; prosecution and court programs; prevention and education programs; corrections programs; drug treatment and enforcement programs; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs; and crime victim and witness programs, other than compensation. Within the amount provided, \$15,000,000 is for the Officer Robert Wilson III Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement and Ensuring Officer Resilience and Survivability (VALOR) Initiative; \$7,500,000 is for Smart Policing; \$10,000,000 is for Smart Prosecution; \$4,000,000 is for juvenile indigent defense; \$3,600,000 is for the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS); \$100,000,000 is for law enforcement activities associated with the presidential nominating conventions; \$2,500,000 is for law enforcement training related to mental illness; \$2,000,000 is for the John R. Justice program; \$7,000,000 is for capital litigation and wrongful conviction review; \$15,500,000 is for prison rape prevention and prosecution; \$2,000,000 is for Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance; \$2,000,000 is for managed access systems; \$2,000,000 is for Kevin and Avonte's Law; \$3,000,000 is for a regional law enforcement technology initiative; and \$8,000,000 is for community-based violence prevention.

Uses of Byrne/JAG.—The Committee is concerned by the impact to law enforcement from the growing epidemic of prescription drug

and heroin abuse and notes that funds within this account may be used for the implementation of medication-assisted treatment to help maintain abstinence from all opioids and heroin. The Committee notes that Byrne/JAG funding can be used for pursuit technology and training to reduce deaths and injuries during high-risk vehicle events. The Committee recognizes the importance of de-escalation training and cultural sensitivity training and diversity in hiring in local law enforcement to ensure that law enforcement reflects the communities they serve. The Committee notes that Byrne/JAG funds may be used for these purposes and encourages the Department to award funds for these purposes.

The Committee encourages the Byrne/JAG program to provide additional resources to those communities that are taking part in programs that seek to lower homicide rates through data and performance measurement analysis. The Committee notes that Byrne/JAG funding may be used for mindfulness training for police officers. The Committee advises that some Byrne/JAG funds be directed to provide newer, more efficient forensics testing tools for rural jurisdictions. The Committee requests additional consideration be given to applicants who seek to hire service-connected disabled veterans. The Committee encourages the Department to support the use of these grant funds for the purchase of fentanyl detection equipment. The Committee supports awarding School Resource Officer grants to communities that are experiencing high levels of youth suicide, especially in smaller towns with limited resources.

The Committee supports the use of grant funding for the acquisition of operational management software to track mission critical assets. Tracking and managing resources, including radio communications equipment, mobile technology, and protective equipment enables and improves local law enforcement preparedness and operational planning. The Committee notes that Byrne/JAG funds may be used for these purposes and encourages the Department to award funds for this purpose. The Committee is aware of existing community partnerships with local law enforcement to link video monitoring technology to reduce emergency response time and increase collaboration between community partners and law enforcement. The Committee notes that Byrne/JAG funds may be used for these purposes and encourages the Department to award funds for this purpose. The Committee is aware of the value to law enforcement of gunfire detection and location technology and recommends Byrne/JAG funds be awarded for this purpose.

Emmett Till unsolved civil rights grants.—The recommendation includes \$2,000,000 in grants to state and local law enforcement agencies for the expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses involving civil rights, as authorized by the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–325).

Puerto Rico plebiscite.—In the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76), the Committee provided funding for the Department of Justice to help oversee and administer a plebiscite to ‘resolve Puerto Rico’s future political status.’ The Committee believes that to accomplish this goal, the current territorial/Commonwealth status should be excluded from any future plebiscite, since it fails to address key inequities. Despite previous requests to use this funding to help administer such a plebiscite, the Department

did not certify yet a plebiscite ballot to obligate this funding. The Committee believes that the Department has a responsibility to address issues of democratic representation and equality in Puerto Rico and the other territories of the United States, including addressing questions of political status. Therefore, the Committee instructs the Department to expeditiously act upon any request for this funding from the Puerto Rico State Elections Commission, and to notify the Committee of any requests for this funding. The Committee instructs the Department, within 45 days of enactment of this Act, to provide the Committee, as well as the Puerto Rico State Elections Commission, with a report regarding the acceptable versions of voter education materials, plebiscite ballot formats, and related materials that would allow the Department to obligate this funding for a future plebiscite.

Immigration Representation Pilot.—The recommendation includes \$10,000,000 for the OJP to establish a competitive grant pilot program for legal representation of immigrants who seek asylum and other forms of legal protection in the United States after entering at the southwest border. The Committee recognizes the compelling need to ensure due process for the growing number of immigrants who seek asylum and who must navigate a complex legal system for processing of asylum claims. Legal representation, which many asylum seekers do not currently have, will ensure that the system works more efficiently, cases are processed more quickly, and the legitimacy of asylum claims are correctly determined. Grants, including subgrants, shall be made to nonprofit organizations that are qualified legal services providers. The Committee expects that the pilot program will support direct representation, including pro bono representation where possible, of immigrants currently detained by ICE at one or two small or medium-sized detention facilities, immigrants released into the local communities around those facilities, and immigrants released from those facilities to one or two high-release cities. Grant awards should take into consideration continuity of representation to help ensure individuals are represented until their cases are complete. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the OJP shall submit a report to the Committee on the implementation of this program.

Smart Prosecution.—The Committee notes that throughout much of the United States local prosecutors' offices carry attorney case-loads well above recommended levels, lack critical support staff, and rely on outdated information technology to manage their case-loads. The Committee is concerned these conditions can negatively impacts victims, criminal defendants, and public safety. The Committee recommendation includes no less than \$2,000,000 from amounts provided for a competitive program dedicated to State and local prosecutor office modernization and caseload reduction.

Sexual assault kit backlog grants.—The recommendation includes \$49,000,000 for grants to address the sexual assault kit (SAK) backlog. The Committee encourages stakeholders and local law enforcement to continue working with Federal law enforcement to resolve this important issue. The Committee also directs the Department to do everything in its power to bring perpetrators to justice. The Committee also encourages OJP to increase its efforts to ensure that strong research and program evaluations are undertaken utilizing independent evaluators with the experience and skills to

provide necessary feedback and improve the efficiency of SAK processing. The Committee further encourages OJP to prioritize funding to underserved regions, such as Appalachia.

Wrongful conviction review.—The Committee directs the Department to continue to follow the direction in the fiscal year 2019 explanatory statement with respect to the Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review Program.

Opioid abuse.—The recommendation includes \$375,000,000 for programs to reduce opioid abuse, as authorized by the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (CARA; Public Law 114–198). Within this amount is \$83,000,000 for drug courts; \$25,000,000 for veterans treatment courts; \$35,000,000 for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT), of which no less than \$10,000,000 shall be available for facilities that offer more than one FDA-approved medically-assisted treatment option; \$30,000,000 for prescription drug monitoring; \$35,000,000 for the Mentally Ill Offender Act; \$159,000,000 for the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP); and \$10,000,000 for additional replication sites employing the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) model, with applicants demonstrating a plan for sustainability of LEAD-model diversion programs.

The Committee believes that communities must address opioid abuse through comprehensive strategies that incorporate enhanced enforcement, education and treatment. The Committee directs OJP to work with DEA, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the NIJ to develop, and help communities implement, best practices to address opioid abuse.

The Committee encourages OJP to develop and apply metrics that incentivize stronger linkages between the responsible agencies, including but not limited to law enforcement, prosecutors, community-based treatment centers, hospitals, medical examiners, and public health departments. The Committee also encourages OJP to prioritize comprehensive, real-time, regional information collection, analysis, and dissemination.

The Committee supports the use of COAP funding to provide law enforcement with overdose reversal drugs, such as naloxone.

The Committee believes it is essential to any comprehensive opioid prevention strategy to include a vigorous program designed to strengthen the ability of States and tribes to develop identifiable and accessible take-back programs for unused controlled substances found in the home and used by hospitals and long-term care facilities.

The Committee encourages the Department to administer drug court grants with maximum flexibility in order to best accommodate the needs and available resources of eligible jurisdictions, including rural jurisdictions.

The Committee is aware that there can be a correlation between those suffering from mental health disturbances and repeat criminal offenders. Therefore, the Committee recommends that funds allocated to the Mentally Ill Offender Act should prioritize the operational expenses for centers that provide assistance to those with severe mental health needs who are at risk of recidivism. These mental health centers can provide, but are not limited to, the following services: crisis care, residential treatment, outpatient men-

tal health and primary care services, and community re-entry supports.

The Committee is concerned by the high rates of re-incarceration among individuals with serious mental illness due to the inadequate management of their illness and encourages the Department to include long-acting injectable anti-psychotic medications as an allowable expense to improve treatment adherence and reduce risk for relapse and re-incarceration.

Strategic Mobile and Response Teams (SMART).—The Committee encourages DOJ to investigate the opportunity to conduct pilot programs to implement SMART at the Southwest Border. Border SMART Pilot programs should combine the use of officers and technology, including ground sensors and drones. The pilot programs should have inter-agency partnership and multi-layered security efforts, including marine, air, and terrestrial components, with the goal of increasing border security while reducing cost. The Committee reiterates its interest in receiving the briefing as directed in House Report 115–704.

Victims of trafficking grants.—The recommendation includes \$100,000,000 for human trafficking task force activities and for services for victims. These funds may also be used to develop, expand and strengthen assistance programs for child victims of sex and labor trafficking. The Committee notes that the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act established a Domestic Trafficking Victims Fund, which will provide additional resources for these programs. The Committee directs DOJ to support the victim-centered approach to recognizing and responding to human trafficking, especially across partnerships between Federal and local law enforcement agencies and victim service providers. The Committee encourages the Department to consider risk factors on a per-capita basis when making final funding decisions. The Committee encourages the Department to increase the number of human trafficking task forces funded by this program. The Department shall include a planned allocation of these funds in its spending plan.

First Responders.—The Committee is concerned about the increasing number of suicides among first responders. Due to this increasing prevalence, the Committee directs the Department of Justice within 90 days of enactment of this Act to submit a report on the feasibility of establishing an evidence-based behavioral health program for police and fire departments and other first responders that provides adequate training to identify warning signs of depression, stress, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and other mental and behavioral health conditions that the specific population is experiencing. The report should specifically identify how peer-to-peer assistance, mental health check-ups, time off after responding to a critical incident, and family training will help ensure the resiliency and health of first responders and police officers.

Rural law enforcement.—The Committee is concerned that many rural law enforcement agencies are under-staffed and under-funded, and often have no access to local or regional mental health and drug treatment services. In addition, recruiting and retention of qualified officers is difficult, and access to training is often out of reach because small departments do not have the funds to travel or to replace officers in their schedule to accommodate leave for training. While some rural agencies participate in multi-jurisdic-

tional task forces, conducting proactive investigations in small communities is difficult. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Department to develop programs aimed specifically at providing the funding, resources, training, and support that rural law enforcement agencies need to address the consequences of drug abuse, drug-related crime and mental health crises in their communities.

National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative grants.—The recommendation includes \$80,000,000 for grants to improve records in NICS. This level of resources will fully fund all eligible NICS initiative grants and the Committee will continue to monitor the demand for these grants and provide funding as needed. The Committee directs that the grants made under the broader National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) authorities be made available only for efforts to improve records added to NICS. Additionally, the Department shall prioritize funding under the NICS Act Records Improvement Program (NARIP) authorities with the goal of making all States NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (NIAA) compliant. The Department shall also apply penalties to noncompliant States to the fullest extent of the law.

The Committee understands that ATF is willing to provide technical assistance to all States seeking to establish programs that meet the NIAA requirements for NARIP grants. Even in the absence of funding exclusively for NARIP, the Committee directs the Department to continue these efforts. The Committee again urges OJP, ATF, and the FBI to assist States that are not currently eligible for NARIP grants in meeting the eligibility requirements.

The Committee encourages OJP to provide technical assistance and training services for current and future NCHIP and NARIP grantees.

The Committee also encourages the Attorney General to prioritize NARIP grants to States whose implementation plans include efforts to identify domestic violence abusers and others disqualified under section 922 of title 18, United States Code, who are ineligible to possess firearms under law, and especially States who will use a larger proportion of these grants for that purpose.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP).—The recommendation includes \$260,000,000 for SCAAP, which is \$16,500,000 above fiscal year 2019. SCAAP provides grants that reimburse States and localities for the costs incurred in incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens. The President's request proposed terminating this program.

DNA initiative.—The recommendation includes \$142,000,000 for DNA-related and forensic programs and activities, an increase of \$12,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level and \$37,000,000 above the request. Within the funds provided, the Committee provides \$8,000,000 for Post-Conviction DNA Testing grants, \$4,000,000 for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants, \$30,000,000 for other State and local forensic activities including civil rights cold-cases, and \$100,000,000 to meet the purposes of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program, which is an increase of \$10,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for this program. The Committee provides funding separately for this purpose to increase transparency and oversight of DNA Initiative funding.

Second Chance Act/offender reentry programs.—The recommendation includes \$106,500,000 for Second Chance Act grants. Excluding carveouts, the recommendation is \$19,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$21,500,000 above the request.

The Committee is aware that case studies of innovative, evidence-based practices provide strong indication that recidivism patterns can be reversed. The Committee expects that Second Chance Act grants will foster the implementation of strategies that have been proven to reduce recidivism and ensure safe and successful reentry back to their communities of adults released from prisons and jails. The Committee expects DOJ to designate funds for proven, evidenced-based programs that will further the goal of maximizing public safety.

To ensure the most effective use of Second Chance Act funds, the Committee encourages the prioritization of funding to communities where the largest populations of formerly incarcerated people return. The Committee directs a report from the BJS within 90 days of the enactment of this Act analyzing what the Department is doing to ensure funding is reaching these communities.

Community trust initiative.—The recommendation includes \$80,000,000 for a program to improve police-community relations. Included in this initiative is \$20,000,000 for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program, \$35,000,000 for justice reinvestment, \$25,000,000 for a body-worn camera partnership initiative.

The body-worn camera partnership initiative includes pilot and demonstration grants for purchase of body-worn cameras for police. This initiative will also establish baseline procedures for the use of body-worn cameras, support State and local efforts regarding the use of such equipment, and provide necessary research into the use of this technology. The demonstration grants shall require a 1:1 match by the grantee and shall not be used to pay for the ongoing costs or data storage costs associated with body-worn camera footage. The demonstration grants shall only be provided to States with laws governing the use of body-worn cameras and shall not interfere with State laws and requirements.

As the Committee believes that improving police-community relations will require more than just equipment procurement, the recommendation provides \$35,000,000 for the justice reinvestment initiative, which provides assistance to jurisdictions to implement data-driven strategies to improve public safety by reducing corrections spending and reinvesting those savings in efforts to decrease crime and strengthen neighborhoods. The Committee notes concerns regarding trial delays and bail conditions for incarcerated youth. Of the funds for Justice Reinvestment, \$8,000,000 is for innovative efforts among States and localities to reduce trial delays, ensure speedy bond consideration, guarantee that a juvenile's ability to pay is considered in setting any bond amount, provide mental health services for youth who are incarcerated, and reduce the use of solitary confinement on youth.

The Committee believes that comprehensive, career-long leadership education for all local law enforcement officers remains critical to reducing crime and strengthening relationships between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve, and the Committee notes that funds in the community trust initiative can be used for leadership training programs that provide measurable im-

provements in local law enforcement officer performance, adaptive decision-making skills, civic involvement, and officer-community relations.

Bulletproof Vests.—The Committee is aware that innovations in body armor materials are enabling the use of thinner, lighter armor with a longer useful life than traditional armor. The Committee supports the use of Bulletproof Vest Partnership grants for the purchase of such armor.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

The Committee recommends \$341,500,000 for Juvenile Justice programs, which is \$54,500,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$103,000,000 above the request. Funds are distributed as follows:

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Part B—State Formula Grants	\$65,000
Emergency Planning—Juvenile Detention Facilities	(500)
Youth Mentoring Grants	100,000
Title V—Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants	49,500
Prevention of Trafficking of Girls	(5,000)
Tribal Youth	(7,500)
Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal	(500)
Girls in the Justice System	(2,000)
Opioid Affected Youth Initiative	(9,000)
Children Exposed to Violence	(8,000)
Victims of Child Abuse Programs	28,000
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	10,000
Missing and Exploited Children Programs	85,000
Training for Judicial Personnel	4,000
TOTAL, Juvenile Justice	\$341,500

Youth mentoring grants.—The recommendation includes \$100,000,000 for youth mentoring grants, which is \$5,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$42,000,000 above the request.

The Committee recognizes the success of the Youth Mentoring program. Through trusted peer-to-peer mentoring relationships, in the community and in schools, Youth Mentoring grantees are able to provide needed attention and support to at-risk children. Mentoring relationships enhance a child's overall well-being by improving their emotional, social, and educational development.

The Committee directs that OJP provide at least \$20,000,000 for mentoring programs that assist at-risk juveniles and their families who have been impacted by the opioid crisis and drug addiction.

Missing and exploited children programs.—The recommendation includes \$85,000,000 for missing and exploited children programs, which is \$3,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$4,000,000 above the request. The Committee expects the Department to allocate \$40,000,000 for task force grants, training and technical assistance, research and statistics, and administrative costs for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) program. The Department is urged to include in its ICAC Task Force grant solicitation a prioritization of proactive investigations of suspects possessing, distributing, or producing violent and sadistic child sexual abuse imagery. The Committee expects the Department to allocate

\$1,000,000 to hire and equip wounded, ill, or injured veterans as digital forensic analysts or investigators to support child exploitation investigations.

The Department is encouraged to support the development, refinement, and technological advancement of widely-used tools, methods, and technologies that address child sexual exploitation and trafficking.

The recommendation provides no less than \$3,400,000 for AMBER alert activities to create and augment tribal systems.

Preventing trafficking of girls.—The recommendation includes \$5,000,000 for grants for nonprofits and other nongovernmental entities that have undergone rigorous evaluation and have a successful track record of administering research-based prevention and early intervention programs for girls who are vulnerable to trafficking and are most likely to end up in the juvenile justice system, at a State level. Funds shall be used to scale up and replicate these programs.

Youth violence prevention.—The Department should examine the possibility of directing additional funds toward evidence-based youth violence prevention programs and programs that reduce recidivism that can be scaled locally and nationally.

Bullying.—The Committee encourages the Department to provide funding within existing programs for evidence-based approaches to preventing bullying in schools, communities, and in cyberspace.

School discipline.—The Committee encourages the Department to explore implementing programs that are focused on disadvantaged students of color in elementary and secondary school that include a curriculum that prevents unnecessary trauma and harm, and counterproductive in-school arrests and expulsion, while incorporating positive alternatives to suspension, and promoting educational development and attainment. The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act detailing how the Department could partner with relevant stakeholders to implement such a program.

Arts-based programs.—The Committee directs the Department, in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts and arts stakeholders, to explore the use of arts-based programs and rigorously evaluate their impact on outcomes for at-risk, justice-involved, and traumatized youths.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends a total of \$141,800,000 for the Public Safety Officer Benefits program, which is \$13,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request. Within the funds provided, \$117,000,000 is for death benefits for survivors, an amount estimated by the Congressional Budget Office that is considered mandatory for scorekeeping purposes. Also within the total, \$24,800,000 is recommended for disability benefits for public safety officers who are permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury sustained in the line of duty, and for education benefits for the spouses and children of officers who are killed in the line of duty or who are permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury sustained in the line of duty.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$323,000,000 for Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Programs, which is \$19,500,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$323,000,000 above the request. Funds are distributed as follows:

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
COPS Hiring Grants	\$239,750
Tribal Access Program	(3,000)
Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance	(6,500)
Regional Information Sharing Activities	(38,000)
Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act	(2,000)
Police Act	12,000
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces	8,000
Anti-Heroin Task Forces	32,000
STOP School Violence Act	31,250
 TOTAL, Community Oriented Policing Services	 \$323,000

STOP School Violence Act school hardening.—The recommendation includes \$31,250,000, which is an increase of \$6,250,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for evidence-based school hardening measures including metal detectors, locks, lighting, ballistic glass, and other deterrent measures in coordination with law enforcement, as well as training for local law enforcement officers to prevent student violence, technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency, and other measures determined to provide significant improvement in physical security of schools.

School resource officers (SROs).—The Committee supports initiatives through the COPS Hiring Program to assist State and local governments with the recruitment and training of additional SROs to build working relationships with schools as a means to provide a safer and calmer learning environment.

The Committee acknowledges that school SROs are intended to serve in roles ranging from counselors, to tutors and mentors, in order to create opportunities for students to interact with law enforcement in a positive way. The Committee directs the Department of Justice to examine the current role of SROs on campuses and provide recommendations on how SROs can better serve the needs of the students. This report should include, but is not limited to, an examination of the roles and duties of SROs in the schools of grant recipients; the toll on students' academic outcomes as the result of an SRO presence on campus; and an examination of the instances of disciplinary actions taken against students by an SRO, including by race, ethnicity, and gender of the student, and the details and severity of the infraction. The Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act, including the Department's plan for dissemi-

nating this information to the public and relevant government entities.

SROs across the country engage with students on a daily basis and provide a wide range of important services to our nation's youth, including identifying depression and suicidal behavior among school children. SROs are in a unique position to identify and assist children at-risk of depression and suicide. The Committee supports awarding SRO grants to communities that are dealing with high levels of youth suicide, especially in smaller towns with limited resources.

Rural law enforcement staffing.—The Committee recognizes certain State and local law enforcement agencies in rural and low-populated counties are critically underfunded and understaffed. Some distressed regions have as few as two law enforcement officers on payroll to patrol its jurisdictions at a given time. These instances of chronic law enforcement understaffing pose a significant threat to communities. The Committee encourages the Department to fund grants for critically understaffed law enforcement agencies.

Law enforcement training.—The Committee recognizes the importance and success of the COPS Hiring program. Recent incidents of law enforcement killing unarmed civilians have highlighted the importance of strong, collaborative relationships between local police and the communities they serve. The Committee supports diversity hiring in local law enforcement to ensure that law enforcement reflects the communities they serve. The Committee encourages the Department to consider as a factor, when reviewing applications for the COPS program whether a law enforcement agency requires its employees to complete cultural sensitivity trainings, including training on ethnic and racial bias, gender bias, sexual orientation and gender identity bias, cultural diversity, and law enforcement interaction with people with disabilities, the mentally ill, and English Language Learners.

Active shooter response.—The recommendation includes \$12,000,000 for the POLICE Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–199). The Committee notes the importance of training partnerships that offer nationwide, dynamic force-on-force scenario-based training. The Committee understands the training has been adopted by numerous States and agencies as their standard active shooter training and that the FBI has adopted this program as its national training standard for active shooter response.

Human trafficking intelligence.—The Committee encourages programs funded under the regional information sharing activities to hire criminal intelligence analysts to compile information, reports, and other intelligence on human trafficking into, out of, and within the borders of the United States.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee has included the following general provisions for the Department of Justice:

Section 201 makes available additional reception and representation funding for the Attorney General from the amounts provided in this title.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds to pay for an abortion, except in the case of rape, incest, or to preserve the life of the mother.

Section 203 prohibits the use of funds to require any person to perform or facilitate the performance of an abortion.

Section 204 establishes the obligation of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide escort services to an inmate receiving an abortion outside of a Federal facility, except where this obligation conflicts with the preceding section.

Section 205 establishes the Committee's requirements and procedures for transfer proposals.

Section 206 prohibits the use of certain funds for transporting prisoners classified as maximum or high security, other than to a facility certified by the Bureau of Prisons as appropriately secure.

Section 207 prohibits the use of funds for the purchase or rental by Federal prisons of audiovisual equipment, services and materials used primarily for recreational purposes, except for those items and services needed for inmate training, religious, or educational purposes.

Section 208 requires review by the Deputy Attorney General and the Department Investment Review Board prior to the obligation or expenditure of funds for major information technology projects.

Section 209 requires the Department to follow reprogramming procedures for any deviation from the program amounts specified in this title or the accompanying report, or the reuse of deobligated funds provided in previous years.

Section 210 prohibits the use of funds for OMB Circular A-76 competitions for work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of the Federal Prison Industries, Inc.

Section 211 prohibits U.S. Attorneys from holding additional responsibilities that exempt U.S. Attorneys from statutory residency requirements.

Section 212 permits up to 3 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs to be used for training and technical assistance, permits up to 3 percent of grant funds made available to that office to be used for criminal justice research, evaluation and statistics by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and up to 7 percent for tribal purposes.

Section 213 provides cost-share waivers for certain DOJ grant programs.

Section 214 waives the requirement that the Attorney General reserve certain funds from amounts provided for offender incarceration.

Section 215 prohibits funds, other than funds for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System established under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, from being used to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to a known or suspected agent of a drug cartel where law enforcement personnel do not continuously monitor or control such firearm.

Section 216 places limitations on the obligation of funds from certain Department of Justice accounts and funding sources.

Section 217 permits DOJ to participate in Performance Partnership Pilot collaboration programs.

Section 218 prohibits EOIR's use of case completion quotas in immigration judge performance evaluations.

TITLE III

SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The Committee recommends \$5,000,000 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), which is \$544,000 below fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request.

Extreme weather.—The Committee notes that extreme weather events are complex, crosscutting problems that pose risks to agriculture, infrastructure, commerce, and human health while presenting a significant financial risk to the Federal Government. The Committee agrees with GAO’s March 2019 assessment that the Federal Government, in order to reduce its fiscal exposure, needs a cohesive strategic approach with strong leadership and the authority to manage risks across the entire range of related Federal activities. The Committee believes that the Federal Government should address resilience, preparedness, and risk identification and management that encompasses the entire range of related Federal activities while better positioning the Federal Government to effectively and efficiently respond to these issues. In support of these goals, the Committee directs OSTP to create and convene an Interagency Council on Extreme Weather Resilience, Preparedness, and Risk Identification and Management (“Interagency Council”). The Committee further directs OSTP, in coordination with the Interagency Council, to develop a plan, on an agency-by-agency basis, for government-wide implementation of resilience, preparedness, and risk management priorities. This plan should be produced no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act and should include assessments of required and available resources for Federal agencies to develop and implement extreme weather adaptation measures aimed at proactively mitigating risk and minimizing Federal fiscal exposure. The Committee directs OSTP to provide an intermediate report to the Committee, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on the activities of the Interagency Council.

Public access to Federally funded research.—The Committee appreciates the progress that OSTP has made to increase access to the results of Federally funded scientific research. OSTP shall continue efforts to coordinate implementation of public access policies across Federal departments and agencies and identify additional opportunities to enhance access to the results of Federally funded research. OSTP shall continue to report, on an annual basis, on the progress of departments and agencies in implementing their public access plans, including relevant measures of progress, and on additional steps being taken to improve access to the results of Federally funded research. The Committee looks forward to receiving the briefing indicated in House Report 115–704.

NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

The Committee recommends \$1,870,000 for the National Space Council, which is \$95,000 less than the fiscal year 2019 level, and equal to the Administration’s request.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The Committee recommends \$22,315,000,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which is \$815,000,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$1,296,000,000 above the initial requested level.

NASA's initial fiscal year 2020 budget request, which is \$481,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level, clearly reflects the Administration's unfortunate shift from legacy programs and programs with clear environmental and educational interests.

The Administration's shift in priorities is most evident in its budget request of nearly \$1,200,000,000 (over \$700,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level) for the Lunar Orbital Platform—Gateway and Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities initiatives. These programs strive to establish a permanent human presence on the Moon, and deploy a spaceship, called the Gateway, in orbit around the Moon to support human missions to the lunar surface. These activities are planned to be the first steps in human exploration from the Moon to Mars.

To increase funding for this Moon base and Gateway orbiter, the Administration chose to either reduce or eliminate many critical legacy programs, including Earth science programs that help monitor the environment, measure global climate change, and track rising sea levels. These programs include: The Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem (PACE) Earth-observing satellite; the Climate Absolute Radiance and Refractivity Observatory (CLARREO) sensor on the International Space Station, designed to lay the foundation for future long-term observations of Earth's climate; and NASA's Carbon Monitoring System that achieves levels of precision and accuracy to monitor, report, and verify the levels of carbon stocks and fluxes in Earth's atmosphere.

Additional programs that were proposed for elimination in the Administration's budget request are: The Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST), a NASA observatory designed to work in conjunction with the James Webb Space Telescope, with a view 100 times greater than the Hubble telescope; and the entire Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement account.

The Committee rejects these proposals and has included an additional \$881,100,000 above the request to support these critical programs, including additional funding to increase the availability of competitive research grants within Earth Science and a nearly twelve percent increase over the fiscal year 2019 level for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Engagement.

Program and project totals.—The Committee's program and project recommendations for NASA are included in the consolidated funding table below and in narrative direction throughout this report. The Committee reminds NASA that any deviations from the amounts included in the table below are subject to section 505 requirements of this Act. When executing its budget for fiscal year 2020, NASA shall incorporate the funding levels established in both the table and the narrative direction. NASA is reminded that comity has existed between the Congress and the Executive Branch with respect to abiding by language included in this report and in

the accompanying bill. The Committee expects NASA to respect this long-standing practice.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Science:	
Earth Science	\$2,023,100
Planetary Science	2,713,400
Astrophysics	1,367,700
James Webb Space Telescope	352,600
Heliophysics	704,500
Total, Science	7,161,300
Aeronautics	700,000
Space Technology	1,291,600
Exploration:	
Orion Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle	1,425,000
Space Launch System (SLS) Vehicle Deployment	2,150,000
Exploration Ground Systems	592,800
Exploration Research and Development	962,100
Total, Exploration	5,129,900
Space Operations	4,285,700
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)	123,000
Safety, Security and Mission Services	3,084,600
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration	497,200
Office of Inspector General	41,700
Total, NASA	\$22,315,000

SCIENCE

The Committee provides \$7,161,300,000 for Science, which is \$255,600,000 above the fiscal year 2019 appropriation and \$857,600,000 above the request.

Earth Science.—The recommendation includes \$2,023,100,000 for Earth Science programs. Despite the overwhelming benefits to the economy, coastal regions, and to humankind generally, the Administration eliminated virtually all major missions to incorporate selected ocean color and atmospheric aerosol measurement capabilities needed to ensure continuity and additional capability in the measurement record, and to demonstrate measurement technologies for a larger future mission to improve detection of climate trends. These missions, aimed at understanding the Earth system and its response to natural and human-induced forces and changes, will help determine how to predict future changes and mitigate or adapt to them. In June 2018, the NASA Administrator told a U.S. Senate panel that NASA should continue to monitor the Earth's carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to global warming. Despite the Administrator's persuasive argument, the President's fiscal year 2020 budget request chose to eliminate missions totaling

nearly \$190,000,000 that address human-induced forces with regard to climate change. The Committee rejects this proposal, and has included sufficient funding to continue such programs, and expects NASA to comply with Committee direction.

Earth Science Research and Analysis and Carbon Monitoring.—The Committee recommends \$508,200,000 for Earth Science Research, which is \$54,100,000 greater than the fiscal year 2019 appropriation, and \$60,300,000 greater than the Administration's request. Within this total, NASA shall provide not less than \$356,500,000 for Earth Science Research and Analysis, of which \$10,000,000 is directed for the Carbon Monitoring System, which was eliminated in the Administration's fiscal year 2020 budget request.

Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem (PACE).—The Committee provides \$147,000,000, which is \$14,000,000 below the fiscal year 2019 appropriation, and \$147,000,000 greater than the Administration's request, which would have eliminated this mission. The Committee does not concur with the Administration's proposal to terminate the mission because of its unique scientific value in aiding critical parts of the U.S. coastal economy like commercial fishing. The data to be generated by PACE builds upon a multi-decade effort by NASA and other Federal agencies to generate information from space that helps characterize and assess the health of the fisheries environment and to more accurately assess the status of fish stocks. Such information cannot be replicated elsewhere, and industry itself does not have the financial means to acquire wide scale data such as that generated by PACE and its precursor missions. Therefore, the Committee sees any effort to terminate this mission as shortsighted and based upon incomplete analysis of the benefits of PACE's data to U.S. coastal economies, the provision of which is an inherently governmental responsibility. In providing this appropriation, the Committee directs NASA to provide and report, concurrent with the operating plan, including details on NASA's efforts to maintain a 2022 launch date for this mission. Therefore, the Committee directs NASA to include adequate funding for PACE in the fiscal year 2021 budget request.

Climate Absolute Radiance and Refractivity Observatory (CLARREO) Pathfinder.—The Committee provides \$26,000,000 for this mission, \$8,000,000 greater than the fiscal year 2019 appropriation, and \$26,000,000 greater than the Administration's request, which would have eliminated the mission. The Committee does not concur with the Administration's proposal to terminate this mission because the CLARREO Pathfinder mission demonstrates measurement technologies required for a future mission recommended in the 2007 decadal survey focused on improving detection of climate trends. Therefore, the Committee directs NASA to include adequate funding for CLARREO in the fiscal year 2021 budget request.

Venture Class Missions.—Within the amounts provided for Earth Science, the Committee recommends up to \$205,200,000 for NASA's Venture Class Missions. NASA's Earth Venture Class Missions provide frequent flight opportunities for high-quality, low-cost Earth science investigations that can be developed and flown in five years or less. NASA selects the investigations through open competitions to ensure broad community involvement and encourage innovative

approaches. Successful investigations enhance our capability to understand the current state of the Earth system and enable continual improvement in the prediction of future changes.

University Small Satellite Missions.—The Committee supports NASA's collaborative efforts with U.S. colleges and universities to conduct research through small spacecraft missions, including CubeSat and SmallSat missions. The Committee believes these competitively selected projects help train the next generation of scientists and provide much-needed research. The Committee directs NASA to provide not less than \$25,000,000 for these missions.

Planetary Science.—The Planetary Science Research program provides the scientific foundation for data returned from NASA missions exploring the solar system. It is also NASA's primary interface with university faculty and graduate students in this field and the research community in general. These studies enable planetary scientists to answer specific questions about, and increase the understanding of, the origin and evolution of the solar system.

Lunar Discovery and Exploration.—The Committee supports the requested level of \$210,000,000 for the Lunar Discovery and Exploration program, including \$22,000,000 for the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter and \$57,500,000 for the new Lunar Future initiative to address the strategic knowledge gaps important for human exploration of the Moon.

Planetary Defense.—Within Planetary Science, Planetary Defense programs, the Committee provides \$160,000,000 to fund NASA's Planetary Defense program and recommends not less than \$72,400,000 be made available for the upcoming Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission. Additionally, within Planetary Defense programs, Other Missions and Data Analysis, funding is included for continued development of the Near Earth Object Camera (NEOCam). The Committee remains supportive of the NEOCam mission, which follows a 2010 National Academy of Sciences report regarding the use of space-based infrared survey telescopes to discover asteroids that pose a hazard to Earth. The recommendation includes no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for NEOCam. The Committee understands that NASA is awaiting a report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) to provide independent advice regarding NEOCam in a study to be completed by the second quarter of 2019, pending the internal review process. Additionally, NASA shall maintain no less than current funding levels for its use of the National Science Foundation's ground-based telescopes to fulfill its planetary protection mission and determine if additional funds are required.

Mars Exploration Program.—The Committee provides \$570,000,000, which is \$23,500,000 greater than the requested level, for the Mars Exploration Program to ensure launch of the Mars 2020 mission and to further development of a Mars Sample Return mission to be launched in 2026. Given that sample return was the highest priority of the previous planetary science decadal survey, NASA shall provide the Committee with a year-by-year future funding profile for a planned focused Mars sample return mission to be ready for a 2026 launch. In addition, the Committee endorses the mid-term decadal survey recommendation for NASA to develop a comprehensive Mars program architecture, strategic

plan, and management structure that maximizes synergy among existing and future domestic and international missions and science optimization at the architectural level.

Jupiter Europa Missions.—The Committee provides \$592,600,000, which is \$47,600,000 greater than fiscal year 2019, and equal to the requested level, for the Europa Clipper Mission. The Clipper mission will explore Europa, the smallest of the four Galilean moons orbiting Jupiter, and investigate its habitability.

Jupiter Europa Lander.—The Committee provides no additional funding for the Jupiter Europa Lander. In fiscal year 2019, the Committee provided \$195,000,000 for the Jupiter Europa Lander. Development of the Jupiter Europa Lander is a priority and the Committee wishes to see research and development of the Lander continue. The Committee understands that funding provided in fiscal year 2019 is sufficient to continue research and development through fiscal year 2020. Therefore, additional funding is not provided for Lander in this Act. However, the Committee directs NASA to include adequate funding for continued research and development of the Jupiter Europa Lander in the fiscal year 2021 budget request.

Icy Satellites Surface Technology.—The Committee provides \$60,000,000, which is \$25,000,000 greater than fiscal year 2019, and \$57,800,000 greater than the requested level, for Icy Satellites Surface Technology to meet the science goals for the Jupiter Europa mission as recommended in previous Planetary Science Decadal surveys and to enable a lander on Europa by the next decade, based on input from the next Planetary Science Decadal survey.

Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA).—Within Astrophysics, the Committee provides \$85,200,000, which is equal to fiscal year 2019, and \$12,200,000 greater than the requested level, for the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA). Working collectively with other space telescopes, including Hubble and Spitzer, these observatories create a comprehensive web of information and data that spans both the electromagnetic spectrum and time itself.

Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST).—The Committee provides \$510,700,000, which is \$198,500,000 greater than fiscal year 2019, and \$510,700,000 greater than the Administration's requested level, which would have eliminated WFIRST. This mission was included as the highest priority in the 2010 Astrophysics Decadal Survey. The recommended amount shall include \$65,000,000 for continued development of the coronagraph as a technology demonstration mission. The WFIRST telescope continuation is essential to unravel the secrets of dark energy and dark matter, search for and image exoplanets, and explore many topics in infrared astrophysics.

Heliophysics.—The Committee provides \$704,500,000, which is \$15,500,000 below fiscal year 2019, and equal to the Administration's requested level for Heliophysics. Heliophysics studies the nature of the Sun and how it influences the very nature of space. Studying this system helps us understand fundamental information about how the universe works and helps protect technology and astronauts in space.

AERONAUTICS

The Committee provides \$700,000,000 for Aeronautics, which is \$25,000,000 below fiscal year 2019 and \$33,100,000 above the Administration's requested level.

Hypersonics Technology Project.—Within amounts provided, no less than \$60,000,000 is for NASA's ongoing Hypersonics Technology Project. This project coordinates closely with partners in the Department of Defense so that NASA can leverage their investments in ground and flight activities to develop and validate advanced physics-based computational models as building blocks towards the long-term vision. Focus areas for the project include hypersonic propulsion systems, reusable vehicle technologies, high-temperature materials, and systems analysis. The development of new hypersonic capabilities, generally faster than mach five, focuses on sustaining hypersonic competency for national needs while advancing fundamental hypersonics research.

Electric Air Flight.—The Committee encourages strengthening collaborations between NASA, the Department of Energy, and national laboratories to overcome energy storage challenges for mobility such as electric air flight. Additionally, the Committee encourages efforts to overcome technological barriers in demonstrating the capability of electrified aircraft, such as higher energy density batteries, development of new, lower-cost materials, and the establishment of testing methods and protocols.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

The Committee recommends \$1,291,600,000 for Space Technology, which is \$364,700,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$277,300,000 above the Administration's requested level.

Space Technology Mission Directorate.—The Committee reaffirms its support for the independence of the Space Technology Mission Directorate and recognizes that its current status enables it to support the development of a wide array of various technologies. This diverse portfolio contains technology development activities that have broad applications beyond human exploration and that help to meet the agency's science objectives, establish new commercial and academic partnerships, and stimulate the growth of the nation's technology sector. This approach also ensures that NASA technologists and their external partners maintain the ability to address long-term strategic goals rather than only focusing on short-term, mission-specific objectives. In addition, the Directorate's direct engagement with the academic community is supporting the development of the next generation of space technologists. The Committee directs NASA to preserve the Directorate as a standalone entity within the agency, and to maintain its focus on broad technology development goals that are independent of mission-specific needs.

Regional economic development.—The Committee provides \$8,000,000, which is \$3,000,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$8,000,000 above the Administration's requested level for NASA's regional economic development program that focuses on partnerships with State and regional economic development organizations as they expand space-related commercial opportunities designed to address NASA mission needs.

Nuclear thermal propulsion technology.—The Committee provides \$125,000,000, which is \$25,000,000 greater than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount, and \$125,000,000 greater than the Administration's requested level, which was zero, for continued development and demonstration of a nuclear thermal propulsion system. Within 180 days of the enactment of this Act, NASA shall submit a multi-year plan that enables a nuclear thermal propulsion demonstration, including the timeline associated with the space demonstration, and a description of future missions and propulsion and power systems enabled by this capability. NASA shall take into consideration the use of nuclear thermal propulsion as it drafts the multi-year exploration roadmap directed in this bill. Further, within the amounts provided for nuclear thermal propulsion, up to \$10,000,000 may be used to develop a digital twin model to support the cost-effective development, manufacturing, and operation of nuclear thermal propulsion technologies.

Technology Maturation—In-Space Robotic Manufacturing and Assembly.—The Committee provides \$72,200,000, which is \$37,200,000 greater than fiscal year 2019, and equal to the Administration's requested level, for In-Space Robotic Manufacturing and Assembly. Within this appropriation is \$14,300,000 for additive manufacturing, a process that will transform the traditional spacecraft-manufacturing model by enabling in-space creation of large spacecraft systems. No longer will developing, building, and qualifying a spacecraft focus so heavily on an integrated system that must survive launch loads and environments. These crosscutting technologies could also greatly reduce cost while increasing capabilities for both NASA and commercial space applications. Across all NASA accounts, funding is included for In-Space Robotic Manufacturing, of which nearly \$35,000,000 is included for additive manufacturing. Further, the Committee supports additive manufacturing efforts focused on sub-scale work, including the development of digital twin technologies.

Technology Demonstration Mission—Satellite Servicing/Restore-L.—The Committee provides \$180,000,000, which is equal to the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level and \$134,700,000 greater than the Administration's fiscal year 2020 requested level, for the Restore-L program to conduct an orbital refueling mission in 2022. These funds shall be used exclusively for activities related to and associated with the Restore-L spacecraft and any demonstrations that it will conduct or support. The Committee recognizes and encourages the development of satellite servicing to benefit not only NASA, but the Department of Defense, the Intelligence Community, and the private sector. Moreover, the Committee directs NASA to encourage other government entities to take full advantage of Restore-L's capabilities.

Solar Electric Propulsion.—The Committee provides \$48,100,000, which is equal to the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level, and \$4,700,000 greater than the Administration's fiscal year 2020 requested level, for solar electric propulsion activities. According to NASA, high-powered solar electric propulsion can efficiently propel more ambitious robotic science and human exploration missions beyond the Earth and into deep space. Furthermore, solar electric propulsion will enable more efficient orbit transfer of spacecraft

and accommodate the increasing power demands for government and commercial satellites.

Flight opportunities small launch technology platform.—Within amounts provided, no less than \$25,000,000 is for the Flight Opportunities Program to enable NASA to continue to partner with commercial industry to advance technologies for sub-orbital and orbital launch vehicles for small payloads, with the aim to increase affordability of those technologies and to allow for more frequent access to relevant launch environments, including low-Earth orbit. This funding fills a research gap by offering several minutes of micro-gravity research at a relatively low price. Of this amount, \$5,000,000 is dedicated for competitively-selected opportunities in support of payload development and flight of K–12 and collegiate educational payloads.

Advanced Technologies to Support Air Revitalization Initiative.—The Committee provides \$3,500,000, equal to the fiscal year 2020 request level, for NASA to support university and industry research related to the development and application of ionic liquid-based technologies to aid in air revitalization systems.

EXPLORATION

The Committee provides \$5,129,900,000 for Exploration, which is \$79,100,000 above fiscal year 2019, and \$108,200,000 above the Administration's requested level.

Orion.—The Committee provides \$1,425,000,000, which is \$75,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level, and \$158,800,000 greater than the Administration's fiscal year 2020 requested level for Orion. NASA shall keep the Committee informed of the status of activities related to Orion, the European Service Module, and ongoing activities related to integration of Orion with Space Launch System and associated ground infrastructure.

Space Launch System (SLS).—The Committee provides \$2,150,000,000, which is equal to the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level, and \$374,600,000 greater than the Administration's fiscal year 2020 requested level for SLS.

Exploration Ground Systems (EGS).—The Committee provides \$592,800,000, which is equal to the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level, and \$192,700,000 greater than the Administration's fiscal year 2020 requested level for Exploration Ground Systems (EGS). Within this amount, \$50,000,000 is included for the second mobile launch platform.

Exploration missions.—In its 2014 report, *Actions Needed to Improve Transparency and Assess Long-Term Affordability of Human Exploration Programs*, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommended that NASA establish a separate cost and schedule baseline for work required to support Space Launch System (SLS) Block I Exploration Mission-2 and establish separate cost and schedule baselines for each additional capability of SLS, Orion, and associated exploration ground systems that encompass all life-cycle costs, to include operations and sustainment. The NASA Office of Inspector General made a similar recommendation in its April 2017 report, *NASA's Plans for Human Exploration Beyond Low Earth Orbit*, noting that NASA should establish more rigorous cost and schedule estimates for the SLS and exploration ground programs for the EM–2 mission mapped to available re-

sources and future budget assumptions. Accordingly, NASA shall, within one year of enactment of this Act, establish the agency cost and schedule commitments for the launch readiness date for SLS and the associated ground systems for EM-2. If additional development efforts occur outside the scope of work for EM-2—such as, but not limited to, Exploration Upper Stage and a second Mobile Launcher—then NASA shall establish separate cost and schedule baselines for each additional capability of SLS, Orion, and associated ground systems that exceed the \$250,000,000 threshold for designation as a major project and ensure they encompass all life-cycle costs, to include operations and sustainment.

Human exploration programs.—The Committee directs GAO to continue its review of NASA's human exploration programs, specifically the SLS program, the Orion program, and Exploration Ground Systems, to include the mobile launch platforms, and to include integration and software development issues that cut across these programs. In addition, the Committee directs GAO to review NASA's lunar-focused programs, including the Gateway program and other programs or projects that are expected to have an estimated life-cycle cost over \$250,000,000, as part of GAO's semi-annual assessment of NASA major projects. Separately, the Committee directs GAO to continue conducting in-depth reviews of NASA's lunar-focused programs. GAO shall report on the acquisition progress of these programs, as well as any challenges NASA faces in implementing its lunar efforts, as applicable. GAO shall provide periodic updates to the Committee on these reviews.

Monitoring Program Costs and Execution.—The Committee recommends that NASA adhere to the open priority recommendations provided by GAO. These nine priority recommendations relate to: (1) monitoring program costs and execution, and (2) improving efficiency and effectiveness. One recommendation regarding the International Space Station will be addressed in separate report language related to Space Operations. Further, within 90 days after enactment of this Act, NASA is directed to report to the Committee on its efforts to implement the priority GAO recommendations, and, if necessary, provide the Committee with adequate justification as to why NASA has failed, or will not comply.

Recommendations for monitoring and execution not mentioned elsewhere in this report include: to decrease the risk of cost and schedule overruns, NASA should identify a range of possible missions for each future SLS variant that includes cost and schedule estimates and plans for how those possible missions would fit within NASA's funding profile; to decrease the risk of cost and schedule overruns and to promote affordability, before finalizing acquisition plans for future capability variants, NASA should assess the full range of competition opportunities and assess the extent to which development and production of future elements of the SLS could be competitively procured; to improve NASA management and oversight of its spaceflight projects, and to improve the reliability of project earned value management (EVM) data, NASA should modify the NASA Procedural Requirements 7120.5 to require projects to implement a formal surveillance program that: (1) Ensures anomalies in contractor-delivered and in-house monthly EVM reports are identified and explained, and report periodically to the center and mission directorate's leadership on relevant trends in

the number of unexplained anomalies; (2) Ensures consistent use of work breakdown structures (WBSs) for both the EVM report and the schedule; (3) Ensures that lower-level EVM data reconcile with project-level EVM data using the same WBS; (4) Improves underlying schedules so that they are properly sequenced using predecessor and successor dependencies and are free of constraints to the extent practicable so that the EVM baseline is reliable; and (5) to provide reliable estimates of program cost and schedule that are useful to support management and stakeholder decisions, NASA should direct the Orion program to perform an updated Joint Cost and Schedule Confidence Level analysis in adherence with cost and schedule estimating best practices.

Recommendations for improving efficiency and effectiveness include: NASA should coordinate with the Office of Science and Technology Policy's Research Business Models working group to identify additional areas where they can standardize administrative research requirements.

NASA shall report to the Committee on all these efforts no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

SPACE OPERATIONS

The Committee provides \$4,285,700,000 for Space Operations, which is \$353,400,000 below fiscal year 2019 and equal to the requested level.

International Space Station (ISS).—The Committee recommends that NASA adhere to the open priority recommendation provided by the GAO to develop and maintain a contingency plan for ensuring a presence on the ISS until a Commercial Crew Program contractor is certified.

Public-Private Partnerships.—The Committee supports public-private partnerships to advance commercial capabilities in LEO, particularly those involving in-kind contributions by NASA, such as providing a docking node on the ISS available for partnership opportunities.

Female Astronaut Equipment.—The Committee is concerned by reports that a lack of adequate equipment prevented two female astronauts from completing an historic spacewalk together aboard the International Space Station. The Committee directs NASA to work with International Space Station partners to ensure that adequate equipment is available in the future, and to determine if additional resources are required to meet such a request. Therefore, within 90 days after enactment of this Act, NASA shall report to the Committee on the resources necessary to make adequate equipment available, the timelines required to make such adequate equipment available, and plans for providing adequate equipment in the future.

21st Century Launch Complex Program.—Within the amounts provided for Space Operations, the recommendation includes up to the fiscal year 2019 levels for the 21st Century Launch Complex Program. The Committee remains concerned with regard to efforts directed toward filling critical maintenance, capacity, and range safety gaps at NASA launch facilities. The Committee directs that within 90 days after enactment of this Act, NASA shall report to the Committee regarding the critical maintenance requirements, capacity, range safety gaps backlog, and associated costs at all

NASA-owned launch complexes, criteria for awarding funds, and plans for future funding requests for this critical space infrastructure program.

Commercial Crew Program.—The Commercial Crew Program is critical to ensuring the United States has safe and reliable domestic human spaceflight access to low Earth orbit. The Committee supports the efforts of NASA and its industry partners to begin operational missions transporting NASA and international partner astronauts. To ensure continued innovation in safety systems and to appropriately support ongoing test activities, the Committee supports the requested level for the Commercial Crew Program. Further, not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act, NASA is directed to provide a report discussing differing launch vehicle fueling methods being employed by Commercial Crew Partners and the relative impact of those approaches on the overall mission and crew safety.

Rocket Propulsion Test program.—The Committee commends the work of the NASA Rocket Propulsion Test Program in developing and testing rocket propulsion systems under controlled conditions, which is critical for the success of NASA and commercial missions. Within the amounts provided for Space Operations, the recommendation provides that up to the fiscal year 2019 level may be used for NASA's Rocket Propulsion Test program.

International collaboration.—The Committee supports joint projects between NASA and the Israel Space Agency and directs a report from NASA within 180 days of enactment of this Act detailing current and planned projects between the two agencies.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) ENGAGEMENT

The Committee provides \$123,000,000 for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement, which is \$13,000,000 greater than fiscal year 2019. The Administration requested no funding for STEM. The Committee expects NASA to continue implementing the programs below and to ensure that overhead costs to support these programs do not exceed five percent. Further, the Committee directs NASA to include an adequately requested funding amount for STEM in the fiscal year 2021 budget request and future requests.

National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program.—The recommendation includes \$48,000,000 for the Space Grant program. This amount shall be allocated to State consortia for competitively awarded grants in support of local, regional, and national STEM needs.

Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).—The recommendation includes \$25,000,000 for EPSCoR.

Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP).—The recommendation includes \$37,000,000 for MUREP.

STEM Education and Accountability Projects (SEAP).—The recommendation includes \$13,000,000 for SEAP.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

The Committee provides \$3,084,600,000 for Safety, Security and Mission Services, which is \$329,600,000 above fiscal year 2019 and equal to the requested level.

Working Capital Fund (WCF) reporting.—NASA shall continue to submit quarterly reports to the Committee on the expenditures and unobligated balances of NASA's WCF.

Wind Tunnels.—The Committee recommendation approves NASA's proposal to transfer the management and funding for its wind tunnels and other aeronautics ground testing assets and facilities to Safety, Security, and Mission Services. This transfer is intended to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of managing testing capabilities within the Agency.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

The Committee provides \$497,200,000 for Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, which is \$149,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$103,200,000 below the requested level.

Construction.—The recommendation includes \$414,300,000 for Construction of Facilities, minor revitalization, planning and design, and demolition. Included in this amount is no less than \$130,500,000 for NASA's three highest priority construction projects.

Environmental Compliance and Restoration.—The recommendation includes \$82,900,000, which is \$8,000,000 greater than the fiscal year 2019 appropriated level and equal to the Administration's fiscal year 2020 requested level, for Environmental Compliance and Restoration activities. NASA's Environmental Compliance and Restoration (ECR) program cleans up hazardous materials and waste products released to the surface or groundwater at NASA installations, NASA-owned industrial plants supporting NASA activities, current or former sites where NASA operations have contributed to environmental problems, and other sites where the Agency is legally obligated to address hazardous pollutants. Included in this amount is requested funding to manage costs while remediating environmental contaminants at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Committee recommends \$41,700,000 for the Office of the Inspector General, which is \$2,400,000 above fiscal year 2019 and equal to the requested level.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The Committee has included the following administrative provisions for NASA:

The bill includes a provision that makes funds for any announced prize available without fiscal year limitation until the prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn.

The bill includes a provision that establishes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds.

The bill includes a provision that requires NASA to submit its agency spending plan at the activity level and subjects both the spending plan and specified changes to that plan to reprogramming procedures under section 505 of this Act.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The Committee recommends \$8,636,141,000 for the National Science Foundation (NSF). This significant investment, which is \$561,141,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$1,570,141,000 above the request shows the Committee's support for science, the academic community, and the next generation of scientists, mathematicians, astronomers, and engineers across the country. The Committee underscores the importance of basic research that both improves the lives of Americans and expands our understanding of the Earth, the depths of our oceans, our Solar System, the Universe, and oceans on other planets.

The Committee supports infrastructure investments that expand our understanding of the universe and inspire students to pursue careers in the sciences. The Committee recognizes that current and future large scientific facilities represent an enormous investment of Federal resources that must be administered wisely. The Committee supports basic research in fundamental science areas and expects that as NSF uses the 10 Big Ideas as a focusing tool, the funding for the fundamental scientific disciplines will be maintained. Within amounts provided, NSF shall allocate no less than fiscal year 2019 levels to support its existing scientific research, research laboratories, observational networks, and other research infrastructure assets, including the astronomy assets, the current academic research fleet, Federally funded research and development centers, and the national high-performance computing centers, so that they may provide the support needed for cutting edge research.

Innovation Corps.—The Committee recognizes the value of translating basic research for public benefit and the recommendation includes an increase of \$5,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for the Innovation Corps program to build on the initial successes of its highly innovative public-private partnership model and expand the program to additional academic institutions.

Computer Science for All.—The Committee strongly supports NSF's Computer Science for All efforts and the recommendation including an increase of not less \$10,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for such activities. The Computer and Information Science and Engineering directorate is expected to collaborate with the Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings to build on ongoing efforts to improve rigorous computer science education.

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The Committee recommends \$7,106,301,000 for Research and Related Activities, which is \$586,301,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$1,443,341,000 above the request. The Committee believes that strategic investments in the physical sciences are vitally important for the United States to remain the global leader in innovation, productivity, economic growth, and high-paying jobs for the future.

Artificial intelligence.—The Committee believes it is important to maintain leadership in artificial intelligence and commends NSF for its significant investments in this area. The Committee recognizes the potential of artificial intelligence to transform the economy, foster economic growth, support national security, and enhance wellbeing. The Committee urges NSF to invest in the ethical and safe development of artificial intelligence. Within 90 days of the enactment of this Act, NSF shall provide the Committee with a report on its efforts to prioritize investments in artificial intelligence research.

Lead detection, testing, and monitoring.—The Committee encourages NSF to support funding for next-generation approaches to low-cost, high quality lead testing detection and monitoring tools.

Advanced manufacturing.—The Committee recognizes the Advanced Manufacturing program and its role in assisting domestic manufacturers to reshape our nation's strategic industries. The program should continue to prioritize funding multidisciplinary research that alters and transforms manufacturing capabilities, methods, and practices, while providing the framework for domestic manufacturing to remain competitive, and helping struggling industries reinvent themselves.

Steel research.—The Committee encourages NSF to use its Industrial Innovation and Partnerships program to continue research into the U.S. steel industry.

Palmer Station.—The National Science Foundation currently conducts year-round operations with marine support at Palmer Station in the Antarctic, consistent with stated U.S. policy. Year-round operations have helped advance important scientific research while maintaining an active U.S. presence on the Antarctic Peninsula. The Committee supports year-round operations at Palmer and has provided funding that will enable the NSF to do so.

Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).—Within amounts provided, \$177,700,000 is for EPSCoR.

Marine research.—The recommendation maintains current funding levels for existing marine research facilities and directs NSF to accept new proposals from the academic research community for research supported by these facilities. The Committee further directs NSF to develop a plan, in coordination with the academic research community, to ensure the science community's continued access to capabilities comparable to those currently provided by existing NSF marine research facilities.

Existing astronomy assets.—The Committee underscores that a critical component of the nation's scientific enterprise is the infrastructure that supports researchers in discovery science, including planetary protection. Investments to advance the frontiers of research and education in science and engineering are critical to the nation's innovation enterprise. U.S.-based astronomy facilities continue to make groundbreaking discoveries and maintain excellent world-class scientific research. The Committee expects NSF to sustain support for the programs and scientific facilities funded by the Astronomical Sciences Division at no less than the fiscal year 2019 levels to maintain full scientific and educational operations. The Committee is aware that NSF is working with Federal, academic, and private sector partners to develop plans to share future oper-

ations and maintenance costs of NSF astronomical infrastructure. NSF shall keep the Committee informed of these activities. Further, any proposal by NSF to divest the Foundation of these facilities shall be proposed as part of any future NSF budget request and is subject to NSF administrative provisions included in the accompanying bill.

Quantum initiative.—The Committee supports NSF's research program in quantum information science and technology in support of the authorized activities included in Section 401 and Section 402 of the National Quantum Initiative (Public Law 115–368). This emerging field of science promises to yield revolutionary new approaches to computing, sensing and communication. NSF should remain committed to developing and supporting systems that facilitate tremendous leaps in computational simulation, including artificial intelligence, storage, quantum computing, and data analyses that enable a broad range of scientific research. Leading edge high-performance computing infrastructure is vital for continued U.S. world leadership and international scientific competitiveness, particularly given computational investments and technical achievements in high-performance computing by other nations. The recommendation provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for these activities.

Geospatial data.—The Committee commends NSF for its commitment to provide high-performance computing capacity to advance global topographic mapping. The Foundation's support to produce geospatial products is contributing significantly to the advancement of Earth science and adding critical benefits to Federal agencies needing to access unclassified geospatial data.

International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP).—The recommendation provides \$48,000,000 for the IODP. The Committee notes that in addition to this funding, the IODP program derives funding from international and/or industry partners to maximize operating time on the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling (JOIDES) Resolution ocean research vessel. The Committee supports the goal of operating five research missions a year on the JOIDES Resolution.

High Energy Physics (HEP).—The Committee continues to provide funding for the HEP program to support scientific research at university and national laboratories throughout the nation and advance Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel projects, operations of existing large facilities, and completion of small and medium-sized projects. The exploration of the nature of neutrinos, the Higgs Boson, dark matter, dark energy, and yet-to-be-discovered forces that govern the origin and evolution of our universe will greatly enhance the nation's scientific knowledge.

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs).—The Committee supports the work of the Oceans and Human Health program to better understand the public health risks of environmental exposures and encourages NSF to continue its research into the human health impacts of HABs in the Great Lakes Basin and marine coastal regions. HABs jeopardize the integrity of drinking water resources in these regions.

Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Sciences.—The Committee supports SBE and recognizes the fundamental importance of its research for advancing our understanding of human behavior

and its application to a wide range of human systems, including public health, national defense and security, education and learning, and the integration of human and machine. SBE funds over half of our nation's university-based social and behavioral science research but remains the smallest of NSF directorates. The Committee believes this research provides an evidence-based understanding of the human condition, resulting in more-informed policymaking and better-informed spending on a full range of national issues. The recommendation includes no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for SBE.

Low-energy nuclear reactions (LENR).—The Committee encourages the NSF to evaluate the various theories, experiments, and scientific literature surrounding the field of LENR. It shall also provide a set of recommendations as to whether future Federal investment into LENR research would be prudent, and if so, a plan for how that investment would be best utilized.

Scientific collaboration.—NSF is encouraged to improve the understanding of scientific collaboration and how scientists work together.

Plant Genome Research Program (PGRP).—The Committee finds that NSF's PGRP advances research into crop-based genomics and phenomics that address challenging economic and societal questions and directs NSF to continue to fund the PGRP program and to focus the program on research related to crops of economic importance.

Algorithmic bias research.—The Committee encourages NSF to partner with non-government organizations, academic institutions, and other government agencies including the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to fund research on algorithmic bias in artificial intelligence, machine learning and intelligent systems and its impacts on decisions related to employment, housing, and creditworthiness and to develop methods, tools, and programs for resolving bias within an algorithm. The Committee recognizes that the science sponsored through such collaboration is important for studying the impact that algorithms have on protected classes and for developing an understanding of what kinds of discrimination and bias protected classes face in these particular activities.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

The Committee recommends \$223,230,000 for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction, as requested. The recommendation includes \$1,000,000, as requested, for enhanced oversight. NSF shall continue to provide quarterly briefings to the Committee on the activities funded in this account.

Antarctica Infrastructure Modernization for Science (AIMS).—The recommendation includes \$97,890,000 for AIMS to replace major facilities at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, as requested. The Committee supports the AIMS program and the recommendations for increased efficiencies included in the U.S. Antarctic Program Blue Ribbon Panel report, *More and Better Science in Antarctica through Increased Logistical Effectiveness*.

Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST).—The recommendation includes \$46,340,000 for LSST, as requested. LSST, which was ranked as the top large ground-based astronomy project by the National Research Council 2010 Decadal Survey, will produce the

deepest, widest-field sky image ever and issue alerts for moving and transient objects within 60 seconds of discovery.

High Luminosity-Large Hadron Collider Upgrade (HL-LHC).—The recommendation includes \$33,000,000 for upgrades to the detectors at the Large Hadron Collider, as requested.

Mid-scale research infrastructure.—The recommendation includes \$45,000,000 in the MREFC account for mid-scale research infrastructure, as requested. The Committee commends NSF for its planned investments in mid-scale research infrastructure, including the provision of larger mid-scale instrumentation and the facility operation transition program to better enable support for facilities over their complete lifespan.

Infrastructure planning.—The Committee is concerned about the NSF's planning for the construction and development of the next-generation of competitive large-scale facilities to support NSF-funded science disciplines, including ground-based telescopes. Failure to plan for the next generation of facilities handicaps the U.S. science community and risks our nation's global leadership in science. The Committee encourages NSF to develop a comprehensive and prioritized list of large-scale facilities requested by NSF-supported science disciplines.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

The Committee recommends \$950,000,000 for Education and Human Resources, which is \$40,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$126,530,000 above the request.

Broadening participation programs.—To broaden the participation of underrepresented populations in STEM education programs and, ultimately, the STEM workforce, the recommendation provides no less than \$48,500,000 for the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; no less than \$67,000,000 for the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program; and no less than \$15,000,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program.

Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs).—Hispanic Serving Institutions and the HSI grant program play an important role in increasing the recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of Hispanic students pursuing STEM degrees, particularly at institutions of higher education that typically do not receive high levels of NSF funding. The recommendation includes no less than \$45,000,000 for the HSI program.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP).—The recommendation provides no less than \$38,000,000 for the HBCU-UP. Within amounts provided, the recommendation includes an increase of \$3,000,000 for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Excellence in Research program. This initiative provides strategic programs and opportunities for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) that stimulate sustainable improvement in their research and development capacity and competitiveness. The Committee encourages NSF to continue to use research infrastructure improvement grants, co-funding programs, and other innovative mechanisms to boost HBCU participation and capacity throughout NSF research programs.

Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (NSF IN-

CLUDES).—The Committee supports the NSF INCLUDES program, which is a comprehensive national initiative designed to enhance U.S. leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics discoveries and innovations focused on NSF's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and broadening participation in these fields. The recommendation includes no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for NSF INCLUDES.

Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs).—The Committee notes that among the minority-serving institutions with whom NSF provides grant opportunities, AANAPISIs are not designated. The Committee urges NSF to increase grant funding opportunities for AANAPISIs, and to reach out to these institutions to raise awareness regarding these grants.

Early Childhood STEM Education.—The Committee urges NSF, in awarding grants under its Discovery Research PreK–12 program, to consider age distribution in order to more equitably allocate funding for research studies with a focus on early childhood.

Cybersecurity research.—The Committee encourages NSF to form partnerships with Hispanic Serving Institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities with respect to cybersecurity research.

CyberCorps.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for CyberCorps: Scholarships for Service program and urges NSF to use the CyberCorps Faculty Fellows pilot program to address the critical shortage of cybersecurity faculty in U.S. institutions of higher education. In addition, the Committee urges NSF to continue work with qualified community colleges including through providing scholarships and apprenticeship opportunities.

Bioprocessing workforce development.—The Committee is aware of the shortage in trained bioprocessing engineers, scientists and technicians in the workforce and supports expanded capacity and partnerships at NSF to address these shortfalls. The lack of proper bioprocessing training facilities in the United States, particularly those that have integrated hands-on academic education, industry training, and workforce development, is crippling this vital source of ingenuity in the labor force. The Committee strongly urges NSF to make investments in support of transdisciplinary workforce development, training and education programs in the bioprocessing field. When providing resources for these initiatives, NSF is encouraged to look to institutions of higher education that have successfully demonstrated national and international collaborations in this arena.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

The Committee recommends \$336,890,000 for Agency Operations and Award Management, which is \$7,350,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

The Committee recommends \$4,370,000 for the National Science Board, which is the same as fiscal year 2019 and \$270,000 above the request.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Committee recommends \$15,350,000 for the Office of Inspector General, which is the same as fiscal year 2019 and the request.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes a provision that establishes thresholds for the transfer of funds.

The bill includes a provision regarding notification prior to acquisition or disposal of certain assets.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$10,500,000 for the Commission on Civil Rights, which is \$435,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$1,300,000 above the request.

Field Hearings.—The Committee encourages the Commission to conduct field hearings on priority civil rights topics such as fair housing and the Census.

Donations.—The Committee includes bill language granting the Commission the authority to accept donations to carry out its mission, similar to authority provided to 45 other Federal agencies. The Commission shall provide to the Committee quarterly updates on all gifts and donations, as well as the terms of, and specific activities funded by, the gift or donation. Additionally, anticipated funding from gifts or donations shall be included in the Commission's annual spend plan.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$399,500,000 for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which is \$20,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$43,700,000 above the request. The recommendation continues the increase provided in fiscal year 2018 to address sexual harassment claims. The recommended additional funding is provided to increase front-line and investigative staff to reduce wait times for intake appointments, modernize information technology, and to collect information required by the revised EEO-1 form.

Summary pay data.—The Committee supports EEOCs's September 2016 revisions to the EEO-1 form. This strengthened pay data collection will shine a light on pay practices, reveal trends, and support employers in proactively evaluating their systems and closing pay gaps.

Charge Quotas.—The Committee is concerned about EEOC's handling of A, B, and C charges and directs EEOC to submit a report to the Committee, not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, documenting any formal or informal quotas EEOC

has used for the handling of A, B, and C charges, respectively, as defined in the EEOC's Priority Charge Handling Procedures, for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, as well as any projected quotas for Fiscal Year 2020.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$101,000,000 for the International Trade Commission (ITC), which is \$6,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$9,900,000 above the request.

American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016—In fiscal year 2020, the ITC will begin the second cycle for the consideration of product items for potential inclusion in future miscellaneous tariff bills (MTBs) no later than October 15, 2019, in compliance with the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016. As part of the first cycle in fiscal year 2016, the ITC received over 5,000 petitions and comments and recommended roughly 1,700 products for inclusion in an MTB. In order to deliver a final MTB report to Congress by August 2020, the ITC will require a temporary surge in staffing to prepare, process, and analyze a second round of petitions. The recommendation supports the ITC's request to ensure adequate staffing to support this effort.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

The Committee recommends \$550,000,000 for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), which is \$135,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$531,800,000 above the request.

LSC is a nonprofit corporation established to promote equal access to justice and to provide grants for high-quality civil legal assistance to low-income persons. LSC grants help the most vulnerable people, including families facing unlawful evictions or foreclosures and women seeking protection from abuse. With State, local, pro bono, and private sources underfunded, LSC is critical to closing the access-to-justice gap.

Evictions.—The Committee is concerned with the high rate of evictions in certain States and territories and the limited available legal aid. The recommendation includes funding for LSC to conduct and publish an analysis regarding areas within States and territories with high rates of unmet legal needs involving evictions and with consideration of variations in local laws. LSC should use data regarding eviction rates, availability of legal aid or other free legal advocates, and differences among laws and procedures affecting evictions in different areas. In addition, LSC is urged to explore opportunities to explore increasing access to eviction-related legal aid in such States and territories including through LSC's Pro Bono Innovation Fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

The bill continues certain restrictions on the uses of LSC funding.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee was disappointed by the proposal to close the Marine Mammal Commission and rejects that proposal. Instead the recommendation includes \$3,616,000 for the critical work of the commission to protect the important species in our oceans.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

The Committee recommends \$72,000,000 for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), which is \$4,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$3,000,000 above the request. The Committee recognizes the continued growth in USTR's mission, but the Committee is concerned that USTR is not executing its available funding with the ferocity the Committee would anticipate given USTR's growing workload. In support of better oversight and transparency of both Salaries and Expenses and the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund, the Committee directs the submission of a quarterly expenditure report outlining actual and planned obligations through the fiscal year by account and source year as well as USTR's target and actual staffing levels. Recognizing USTR expenses are largely personnel-related, USTR is directed to categorize expenses by object class code and the program areas supported. The report is due no later than 30 days after the end of each quarter in the fiscal year.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$57,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of USTR, which is \$4,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 and \$2,000,000 below the request. The Committee recommendation supports current staffing and includes the requested \$1,100,000 towards FIRRMA implementation. USTR is encouraged to maintain staff who can translate trade documents that USTR receives from China. The Committee directs USTR to continue its reporting requirement related to free trade agreements, as directed in House Report 115-704.

U.S.-India Bilateral Trade.—The Committee notes the importance of U.S.-India bilateral trade and investment. However, the Committee is concerned that India has been enacting a series of policies to increase domestic manufacturing and protect domestic industries and agricultural production that discriminate against U.S. exports and investment, including unfair treatment by India of U.S. exports of American-produced boric acid and the illegal re-branding and smuggling of U.S.-grown almonds into India. In March 2019, USTR announced it intends to terminate India's designation as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program primarily because India has (1) failed to provide the United States with assurances that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets in numerous sectors and (2) has implemented a wide array of trade barriers that create serious negative effects on U.S. commerce. Accordingly, the Committee supports USTR's work to provide equitable market access for U.S. exports to India and encourages USTR to continue to work to address the aforementioned trade practices and market access issues with the Indian government.

TRADE ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends \$15,000,000, which is to be derived from the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund, for trade enforcement activities authorized by the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (TFTEA). The recommendation is \$5,000,000 above the request and equal to the amount for fiscal year 2019.

The recommendation does not include proposed bill language to change the TFTEA. USTR is encouraged to work with the appropriate committees for technical fixes to the legislation. Further, the Committee understands that USTR is interested in extending the availability of any unused balances within the Trust Fund until such funds are expended. While the Committee appreciates USTR's challenges of executing this authority on an annual basis, USTR has typically not executed against its full budget authority nor has it shown plans for how the carryover funding could be allocated if such flexibility were granted. USTR should consider this in its submission of the quarterly expenditure report and future congressional justifications.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$6,555,000 for the State Justice Institute, which is \$584,000 above fiscal year 2019 and the same as the request.

The additional funding is provided to enhance the Institute's efforts to help State courts address the opioid epidemic. The Committee expects the Institute to make addressing the opioid epidemic a priority.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 501 prohibits the use of funds for publicity or propaganda purposes unless expressly authorized by law.

Section 502 prohibits any appropriation contained in this Act from remaining available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly authorized.

Section 503 provides that the expenditure of any appropriation contained in this Act for any consulting service through procurement contracts shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

Section 504 provides that if any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of other provisions shall not be affected.

Section 505 prohibits a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs, or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments funds for existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress, unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

Section 506 provides that if it is determined that any person intentionally affixes a "Made in America" label to any product that was not made in America that person shall not be eligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds made available in this Act. The section further provides that to the extent practicable, with respect to purchases of promotional items, funds made available under this Act shall be used to purchase items manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States or its territories or possessions.

Section 507 requires quarterly reporting on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 508 provides that any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions in this Act, or, for the Department of Commerce, from actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property, shall be absorbed within the budgetary resources available to the department or agency, and provides transfer authority between appropriation accounts to carry out this provision, subject to reprogramming procedures.

Section 509 prohibits funds made available in this Act from being used to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products or to seek the reduction or removal of foreign restrictions on the marketing of tobacco products, except for restrictions that are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type. This provision is not intended to impact routine international trade services to all U.S. citizens, including the processing of applications to establish foreign trade zones.

Section 510 limits the obligation of receipts deposited into the Crime Victims Fund to \$2,838,000,000 during fiscal year 2020. The language also provides for a tribal set-aside.

Section 511 prohibits the use of Department of Justice funds for programs that discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students participating in such programs.

Section 512 prohibits the transfer of funds made available in this Act to any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States Government, except for transfers made by, or pursuant to authorities provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

Section 513 requires the Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Legal Services Corporation to conduct reviews of activities funded in this Act and requires certifications regarding conflicts of interest.

Section 514 prohibits funds for acquisition of certain information systems unless the acquiring department or agency has reviewed and assessed certain risks. Any acquisition of such an information system is contingent upon the development of a risk mitigation strategy and a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered by this section shall consult with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and other relevant agencies when reviewing supply chain risks and making a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered by this section is directed to ensure it is following the criteria established by the FBI and the National Institute of Standards and Technology when acquiring or renewing certain information systems. Each department or agency covered under this section shall submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate describing reviews and assessments of risk made pursuant to this section and any associated findings or determinations.

Section 515 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

Section 516 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to include certain language in trade agreements.

Section 517 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to authorize or issue a national security letter (NSL) in contravention of certain laws authorizing the FBI to issue NSLs.

Section 518 requires congressional notification regarding any project within the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Science Foundation or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration totaling more than \$75,000,000 that has cost increases of 10 percent or more.

Section 519 deems funds for intelligence or intelligence related activities as authorized by Congress during fiscal year 2020 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

Section 520 prohibits contracts or grant awards in excess of \$5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies that the organization has filed all Federal tax returns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has no unpaid Federal tax assessment.

(RESCISSIONS)

Section 521 provides for rescissions of unobligated balances from the Department of Justice.

Section 522 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act for the purchase of first class or premium air travel in contravention of certain Federal regulations.

Section 523 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to pay for the attendance of more than 50 department or agency employees, who are stationed in the United States, at any single conference outside the United States, unless the conference is a law

enforcement training or operational event where the majority of Federal attendees are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

Section 524 requires tracking and reporting of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

Section 525 requires funds, to the extent practicable, to be used to purchase light bulbs that are “Energy Star” qualified or have the “Federal Energy Management Program” designation.

Section 526 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) or the National Space Council (NSC) to engage in bilateral activities with China or a Chinese-owned company unless the activities are authorized by subsequent legislation or NASA, OSTP or NSC after consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation have made a certification pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

Section 527 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to establish or maintain a computer network that does not block pornography, except for law enforcement or victim assistance purposes.

Section 528 requires each department and agency funded in the bill to submit spending plans.

Section 529 prohibits funds to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance or performance that fails to meet the basic requirements of the contract.

Section 530 prohibits funds from being used by the Department of Justice or Drug Enforcement Administration in contravention of section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Section 531 prohibits the Department of Justice from preventing certain States and territories from implementing State or territory laws regarding the use of medical marijuana.

Section 532 requires a quarterly report from the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation on official travel to China.

Section 533 requires not less than 10 percent of the funds provided for certain programs be provided to persistent poverty counties.

Section 534 prohibits the use of funds to include any question on the 2020 Census that was not included in the 2018 End-to-End Census Test in Providence County, Rhode Island.

Section 535 prohibits funds to move a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives facility.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The following materials are submitted in accordance with various requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives:

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

Roll Call 1

Date: May 22, 2019

Measure: Commerce, Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY20

Motion by: Mr. Diaz-Balart

Description of Motion: Prohibits funds to move Guantanamo detainees to the U.S. or its territories, or to construct or modify U.S. facilities to house Guantanamo detainees.

Results: Defeated 21 yeas to 30 nays

Members Voting Yea

Mr. Aderholt
Mr. Amodei
Mr. Calvert
Mr. Carter
Mr. Cole
Mr. Diaz-Balart
Mr. Fleischmann
Mr. Fortenberry
Ms. Granger
Mr. Graves
Dr. Harris
Mr. Hurd
Mr. Joyce
Mr. Moolenaar
Mr. Newhouse
Mr. Palazzo
Mrs. Roby
Mr. Rogers
Mr. Rutherford
Mr. Simpson
Mr. Stewart

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aguilar
Mr. Bishop
Mrs. Bustos
Mr. Cartwright
Mr. Case
Ms. Clark
Mr. Crist
Mr. Cuellar
Ms. DeLauro
Ms. Frankel
Ms. Kaptur
Mr. Kilmer
Mrs. Kirkpatrick
Mrs. Lawrence
Ms. Lee
Mrs. Lowey
Ms. McCollum
Ms. Meng
Ms. Pingree
Mr. Pocan
Mr. Price
Mr. Quigley
Ms. Roybal-Allard
Mr. Ruppersberger
Mr. Ryan
Mr. Serrano
Mrs. Torres
Mr. Visclosky
Ms. Wasserman Schultz
Mrs. Watson Coleman

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

Roll Call 2

Date: May 22, 2019

Measure: Commerce, Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY20

Motion by: Mr. Graves

Description of Motion: Makes modifications to report language regarding National Instant Criminal Background Check System notification procedures.

Results: Defeated 21 yeas to 30 nays

Members Voting Yea

Mr. Aderholt
Mr. Amodei
Mr. Calvert
Mr. Carter
Mr. Cole
Mr. Diaz-Balart
Mr. Fleischmann
Mr. Fortenberry
Ms. Granger
Mr. Graves
Dr. Harris
Mr. Hurd
Mr. Joyce
Mr. Moolenaar
Mr. Newhouse
Mr. Palazzo
Mrs. Roby
Mr. Rogers
Mr. Rutherford
Mr. Simpson
Mr. Stewart

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aguilar
Mr. Bishop
Mrs. Bustos
Mr. Cartwright
Mr. Case
Ms. Clark
Mr. Crist
Mr. Cuellar
Ms. DeLauro
Ms. Frankel
Ms. Kaptur
Mr. Kilmer
Mrs. Kirkpatrick
Mrs. Lawrence
Ms. Lee
Mrs. Lowey
Ms. McCollum
Ms. Meng
Ms. Pingree
Mr. Pocan
Mr. Price
Mr. Quigley
Ms. Roybal-Allard
Mr. Ruppersberger
Mr. Ryan
Mr. Serrano
Mrs. Torres
Mr. Visclosky
Ms. Wasserman Schultz
Mrs. Watson Coleman

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

Roll Call 3

Date: May 22, 2019

Measure: Commerce, Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY20

Motion by: Ms. McCollum

Description of Motion: To report the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill to the House, as amended.

Results: Approved 30 yeas to 22 nays

Members Voting Yea

Mr. Aguilar
Mr. Bishop
Mrs. Bustos
Mr. Cartwright
Mr. Case
Ms. Clark
Mr. Crist
Mr. Cuellar
Ms. DeLauro
Ms. Frankel
Ms. Kaptur
Mr. Kilmer
Mrs. Kirkpatrick
Mrs. Lawrence
Ms. Lee
Mrs. Lowey
Ms. McCollum
Ms. Meng
Ms. Pingree
Mr. Pocan
Mr. Price
Mr. Quigley
Ms. Roybal-Allard
Mr. Ruppersberger
Mr. Ryan
Mr. Serrano
Mrs. Torres
Mr. Visclosky
Ms. Wasserman Schultz
Mrs. Watson Coleman

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aderholt
Mr. Amodei
Mr. Calvert
Mr. Carter
Mr. Cole
Mr. Diaz-Balart
Mr. Fleischmann
Mr. Fortenberry
Ms. Granger
Mr. Graves
Dr. Harris
Mr. Hurd
Mr. Joyce
Mr. Moolenaar
Mr. Newhouse
Mr. Palazzo
Mrs. Roby
Mr. Rogers
Mr. Rutherford
Mr. Simpson
Mr. Stewart
Mr. Womack

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is a statement of general performance goals and objectives for which this measure authorizes funding: The Committee on Appropriations considers program performance, including a program's success in developing and attaining outcome-related goals and objectives, in developing funding recommendations.

RESCISSION OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table is submitted describing the rescissions recommended in the accompanying bill:

Department of Justice:	
Working Capital Fund	\$100,000,000
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Salaries and Expenses	\$60,000,000
Office of Justice Programs	\$85,000,000

TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is submitted describing the transfers of funds provided in the accompanying bill:

In title I, under Bureau of the Census, Periodic Censuses and Programs, language is included to transfer funds to the Department of Commerce, Office of Inspector General.

Under U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Salaries and Expenses, language is included to transfer funds to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, the Federal Employees Health Benefit Fund, the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance Fund, and the Department of Commerce, Office of Inspector General.

Under National Institute of Standards and Technology, Scientific and Technical Research and Services, language is included allowing for transfers to the Working Capital Fund.

Under National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Operations, Research, and Facilities, language is included to transfer funds from the Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries fund.

Under National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction, language is included to transfer funds to the Department of Commerce, Office of the Inspector General.

Under Office of the Inspector General, language is included to transfer funds from the Public Safety Trust Fund.

In title II, under General Administration, Justice Information Sharing Technology, language is included allowing for the transfer of funds.

Under General Administration, Executive Office for Immigration Review, language is included to transfer funds to the Executive Office for Immigration Review from fees deposited in the Immigration Examinations Fee account.

Under Legal Activities, Salaries and Expenses, Community Relations Service, language is included allowing for the transfer of funds in certain circumstances.

Under National Security Division, Salaries and Expenses, language is included to allow the transfer of funds in certain circumstances.

Under Federal Prison System, Salaries and Expenses, language is included to allow the transfer of funds to the Department of Health and Human Services.

Under State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office on Violence Against Women, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs, language is included to allow the transfer of funds in certain circumstances.

Under State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance, language is included to allow the transfer of funds in certain circumstances.

Under State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Public Safety Officer Benefits, language is included to allow the transfer of funds in certain circumstances.

Under Community Oriented Policing Services, Community Oriented Policing Services Programs, language is included to allow the transfer of funds to the Office of Justice Programs.

Section 205 provides language for the transfer of funds between Department of Justice appropriations in certain circumstances.

Section 212 provides language for the transfer of funds between certain grant funds and the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

In title III, under National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Administrative Provisions, language is included allowing for the transfer of funds between appropriations.

Under National Science Foundation, Administrative Provisions, language is included allowing for the transfer of funds among appropriations.

Under United States Trade Representative, Trade Enforcement Trust Fund, language is included providing for the transfer of funds.

Under General Provisions, Section 508 provides for the transfer of funds in certain circumstances.

Under General Provisions, Section 510 provides for the transfer of funds to the Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General.

DISCLOSURE OF EARMARKS AND CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Neither the bill nor the report contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, CL. 3(e) (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee notes that the accompanying bill does not propose to repeal or amend a statute or part thereof.

CHANGES IN THE APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(A) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted

describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill that directly or indirectly change the application of existing law.

Language is included for a number of accounts placing limitations on representation and reception allowances in order to restrict the amount of money that would otherwise be spent on these activities. The bill also provides that a number of appropriations shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year. While these provisions are not specifically authorized for all of the items, it is deemed desirable to include such language for certain programs in order to provide for orderly administration and effective use of funds.

In title I, Department of Commerce, under International Trade Administration, Operations and Administration, language is included providing that funds may be used for engaging in trade promotion activities abroad, including facilitating business investments, expenses of grants and cooperative agreements, for the purposes of promoting exports of U.S. firms. Language is also provided allowing for full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas and employees temporarily posted overseas; travel and transportation of employees of the International Trade Administration; employment of Americans and aliens by contract for services; rental of space abroad and expenses of alteration, repair, or improvement; purchase or construction of temporary demountable exhibition structures for use abroad; and payment of tort claims. In addition, language is included regarding official representation expenses abroad, purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use abroad, obtaining insurance on official motor vehicles, and rental of tie lines. Language is also recommended deriving a portion of available funds from fees. Furthermore, language is included designating funding for China antidumping and countervailing duty enforcement and compliance activities. Moreover, language is included providing for two-year availability of funds. Finally, language is included regarding the contributions under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

Under Bureau of Industry and Security, Operations and Administration, the language provides for no-year availability of funds. Language is included regarding the costs associated with the performance of export administration field activities both domestically and abroad; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas; employment of Americans and aliens by contract for services abroad; payment of tort claims; official representation expenses abroad; awards of compensation to informers; and purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use and motor vehicles for law enforcement use without regard to any price limitation established by law. In addition, language is included regarding the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961. Finally, language is recommended providing that payments and contributions collected and accepted for materials or services may be retained for use in covering the cost of those activities and other communications.

Under Economic Development Administration, Economic Development Assistance Programs, the language provides for no-year availability of funds.

Also, under Salaries and Expenses, language is included regarding the monitoring of approved projects.

Under Minority Business Development Agency, Minority Business Development, language is included making funds available for fostering, promoting, and developing minority business enterprises, including expenses of grants, contracts and other agreements.

Under Economic and Statistical Analysis, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing for two-year availability of funds.

Under Bureau of the Census, Current Surveys and Programs, language is included providing that funds may be used for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics and for promotion, outreach and marketing activities.

Also, under Periodic Censuses and Programs, language is included providing three-year availability of funds. Language is also included providing that funds may be used for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics and for promotion, outreach and marketing activities. In addition, language is included providing for a transfer to the "Office of Inspector General" account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the Bureau of the Census. Finally, language is included making appropriations available under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

Under National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Salaries and Expenses, language is included permitting the Secretary of Commerce to charge Federal agencies for costs in spectrum management, analysis, operations, and related services; and to use such collections in telecommunications research. The language also allows the Secretary to retain and use as offsetting collections all funds transferred, or previously transferred for telecommunications research, engineering and activities by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of NTIA. Finally, language is included providing that funds so transferred shall remain available until expended.

Also, under Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction, language is included allowing recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated to be available for the administration of all open grants until their expiration.

Under United States Patent and Trademark Office, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing that appropriated funds be reduced as offsetting collections are assessed and collected. Language is included making funds available until expended and providing that funds received in excess of appropriations be deposited in a Patent and Trademark Fee Reserve Fund, to be available until expended pursuant to the Director submitting a spending plan subject to section 505 of this Act, after which the funds shall be transferred to the Salaries and Expenses account. In addition, language is included limiting representation expenses. Language is also included regarding basic pay and certain retirement benefits. Additional language is included regarding USPTO's financial statements. Furthermore, language is included providing that fees and surcharges charged are available to USPTO pursuant to section 42(c) of title 35, United States Code. Finally, the language provides that an amount be transferred to the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Under National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Scientific and Technical Research and Services, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds. In addition, language is included allowing transfers to the Working Capital Fund. Language is included limiting funds for official reception and representation expenses. Finally, language is included allowing NIST to provide local transportation for a certain fellowship program.

Also, under Industrial Technology Services, language is included providing no-year availability of funds. The language also designates an amount for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation.

In addition, under Construction of Research Facilities, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds. Language is also included regarding the submission of certain materials in support of construction budget requests.

Under National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Operations, Research, and Facilities, language is included allowing for two-year availability for funds. Language is also included allowing maintenance, operation, and hire of aircraft and vessels; grants, contracts, or other payments to nonprofit organizations for the purposes of conducting activities pursuant to cooperative agreements; and relocation of facilities. Language is included allowing fees and donations received by a particular office to be retained and used for expenses related to certain activities. In addition, language is included that provides that certain funds be derived from various sources and restricting their use to certain activities. Moreover, language is included specifying that deviations from amounts included in the report accompanying the Act shall be subject to section 505 of this Act. Finally, language is included providing for retired pay expenses.

Also, under Procurement, Acquisition and Construction, language is included providing for three-year availability for funds, except for construction funds, which are available until expended. Language is also included providing that certain funds be derived from various sources. In addition, language is included specifying that deviations from amounts included in the report accompanying the Act shall be subject to section 505 of this Act. Language is included regarding the submission of certain materials in support of construction budget requests. Language is included transferring an amount to the OIG.

In addition, under Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery, language is included providing for two-year availability of funds. Language is also included allowing the Secretary of Commerce to issue grants to specific States and Federally recognized tribes for conservation projects for listed endangered or threatened salmon and steelhead populations, populations at risk to be so listed, and for maintaining populations necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights, and for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat, to be allocated under scientific and merit principles and not available for marketing activities; and requiring a State match.

Furthermore, under Fishermen's Contingency Fund, language is included providing for the appropriation of funds to be derived from receipts collected pursuant to Title IV of Public Law 95-372 and provides that these funds are available until expended.

Additionally, under Fishery Disaster Assistance language is included providing no year availability of funds.

Moreover, under Fisheries Finance Program Account, language is included placing limitations on individual fishing quota loans and traditional direct loans.

Under Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses, language is included limiting funds for official reception and representation expenses. Further, language is included withholding funds until the Department submits an expenditure plan.

In addition, under Renovation and Modernization, language is included making available funds for expenses towards Department of Commerce facilities. The language provides no-year availability.

Under Department of Commerce, General Provisions, the following general provisions that fall within the rule are recommended:

Section 101 makes funds available for advanced payments only upon certification of officials designated by the Secretary that such payments are considered to be in the public interest.

Section 102 makes appropriations for the Department available for hire of passenger motor vehicles, for services, and for uniforms and allowances as authorized by law.

Section 103 requires the Secretary of Commerce to notify the Committee of certain actions.

Section 104 extends Congressional notification requirements for NOAA satellite programs and includes life cycle cost amounts for certain satellites.

Section 105 provides for reimbursement for services within Department of Commerce buildings.

Section 106 clarifies that grant recipients under the Department of Commerce may continue to deter child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over their networks.

Section 107 provides the Administrator with the authority to avail NOAA of needed resources, with the consent of those supplying the resources, to carry out responsibilities of any statute administered by NOAA.

Section 108 prohibits the National Technical Information Service from charging customers for certain publications, except under certain conditions and requires charges be limited to recovering costs.

Section 109 authorizes NOAA to receive payments from other entities to defray some costs of permitting and regulatory activities.

Section 110 provides authority for the programs of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Bureau of the Census to enter into cooperative agreements in order to assist in improving statistical methodology and research.

Section 111 includes travel authority for the Office of the Secretary of Commerce.

In title II, Department of Justice, under General Administration, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing for an amount for security and construction of Department of Justice facilities, which shall remain available until expended.

Also, under Justice Information Sharing Technology, language is included providing that funds be available until expended. Language is also included allowing transfers up to a certain amount to this account for information technology initiatives, and that

these funds may be transferred subject to requirements in this Act and shall be available until expended.

In addition, under Executive Office for Immigration Review, language is included providing that an amount shall be derived by transfer from the Executive Office for Immigration Review fees deposited in the "Immigration Examinations Fee" account. Language is also included making an amount available until expended for certain purposes.

Moreover, under Office of Inspector General, language is included providing for not to exceed \$10,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character.

Under United States Parole Commission, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing that upon the expiration of a term of office of a Commissioner, the Commissioner may continue to act until a successor has been appointed.

Under Legal Activities, Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities, language is included providing not to exceed a certain amount for expenses of collecting evidence, to be expended under the direction of, and to be accounted for solely under the certificate of, the Attorney General. Language is also included providing for the administration of pardons and clemency petitions. Language is also included providing for rental of space in the District of Columbia. Language is included making an amount available until expended for litigation support contracts. In addition, language is included making certain funds available to INTERPOL available until expended. Also, language is included limiting the amount of funds for official representation and reception expenses available to INTERPOL Washington. Furthermore, language is included providing funds to the Civil Rights Division for expenses associated with election monitoring, authority to reimburse the Office of Personnel Management for such expenses, and availability of such funds until expended. Finally, language is included for expenses associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986.

Also, under Salaries and Expenses, Antitrust Division, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds and the use of offsetting collections. The language also provides that fees collected for premerger notification filings, regardless of the year of collection, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation, and shall remain available until expended.

In addition, under Salaries and Expenses, United States Attorneys, language is included regarding inter-governmental and cooperative agreements and limiting funds for official reception and representation expenses. Language is also included extending the availability of certain funds. Finally, language is included requiring each United States Attorney to establish or participate in a task force on human trafficking.

Furthermore, under United States Trustee System Fund, language is included regarding refunds due depositors. Language is also included providing for the extended availability of certain funds and the use of offsetting collections.

Moreover, under Fees and Expenses of Witnesses, language is included regarding contracts for the procurement and supervision of expert witnesses. In addition, language is included regarding funds for construction of buildings for safesites, armored and other vehi-

cles, and telecommunication equipment. The language also provides for no-year availability of funds. In addition, language is included providing no funds may be transferred pursuant to section 205 of this Act.

And under Salaries and Expenses, Community Relations Service, language is included regarding the transfer of funds for conflict resolution and violence prevention activities, which shall be subject to the provisions of section 505 of this Act.

Under United States Marshals Service, Salaries and Expenses, language is included limiting official reception and representation expenses, and providing for no-year availability for part of the appropriation.

Also, under Construction, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds.

In addition, under Federal Prisoner Detention, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds. Language is included limiting the amount of funds considered “funds appropriated for State and local law enforcement assistance”. Language is also included providing that the United States Marshals Service shall be responsible for managing the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System.

Under National Security Division, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing for the no-year availability of funds for IT systems. Language is also included providing that upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for the activities of the National Security Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to this heading from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances. The language provides that such a transfer shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act.

Under Interagency Law Enforcement, Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement, language is included providing for no-year availability for some of the funds. Language is also included regarding authorities under which funds may be used.

Under Federal Bureau of Investigation, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing for no-year availability of certain funds. Language is included providing for a limitation on representational expenses.

Under Construction, language is included specifying the purpose of the appropriation and making it available until expended.

Under Drug Enforcement Administration, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing for funds to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character. Language is also included allowing conduct of drug education and training programs, including travel and related expenses for participants in such programs and the distribution of items of token value that promote the goals of such programs. In addition, language is included providing for no-year availability of certain funds. Finally, language is included providing for a limitation on representational expenses.

Under Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Salaries and Expenses, language is included allowing training of State and local law enforcement agencies with or without reimbursement, including training in connection with the training and acquisition of canines for explosives and fire accelerants detection, and

allowing provision of laboratory assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement. Language is also included limiting official reception and representation expenses. In addition, language is included providing funds for the payment of attorneys' fees. Additional language is included prohibiting expenses to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code. Language is further included regarding expenses to investigate applications filed by corporations for relief from section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code. In addition, language is included providing for no-year availability of certain funds. Moreover, language is included that prohibits funds to transfer the functions, missions or activities of ATF to other agencies or departments.

Under Federal Prison System, Salaries and Expenses, language is included that provides for the transfer to the Department of Health and Human Services funds necessary for medical relief for inmates. Language is also included that provides authority to the Director to enter into contracts to furnish health care. In addition, language is included placing a limitation on funds for reception and representation expenses. Furthermore, language is included extending the availability of certain funds. Finally, language is included providing authority for the Federal Prison System to accept donated property and services.

Also, in Building and Facilities, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds. Language is also included stating labor of prisoners may be used for work under this heading.

Additionally, under Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, language is included authorizing Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available, and in accord with the law, and to make such contracts and commitments, without regard to fiscal year limitations, as may be necessary in carrying out the program set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation.

Furthermore, under Limitation on Administrative Expenses, Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, language is included making available funds for its administrative expenses, and for certain services, to be computed on an accrual basis to be determined in accordance with the corporation's current prescribed accounting system, and such amounts shall be exclusive of depreciation, payment of claims, and expenditures that such accounting system requires to be capitalized or charged to cost of commodities acquired or produced, including selling and shipping expenses, and expenses in connection with acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, improvement, protection, or disposition of facilities and other property belonging to the corporation or in which it has an interest.

Under State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office on Violence Against Women, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs, language is included making funds available until expended. Language is also included placing a limitation on funds to be made available for expenses related to evaluation, training, and technical assistance. In addition, language is included providing for specific appropriations for various programs within the Office on Violence Against Women. Furthermore, language is

included making available certain unobligated balances for specified programs. The language also applies certain conditions to specified grants. It provides for certain funds to be transferred to "Research, Evaluation and Statistics" for administration by the Office of Justice Programs.

Under Office of Justice Programs, Research, Evaluation and Statistics, language is included to provide for no-year availability of funds. Language is also included to provide for specific appropriations for various programs within the Office of Justice Programs.

Also, under State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance, language is included to provide for no-year availability of funds. Language is also included regarding an Officer Robert Wilson III Memorial Initiative on Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability Initiative, Smart Policing, Smart Prosecution, juvenile indigent defense, Convention Security, a National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, a training program to improve response for those with mental illness, the John R. Justice grant program, Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review, Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution, Kevin and Avonte's Law, Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance, managed access systems, regional law enforcement technology, and Community Based Violence Prevention and the application of certain sections and special rules. In addition, language is included regarding Federal immigration and other detainees housed in State and local detention facilities. Language is included for an immigration legal aid pilot. Furthermore, language is included regarding local government use of funds to increase the number of law enforcement officers. Language is also included regarding DNA training and education for law enforcement, correctional personnel, and court officers. There is further language regarding certain time limitations under the Second Chance Act. Furthermore, language is included waiving a provision of law that terminated the COPS Hiring Program after September 2000. Language is also included regarding smart policing, smart prosecution, tribal law enforcement, regional information sharing activities, and certain police training. The language also provides for certain funds to be transferred to "Research, Evaluation and Statistics". Finally, the language specifies appropriations for various programs within the Office of Justice Programs.

In addition, under Juvenile Justice Programs, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds. Language is also included waiving a provision of law with respect to funding for missing and exploited children programs. Finally, the language delineates certain amounts for various programs under this heading.

Furthermore, under Public Safety Officer Benefits, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds. Language is also included providing for the transfers of funds in emergent circumstances, which shall be subject to the provisions of section 505 of this Act.

Under Department of Justice, General Provisions, the following general provisions that fall within the rule are recommended:

Section 201 makes available additional reception and representation funding for the Attorney General from the amounts provided in this title.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds to pay for an abortion, except in the case of incest, rape or to preserve the life of the mother.

Section 203 prohibits the use of funds to require any person to perform or facilitate the performance of an abortion.

Section 204 establishes the obligation of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide escort services to an inmate receiving an abortion outside of a Federal facility, except where this obligation conflicts with the preceding section.

Section 205 establishes the Committee's requirements and procedures for transfer proposals.

Section 206 prohibits the use of certain funds for transporting prisoners classified as maximum or high security, other than to a facility certified by the Bureau of Prisons as appropriately secure.

Section 207 prohibits the use of funds for the purchase or rental by Federal prisons of audiovisual equipment, services and materials used primarily for recreational purposes, except for those items and services needed for inmate training, religious, or educational purposes.

Section 208 requires review by the Deputy Attorney General and the Department Investment Review Board prior to the obligation or expenditure of funds for major information technology projects.

Section 209 requires the Department to follow reprogramming procedures prior to any deviation from the program amounts specified in this title or the reuse of specified deobligated funds provided in previous years.

Section 210 prohibits funding from being used for certain public-private partnerships.

Section 211 prohibits U.S. Attorneys from holding dual or additional responsibilities that exempt U.S. Attorneys from statutory residency requirements.

Section 212 permits up to 3 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to OJP to be used for training and technical assistance, up to 3 percent of grant or reimbursement funds made available to that office to be used for criminal justice research, evaluation and statistics, and up to 7 percent for grants to Indian tribes.

Section 213 waives the requirement that the Attorney General reserve certain funds from amounts provided for offender incarceration.

Section 214 places limitation on the obligation of funds from certain Department of Justice accounts and funding sources.

Section 215 prohibits funds, other than funds for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System established under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, from being used to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to a known or suspected agent of a drug cartel where law enforcement personnel do not continuously monitor or control such firearm. This language is made permanent.

Section 216 places certain restrictions on the uses of Department of Justice unobligated balances.

Section 217 provides authority to use certain grant funding for Performance Partnership Pilots.

Section 218 prohibits the use of case closure metrics for immigration judge performance evaluations.

In title III, Science, under Office of Science and Technology Policy, language is included providing that certain funds be available for reception and representation expenses, and rental of conference rooms.

Under National Space Council, language is included providing that certain funds be available for reception and representation expenses.

Under National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Science, language is included providing for the two year availability of funds. Language is also included regarding a limitation on formulation and development costs of a certain program with an associated notification requirement and language is also included concerning a planetary science mission.

Also, under Aeronautics, language is included providing for the two-year availability of funds.

In addition, under Space Technology, language is included providing for the two-year availability of funds.

Under Exploration, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of funds. Language is also included that delineates amounts for program components. Language is also included describing certain reports and requiring the inclusion of estimates in future budget requests.

In Space Operations, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of funds.

Additionally, under Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Engagement, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of funds. Language is also included delineating amounts for program components.

Under Safety, Security and Mission Services, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of funds. Language is also included to limit official reception and representation expenses.

Under Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of funds. Language is also included restricting receipts and expenditures made pursuant to enhanced use lease arrangements and requiring the inclusion of estimates in future budget requests.

Under Office of Inspector General, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of certain funds.

In the Administrative Provisions, language is included regarding: availability of funds for announced prizes; limitations on transfers of funds among NASA accounts; the submission of a spending plan; and language limiting obligation of certain funds pending submission of certain reports.

Under National Science Foundation, Research and Related Activities, language is included that provides for the multi-year availability of funds. Language is also included that governs funding availability for polar research and operation support. In addition, language is included providing that certain receipts may be credited to this appropriation.

Also, under Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction, language is included providing for no-year availability of funds.

In addition, under Education and Human Resources, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of funds.

Furthermore, under Agency Operations and Award Management, language is included regarding contracts for maintenance and operation of facilities and other services. Language is also included limiting representation expenses.

Under Office of the National Science Board, language is included limiting funds for official reception and representation.

Under Office of Inspector General, language is included providing for the multi-year availability of certain funds.

Under Administrative Provision, language is included regarding transfers of funds. Also, language is included requiring the Director to submit notification of certain activities 30 days in advance.

In title IV, Related Agencies, under Commission on Civil Rights, Salaries and Expenses, language is included prohibiting expenses to employ in excess of a specific level of full-time individuals or to reimburse Commissioners for certain billable days. Language is also included prohibiting certain unauthorized activities. Finally, language is included authorizing the Chair to accept donations or gifts to carry out the work of the Commission.

Under Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Salaries and Expenses, language is included designating an amount for payments to State and local enforcement agencies. Language is also included limiting funds for official reception and representation expenses. Finally, language is included authorizing the Chair to accept donations or gifts to carry out the work of the Commission.

Under International Trade Commission, Salaries and Expenses, language is included limiting funds for official reception and representation expenses. Language is also included providing for no-year availability of funds.

Under Legal Services Corporation, Payment to the Legal Services Corporation, language is included regarding pay for officers and employees. Language is also included delineating amounts for specific programs and regarding authorities to transfer funds. In addition, language is included designating the Legal Services Corporation as an agency of the Federal Government for the purposes of reprogramming.

Under Administrative Provision, Legal Services Corporation, language is included that prohibits the use of funds for certain activities.

Under Office of the United States Trade Representative, Salaries and Expenses, language is included providing for the no-year availability of some funds. Language is also included limiting funds for official reception and representation expenses.

Also, under Trade Enforcement Trust Fund, language is included regarding certain notifications.

Under State Justice Institute, Salaries and Expenses, language is included limiting funds for reception and representation expenses. Language is also included providing for multi-year availability of certain funds. In addition, language is included designating the State Justice Institute as an agency of the Federal Government for the purposes of reprogramming.

In title V, General Provisions, the following general provisions that fall within the rule are recommended:

Section 501 prohibits the use of funds for publicity or propaganda purposes unless expressly authorized by law.

Section 502 prohibits any appropriation contained in this Act from remaining available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly authorized.

Section 503 provides that the expenditure of any appropriation contained in this Act for any consulting service through procurement contracts shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

Section 504 provides that if any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of other provisions shall not be affected.

Section 505 prohibits a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs, or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments funds for existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress, unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

Section 506 provides that if it is determined that any person intentionally affixes a "Made in America" label to any product that was not made in America that person shall not be eligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds made available in this Act. The section further provides that to the extent practicable, with respect to purchases of promotional items, funds made available under this Act shall be used to purchase items manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States or its territories or possessions.

Section 507 requires quarterly reporting on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 508 provides that any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions in this Act, or, for the Department of Commerce, from actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property, shall be absorbed within the budgetary resources available to the department or agency, and provides transfer authority between appropriation accounts to carry out this provision, subject to reprogramming procedures.

Section 509 prohibits funds made available in this Act from being used to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products or to seek the reduction or removal of foreign restrictions on the marketing of tobacco products, except for restrictions that are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type. This provision is not intended to impact routine international trade

services to all U.S. citizens, including the processing of applications to establish foreign trade zones.

Section 510 limits the obligation of receipts deposited into the Crime Victims Fund to \$2,838,000,000 during fiscal year 2020, and provides for a transfer of \$10,000,000 to the Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General for oversight and auditing of the fund. It also provides for a tribal set-aside.

Section 511 prohibits the use of Department of Justice funds for programs that discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students participating in such programs.

Section 512 prohibits the transfer of funds made available in this Act to any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States Government, except for transfers made by, or pursuant to authorities provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

Section 513 requires certain timetables of audits performed by Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation and the Legal Services Corporation and sets limits and restrictions on the awarding and use of grants or contracts funded by amounts appropriated by this Act.

Section 514 prohibits funds for acquisition of certain information systems unless the acquiring department or agency has reviewed and assessed certain risks. Any acquisition of such an information system is contingent upon the development of a risk mitigation strategy and a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered by this section shall consult with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and other relevant agencies when reviewing supply chain risks and making a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered by this section is directed to ensure it is following the criteria established by the FBI and the National Institute of Standards and Technology when acquiring or renewing certain information systems. Each department or agency covered under this section shall submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate describing reviews and assessments of risk made pursuant to this section and any associated findings or determinations.

Section 515 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

Section 516 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to include certain language in trade agreements.

Section 517 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to authorize or issue a national security letter (NSL) in contravention of certain laws authorizing the FBI to issue NSLs.

Section 518 requires congressional notification regarding any project within the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Science Foundation or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration totaling more than \$75,000,000 that has cost increases of 10 percent or more.

Section 519 deems funds for intelligence or intelligence related activities as authorized by Congress during fiscal year 2019 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2019.

Section 520 prohibits contracts or grant awards in excess of \$5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies that the organization has filed all Federal tax returns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has no unpaid Federal tax assessment.

Section 521 provides for rescissions of unobligated balances from the Departments of Commerce and Justice.

Section 522 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act for the purchase of first class or premium air travel in contravention of certain Federal regulations.

Section 523 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to pay for the attendance of more than 50 department or agency employees, who are stationed in the United States, at any single conference outside the United States, unless the conference is a law enforcement training or operational event where the majority of Federal attendees are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

Section 524 requires tracking and reporting of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

Section 525 requires, when practicable, the use of funds in this Act to purchase light bulbs that have the “Energy Star” or “Federal Energy Management Program” designation.

Section 526 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) or the National Space Council (NSC) to engage in bilateral activities with China or a Chinese-owned company unless the activities are authorized by subsequent legislation or NASA, OSTP or NSC after consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation have made a certification pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

Section 527 prohibits the use of funds made available in this Act to establish or maintain a computer network that does not block pornography, except for law enforcement or victim assistance purposes.

Section 528 requires each department and agency funded in the bill to submit spending plans.

Section 529 prohibits the use of funds to pay for unsatisfactory contractor performance.

Section 530 prohibits the use of funds by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration in contravention of a certain section of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Section 531 prohibits the Department of Justice from preventing certain States or territories from implementing their laws regarding the use of medical marijuana.

Section 532 requires quarterly reports from the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation on official travel to China.

Section 533 requires not less than 10 percent of the funds provided for certain programs be provided to persistent poverty counties.

Section 534 prohibits funds to incorporate into the 2020 Decennial Census any question that was not included in the 2018 End-to-End Census Test.

Section 535 prohibits funds to move a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives facility.

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

The Committee, in a number of instances, has found it necessary to recommend funding for ongoing activities and programs for which authorizations have not been enacted to date. Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(B) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill that are not authorized by law for the period concerned:

UNAUTHORIZED APPROPRIATIONS
(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level in year of authorizations	Appropriations in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
Department of Commerce:				
International Trade Commission:				
Operations and Administration:				
Export Promotion Activities	1996	Such sums	264,885	*
Bureau of Industry and Security:				
Operations and Administration	1994	Such sums	34,747	127,652
Economic Development Administration:				
Salaries and Expenses	2008	Such sums	30,832	41,650
Economic Development Assistance Programs		Various		498,350
Public Works and Economic Development Act Programs	2008	500,000	349,100	(396,350)
Minority Business Development Agency:				
Minority Business Development	n/a	n/a	n/a	44,000
Economics and Statistics Administration:				
Salaries and Expenses	n/a	n/a	n/a	107,990
National Telecommunications and Information Administration:				
Salaries and Expenses	1993	17,900	18,493	42,441
National Institute of Standards and Technology:				
Scientific and Technical Research and Services	2013	676,700	609,514	751,000
Industrial technology services	2013	241,709	140,316	169,172
Manufacturing extension partnerships	2013	(165,100)	(126,088)	(154,000)
Construction of research facilities	2013	121,300	58,874	120,000
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:				
Operations, Research and Facilities:				
National Ocean Service	1993	121,183	150,864	642,000
Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Observations	2013	Such sums	(334,932)	(40,500)
Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration		Various		(84,500)
Competitive External Research		Various		(20,000)
Coastal Zone Management and Services	n/a	n/a	n/a	(46,500)
Coastal Zone Management Grants	1999	(50,500)	(52,700)	(81,000)
Title IX Fund	2019	Such sums	(30,000)	(60,000)
Coral Reef Program	2004	(16,000)	(26,100)	(33,000)
Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas	2005	(40,000)	(58,750)	(56,500)
National Estuarine Research Reserve System	1999	(4,600)	(4,300)	(29,000)
National Marine Fisheries Services				944,650

Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles and Other Species .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(124,000)
Species Recoveries Grants	1992	†	.....	.....	(7,500)
Atlantic Salmon	1992	†	.....	.....	(6,500)
Pacific Salmon	1992	†	.....	.....	(66,420)
2018 Recertification of the Pacific Salmon Treaty	n/a	n/a	.....	.....	(30,000)
Fisheries and Ecosystem Science Programs and Services .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(150,000)
Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(171,000)
Observers and Training .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(45,100)
Fisheries Management Programs and Services .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(124,000)
Salmon Management Activities .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(37,000)
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(41,500)
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants	2012	3,400	.....	.....	(3,500)
Enforcement .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(73,500)
Habitat Conservation and Restoration .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(61,625)
Oceanic and Atmospheric Research	1993	1,589,081	.....	.....	†
Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	1993	(109,877)	.....	.....	(73,000)
Regional Climate Data and Information .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(41,500)
Climate Competitive Research	n/a	.....	.....	.....	(71,000)
Ocean and Coastal Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(35,345)
National Sea Grant College Program	2014	.....	.....	.....	(73,000)
Marine Aquaculture Program	2014	†	.....	.....	(12,000)
Ocean Exploration and Research	2015	(59,436)	.....	.....	(44,000)
Integrated Ocean Acidification	2012	(20,000)	.....	.....	(20,000)
Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring	n/a	n/a	.....	.....	(48,500)
High Performance Computing Initiatives	1996	(4,500)	.....	.....	(22,235)
National Weather Service	1993	395,822	.....	.....	†
Observations .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(230,770)
Central Processing	1993	.....	.....	.....	(99,797)
Analyze, Forecast and Support .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(546,300)
Dissemination	1993	.....	.....	.....	(75,482)
Science and Technology Integration .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(147,200)
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	281,790
Office of Satellite and Production Operations	1993	.....	.....	.....	(186,790)
Product Development, Readiness and Application	1993	.....	.....	.....	(28,500)
Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs	n/a	n/a	.....	.....	(1,800)
Office of Space Commerce	n/a	n/a	.....	.....	(1,800)
Group on Earth Observations	1993	n/a	.....	.....	(500)
National Centers for Environmental Information	1993	39,596	.....	.....	(62,400)
Mission Support:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mission Support Services	1993	75,750	.....	.....	260,166

UNAUTHORIZED APPROPRIATIONS—Continued
(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level in year of authorization	Appropriations in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
NOAA Office of Education	n/a	n/a	n/a	34,500
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations:				
Marine Operations and Maintenance	1993	68,518	61,222	195,547
Aviation Operations	1993	10,336	9,872	37,250
Unmanned Systems Operations	n/a	n/a	n/a	15,062
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction:				
National Ocean Service:				
National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,000
Marine Sanctuaries Construction	2005	6,000	10,000	5,000
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research:				
Research Supercomputing/CCRI	n/a	n/a	n/a	49,000
National Weather Service:				
Observations	1993	†	84,516	21,129
Central Processing	n/a	n/a	n/a	67,000
Dissemination	n/a	n/a	n/a	10,000
Weather Forecast Office Construction	n/a	n/a	n/a	15,000
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service:				
GOES-R	n/a	n/a	n/a	304,056
Space Weather Follow-on	n/a	n/a	n/a	38,600
Polar Weather Satellites	n/a	n/a	n/a	755,038
CDARS	1993	2,300	n/a	14,850
Low Earth Orbit	n/a	n/a	n/a	33,202
Geostationary Earth Orbit	n/a	n/a	n/a	25,219
System Architecture and Advanced Planning	n/a	n/a	n/a	44,822
Satellite CDA Facility	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,450
Mission Support:				
NOAA Construction	1993	94,500	64,500	21,000
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations:				
Fleet Capital Improvements and Technology Infusion	n/a	n/a	n/a	24,634
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery	2009	90,000	80,000	65,000
Fishermen's Contingency Fund	n/a	n/a	n/a	349
Fisheries Disaster Assistance	2013	Such sums	5,000	15,000
Fisheries Finance Program Account	n/a	n/a	n/a	—8,000

Departmental Management:					
Salaries and Expenses	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50,000
Renovation and Modernization	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,100
Office of Inspector General	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35,043
Department of Justice:					
General Administration:					
Salaries and Expenses	2009	181,561	105,805	114,740	
Justice Information Sharing Technology	2009	204,152	80,000	33,875	
Executive Office for Immigration Review	2009	n/a	n/a	672,966	
Office of Inspector General	2009	81,922	80,681	105,500	
United States Parole Commission:					
Salaries and Expenses	2009	12,711	12,570	12,672	
Legal Activities:					
Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities	2009	764,526	805,655	934,600	
Salaries and Expenses, Antitrust Division	2009	162,488	157,788	166,755	
Salaries and Expenses, United States Attorneys	2009	1,829,194	1,851,336	2,329,800	
Salaries and Expenses, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission	2009	1,429	1,823	2,335	
Fee and Expenses of Witnesses	2009	203,755	168,300	270,000	
Salaries and Expenses, Community Relations Service	2009	10,977	9,873	17,000	
Assets Forfeiture Fund (discretionary)	2009	22,000	20,990	20,514	
United States Marshals Service	2009	900,178	954,000	3,252,061	
Salaries and Expenses .....	.....	\$	(960,000)	(1,444,600)	
Construction .....	.....	\$	(4,000)	(15,000)	
Federal Prison Detention#	2009	1,858,509	1,355,319	(1,792,461)	
National Security Division:					
Salaries and Expenses	n/a	n/a	n/a	109,585	
Interagency Law Enforcement:					
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement	2009	744,593	515,000	570,000	
Federal Bureau of Investigation	2009	6,480,608	7,301,191	9,507,823	
Salaries and Expenses .....	.....	\$	(7,182,700)	(9,455,928)	
Construction .....	.....	\$	(153,491)	(51,895)	
Drug Enforcement Administration:					
Salaries and Expenses	2009	1,930,462	1,959,084	2,356,858	
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives:					
Salaries and Expenses	2009	1,038,939	1,078,215	1,439,000	
Federal Prison System	2009	5,698,292	6,171,561	7,475,000	
Salaries and Expenses .....	.....	\$	(5,600,792)	(7,325,000)	
Building and Facilities .....	.....	\$	(575,807)	(150,000)	

UNAUTHORIZED APPROPRIATIONS—Continued
(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level in year of authorizations	Appropriations in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
Office on Violence Against Women:				
Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs:				
STOP Grants	2018	215,000	215,000	222,000
Transitional Housing Assistance	2018	35,000	35,000	41,000
Research and Evaluation on Violence against Women	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,000
Consolidated Youth-oriented Program		Various		20,000
Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention	n/a	n/a	n/a	††
Grants to Assist Children and Youth Exposed to Violence	n/a	n/a	n/a	††
Supporting Teens Through Education Program	2011	5,000	**	††
Services to Advocate and Respond to Youth	n/a	n/a	n/a	††
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	2018	53,000	53,000	62,000
Homicide Reduction Initiative		n/a	n/a	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Victims Services	2018	40,000	35,000	50,000
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement	2018	50,000	40,000	50,000
Violence on College Campuses	2018	12,000	20,000	26,000
Civil Legal Assistance	2018	57,000	45,000	57,000
Elder Abuse Grant Program	2018	9,000	5,000	9,000
Family Civil Justice		Various		22,000
Court Training and Improvements Program	2011	5,000	**	
Safe Havens Program	2011	5,000	**	
Education and Training for Disabled Female Victims	2018	9,000	6,000	9,000
National Resource Center on Workplace Responses	2018	1,000	500	1,000
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	2015	1,000	940	1,000
Indian Country—Sexual Assault Clearinghouse	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,000
Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction	2018	n/a	n/a	5,000
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act	2019	5,000	1,500	3,500
Office on Justice Programs:				
Research Evaluation and Statistics:				
Bureau of Justice Statistics	1995	33,000	32,335	43,000
NCS-X Implementation Program	n/a	n/a	n/a	(5,000)
National Institute of Justice	1995	33,000	58,879	37,000
Domestic Radicalization Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	(5,000)
State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance:				
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants	2012	1,095,000	470,000	530,250

Officer Robert Wilson III VALOR Initiative	n/a	n/a	(15,000)
Smart Policing	n/a	n/a	(7,500)
Smart Prosecution	n/a	n/a	(10,000)
Juvenile Indigent Defense	n/a	n/a	(4,000)
Convention Security	n/a	n/a	(100,000)
NAMUS	n/a	n/a	(3,600)
Training Program to Improve Responses to People with Mental Illness	n/a	n/a	(2,500)
John R. Justice Grant Program	2014	40,000	(2,000)
Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution	2010	20,000	(15,500)
Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance	2016	20,000	(2,000)
Managed Access	n/a	n/a	(2,000)
Regional Law Enforcement Training Initiative	n/a	n/a	(3,000)
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	2011	950,000	260,000
Adam Walsh Act Implementation	2009	Such sums	20,000
National Sex Offender Public Website	n/a	n/a	1,000
Community Teams to Reduce the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Backlog	n/a	n/a	49,000
CASA-Special Advocates	2018	12,000	12,000
Community Trust Initiative	n/a	n/a	60,000
Body-worn Camera Partnership	n/a	n/a	(25,000)
Justice Reinvestment Initiative	n/a	n/a	(35,000)
Immigration Representation Pilot	n/a	n/a	10,000
Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance	n/a	n/a	(10,000)
POLICE Act	n/a	n/a	(20,000)
Juvenile Justice Programs:	2007	Such sums	100,000
Youth Mentoring Grants		Various	*
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant:	2018	84,000	*
Missing and Exploited Children Programs		*	2,000
Missing and Exploited Children grants	2018	2,300	
Training for Judicial Personnel			
Community Oriented Policing Services:			
COPS Hiring Grants	2009	1,047,117	239,750
Regional information sharing activities	2003	100,000	(38,000)
Tribal Access Program	n/a	n/a	(3,000)
Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance	n/a	n/a	(6,500)
POLICE Act	n/a	n/a	12,000
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces	n/a	n/a	8,000
Anti-Heroin Task Forces	n/a	n/a	32,000
Science:			
National Aeronautics and Space Administration:	2017	5,500,000	7,161,300
Science		5,764,900	

UNAUTHORIZED APPROPRIATIONS—Continued
(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level in year of authorization	Appropriations in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
Aeronautics	2017	640,000	660,000	700,000
Space Technology	2017	686,000	686,500	1,291,600
Exploration	2017	4,330,000	4,324,000	5,129,900
Space Operations	2017	5,023,000	4,950,700	4,285,700
Education	2017	115,000	100,000	123,000
Safety, Security and Mission Services	2017	2,788,600	2,768,600	3,084,600
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Remediation	2017	388,000	360,700	497,200
Office of Inspector General	2017	37,400	37,900	41,700
National Science Foundation:				
Research and Related Activities	2013	6,637,879	5,983,280	7,106,301
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	2013	236,764	196,170	223,230
Education and Human Resources	2013	1,041,762	895,610	950,000
Agency Operations and Award Management	2013	363,670	299,400	336,890
Office of the National Science Board	2013	4,906	4,440	4,370
Office of Inspector General	2013	15,049	14,200	15,350
Related Agencies:				
Commission on Civil Rights:				
Salaries and Expenses	1995	9,500	8,904	10,500
International Trade Commission:				
Salaries and Expenses	2004	57,240	58,925	101,000
Legal Services Corporation:				
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation	1980	205,000	300,000	550,000
Marine Mammal Commission:				
Salaries and Expenses	1999	1,750	1,240	3,616
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative:				
Salaries and Expenses	2004	33,108	41,552	57,000
State Justice Institute:				
Salaries and Expenses	2008	7,000	3,760	6,555

*The recommendation does not provide a specific amount for this program.

† Authorization provides a single amount for activities spread across multiple NOAA Control Table lines.

‡ The National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–423) authorized Weather and Air Chemistry Research Programs. Other programs are unauthorized.

§ The last time the NWS was comprehensively authorized was 1993. Though specific programs, like the Tsunami Warning and Education Program, are currently authorized the recommendation does not provide a specific amount for those programs.

¶ The authorization authorizes funding for the "Administrative Review and Appeals" account, which encompassed the activities of the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the Office of Pardon Attorney. The recommendation separates these into different accounts.

§ Authorization does not provide amounts for specific accounts within this agency.

This was formerly the "General Administration, Detention Trustee" account.

** The authorization for this program expired in FY 2011. Since the government was funded by a full-year continuing resolution, the Committee did not provide a specific appropriation for this program.

†† These programs have been combined into the Consolidated Youth-oriented Program.

\$\$\$ The authorization for this program expired in FY 2007. Since the government was funded by a full-year continuing resolution, the Committee did not provide a specific appropriation for this program.

¶¶ Within the Research and Related Activities account, funding for Dyslexia and windstorm research are authorized.

COMPARISON WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget Act requires the report accompanying a bill providing new budget authority to contain a statement comparing the levels in the bill to the suballocations submitted under section 302(b) of the Act for the most recently agreed to concurrent resolution on the budget for the applicable fiscal year.

[In millions of dollars]

	302(b) Allocation		This Bill	
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays
Comparison of amounts in the bill with Committee allocations to its subcommittees: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies:				
Discretionary	66,395	72,000	73,895	¹ 76,399
Mandatory	336	329	336	¹ 329

¹ Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

NOTE.—Consistent with the funding recommended in the bill for the 2020 Census, in accordance with section 1(g) of House Resolution 293 of the 116th Congress, and after the bill is reported to the House, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget will provide a revised section 302(a) allocation reflecting an additional \$7,500,000,000 in discretionary budget authority and \$5,400,000,000 in outlays. That new allocation will eliminate the technical difference prior to Floor consideration.

FIVE-YEAR OUTLAY PROJECTIONS

In compliance with section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Public Law 93–344), as amended, the following table contains five-year projections associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

[In millions of dollars]

	Outlays
Projection of outlays associated with the recommendation:	
2020	¹ 50,080
2021	18,055
2022	5,671
2023	2,640
2024 and future years	3,457

¹ Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In accordance with section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended, the Congressional Budget Office has provided the following estimates of new budget authority and outlays provided by the accompanying bill for financial assistance to State and local governments:

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays
Financial assistance to State and local governments for 2020	– 2,832	¹ 84

¹ Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

PROGRAM DUPLICATION

No provision of this bill establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the

Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

For the purposes of section 103(i) of H. Res. 6 of the 116th Congress—

The following hearings were used to develop or consider the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on February 26, 2019, entitled “Understanding the Changing Climate System and the Role of Climate Research.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Dr. Michael Freilich, Director of NASA’s Earth Science Division; and

Dr. Neil Jacobs, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on March 7, 2019, entitled “Executive Office for Immigration Review.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

James McHenry, Executive Office for Immigration Review.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on March 12, 2019, entitled “Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Eric Dreiband, Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on March 13, 2019, entitled “Gun Violence Prevention and Enforcement.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Thomas E. Brandon, Deputy Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; and

Christine Halvorsen, Acting Assistant Director for Criminal Justice Information Services, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on March 26, 2019, entitled “National Science Foundation’s Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Dr. France A. Córdova, Director, National Science Foundation.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on March 26, 2019 entitled “Member Day Hearing.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

The Honorable Mo Brooks, Member of Congress;

The Honorable Debra A. Haaland, Member of Congress;

The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, Member of Congress;

The Honorable Hakeem S. Jeffries, Member of Congress;

The Honorable Bill Posey, Member of Congress; and

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky, Member of Congress.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on March 27, 2019, entitled “The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Budget Re-

quest for Fiscal Year 2020.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Dr. Neil Jacobs, Acting Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on March 27, 2019, entitled “NASA’s Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

James Bridenstine, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on April 4, 2019, entitled “Federal Bureau of Investigation Budget Request for FY 2020.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Christopher Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on April 9, 2019, entitled “Department of Justice Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

William P. Barr, Attorney General of the United States; and Lee J. Lofthus, Assistant Attorney General for Administration.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on April 30, 2019, entitled “Oversight Hearing: 2020 Census Preparation.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

Dr. Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau.

Robert Goldenkoff, Director of Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office.

Nicholas Marinos, Director, Information Technology and Cybersecurity, Government Accountability Office.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY

The following table provides a detailed summary, for each department and agency, comparing the amounts recommended in the bill with fiscal year 2019 enacted amounts and budget estimates presented for fiscal year 2020:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE					
International Trade Administration					
Operations and administration.....	495,000	471,096	530,000	+35,000	+58,904
Offsetting fee collections.....	-11,000	-11,000	-11,000	---	---
Direct appropriation.....	484,000	460,096	519,000	+35,000	+58,904
Bureau of Industry and Security					
Operations and administration.....	79,050	87,652	87,652	+8,602	---
Defense function.....	39,000	40,000	40,000	+1,000	---
Total, Bureau of Industry and Security.....	118,050	127,652	127,652	+9,602	---
Economic Development Administration					
Economic Development Assistance Programs.....	265,000	---	498,350	+233,350	+498,350
Salaries and expenses.....	39,000	29,950	41,650	+2,650	+11,700
Total, Economic Development Administration.....	304,000	29,950	540,000	+236,000	+510,050
Minority Business Development Agency					
Minority Business Development.....	40,000	10,000	44,000	+4,000	+34,000

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Economic and Statistical Analysis					
Salaries and expenses.....	101,000	107,990	107,990	+6,990	---
Bureau of the Census					
Current Surveys and Programs.....	270,000	264,005	275,000	+5,000	+10,995
Periodic censuses and programs.....	3,551,388	5,885,400	675,000	-2,876,388	-5,210,400
2020 Census (H. Res. 293; HR 2021).....	---	---	7,500,000	+7,500,000	+7,500,000
Subtotal.....	3,551,388	5,885,400	8,175,000	+4,623,612	+2,289,600
Total, Bureau of the Census.....	3,821,388	6,149,405	8,450,000	+4,628,612	+2,300,595
National Telecommunications and Information Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	39,500	42,441	42,441	+2,941	---
United States Patent and Trademark Office					
Salaries and expenses, current year fee funding.....	3,370,000	3,450,681	3,450,681	+80,681	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-3,370,000	-3,450,681	-3,450,681	-80,681	---
Total, United States Patent and Trademark Office	---	---	---	---	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
National Institute of Standards and Technology					
Scientific and Technical Research and Services.....	724,500	611,719	751,000	+26,500	+139,281
(transfer out).....	(-9,000)	(-9,000)	(-9,000)	---	---
Industrial Technology Services.....	155,000	15,172	169,172	+14,172	+154,000
Manufacturing extension partnerships.....	(140,000)	---	(154,000)	(+14,000)	(+154,000)
National Network for Manufacturing Innovation.....	(15,000)	(15,172)	(15,172)	(+172)	---
Construction of research facilities.....	106,000	40,690	120,000	+14,000	+79,310
(Legislative Proposal).....	---	288,000	---	---	-288,000
Working Capital Fund (by transfer).....	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	---	---
Total, National Institute of Standards and Technology.....					
	985,500	955,581	1,040,172	+54,672	+84,591
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration					
Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	3,596,997	3,058,383	3,920,625	+323,628	+862,242
(by transfer).....	(157,980)	(158,407)	(177,782)	(+19,802)	(+19,375)
Promote and Develop Fund (transfer out).....	(-157,980)	(-158,407)	(-177,782)	(-19,802)	(-19,375)
Subtotal.....	3,596,997	3,058,383	3,920,625	+323,628	+862,242

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction.....	1,755,349	1,406,236	1,496,000	-259,349	+89,764
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery.....	65,000	---	65,000	---	+65,000
Fishermen's Contingency Fund.....	349	349	349	---	---
Fishery Disaster Assistance.....	15,000	---	15,000	---	+15,000
Fisheries Finance Program Account.....	-8,000	-8,000	-8,000	---	---
Total, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.....	5,424,695	4,456,968	5,488,974	+64,279	+1,032,006
Departmental Management					
Salaries and expenses.....	63,000	79,107	40,000	-23,000	-39,107
Renovation and Modernization.....	---	1,100	1,100	+1,100	---
Office of Inspector General.....	32,744	33,043	33,043	+299	---
Information Technology System Modernization and Working Capital Fund.....	---	22,000	---	---	-22,000
Total, Departmental Management.....	95,744	135,250	74,143	-21,601	-61,107
Total, title I, Department of Commerce (by transfer).....	11,413,877	12,475,333	16,434,372	+5,020,495	+3,959,039
(transfer out).....	166,980	167,407	186,782	+19,802	+19,375
	-166,980	-167,407	-186,782	-19,802	-19,375

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE					
General Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	113,000	114,740	114,740	+1,740	---
Justice Information Sharing Technology.....	32,000	33,875	33,875	+1,875	---
Total, General Administration.....	145,000	148,615	148,615	+3,615	---
Executive Office for Immigration Review.....					
Transfer from immigration examinations fee account	563,407	672,966	672,966	+109,559	---
	-4,000	-4,000	-4,000	---	---
Direct appropriation.....	559,407	668,966	668,966	+109,559	---
Office of Inspector General.....	101,000	101,646	105,500	+4,500	+3,854
United States Parole Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	13,000	13,308	13,308	+308	---
Legal Activities					
Salaries and expenses, general legal activities.....	904,000	927,453	934,600	+30,600	+7,147
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.....	10,000	13,000	13,000	+3,000	---
Salaries and expenses, Antitrust Division.....	164,977	166,755	166,755	+1,778	---
Offsetting fee collections - current year.....	-136,000	-141,000	-141,000	-5,000	---
Direct appropriation.....	28,977	25,755	25,755	-3,222	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Salaries and expenses, United States Attorneys.....	2,212,000	2,254,541	2,329,800	+117,800	+75,259
United States Trustee System Fund.....	226,000	227,229	227,229	+1,229	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-360,000	-309,000	-309,000	+51,000	---
Direct appropriation.....	-134,000	-81,771	-81,771	+52,229	---
Salaries and expenses, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.....	2,409	2,335	2,335	-74	---
Fees and expenses of witnesses.....	270,000	270,000	270,000	---	---
Salaries and expenses, Community Relations Service....	15,500	---	17,000	+1,500	+17,000
Assets Forfeiture Fund.....	20,514	20,514	20,514	---	---
Total, Legal Activities.....	3,329,400	3,431,827	3,531,233	+201,833	+99,406
United States Marshals Service					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,358,000	1,373,416	1,444,600	+86,600	+71,184
Construction.....	15,000	14,971	15,000	---	+29
Federal Prisoner Detention.....	1,552,397	1,867,461	1,792,461	+240,064	-75,000
Total, United States Marshals Service.....	2,925,397	3,255,848	3,252,061	+326,664	-3,787
National Security Division					
Salaries and expenses.....	101,369	109,585	109,585	+8,216	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

Interagency Law Enforcement					
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement.....	560,000	550,458	570,000	+10,000	+19,542
Federal Bureau of Investigation					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,729,250	3,755,738	3,836,270	+107,020	+80,532
Counterintelligence and national security.....	5,462,887	5,501,689	5,619,658	+156,771	+117,969

Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	9,192,137	9,257,427	9,455,928	+263,791	+198,501
Construction.....	385,000	51,895	51,895	-333,105	---

Total, Federal Bureau of Investigation.....	9,577,137	9,309,322	9,507,823	-69,314	+198,501
Drug Enforcement Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,687,703	2,722,295	2,800,000	+112,297	+77,705
Diversion control fund.....	-420,703	-443,142	-443,142	-22,439	---

Total, Drug Enforcement Administration.....	2,267,000	2,279,153	2,356,858	+89,858	+77,705
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program.....	---	254,000	---	---	-254,000

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,316,678	1,368,440	1,439,000	+122,322	+70,560
Federal Prison System					
Salaries and expenses.....	7,250,000	7,061,953	7,325,000	+75,000	+263,047
Buildings and facilities.....	264,000	99,205	150,000	-114,000	+50,795
Limitation on administrative expenses, Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.....	2,700	2,700	2,700	---	---
Total, Federal Prison System.....	7,516,700	7,163,858	7,477,700	-39,000	+313,842
State and Local Law Enforcement Activities					
Office on Violence Against Women:					
Prevention and prosecution programs.....	---	---	---	---	---
(by transfer).....	(497,500)	---	(582,500)	(+85,000)	(+582,500)
Crime Victims Fund (transfer out).....	(-497,500)	---	(-582,500)	(-85,000)	(-582,500)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of Justice Programs:					
Research, evaluation and statistics.....	80,000	94,500	80,000	---	-14,500
State and local law enforcement assistance.....	1,723,000	1,482,200	1,933,000	+210,000	+450,800
Juvenile justice programs.....	287,000	238,500	341,500	+54,500	+103,000
Public safety officer benefits:					
Death benefits.....	104,000	117,000	117,000	+13,000	---
Disability and education benefits.....	24,800	24,800	24,800	---	---
Subtotal.....	128,800	141,800	141,800	+13,000	---
Total, Office of Justice Programs.....	2,218,800	1,957,000	2,496,300	+277,500	+539,300
Community Oriented Policing Services:					
COPS programs.....	303,500	---	323,000	+19,500	+323,000
Total, State and Local Law Enforcement Activities.....	2,522,300	1,957,000	2,819,300	+297,000	+862,300
Total, title II, Department of Justice.....	30,934,388	30,612,026	31,999,949	+1,065,561	+1,387,923

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE III - SCIENCE					
Office of Science and Technology Policy.....	5,544	5,000	5,000	-544	---
National Space Council.....	1,965	1,870	1,870	-95	---
National Aeronautics and Space Administration					
Science.....	6,905,700	6,303,700	7,161,300	+255,600	+857,600
Aeronautics.....	725,000	666,900	700,000	-25,000	+33,100
Space Technology.....	926,900	---	1,291,600	+364,700	+1,291,600
Exploration.....	---	1,014,300	---	---	-1,014,300
Deep Space Exploration Systems.....	5,050,800	---	5,129,900	+79,100	+5,129,900
Space Operations.....	---	5,021,700	---	---	-5,021,700
LEO and Spaceflight Operations.....	4,639,100	---	4,285,700	-353,400	+4,285,700
Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics Engagement.....	110,000	4,285,700	---	---	-4,285,700
		---	123,000	+13,000	+123,000

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Safety, Security and Mission Services.....	2,755,000	3,084,600	3,084,600	+329,600	---
Construction and environmental compliance and restoration.....	348,200	600,400	497,200	+149,000	-103,200
Office of Inspector General.....	39,300	41,700	41,700	+2,400	---
Total, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.....	21,500,000	21,019,000	22,315,000	+815,000	+1,296,000
National Science Foundation					
Research and related activities.....	6,449,000	5,591,960	7,035,301	+586,301	+1,443,341
Defense function.....	71,000	71,000	71,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	6,520,000	5,662,960	7,106,301	+586,301	+1,443,341
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction..	295,740	223,230	223,230	-72,510	---
Education and Human Resources.....	910,000	823,470	950,000	+40,000	+126,530
Agency Operations and Award Management.....	329,540	336,890	336,890	+7,350	---
Office of the National Science Board.....	4,370	4,100	4,370	---	+270
Office of Inspector General.....	15,350	15,350	15,350	---	---
Total, National Science Foundation.....	8,075,000	7,066,000	8,636,141	+561,141	+1,570,141
Total, title III, Science.....	29,582,509	28,091,870	30,958,011	+1,375,502	+2,866,141

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES					
Commission on Civil Rights					
Salaries and expenses.....	10,065	9,200	10,500	+435	+1,300
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	379,500	355,800	399,500	+20,000	+43,700
International Trade Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	95,000	91,100	101,000	+6,000	+9,900
Legal Services Corporation					
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation.....	415,000	18,200	550,000	+135,000	+531,800
Marine Mammal Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,516	2,449	3,616	+100	+1,167
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative					
Salaries and expenses.....	53,000	59,000	57,000	+4,000	-2,000
Trade Enforcement Trust Fund.....	15,000	10,000	15,000	---	+5,000

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
State Justice Institute					
Salaries and expenses.....	5,971	6,555	6,555	+584	---
Total, title IV, Related Agencies.....	977,052	552,304	1,143,171	+166,119	+590,867
TITLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Crime Victims Fund (transfer out) (Sec. 510).....	---	---	(-10,000)	(-10,000)	(-10,000)
Department of Justice OIG (by transfer).....	---	---	(10,000)	(+10,000)	(+10,000)
DOC National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Innovation Program (rescission).....	-2,000	---	---	+2,000	---
Economic Development Assistance Programs (rescission), DOC International Trade Administrations, Operations and Administrations Program (rescission).....	-10,000	-35,000	---	+10,000	+35,000
DOJ, Working Capital Fund (rescission).....	---	-3,000	---	---	+3,000
DOJ, Assets Forfeiture Fund (rescission, permanent)....	-151,000	-100,000	-100,000	+51,000	---
FBI, Salaries and Expenses: nondefense (rescission).....	-674,000	---	---	+674,000	---
defense (rescission).....	-50,439	-24,342	-24,342	+26,097	---
FBI, Construction (rescission).....	-73,887	-35,658	-35,658	+38,229	---
Federal Prison System, Buildings and Facilities (rescission).....	---	-159,000	---	---	+159,000
Violence against women prevention and prosecution programs (rescission).....	---	-505,000	---	---	+505,000
Office of Justice programs (rescission).....	-10,000	---	---	+10,000	---
COPS (rescission).....	-70,000	-85,000	-85,000	-15,000	---
	-16,500	---	---	+16,500	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
NASA closeouts (rescission).....	-3,000	---	---	+3,000	---
Total, title V, General Provisions.....	-1,060,826	-947,000	-245,000	+815,826	+702,000
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS					
BUDGET AMENDMENTS MAY 13, 2019					
National Aeronautics and Space Administration					
Science.....	---	90,000	---	---	-90,000
Exploration Technology.....	---	132,000	---	---	-132,000
Deep Space Exploration Systems.....	---	1,374,700	---	---	-1,374,700
Total, Other Appropriations.....	---	1,596,700	---	---	-1,596,700
Grand total.....	71,847,000	72,381,233	80,290,503	+8,443,503	+7,909,270
Appropriations.....	(72,907,826)	(73,325,233)	(73,035,503)	(+127,677)	(-289,730)
Rescissions.....	(-1,060,826)	(-944,000)	(-245,000)	(+815,826)	(+699,000)
Census Cap Adjustment.....	---	---	(7,500,000)	(+7,500,000)	(+7,500,000)
(by transfer).....	664,480	167,407	779,282	+114,802	+611,875
(transfer out).....	-664,480	-167,407	-779,282	-114,802	-611,875

MINORITY VIEWS

We appreciate the efforts of the Majority in producing a Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations bill that addresses priorities of Members on both sides of the aisle. We also want to thank Chairman Serrano and his staff for their diligent efforts to incorporate many of our Members' proposed bill modifications into his Manager's Amendment. This bill is a testament to the commitment the Chairman made to work together with the Minority.

We are also pleased that the bill funds NASA at levels necessary to work toward completion of the Space Launch System and the Exploration Upper Stage, and provides strong funding to continue developing deep space exploration technologies, like nuclear thermal propulsion. The bill's investment in nuclear thermal propulsion is critical as NASA works toward the design of a flight demonstration by 2024.

The bill also includes the funding needed for the critical missions of our Federal law enforcement components, as well as the agencies that ensure compliance with our trade laws and agreements. In addition, it provides valuable resources for our law enforcement entities back home, by helping to eliminate the sexual assault kit backlog and supporting critical drug court programs and other vital initiatives that address the opioid epidemic.

Still, we have many unaddressed concerns with this bill. The bill does not provide the resources for NASA necessary to achieve the Administration's goal of establishing a permanent, U.S. human presence on and around the Moon within the next decade.

The bill also contravenes existing law by funding lawyers for aliens arriving at our Southern border. Current immigration law affirms an alien's right to counsel, but only at no expense to taxpayers.

It also eliminates several long-standing Second Amendment protections that have enjoyed historical, bipartisan support. The elimination of freedoms that are not even associated with the criminal misuse of firearms is unfortunately an all-too-predictable outgrowth of an unabashed gun control agenda with no basis in the science of criminal justice.

We are also disappointed to see language that ties the hands of the Administration. For example, the bill restricts the ability of the Secretary of Commerce to reorganize agencies and transfer and reprogram funds. These changes will hinder the Secretary's ability to improve operational efficiencies and respond quickly to changing resource needs, including with respect to the 2020 Census.

Additionally, the bill prohibits the incorporation of case completion benchmarks as one metric of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)'s multidimensional performance review of its immigration judges. As the Director of EOIR has noted, "using

metrics to evaluate performance is neither novel nor unique to EOIR.” It is an understatement to say that EOIR’s pending caseload—888,000 and growing—is a matter of concern to the Minority. The net effect of EOIR’s untenable backlog is to delay due process, not to mention justice—in many cases for years—for those who have a valid claim to immigration benefits.

A final area of concern is the funding level in the absence of any topline budget agreement that begins to tackle our national debt. In addition to a \$7,500,000,000 adjustment for the 2020 Census, this bill is \$2,300,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level. No doubt there are critical programs in this bill deserving of strong Congressional support, but that sentiment in no way negates the need for an over-arching plan for fiscal responsibility. The House Democrats’ budget framework would raise the discretionary spending caps by more than \$350,000,000,000 in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 and does not reflect a House-passed budget resolution or a bipartisan, bicameral agreement. This would put the Federal government on track to add to the national debt, which is already above \$22,000,000,000,000 and rising. We fear this is setting us up for a scenario that could end in a year-long continuing resolution at best—or another protracted government shutdown at worst.

We do pledge to work with the Majority in good faith as we proceed through the legislative process. Working together, we have passed this bill through the Congress and avoided a year-long continuing resolution for the past four years. It is our sincere hope we can do so again this year.

KAY GRANGER.
ROBERT ADERHOLT.



Calendar No. 231

116TH CONGRESS } 1st Session }	SENATE	{ REPORT 116-127
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DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2020

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MORAN, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2584]

The Committee on Appropriations reports the bill (S. 2584) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

Total obligational authority, fiscal year 2020

Total of bill as reported to the Senate ¹	\$79,389,503,000
Amount of 2019 appropriations	73,007,306,000
Amount of 2020 budget estimate	72,381,233,000
Bill as recommended to Senate compared to—	
2019 appropriations	+ 6,382,197,000
2020 budget estimate	+ 7,008,270,000

¹ This level does not include —\$8,220,503,000 in adjustments, including the Census cap adjustment authorized in Public Law 116-37, that the Congressional Budget Office scores to the bill. With these adjustments, the bill is consistent with the subcommittee's base discretionary allocation of \$70,833,000,000.

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PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The bill provides funding for: (1) the Department of Commerce [DOC]; (2) the Department of Justice [DOJ]; (3) several independent science agencies: the Office of Science and Technology Policy [OSTP], the National Space Council; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA], and the National Science Foundation [NSF]; and (4) several related commissions and agencies: the Commission on Civil Rights, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission [EEOC], the United States International Trade Commission [ITC], the Legal Services Corporation [LSC], the Marine Mammal Commission, the Office of the United States Trade Representative [USTR], and the State Justice Institute [SJI].

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

The total amount of discretionary budget authority recommended by the Committee for fiscal year 2020 is \$70,833,000,000, which is \$6,715,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level. The Committee's recommendation is consistent with the allocation for the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, and adheres to the congressional budget agreement and provisions.

While the discretionary budget authority in this bill has increased from the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, the Committee proposes to keep some of the programs and activities relatively flat while making strategic funding choices to provide enhanced resources for other activities, including the requirement for the Department of Commerce to conduct the Constitutionally-mandated Decennial Census.

Additionally, the Committee makes available \$3,177,000,000 through the Crime Victims Fund [CVF] for victim compensation and victim services. In fiscal year 2018, receipts into the CVF fell to \$444,832,000, the lowest level in 10 years and less than half the amount that was collected during the second lowest collection year. Through July 2019, receipts were below \$460,000,000. The amount provided by the Committee is consistent with the 3-year average of deposits into the CVF and strikes the appropriate balance of providing the necessary resources and ensuring that the CVF has sufficient, sustainable balances into the future.

The Committee has strived to achieve a careful balance between the competing priorities of law enforcement, national security, economic development, scientific research, and space exploration, while having limited resources.

While the bill adopts some of the cost saving measures in the 2020 budget request, the Committee does not support other proposed cuts to core programs, such as reductions to advanced weather forecasting operations, research, and Science, Technology, Engi-

(3)

neering, and Math education programs. The budget proposes to eliminate external competitive grant programs that are important to States and local communities across the Nation, which use matching funds to maximize any Federal investment. In contrast, the bill retains many of these grant programs which allow States and communities to steer financial priorities through a bottom-up approach instead of Federal agencies driving local decisions from afar. The Committee's decrease of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Procurement, Acquisition and Construction resources in fiscal year 2020 reflects the reduced financial need for flagship weather satellite programs as they are launched and enter the operational phase.

The Department of Commerce is charged with addressing and executing several critical functions, which include: ensuring the effective operation of our Nation's world class weather satellites and forecasting severe storms; enforcing trade laws to ensure American businesses can compete on a level playing field; completing a timely and accurate Constitutionally-required Decennial Census; working with distressed communities to spur economic development; and properly managing our Nation's fisheries.

In preparation for the 2020 Census, the Committee proposes a \$3,736,931,000 increase in total spending above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for the Census Bureau, which is higher than the fiscal year 2020 budget request. This level of spending is required to ensure that an accurate and effective Census is undertaken. The data from the Census will deliver important information to help facilitate the distribution of billions in Federal funding for grants supporting States, counties, and municipalities, determine the population for congressional apportionment, and provide valuable data for continued economic growth.

The Committee has made a concerted effort to spur U.S. economic growth both domestically and abroad through investments in the Economic Development Administration and our Nation's trade agencies such as the USTR and the ITC, as well as the International Trade Administration and Bureau of Industry and Security within the Department of Commerce. Together these agencies help businesses get started, compete internationally, and grow.

Additionally, the changing landscape of criminal activity at home and abroad continues to tests the DOJ's ability to deal with and adapt to emerging threats. The Committee believes that our Federal law enforcement agencies must work collaboratively to focus and streamline limited resources in a manner that safeguards taxpayer dollars while preserving public safety. The Committee supports the important mission of the Department both at home and abroad, and expects that these additional resources will support the Department's proposed budget enhancements, infrastructure expansion, and new agent hiring. The Committee provides robust funding increases for the Department of Justice. Federal law enforcement and U.S. Attorneys received a 3 percent increase in Salaries and Expenses funding, enabling the Department to hire new agents, deputy marshals, correctional officers, and attorneys, as well as increase and expand upon existing investigative technical capabilities. The fiscal year 2020 bill increases funding for grants to help State and local law enforcement protect our Nation's com-

munities. Additionally, the Committee provides the President's Budget request for the Executive Office of Immigration Review, a 19.4 percent increase to provide resources needed to enhance productivity and address the backlog of more than 960,000 cases. The Committee also provides the necessary funding for the Bureau of Prisons to implement criminal justice reforms created by the First Step Act.

For the science agencies, the Committee sought to build upon the advances and calculated gains made in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6). The amended budget request proposes an ambitious plan for NASA, requesting resources to accelerate the goal of landing the next Americans on the Moon in 2024. The resources provided in this bill are intended to enable that goal and enhance America's leadership in space and science, including sending astronauts to the Moon and beyond. The Committee attempted to leverage resources that allow the accelerated timeframe to remain on pace while Congress awaits a detailed budget proposal from NASA. The Committee sought strategic increases, as well as reductions, so that NASA can achieve balanced and cost-effective operations. These efforts not only lead to scientific breakthroughs and technological advances, but also continue to inspire and harness the excitement of our Nation's future science and business leaders. Within NSF and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Committee recommendation supports administration initiatives to enhance American competitiveness through research in quantum computing and artificial intelligence.

FIGHTING WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

The departments, agencies, boards, offices, and commissions funded in this bill can and should continue to reduce operating expenses by placing greater scrutiny on overhead costs. Savings can and should be achieved by reducing non-essential travel, office supply, rent, and utility costs. The Committee also calls on departments, agencies, boards, and commissions funded in this bill to continue to achieve savings by lowering travel contractor costs related to air fares. The Committee continues longstanding restrictions on first class travel.

The Committee is extremely concerned about the persistent pattern of cost overruns and schedule slippages on major projects and missions carried out by the agencies within this bill. In addition, reports have exposed a culture within many agencies that exhibits a lack of accountability and oversight of grant funding. Therefore, the Committee has continued bill-wide provisions to ensure greater oversight and fiscal responsibility of taxpayer dollars.

First, the bill requires each agency to notify the Committee immediately upon identification of program cost overruns greater than 10 percent.

Second, the bill requires the Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, NASA, NSF, and LSC to conduct reviews of grant and contract funds to ensure funds are being spent appropriately. For projects with persistent accountability issues, such as the Decennial Census and weather satellites, special funding is provided for additional Inspector General scrutiny.

Third, the bill requires all departments and agencies to link all contracts that provide award fees to successful acquisition outcomes, and prohibits funds to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance.

The Committee also supports long-standing provisions that were once solely included in this bill but have since become government-wide provisions. These include: requiring each department, agency, board, and commission funded in this bill to report spending on large conferences to the Inspectors General for audit; requiring all departments and agencies funded in this bill to provide full access to documents and data for their respective Inspectors General to conduct investigations and audits; and prohibiting funds from being used for contracts, memoranda of understanding, cooperative agreements, grants, or loan activities if the proposed recipient has unpaid Federal tax liabilities or was convicted of a felony criminal violation.

Finally, the Committee intends to continue to work with the Government Accountability Office [GAO] to expand the review of selected large-scale acquisition and construction projects. Specifically, the Committee directs ongoing GAO reviews of large NASA projects, major research equipment and facilities construction at the NSF, and separate reviews of the James Webb Space Telescope, with reports to the Committee on a biannual basis.

Agencies shall provide access to all necessary data, as determined by GAO, in order for these reviews to be completed and provided to the Committee in a timely manner. The Committee believes that these project status reports are valuable in identifying cost overrun and schedule slippage problems early so they can be addressed immediately and has used information in the reviews to develop this recommendation.

Federal Vehicle Fleet Management.—The General Services Administration [GSA] issues guidance on Federal fleet management, but the Federal vehicle fleet is decentralized, with each agency maintaining flexibility to manage vehicle utilization as appropriate. In order to provide better transparency and accountability of funding for Federal vehicles, the Committee directs agencies funded in this bill to conduct an annual review of fleet utilization during the third quarter of each fiscal year and provide their corresponding Offices of Inspectors General [OIGs] with supporting documentation on the method used for determining optimal fleet inventories and justification for any deviation from GSA's Federal Property Management Regulations. OIGs shall be responsible for conducting annual audits of fleet management practices and make the subsequent results for non-law enforcement sensitive agencies publicly available.

Reducing Duplication and Improving Efficiencies.—The Committee directs each agency funded in this bill to report to the Committee, within 1 year of enactment, on all efforts made to address the duplication of Federal programs identified by annual GAO reports along with identifying substantive challenges and legal barriers to implementing GAO's recommendations and suggested legislative recommendations that could help the agency to further reduce duplication.

REPROGRAMMINGS, REORGANIZATIONS, AND RELOCATIONS

Section 505, contained in the “General Provisions” of Title V, provides procedures for the reprogramming of funds. To reprogram is to change the use of funds from the specific purposes provided for in the bill and the accompanying report or, in the absence of direction from the Committee, from the specific purposes provided for in the administration’s budget request. Each title of the bill has also traditionally included separate provisions that define permissible transfers of resources between appropriation accounts. These transfer authority provisions are also pursuant to section 505 and were initiated in the early 1990s to provide additional flexibility to the agencies under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction.

The Committee expects each department and agency to closely follow the reprogramming procedures listed in section 505. These procedures apply to funds provided under this bill, provided under previous appropriations acts that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2020, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury available to the agencies funded by this bill. Section 505 requires that the Committee on Appropriations be notified by letter, at least 15 days prior to reprogramming of funds, whether permanent or temporary, in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, between programs, projects, or activities. Section 505 of this act is also applicable in cases where funding for an activity is reduced by 10 percent. In addition, the Committee is to be notified of reprogramming actions which are less than these amounts if such actions would have the effect of: committing the agency to significant funding requirements in future years; increasing funds or personnel by any means for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been previously denied or restricted by Congress; creating new programs, offices, agencies, or commissions or substantially augmenting existing programs, offices, agencies, or commissions; relocating offices or employees; or reorganizing offices, programs, or activities.

The Committee also expects that any items that are subject to interpretation will be reported. The Committee expects that each department and agency funded in the bill will follow these notification policies precisely and will not reallocate resources or reorganize activities prior to submitting the required notifications to the Committee. Reprogramming or transfer requests shall be submitted only in the case of an unforeseen emergency or situation that could not have been anticipated when formulating the budget request for the current fiscal year.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS

The Committee directs that all departments and agencies funded within this bill shall submit all of their fiscal year 2021 budget justifications concurrently with the official submission of the administration’s budget to Congress. Further, all departments and agencies with classified programs funded within this act are directed to submit their classified budget justification documents to the Committee, through appropriate means, at the same time the unclassified budget justifications are transmitted.

These justifications shall include a sufficient level of detailed data, exhibits, and explanatory statements to support the appropriations requests, including tables that outline each agency's programs, projects, and activities for fiscal years 2020 and 2021. For example, when requesting an enhancement of resources, the justification should detail the existing program and what the new resources would buy. The Committee directs the chief financial officer of each department or agency funded in this act's jurisdiction to ensure that adequate justification is given to each increase, decrease, and staffing and function change proposed in the fiscal year 2021 budget, particularly within the departmental operations and management accounts.

The Committee expects that the fiscal year 2021 submissions will include sufficient detail to justify all programs, projects, and activities contained in each department, agency, office, or commission budget request. Budget justifications are prepared not for the use of the agencies but are the primary tool of the Committee to evaluate the resource requirements and proposals requested by the administration.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Committee directs the departments and agencies funded in this bill to submit reports by the deadlines detailed herein or to provide advance notification if there is sufficient reason why deadlines cannot be met, along with the expected date of submission.

The Committee also recognizes that some enduring reporting requirements from previous Appropriations laws may no longer be necessary for Congressional oversight purposes. In the interest of reducing government waste and expediting responses to current report mandates, each department or agency is invited to submit a list of reporting requirements that it considers outdated or no longer relevant for the review of the Committees on Appropriations. Any list submitted for review shall cite the original authority as well as a justification for eliminating each reporting requirement.

REDUCTIONS-IN-FORCE

The Committee directs departments or agencies funded in the accompanying bill that are planning to conduct a reduction-in-force to notify the Committee in writing 30 days in advance of the date of the proposed personnel action.

APPROPRIATIONS LIAISONS

The Committee prefers to channel the majority of its inquiries and requests for information and assistance through the budget offices or comptroller offices of the departments and agencies which it oversees but reserves the right to call upon any individual or organization in any agency under its jurisdiction.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Committee recommends a total of \$15,197,249,000 for the Department of Commerce [DOC]. The recommendation is \$3,783,372,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$2,721,916,000 above the budget request.

The DOC is responsible for a variety of activities critical to our Nation's well-being, including economic development, intellectual property protection, standards and measurements, trade enforcement, weather forecasting, and fisheries management. Our Nation relies on the Department to maintain America's competitiveness within today's foreign markets while promoting and expanding international trade opportunities. The Department brings together a diverse set of bureaus, specialized experts, research laboratories, and applied technology programs to support and expand opportunities for growth in the private sector. Few departments have such potential to directly impact the strength and sustainability of our communities and local businesses.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$495,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	471,096,000
Committee recommendation	521,250,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$521,250,000 for the International Trade Administration [ITA]. The recommendation is \$26,250,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$50,154,000 above the budget request. The discretionary appropriation is offset by \$11,000,000 in fee collections.

Offsetting Fee Collections.—ITA shall continue to identify and include an accurate assessment of expected fee collections and corresponding expenditures in both its fiscal year 2020 spending plan and in its fiscal year 2021 budget request.

Global Markets [GM].—The Committee is deeply frustrated with ITA's execution of its appropriations in fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019. Despite the Committee providing clear guidance in each fiscal year that rejected all proposed cuts within GM, including cuts to staffing, ITA has instead reduced GM staffing levels and reinvested funding provided for compensation object classes in non-compensation object classes. Further, upon investigation into this issue it is clear that there are serious issues with ITA's accounting regarding the number of positions and vacancies within GM, including for the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service [US&FCS]. This is unacceptable and the Committee expects the Department to better oversee ITA and its budget execution.

The Committee provides \$335,250,000 for GM and again rejects all proposed funding and staffing cuts for GM. Within the funding provided for GM, ITA is directed to spend no less than \$130,000,000 on employee compensation, object class 11. At this funding level, the Committee will not approve any requests to close foreign or domestic offices, including U.S. Export Assistance Centers.

Further, the Committee directs ITA to brief the Committee no later than 10 days after the end of each fiscal quarter on the previous quarter's obligations, by object class; the planned obligations, by object class, for the current and ensuing quarters; and staffing levels within GM, including a breakout of Foreign Service Officers, Locally Engaged Staff, and U.S. field staff.

Adjustments to Base [ATB].—The increased funding provided shall be used to cover the requested ATB costs, among other programmatic increases highlighted herein.

Industry and Analysis.—The Committee provides the requested program changes for Industry and Analysis to implement the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–232) and for increased analytical capabilities.

Trade Enforcement.—The Committee provides \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for the Office of Enforcement and Compliance to establish a dedicated anti-circumvention and duty evasion enforcement unit. ITA should make enforcement of anti-dumping and countervailing duties [AD/CVD] a priority, including thoroughly investigating dumping and subsidies causing injury to domestic businesses and expeditiously reducing trade remedy case backlogs.

Additionally, the Committee is supportive of the Departments efforts to self-initiate AD/CVD cases, as is authorized under current law. The process of preparing and filing a petition is time-consuming and expensive and, frequently, industry has already suffered injury in order to meet the statutory standard for initiating an AD/CVD investigation. ITA is encouraged to use funding under Enforcement and Compliance to provide direct assistance to industries in support of self-initiated cases and other AD/CVD enforcement.

Trade Fraud and Evasion.—The Committee encourages ITA to coordinate with appropriate agencies, such as Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the International Trade Commission, and the Departments of Justice and State, in order to report to the Committee on legislative remedies that may be needed to support U.S. Government-wide efforts to combat trade fraud and evasion.

Additionally, the Committee notes that funding formerly requested for the Interagency Trade Enforcement Center has been moved from ITA to the Office of the United States Trade Representative for the Interagency Center on Trade Implementation, Monitoring, and Enforcement, following passage of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–125). As such, no funds are provided for these activities in ITA, but ITA shall continue to collaborate with all other Federal trade agencies to ensure U.S. trade laws and agreements are enforced fairly.

Foreign Business Investment in the United States.—While the Committee supports the goals of SelectUSA, it believes that promoting job-creating business investment in the United States is best achieved through the traditional, localized approaches to engagement, such as those facilitated by US&FCS. Therefore, the Committee directs ITA to transition all funding provided for SelectUSA to begin supporting Foreign Service Officers and Locally Engaged Staff located in foreign countries likely to garner foreign direct investment. In choosing where to fund additional local engagement, ITA shall leverage the knowledge gained from previous SelectUSA summits and events.

Capture and Trade Enforcement.—The Committee has long supported and valued the importance of trade enforcement for ensuring American businesses and products can enter the global marketplace on a level playing field. The objectivity of trade officials at ITA is essential for successful trade enforcement. The Committee is aware that the nature of trade enforcement activities involves the risk of “capture,” which is the process in which regulating officials begin to identify with regulated parties. Capture is often unintentional and develops over long periods of time, but can significantly influence regulators’ decisionmaking. The Committee directs ITA to ensure that the policies and procedures the agency has in place to prevent capture of its Enforcement and Compliance employees are followed.

Survey of International Air Travelers [SIAT].—The Committee provides \$3,000,000 for ITA to fund SIAT. Within funds provided, ITA is encouraged to increase the sample size for SIAT.

General Data Protection Regulation.—The Committee urges ITA to continue its efforts to educate small businesses about the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation [GDPR]. The Committee is concerned that small businesses may be unaware of their compliance obligations as a result of GDPR and could be vulnerable to fines and significant financial risk. The Committee encourages ITA to work with Federal, State, and local partners to raise awareness about GDPR obligations on American small businesses.

Rural Export Assistance.—The Committee encourages the Secretary to continue to prioritize the Department’s efforts to support and expand international trade opportunities for rural businesses. An additional \$1,000,000 is provided within Global Markets to further its existing rural export assistance capabilities, including providing customized market research, analysis, and planning to encourage and assist rural companies to offer their products internationally.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$118,050,000
Budget estimate, 2020	127,652,000
Committee recommendation	127,652,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides \$127,652,000 for the Bureau of Industry and Security [BIS]. The recommendation is

\$9,602,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

BIS is the principal agency involved in the development, implementation, and enforcement of export controls for commercial technologies and for many military technologies as a result of export control reform. The Export Enforcement Division detects, prevents, investigates, and assists in the sanctioning of illegal exports of such items.

Adjustments to Base.—The increased funding provided shall be used to cover the requested ATB costs, among other programmatic increases highlighted herein

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States [CFIUS].—The Committee is cognizant of the expected increase in the CFIUS caseload as a result of the passage of the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–232) and provides the requested increase to hire eight additional staff.

Emerging Technologies.—The Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–232) requires BIS to take a more active role assessing national security implications of exporting emerging technologies. The Committee provides the requested increase for these operations.

Export Control Regulatory Compliance Assistance.—The Committee directs BIS to continue its exporter outreach program to educate companies of all sizes on their obligations related to export controls. In this effort, BIS should continue targeting small- and medium-sized businesses and working with State and local trade and export associations, in addition to working with national industry groups, to ensure that small- and medium-sized businesses have clear, easy-to-understand information about complying with export control regulations.

Section 232 Exclusion Requests.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount for contractor support to continue to support the product exclusion process for articles covered by actions taken under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1862). The Committee encourages the Department to continue negotiations with international trading partners to lift the existing section 232 tariffs and avoid implementing additional tariffs. If funding for the product exclusion process becomes no longer necessary, BIS shall report to the Committee on how any unobligated funds will be expended, 30 days prior to obligation.

The Department shall continue to provide quarterly reports to the Committee, due not later than 15 days after the end of each quarter, on the implementation of the exclusion process. The reports shall include: (a) the number of exclusion requests received; (b) the number of exclusion requests approved and denied; (c) the status of efforts to assist small- and medium-sized businesses in navigating the exclusion process; (d) Department-wide staffing levels by Bureau for the exclusion process, including information on any staff detailed to complete this task; and (e) Department-wide funding by source appropriation and object class for costs undertaken to process the exclusions.

Sanction Violations.—The Committee directs BIS to provide a report no later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this act, and not less frequently than every 90 days thereafter, on the compliance of ZTE Corporation with: (a) the conditions set forth in paragraph 3 of the settlement agreement during the 10-year probationary period, and (b) all sanctions and export control laws of the United States and all licenses and orders issued by the Federal Government.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$304,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	29,950,000
Committee recommendation	319,500,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$319,500,000 for the Economic Development Administration [EDA]. The recommendation is \$15,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$289,550,000 above the budget request.

EDA provides grants to local governments and nonprofit agencies for public works, planning, and other projects designed to facilitate economic development. The Committee directs EDA to coordinate with regional development organizations to support projects that will address some of the pressing issues that challenge rural economic development, including the opioid epidemic, inequities in broadband access, and the need for innovation in legacy industries, including in the use and value-added manufacturing of forest products. Funding amounts for the two appropriations accounts under this heading are displayed below. Funding amounts for the two appropriations accounts under this heading are displayed below.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2019	\$265,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	
Committee recommendation	279,500,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$279,500,000 for Economic Development Assistance Programs. The recommendation is \$14,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$279,500,000 above the budget request. EDA is directed to focus on its core programs and mission to aid the most distressed communities across the country. The Committee expects EDA to use all available carryover and prior year recoveries to the maximum extent possible. EDA shall consider geographic equity in making all award decisions and shall ensure that rural projects are adequately represented among those selected for funding. Of the amounts provided, funds are to be distributed as follows, and any deviation shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this act:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Public Works	119,500
Economic Adjustment Assistance	37,000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms	13,000
Regional Innovation Program	31,000
Partnership Planning	33,000
Technical Assistance	9,500
Research and Evaluation	1,500
Assistance to Coal Communities	30,000
Assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities	5,000
Total	279,500

Broadband Projects.—EDA funding provided under Public Works, Economic Adjustment Assistance, and other programs may be used to support broadband infrastructure projects. High-speed broadband is critical to help communities attract new industries and strengthen and grow local economies. EDA is encouraged to prioritize unserved areas. EDA shall continue to submit annual updates to the Committee describing the number and value of broadband projects supported.

Outdoor Recreation Projects.—The Committee notes that projects supporting outdoor recreation are a catalyst for economic development and should be eligible for EDA funding. EDA is encouraged to consider such projects when consistent with a region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Economic Adjustment Assistance [EAA].—EAA is EDA's most flexible economic development program, which provides access to appropriate funding for everything from disaster recovery to business accelerators and incubators. Within funding for EAA, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to support EDA's collaborations with the Delta Regional Authority, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Northern Border Regional Commission to assist distressed communities. Eligible activities for the Northern Border Regional Commission collaboration shall contribute to the recovery of forest-based economies, and may include support for forest-based businesses, outdoor recreation infrastructure, and activities that assist in the recruitment and retention of employees in rural communities within the territory.

Regional Innovation Program [RIP].—The Committee provides \$31,000,000 to EDA for grants under RIP as authorized under the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–235). RIP awards competitive grants to regional entities in support of innovation and entrepreneurship. EDA shall continue to ensure that RIP awards go to multiple grantees in multiple and diverse geographic areas, including an increased focus on organizations and States that have not previously received funding from the program. Furthermore, within funds provided for RIP, EDA shall award not less than 40 percent of grants to support rural communities.

University-Based Business Incubators.—Within funding provided under RIP, the Committee directs EDA to invest in university-based, high-tech business incubators to encourage entrepreneurship and promote technology commercialization through business

startups. Funding awards should include support for incubator projects where Federal labs and universities are collaborating to stimulate commercialization of research. Furthermore, this activity should support private-public partnerships for economic growth and job creation in areas of high unemployment.

New Forest Products.—The Committee notes that many forest-based economies have experienced disruption and decline in recent years. EDA is encouraged to work, including through RIP, with communities and regions that have been adversely impacted by rapid changes in the timber and pulp marketplaces and to support projects that help these communities develop related industries, including commercialization of new forest products using low-grade wood. This work may include the coordination of economic development efforts across multiple States or Economic Development Districts. Additionally, the Committee reiterates that communities facing job losses are eligible for all EDA programs.

Aeronautics.—The Committee encourages EDA to consider economic development opportunities in communities looking to expand or bolster the presence of aeronautics related industries, which are a key driver of economic development in communities across the Nation.

Spatial Analysis and Planning.—In areas with aging infrastructure built prior to accurate records, it is often difficult and expensive to map out and assess the existing infrastructure and identify where EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance is most needed. Geographic Information Systems [GIS] can provide spatial analysis, maps, reports, and other data to support economic development and planning activities. Many regional planning and development organizations are heavily reliant on EDA assistance to help fund these activities, but EDA Partnership Planning grants are often not enough to both hire full-time GIS staff and purchase necessary software. Within funds provided for the Partnership Planning and Technical Assistance programs, the Committee encourages EDA to consider assistance to rural and underserved planning and development organizations to support GIS efforts to identify projects that attract jobs and private investment.

Assistance to Nuclear Power Plant Closure Communities.—The Committee provides EDA \$5,000,000 to assist communities affected by loss of tax revenue and job loss due to nuclear power plant closures through support for early-stage strategic planning activities and economic development projects.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Apprenticeships.—The Committee notes that over the past decade, the growth in jobs requiring sophisticated STEM skills was three times faster than growth in non-STEM jobs. Yet, U.S. employers have struggled to fill jobs in these fields. Because more than 50 percent of jobs that require STEM skills do not require a bachelor's degree, nontraditional higher education, such as apprenticeships, will be instrumental in meeting the urgent demand for a STEM-literate workforce. The Committee encourages EDA to provide grants to communities to create and expand STEM apprenticeship and other workforce training models, as directed in section 312 of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, (Public Law 114–329).

Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Program [IMCP].—The Committee notes that no funding has been requested and no funding is provided for the IMCP for fiscal year 2020.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$39,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	29,950,000
Committee recommendation	40,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$40,000,000 for salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$10,050,000 above the budget request.

The Committee is concerned by the number of vacancies at EDA, particularly in its six regional offices. The Department is reminded that budget requests to Congress do not supersede current appropriations, and the Committee directs EDA to expedite its efforts to fill all outstanding vacancies regardless of any current or future budget requests.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Appropriations, 2019	\$40,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	10,000,000
Committee recommendation	40,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$40,000,000 for the Minority Business Development Agency [MBDA]. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and is \$30,000,000 above the budget request. MBDA is the only Federal agency dedicated to promoting the growth of minority-owned firms and assists small, medium, and large minority business enterprises to increase revenues and create jobs. The Committee directs MBDA to allocate \$24,500,000 of its total appropriation toward cooperative agreements, external awards, and grants, including not less than \$13,000,000 to continue MBDA's traditional Business Center program and Specialty Project Center program. The bill includes language regarding overhead costs.

Hiring.—The Committee is concerned by the nearly 20 percent vacancy rate at MBDA. The Committee directs MBDA to expedite its efforts to fill all outstanding vacancies.

Business Centers.—The Committee directs MBDA to operate at least one Business Center in each State with a plurality or a majority population of a national minority group.

Broad Agency Announcement [BAA].—The Committee provides not less than \$6,000,000 for MBDA to continue its BAA program in fiscal year 2020. MBDA is directed to focus awards on innovation and entrepreneurship, formerly incarcerated persons, global women's empowerment, virtual business development, and access to finance.

Indian Tribes.—The Committee provides not less than \$3,000,000 for MBDA to award grants to tribes and American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian populations to address barriers to economic development. MBDA shall continue full imple-

mentation of Public Laws 106–447 and 106–464 and to fulfill the mission of the Office of Native American Business Development.

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$101,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	107,990,000
Committee recommendation	107,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$107,000,000 for Economic and Statistical Analysis [ESA]. The recommendation is \$6,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$990,000 below the budget request. ESA conducts research to provide a better understanding of the U.S. economy, which helps the Government make more informed policy decisions.

Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account.—The Committee recognizes the national economic importance of the outdoor recreation industry. No less than \$1,500,000 is provided to continue implementing the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–249) in fiscal year 2020. The Committee directs the Department to continue working with the outdoor recreation industry, nongovernmental organizations, and other interested stakeholders to refine the national-level statistics and to develop new regional statistics.

Income Growth Indicators.—The Committee provides the Bureau of Economic Analysis [BEA] \$1,000,000 to develop income growth indicators, including providing annual reports about how incomes grow in each decile of the income distribution. BEA is directed to report the latest available estimates of these measures in calendar year 2020.

Puerto Rico Economic Statistics.—The absence of accurate information regarding Puerto Rico's economic output and growth has made it challenging for relevant policymakers and stakeholders to make informed policy and business decisions. Therefore, the Committee provides not less than \$2,000,000 for BEA to produce Gross Domestic Product estimates for Puerto Rico.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Appropriations, 2019	\$3,821,388,000
Budget estimate, 2020	6,149,405,000
Committee recommendation	7,558,319,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$7,558,319,000 for the Census Bureau. The recommendation is \$3,736,931,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,408,914,000 above the budget request.

CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2019	\$270,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	264,005,000
Committee recommendation	274,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$274,000,000 for current surveys and programs. The recommendation is \$4,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$9,995,000 above the

budget request. This account provides for the salaries and expenses associated with the statistical programs of the Bureau of the Census, including measurement of the Nation's economy and the demographic characteristics of the population.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$3,551,388,000
Budget estimate, 2020	5,885,400,000
Committee recommendation	7,284,319,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$7,284,319,000 for periodic censuses and programs. The recommendation is \$3,732,931,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,398,919,000 above the budget request. A \$2,500,000,000 cap adjustment provided by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–37) is included in the total.

This account provides for the constitutionally mandated Decennial Census as well as other cyclical programs. Additionally, individual surveys are conducted for other Federal agencies on a reimbursable basis.

2020 Decennial Census.—The Committee provides \$6,696,000,000, which is \$1,398,963,000 above the amount requested for the 2020 Decennial Census for fiscal year 2020. The Committee has consistently advocated for the Bureau to use its resources to execute a cost effective and accurate Decennial census. To do this, the Bureau must now focus its efforts on minimizing non-response follow-up work through early communication of the importance of filling out Census forms and ensuring that personnel training and information technology [IT] systems will be prepared for conducting the Census in 2020.

Oversight of Periodic Census Programs.—The Committee's recommendation provides \$3,556,000 for the OIG to continue oversight and audits of periodic censuses and to provide the Bureau and Congress with independent recommendations for improving operations, which will be useful for oversight of the 2020 Decennial Census. The Committee directs the Bureau to follow the OIG's recommendations.

Quarterly Status Reports.—The Census Bureau is directed to continue its quarterly status reports to the Committee as it prepares for, and executes, the 2020 Decennial Census. These quarterly reports are intended to keep the Committee informed of the progress in executing the Bureau's plans, to identify ongoing and emerging risks, and to provide early warnings when goals and cost schedules are not being achieved.

The Committee expects the Department, the Bureau, and the Inspector General to keep the Committee regularly apprised of the ongoing efforts to prepare for, and execute, the 2020 Decennial Census beyond the regular quarterly status reports. The Committee notes that GAO again included the 2020 Decennial Census to its High Risk List and directs the Bureau to diligently work on addressing the risks that have been identified.

Cybersecurity.—The Committee is concerned with the status of the Census Bureau's cybersecurity preparations and directs the

Census Bureau to fully implement recommendations and address concerns outlined in GAO's 2019 High Risk List and GAO-18-655. The Committee directs the Census Bureau to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security, other relevant Federal agencies, and State and local stakeholders, to prevent and disrupt cyber intrusions and disinformation campaigns.

Undercounting.—The Committee recognizes the difficulty the Bureau has in counting people in historically hard-to-count areas and believes that local community efforts are essential to ensure an accurate count. The Committee encourages the Bureau to partner with communities on innovative approaches to ensure an accurate Census. The Committee also directs the Census Bureau to ensure that the current decennial questionnaire and the impact of new enumeration methods do not negatively affect demographic groups identified in its 2010 Census Coverage Measurement Survey as undercounted.

Internet Self-Response.—The Committee urges the Census Bureau to conduct outreach to public libraries and other community technology centers to ensure that they are fully informed about the Internet self-response option for the 2020 Decennial Census and are equipped to support residents in Census participation. The Bureau should work with libraries, in coordination with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, as part of the overall strategy to maximize survey response.

Partnership and Communications Activities.—The Committee notes that partnership and communication activities are essential to build trust in the Census Bureau and to increase response rates. Investing in partnership and communication activities can reduce the overall cost of conducting the 2020 Decennial Census. By helping increase self-response rates, there is a reduced need for additional non-response follow-up. As part of the communications strategy, the Committee directs the Census Bureau to execute its Mobile Response Initiative to increase the visibility of the 2020 Decennial Census, and to ensure that its partnership and communications activities in support of the 2020 Decennial Census are conducted at no less than the level of effort and staffing that was utilized in preparation for the 2010 Decennial Census when accounting for inflation.

Targeted Outreach Campaign in 2018 End-to-End Test Location.—The Committee directs the Census Bureau to conduct an outreach campaign in the location of the 2018 End-to-End Census Test, in addition to its ordinary outreach activities as part of the Decennial Census. The Committee has heard reports that residents of the site of the End-to-End Test believe that they have already submitted their information for the 2020 Decennial Census as a result of participation in the test. As a result, the Committee is concerned that without a targeted outreach campaign, many residents will not self-respond.

American Community Survey [ACS].—The Committee supports the ACS and directs the Bureau to continue using the ACS as a testbed for innovative survey and data processing techniques that can be used across the Bureau. The Committee notes that ACS is often the primary or only source of data available to state, local, and Federal agencies that need adequate information on a wide

range of topics. The data provided is especially important to small towns and rural areas across the country, and the Bureau should ensure that rural areas are covered with the same accuracy as urban areas to the maximum extent practicable. The Committee further expects the Bureau to continue providing updates to the Committee on efforts to evaluate and, where possible, to reduce the number of questions included in the ACS, and the steps being taken to ensure that the ACS is conducted as efficiently and unobtrusively as possible.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$39,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	42,441,000
Committee recommendation	42,441,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$42,441,000 for National Telecommunications and Information Administration [NTIA] salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$2,941,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

The Committee retains language from previous years allowing the Secretary to collect reimbursements from other Federal agencies for a portion of the cost resulting from the coordination of spectrum management, analysis, and operations. NTIA shall submit a report to the Committee no later than June 1, 2020, detailing the collection of reimbursements from other agencies.

Next Generation Broadband in Rural Areas.—The Committee recognizes that access to broadband in all communities across the Nation is essential for improving economic growth, education and job creation, civic engagement, public safety and health, global competitiveness, and a better quality of life. The Committee remains concerned that advanced broadband technologies have not been sufficiently deployed in rural areas of the Nation and encourages NTIA to coordinate with other relevant Federal agencies to identify and pursue policies that enable effective and efficient broadband deployment nationwide while advancing next-generation technologies, such as 5G networks.

National Broadband Map Augmentation.—The Committee provides up to \$7,500,000 to continue work modernizing the national broadband availability map in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission [FCC] and looks forward to an update on NTIA's efforts so far. The Committee directs NTIA to engage actively with rural and tribal communities to further enhance the accuracy of the national broadband availability map. Additionally, NTIA should include in its fiscal year 2021 budget request an update on rural- and tribal-related broadband availability and access trends, challenges, and Federal actions to achieve equitable access to broadband services by currently underserved communities throughout the Nation. Furthermore, the Committee encourages NTIA, in coordination with the FCC, to develop and promulgate a standardized process for collecting data from State and local partners.

Federal Spectrum Management.—The Committee directs NTIA to continue to evaluate options for repurposing spectrum for broadband in support of making 500 megahertz [MHz] of spectrum available for wireless broadband use. NTIA shall also provide the Committee with annual updates on the progress in making 500 MHz of spectrum available for commercial mobile use, including the strategy for freeing up additional spectrum from Federal agencies.

Spectrum Management for Science.—Preserving access to key portions of radio spectrum important for radio astronomy observations and other scientific uses is essential for scientific discovery. The Committee encourages NTIA, in coordination with the FCC and other appropriate stakeholders, to continue ensuring spectrum access for scientific activities. The Committee requests a report from NTIA within 180 days after enactment of this act on the coordination efforts underway.

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers [ICANN].—The Committee directs NTIA to remain a strong advocate for American companies, consumers, and government interests through its participation within the Governmental Advisory Committee and other mechanisms within ICANN. The Committee directs NTIA to ensure that the principles of accountability, transparency, security, and stability of the Internet are protected for consumers, businesses, and Government users. NTIA shall report semiannually to the Committee on adopted ICANN policies, including whether or not NTIA supported any changes, and to report on any changes that affect the .gov, .mil, .edu, and .us domains.

Policy and Technical Training.—The Committee encourages NTIA to work with the FCC and the Department of State to provide support for activities provided under section 7 of Public Law 98–549. As part of these activities, NTIA may provide assistance and guidance in policy and technical training to impart best practices to information technology professionals from developing countries.

Crowd-Sourced Data.—The Committee recognizes that crowd sourced data from state and local governments, consumer-initiated speed tests, and commercial data sets can play an important role in validating Federal broadband availability data. The Committee directs NTIA to submit a report within 180 days of enactment of this act about the feasibility of implementing a public feedback mechanism to collect this kind of data to improve broadband coverage maps and data.

FirstNet.—The bill includes continued funding for the Department's Inspector General for the purposes of oversight and accountability of FirstNet through the end of fiscal year 2020.

PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, PLANNING, AND CONSTRUCTION

The Committee provides bill language allowing NTIA to continue oversight and administration of previously awarded grants. NTIA shall not use unobligated balances to award new grants.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$3,370,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	3,450,681,000
Committee recommendation	3,450,681,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$3,450,681,000 for the United States Patent and Trademark Office [USPTO], which is \$80,681,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request, to be derived from offsetting fee collections. Since fiscal year 2005, the Committee has refused to divert patent fees to other purposes.

USPTO examines patent applications, grants patent protection for qualified inventions, and disseminates technological information disclosed in patents. USPTO also examines trademark applications and provides Federal registration to owners of qualified trademarks.

Budget Execution.—The Committee continues to allow USPTO full access to patent and trademark fees and provides bill language allowing USPTO to retain any revenue in excess of appropriated levels.

Transfer to Office of Inspector General [OIG].—The Committee provides \$2,000,000 for OIG to continue oversight and audits of USPTO operations and budget transparency, and USPTO is directed to work with the Department to implement all OIG recommendations.

Reprogramming and Spend Plan.—USPTO shall follow the reprogramming procedures outlined in section 505 of this act before using excess fee collections to forward fund expenses beyond fiscal year 2020.

Intellectual Property [IP] Attachés.—The Committee is concerned that USPTO's IP attachés may not have adequate access to their foreign government counterparts and are not consistently involved in Embassy or consulate conversations regarding intellectual property matters. The Secretary is directed to work with USPTO, the US&FCS, and the Department of State to ensure that the attachés are appropriately utilized, including in discussions and negotiations at the Counselor rank and above.

Intellectual Property Theft.—The Committee is concerned with the growing theft of IP by and on behalf of foreign government actors, especially by China as made clear in the United States Trade Representative's Section 301 Investigative report, "Technology: Protecting America's Competitive Edge." The Committee urges USPTO to work with all relevant agencies to protect U.S. IP through education, outreach, foreign IP attachés, and ongoing trade negotiations.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

Appropriations, 2019	\$985,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	¹ 667,581,000
Committee recommendation	1,038,000,000

¹Does not include the legislative proposal for Construction of Research Facilities, proposed in the fiscal year 2020 budget submission.

The Committee's recommendation provides \$1,038,000,000 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST]. The recommendation is \$52,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$370,419,000 above the budget request. Up to \$9,000,000 may be transferred from the Scientific and Technical Research and Services account to the Working Capital Fund.

NIST's mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$724,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	611,719,000
Committee recommendation	753,500,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$753,500,000 for NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services [STRS]. The recommendation is \$29,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$141,781,000 above the budget request. The Committee directs NIST to provide a detailed spending plan for NIST's highest priority laboratory programs describing resources used for each program, project, or activity.

The Committee rejects the proposed terminations and reductions for the following STRS programs: Advanced Manufacturing and Material Measurements; Fundamental Measurement, Quantum Science, and Measurement Dissemination; Advanced Communications, Networks, and Scientific Data Systems; Biological Science and Health Measurements; Environmental Measurements; Time and Fundamental Measurement Dissemination; the Fire Research Grants Program; the Special Programs Office; the Standards Coordination Office; NIST Center of Excellence Program; and NIST User Facilities. The Committee adopts the proposal regarding Disaster Resilience Research Grants Program.

Cybersecurity.—The Committee is aware of the Nation's growing need for a trained cybersecurity workforce and directs that no less than the fiscal year 2019 level is provided for cybersecurity research, outreach, industry partnerships, and other activities at NIST, including the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence. Within the funds provided, the Committee encourages NIST to fund additional university system-led State and regional alliances and partnerships to focus on meeting the demand for a trained cybersecurity workforce, with a priority being placed on areas with a high concentration of Department of Defense, automotive, and health care related industries.

Industrial Internet of Things [IIoT].—The Committee provides no less than \$2,000,000 for the continued development of an IIoT

cybersecurity research initiative and to partner, as appropriate, with academic entities and industry to improve the sustainable security of IIoT devices in industrial settings, including new designs, protocols, algorithms, system architectures, identity and lifecycle strategies, and system hardware features, as well as proposed security standards. This proposed research will account for human, technical, and economic dimensions. These advanced strategies should couple computer science and engineering, psychology, economics, cryptography, and network research to deliver significant mitigations and options for industrial adoption, as well as guidance to consumers and industry on how to manage and utilize these devices consistent with best security practices.

Quantum Information Science [QIS].—The Committee recognizes the urgent need to advance U.S. QIS capabilities, and the critical role that NIST plays in this effort. The Committee commends NIST for establishing the Quantum Economic Development Consortium, as authorized by the National Quantum Initiative Act (Public Law 115–368), in fiscal year 2019, and directs NIST to provide the Committee with the report called for in Section 201(b)(3) of Public Law 115–368. The Committee provides \$10,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to further implement the National Quantum Initiative Act.

Forensic Sciences.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount for forensic science research. Additionally, the Committee provides \$3,000,000 to support the Organization of Scientific Area Committees and \$1,000,000 to support technical merit evaluations.

Helmet Safety.—The Committee is aware of scientific data that demonstrates a correlation between football-related collisions and concussions, as well as other traumatic brain injuries that can lead to debilitating neural diseases such as dementia and chronic traumatic encephalopathy. The Committee encourages NIST to investigate an effective national testing standard to better scientifically understand the inadequacies of sports helmets while exploring future product designs that can safely reduce the neural risk of playing football, hockey, and other high-impact sports. The academic community has substantial knowledge about these issues, and NIST should work cooperatively with the academic community by funding research for advanced helmets and equipment and in developing new testing standards to ensure player safety. Additionally, NIST should consider establishing an effective national testing standard to inform the development of youth-specific helmet safety standards.

Metals-Based Additive Manufacturing.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount for competitive external grants for academic institutions to support research, development, and workforce training to overcome barriers to high-volume additive manufacturing of metals. While the Committee is aware of recent breakthroughs in metals-based additive manufacturing, major technical barriers still exist to dramatically improving build rates that would enable commercial markets to benefit from high-volume, metals-based additive manufacturing.

Plastics and Polymeric Materials.—The Committee recognizes the significant contributions that plastics have made to virtually all

sectors of the economy, including in healthcare, infrastructure, food, and cosmetics, among many others. However, plastics take significant time to degrade in the environment due to their durability. The Committee believes advancements in creating products from recycled plastics could provide a more sustainable option for their use. Many hurdles remain in manufacturing products from recycled plastics with the same strength, color, odor, and malleability of new plastic products. Therefore, the Committee provides \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount for competitive external grants for academic institutions to investigate plastic and polymeric materials, as well as novel methods to characterize both known and newly developed materials. Such investigations should address ways to increase the strength of recycled plastics and better understand mechanical properties including tensile stress, compressive stress, thermal properties, and nanostructure of polymeric materials that could serve as industry standards for recycled plastic products.

Composites.—The Committee recognizes that composites have wide-ranging proven characteristics that include lightweight, high-strength, corrosion resistance, lifecycle cost benefits, and long-term durability that translate to increased factors of safety for infrastructure engineering designs. The Committee urges NIST to work with relevant Federal agencies to coordinate existing standards and test methods for the use of composites and other innovative materials in infrastructure.

Pyrrhotite in Concrete Aggregate.—The Committee recognizes that concrete foundations containing pyrrhotite can crack and cause structures to collapse and that more research is necessary to address this significant harm. The Committee provides no less than \$1,500,000 for NIST to partner with an academic institution on a study to develop a reliable and cost-effective standard for testing for the presence of pyrrhotite in concrete used in residential, commercial, and municipal structures. The study should also develop a risk rating scale that quantifies the amount of pyrrhotite that causes the foundation to become structurally unsound. Specifically, the study should determine how pyrrhotite reacts with environmental substances such as water, oxygen, and sulfides, and determine to what level pyrrhotite may exist in concrete without weakening the material.

Regenerative Medicine Standards.—The Committee commends NIST, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Standards Coordinating Body for continued work to implement the regenerative medicine standards provisions enacted under the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–255). Currently, work is underway to develop processes and criteria for identifying, prioritizing, and assessing the quality, safety, feasibility, and cost-benefit of such standards. The Committee provides \$2,500,000 for NIST to improve measurement assurance and standards coordination for regenerative therapies, including: establishing a regenerative medicine assay validation and innovation core to provide laboratory support for evaluation of standardized assays, and conducting inter-laboratory studies to improve measurement assurance and develop appropriate reference materials.

Graphene Research and Commercialization.—The Committee recognizes the emergence of graphene as an innovative material with significant commercial and national security potential. The Committee also recognizes that other countries are ahead of the United States in patenting and commercializing applications with this material. The Committee provides no less than \$1,500,000 for NIST to fund and pursue graphene research activities with industry and academic institutions with expertise, existing capabilities, and infrastructure related to the commercial application of graphene.

Urban Dome Program.—The Committee notes the value of NIST's Urban Dome program and the importance of accurate measurement science for environmental monitoring and human health. More than half the world's population is living in urban areas, and this concentration is expected to intensify over the coming decades. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount for the Office of Special Programs to maintain and consider expanding the number of urban dome locations in fiscal year 2020.

Facial Recognition Vendor Test.—The Committee encourages NIST to continue to meet growing demand for the Facial Recognition Vendor Test and to improve the test. The Committee is aware that this test is an important resource for government, commercial, and academic developers to assess the quality of their facial recognition technologies. As more companies and government users invest in this technology, the test will continue to be a critical step for responsible use. The Committee encourages NIST to: expand testing to include a more diverse combination of demographics and environmental settings in the test data, develop educational material and work on image quality standards for data collection, expand testing to improve enhanced privacy technologies for better template protection, and expand existing testing infrastructure in support of these improvements.

Public Safety Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Challenge.—NIST has a long history in advancing the use of cutting-edge technologies for public safety response operations. There is a significant opportunity for public safety organizations to leverage Unmanned Aerial Vehicles [UAVs] to improve their operations and response capabilities and keep first responders and the citizens they serve safe. The Committee provides no less than \$2,500,000 for NIST, in partnership with academic institutions that have a strong history of flight operations in both UAV operational training and applied research environments, to run at least three UAV prize based challenges within 12 months of enactment of this act that focus on expanding the role that UAVs could play in emergency response operations. Topics could include the use of UAVs to: extend cellular coverage in remote areas; deploy sensor networks around buildings, to enable in-building tracking of public safety personnel; and provide real time situational awareness of on-scene response through the use of video and advanced analytics.

Artificial Intelligence [AI].—The Committee provides \$8,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to expand NIST's ongoing AI research and measurement science efforts, in support of the administration's Industries of the Future initiative. NIST is directed to develop resources for government, corporate, and academic uses

of AI to train and test systems, model AI behavior, and compare systems.

Measurement Science for Microelectronics.—The Committee notes the economic and national security importance of maintaining U.S. leadership in development and manufacturing of cutting-edge microelectronics. Therefore, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 for NIST to develop and deliver material characterization, standards, and analytical tools needed for advancing microelectronics technology.

Public Health Risk to First Responders.—The Committee recognizes the pressing public health risk associated with occupational exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances [PFAS], particularly among civilian and military firefighters. Therefore, the Committee directs NIST to conduct a study of new and unused personal protective equipment worn by firefighters to determine the prevalence and concentration of PFAS in the equipment, as well as the rate of at which PFAS may be released from the gear during normal wear and in what conditions, and provides \$2,000,000 for these purposes. NIST shall update the Committee on the progress of the study not later than a year after enactment of this act.

Baldrige Performance Excellence.—The Committee provides \$2,200,000 for costs associated with NIST's current level of personnel support and expertise that contribute to the Baldrige program. The Committee continues to direct the Secretary to work with the Baldrige program's private sector foundation to conduct a fundraising campaign to support the program as authorized in section 3(f) of Public Law 100–107, to ensure that the foundation has stable funding for the continuation of this program in the future. Additionally, the Committee commends the Baldrige program's efforts to improve the adoption of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework and encourages the program to build more partnerships and self-assessment tools to help organizations with their cybersecurity risk management. Further, the Committee encourages Baldrige to continue to focus on and develop metrics and standards to assist rural healthcare providers by leveraging industry best practices.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Appropriations, 2019	\$155,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	15,172,000
Committee recommendation	161,500,000

The Committee provides \$161,500,000 for Industrial Technology Services. The recommendation is \$6,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$146,328,000 above the budget request. Supporting the Nation's manufacturers, especially small businesses, is critical to keeping America innovative in a global marketplace.

Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program [MEP].—The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of MEP and instead provides \$145,500,000 for the program. The funding provided above the fiscal year 2019 level is to be distributed evenly among the 51 MEP Centers. The Committee supports MEP's focus on strengthening the existing network of MEP centers and providing additional support to centers based on the documented per-

formance of the center's activities and the manufacturing capacity of the area served by the center.

Manufacturing USA.—The National Network for Manufacturing Innovation [NNMI] (also known as “Manufacturing USA”) program promotes American competitiveness by fostering the development of new manufacturing techniques and fields, accelerating commercialization, and providing technical assistance to U.S. companies. The Committee provides \$16,000,000 for NIST’s activities within Manufacturing USA. Of this amount, no more than \$5,000,000 may be used for coordination activities, of which up to \$1,000,000 may be used to support the Food and Drug Administration’s participation in biomanufacturing innovation institutes. Within funding provided, NIST shall strive to minimize administrative costs in order to provide support for collaborative research and development projects between institutes.

In addition, the Committee notes the passage of legislation to reauthorize NNMI by the Senate as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 and provides \$1,000,000 for a competitive grant program to develop technology roadmaps for promising advanced manufacturing clusters. These grants should be made available to establish new or strengthen existing industry-driven consortia that address high-priority research challenges in order to grow advanced manufacturing in the United States. The Committee supports the GAO recommendations included in GAO–19–409 and directs NIST to implement them.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2019	\$106,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	¹ 40,690,000
Committee recommendation	123,000,000

¹Does not include the legislative proposal for Construction of Research Facilities, proposed in the fiscal year 2020 budget submission.

The Committee provides \$123,000,000 for construction of research facilities. The recommendation is \$17,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$82,310,000 above the budget request. The funding provided includes no less than \$43,000,000 for the continued renovation of NIST’s Building 1 laboratory.

Safety, Capacity, Maintenance, and Major Repairs [SCMMR].—Within the amount provided for Construction of Research Facilities, the Committee provides \$80,000,000 for SCMMR.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$5,424,695,000
Budget estimate, 2020	4,456,968,000
Committee recommendation	5,337,343,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides \$5,337,343,000 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]. The recommendation is \$87,352,000 below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$880,375,000 above the budget request.

The Committee commends the Department for its work to bring down the costs associated with NOAA’s Procurement, Acquisition and Construction [PAC] accounts. The decrease in PAC resources

in fiscal year 2020 reflects, as expected, the reduced financial need of NOAA's flagship weather satellite programs as the satellites launch and enter into the operational phase. This allows for an increase in Operations, Research, and Facilities [ORF] resources in fiscal year 2020.

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$3,596,997,000
Budget estimate, 2020	3,058,383,000
Committee recommendation	3,727,466,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$3,727,466,000 for NOAA's ORF. The recommendation is \$130,469,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$669,083,000 above the budget request.

NOAA NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

The Committee's recommendation provides \$588,806,000 for the National Ocean Service [NOS]. NOS programs provide scientific, technical, and management expertise to promote safe navigation; assess the health of coastal and marine resources; respond to natural and human-induced threats; and preserve coastal and ocean environments.

The Committee's recommendations are displayed in the following table:

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Navigation, Observations and Positioning:	
Navigation, Observations and Positioning	160,706
Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts	32,000
Integrated Ocean Observing System—Regional Observations	38,500
Total, Navigation, Observations and Positioning	231,206
Coastal Science and Assessment:	
Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration	78,000
Competitive External Research	18,000
Total, Coastal Science and Assessment	96,000
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services:	
Coastal Zone Management and Services	45,000
Coastal Zone Management Grants	76,500
National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund	30,000
Coral Reef Program	27,600
National Estuarine Research Reserve System	27,000
National Marine Sanctuaries	55,500
Total, Ocean and Coastal Management and Services	261,600
GRAND TOTAL NOS	588,806

Navigation, Observations and Positioning.—The Committee strongly supports activities under Navigation, Observations and

Positioning, including the full operational funding for NOAA's Navigation Response Teams.

Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System [PORTS] Program.—The Committee provides no less than \$7,500,000 for PORTS, a \$2,500,000 increase above fiscal year 2019. The Committee supports the continued expansion of the PORTS network, which is now in place in 33 locations, including the Nation's top 20 seaports by tonnage. The Committee directs NOAA to provide a report detailing the program's full costs, by location, including operations and maintenance, within 180 days of enactment of this act.

Geospatial Modeling Grants.—The Committee provides \$8,000,000 within Navigation, Observations and Positioning for the competitive Geospatial Modeling Grants program for which all funding shall be distributed externally.

Hydrographic Research and Technology Development.—The Committee supports the intended use of funds requested for Hydrographic Research and Technology Development and provides an additional \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for these purposes. In addition, the Committee provides \$2,000,000 above the request for NOAA to designate and continue supporting joint ocean and coastal mapping centers in other areas of the country to be colocated with an institution of higher education as authorized by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11). The Committee emphasizes that additional funding is provided for the designation of other joint ocean and coastal mapping centers and therefore shall not decrease funding levels for any existing centers.

Coastal Survey Data.—The State of Alaska lacks adequate coastal survey data necessary to establish the legal delineation of the shoreline, protect coastal communities, improve maritime safety and navigability, inform earthquake and tsunami hazard assessments and mitigation, establish baselines for long-term monitoring of coastal evolution, support economic development, enhance national security, and provide a framework for scientific research. The Committee believes that collecting this data would directly support NOAA and contribute to the development of the Blue Economy of Alaska and the Nation. Therefore, NOS is directed to submit a plan to the Committee, within 1 year of enactment of this act, to conduct comprehensive coastal survey work in Alaska, including an estimate of annual cost by project, program, or activity.

Hydrographic Surveys and Contracts.—The Committee continues to be concerned with NOAA's slow progress in reducing the backlog of hydrographic survey work for navigationally significant U.S. waters. Within the amount provided for Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts, NOAA is directed to accelerate the acquisition of survey data and the preparation of navigational charts needed to minimize the risks associated with increased maritime traffic. In addition, not more than 5 percent of funds available for the Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts program may be used for internal Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts program management costs.

Hydrographic Charting in the Arctic.—Despite the massive backlog for charting of navigationally significant areas, nationally, and in the Arctic, specifically, NOAA's fiscal year 2020 budget request

continues to propose underfunding the acquisition of data from contract surveys. Hydrographic survey work in the Arctic, in particular, is subject to a shorter operational season than other U.S. coastal regions. The Committee believes Arctic surveys could be completed more efficiently through increased and accelerated contracting. Therefore, NOAA is directed to award contracts for hydrographic surveys in the Arctic as early in the calendar year as possible to maximize the operational season, utilizing effective and efficient contract services. Within the amount provided for Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts, NOAA is directed to accelerate the acquisition of survey data through the use of contractors necessary to minimize the risks associated with increased maritime traffic. In addition, NOAA is directed to utilize all contractors that are available, qualified, and experienced in the Arctic for U.S. Arctic hydrographic surveys.

Gulf of Mexico Coast Survey.—The Committee encourages NOS to engage in high-priority cooperative habitat mapping in the Gulf of Mexico, particularly in areas currently unmapped but prone to disaster. In doing so, NOS may prioritize areas where understanding the long-term implications of new energy exploration would be critical.

Integrated Ocean Observing System [IOOS].—Within funding provided for IOOS, NOS shall work to complete and operate the National High Frequency Radar System to close key gaps in the U.S. surface current mapping system. Furthermore, NOS shall expand the regional underwater profiling gliders program to ensure streamlined access to data for weather forecasting and hurricane prediction, disaster response, forecasting of freshwater and marine water quality, detection of harmful algal blooms, and safe maritime operations.

Further, the Committee provides IOOS with \$1,000,000 for pilot programs to enhance the nation's capacity for monitoring and detection of harmful algal blooms by leveraging the expertise of the IOOS regional associations. These programs shall focus on data integration and information dissemination to provide coastal managers, seafood harvesters and aquaculture practitioners, drinking water utilities, animal stranding networks, and others with information about the extent, toxicity, and length of blooms. IOOS is directed to coordinate with the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science on the implementation of these funds.

Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration.—Within the funds provided for Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for operations and staffing of the Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center [DRC]. The Committee reiterates that the DRC shall serve as the Gulf Coast's headquarters for NOAA's emergency preparedness, response, and recovery operations. As such, NOAA is directed to further co-locate NOS personnel and assets that are currently positioned elsewhere on the Gulf Coast at the DRC. In addition, the Committee provides \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for the Disaster Preparedness Program to bolster NOS's emergency response efforts to coastal storms and other disasters.

Marine Debris.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for NOAA’s Marine Debris Program. The Committee strongly supports NOS’s ongoing efforts, including its competitive extramural funding programs, to address marine debris around the country. NOS is encouraged to prioritize funding projects in urban communities that support or enhance waterway cleanup efforts to remove any and all forms of marine debris from the aquatic environment, as well as projects in rural and remote communities that lack infrastructure to address the marine debris problem.

National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science [NCCOS].—The Committee expressly rejects the proposal to terminate NCCOS and the Competitive External Research program, and provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for both. The Committee supports the ground-breaking research NCCOS conducts, in areas such as coral health and restoration, ecotoxicology, harmful algal blooms, and aquaculture, and is puzzled as to why NOAA would propose to terminate these efforts, which directly support NOAA’s priorities to “Expand the Blue Economy” and “Reduce the Seafood Trade Deficit.” The Committee remains supportive of NCCOS’s contributions to NOAA’s mission and priorities and directs NOAA to continue supporting these efforts through the collective expertise of Federal, State, and academic partners.

Harmful Algal Blooms [HABs].—The Committee understands that HABs in their various forms are a national problem that require collaboration with local partners to monitor, predict, track, and respond to HAB events. Within funding for Coastal Science and Assessment, the Committee provides up to \$5,000,000 to accelerate deployment of effective methods of intervention and mitigation to reduce the frequency, severity, and impact of harmful algal bloom events in freshwater systems. Additionally, the Committee encourages NOS to expand its collaboration with coastal States across the country to address HABs in the marine environment.

HABs Regional Watershed Integrated Assessments and Action Strategies.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Great Lakes Integrated Assessment and Action Strategy to harmful algal bloom prevention, control, and mitigation efforts in the Great Lakes region, and encourages the Federal Inter-agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia, established under section 4001 of title 33, and the Interagency Working Group tasked with implementing the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act to identify and prioritize additional watersheds that would benefit from the development of regionally-specific Integrated Assessments and Action Plans, including those regions that have been impacted by freshwater and saltwater harmful algal blooms.

Integrated Water Prediction [IWP].—Within funding provided for Coastal Zone Management and Services, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for NOS to continue supporting the development and operation of the IWP program with NOAA’s National Weather Service.

Regional Data Portals.—Within funding for Coastal Zone Management and Services, \$1,500,000 is for the regional ocean partnerships, or their equivalent, to enhance their capacity for sharing and

integration of Federal and non-Federal data to support regional coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes management priorities as outlined in Executive Order 13840. The Office of Coastal Management shall coordinate with the IOOS Program Office on the implementation of these funds, to ensure continuity of funding provided to IOOS in fiscal year 2019 for this purpose.

The National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund.—The Committee provides \$30,000,000 for the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund, also known as Title IX Fund grants, for collaborative partnerships that incorporate non-Federal matching funds with a priority on supporting authorized activities not otherwise funded within this act. In selecting the areas of focus for the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund, NOAA and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation should consider proposals that enhance ocean and coastal management; bolster coastal infrastructure and resilience; support regional collaborative efforts and partnerships; advance the collection, synthesis, and public sharing of ocean data; and help coastal communities adapt to changing ocean conditions.

Coral Reef Program.—The Committee recognizes the unique ecological and economic value of coral reefs, including the benefit of buffering coastal communities from hazards such as coastal storms and hurricanes. Furthermore, urgent efforts are needed to reverse the decline of coral populations in the United States. Therefore, the Committee provides up to \$5,000,000 for NOS to work with academic institutions and non-governmental research organizations to establish innovative restoration projects to restore degraded coral reefs. This may include implementing landscape-scale coral reef restoration initiatives to outplant lab-grown or aquaculture-raised coral fragments representing diverse assemblages of native coral species, as well as the necessary research and development for these efforts. Restoration projects should utilize genetic strains that demonstrate enhanced resiliency to increased water temperatures, decreased pH, and coral disease, and include designs for multiyear monitoring to assess survival and ecosystem health.

Temperate and Cold-Water Corals.—The Committee urges NOAA's coral reef program to support research of all coral species, including temperate and cold-water corals.

Marine National Monuments.—Within funding provided for National Marine Sanctuaries, up to \$1,000,000 may be used for competitive research and management grants for existing marine national monuments administered by NOS, provided such grants are subject to a 100 percent non-Federal match.

National Estuarine Research Reserve System [NERRS].—The Committee rejects the elimination of NERRS and provides \$27,000,000 for the system. NERRS sites provide mixed-use areas that are protected for long-term research, monitoring, education, and coastal stewardship. The program is a positive example of State and Federal partnership. The Committee is aware of the Blue Ribbon Panel recommendation to expand the NERRS network and awaits action from NOAA on site nominations that are currently pending. Within funding provided for NERRS, up to \$2,000,000 may be used for the Margaret A. Davidson Graduate Research Fel-

lowship administered by the Office of Coastal Management. The fellowship program is not subject to any matching requirement.

NOAA is further encouraged to work with its NERRS and National Marine Sanctuary partners on efforts for early detection of, rapid response to, and control of invasive species, especially those that jeopardize endangered or threatened native species.

NOAA NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

The Committee's recommendation provides \$944,867,000 for the National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS]. NMFS programs provide for the management and conservation of the Nation's living marine resources and their environment, including fish stocks, marine mammals, and endangered species.

Committee recommendations are displayed in the following table:

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Protected Resources Science and Management:	
Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species	122,164
Species Recovery Grants	7,000
Atlantic Salmon	6,500
Pacific Salmon	65,000
Total, Protected Resources Science and Management	200,664
Fisheries Science and Management:	
Fisheries and Ecosystem Science Programs and Services	146,427
Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments	172,909
Observers and Training	54,968
Fisheries Management Programs and Services	123,836
Aquaculture	15,500
Salmon Management Activities	56,043
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions	40,247
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants	3,365
Total, Fisheries Science and Management	613,295
Enforcement	74,023
Habitat Conservation and Restoration	56,885
GRAND TOTAL NMFS	944,867

NMFS Project Consultations.—Within Protected Resources Science and Management, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount for NMFS to address the backlog of consultation requests under the Endangered Species Act [ESA] (Public Law 93–205). The backlog of consultation requests, particularly those from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE], has caused significant permitting delays for local communities seeking to implement various projects across the Nation. The Committee directs NMFS to work with USACE and other Federal agencies to improve coordination and efficiency of consultations within the permitting process.

Marine Mammal Protection.—The Committee supports NMFS's mission under this activity to monitor, protect, and recover at-risk

marine mammal species listed under the ESA in 2005, but whose populations continue to decline. The Committee encourages NMFS to utilize funding for the protection and recovery of marine mammal species at risk due to factors such as limited prey species, water-borne toxin accumulation, and vessel and sound impacts.

North Atlantic Right Whale.—The Committee remains concerned that North Atlantic right whale populations remain critically low, especially given the number of whale mortalities this summer. Therefore, the Committee rejects the proposed reduction and provides an additional \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level within Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species for North Atlantic right whales-related research, development, and conservation efforts. Within funding provided, not less than \$1,000,000 shall be for a pilot program to develop, refine, and field test innovative fishing gear technologies designed to reduce North Atlantic right whale entanglements in partnership with relevant stakeholders, including, but not limited to: states, commercial fishermen, gear manufacturers, research institutions, and nongovernmental organizations. NMFS shall provide the Committee with an implementation plan for the pilot program, including metrics, within 60 days of enactment of this act. Improving NOAA's understanding of right whale distribution and habitat is necessary to better inform management actions. As such, NOAA is encouraged to prioritize development of a habitat suitability index and long-term tagging methods. NOAA shall also continue to support disentanglement, stranding response, necropsy activities, aerial surveys, and passive acoustic monitoring in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean. NOAA is also directed to fully evaluate the feasibility and economic implications of any management actions relating to the North Atlantic right whale.

Further, the Committee recognizes the transboundary nature of the North Atlantic right whale and directs NMFS to continue to work in coordination with counterparts in the Canadian government to reduce risks throughout its range. Examples of ongoing opportunities for U.S.-Canada collaboration on North Atlantic right whale conservation include, but are not limited to, continued collaboration on surveillance in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, cooperative research on the distribution of the whales and their food sources, support for disentanglement and necropsy work including cross-training between U.S. and Canadian response teams, coordinated gear marking efforts across jurisdictions, and collaborative work on innovative, real-time solutions to reduce risks from fishing gear entanglement and ship strikes.

The Committee recognizes that the Northeast lobster fishery has made significant changes to harvesting practices to protect North Atlantic right whales, including reducing vertical lines, marking gear, requiring the use of weaker rope, and implementing sinking ground lines, which precipitated the North Atlantic right whale's population growth from roughly 258 in the 1990s to more than 450 in 2015. The Committee also understands that sightings of North Atlantic right whales have declined in the Gulf of Maine over the past decade, as has the species' primary food source, *Calanus finmarchicus*, in the eastern Gulf of Maine. In any rulemaking regarding the North Atlantic right whale, NMFS shall consider re-

cent research on *Calanus* that indicates these zooplankton have been steadily decreasing in abundance in the Gulf of Maine since 2010. The North Atlantic right whale risk reduction target proposed by NMFS depends heavily on how unknown cases are assigned by fishery and country, and the Committee believes that any misattributions of whale entanglements that NMFS has acknowledged must be considered by NMFS and incorporated in relevant rulemaking.

False Killer Whales.—The Committee encourages NMFS to study interactions between the U.S. fishing fleet and false killer whales in the Western Pacific.

Sea Turtle Conservation.—NOAA committed to the Committee that it would continue its sea turtle stranding and rehabilitation programs at the NMFS Galveston Laboratory until it found suitable non-governmental partners to assume the program in full. However, NMFS has not reported to the Committee that it has secured commitments from any suitable partners. Therefore, NMFS is directed to maintain adequate capacity of the sea turtle stranding and rehabilitation program until it can report to the Committee that these critical activities have been fully assumed by partner organizations.

Hawaiian Monk Seals and Sea Turtles.—Within funding for Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species, the Committee provides NOAA no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount for Hawaiian Monk Seals and Hawaiian Sea Turtles.

Prescott Grants.—Within Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species, the Committee provides \$4,000,000 for the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance grant program.

Species Recovery Grants.—The Committee directs NMFS to utilize both the ESA Recovery Plan and the Marine Mammal Protection Act Take Reduction Plan priorities when evaluating marine mammal projects.

Atlantic Salmon.—NOAA has identified major threats to Atlantic salmon, including interrelated effects of freshwater salmon habitat loss, lost prey buffering, and marine derived nutrients from declines of co-evolved diadromous species. Within the funding provided for Atlantic Salmon, the Committee directs NOAA to enable a broader use of funds for restoration of diadromous species and habitats that support salmon recovery by providing ecological functions critical to the Atlantic salmon life cycle. The Committee further directs NOAA to ensure that adequate resources continue to be provided for State agencies to implement the recovery strategy effectively.

Pacific Salmon.—Within the funding provided for Pacific Salmon, NOAA shall consider expanding salmonid monitoring activities, including through the use of tags and acoustic tracking to utilize real-time monitoring to avoid impacts to protected species. NOAA is also encouraged to work with partners to address the backlog of hatchery genetic management plans and expedite approval.

Promote and Develop Fisheries Products and Research Funding Transfer.—The bill maintains the provision restricting the use of the Promote and Develop Fisheries Products and Research funds transferred from the Department of Agriculture to NOAA in a way that better meets the intended purpose of the transfer mandated

by the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act. None of the funds may be used for internal NOAA or DOC management, but rather, funds may only be used for activities that directly benefit U.S. fisheries and fishery communities. Specifically, these funds may only be used for: cooperative research; annual stock assessments; efforts to improve data collection, including catch monitoring and reporting for commercial, charter, and recreational fisheries; interjurisdictional fisheries grants; and Fisheries Information Networks.

As part of the fiscal year 2020 spending plan, NOAA shall include a detailed accounting, by object class, of how the Promote and Develop transfer funds will be allocated based on the funding criteria described in this bill.

Saltonstall-Kennedy [S-K] Grant Program.—The Committee rejects the Administration’s proposal to eliminate the S-K grant program and directs NOAA to obligate no less than 95 percent of the S-K grant program funds externally through a competitive grant process. NOAA shall consult with a diverse group of industry participants representing the entirety of the supply chain, from all regions of the country, to identify funding priorities. Prior to obligating these funds, NOAA shall provide the Committee with a detailed spending plan describing which fisheries activities will be funded in each of the regions and how the plan incorporates regional priorities. The Committee further encourages NOAA to prioritize marketing and development of the seafood industry, as was the original intent of the S-K grant program.

NMFS Staffing.—The Committee acknowledges that NMFS regional and scientific staff are most effective in meeting their mission when located in the communities they serve. To the greatest extent practicable, the Committee directs NMFS to proactively station regional science center staff and leadership within the regions they serve.

NMFS Facilities.—The Committee supports NOAA’s efforts to reduce costs and achieve a more efficient and effective facilities footprint, and adopts the proposed divestment of the Pacific Grove Laboratory and Building 74 of the James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory. However, the Committee does not adopt the proposed divestment of the Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center. NOAA is encouraged to work with the other Federal occupants of the Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center to develop a plan to transfer ownership and transition NOAA personnel from the Center to another location on the U.S. Gulf Coast. NOAA shall deliver this plan to the Committee within 270 days of enactment of this act to inform any future action.

Aleutian Island Pollock.—The Committee directs NMFS to continue providing technical support, as needed, to the recipients of the Exempted Fishing Permit [EFP] for the pollock test fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area. Depending on the results of the EFP, NMFS should consider additional regulatory changes to the management of Aleutian Islands pollock.

Fisheries Surveys.—The Committee is concerned that NMFS is not prioritizing and maintaining the needed level of fisheries survey coverage, despite having received more than adequate funding from the Committee in previous fiscal years to do so. The Committee notes that any reduction in fisheries survey coverage is un-

acceptable, especially in areas where the distribution of fish stocks are changing due to climate change. Therefore, an additional \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level is provided for NMFS to maintain historical levels of fisheries survey coverage in fiscal year 2020. At this funding level the Committee expects NMFS to contract no less than five vessels for Alaskan bottom trawl surveys and cooperative research, and no less than four vessels for west coast groundfish surveys. Further, NMFS shall provide the Committee, concurrent with the submission the fiscal year 2020 spending plan, a detailed accounting of how funding within Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments will be allocated by region for fisheries surveys and assessments as well as how that compares with the levels provided in fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Gulf Reef Fish.—The Committee recognizes that accurate estimates of reef fish, such as red snapper, gray triggerfish, greater amberjack, and gag grouper, in the Gulf of Mexico require additional resources for research and assessment. Within funding under Fisheries Ecosystem Science Programs and Services, the Committee provides no less than \$2,000,000 for NMFS to support Gulf reef fish surveys, research, and sampling. Additional direction and resources are provided within Oceanic and Atmospheric Research [OAR] to support agency-independent partnerships with academic research institutions. NMFS is encouraged to collaborate with OAR on the formulation and execution of this opportunity.

State Management for Recreational Red Snapper.—The Committee commends the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council for approving “Reef Fish Amendment 50: State Management for Recreational Red Snapper,” and in so doing delegating management authority of the private angling component for recreational red snapper fishing to each Gulf State. The Committee urges the Department to approve this measure and believes successful implementation should be a top priority for NMFS. Therefore, within the amount provided for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 for NMFS to continue to deliver technical support to the Gulf States to ensure successful implementation by each State.

Additionally, the Committee directs NMFS to continue to certify and incorporate agency-independent and alternative approaches to stock assessments, including surveys developed by Gulf States, into the agency’s stock assessments used for the management of reef fish in the Gulf of Mexico. Furthermore, all stock assessments used by NMFS for Gulf reef fish should include fishery data collected on artificial reefs, offshore oil platforms, and other offshore fixed energy infrastructure.

South Atlantic Reef Fish.—NMFS shall consider employing the independent and alternative stock assessment strategies directed by the Committee for the Gulf of Mexico to NMFS assessments of reef fish in the South Atlantic. The Committee provides up to \$1,500,000 for these activities and notes deficiencies that have plagued reef fish management in the Gulf of Mexico also affect NMFS management of reef fish in the South Atlantic.

For-Hire Electronic Monitoring and Reporting [EM/ER] Implementation.—Within Fisheries Management Programs and Services,

the Committee provides \$2,650,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for data collection and catch and effort validation to support timely implementation of electronic logbooks for the federally permitted charter-for-hire sector in the Gulf of Mexico. Further, the Committee provides \$1,525,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level within Enforcement for associated State and Federal enforcement activities necessary to ensure successful implementation. Within existing resources, the Committee directs NMFS to continue supporting implementation of EM/ER in the South Atlantic.

Fishing Gear Selectivity Study.—Within funding provided for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments, NOAA shall consider conducting a multiyear, agency-independent study to evaluate the selectivity and potential bias of different gears used to assess reef fish populations in the South Atlantic region, which should build on recent work being conducted by State agencies on red snapper. Specifically, the study should address whether the use of certain gear by the South Atlantic Marine Resources Monitoring, Assessment, and Prediction Survey, such as Chevron traps, fail to adequately sample across age classes of reef fish, including red snapper, due to the different behaviors and habits exhibited by larger and smaller fish within the same or similar species. NOAA is further encouraged to initiate a multiyear, agency-independent study using multiple hooked-gears to sample South Atlantic red snapper for age composition, sexual maturity, and egg production.

Lobster Fishing Gear.—The Committee encourages further collaboration among states, the fishing industry, academic institutions, and nongovernmental organizations in the development of innovative gear through field trials and preliminary implementation.

Fisheries Information Networks.—Within funding provided for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments, \$24,000,000 is provided for Fisheries Information Networks. The Committee directs NMFS to dedicate the entire increase above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to support Fisheries Information Systems grants.

Northwest Fisheries Ecosystem Monitoring System.—The Committee recognizes the importance of long-term data series monitoring ocean conditions and ecological indicators. This information is important in management decisions for salmon and other marine species, and to enable advance forecasting capabilities for early detection of ocean conditions known to produce harmful toxins that affect regional fisheries closures. Within funds for Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments, the Committee provides \$500,000 to maintain a time-series monitoring system that includes no less than monthly data collection, analysis, and dissemination of hydrographic and ecological data to inform fishery management on the Northern California Current.

Pacific Bluefin Tuna.—The Committee is concerned by the depleted status of Pacific bluefin tuna. The Committee encourages NMFS to allocate resources in support of the Management Strategy Evaluations for Pacific bluefin tuna and other priority highly migratory species managed under international agreements. Further, the Committee calls upon NMFS to ensure a strong U.S. negotiating position on Pacific bluefin tuna recovery by providing resources to support engagement of the Pacific Fishery Management

Council and U.S. stakeholders to ensure continued progress on the international recovery plan.

American Lobster and Jonah Crab Research.—American lobster is the Nation's most valuable single-species fishery, with 2017 landings valued at \$552,000,000. The Jonah crab fishery is a rapidly growing alternative fishery that allows American lobster harvesters to adapt to changing ocean conditions. Jonah crab landings were valued at \$16,200,000 in 2017 and are expected to grow. Adequate data are required to ensure that State and interstate managers can effectively and sustainably manage these stocks. The Committee provides up to \$300,000 within Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments to support a cooperative research program to collect biological, fishery, and environmental data for American lobster and Jonah crab using modern technology on commercial fishing vessels.

Fisheries Effort Survey [FES].—The Committee is concerned by reports that the Marine Recreational Information Program FES may be vastly overstating fishing effort. While the FES methodology represents a clear improvement from previous methodologies, the Committee supports the cautious approach to utilizing these estimates advocated by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committees. The Committee encourages NMFS to conduct a thorough analysis of the effect of such estimates on stock status and allocation before they are used for stock management.

Data Collection for Recreational Fisheries.—Through passage of the Modern Fish Act (Public Law 115–405), Congress reaffirmed the need for NMFS to develop alternative management approaches and more reliable fishery data collection tools for recreational fisheries. The Committee provides no less than \$2,500,000 within Fisheries Data Collection, Surveys and Assessments, to support collaborative programs focused on improving recreational fishery data collection, as articulated in sections 201 and 202 of Public Law 115–405. This funding should focus on assisting States to establish, test, and implement more reliable recreational fishery data collection tools, such as smartphone applications or text messaging supplements. The Committee also looks forward to receiving the studies called for in sections 101 and 103 of Public Law 115–405.

Atlantic Herring Stock Assessment.—The Committee directs NMFS to ensure that its 2020 Atlantic herring assessment is completed on schedule and to notify the Committee if it anticipates that the deadline will not be met.

Northeast Groundfish Research.—The Committee is concerned about the decline of the Northeast multispecies fishery and the health of fishing stocks in the Gulf of Maine. Within funding provided for Fisheries Ecosystem Science Programs and Services, the Committee provides \$2,500,000 for groundfish research, with a focus on the effects of changing climatic conditions and warming waters on the fishery, including stock health and natural mortality. NOAA is further encouraged to prioritize research regarding relative gear efficiency and stock boundaries. Within funding provided, \$500,000 shall be obligated to develop methods for improving and increasing utilization of the full range of available fishery dependent data to better inform groundfish stock abundance esti-

mates, including implementation of the recommendations set forth in the New England Fishery Management Council's Fishery Data for Stock Assessment Working Group Report. This funding is intended to support research conducted by the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, research conducted separately by, or in collaboration with, outside partners such as higher education institutions or State agencies, and research conducted in cooperation with the fishing industry.

Cooperative Research.—Depleted fish stocks result in significant economic losses to our Nation. At a time when fishing opportunities are constrained by uncertainty in stock assessments and increased access to healthy stocks depends on better data, the Committee believes that maintenance of ongoing monitoring programs, surveys, and improved research is critical. The Committee encourages NMFS to continue to prioritize long-time series surveys that are conducted cooperatively with industry and States. NMFS is additionally encouraged to prioritize studies using video systems deployed in commercial trawl nets for surveys conducted cooperatively with States, industry, and nonprofit institutions that can be validated and incorporated into survey data. NMFS is also encouraged to focus on improved understanding of natural mortality and relative gear efficiency to ensure accurate measures of catchability. Furthermore, the Committee encourages the Northeast Fisheries Science Center to consider prioritizing cooperative research efforts for species that are experiencing shifts in range and population density due to warming waters and other global environmental changes.

Electronic Monitoring and Reporting.—Within Fisheries Ecosystem Science Programs and Services, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for EM/ER to support the development, testing, and installation of EM/ER technologies across the country. The Committee recognizes that advancements in EM/ER have the potential to cut costs and improve data collection for most U.S. fisheries. NMFS is directed to prioritize EM/ER implementation in fiscal year 2020, and expedite to the fullest extent practicable the transition to full EM/ER. Within the funds provided for these activities, not less than \$3,500,000 shall be available, in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 3701, for collaborative partnerships that include non-Federal matching funds to implement cost-shared EM/ER programs that support fisheries conservation and management. During the development and implementation of electronic reporting and monitoring programs, NOAA shall consult directly with industry and work through the Fishery Management Councils (established under sections 1851 and 1852 of title 16, United States Code) to develop appropriate cost-sharing arrangements that are commensurate with the ex-vessel value of the fishery.

Furthermore, NMFS shall continue to work in fiscal year 2020 with the charter for-hire recreational fishery fleet in the Gulf of Mexico; the Northeast multispecies groundfish fishery fleet, including small vessels within that fleet; the Maine lobster fleet; and any regional fishery fleet interested in implementing EM/ER technologies to better track information that is currently collected through the use of human observers.

Northeast Multispecies Fishery.—The Committee recognizes that the New England groundfish fisheries management programs continue to present substantial financial challenges to the participants as well as to the economic sustainability of those fisheries and fishing communities. NOAA is directed to fully fund the At-Sea Monitoring costs in the New England groundfish fishery, including sea and shore side infrastructure costs. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount within Observers and Training for this purpose. Before obligating any of these funds, NOAA shall provide the Committee with a detailed spending plan. Further, NOAA is directed to submit a report to the Committee not less than 180 days after enactment of this act that outlines the current status of electronic monitoring and reporting EM/ER technology for the Northeast multispecies fishery, including an assessment of whether fully operational EM/ER procedures will be ready to replace At-Sea Monitoring on a voluntary basis by September 30, 2021, and if not, an evaluation of the current barriers. The report should also specify methods that will improve the quality and utility of At-Sea Monitoring and electronic monitoring data for purposes of achieving more reliable estimates of stock abundance a \$1,000,000 increase above the fiscal year 2019 level.

International Fisheries Management Coordination.—The Committee is aware that conflicting American and Canadian fisheries management measures in the Gulf of Maine have generated concerns from the domestic fishing and lobster industries, due to differing conservation regulations. The Committee encourages NOAA to work with Canadian and state fisheries officials to explore the possibility of developing an agreement that provides for cooperative fisheries management of this unique area.

North Pacific Observer Coverage.—Within Observers and Training, the Committee provides no less than \$7,000,000 for the North Pacific Observers Program a \$1,000,000 increase above the fiscal year 2019 level.

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated [IUU] Fishing.—Under Fisheries Management Programs and Services, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount to combat IUU fishing, including continued execution of the program established under section 539 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141).

Under Enforcement, an additional \$1,600,000 is provided for NMFS to improve its enforcement of the program and strengthen efforts to detect and deter illegally harvested and improperly documented seafood, including working with other U.S., international, and foreign agencies to ensure fair competition for our country's domestic fishermen and safety for American consumers.

Additionally, NOAA is directed to consider how innovative remote sensing technology could help fulfill its IUU mission, including satellite imaging and traceability, and shall consider developing a comprehensive IUU enforcement strategy in consultation with the U.S. Coast Guard. NOAA may also confer with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center [FLETC] and may contract with FLETC to assess and provide technical assistance to improve NOAA's current law enforcement strategy.

The Committee encourages NOAA to work with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to improve and expand efforts to identify high-risk shipments and collect critical import data in order to increase enforcement of import restrictions on IUU seafood products and expand investigations of foreign IUU hotspots.

Bycatch Reduction.—The development and implementation of practical bycatch solutions is a priority for U.S. and international fisheries management and protected species conservation. The Committee supports the requested amount for reducing bycatch, of which NMFS is directed to make no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount available for competitive grants to non-Federal researchers working with U.S. fishermen on the development of improved fishing practices and innovative gear technologies.

Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery.—The Committee recognizes the ongoing impacts on the Pacific coast groundfish fishery trawl industry resulting from NMFS's delay in promulgating regulations to collect loan payments for the 2003 fishing vessel and permit buyback program. This delay caused an additional \$4,000,000 in interest to accrue, resulting in an estimated \$10,000,000 of additional loan payments for the Pacific coast groundfish fishery trawl industry. The Committee notes the implementation of the Revitalizing the Economy of Fisheries in the Pacific Act of 2014, section 3095 of Public Law 113–291, which is intended to provide relief related to this legacy issue.

Regional Pilots in Sustainable Aquaculture.—The NMFS Aquaculture Office is directed to continue regional pilot programs for partnerships between the seafood industry and community partners that can develop, validate, and deploy economically and environmentally sustainable aquatic farming techniques and regional business practices to grow domestic seafood production. To maximize the impact of these pilot grants, NMFS is encouraged to give priority consideration to promising but less commercially developed technologies, such as those targeting shellfish, seaweed, and other relative newcomers to the domestic aquaculture industry. The Committee provides \$2,500,000 in the NMFS Aquaculture budget for this purpose. This funding is in addition to the laboratory funding for NOAA's fisheries science centers engaged in aquaculture research, which shall be funded at no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level.

Aquaculture Activities at Fisheries Science Centers.—The Committee remains concerned about the staffing levels at NMFS fisheries science centers. NOAA is encouraged to grow staffing levels and improve resources and facilities at the Northeast and Northwest Fisheries Science Centers to return staffing levels to those in fiscal year 2010.

Oyster Aquaculture, Research, and Restoration.—Within the funding level provided for NMFS Aquaculture, the Committee provides no less than \$5,000,000 to support ongoing research in off-bottom Eastern oyster production in coastal areas, particularly in areas where this method is being exploited for commercial production, including the Gulf of Mexico, and encourages NMFS to dedicate resources to support regional partnerships for genetics, disease, and economic modeling.

In addition, the Committee recognizes that the shellfish farming industry is composed of thousands of small farmers who are unable to fund critical research in the fields of shellfish disease, food safety, warming waters, and ocean acidification. To improve coordination and consistency, the Committee directs NMFS Aquaculture to engage and partner with industry, academic institutions, and States to conduct collaborative research to address the challenges facing this growing industry. Further, NMFS Aquaculture is encouraged to coordinate with the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service [ARS] to leverage and supplement existing ARS shellfish research partnerships.

Salmon Management Activities.—Within the amount provided for Salmon Management activities, the Committee recommends \$34,500,000, an increase of \$19,000,000 above fiscal year 2019, to enable NOAA, the Pacific States, and tribal communities to begin implementation of the obligations set forth in the 2018 Pacific Salmon Treaty. Before any of these funds may be obligated, NOAA is directed to provide the Committee with a detailed spending plan that is reflective of the funding recommendations produced by the U.S. section of the Pacific Salmon Commission and that strikes an appropriate balance between annual and initial funding needs. In doing so, NOAA is directed to consult with the Pacific States, tribal communities, and other stakeholders. Further, NOAA is encouraged to minimize, to the extent practicable, the amount of funds withheld for administrative expenses.

The Committee also provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount for the operation and maintenance of Mitchell Act hatcheries.

Genetic Stock Identification.—The Committee supports continued research and testing of genetic stock identification [GSI] management techniques in the Pacific salmon fishery to meet the dual purpose of protecting declining and the ESA listed stocks, while allowing for sustainable commercial and recreational access to healthy stocks in the wild. NMFS shall continue to support GSI research, including the collection, analysis, and testing of methods that rely on genetics-based data to identify and track the location of federally protected stocks in the wild.

Fishery Councils and Commissions.—The Committee provides \$40,247,000 to support the Regional Fishery Management Councils, Interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions, and International Fisheries Commissions. The Committee recognizes the important role that regional management plays in sustaining a balanced ecosystem and healthy fish populations and the advantage that aggregate data can provide in understanding emerging trends across our Nation's fisheries. The Committee directs the Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions to prioritize research and monitoring of high priority species in the face of changing environmental conditions.

Cooperative Agreements with States.—The Committee rejects the administration's proposal to eliminate funding for cooperative enforcement agreements with States, including execution of Joint Enforcement Agreements. Instead, the Committee provides \$18,500,000 for these agreements, which are critical for proper surveillance and enforcement of our nation's fisheries laws.

The Committee is concerned that NMFS's Office of Law Enforcement [OLE] has overly bureaucratized its administration of these agreements, to the point that some longstanding State and Territorial enforcement partners have considered no longer participating. Therefore, no later than 90 days after enactment of this act, NMFS OLE is directed to convene a meeting with the State and Territorial enforcement partners to discuss measures that can be taken to reduce administrative and bureaucratic burdens that have been levied upon them. NMFS shall brief the Committee, not later than 180 days after enactment of this act, on the results of the meeting, including what actions will be taken to reduce burdens.

Northeast Lobster Enforcement.—The Committee encourages continued collaboration between States, NOAA, and the U.S. Coast Guard to improve Federal capacity for offshore lobster enforcement in the Northeast. Offshore enforcement and tracking of vessels in the fixed-gear fisheries, such as lobster, is critical to ensure fishing gear is compliant and minimizes negative impacts on whale health.

Horseshoe Crab Survey.—The Committee remains concerned about the ability to estimate the abundance of the mid-Atlantic horseshoe crab population. Adequate data are required to ensure State and interstate managers can effectively manage the stock, which is important to the biomedical and commercial fishing industries, as well as to the ecology of the mid-Atlantic region. The Committee directs NMFS to continue this important survey to generate the data necessary to ensure the mid-Atlantic horseshoe crab stock remains on a sustainable path.

Seafood Reporting.—The United States leads the world in responsibly managed fisheries and aquaculture, and the Committee supports NOAA's activities to inform consumers about our Nation's sustainable fisheries through the agency's FishWatch program. However, the Committee is concerned that the exclusive use or recognition of third-party certifications for seafood sustainability by the Department could have unintended consequences for various domestic fisheries. The Committee acknowledges that some U.S. fisheries voluntarily utilize third-party seafood sustainability certification schemes but believes it is not the Department's role to adopt such certification schemes when doing so could result in the Department arbitrarily influencing the U.S. domestic seafood market. The Committee believes support for third-party certifications is best presented in non-governmental forums. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department not to adopt, use, or promote any third-party certification scheme for seafood sustainability but to instead continue providing consumers with independent and accountable information generated from within the Department.

Economic Impact of Turtle Excluder Devices [TEDs].—The Committee encourages NMFS to continue its efforts to pursue alternatives that would lessen the negative economic impacts of any potential rule requiring all skimmer trawls, pusherhead trawls, and wing nets rigged for fishing to use TEDs in their nets, while still maintaining conservation measures.

Habitat Conservation and Restoration.—The Committee provides \$56,885,000 for Habitat Conservation and Restoration activities. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount to address the Essential Fish Habitat consultation backlog.

Within the amount provided, NOAA is encouraged to include funding for the multi-year Habitat Blueprint Focus Area partnership agreements developed under the Habitat Blueprint initiative. The Committee encourages NOAA to include a broader ecosystem-based management philosophy; expand criteria to include recreational species, managed commercial species, and forage species; and prioritize proposals that engage local communities. NOAA should continue to emphasize the value of partnerships when evaluating grant applications.

Oyster Restoration.—The Committee encourages NOAA to work with external partners to research alternative substrates for oyster restoration. NOAA is encouraged to consider survivability as part of the oyster restoration program in the Chesapeake Bay. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted amount within Habitat Conservation and Restoration to support oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay.

Kelp Forests.—Kelp forests found off the U.S. West Coast are vibrant ecosystems that sustain a variety of unique species. However, these ecosystems face a number of compounding pressures that threaten their survival, including warming waters and overpopulation of purple sea urchins. The Committee encourages NOAA to investigate measures to protect kelp forests, including controlling urchin populations. In addition, the Committee encourages NOAA to support efforts to survey kelp forests.

Regional Biosecurity Plan for Micronesia and Hawaii.—The Committee looks forward to receiving the report required in fiscal year 2019 appropriations act and requires an update for fiscal year 2020.

NOAA OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

The Committee's recommendation provides \$531,207,000 for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research [OAR]. OAR programs provide environmental research and technology needed to improve NOAA weather forecasts, climate predictions, and marine services. To accomplish these goals, OAR supports a network of scientists in its Federal research laboratories, universities, and joint institutes and partnership programs.

Committee recommendations are displayed in the following table:

OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH OPERATIONS, RESEARCH AND FACILITIES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Climate Research:	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	61,000
Regional Climate Data and Information	39,000
Climate Competitive Research	60,000
Total, Climate Research	160,000
Weather and Air Chemistry Research Programs:	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	80,758
U.S. Weather Research Program	22,080
Tornado Severe Storm Research/Phased Array Radar	14,134
Joint Technology Transfer Initiative	15,000

OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH OPERATIONS, RESEARCH AND FACILITIES—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Total, Weather and Air Chemistry Research	131,972
Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Research:	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	35,000
National Sea Grant College Program	75,000
Marine Aquaculture Research	13,000
Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring	44,000
Integrated Ocean Acidification	12,000
Ocean Exploration	42,000
National Oceanographic Partnership Program [NOPP]	5,000
Total, Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Research	226,000
High Performance Computing Initiatives	13,235
GRAND TOTAL OAR	531,207

Climate Research.—The Committee rejects OAR's request to eliminate Climate Competitive Research.

Coastal Resilience.—Within funding provided for Climate Competitive Research, NOAA is encouraged to partner with State Sea Grant programs and work to enhance the coastal resilience of remote communities at most risk to natural disasters and chronic events, with a priority given to challenges faced by tribal, indigenous, or economically disadvantaged communities.

Arctic Research.—The Committee provides no less than \$6,000,000, an increase of \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level, for Arctic research funded under OAR's Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes and Regional Climate Data and Information.

Weather & Air Chemistry Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes.—The Committee adopts the proposed transition of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems office from OAR to the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, as part of the establishment of an unmanned systems operations program. The Committee rejects all other proposed cuts to Weather & Air Chemistry Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes, including the elimination of the Air Resources Laboratory [ARL]. No less than the fiscal year 2019 level is provided for ARL.

Vortex-Southeast [Vortex-SE].—The Southeastern United States commonly experiences devastating tornadoes under variables and conditions that differ considerably from the Midwest, where tornado research has historically been focused. Within funds provided for Weather and Air Chemistry Research Programs, no less than \$5,000,000 is provided for OAR to continue collaborating with the National Science Foundation's Vortex-SE initiative to better understand how environmental factors that are characteristic of the Southeastern United States affect the formation, intensity, and storm path of tornadoes for this region.

Hydrologic Modeling Grants.—The Committee recognizes the success of the National Water Model in advancing flood forecasting and predicting other water related hazards. Within funding for the

U.S. Weather Research Program, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for OAR to make grants available for research activities to advance the National Water Model, including improving measurements of snow depth and soil moisture data, and the development of high resolution hydrologic modeling systems to address issues related to floods, drought, water quality, and ecosystem health. Research should include addressing water-related issues in the Southeastern United States, including those relating to agriculture.

Infrasonic Weather Monitoring Research.—Within funding provided for the U.S. Weather Research Program, the Committee provides up to \$1,000,000 to support external research opportunities with academic institutions in infrasonic monitoring methods of violent weather. The Committee believes that advanced infrasound signal processing methodologies and studies, deployed through a network of infrasound arrays to detect tornadoes and hurricanes, have the potential to improve forecast accuracy.

Weather Modeling Improvement and Innovation.—Within funding for the U.S. Weather Research Program, the Committee provides no less than \$7,000,000 for NOAA to establish the Earth Prediction Innovation Center [EPIC], as authorized by the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–423). The Committee expects that this investment will lead to improvements in NOAA’s operational weather forecasting capabilities to protect life and property. Before any funds for EPIC may be obligated, NOAA is directed to provide the Committee with a five-year strategic plan for EPIC that outlines: (1) NOAA’s investment strategy for the Center, which is expected to consist of an extramural center approach that is leveraged by intramural investment; and (2) quantitative goals for improving NOAA’s operational weather forecasting capabilities.

Phased Array Radar [PAR] Program.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the PAR program and other advanced radar research and development in satisfying the agency’s weather and related requirements, and provides an additional \$1,500,000 for these purposes. The Committee looks forward to receiving the plan requested in the Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, (Public Law 116–6).

Radiative Forcing.—The Committee is aware of the National Academies of Sciences’ [NAS] development of a research agenda and governance approaches for climate intervention strategies and the participation of NOAA in this process. The Committee looks forward to receiving the results of the NAS study to inform future action.

Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes.—The Committee provides \$35,000,000 for Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Research Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes and expects the administration to fully fund Cooperative Institutes at appropriate levels in future years. This funding level reflects the Committee’s adoption of the proposed transition of the Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Demonstration Testbed from OAR to the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, as part of the establishment of an unmanned systems operations program.

The Committee continues to strongly support the established institutes, including those focused on watershed effects on marine ecosystems, remote sensing, long-term monitoring of oil spill impacts on marine ecosystem health, coastal resilience, ocean exploration within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone, and harmful algal blooms.

Cooperative Institutes for the 21st Century [CI21].—The Committee supports the vision of NOAA’s “Prospectus for Cooperative Institutes in the 21st Century,” and directs NOAA to fully implement the CI21 recommendations to the extent to which the agency has not already done so. Within 90 days of enactment of this act, NOAA is directed to submit a report to the Committee that details how each of the CI21 recommendations have been, or are being, implemented. Furthermore, OAR is directed to provide the Committee the results of the review of Cooperative Institute research themes and efforts called for within CI21.

National Sea Grant College Program.—The Committee roundly rejects the administration’s proposed elimination of NOAA’s Sea Grant program. Instead, the Committee provides an increase of \$7,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for the Sea Grant program and its research, education, extension, and outreach activities, which are critical for coastal communities and benefit the entire Nation. This level of funding supports the key focus areas in the program’s strategic plan: sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, resilient communities and economies, healthy coastal ecosystems, environmental literacy, and workforce development. In addition, the Committee directs NOAA to continue funding all Sea Grant STEM education and fellowship programs. Further, NOAA is directed to continue its partnership with academic programs that provide legal expertise related to Sea Grant’s mission and also encourages the Sea Grant program to prioritize providing training, education, outreach, and technical assistance for young fishermen.

Additionally, the Committee understands that the Sea Grant program provides no less than \$1,000,000 in annual base funding, or \$4,000,000 over the course of the 4-year grant cycle, to each Sea Grant program with Institutional or College Program status. NOAA is directed to continue this funding model.

Sea Grant Fellowship Program.—NOAA’s Sea Grant program is reminded that the Committee’s broad support is due to the program’s historically objective standards, State-driven goals, and non-partisan priorities. Within NOAA’s Sea Grant program, the National Sea Grant Fellowship program serves as a valuable pipeline for our Nation’s future ocean science and policy experts. The Fellowship program should remain objective and apolitical, and should increase its efforts to recruit qualified, non-partisan candidates who are committed to working on oceans and coastal issues for any Member of Congress, regardless of political affiliation.

Fisheries-Related Research.—The Committee looks forward to receiving, and being briefed on, the results of the Sea Grant sponsored project to “Estimate the Absolute Abundance of Red Snapper in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico” in fiscal year 2020.

The Committee remains concerned about the negative impacts of short recreational fishing seasons for other reef-fish in the Gulf of Mexico. Additional data sources and assessment approaches are

also needed for these species and these efforts should continue to be pursued by entities other than NOAA's regulating line office, NMFS. Therefore, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 within Sea Grant above the fiscal year 2019 level to partner with academic research institutions to develop agency-independent estimates of the abundance of greater amberjack in the Gulf of Mexico. Sea Grant is encouraged to coordinate with NMFS during the formulation and execution of this opportunity.

American Lobster Research.—Within funding for the Sea Grant program, the Committee provides \$2,000,000 for partnerships between State agencies, academia, and industry to address American lobster research priorities in the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, and southern New England. Research should focus on overcoming reduced availability of herring for lobster bait and stock resilience in the face of environmental changes, including life history parameters, distribution and abundance, and species interactions, with the purpose of informing future management actions.

Highly Migratory Species.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level within OAR for the Sea Grant program to partner with State agencies, academia, and the fishing industry to research highly migratory fish species in the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic. This should include examining the impact of offshore oil platforms on the biology of highly migratory species, such as yellow fin tuna. Highly migratory species, and the coastal communities that rely on the health of these stocks, could greatly benefit from improved, science-based management and conservation.

Aquaculture Research.—The Committee provides \$13,000,000 for marine aquaculture research. NOAA is directed to support marine aquaculture research and development in partnership with universities, including with Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Similar research efforts have led to beneficial outcomes such as the development and commercialization of new technologies to meet the domestic demand for seafood, including finfish, shrimp, and oysters. NOAA is encouraged to use the increase above fiscal year 2019 levels to explore new research topics, including engineering of ocean-based infrastructure, accumulation and metabolization rates of brevetoxins in commonly farmed shellfish, and integrated multi-trophic aquaculture.

Ocean Exploration.—The Committee directs OAR to maximize the amount of appropriated funding provided to the new Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute. NOAA is also encouraged to work with the Department of Defense and other relevant agencies to continue fundamental ocean exploration in which open source data are collected for the oceanographic community and private industries in real-time through telepresence technology.

National Oceanographic Partnership Program.—The Committee provides \$5,000,000 to advance ocean science research through the National Oceanographic Partnership Program [NOPP] (10 U.S.C. 7901–7903), provided that none of the funding provided may be used to support more than 50 percent of any particular project cost.

The Committee supports the original intent of NOPP, and encourages NOAA to leverage this investment by partnering with other Federal agencies with a shared interest in ocean research,

operations, technology, education, and natural resource management, to pursue research that advances multiple agency missions.

Environmental Genomics.—The Committee rejects the administration's proposal to terminate the environmental genomics program. Instead, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for these activities. The Committee notes that NOAA's work in this area suggests that environmental genomics is a promising, reliable, and affordable ocean observation tool.

NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

The Committee's recommendation provides \$1,060,045,000 for the National Weather Service [NWS]. NWS programs provide timely and accurate meteorologic, hydrologic, and oceanographic warnings and forecasts to ensure the safety of the population, mitigate property losses, and improve the economic productivity of the Nation. NWS is also responsible for issuing operational climate forecasts for the United States. The Committee has made saving lives and livelihoods through accurate weather forecasting a priority.

The Committee's recommendations are displayed in the following table:

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Observations	229,662
Central Processing	97,980
Analyze, Forecast, and Support	509,850
Dissemination	75,093
Science and Technology Integration	147,460
GRAND TOTAL NWS	1,060,045

Information Technology Officers [ITOs].—The Committee does not approve the NWS proposal to consolidate ITOs. The Committee notes that NWS was again invited to submit a proposal for a single pilot Regional Enterprise Application Development and Integration [READI] team comprised of volunteer ITOs. However, the Committee still has not yet received such a proposal. Should NWS decide to submit a proposal for a single pilot READI team project, its subsequent successes and challenges will assist the Committee in evaluating the larger consolidation proposal if resubmitted in future fiscal years.

NWS Staffing.—The Committee recognizes NWS's work to fill vacancies, especially for weather forecast personnel. However, there is a long way to go, and the Committee continues to be concerned with the number of NWS employee vacancies. Given the importance of the NWS mission to protect the lives and property of our Nation's citizens, extended vacancies are unacceptable—particularly when the Committee has provided more than adequate resources and direction to fill vacancies expeditiously for the past several fiscal years. The Committee does not adopt the proposed NWS workforce savings and directs NWS to continue efforts to fill all vacancies as expeditiously as possible.

Furthermore, NOAA shall continue to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees on all NWS staffing issues, to include: a list of funded vacancies, by type and location, including the length of time the positions have been vacant; the Program, Project, or Activity [PPA] from which each vacancy is funded, and the plan for addressing each vacancy; an update on the implementation of the Operations and Workforce Analysis; budget execution by PPA; major procurements; and other topics as appropriate.

Observations.—The Committee rejects all proposed cuts to Upper Air, Surface, and Marine Observations.

Weather Radar Interference.—The Committee encourages the mitigation of interference and impacts from wind farms on Doppler weather radars, particularly in the interior portions of the United States where the most new wind power capacity is being added. The Committee supports the directive included in Section 318 of the Conference Report accompanying Public Law 115–232, for NOAA and the Department of Defense to conduct a joint study on the impact of wind farms on weather radars. NOAA is directed to provide the Committee with the results of this study upon completion and recommendations regarding the Federal Aviation Administration obstruction evaluation process under 49 U.S.C. 44718.

National Ice Center Technical Transfer.—The Committee adopts the proposed transfer of the National Ice Center from the National Environmental Satellite and Data Information Service [NESDIS] to NWS.

National Mesonet Program.—The Committee provides \$20,000,000, an increase of \$1,000,000 over the fiscal year 2019 level, for the continuation and expansion of the National Mesonet Program. Investments going forward should sustain coverage of data types and areas now included within the national mesonet, as well as an expansion of in-situ and remote sensing capabilities to include weather measurements in high-risk areas. The Committee encourages the National Mesonet Program to proactively work with other Federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Geological Survey, to identify observations and platforms of opportunity in areas with sparse instrumentation that may be transferred to the National Mesonet Program.

NEXRAD Coverage Gaps.—The Committee remains concerned about gaps in national coverage by the NEXRAD system. The Committee encourages NWS to continue its close coordination with local governments and weather officials to ensure that radar gaps are lowered to the maximum extent practicable.

NWS Staffing in Alaska.—The Committee remains concerned about potential NWS staffing reductions in Alaska and reminds NWS that any staffing changes must comply with the reprogramming procedures set forth in section 505 of this act. Prior to proposing any staffing reductions, NWS shall conduct community outreach meetings in all affected communities.

National Centers for Environmental Prediction [NCEP].—The Committee does not adopt the NWS proposal to consolidate centers under NCEP in fiscal year 2020.

Facilities Maintenance.—Within funding for Analyze, Forecast, and Support, the Committee continues to encourage NWS to ad-

dress its highest priority facilities repair and deferred maintenance requirements at Weather Forecast Offices.

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Services Expansion [AHPS].—The Committee again rejects NWS's proposal to slow the expansion of AHPS, which will enable greater information on the magnitude and likelihood of floods and droughts across certain areas of the nation. No less than the fiscal year 2019 level is provided for AHPS activities.

National Data Buoy Center [NDBC].—The Committee provides sufficient funding to maintain, at a minimum, NDBC operations at 80 percent data availability. The Committee directs NOAA to provide adequate funding to support maintenance and service of the Tropical Atmosphere/Ocean Array and Deep Ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis Array across the equatorial Pacific. The Committee further directs NOAA to include a schedule to restore existing data buoy operability and its strategy to minimize outages in the future as part of the agency's spending plan.

Tsunami Warning Program.—The Committee rejects NWS's proposed cut to the Tsunami Warning Program. Funding is provided at no less than the fiscal year 2019 amounts, including for the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation program grants, to ensure that high-quality tsunami watches, warnings, and advisories are issued to safeguard lives and property. The Committee expects NWS to expeditiously fill the current vacancies.

Further, the Committee directs NWS to submit a report explaining: (1) how tsunami warnings are issued and how the information is disseminated to all communities under a warning; (2) what NWS is doing to ensure that tsunami warnings reach all communities, including those with limited cellular service and broadband infrastructure; (3) how the alert and warning systems work and interact with other emergency notification alert systems; (4) how third-party disseminators are educated to interpret and use the alert and warning systems, including test messages; and (5) what NWS is doing to conduct outreach and trainings with local emergency managers in advance of a warning being issued.

Office of Water Prediction [OWP].—The Committee provides no less than \$33,000,000 for OWP, which receives funding across multiple NWS budget lines. The Committee rejects the proposed decrease for OWP within Analyze, Forecast, and Support and provides increased funding above fiscal year 2019 levels to continue to expedite hiring within the National Water Center [NWC] Water Prediction Operations Division and reach full operating capability. The Committee notes that the unprecedented flooding season of 2019 further demonstrates the urgent need to achieve full operating capability at the NWC as soon as possible in order to adequately support its role as the NWS center of excellence for water resources prediction and related decision support services. Therefore, NOAA is directed to transition OWP personnel from other offices to the NWC, as deemed necessary to improve effectiveness and efficiency. Within 45 days of enactment of this act, NOAA is directed to provide the Committee with an updated staffing plan for the NWC that reflects the direction provided herein.

The Committee is pleased with the ongoing research-to-operations efforts within OWP and provides increased funding over fis-

cal year 2019 levels to continue to expedite development of the National Water Model and other next-generation water modeling capabilities. NWS shall leverage this funding with resources provided to NWS for hydrology and water resource programs, NOS for IWP, and OAR for hydrologic modeling grants. The Committee directs NWS to continue to expeditiously transition the water resources prediction capabilities developed by OWP into operations.

Dissemination Technical Transfer.—The Committee adopts the technical transfer of \$25,000,000 from PAC to ORF for Dissemination.

Hydrology and Water Resource Programs.—The Committee provides no less than \$6,000,000 for NWS, in coordination with existing academic research consortiums, to collaborate with external academic partners to improve fine and large-scale measurements of snow depth and soil moisture data that can be used to expand and improve the National Water Model and contribute directly to the mission of NOAA's National Water Center.

Consumer Option for an Alternative System To Allocate Losses [COASTAL] Act Implementation.—Within funding provided for Science and Technology Integration, the Committee provides not less than \$5,000,000 for the continued development and implementation of the COASTAL Act, which was included in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (Public Law 112–141). The Committee supports NOAA's work to assist homeowners impacted by destructive winds and storm surges associated with hurricanes and super-storms. The Committee directs NOAA to continue to leverage existing Federal assets, expertise, and partnerships in carrying out COASTAL Act activities.

Storm Surge Modeling Technology.—The Committee recognizes the need to deploy more precise, accurate, and real-time modeling technology that is tailored to specific regions. These activities would improve and complement NOAA's Sea, Lake, and Overland Surge from Hurricanes [SLOSH] model. The Committee directs NOAA to expand existing collaborations with research universities that will produce better predictive capabilities than NOAA's current SLOSH model provides. The Committee directs NOAA, in collaboration with academic research institutions and other Federal agencies, to integrate improved technologies into standard modeling operations for storm surge and inland flooding.

Science and Technology Integration.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for Mid-Range Weather Outlooks, including seasonal to subseasonal forecasting, and Investments in Numerical Weather Prediction Modeling, which provides critical support to the Hurricane Forecast Improvement Project, among other important forecasting activities. Furthermore, the Committee urges NOAA to expedite the project plan described by the Hurricane Forecast Improvement Act (Public Law 115–25). The Committee encourages NWS to reduce errors in tracking and intensity forecasts of hurricanes by identifying technology and methods available to significantly improve hurricane forecasting.

NOAA NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA AND
INFORMATION SERVICE

The Committee's recommendation provides \$259,739,000 for National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service [NESDIS] operations. NESDIS programs operate environmental polar-orbiting and geostationary satellites and collect and archive global environmental data and information for distribution to users in commerce, industry, agriculture, science, and engineering, the general public, and Federal, State, and local agencies.

The Committee's recommendations are displayed in the following table:

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH,
AND FACILITIES
[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems:	
Office of Satellite and Product Operations	166,063
Product Development, Readiness & Application	28,434
Commercial Remote Sensing Licensing & Enforcement	1,800
Office of Space Commerce	1,800
Group on Earth Observations [GEO]	500
Total, Environmental Satellite Observing Systems	198,597
National Centers for Environmental Information	61,142
GRAND TOTAL NESDIS	259,739

National Centers for Environmental Information [NCEI].—The Committee provides \$61,142,000 for NCEI, including not less than \$6,000,000 for Regional Climate Services, \$4,150,000 for Regional Climate Centers, and \$5,500,000 for Coastal Data Development. NOAA shall consider the Coastal Data Development program as the central repository to manage data collections and information services of the various Gulf of Mexico Restoration activities funded in response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill for scientific stewardship. Furthermore, within NCEI, the Committee encourages NOAA to fully support critical international partnerships, including the Global Climate Observing System.

NESDIS Technical Transfers.—The Committee accepts the following technical transfers included in the request within the Office of Satellite and Product Operation: the transfer of the National Ice Center to NWS, and the transfer of Joint Polar Satellite System [JPSS]–1 and Metop-C operations from PAC to ORF. The Committee also accepts the transfer of funding for the Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation from Product Development, Readiness and Application to OAR.

Office of Space Commerce.—Funding for Commercial Remote Sensing Licensing and Enforcement and the Office of Space Commerce is provided within NESDIS. Further direction on the Department's transfer request for these offices is included under Departmental Management.

Study on Satellite Instrumentation and Data.—The Committee directs NOAA to submit a study, within 120 days of enactment of this act, which assesses the impacts to the agency’s weather satellites with instruments operating within the 23.6–24 GHz band under an out-of-band emissions limit of -28 decibel watts. The study should consider: (1) the performance impacts to on-orbit and planned NOAA scientific instrumentation, including passive microwave sensors on environmental satellite systems; (2) any expected effects on NOAA weather forecasting skill due to data degradation; and (3) the estimated costs to procure supplementary observations or to modify affected instrumentation on planned polar orbiting satellites.

NOAA MISSION SUPPORT

The Committee’s recommendation provides \$288,661,000 for NOAA’s mission support activities. These programs provide for overall NOAA management, including staffing of the Under Secretary’s office and services to NOAA field offices. These programs also support NOAA’s Education Office consistent with the recommendations of the Joint Ocean Commission.

Committee recommendations are displayed in the following table:

MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Corporate Services:	
Executive Leadership	27,078
Mission Services and Management	155,934
IT Security	15,079
Payment to DOC Working Capital Fund	62,070
Total, Corporate Services	260,161
NOAA Education Program	28,500
GRAND TOTAL, MISSION SUPPORT	288,661

Corporate Services.—Within funding provided for Corporate Services, NOAA is directed to focus on improving workforce management, particularly expediting the hiring process to fill extended vacancies with highly qualified candidates across the agency’s line offices. NOAA shall also focus on improving its management of acquisition and grant services.

Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment.—The Committee commends the agency for its efforts to provide employees a workplace free from sexual assault and sexual harassment, including issuance of NOAA Administrative Order [NAO] 202–1106 and creation of a Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment prevention program. The Committee directs NOAA to continue implementing NAO 202–1106 and provides \$1,000,000 within Mission Services and Management for this purpose. NOAA shall provide the Committee with a copy of the report required under Section 12.02 of NAO 202–1106.

NMFS Operations.—NOAA shall enter into a contract with an independent organization with experience in assessing Federal

agencies for the purposes of evaluating efficiencies that can be made to NMFS's budgetary operations. This review shall consider options to restructure the NMFS budget to better inform and connect budgetary, planning, and decision-making processes with the distinct needs of each region served by NMFS. The contracted entity should consult with stakeholders, partners, other user groups, and NMFS employees. Any recommended changes should not result in any degradation of service by NMFS. The Committee provides \$1,000,000 for this purpose.

National Capital Region Consolidation.—The Committee provides \$1,000,000 within Mission Services and Management to begin the consolidation of the NOAA National Capital Region presence into a single, primary location at the Silver Spring Metro Center campus. No less than 90 days after enactment of this act, NOAA shall provide a full accounting of the long-term costs and savings of the consolidation.

Commerce Business System [CBS].—The Committee provides the requested increase within Mission Services and Management to support upgrades to the CBS financial system hardware and software.

NOAA Environmental Security Computing Center [NESCC].—The NESCC is a strategic resource supporting both NOAA's operational and research compute needs. The NESCC includes some of the highest priority NOAA programs including the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite [GOES]–R and JPSS backup ground stations, the NOAA Security Operations Center, and the Commerce Department Enterprise Security Operations Center. The Committee directs NOAA to provide the proposed funding levels for NESCC for the next 5 years as part of the fiscal year 2021 budget request.

Cybersecurity.—The Committee provides the requested increase within IT Security to establish a NOAA enterprise-wide Internal Risk Mitigation capability to address the current risk to sensitive data and operations systems from insider threats.

Education.—The Committee rejects the proposal to eliminate NOAA's Office of Education. Within the funds provided for NOAA's Education Program, \$5,000,000 is for competitive educational grants, which includes continued support for Environmental Literacy Grants and for improving geographic literacy; \$16,000,000 is for the Educational Partnership Program with minority-serving institutions; and \$7,500,000 is for Bay-Watershed Education and Training regional programs. NOAA is encouraged to engage students in live, interactive programming using telepresence technology.

Cooperative Science Center for Ocean Education.—The Committee supports this important effort to conduct research, build institutional capacity, and increase the number of graduate students, particularly from underrepresented communities, to help prepare a future workforce to support NOAA's scientific mission.

Outstanding Loan Balances.—The Committee encourages NOAA and its respective line offices to work with communities and businesses, on a case-by-case basis, to resolve outstanding balances in a manner that considers the borrower's current financial ability but remains fair to American taxpayers.

NOAA OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS

The Committee's recommendation provides \$246,415,000 for NOAA's marine and aviation operations. The Office of Marine and Aviation Operations [OMAO] provides aircraft and marine data acquisition, repair, and maintenance of the existing fleet; planning of future modernization; and technical and management support for NOAA-wide activities through the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps.

OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Marine Operations and Maintenance	198,000
Aviation Operations	35,750
Autonomous Unmanned Technology Operations	12,665
GRAND TOTAL, OMAO	246,415

Capital Assets.—Any decisions related to laying up any vessels, grounding any aircraft, or decommissioning any capital asset are subject to the standard reprogramming procedures set forth in section 505 of this act. Any changes from the spending plan shall also be subject to section 505 of this act. NOAA shall continue to provide the Committee with a monthly operational status of the fleet and aircraft.

Hi'ialakai Operations and Mitigation.—The Committee notes the significant, unexpected negative revelations regarding the material condition of NOAA Ship *Hi'ialakai*. These discoveries reveal that the crew of *Hi'ialakai* was subjected to risk from a potentially catastrophic failure of the ship's hull. These issues also frustrate the Committee's efforts to establish an orderly cadence for the recapitalization of the aging NOAA Fleet. Neither is acceptable. In order to compensate for the unexpected failure of *Hi'ialakai*, the Committee provides no less than \$3,125,000 for the cost of maintaining mission integrity in the Pacific region, and other appropriate measures. NOAA shall report to the Committee about how the *Hi'ialakai* mission will be sufficiently covered before obligating the funds, including any plans to permanently or temporarily re-locate vessels to the Pacific Island region to compensate for the loss of the *Hi'ialakai*.

Vessel Maintenance.—The Committee directs NOAA to develop and submit a schedule within 30 days of enactment of this act to complete the material condition assessment of the full NOAA fleet by the end of fiscal year 2020. NOAA's fleet recapitalization plan should be amended as needed in order to account for any further anomalies that threaten fleet operations and the planned cadence for recapitalization.

NOAA Fleet Augmentation.—NOAA is directed to provide the Committee, within 180 days of enactment of this act, a business case analysis, including budget estimates, for leasing and chartering non-NOAA vessels that would fully cover the mission of NOAA Ship *Hi'ialakai* and any NOAA vessel that is currently serving beyond its anticipated service-life.

Charter Vessels.—The Committee has closely followed and consistently supported NOAA’s plan to recapitalize its vessel fleet. However, the Committee is increasingly concerned about the growing backlog of unfulfilled responsibilities in NOAA’s charting and survey mission, particularly with respect to Arctic waters. This concern is heightened by the long lead times anticipated for vessel delivery under the plan, as well as the recent decommissioning of NOAA ship *Hi’ialakai*. For that reason, the committee encourages NOAA, beginning in fiscal year 2020 and from available funds, to enter into charter agreements for the services of not less than two private sector vessels to supplement its charting and survey efforts. In furtherance of this directive, NOAA shall focus on the need to conduct charting and survey activities in the Arctic.

Monitoring of Atmospheric Rivers.—Improving understanding of atmospheric rivers is critical to prepare for concentrated rain storms and flooding along the U.S. West Coast. Therefore, the Committee provides \$1,000,000 within Aviation Operations to better observe and predict these extreme weather events.

Dropsondes.—The Committee recognizes the importance of dropsondes as a critical tool for atmospheric data collection, including for hurricane forecast modeling. The Committee directs NOAA to provide, within 90 days of enactment of this act, a comprehensive accounting of its dropsonde use for data collection, including acquisition costs, for fiscal year 2019. Furthermore, the Committee encourages NOAA to outline specific dropsonde acquisition costs as part of its fiscal year 2021 budget request.

High Altitude Hurricane Hunter Aircraft.—The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–25) directed NOAA to obtain a back-up capability to support its high altitude hurricane surveillance operational mission. In fiscal year 2018, the Committee provided NOAA with funding to procure a new high altitude aircraft, which is expected to be operational in fiscal year 2022. However, the Committee is concerned that while NOAA awaits delivery of this new aircraft it does not currently have a viable back-up capability for the high altitude hurricane surveillance mission, particularly given that NOAA’s current high altitude aircraft is aging and has experienced technical issues in the past. Therefore, NOAA is directed to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on how it intends to meet the high altitude hurricane surveillance back-up capability requirement.

Autonomous and Unmanned Technology Operations [AUTO].—The Committee approves NOAA’s request to establish an unmanned systems operations program within OMAO, as authorized by the Commercial Engagement through Ocean Technology Act (Public Law 115–394), and provides \$12,665,000. Within the funds provided, up to \$4,000,000 may be used to continue projects previously supported by the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program Office or the Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Demonstration Testbed. Further, the Committee provides up to \$3,000,000 to continue data acquisition from unmanned maritime systems [UMS], as defined within Public Law 115–394, as well as for cooperative, competitive research and development of UMSs that can serve as a

cost-effective augmentation for relevant research missions and fisheries data collection.

Furthermore, in establishing the AUTO program office, the Committee encourages NOAA to leverage partnerships with universities and other Federal agencies, especially the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command and the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, to leverage UMS assets and facilities to support program development.

Unmanned Systems.—The Committee notes the potential of unmanned aerial and marine systems as a mechanism to supplement the collection of observational data for weather forecasting. Therefore, the AUTO program office, in coordination with NWS, OAR, and NOS, is directed to provide the Committee with a cost-benefit analysis, including budgetary estimates, of using unmanned aerial and marine systems to expand NOAA's data collection capabilities for weather forecasting, including high-altitude hurricane missions. The analysis should also consider potential opportunities to mitigate limited unmanned system availability by sharing platforms with other Federal Government agencies, including through reimbursable agreements.

NOAA PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$1,755,349,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,406,236,000
Committee recommendation	1,552,528,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$1,552,528,000 for NOAA's Procurement, Acquisition and Construction [PAC]. The recommendation is \$202,821,000 below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$146,292,000 above the budget request.

Committee recommendations are displayed in the following table:

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
National Ocean Service:	
National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction	6,000
Marine Sanctuaries Construction/Acquisition	6,000
Total National Ocean Service—PAC	12,000
Ocean and Atmospheric Research:	
Research Super Computing	41,000
National Weather Service:	
Observations	16,250
Central Processing	66,761
Dissemination	9,934
WFO Construction	10,000
Total, National Weather Service—PAC	102,945
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Services:	
Geostationary Systems [GOES-R]	304,056
Polar Weather Satellites	755,038
Cooperative Data and Rescue Services [CDARS]	14,850

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Space Weather Follow-on	68,600
COSMIC-2	5,892
Satellite Ground Services	58,000
System Architecture and Advanced Planning	17,197
Projects, Planning, and Analysis	37,500
Satellite CDA Facility	2,450
Commercial Weather Data	8,000
Total, NESDIS—PAC	1,271,583
Mission Support:	
NOAA Construction	40,000
Total, Mission Support—PAC	40,000
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations:	
Fleet Capital Improvements & Tech Infusion	23,000
New Vessel Construction	75,000
Total, OMAO—PAC	98,000
Unobligated balances from prior years	— 13,000
GRAND TOTAL, PAC	1,552,528

National Estuarine Research Reserve [NERR] Construction.—The Committee provides \$6,000,000 for NERR Construction to support the infrastructure needs of the NERR system. NOAA shall continue to follow direction provided by the Committee in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6 regarding NERR Construction. The Committee again requests a report, no later than 90 days after enactment of this act, should any new construction projects at NERR sites receive accreditation from a third-party green building rating system.

National Marine Sanctuaries Construction.—The Committee provides \$6,000,000 for PAC needs throughout the sanctuaries system. Within funding provided, the Committee encourages NOAA to prioritize recapitalization of National Marine Sanctuaries vessels.

High Performance Computing.—The Committee recognizes NOAA's high performance computing needs and its current limitations on providing high fidelity results in near real-time. Within funding provided for OAR Research Supercomputing, \$15,000,000 shall be used to continue to develop a dedicated high performance computing facility in collaboration with partners that have existing high performance computing expertise and scientific synergies.

National Weather Service.—The Committee provides the requested amount for National Weather Service Observations to continue the Next Generation Weather Radar and the Automated Surface Observing System Service Life Extension Programs as planned.

Integrated Water Prediction.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level for Central Processing under NWS PAC, which includes not less than \$4,500,000 to pro-

cure operational high performance computing resources to enable modeling improvements associated with the IWP initiative.

Polar Weather Satellites.—The Committee provides \$755,038,000 for Polar Weather Satellites, which is equal to the request. The Committee approves combining the Joint Polar Satellite System and Polar Weather Follow-on [PFO] program offices. However, section 104 of this act maintains language capping the life cycle cost of JPSS to \$11,322,125,000 and the Committee expects NESDIS to maintain the PFO cost and schedule and looks forward to the program re-baselining as part of the Key Decision Point-C review occurring in fiscal year 2020. The Committee also adopts the technical transfer of JPSS-1 operations funding within Polar Weather Satellites from PAC to ORF.

Space Weather Follow-on [SWFO].—The Committee provides \$68,600,000 for Space Weather Follow-on. Within the funding provided above the request, the Committee expects NOAA to maintain its expected SWFO Lagrangian Point-1 mission pace, including signing a contract for the spacecraft no later than quarter four of fiscal year 2020. NOAA shall also begin preparations to integrate a compact coronagraph on GOES-U to ensure continuation of Federal space weather sentinel and forecasting capabilities.

NESDIS Reorganization.—The Committee does not adopt the proposed NESDIS budget and staffing reorganization. However, NESDIS is encouraged to re-submit the proposed staffing reorganization pursuant to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this act. NESDIS's proposed budget restructure will continue to be considered, and NOAA is encouraged to provide the Committee a revised proposal that clearly articulates the benefits of the reorganization and how current levels of program visibility will be maintained. The Committee is concerned that collapsing and combining individual projects, programs, and activities will reduce programmatic visibility and hinder the Committee's oversight capabilities.

System Architecture and Advanced Planning.—The Committee provides no less than \$2,000,000 for Joint Venture Partnerships with NASA and the commercial sector to leverage emerging capabilities for NOAA's operational use. The Committee also provides up to \$10,000,000 for potential flight demonstrations and industry analyses to assess ways to meet NOAA's future observation requirements from geostationary and extended orbits.

Metop-SG.—The Committee provides the requested funding to support Metop-SG within Projects, Planning, and Analysis.

Commercial Weather Data.—The Committee provides \$3,000,000 to support the assessment and potential use of commercial data in NOAA's weather modeling and forecasting through pilot purchases of commercial data.

The Committee also provides \$5,000,000 to initiate commercial purchase of radio occultation [RO] data for operational use. NOAA shall provide the Committee with a cost-benefit analysis of the commercial purchase of RO data 180 days after the obligation of these funds.

NOAA Satellite Reporting.—The Committee directs NOAA to provide quarterly programmatic and procurement status reports of all satellites actively orbiting, in space but in standby mode, and

under development unless any reprogramming, system failure, construction delay, or other extraordinary circumstance warrants an immediate update. As part of the agency's quarterly satellite briefing, NOAA shall include updates on preparations and enhancements necessary to accommodate an increased volume of satellite data and shall compare initial cost estimates to actual expenditures.

Facilities Maintenance.—The Committee provides \$40,000,000 for NOAA's highest priority facilities repair and deferred maintenance requirements. Within provided funds, NOAA shall complete regional facilities plans for the Northeast and Southeast. Thirty days before obligating any additional funds, NOAA shall submit a report detailing how the funds will be expended and an explanation of why these projects were prioritized. The Committee notes that funding may be used for facilities to accommodate the NOAA research vessels *Henry B. Bigelow* and *Fairweather*.

NOAA Alaska Marine Operation Facility.—The Committee is aware that NOAA is currently conducting an analysis of alternatives that is considering homeport options, including multiple locations in Alaska, for the NOAA research vessel *Fairweather*. NOAA is directed to complete this analysis and provide the results to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this act. Furthermore, the Committee encourages NOAA to coordinate with the U.S. Coast Guard to consider cost-share opportunities in the development of shore side infrastructure needed to support the research vessel *Fairweather* in Ketchikan.

Vessel Deferred Maintenance and Technology Infusion.—The Committee has made a concerted effort over the past few fiscal years to help NOAA increase the number of available days at sea on the NOAA fleet by providing sufficient deferred maintenance funding within both ORF and PAC. The Committee expects that NOAA will continue to make progress and implement a progressive maintenance model to avoid future issues. To that end, the funding provided above the request for Fleet Capital Improvements and Technology Infusion shall be for deferred maintenance and technology infusion to transition to a progressive maintenance model.

NOAA Fleet Recapitalization.—The Committee is pleased that NOAA's fiscal year 2020 budget request includes \$75,000,000 for new vessel construction, which follows the Committee's direction and tempo for revitalizing the agency's aging fleet.

Buy American Provisions.—In recognition of the economic and national security importance of the domestic shipbuilding industrial base, the Committee included language in Senate Report 115–275, codified in Public Law 116–6, reminding DOC, NASA, and NSF of the Buy American provisions contained in law that apply to the Department of Defense, which require certain critical shipboard components to be domestically manufactured. The Committee urged these departments and agencies to make every effort to acquire, consistent with schedule and cost competition requirements, only U.S. manufactured components as listed in 10 U.S.C. 2534(a)(3) and (4), and auxiliary equipment (including pumps) for shipboard services, propulsion equipment (including engines, reduction gears, and propellers); shipboard cranes; and spreaders for shipboard cranes. Further, in Senate Report 115–139, codified in

Public Law 115–141, the Committee urged NOAA to make every effort to acquire domestically manufactured components for the vessels in the NOAA Fleet Recapitalization Plan. The Committee reiterates this direction as it relates to fiscal year 2020 and directs the Department to report how this direction was reflected in the ongoing Fleet Recapitalization Plan.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY FUND

Appropriations, 2019	\$65,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	
Committee recommendation	65,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$65,000,000 for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund [PCSRF]. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$65,000,000 above the budget estimate. Funds are for conservation and restoration of Pacific salmon populations. State and local recipients of this funding will provide matching contributions of at least 33 percent of Federal funds. In addition, funds will be available to tribes without a matching requirement.

NOAA is directed to report on how its current priorities meet the intent of the PCSRF to support the recovery and protection of all declining salmon stocks.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

Appropriations, 2019	\$349,000
Budget estimate, 2020	349,000
Committee recommendation	349,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$349,000 for the Fishermen's Contingency Fund. The recommendation is equal to both the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and the President's request.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Appropriations, 2019	–\$8,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	–8,000,000
Committee recommendation	–8,000,000

The Committee recommends that direct loans administered through this account for individual fishing quotas may not exceed \$24,000,000. Traditional direct loans may not exceed \$100,000,000, which is the same as the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and budget request. The Committee encourages NOAA to facilitate new vessel construction, vessel replacement, and upgrades within the Fisheries Finance Program to the greatest extent practicable.

OTHER

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$63,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	79,107,000
Committee recommendation	61,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$61,000,000 for Departmental Management Salaries and Expenses. The recommenda-

tion is \$2,000,000 below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$18,107,000 below the budget request.

Within Departmental Management, the Salaries and Expenses account provides funding for the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and support staff. Responsibilities involve policy development and implementation affecting U.S. and international activities, as well as establishing internal goals for operations of the Department.

Not less than 90 days after enactment of this act, the Department shall submit to the Committee a report detailing actions taken to cut costs and a detailed account of funds saved by such actions across the Department's bureaus.

Responsiveness to Congress.—In fiscal year 2018, the Committee held two hearings with representatives from the Department of Commerce: (1) a hearing to review the Department's fiscal year 2019 budget request, on May 10, 2018; and (2) a hearing to review the fiscal year 2019 budget request for and the activities of BIS and ITA, on September 6, 2018. Following each hearing, the Committee promptly submitted questions for the record [QFRs] to the Department and requested that responses be submitted within 30 days. However, for each hearing the Department exceeded the 30 day response deadline and took 301 days and 249 days, respectively, to submit the answers to the Committee. This is unacceptable. Therefore, the Committee withholds 50 percent of funding for the Office of Policy and Strategic Planning within Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses, until the Department submits responses to the QFRs that were submitted following the hearing to review the Department's fiscal year 2020 budget request, on April 2, 2019.

Working Capital Funds.—For each of the three working capital funds within DOC, the following are to be provided to the Committee and the Office of Inspector General by November 30 of each year: (1) A comparison of the final budget or spending plan at the project or activity level to the actual year-end data as of September 30 of the prior fiscal year, including detailed narratives for variances greater than 5 percent at the project or activity level; (2) the initial budget or spending plan by project or activity for the current fiscal year; and (3) a detailed schedule of fiscal year-end unobligated and carryover balances by source funding category and by expiring budget fiscal year, to include: direct authority, Federal and intragovernmental reimbursable authority by trading partner, non-Federal reimbursable authority, amounts held for future asset replacement, and other categories.

Department of Commerce Working Capital Fund.—The Committee has taken note of the rising operating expenses of the DOC Working Capital Fund and is concerned that these costs are attributable, in part, to the inclusion of Working Capital Fund projects that do not qualify as a "central service". Therefore, as part of the fiscal year 2021 budget request, the Department is directed to provide justification that clearly articulates why each Advancements and Reimbursements account and Working Capital Fund project administered by the Office of Acquisition Management, Office of Budget, Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, and Chief of Staff should continue to be funded through the Working Capital Fund. In fiscal year 2020, the

Department is directed to fund the Office of Scheduling and Advance from funds provided within Departmental Management.

Staffing Levels.—The Committee is concerned that deficient staffing levels and slow hiring rates across DOC are encumbering agency performance. Previous efforts to streamline hiring practices, including adopting a centrally administered shared-services model, have failed to yield the results that were promised to the Committee. The Committee believes that these issues require the attention of the leadership of the Department and a shared commitment with the Bureaus to develop and implement corrective action and monitor progress. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department, in concert with the Bureaus, to develop a renewed human capital strategy that will: (1) reduce bureau vacancy rates to below 10 percent by December 31, 2020; (2) reduce the average time to execute a hiring action to no more than 80 days; and (3) reduce the average duration of time that positions remain vacant before initiating a hiring action to no more than 100 days. Additionally, the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Human Capital Officer of the Department shall provide quarterly briefings to the Committee, beginning no later than January 31, 2020, on all DOC human capital issues, to include: a list of funded vacancies, by bureau, type, and location, including the length of time the positions have been vacant; a plan and explanation for addressing each vacancy, including a target for when the vacancy will be filled; and other relevant topics as appropriate.

Small Business Innovation Research.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Small Business Innovation Research [SBIR] program and its previous accomplishments in facilitating commercial successes from federally funded research and development projects. The SBIR program encourages small domestic businesses to engage in Federal research and development and creates jobs in the smallest firms. The Committee therefore directs the DOC to place an increased focus on awarding SBIR grants to firms with fewer than 50 people.

Cybersecurity.—The Committee remains concerned about the Department's pace of implementation of the Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation [CDM] program. The Department has not yet completed a baseline inventory of all IT assets on its networks as part of Phase 1 of CDM. The Committee directs the Department, within 60 days of enactment of this act, to provide a briefing on the Department's plan for achieving all major milestones for Phases 1 through 3 of CDM.

Rare Earth Elements Manufacturing Cooperative.—The Committee notes the economic and national security risks of China's near monopoly on rare earth minerals. The Committee encourages the Department to study the benefits and feasibility of a privately funded and managed Rare Earth Elements Manufacturing Cooperative based in the United States to minimize Chinese dominance in this critical area.

Section 232 Investigations.—The Committee reminds the Department of the requirement codified in 19 U.S.C. 1862 (b)(3)(B) that any portions of a report resulting from a section 232 investigation, which do not contain classified or proprietary information, shall be published in the Federal Register at the same time in which the

report is transmitted to the President. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to immediately publish the applicable portions of the report resulting from the section 232 investigation into the imports of motor vehicle and automotive parts.

Space Commerce.—The Committee twice invited senior officials from the Department to offer public testimony before the Committee on the proposal to establish an Office of Space Commerce within the Office of the Secretary, among other topics. Unfortunately, both of the individuals refused to testify, and the public testimony that was offered did not quell the concerns of the Committee, specifically regarding the proposed transfer of space traffic management responsibilities from the Department of Defense to the DOC. The value of commercial opportunities in low Earth orbit is increasing, as is the number of objects in orbit around the Earth. Recent near misses highlight the need for reliable, actionable space traffic management information.

In order to accurately assess the feasibility, expected effectiveness, and funding implications of a transfer of space traffic management functions, the Committee directs the Secretary, no later than 60 days after enactment of this act, to enter into a contract with the National Academy of Public Administration [the Academy] to conduct an independent review of the proposal. Specifically, the review should include: (1) an assessment of which department or agency and entity within the department or agency is best suited for responsibility for space traffic management; (2) any statutory, regulatory or licensing authorities necessary to facilitate such a transfer; (3) funding implications, including infrastructure and personnel costs; (4) consultation with appropriate officials from the Departments of Defense, Commerce, and Transportation, NASA, the Director of National Intelligence, other relevant Federal agencies, industry, and other stakeholders; and (5) data integrity, information technology, and national security considerations.

The Academy shall submit the results of the review to the Committee, and all relevant authorizing committees, no later than 1 year after the Department has contracted with the Academy. Within the funds provided, the Committee has included \$1,100,000 to conduct this review. This bill continues to provide sufficient funds to support the Office of Space Commerce, within NOAA NESDIS, and the Committee directs the Department to fully utilize its current offices and authorities to encourage the commercial use of space.

Unobligated Balances.—The Committee remains concerned about the amount of unobligated funding within DOC. As directed in section 507 of this act, the Department is directed to continue reporting all unobligated balances to the Committee on a quarterly basis.

Spending Plans.—Under section 533 of this act, the Department is required to submit a spending plan within 45 days of the enactment of this act. That plan should describe the programs, projects, and activities of the Department so that the Committee receives detailed descriptions of how the Department intends to operationalize the funding provided in annual appropriations bills. The Committee expects to receive a detailed accounting of each bureau's spending, including reimbursable, fee-funded, or working capital fund spending, particularly with regard to specific pro-

grams, projects, and activities described in the bill and accompanying report. The Department shall continue to work with the Committee to ensure that its spending plans provide adequate information for continued oversight of the Department.

Bureau Detailees.—The Committee understands that offices within the Office of the Secretary are supplementing their staffs with detailees that are provided and paid for by the bureaus. The practice of taking employees from the bureaus to staff the Office of the Secretary is concerning, especially when many of the bureaus are struggling to fill vacancies amidst increasing mission requirements. In addition, the Committee has provided the Department with more than adequate funding to support the political and career staffing needs within Departmental Management. Therefore, the bill requires that all compensation and benefits for employees detailed to offices within the Office of the Secretary be paid for with funds provided for Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

Appropriations, 2019	
Budget estimate, 2020	\$1,100,000
Committee recommendation	1,000,000

The Committee recommendation provides \$1,000,000, which is \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$100,000 below the budget request, for continuing renovation activities at the Herbert C. Hoover Building.

Herbert C. Hoover Building [HCHB] Renovation.—In fiscal year 2018, the Committee provided DOC with the full amount required for the fifth phase of the HCHB renovation. However, those funds still remain unobligated while work on phase five has yet to begin, even as phase four of the renovation nears completion. In order to avoid any further delays, the Committee directs the Department to immediately commence work on phase five of the HCHB renovation, focusing on the Secretary of Commerce's office and the HCHB Cafeteria facilities, while also continuing to work with the General Services Administration to secure the additional necessary funding.

BUSINESS APPLICATION SYSTEM MODERNIZATION

Appropriations, 2019	
Budget estimate, 2020	\$22,000,000
Committee recommendation	22,000,000

The Committee recommendation provides \$22,000,000, which is \$22,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request, to commence phase 1 of the financial management and business information technology [IT] modernization. The current Business Applications Solutions system is outdated and expensive to maintain, and the Committee supports the Department's multi-year efforts to update the financial IT infrastructure consistent with the Modernizing Government Technology Act (Public Law 115–91). However, the Committee is concerned about the potential increase of out-year costs and directs that the Department provide a 5-year budget profile, as part of the fiscal year 2021 budget request.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2019	\$32,744,000
Budget estimate, 2020	33,043,000
Committee recommendation	32,744,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$32,744,000 for the Office of Inspector General [OIG]. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$299,000 below the budget request.

In addition to funds provided under this heading, the Committee has recommended transfers to the OIG: \$2,000,000 from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; \$1,302,000 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; \$3,556,000 from the Census Bureau for oversight and audits of those activities; and \$2,000,000 to be derived from the Public Safety Trust Fund for Oversight of First Net. The Committee directs the OIG to perform strict oversight activities for satellite procurements, cybersecurity, the decennial census, and the business application system modernization.

Working Capital Fund Audits.—The Committee continues to direct the OIG to audit all of the working capital funds within the Department to evaluate the Department's budgetary controls over all funds. The OIG shall assess: the controls in place to develop reimbursement formulas; the relationship of reimbursements to client services; the appropriateness of the level of fund balances; and compliance with appropriations law and direction. As part of this assessment, the Inspector General shall pay particular attention to the increasing amounts of funding needed to support the Department's Office of General Counsel, including the justification and metrics for how such funding is being levied against each agency and, reciprocally, how the agencies account for the services they receive from the OIG. If at any point during these audits the OIG encounters problems with accessing any necessary information or data from the Department, the OIG is directed to notify the Committee immediately.

Audits and Investigations.—The Committee believes that robust investigations and audits are essential to rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse, but that limiting inquiries only to individuals in the Department does not necessarily lead to comprehensive findings and recommendations. The Committee directs the OIG to modify its policies and procedures to ensure that investigations or reports include interviews with all parties to the project or program in question, including, but not limited to, contractors responsible for projects under review. The Committee cautions the OIG against issuing preliminary findings prior to interviewing a majority of the entities involved with the program or project under investigation, unless the OIG believes the findings are time sensitive or additional interviews are immaterial.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Section 101 makes Department funds available for advanced payments only upon certification of officials designated by the Secretary that such payments are considered to be in the public interest.

Section 102 makes appropriations for salaries and expenses available for the hire of passenger motor vehicles, and for services, uniforms, and allowances as authorized by law.

Section 103 provides the authority to transfer funds between Department accounts. The provision makes transfers subject to the Committee's standard reprogramming procedures and requires notification to the Committee prior to capital asset disposal.

Section 104 extends congressional notification requirements for the NOAA satellite programs.

Section 105 provides authority for the Secretary to furnish certain services within the Herbert C. Hoover Building.

Section 106 clarifies that grant recipients under the Department may continue to deter child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over their networks.

Section 107 provides NOAA the authority to share resources with entities outside the agency.

Section 108 requires that, before charging for congressional reports, the National Technical Information Service [NTIS] advise the public of free ways to receive or access these reports. For those reports that cannot be found free of charge or when a customer requires a mailed, hard copy, NTIS may only charge a de minimus copying and mailing fee.

Section 109 allows NOAA to be reimbursed by Federal and non-Federal entities for performing certain activities.

The Committee remains concerned that agreements for offsetting collections provided for under this section could result in a conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest, for the Department. The Department is directed to exercise caution and consider any unintended consequences that could result from such agreements including, but not limited to, augmentation of appropriations, initiation of new programs not authorized by this act or any other act of Congress, and liabilities extending beyond the period of any such agreement. The Department shall provide to the Committee monthly updates on all offsetting fee collections, including each entity participating in the agreement, as well as the terms of and specific activities funded by the agreement. Additionally, estimates of anticipated fee collections shall be included in the Department's annual spend plans. To further ensure the Committee maintains sufficient oversight for activities carried out under this section, language is included specifying that any offsetting collection would require the consent of each party subject to the agreement and all offsetting collections shall be subject to procedures set forth by section 505 of this act.

Section 110 provides authority for the programs of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Bureau of the Census to enter into cooperative agreements in order to assist in improving statistical methodology and research.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Committee recommends a total of \$32,446,203,000 for the DOJ. The recommendation is \$1,511,815,000 above the fiscal year 2019 funding level and \$1,834,177,000 above the budget request. The Committee's recommendation emphasizes key priorities regarding funding for the Department's critical ongoing missions and activities to protect the safety, security, and rights of our citizens.

Fighting the Heroin and Opioid Epidemic.—The Committee continues its commitment to helping States and local communities in the fight against heroin and the illegal use of opioids through comprehensive programs covering law enforcement, prevention, and treatment. A total of \$505,000,000 in DOJ grant funding is provided to help State and local partners tackle this epidemic, an increase of \$37,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level, including increased funding for programs covered under the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act and Community Oriented Policing Services [COPS] Anti-Heroin Task Forces. The Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA] is funded at \$2,783,152,000, an increase of \$95,449,000, which will allow for the continuation of heroin enforcement teams as well as other interdiction and intervention efforts, including expansion of DEA's 360 Strategy.

Combating the Continued Methamphetamine Crisis.—The Committee notes that in addition to the heroin and opioid epidemic, many communities and families continue to suffer from a long-standing and reemerging methamphetamine crisis. In many States, particularly in rural areas, methamphetamine-related deaths vastly outnumber those from heroin. The Committee recognizes the strain methamphetamines place on families, communities, rural health providers, and law enforcement agencies, including the disproportionate burden to American Indian tribes. The Committee continues its commitment to fight methamphetamine trafficking and use by providing \$12,000,000 for competitive grants under the COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces program as well as \$10,000,000 provided to DEA to help State and local law enforcement for methamphetamine lab cleanup and container programs. The Committee also notes that the funding provided in COPS for tribal resources can be used for anti-methamphetamine efforts, as well as the funding provided for Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Programs [COSSAP].

Trafficking in Persons.—The Department shall dedicate no less than the fiscal year 2019 levels for the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit [HPTU], the Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI], and the U.S. Attorneys' Offices [USAO] to investigate and prosecute crimes of human trafficking. For fiscal year 2020, the Committee looks forward to reviewing, on an annual basis, the HTPU report

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on human trafficking victims as well as the FBI report on Innocence Lost Operations, as directed by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6. The Committee also expects the designation of a lead agent in each FBI field office as a point of contact for slavery and human trafficking investigations, a point of contact in each USAO who shall serve as the coordinator for all activities within that office concerning human trafficking and forced labor matters, otherwise referred to as the Human Trafficking Justice Coordinator for the district, and an update regarding improved processes that enable survivors with T-visas to obtain an expedited letter of support from the Department when their criminal case is closed, as required by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6. The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committee no later than 120 days following enactment of this act on: (1) the total number of human trafficking cases the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit prosecuted or assisted in prosecuting within the last 3 years disaggregated by type of trafficking, (2) the number of Assistant U.S. Attorneys who received training on human trafficking within the last 3 years, and (3) the number of Assistant U.S. Attorneys who received training on restitution for human trafficking victims within the last 3 years.

Multi-Disciplinary Task Force Addressing Human Trafficking in International Waters.—The Committee remains frustrated that the Department still has not submitted the report on the findings of a multi-disciplinary task force addressing human trafficking to harvest fish in international waters. The final report was due by March 23, 2019, as directed by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6 and is now well overdue. The Committee directs that this report be submitted within 15 days of enactment of this act.

Best Practices in Delivering Justice for Victims of Sex Trafficking.—Section 8 of the Abolish Human Trafficking Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–392) requires the Attorney General to issue guidance to all offices and components of the Department: (1) clarifying that individuals who knowingly solicit or patronize human trafficking victims are guilty of an offense under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000; (2) recommending and implementing best practices for the collection of special assessments under section 3014 of title 18 (including civil liens); and (3) clarifying that commercial exploitation is a form of gender-based violence for the purpose of Department of Justice Programs. By law, this guidance was required to be issued no later than June 21, 2019. The Committee is extremely disappointed that the Department has yet to issue this guidance required under section 8 of Public Law 115–392 and Senate Report 115–275, codified in Public Law 116–6. The Department shall immediately issue this overdue guidance as required by law, and shall notify the Committee when this guidance is disseminated and provide full content.

Domestic Trafficking Victims Fund Special Assessments.—Section 101 of The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–22) mandated the collection of a \$5,000 special assessment from persons convicted of certain Federal offenses related to human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Funds from this special assessment are to be deposited into the Domestic Trafficking Vic-

tims Fund operated by the Department of Justice. The Committee encourages the Attorney General to use funds provided under this bill to ensure that assistant United States attorneys are specifically trained on the mandatory nature and enforcement of this special assessment, including the imposition of liens under 18 U.S.C. 3613, to provide additional funding, resources, and services for the victims of human trafficking and law enforcement officials involved in the elimination of this crime.

Human Trafficking Justice Coordinators.—Section 15 of the Abolish Human Trafficking Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–392) required the Attorney General to designate an official as the Department of Justice Coordinator who shall coordinate human trafficking efforts within the Department within 60 days of enactment of this act. The act also required the Attorney General to designate not less than one assistant United States attorney in each Federal judicial district to serve as the Human Trafficking Justice Coordinator for the district, who shall work with a human-trafficking victim witness specialist and be responsible for implementing the national strategy to combat human trafficking, prosecute human trafficking cases, conduct public outreach and awareness activities, coordinate with victim service providers, and ensure the collection of restitution for victims of human trafficking. The Committee directs the Attorney General to use necessary funds provided for the salaries and expenses of USAO to carry out this provision. The Department shall submit a report to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act regarding its progress in designating Human Trafficking Coordinators, the work being completed in each district, and the work accomplished thus far by the Department Coordinator.

Implementation of the Child Protection Improvements Act.—The Child Protection Improvements Act [CPIA] was included as Division S, Title I of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–141). Under CPIA, the Department was directed to establish a program to provide access to FBI fingerprint based background checks within 1 year of the date of enactment of this act to qualified entities serving vulnerable populations, including children, individuals with disabilities, and the elderly, who wish to use them as part of their background screening processes for those who may come into contact with these populations, including staff and volunteers. This law was necessary as organizations serving these groups do not necessarily have access to FBI checks through their existing state criminal history records systems.

CPIA became law on March 23, 2018, but the Department has failed to implement CPIA. The Committee directs the Department to immediately establish a program in accordance with the law and post its progress on the Department's website so as to not cause further delay in assisting these organizations in keeping individuals safe from harm.

Intellectual Property Rights [IPR] Enforcement.—The Committee expects the Department to continue to make IPR enforcement an investigative and prosecutorial priority. Sophisticated, often transnational, criminal enterprises engage in a range of illegal activity, including identity theft, connected to the theft of copyrighted content. Given the strong links to other illegal activity, the Depart-

ment's IP-dedicated personnel should investigate U.S.-based sites and applications that are engaged in such criminal activity. The FBI shall submit a report to the Committee, not later than 90 days after enactment of this act, detailing the activities of its dedicated agents investigating IPR cases, particularly in the area of creative content theft.

The Committee reminds USAO to remain focused on IPR crimes. Based on a new wave of digital copyright piracy involving devices and software that connect televisions directly to copyright-theft sites, the Committee directs the USAOs to place an emphasis on the investigation and prosecution of criminal enterprises distributing such illicit copyright-theft devices.

Cybersecurity.—The Department has several offices with cybersecurity responsibilities, including those within the FBI, the National Security Division, the Criminal Division [CRM], and USAO. The Committee directs the Department to maintain its cybersecurity posture at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level to defend and respond to current and emerging attacks, including insider threats, that threaten its own infrastructure and activities.

Strengthening Police-Community Relations.—The Committee continues to recognize and support the important need for lasting collaborative relationships between local police and the public and provides \$82,000,000 for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance and COPS Office grant programs related to police community relations. Strong partnerships between the police and the communities they protect reduce crime, ensure that citizens' civil rights are protected, and improve officer safety.

National Incident-Based Reporting Systems [NIBRS] Compliance.—The Committee supports the FBI's June 10, 2016, guidance affirming the Criminal Justice Information Services [CJIS] Advisory Policy Board recommendation that all law enforcement agencies be NIBRS compliant by January 1, 2021. The FBI's NIBRS captures detailed crime incident data, beyond what the Uniform Crime Reporting System currently tracks, such as arrests and officer-involved shootings, which is not only critical in aiding State and local law enforcement agencies as they work to keep our communities safe, but also increases transparency and accountability of law enforcement to the public.

Constitutional Policing.—The Committee directs the Department to enforce constitutional policing statutes, including 34 U.S.C. 12601, which may require the use of consent decrees as necessary, where constitutional policing standards are not being upheld.

Enforcement of Federal Hate Crimes Laws.—The Committee is concerned by a rise in reported incidents of bias-motivated and hate crimes in the United States in the last several years, including attacks on and threats against places of worship. The Committee notes that the FBI's annual report of hate crimes statistics for 2017 detailed a 17 percent increase in bias-motivated crimes from 2016. The Committee also notes that the FBI's report only includes information voluntarily provided to the Bureau, and likely reflects an undercount in the amount of bias-motivated crime.

The Committee appreciates the Department's efforts on addressing community conflict and preventing bias-motivated crime through the work of the Community Relations Service [CRS], as

well as the work of the Civil Rights Division [CRT], U.S. Attorneys across the country, and the FBI's work to enforce the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act. In light of these ongoing trends regarding hate crimes, the Committee directs the Department to continue to prioritize its work to address these crimes, which effect entire communities.

Combating Domestic Terrorism.—The Committee is concerned by the significant threat posed by violent domestic terrorists and extremists and directs FBI and the Department to vigorously investigate and prosecute incidents of domestic terrorism. The Committee directs the Domestic Terrorism Executive Committee to meet on a regular basis and coordinate with United States Attorneys and other key public safety officials across the country to promote information sharing and ensure an effective, responsive, and organized joint effort to combat domestic terrorism. The Committee further directs the Department to review the antiterrorism training and resource programs that the Department provides to Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies, including the State and Local Anti-Terrorism Program, and ensure that such programs include training and resources to assist State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies in understanding, detecting, investigating, deterring, and prosecuting acts of domestic terrorism and violent extremism.

The Committee directs the Department to report to the Committees on Appropriations and Judiciary, within 90 days of enactment of this act, on the Department's assessment of the domestic terrorism threat, including potential infiltration of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and the uniformed services; and an analysis of incidents or attempted incidents of domestic terrorism and extremism that occurred in the United States during the preceding fiscal year. This report should include a break out of the groups and factions deemed to be domestic terrorists and violent extremists, and a corresponding break out of the Department resources used to deter, combat, and prosecute acts of domestic terrorism and extremism.

Addressing Violent Crime.—The Committee supports the Department's ongoing commitment to address violent crime around the country and encourages the Department to continue to devote key law enforcement resources, including Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives [ATF], FBI, DEA, and U.S. Marshals Service [USMS] personnel, to high crime areas, both urban and rural, experiencing ongoing episodes of violent crime.

Human Rights Crimes.—The Committee remains concerned by the large number of suspected serious human rights violators from foreign countries who have found safe haven in the United States and directs CRM and USAO to increase efforts to investigate and prosecute these crimes, including genocide, torture, use or recruitment of child soldiers, war crimes, and other crimes committed by human rights violators. For this purpose, the Committee's recommendation supports continued funding for CRM and USAO to investigate and prosecute these cases.

The Committee is concerned by the low number of investigations and prosecutions of human rights violators and directs the Department to report to the Committees on Appropriations and Judiciary,

within 90 days of enactment of this act, on all related investigations and prosecutions within each of the last five fiscal years, including the efforts of CRM and USAO to increase the number of prosecutions, and any organizational or legal impediments to investigating and prosecuting these cases.

Leveraging Facilities.—The Department’s mission to combat terrorism, both internationally and domestically, has grown exponentially over the past decade and unfortunately continues to rapidly expand. Activities by the Department’s law enforcement components at Redstone Arsenal are paramount to counterterrorism efforts by enabling the analysis and sharing of intelligence related to improvised explosive devices collected around the world; the teaching and certification of all public safety bomb technicians; and the delivery of life-saving advanced explosives and arson training for explosives handlers, bomb technicians, criminal investigators, and military explosives ordnance disposal personnel all across the nation. While the Committee is fully supportive of these efforts, it has repeatedly expressed concerns that the ATF’s National Center for Explosives Training and Research [NCETR] and ATF ranges at the Arsenal are significantly underutilized. This underutilization is especially troubling when other DOJ components have consistently attempted to acquire additional space, including ranges, to accommodate their burgeoning workforce. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to conduct an assessment of the NCETR building and ATF ranges, including a review of space availability and usage as well as efforts undertaken to forge facilities sharing agreements between ATF and other Department components, and submit a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on its findings and future plans to ensure NCETR and the ATF ranges are fully utilized by the Department.

Addressing Violence Against Indigenous Women.—The Committee is concerned with the ongoing crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women, and directs the Department to improve coordination, including data sharing, training and technical assistance, and other relevant resources, with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to better address and prevent violent crime in Indian Country.

Fix NICS.—The Fix NICS Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–141) requires DOJ to develop Federal agency and State implementation plans for the upload of relevant records to National Instant Criminal Background Check System [NICS]. The Committee directs DOJ to use all funds and resources necessary to complete such implementation plans by the deadline required under the Fix NICS Act, not later than March 23, 2020, and directs the Attorney General to make all implementation plan compliance determinations required no later than September 30, 2019, and publish such determinations on its website. The Attorney General shall use all necessary resources available under this bill to comply with the requirements of Section 103(g) of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act.

Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Act.—The Committee fully supports the goals of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–325) to investigate and prosecute previously unresolved civil rights era “cold case” murders suspected of having been racially motivated, through

a partnership among the CRT, the FBI, the CRS, State and local law enforcement officials, and other eligible entities. To continue supporting Emmett Till activities, the Committee urges the Department to use such sums as may be necessary from within the base budget for the CRT's Cold Case Initiative; for the FBI to pursue Emmett Till Act cold cases; and for CRS to partner with law enforcement agencies and communities to help resolve conflicts resulting from the investigation of unsolved civil rights era cases. Additionally, the Committee directs the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the Office for Victims of Crime [OVC] to continue providing grants for cold case DNA investigations to aid State and local law enforcement agencies in their investigation and prosecution of unsolved civil rights cold cases.

Charging Policies for Drug Offenders.—The Committee directs the Department to, within 120 days of enactment, submit a report detailing: (1) how often prosecutors seek to deviate from Departmental policies and how often such requests are granted or denied; (2) the number of drug offenders who are eligible for a mandatory minimum offense, but whose cases are not charged as a mandatory minimum offenses; (3) the number of drug offenders who were eligible for a mandatory minimum recidivist enhancement based on a prior drug conviction/s, but for whom the Government did not charge accordingly; and (4) the number of drug offenders charged with a mandatory minimum, but whose cases were ultimately dismissed by the government before trial or sentencing, including the mandatory minimum drug quantity and type trigger and/or recidivist enhancement.

Working Capital Fund [WCF].—The Committee expects the Department to execute funding to the fullest extent possible without any carryover balances. The Committee directs DOJ to continue to use the WCF only as a repository for reimbursable funds from components and to obligate and execute that funding expeditiously. The DOJ shall provide a report to the Committee within 45 days of enactment of this act regarding balances in the WCF including carryover funds, the intended uses of those funds, and a spending plan. The spending plan shall include: the amount each component contributes to the WCF; a detailed accounting of collections into the WCF from appropriations, reimbursable funds, and alternative sources of funding, including the Three Percent Fund; a list of settlements and collections from the Three Percent Fund in excess of \$3,000,000, and a categorical accounting of obligations out of the WCF including a breakdown of services provided from the Department to each component. The Department is further directed to provide quarterly updates on the WCF to the Committee.

DOJ Three Percent Fund [Fund] Transparency.—Section 11013 of the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act (Public Law 107–273; 116 Stat. 1823; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) permits the Department to credit 3 percent of all amounts collected pursuant to the Department's civil debt collection litigation activities to the Department's WCF. Such collections are deposited into the Fund, and are intended to be separately accounted for and are not to be commingled with other amounts in the WCF. Pursuant to statute, the Fund is to be used: first, for paying the costs of processing and tracking civil and criminal debt-collection

litigation, and thereafter, for financial systems and for debt-collection-related personnel, administrative, and litigation expenses.

The Committee has repeatedly expressed its concerns that the Fund is now supporting initiatives and personnel well beyond its primary purposes of financial systems and debt collection management. In fact, the Committee is aware that in 2016 the Fund was supporting nearly 600 full-time equivalents, of which only 42 had duties related to the Fund's intended purpose. While the statute allows the Fund to support administrative and litigation expenses, the Committee is concerned that the lack of transparency associated with the Fund suggests that the Department may be supplementing funding for programs and initiatives, including funding specifically rejected in annual funding measures.

The Committee has increased reporting requirements to improve transparency and accountability; however, the Department has not been able to provide timely, or sufficient information regarding the use of collections deposited into the Fund. Currently, the Department transfers certain amounts to other components in the Department without notifying Congress. Under section 218 of this bill, the Department is now required to notify the Committee of such transfers pursuant to the requirements of section 505 of this act. The notification process should provide clear and timely insight into the Department's use of the Fund.

The Committee directs the Department to immediately submit the Three Percent Fund Transparency report required in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, which was due on May 16, 2019. The Department is further directed to report monthly on the Fund's collections and credits.

Madoff Victim Fund [MVF].—The Committee understands that the Special Master appointed by the Department is in the process of distributing funds from the \$4,000,000,000 MVF to victims of the Madoff criminal fraud case. The Committee expects the remaining balance in the MVF to be distributed expeditiously, and believes that final resolution of the Fund should be achieved in short order. Therefore, the Committee directs the Special Master to ensure payments are coordinated with the Bankruptcy Trustee so that final payments are made to deserving claimants in a timely manner.

U.S. Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund [USVSSTF].—The Committee is aware that the USVSSTF Special Master appointed by the Department of Justice (subsequently replaced by the Acting Special Master) has awarded two rounds of payments to claimants: \$1,104,450,000 was distributed to first round claimants, and second round payments have been issued since January 2, 2019. As the Acting Special Master makes further distributions to existing and new claimants, the Committee is concerned about the lack of transparency regarding the timing and prioritization of payments, the mechanism for ensuring that the USVSSTF has sufficient funds to make the payments it has awarded, and the means to prevent duplication of payments to claimants who have already recovered funds from other sources.

Therefore, the Committee directs the Acting Special Master to submit an initial report to the Committee not later than 30 days after enactment of this act, with subsequent quarterly reports to follow, on the formulas and/or criteria used to determine payment

amounts and prioritization, current and ongoing efforts to protect against duplicative or excessive payments throughout the process, and expected timelines associated with the completion of second-round payments, the issuance of future payments, and a detailed breakout of the status of payments to claimants to include those who have received payment in the first round and the second round and those who are awaiting payment from the first round and the second round to be described for both existing and new claimants.

Crime Victims Fund Awareness.—The Committee appreciates the Department's efforts to combat and thwart criminal conduct through investigations by its law enforcement components, prosecutions by its litigating components, and rehabilitative efforts in the Bureau of Prisons. Additionally, the Committee supports the OVC for the work it does to provide support and resources to ease victim suffering. The Committee is concerned, however, by the historically low receipts deposited in the CVF, and in turn, the decrease in resources available for OVC's disbursement of CVF funded grants and cooperative agreements.

The Committee does not believe this decrease in deposits is purposeful, but is concerned that the Department's litigating components may not be fully aware of the need for settlements that contemplate victims assistance payments and their corresponding deposit into the CVF. The Department's Justice Manual, and the settlement structure guidance provided therein, does not fully explain the need for or the benefits associated with victim assistance payments for crime victims. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Department to review and revise its on-boarding education materials and practices for new litigating attorneys to ensure a thorough explanation regarding victim assistance payments and their corresponding deposits into the CVF is included. The Committee further directs the Department to develop a plan for the distribution of this same information to litigating attorneys currently working within the Department to ensure they too are aware of this critical need. The Department shall report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this act on its efforts to increase Departmental awareness regarding its whole of justice approach for crime victims.

Cell-Site Simulator [CSS] Technology.—Funds provided in this bill shall be used only to deploy or facilitate the use of CSS technology for criminal investigations if such use complies fully with DOJ's guidance issued on September 3, 2015. The Department shall ensure that this guidance is followed strictly by Federal, State, and local entities that receive funding under this act, to include compliance with requirements of the Fourth Amendment and the Pen Register Act. As directed in the guidance, CSS technology must be configured only as pen registers and may not be used to collect content of any communication or subscriber account information. In addition, the departmental guidance requires comprehensive and consistent training on the appropriate use of CSS technology; adopting rigorous practices for handling and retaining data acquired through the use of this technology; and scrupulously auditing the use of such technology. The Committee awaits the Department's report, as specifically outlined in Senate Report 115—

275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, on DOJ’s use of CSS technology and its compliance with the guidance.

Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems Technology.—Title VI, Division H of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–254) provided authority to the Department to mitigate the threat of UAS when it poses a security risk to high-value, high-profile events or facilities, including Federal prisons. The Committee supports the use of counter-UAS technology by the Department’s law enforcement components, including the FBI, USMS, and Bureau of Prisons [BOP], to ensure both officer and public safety. The Department is directed to report on the current and future planned use of counter UAS technology by its law enforcement components, to include anticipated resource and training needs and newly established internal policies or guidelines to ensure all legal requirements are met, within 90 days of enactment of this act.

Business Email Compromise [BEC] Schemes.—The Committee recognizes the Department’s recent coordinated Federal efforts to disrupt BEC schemes that intend to intercept and hijack wire transfers from businesses and individuals, and applauds the concerted effort behind the Department’s recent announcement of arresting 281 individuals both in the U.S. and internationally for their participation in these criminal acts. The Committee is pleased to see the Department is working with its Federal counterparts to combat this new type of financial fraud, including the rising problem of wire fraud in real estate transactions and other types of cyber-enabled financial crime, but it believes more can be done to raise public awareness regarding these fraudulent efforts. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to provide a report to the Committee, within 120 days of enactment of this act, detailing ongoing activities to both combat and raise awareness of BEC schemes, including wire fraud in real estate and other types of cyber-enabled crime. This report should detail the roles and responsibilities of the Department’s Federal partners in this space and should provide programmatic recommendations to Congress as well as any resource needs associated with combatting BEC schemes.

Financial Fraud.—The Committee recognizes that older Americans are increasingly targeted by criminals seeking to swindle them out of their hard-earned life savings through an ever-growing array of financial schemes and scams. In March 2019, the Department executed its largest-ever coordinated sweep of senior fraud cases. The Committee commends the Department’s work to combat these crimes in recent years and directs the Attorney General to continue to prioritize resources at the Department to ensure that reports of financial fraud, including scams against senior citizens, are thoroughly investigated, with the goal of bringing the perpetrators of these crimes to justice.

Robocall Forfeiture Orders.—The Committee is concerned that since 2015, the Federal government has only collected \$6,790 of the more than \$208,000,000 in fines imposed by the Federal Communications Commission for violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 102–243). The Committee recognizes that fines serve as a meaningful tool to penalize bad conduct and deter future misconduct. Given that there were more than 26.3 billion robocalls made to U.S. mobile phones in 2018, and under-

standing that the Department has the authority to collect unpaid penalties, the Committee directs the Attorney General to prioritize resources toward enforcing FCC forfeiture orders and unpaid penalties imposed by the FCC against illegal robocallers.

Animal Fighting.—Animal fighting is a crime that causes undue suffering to animals and is frequently linked to violent criminal gangs and drug trafficking. The Environment and Natural Resources Division [ENRD] has responsibility within the Department for coordinating enforcement efforts among the Department's litigating components, to include USAO, under Federal animal protection laws, including enforcement of animal fighting statutes 7 U.S.C. 2156 and 18 U.S.C. 49. Case development and prosecutions are then handled by both ENRD's Environmental Crimes Section and other litigating components, based on referrals from the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Office of the Inspector General, the FBI, and other agencies. The Committee notes its prior support for this effort as described in Senate Report 114–239 and codified in Public Law 115–31, and emphasizes that it shall be a priority of the Department to investigate and prosecute violations of animal welfare laws.

Digital Accountability and Transparency Act Reporting.—The Committee expects agencies to prioritize the submission of timely, accurate, quality, and complete financial and award information under existing U.S. Treasury reporting obligations in accordance with established management guidance, reporting processes, and data standards established under the requirements of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (Public Law 113–101).

Spending Plan.—In compliance with section 532 of this act, the Committee directs the Department to submit a spending plan, signed by the Attorney General, within 45 days of enactment of this act.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$113,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	114,740,000
Committee recommendation	114,740,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$114,740,000 for General Administration salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$1,740,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

The General Administration account provides funding for senior policy officials responsible for departmental management and policy development. The specific offices funded by this account include: the immediate Office of the Attorney General [OAG]; the immediate Office of the Deputy Attorney General [ODAG]; the immediate Office of the Associate Attorney General; Office of Legal Policy; Office of Public Affairs; Office of Legislative Affairs [OLA]; Office of Professional Responsibility; Office of Intergovernmental and Public Liaison; and the Justice Management Division [JMD].

Timely Responses to Committee Inquiries.—While the Committee primarily communicates with the Department through JMD, it reserves the right to call upon any individual or organization within

its jurisdiction for requests for information. The Committee has both budgetary and oversight capabilities, and requests for additional information from the Chairmen, Vice Chairmen, or Ranking Members or their Committee staff to OAG, ODAG, OLA, and any other Department component should be treated as a priority for the Department and responded to both courteously and expeditiously.

The Committee is frustrated that the Department is late again in responding to its Questions for the Record [QFRs] from its fiscal year 2020 Budget Hearings. As of September 16, 2019, the Department is 72 days late in responding to the Committee's QFRs for both its Department and FBI Budget Hearings. Last year, the Department was 244 days late in responding to the Committee's QFRs for the Department's Budget Hearing and 267 days late responding to the Committee's QFRs for the FBI's Budget Hearing. The trend of responding past Committee deadlines is unacceptable, and the Committee withholds \$5,000,000 from the Department's General Administration appropriation until the Department's responses to the Committee's QFRs for both of these hearings are received.

Wildlife Trafficking.—The Committee continues to note the dramatic and disconcerting increase of criminal activity involving wildlife that includes the illegal trade in rhinoceros horns and elephant ivory, poaching of wild animals for their parts, illegal capture and transport of endangered animals, and illegally harvested timber, as well as money laundering that comes with these products' sale on the black market. There are indisputable linkages between these activities and the financing of armed insurgencies and transnational organized crime that threatens the stability and development of African countries and poses a serious threat to U.S. security interests.

The Committee awaits the report as specifically outlined in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, and directs the Attorney General to continue to submit an annual report on the specific steps the Department is taking to further address wildlife trafficking and the illegal natural resources trade.

The Committee further directs the Department to provide dedicated resources for investigating and prosecuting wildlife trafficking crimes and include this information in the report described above.

Personnel Detailed to INTERPOL Lyon.—The Committee understands that Department personnel, including those from CRM and USAO, have been, and are currently, detailed to INTERPOL Lyon. The Committee supports these efforts and directs the Department to maintain, and where possible, expand their ability to detail employees to INTERPOL Lyon as its efforts are critical to international collaboration and information sharing.

National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction.—The Department was required to initially submit a report on its National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction to Congress not later than 1 year after October 13, 2008, and on February 1 of every second year thereafter as part of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401). The Committee is deeply troubled that the last submission of this report to Congress was made in April 2016, meaning that there has

been a lapse of Departmental strategy since the last submission and as 2020 approaches, soon to be a lapse of two submissions. As described in 34 U.S.C. 21111(d), the National Coordinator for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction is responsible for the coordination and timely submission of this critically important strategy.

The Department is directed to submit within 30 days of enactment a National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction to the Committee and all other relevant Committees. This strategy must include the input of Federal agencies that investigate and prosecute crimes of child exploitation, including the Department's law enforcement components like the FBI and USMS as well as the USAO and CRM's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, and must also include all materials and content required under 34 U.S.C. 21111(c) covering all forms of child exploitation, not just crimes with an online nexus.

Public Charge Reporting.—The Committee directed the Department to publicly report on the status of implementing the April 11, 2017, memorandum to Federal prosecutors from the Attorney General, including each USAO District's designated Border Security Coordinator, and the number of Federal criminal prosecutions in the previous and current fiscal year for charges under 8 U.S.C. 1324, 1325, and 1326, disaggregated by charge, District, and month as outlined in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6. This data has still not been published, and the Committee expects the Department to immediately publish this information on the USAO's website and update this information on an annual basis.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$32,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	33,875,000
Committee recommendation	33,875,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$33,875,000 for Justice Information Sharing Technology. The recommendation is \$1,875,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$563,407,000
Budget estimate, 2020	672,966,000
Committee recommendation	672,966,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$672,966,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review [EOIR], of which \$4,000,000 is a transfer from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Immigration Examinations Fee account. The recommendation is \$109,559,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request. This account funds EOIR, including the Board of Immigration Appeals, immigration judges, and administrative law judges who decide through administrative hearings

whether to admit or exclude aliens seeking to enter the country and whether to deport or adjust the status of aliens whose status has been challenged.

EOIR Immigration Judge Hiring and Financial Accountability.—The Committee remains concerned that EOIR’s immigration court caseload continues to escalate, adding to the growing backlog of cases, which totaled 964,811 at the end of August 2019. However, the Committee believes that providing more Immigration Judges [IJs] alone is not enough to solve the backlog problem. The budget request purports to include funding for 100 IJs and their legal and support staff [IJ Teams] stating that each team and its associated expenses cost roughly \$1,500,000. The total cost should therefore be roughly \$150,000,000, but the funding requested for these 100 new IJ Teams is less than half of the total associated costs (\$71,147,000). Moreover, the Committee has repeatedly asked EOIR to provide a detailed cost break out of an IJ Team cost, but as of September 19, 2019, has not received an answer.

The Committee is alarmed that EOIR cannot answer simple budgetary questions to support the estimated costs for its IJ Team cost model, and therefore directs the Department to submit an IJ Team cost break out, which should include salary, position, interpretation contract costs, and rent and facility costs, in its monthly hiring reports to the Committee. There should be a standardized baseline for what constitutes an IJ Team cost and when there are deviations from this baseline, EOIR shall include this in its monthly report by court location. The Committee is aware the OIG is auditing EOIR’s financial management practices, and will review the IG’s report closely upon its conclusion.

The Committee believes that consistent policies regarding docket management and case adjudication will also allow IJs to reduce the impending backlog. The Committee directs EOIR to make its hiring processes for new immigration judges publically available within 60 days of enactment and update its website within 30 days if any of the immigration judge hiring process or rules change. The Committee withholds \$2,000,000 from EOIR’s appropriation until the agency has met these requirements.

As directed in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, EOIR shall continue to submit monthly performance and operating reports detailing the backlog of cases and the hiring of new IJ teams. These reports shall now include the cost break outs for IJ teams. The Committee directs the Department to continue filling vacant IJ positions with highly qualified individuals from a diverse pool of candidates, including those with non-governmental, private bar experience, to conduct fair, impartial hearings consistent with due process.

As part of the monthly reporting requirement, EOIR shall continue to report on any IJs sent on a temporary basis to any court outside of their assigned location including the number of days designated for the temporary assignment, the location of the temporary assignment, and the IJs home location.

Interpretation Transparency.—The Committee recognizes that increasing numbers of respondents in immigration court proceedings require the use of interpretation services, and understands that EOIR continues to struggle to obtain a sufficient number of inter-

preters, including for rare languages such as indigenous dialects. The Committee directs EOIR to submit a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment outlining how EOIR intends to ensure appropriate language access will be available for all respondents, including indigenous language speakers, noting any special resource needs as well as identifying any possible opportunities for sharing of interpreter resources with other Federal agencies. Also within 90 days of enactment and quarterly thereafter, the Committee directs EOIR to report the number of continuances or adjournments issued for reasons related to interpretation issues for both in-person appearance and videoteleconferencing [VTC], as well as whether the respondent was detained at the time of the continuance.

The Committee is also concerned with the ballooning costs associated with EOIR's interpreter contract. According to the EOIR Director, "[i]n fiscal year 2017, interpreter costs were approximately \$17,000,000. In fiscal year 2018, they increased to almost \$60,000,000, and in fiscal year 2019, they are expected to approach \$110,000,000. On a per-IJ basis, this translates to a cost increase from roughly \$50,000 per immigration judge in fiscal year 2017 to nearly \$225,000 per immigration judge this fiscal year." EOIR has also told the Committee that at one point it anticipated interpreter costs to be \$170,000,000. While this type of severe cost fluctuation should be avoided, this is an issue that should be anticipated and accounted for at the time a contract is awarded.

Financial Management.—Due to the Committee's financial concerns regarding IJ team costs, interpreter contract costs, and EOIR's inability to answer simple budgetary and oversight questions, the Committee directs the Department to take a more active role in overseeing EOIR's financial management. These efforts should include apportionment and allotment restrictions and stringent oversight from JMD regarding EOIR's financial executions.

EOIR Technology Improvements.—The Committee continues to support EOIR's efforts to update its technology systems, including the creation of a new case management system. The Committee expects EOIR to expedite efforts to implement this system so that temporarily reassigned IJs can better maintain their home court caseloads while on assignment. Finally, the Committee is discouraged that EOIR has not complied with the direction included in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, regarding the development of a strategy for uploading existing case files into this new case management system so that the current cases benefit from the technological efficiencies provided by an electronic case management system. The Committee believes this plan is necessary to enable further reductions in the Immigration Court backlog. EOIR is directed to immediately submit this report to the Committee, and an additional \$2,000,000 is withheld from the EOIR appropriation until it has been received.

VTC Data and Reporting.—The Committee directs EOIR to collect real-time data indicating each time a master calendar or individual merits hearing is conducted via VTC to allow for better statistical data collection to help determine whether VTC has an outcome determinative impact. This information is to be provided in the quarterly reports submitted to the Committee and should in-

clude the number and type of hearings conducted by VTC, including data on appeals cases related to the use of VTC, and the number of in-person hearing motions filed. The Committee further directs EOIR to make all policies and procedures related to EOIR's use of VTC, including EOIR's immigration adjudication centers, publicly available on its website.

Legal Orientation Program [LOP].—The Committee supports LOP, which was created in 2003 and currently informs more than 50,000 detained non-citizens per year about their legal rights and responsibilities in immigration court. The Committee emphasizes that LOP benefits taxpayers by increasing the efficiency of immigration proceedings and reducing costs related to immigration detention. According to a 2012 Department of Justice report to this Committee, LOP services resulted in net savings to the Government of more than \$17,800,000.

The Committee's recommendation includes no less than \$15,000,000 for services provided by LOP. This includes funding for LOP, the Immigration Help Desk, LOP for Custodians [LOPC], and the LOPC Call Center, including efforts, pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–457), for custodians of unaccompanied, undocumented children to address the custodian's responsibility for the child's appearance at all immigration proceedings, and to protect the child from mistreatment, exploitation, and trafficking. The Committee directs the Department to continue LOP without interruption, including during any review of the program.

The Committee directs that attention be paid to geographic equity as LOP expands, and the Committee notes the particular need for legal services at more remote immigration detention sites that are far from legal service providers in urban centers. The Committee directs the Department to utilize all appropriated funds solely for legitimate program purposes.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2019	\$101,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	101,646,000
Committee recommendation	105,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$105,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General. The recommendation is \$4,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$3,354,000 above the budget request.

This account finances the activities of the OIG, including audits, inspections, investigations, and other reviews of programs and operations of the Department to promote efficiency and effectiveness, and to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse, as well as violations of ethical standards arising from the conduct of Department employees in their numerous and diverse activities.

Oversight of Crime Victims Fund Grants.—Section 510 of this act maintains \$10,000,000 for the OIG to continue its expanded audits of the CVF including funding set aside for Indian tribes. The Committee remains concerned that the Department is not doing enough to proportionately adjust its grant monitoring activities to reflect significant changes in CVF spending in order to avoid waste, fraud, and abuse. The Committee directs the OIG to continue its audits

of CVF awards and assist the Department to ensure these important funds are used appropriately and effectively.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$13,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	13,308,000
Committee recommendation	13,308,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$13,308,000 for the United States Parole Commission. The recommendation is \$308,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

Appropriations, 2019	\$904,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	927,453,000
Committee recommendation	924,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$924,000,000 for General Legal Activities salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$20,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$3,453,000 below the budget request.

This amount funds the establishment of litigation policy, conduct of litigation, and various other legal responsibilities through the Office of the Solicitor General, the Tax Division, the CRM, the Civil Division, the Environmental and Natural Resources Division, the CRT, the Office of Legal Counsel, and INTERPOL Washington.

Adjustments to Base.—The increased funding provided to the legal components shall be used to cover the requested ATB costs. ATBs include increases to employees' pay and benefits to cover the annual Federal pay raise as well as increased healthcare and retirement costs and changes in agency costs for rent and facilities.

INTERPOL Washington.—From within the funds provided for General Legal Activities, the Committee directs the Department to provide no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for INTERPOL Washington. The Committee has provided no-year authority in the amount of \$685,000 to ensure sufficient resources are available for INTERPOL Washington's dues payments and help the Department better manage fluctuations in currency exchange rates. INTERPOL Washington's command center operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, responding to requests for international criminal investigative and humanitarian assistance from more than 18,000 U.S. law enforcement agencies and their counterparts in 189 other INTERPOL-member countries. INTERPOL Washington's responsibility to respond to increasing foreign and domestic requests places additional operational demands on the resources of this organization.

Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty Reform.—Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty [MLAT] requests are the formal mechanism in which countries request assistance in obtaining evidence located in a foreign country for criminal investigations and proceedings located in another country. The Committee supports \$195,982,000 for CRM to

provide sustainability to the MLAT reform process and support the Office of International Affairs [OIA] and has increased funding in this account for this purpose. This funding is critical to avoid further backlogs in the critical support provided by OIA to protect the United States and support USAO, as well as our State and local law enforcement partners.

Civil Rights.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to continue its efforts to enforce civil rights laws; expand its capacity to prosecute and provide litigation support for human trafficking, hate crimes, and unsolved civil rights era crimes; carry out its responsibilities associated with the civil rights of institutionalized persons and the access rights of the disabled; investigate and prosecute police misconduct; and enhance the enforcement of fair housing and fair lending laws.

Civil Rights Violations in State and Local Prisons and Jails.—The Committee continues to be concerned by reports of civil rights violations in State and local prisons and jails, and directs the CRT to increase efforts to investigate and address violations of the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act in State and local prisons and jails. The Committee directs the CRT to use such sums as necessary from amounts appropriated in fiscal year 2020 to address such issues in State and local prisons and jails.

Enforcement of Federal Hate Crime Laws.—The Committee is concerned by reports of increased incidents of bias-motivated crimes and directs CRT to aggressively prosecute hate crimes and work with the FBI, U.S. Attorneys, and the CRS to improve hate crime reporting and prevent hate crimes from taking place in the first instance.

Protecting the Rights of Servicemembers and Veterans.—The Committee recognizes the importance of ensuring that servicemembers and veterans have access to essential legal resources to educate themselves and their families on their rights and enable them to defend themselves during times of need. The Committee supports funding this program at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level to continue to enforce existing law, such as the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (Public Law 103–353), and to provide outreach and training efforts on behalf of servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

International Training.—The Committee remains concerned about the budget and staffing challenges faced by the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training [OPDAT] and International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program [ICITAP] programs under the current funding structure provided via the Department of State. While the Committee encourages the Department of Justice to maintain open communications with the Department of State regarding programmatic and resource needs to truly execute their missions, OPDAT and ICITAP should ideally receive a transfer of funds from State within 90 days of enactment of this act. Should an immediate source of funding be needed ahead of a completed transfer of funds, the Committee recommends that the Department of Justice notify the Committee immediately.

THE NATIONAL CHILDHOOD VACCINE INJURY ACT

Appropriations, 2019	\$10,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	13,000,000
Committee recommendation	13,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides a reimbursement of \$13,000,000 for legal costs. The recommendation is \$3,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

This account covers the Department's expenses associated with litigating cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-660).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

Appropriations, 2019	\$164,977,000
Budget estimate, 2020	166,755,000
Committee recommendation	166,755,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$166,755,000 for the Antitrust Division. The recommendation is \$1,778,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request. This appropriation is offset by \$141,000,000 in pre-merger filing fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of \$25,755,000.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$2,212,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	2,254,541,000
Committee recommendation	2,278,360,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$2,278,360,000 for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the 94 USAOs. The recommendation is \$66,360,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$23,819,000 above the budget request.

As in past years, the Committee directs the United States Attorneys to focus their efforts on those crimes where the unique resources, expertise, or jurisdiction of the Federal Government can be most effective.

Adam Walsh Act Implementation.—The Committee expects USAO to continue to focus on investigations and prosecutions related to the sexual exploitation of children, as authorized by the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248), and as part of Project Safe Childhood. The recommendation fully funds the budget request of \$48,431,000 for this purpose in fiscal year 2020.

Combating Financial and Mortgage Fraud.—The Committee directs USAO to prioritize resources and provide no less than the fiscal year 2019 level to conduct criminal investigations and prosecutions of mortgage and financial fraud, including financial fraud against seniors; predatory lending; and market manipulation matters to ensure that reports of financial fraud are thoroughly addressed and the perpetrators of these crimes are brought to justice.

Civil Rights Prosecutions.—The Committee's recommendation provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for continued civil

rights enforcement that will advance both criminal and civil litigation, including the prosecution of sex and labor trafficking.

Cybercrime.—As national and international cyber threats become increasingly sophisticated, our Federal prosecutors must become better versed in digital forensic evidence. The Committee's recommendation fully funds the budget request of \$62,858,000 for cybercrime activities. The USAO will be able to increase the number of investigations and prosecutions of cyber attacks and cyber intrusions, and provide the high-caliber level of training on cybercrime and digital evidence needed for Assistant U.S. Attorneys to be able to analyze and present digital evidence across all types of criminal cases.

The Committee does not support proposed funding cuts for Intellectual Property and Child Pornography activities, and instead directs USAO to provide no less than the fiscal year 2019 funding level for prosecution of these cyber-related crimes.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

Appropriations, 2019	\$226,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	227,229,000
Committee recommendation	227,229,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$227,229,000 for the United States Trustee System Fund. The recommendation is \$1,229,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request. The appropriation is offset by \$309,000,000 in fee collections.

The United States Trustee Program, authorized by 28 U.S.C. 581 et seq., is the component of the Department with responsibility for protecting the integrity of the bankruptcy system by overseeing case administration and litigation to enforce the bankruptcy laws.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

Appropriations, 2019	\$2,409,000
Budget estimate, 2020	2,335,000
Committee recommendation	2,335,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$2,335,000 for the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission. The recommendation is \$74,000 less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission settles claims of American citizens arising from nationalization, expropriation, or other takings of their properties and interests by foreign governments.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$270,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	270,000,000
Committee recommendation	270,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$270,000,000 for fees and expenses of witnesses. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

This appropriation, which is considered mandatory for scorekeeping purposes, provides for fees and expenses of witnesses

who appear on behalf of the Government in cases in which the United States is a party, including fact and expert witnesses. These funds are also used for mental competency examinations and witness and informant protection. The Committee includes bill language prohibiting the Department from transferring funds out of this account.

The Committee expects that no funds will be expended for expert witness services, including the payment of fees and expenses of expert witnesses, from any other DOJ accounts but Fees and Expenses of Witnesses.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$15,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	
Committee recommendation	16,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$16,000,000 for the CRS. The recommendation is \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$16,000,000 above the budget request.

The CRS, established by Title X of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, provides assistance to communities and persons in the prevention and resolution of disagreements arising from discriminatory practices.

Hate Crimes Prevention.—Within funds provided, the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level to handle the workload and responsibilities stemming from passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act [HCPA] (Public Law 111–84). The HCPA expanded the CRS's mandate, requiring that it help communities prevent and respond to violent hate crimes committed on the basis of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability, in addition to race, color, and national origin. This funding will maximize the CRS crisis response nationwide and enable CRS to fulfill both its original mandate and expanded mandate under the HCPA.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

Appropriations, 2019	\$20,514,000
Budget estimate, 2020	20,514,000
Committee recommendation	20,514,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$20,514,000 for the Assets Forfeiture Fund [AFF]. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

Appropriations, 2019	\$2,925,397,000
Budget estimate, 2020	3,255,848,000
Committee recommendation	3,294,461,000

The Committee's recommendation provides a total of \$3,294,461,000 for the USMS. The recommendation is \$369,064,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and is \$38,613,000 above the budget request.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$1,358,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,373,416,000
Committee recommendation	1,410,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$1,410,000,000 for USMS salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$52,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$36,584,000 above the budget request. The core missions of USMS include the apprehension of fugitives; protection of the Federal judiciary and witnesses; execution of warrants and court orders; and the custody and transportation of unsentenced prisoners. The Committee's recommended funding level shall also provide for workforce transformation efforts that will ensure the USMS builds the most flexible, efficient workforce.

In addition to receiving direct appropriations, the Committee is aware that USMS also receives funding from the Department's AFF to augment salaries and expenses that are intended to directly administer AFF-related activities like the management and sale of forfeited assets. The Committee directs the Department to continue to provide quarterly reports on the USMS's use of AFF funding, as directed in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6.

Investigative Operations.—The Committee directs USMS to provide no less than the fiscal year 2019 levels to maintain its missions regarding gang enforcement, International Megan's Law, and sex offender apprehension. Per Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, the Committee expects USMS to continue the process to establish an additional Regional Fugitive Task Force [RFTF], with a report to be submitted within 90 days of enactment of this act on the status of the new RFTF including staffing, operational space and agreements, equipment, and expected future resource needs.

Fugitive Sex Offender Apprehension.—The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 [AWA] (Public Law 109–248) provided the USMS the authority to apprehend convicted sex offenders who fail to register as fugitives. The AWA also directs the USMS to assist jurisdictions in locating and apprehending these individuals. The Committee directs the USMS continue AWA enforcement efforts at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level of \$63,264,000.

International Operations.—The Committee reminds USMS to continue to submit the report requested in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6 on its extradition program, detailing its international operations workload. The report should include the number of extraditions and deportations, district cooperation, and extradition requests made by foreign counterparts in a timely manner. Given that transnational criminal organizations and fugitives know no geographical bounds, the Committee expresses support for increased USMS capabilities in Mexico and an increased presence in South America.

Tactical Canine [K-9] Teams.—The USMS has used, and continues to use, State and local K-9 teams in support of fugitive apprehension missions, but this partnership has limitations due to the accessibility and availability of State and local task force part-

ners' K-9 assets, individual agency tactical procedures, and possible differences in operational requirements. The Committee believes a well-trained and certified tactical K-9 team would assist USMS operations in tracking, locating, and detaining suspects before they can cause harm to the general public and law enforcement personnel. The Committee supports USMS's development of a tactical K-9 program tailored to USMS missions, policies, and procedures to be integrated into USMS RFTF operations.

The USMS is directed to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act, submitting a detailed plan describing the initial and out-year costs and other associated resource needs, including space requirements, outfitting needs, and training needs to move forward with adding Tactical K-9 teams to RFTF operations.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriations, 2019	\$15,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	14,971,000
Committee recommendation	17,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$17,000,000 for construction in space controlled, occupied, or utilized by the USMS in Federal courthouses and buildings, including but not limited to the creation, renovation, and expansion of prisoner movement areas, elevators, and other law enforcement and court security support space. The recommendation is \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$2,029,000 above the budget request.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

Appropriations, 2019	\$1,552,397,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,867,461,000
Committee recommendation	1,867,461,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$1,867,461,000 for Federal Prisoner Detention. The recommendation is \$315,064,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

The Committee expects USMS to anticipate the true funding needs for this account in order to avoid funding shortfalls and the need for emergency reprogrammings to avert deficiencies. The Committee directs USMS to report to the Committee on a quarterly basis the current number of individuals in the detention system, the projected number of individuals, and the associated annualized costs.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$101,369,000
Budget estimate, 2020	109,585,000
Committee recommendation	110,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$110,000,000 for the National Security Division [NSD]. The recommendation is \$8,631,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$415,000 above the budget request.

The NSD coordinates the Department's national security and counterterrorism missions through law enforcement investigations and prosecutions, and handles counterespionage cases. The NSD works in coordination with the FBI, the Intelligence Community, and USAO. Its primary function is to prevent acts of terrorism and espionage from being perpetrated in the United States by foreign powers.

Foreign Agents Registration Act [FARA].—The Committee recognizes the importance of NSD's enforcement of FARA (Public Law 75–583) in order to increase transparency and accountability across the Federal Government by ensuring that persons acting on behalf of a foreign government disclose that relationship.

FARA and Implementation of OIG Recommendations.—The OIG's September 2016 report, Audit of the National Security Division's Enforcement and Administration of the Foreign Agents Registration Act (Audit Division 16–24), examined a series of critical issues regarding the FARA process and made several recommendations. Within 90 days of enactment of this act, the Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committee on its status of implementing these recommendations, including target dates for completion per recommendation; the Department's comprehensive strategy for the enforcement and administration of FARA; steps necessary to require all filings by foreign agents to be made in an electronic, structured data format where the information can be published in a machine-processable digital format available to the public; and an assessment of the FARA fee structure, including a determination of the efficacy of an improved fee structure.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

Appropriations, 2019	\$560,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	550,458,000
Committee recommendation	550,458,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$550,458,000 for Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement. The recommendation is \$9,542,000 below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

The Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement account funds the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Forces [OCDETF]. The mission of the OCDETF is to ensure a coordinated, multi-agency, intelligence-based, and prosecutor-led approach to identifying, disrupting, and dismantling those drug trafficking and money laundering organizations primarily responsible for the Nation's illicit drug supply and drug-related violence.

International Drug Enforcement.—OCDETF is urged to continue to coordinate with the DEA and other Federal and international law enforcement partners to play a role in the interception and disruption of foreign drug shipments, as directed by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$9,192,137,000
Budget estimate, 2020	9,257,427,000
Committee recommendation	9,467,902,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$9,467,902,000 for the FBI salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$275,765,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$210,475,000 above the budget request.

Criminal Justice Information Services.—The Committee recommends the full funding request for CJIS, including fee collections. The recommendation provides \$131,000,000 for the FBI to continue improvements to NICS to increase the capacity and efficiency of the existing NICS system to perform background checks on prospective firearms buyers. This amount is \$24,967,000 above the enacted level and \$16,305,000 above the budget request. The Committee's recommendation does not support the full request to rescind funds from the CJIS fee collections and instead directs the FBI to invest an appropriate amount of the fee collections into making necessary upgrades to CJIS's systems.

National Threat Operations Center [NTOC] Improvements.—The Committee continues to be concerned about the handling of information received through the FBI's newly established NTOC, formally known as the Public Access Line. In order to ensure that information received through these channels is evaluated and processed expeditiously and effectively, the Committee directs the FBI to use up to \$15,000,000 in fees collected for the automation of criminal justice information services to develop and implement technologies that will better facilitate the rapid dissemination of information to FBI Field Offices, along with their State, local, tribal, and other Federal partners.

Cybersecurity.—The FBI remains the only agency with the statutory authority, expertise, and ability to combine counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and criminal investigatory resources to neutralize, mitigate, and disrupt illegal domestic computer-supported operations. The Committee supports the requested adjustments-to-base and programmatic increases for cybersecurity activities throughout the FBI.

Terrorist Explosive Device Analytical Center [TEDAC].—The Committee's recommendation provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 level for full operational funding to TEDAC and the additional operational support associated with the TEDAC campus in fiscal year 2020, which will continue to strengthen the role of TEDAC as the U.S. Government's strategic-level improvised explosive device exploitation center and provide the resources necessary to fully staff the facility. The Committee applauds TEDAC on its accreditation by the American National Standards Institute—American Society for Quality [ANSI-ASQ] National Accreditation Board which further cements the laboratory's role in performing forensic and technical exploitation of terrorist IED's and explosions, both nationally and internationally.

Hazardous Devices School [HDS] and International Advanced Canine Technology Center.—The Committee recognizes HDS's sta-

tus as both the sole certification authority of civilian State, local, and Federal bomb technicians and the sole accrediting authority of civilian State, local, and Federal bomb squads intending to utilize any manner of render safe or device defeat within the United States and its territories. The Committee supports the FBI Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate's efforts at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level, to more efficiently and effectively disseminate critical threat information to the explosives detection canine community and, in conjunction with Government and academic partners, support this national security program.

Enhancements at TEDAC and HDS.—The Committee supports the recent enhancements at TEDAC and HDS, including additional advanced render safe techniques courses for public safety bomb technicians. The Committee supports the FBI's request for enhanced render safe resources, and understands that while this programmatic increase will not directly impact HDS, the additional need for training and advanced training will ultimately increase the demand for HDS courses. The Committee directs the FBI to ensure sufficient resources are allocated to meet this downstream need.

Additionally, the Committee continues to encourage the FBI's further development of the Research and Prototyping for IED Defeat [RAPID] program, which aims to establish defeat technologies, develop diagnostics, conduct fundamental science research and engineering, address remote capabilities and emerging threats, and further develop render safe procedures. The Committee understands the FBI has signed a memorandum of understanding within the Critical Incident Response Group to perform this research and to rapidly develop tools and techniques to defeat IED threats to the United States, including advanced counter explosive device research. Using IED information collected from the intelligence community and TEDAC, the RAPID program will advance counter-IED technology, continue to research suitable solutions, and develop technologies and procedures for incorporation into render safe training at HDS, enabling standardized and consistent training to the entire civilian, domestic bomb squad community.

Human Rights Violations.—The Committee directs the FBI to increase its efforts to investigate and support the Department's criminal prosecution of serious human rights crimes, including genocide, torture, use or recruitment of child soldiers, and war crimes, and other crimes committed by serious human rights violators. The Committee's recommendation continues funding this effort at no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level. The Committee directs the FBI to continue this effort through the International Human Rights Unit [IHRU], which the FBI shall not dissolve or merge with any other office, and which shall continue to fully cooperate with and participate in the Human Rights Violator and War Crimes Center [HRVWCC].

The Committee is concerned that the FBI's proposed realignment of personnel from the HRVWCC to its Civil Rights Unit would diminish the FBI's ability to adequately pursue human rights violators and upset the delicate relationship the FBI has created between investigators and non-governmental organizations [NGOs] focused on identifying and assisting victims of these atrocities. The

Committee supports the FBI's stated goals of increasing the number of cases investigated and prosecuted, growing the number of investigators and prosecutors educated and trained to address the threat, and engaging more with affected communities throughout the Nation, but is skeptical that merging international human rights into the civil rights program will accomplish these objectives. The Committee understands that the FBI has begun to incorporate international human rights issues in its annual civil rights conference efforts and encourages the FBI to continue to expand upon these endeavors. The Committee also encourages the FBI to utilize its civil rights program coordinators in the field to engage with partners in USAO, NGOs, and local communities to create a better understanding of the threat, drive prosecutions, and encourage reporting of international human rights violators.

The Committee further directs the IHRU to provide training to all FBI field offices on how to detect and investigate crimes committed by serious human rights violators, and to report to the Committees on Appropriations and Judiciary, within 90 days of enactment of this act, on the IHRU's efforts to increase the number of human rights investigations and provide training to all field offices and opportunities for community engagements, including the numbers for each.

Innocent Images National Initiative.—The Committee's recommendation directs \$91,640,000 for the Innocent Images National Initiative, allowing the FBI to target and investigate sexual predators on the Internet. The Committee is concerned that the proposed reductions to the base program will provide insufficient resources to cover the current Innocent Images caseload that combat child sexual exploitation and child victimization.

Hate Crimes Reporting.—The FBI is directed to provide the Committee with a report, within 180 days of enactment of this act, on its efforts to ensure that all Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies fully report hate crimes statistics as provided by the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990, Public Law 101-275, as amended, and the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, Public Law 111-84. This report shall detail the FBI's efforts to ensure all law enforcement agencies know of the reporting obligations and shall describe any gaps in reporting, strategies to overcome those gaps, and challenges to the full nationwide implementation of NIBRS. In addition, the report shall detail the FBI's outreach, education, and training on best practices to address hate violence and efforts the FBI is undertaking to help ensure that all victims feel secure reporting hate crimes to law enforcement authorities.

Security Advisory Opinion [SAO] Processing.—The Committee directs the FBI to submit a report on SAO processing to the Committee not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this act. The report shall include: the number of personnel and other resources the Bureau is dedicating to processing SAOs and an analysis of whether those resources are adequate to support Department of State and Department of Homeland Security requirements in order to meet the annual Presidential Determination on Refugee Admissions. Furthermore, for each fiscal year from 2014 to 2019, the report shall include the average time an SAO screening process

requires, the number of approvals and denials of SAOs issued, the number of SAOs placed on hold and the rationale associated with each hold, and the number of SAOs that are pending as well as the length of time and corresponding reason for each delayed resolution.

Additionally, for fiscal year 2019, the report shall include the number of refugees in the United States Refugee Admissions Program pipeline for whom the FBI has approved SAO clearance, for whom the FBI has a pending SAO decision, for whom the FBI has denied SAO clearance, and the total number of these applications submitted to the FBI for SAO clearance.

Classified information can be transmitted in a separate report to the Committee. All unclassified data shall be publically reported by the FBI.

FBI Databases and the NICS Process.—The FBI is directed to provide a report to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this act regarding how usage of FBI databases, including the Next Generation Identification [NGI] system, are leveraged when NICS background checks are conducted and what steps are being taken to ensure accurate and timely system communications.

National Bioforensic Analysis Center.—The Committee recognizes the need to maintain operations at the National Bioforensic Analysis Center [NBFAC] and supports the work performed at the NBFAC in furtherance of the FBI's mission. The Committee understands NBFAC currently operates under a contract executed by the Department of Homeland Security [DHS], and that the FBI intends to enter into a cost-sharing agreement or memorandum of understanding/agreement with DHS, so that the FBI may continue ongoing operations at this facility.

The Committee supports the bioforensic analysis and investigations performed at NBFAC, and looks forward to learning more about the proposed cost sharing agreement between the FBI and DHS. The Committee supports \$20,800,000 for the FBI's role at the NBFAC and directs the FBI to report, not later than 30 days after the enactment of this act, with alternative financial plans regarding the maintenance and or ownership of the facility.

Collaborative Intelligence Sharing.—The Committee is aware that several States utilize Department of Defense and National Guard facilities for intelligence fusion centers, which allow Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement officials to collaborate and share intelligence and threat information, to include DOJ and the FBI. The utilization of fusion centers benefits Federal, State, local and tribal law enforcement entities alike, and providing Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities [SCIFs] offers increased opportunities to collaborate and create cost savings. The Committee is supportive of such collaborative, co-location projects, and strongly urges the Department and the FBI to prioritize such projects, including SCIF projects, to conduct collaborative intelligence analysis, in the fiscal year 2021 and future budget submissions.

Supporting International Collaboration and Information Sharing.—The Committee recognizes the key role that the FBI's legal attaché offices [legat] play in maintaining open lines of communication and sharing information with international law enforcement and intelligence partners around the world. To further foster these

relationships and provide additional opportunities for training and collaboration, the Committee notes that the increased funding in representation funds shall be dedicated to legat offices.

Expanded Use of Private Laboratories in Testing DNA.—The Committee remains concerned by certain reports indicating there is a backlog of analyzed DNA samples awaiting upload to the Combined DNA Index System [CODIS] and understands that a contributing factor is the requirement that any DNA profile generated by a private laboratory undergo an ownership review by a public laboratory before it may be submitted to the National DNA Index System. Not later than 90 days after enactment of this act, the FBI shall report to the Committee with data on the backlog of analyzed DNA samples awaiting upload to CODIS as well as ongoing efforts to review the existing standards requiring an ownership review of DNA profiles generated by private laboratories.

Law Enforcement Medical Demonstration.—The Committee supports the Bureau's actions to formalize its existing external partnership in the Operational Medicine Program in order to support medical contingency planning and improve the delivery of medical care for high-risk law enforcement missions. The Committee is pleased to have received the report requested in Senate Report 115–139 and supplemental report and supports the Bureau's exploration efforts to increase opportunities to work with public academic medical centers, medical researchers, and other medical educational institutions to ensure the most current data is being collected and used in training and education. The Committee's recommendation continues funding this effort at no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level.

Counter-Unmanned Aircraft Systems.—The Committee supports efforts to expand the Bureau's counter-UAS program capabilities including increased partnerships with State and local law enforcement. The FBI is encouraged to utilize a competitive process for acquiring these technologies.

FBI Police.—The Committee encourages the Director of the FBI to designate the members of the FBI Police as law enforcement officers and make the rates of basic pay, salary schedule, pay provisions, and benefits for its members equivalent to the rates of basic pay, salary schedule, pay provisions, and benefits applicable to other similar law enforcement divisions. Within 180 days of enactment of this act, the FBI shall report to the Committee on the retention rate and pay of the FBI police compared to other Federal law enforcement with similar missions. The Committee urges the FBI to coordinate, as appropriate, with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and any other relevant agency as it implements these activities.

Facial Recognition Technology.—The Committee directs DOJ to report not later than 90 days after enactment of this act on the implementation status of U.S. Government Accountability Office recommendations from its May 2016 report, *Face Recognition Technology: FBI Should Better Ensure Privacy and Accuracy* (GAO–6–267). GAO reported that DOJ did not complete or update privacy impact assessments or publish required public notices in a timely manner to ensure proper protection of personal information. In addition, GAO found that FBI took limited steps to assess the accu-

racy of the face recognition data it uses. GAO made six recommendations and, to date, only one of these recommendations has been addressed. DOJ is expected to take the steps necessary to complete the outstanding GAO recommendations to help ensure the privacy and accuracy of the FBI's facial recognition capabilities.

Timely Responses to Congressional Inquiries.—The Committee has heard from other Member offices regarding difficulties receiving fulsome and timely responses to Congressional inquiries. As a result, the FBI's Office of Congressional Affairs is directed to provide timely, substantive responses to Congressional requests for information.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriations, 2019	\$385,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	51,895,000
Committee recommendation	485,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$485,000,000 for FBI construction. The recommendation is \$100,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$433,105,000 above the budget request.

FBI Headquarters.—Due to concerns about the FBI Headquarters Revised Nationally-Focused Consolidation Plan which was submitted to Congress by the General Services Administration [GSA] on February 12, 2018, the Consolidated Appropriations Acts of 2018 and 2019 (Public Law 115–141 and Public Law 116–6) included no funding for this project. No funds were requested for the project for fiscal year 2020, and no funds are provided in this bill.

The Committee continues to be reluctant to appropriate any additional funds for this project due to the unanswered questions regarding the new plan, including the revision of longstanding mission and security requirements. The Committee encourages the FBI to work with GSA to submit a prospectus for a new, fully-consolidated headquarters building, including at one of the three previously vetted sites that complies with prior Congressional directives and actions, and meets Interagency Security Committee Level V security standards.

21st Century Facilities.—The Committee continues to support the FBI's long-term vision for co-locating complimentary mission operations while balancing the eventual transition into a new headquarters building with changing footprints at Quantico, Clarksburg, Huntsville, and Pocatello facilities. The delay in the new FBI headquarters project only exacerbates the need to secure viable space for supporting a variety of mission, workforce, and land requirements. The Committee recommendation provides funding at no less than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level to further support the FBI's 21st Century Facility plans and encourages the FBI to transition from interim facilities to full operating capabilities, including plans for technological requirements. As part of this 21st Century Planning, the FBI should continue to research the feasibility of using public-private partnership opportunities, provided that the annual lease and operating costs are reasonable and the facilities can be securely constructed and maintained at a level that meets the FBI's requirements.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$2,687,703,000
Budget estimate, 2020	¹ 2,976,295,000
Committee recommendation	2,783,152,000

¹The budget request includes \$254,000,000 for the consolidation of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area [HIDTA] from the Office of National Drug Control Policy to the DEA. The Committee recommendation does not include this transfer.

The Committee's recommendation provides total resources of \$2,783,152,000 for the DEA, of which \$443,142,000 is derived from the DEA's Diversion Control Fee Account. The recommendation is \$95,449,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$193,143,000 below the budget request. When compared to the budget request for DEA operations without the HIDTA transfer, the recommendation is \$60,857,000 higher. Within the funds provided, \$10,000,000 is for assistance to State and local law enforcement for proper removal and disposal of hazardous materials at clandestine methamphetamine labs, and to initiate container programs.

The DEA's mission is to enforce the controlled substances laws and regulations of the United States and bring to the criminal and civil justice system of the United States—or any other competent jurisdiction—those organizations and principal members of organizations involved in the growing, manufacturing, or distribution of controlled substances appearing in or destined for illicit traffic in the United States; and to support non-enforcement programs aimed at reducing the availability of illicit controlled substances on the domestic and international markets.

Sensitive Investigative Units [SIUs].—The Committee strongly supports DEA's SIUs, which often operate in conjunction with DEA's Judicial Wire Intercept Programs [JWIP]. DEA has achieved success in reducing the production and trafficking of illicit narcotics that are destined for the United States through these programs. These size and number of these programs have grown consistently with DEA's international presence. In 1996 DEA had four SIUs, in fiscal year 2020 there will be 15 SIUs and 12 JWIPS. The Committee is concerned, however, about sustaining the growing needs of these programs.

The Committee supports the request level for these programs and encourages DEA to utilize budgetary options beyond the \$26,000,000 currently allocated for these programs to ensure that each SIU and JWIP program is operating at maximum capacity in terms of training, staffing, and equipment. In order to assess the future need to properly meet operational demands of these programs, the Committee directs the DEA to provide, within 90 days, a report that includes a detailed funding history for each of the existing SIU and JWIP programs, including the number of personnel supported by each SIU and JWIP, any ancillary training that is provided to each SIU and JWIP, and the criteria used by the Administrator of the DEA to make funding determinations for each SIU and JWIP. The report shall also clearly describe the funding sources for the program to include DEA's appropriation, Department AFF, and funding from the Departments of Defense and

State. If DEA has plans to expand its SIU and JWIP programs, it should also include anticipated future needs broken out by location and estimated on board date in the detail previously described.

Meeting Drug Testing Demands.—The Committee is concerned that there is a growing unmet need for DEA field offices in regards to drug testing, particularly when division, district, and resident offices are not located in close proximity to a testing laboratory in the DEA Laboratory System. This issue is particularly problematic for areas of the country that have been hardest hit by increases in synthetic drugs, including fentanyl, as well as rural offices or those divisions that do not have their own laboratories, as agents must drive long distances to reach the nearest laboratory for testing. The Committee directs DEA to provide a report detailing the initial and out-year costs and associated resource needs, including space requirements, to stand up new laboratories as well as possible available locations for expansion to cover areas that currently do not have access to a laboratory within a 200 mile radius, not later than 90 days after enactment of this act.

Drug Diversion at Veterans Health Administration Facilities.—The Committee remains alarmed by the rates of prescription drug opioid abuse and related overdoses among veterans, as well as allegations of diversion of prescription opioids from Veterans Health Administration [VHA] facilities into the illicit drug market. According to a February 2019 Government Accountability Office report, the oversight of controlled substances within VHA remains a significant problem. That VHA facilities continue to be a source for the illicit distribution and use of opioids is extremely concerning, and the Committee directs the DEA to ensure that investigations of drug diversion in VHA facilities remain a priority. As stated in Senate Reports 114–66, 114–239, 115–131, and 115–275, the Committee continues to expect the DEA to take steps to ensure that sufficient resources are allocated for investigations of drug diversion at VHA facilities.

Permanent Drug Take Back Collection Sites.—The Committee directs DEA to continue the permanent drug take back collection site program and expand locations where possible as required by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6.

Hemp Farming Act Guidance.—The Committee notes that the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 removed hemp and its derivatives from the Controlled Substances Act. The Committee appreciates DEA's Notice on August 27, 2019, affirming the legal status of hemp, including hemp plants and cannabidiol [CBD] preparations at or below the 0.3 percent delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol [THC] threshold, and directs DEA to ensure the subsequent drug codes and scheduling guidance for marijuana (cannabis) and marijuana extracts shall be updated to reflect this removal.

Hemp Testing Technology.—The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 removed hemp and its derivatives from the Controlled Substances Act, and authorized the production, consumption and sale of hemp and hemp-derived products in the United States. The Act requires random testing to ensure hemp meets the definition under the law of having a delta-9 THC concentration of less than 0.3 percent. The Committee is aware that law enforcement and other agencies need to have access to laboratory testing and on-the-spot

field testing technologies and devices to distinguish between hemp and marijuana. The Committee is aware that DEA is conducting research in this area and has received responses to a Request for Information to identify any technology in the marketplace capable of providing field test kits. The Committee directs the DEA to continue to work to identify and/or develop such devices and technologies. The Committee further directs the DEA to report back to the Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this act, and not less than every 6 months thereafter, until such time as technologies are identified and deployed to law enforcement in the field.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$1,316,678,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,368,440,000
Committee recommendation	1,370,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$1,370,000,000 for ATF. The recommendation is \$53,322,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,560,000 above the budget request. ATF has diverse law enforcement responsibilities, and the funding increase is provided to allow ATF to carry out these duties and to fill existing positions that are currently vacant.

ATF reduces the criminal use of firearms and illegal firearms trafficking, and assists other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies in reducing crime and violence. ATF investigates bombing and arson incidents and assists with improving public safety by reducing the criminal misuse of and trafficking in explosives, combating acts of arson and arson-for-profit schemes, and removing safety hazards caused by improper and unsafe storage of explosive materials.

Combating Gun Violence and Enforcing Existing Gun Laws.—The Committee's recommendation maintains ATF's ability to enforce existing firearms laws and perform regulatory oversight and training, including through the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network [NIBIN]. This funding will enable ATF to continue to collect, report, and share ballistic intelligence with Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement partners to identify, target, and disrupt violent criminals, including serial shooters. Funds will support work with State and local law enforcement agencies and laboratories to collect ballistic hit information to provide leads to Crime Gun Intelligence Groups for investigations and document successful prosecutions as a result of NIBIN.

United States-Mexico Firearms Trafficking.—The Committee continues to support the ATF's efforts to combat weapon trafficking on the border. The ATF shall continue to provide the Committee with annual data on the total number of firearms recovered by the Government of Mexico, and of those, the number for which an ATF trace is attempted, the number successfully traced, and the number determined to have originated in the United States prior to being recovered in Mexico.

National Center for Explosives Training and Research.—Since fiscal year 2013, ATF has had the use of NCETR at its disposal as

a critical facility and Federal asset with unique capabilities. However, the Committee has remained concerned that NCETR has been understaffed and underutilized. Therefore, in an effort to capitalize on the Federal investments that currently exist at NCETR, such as the lab and test range, the Committee directs the Department to partner with Federal, State, and local law enforcement entities, as well as the U.S. military where appropriate, to conduct research in the field of explosives and precursor chemicals.

Notification of Local Authorities.—The Committee encourages the ATF to, when possible, notify local law enforcement when a felon in their jurisdiction tries to buy a firearm. If the NICS check is not completed within three days and a felon obtains a firearm, the Committee encourages the ATF to notify and utilize the help of local law enforcement in retrieving the firearm.

Staffing Designations.—The Committee encourages ATF to designate all National Firearms Act examiners and Industry Operations Investigators as essential personnel for the purposes of continuity for such processing during any period of time in which the Federal Government has suspended or limited operations.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$7,250,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	7,061,953,000
Committee recommendation	7,470,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$7,470,000,000 for Bureau of Prisons salaries and expenses. The recommendation is \$220,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$408,047,000 above the budget request. The Committee supports the Department's request to increase funding for BOP's cybersecurity, including improving network defenses and mitigating insider threats.

Lifting the Hiring Freeze.—The Committee understands that both the Department and BOP have started to take steps to appropriately staff BOP's 122 Federal facilities across the U.S., particularly the hiring of correctional officers at medium- and high-security facilities, and directs hiring to continue as expeditiously as possible. For far too long, positions have remained vacant leading to dangerous conditions for staff due to increased overtime and the use of augmentation as well as reduced services for inmates. The overall inmate to correctional officer ratio has increased from 8.3 to 1 to 9.1 to 1, a level that the Committee considers unsafe and directs BOP to immediately correct. BOP is directed to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this act regarding the number of vacancies at each facility further detailed by job title, job series, and General Schedule level as well as the number of applicants going through the hiring process for each vacant position. If there are expedited hiring efforts the Department can make to ensure BOP is properly staffed, the Committee directs the Department to do so, and to include these measures and their results in the aforementioned report.

The Committee supports the use of recruitment and retention bonuses and rejects any further position eliminations. As institutions are often located in remote areas with employees living in neighboring jurisdictions, BOP is directed to review locality pay to ensure institution staff are receiving proper locality pay and submit a report on its findings to the Committee within 120 days of enactment. The Committee is aware of many cases where employees live in adjacent counties to the institution and unfortunately receive lower locality pay as a result.

Hiring and Staffing Reports.—The Committee directs BOP to submit quarterly hiring and staffing reports, including corrections officer-to-inmate ratios from Pay Period 26–2016 to the present for the OPM position classification standard Correctional Officer Series GS–0007, broken out by region; institution, to include an additional subset for each facility within an institutional complex; and security level no later than 90 days after enactment of this act. For further transparency, this data is also directed to be published on BOP’s website.

BOP previously notified the Committee that it does not currently record staffing by shift [morning watch, day watch, evening watch], but is directed to start recording this data and include these metrics in this report by the end of the fiscal year. For any institution with a staffing ratio greater than 15:1, or an incident involving deadly force in any such report, BOP shall provide a separate, detailed explanation of the role staffing may or may not have played in the incident along with a corrective plan to ensure it will not happen again.

Augmentation.—BOP reports that there is a higher incidence of serious assaults by inmates on staff at high- and medium-security institutions than at the lower security facilities, yet to meet staffing needs, BOP routinely uses a process called “augmentation,” whereby a non-custodial employee is assigned custodial responsibilities. The continued use of augmentation stretches correctional facility staff too thin leading to unsafe conditions for both staff and inmates.

The Committee has expressed its concerns about the practice of augmentation since fiscal year 2017 and once again directs BOP to curtail its overreliance on augmentation, particularly in housing units, a directive issued again as part of Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6. BOP should focus on hiring additional full-time correctional staff before continuing to augment existing staff. BOP is further directed to submit quarterly reports to the Committee on the use of augmentation broken out by region, institution, and security level each time this practice is employed. In addition to officer and inmate safety concerns, the Committee also notes that augmenting staff means that critical programs and services required for inmates under the First Step Act are imperiled when those who provide counseling, education and other programs to inmates are being pulled from their original duties to work in the cellblock.

Alleviating Overcrowding at High-Security Facilities.—The overcrowding rate at high-security prisons is 21 percent. The Committee supports BOP’s efforts to alleviate overcrowding at high-security facilities through the process of activating additional prisons.

The Committee expects BOP to adhere to its activation schedule regarding these prison facilities, including the acceptance of high-security inmates at the United States Penitentiary [USP] in Thomson, Illinois, as BOP estimates overcrowding at high-security facilities to be reduced to 19 percent with the full opening of USP Thomson. The Committee continues to direct that this facility be designated as a high-security USP.

The Committee previously directed BOP to ensure at least two correctional officers are on duty for each housing unit for all three shifts at all high-security institutions to include USPs and Administrative and Federal Detention Centers. BOP is directed to continue to submit quarterly reports to the Committee showing compliance with this directive and provide a cost estimate and strategic plan for implementation for medium-security institutions that currently do not have a second officer for all three shifts.

First Step Act [FSA] Implementation.—The Committee directs the Department and BOP to fully and expeditiously implement the FSA (Public Law 115–391), and provides \$75,000,000 in new, dedicated funding for this purpose. While the Committee was encouraged by the Department’s progress in both establishing the Independent Review Committee and providing Congress with the outline of the Risk and Needs Assessment tool by the statutory deadline, the Department must fulfill the law’s other requirements no later than the deadlines established by the Act, including the completion of the initial intake risk and needs assessment for each inmate in the population through the Risk and Needs Assessment tool, the assignment of prisoners to appropriate evidence-based recidivism reduction programs based on that determination, and the establishment of additional earned time credits.

The Department is directed to report to both the Committees on Appropriations and Judiciary, within 90 days of enactment of this act, and every 90 days thereafter, on all actions and expenditures to implement the FSA, including activities, expenditures and resource requirements to develop, implement, review, validate, and maintain the risk and needs assessment and to evaluate and provide evidence-based recidivism reduction programs and productive activities.

Additional Requirements of the FSA.—Section 102 of the FSA requires the Attorney General to develop policies for the warden of each BOP facility to enter into partnerships with non-governmental and faith-based organizations to provide evidence-based recidivism reduction programming or productive activities for inmates at a reduced cost or no cost to the Federal Government. Such partnerships have been successful in dozens of States, reducing crime rates and helping to restore the lives of the incarcerated. Because the FSA requires BOP to provide a majority of inmates with the opportunity to participate in recidivism reduction programming or productive activities, it is imperative for the Department to quickly identify and engage in opportunities to increase available programming through non-governmental sources. The Committee therefore directs the Attorney General to issue guidance and policies for recidivism reduction partnerships, as required under section 102 of Public Law 115–391, not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this act.

Additionally, the Act requires BOP to assist inmates applying for Federal and State benefits as well as obtaining critical identification for re-entry, including a social security card, driver's license or other official photo identification, and birth certificate. Within 45 days of enactment of this act, BOP is directed to provide a status report to the Committees on Appropriations and Judiciary indicating the guidance issued to BOP staff as well as a description of how these additional requirements are being met, including the number of inmates receiving assistance in securing benefits and identification, any difficulties BOP is encountering in obtaining these documents, and the list of organizations partnering with BOP to include the programming provided by each organization for each facility. The Committee further directs BOP to provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations and Judiciary with updated information on both recidivism reduction partnerships and assistance with obtaining identification and benefits.

The FSA also requires BOP to designate an inmate to reside in a BOP facility as close as practicable to the prisoner's primary residence and, to the extent practicable, in a facility within 500 driving miles of that residence. In order to meet this requirement, especially in States that are not contiguous with the Continental United States, the Committee directs BOP to consider the expansion of Residential Reentry Centers [RRC] as one possible method for complying with the 500 driving mile requirement.

Lieutenant Osvaldo Albarati Correctional Officer Self-Protection Act.—Section 202 of the First Step Act (Public Law 115–391) requires the Director of the BOP to ensure that each Federal penal or correctional institution provides a secure storage area located outside of the secure perimeter of the institution for employees to store firearms or allows employees to store firearms in a vehicle lockbox. The Committee recognizes the importance of this provision in ensuring BOP employee safety, and directs the Director to provide the storage facilities required under the act not later than the end of the fiscal year. Within 90 days of enactment of this act, the Department shall submit a report to the Committee on its implementation plan and progress until completion on a quarterly basis.

Medication-Assisted Treatment [MAT].—The Committee is disappointed that while it has provided funding for MAT in BOP since fiscal year 2016, fewer than 30 inmates received MAT between fiscal years 2016–2018. In fiscal year 2020, the Committee expects no less than \$2,000,000 to be used for MAT for inmates in BOP institutions and RRCs. The Committee understands that BOP returned more than 1,000 doses of expired naltrexone in fiscal year 2019 and directs BOP to use any credit it may have received for MAT expansion. The Committee directs BOP to consider all three forms of FDA-approved MAT as it expands MAT access.

Additionally, the Committee has received conflicting information from the Department regarding BOP's MAT program, and therefore directs BOP to report quarterly on the number of individuals that are screened for MAT, are seeking MAT, have received MAT, and those on a wait list for MAT. These categories should be further broken out by institution and type of MAT. The initial report is directed to be submitted to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act.

Federal Detainers.—In an effort to ensure that criminal aliens are not improperly released into our communities, the Committee directs BOP to offer Immigration and Customs Enforcement [ICE] the first opportunity to take into custody and remove an individual with a Federal detainer instead of BOP and ICE automatically deferring to States and municipalities who are seeking custody of the same individual. ICE's decision to exercise this right of first refusal with BOP will be informed, in part, by the State or municipality's willingness to cooperate with Federal authorities on ICE detainees.

Compassionate Release.—The Committee notes that BOP expanded the grounds for, and streamlined the process of, considering requests for compassionate release in 2013. The Committee is also aware that the Department's OIG recommended additional reforms to the compassionate release program in its 2013 review of the program. In 2016, the U.S. Sentencing Commission [USSC] amended the criteria for compassionate release and encouraged BOP to file a motion for those prisoners who meet the criteria as identified by the Commission.

The Committee requests an updated report containing the information required by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, including an account of: (1) any steps taken by BOP to implement the OIG and USSC's recommendations; (2) for those recommendations not met, BOP's plan for future implementation and/or an explanation as to why these recommendations cannot be implemented; (3) the number of prisoners granted or denied compassionate release during each of the last 5 years; (4) for each of the past 5 years, the number of requests initiated by or on behalf of prisoners, categorized by the criteria relied on as grounds for a reduction in sentence; (5) for each year, the number of requests approved by the Director of the BOP, categorized by the criteria relied on as grounds for a reduction in sentence; (6) for each year, the number of denials by the Director of the BOP, categorized by the criteria relied on as grounds for a reduction in sentence and the reason given for the denial; (7) for each year, the period of time between the date the request was received by the warden and the final decision, categorized by the criteria relied on as grounds for a reduction in sentence; and (8) for each year, the number of prisoners who died while their compassionate release requests were pending and, for each, the amount of time that elapsed between the date the request was received by the warden.

Inmate Mental Health Care and Restrictive Housing.—The Committee was encouraged that BOP agreed to resolve the 15 recommendations made by the Department's OIG in July 2017 regarding the need for BOP to improve its screening, treatment, and monitoring of inmates with mental illness housed in Restrictive Housing Units. The Committee encourages BOP to continue to develop evidence-based policies and appropriate facilities that ensure BOP can do its job safely while also providing proper care for those inmates with mental illnesses. As such, the Committee requests a report, within 180 days of enactment of this act, from BOP on the status of resolving each of those 15 OIG recommendations issued in July 2017.

National Institute of Corrections [NIC].—The Committee rejects the request to eliminate the NIC.

Correctional Education Evaluation.—The Committee recognizes the value of correctional education in reducing recidivism. The Committee is concerned, however, that there is a lack of comprehensive data and analysis on key questions such as the necessary amount of intervention education; how intervention needs vary by educational program; and what models of instruction and curriculum delivery are most effective in correctional environments. Therefore, the Committee encourages NIC efforts to establish public-private partnerships with research and correctional institutions to evaluate completed demonstration projects involving postsecondary education programs in prisons. The report regarding NIC's findings on correctional education as directed by Senate Report 115–275 and codified by Public Law 116–6 has yet to be submitted. The Committee expects this report to be submitted in short order.

Freedom of Information Act Records.—The Committee expects BOP to maintain records and respond to records requests, consistent with the requirements of section 5 U.S.C. 552 (commonly referenced as the Freedom of Information Act), for information related to all Federal offenders in the custody of BOP, regardless of whether such offenders are housed in a Federal or non-Federal prison, detention center, correctional institution, privately managed or community-based facility, or local jail. The Committee further notes that BOP should not withhold records from disclosure unless BOP reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in 5 U.S.C. 552b, or as otherwise prohibited by law.

Contraband Telecommunications and Jamming.—The Committee remains concerned about the rising use of contraband cellular phones and other devices in facilities administered by, or under contract with, BOP. Contraband cell phones enable the continuation and facilitation of criminal activity, threatening the safety of correctional officers and staff, other inmates, and public safety. Given the growing threats from these activities, including the financial scams and sextortion of innocent citizens by inmates from within these facilities, additional solutions are required sooner rather than later. As such, BOP must take all steps necessary to ensure that inmates who use these contraband devices will no longer have access to these networks to direct criminal activities in or beyond prison.

BOP is directed to act upon the recommendations of their fiscal year 2016 report submitted to the Committee and deploy telecommunications technologies to thwart illegal usage of telecommunications in institutions while not interfering with the legitimate use of spectrum. BOP shall also incorporate the lessons learned and best practices to be developed through its recent micro-jamming pilot program conducted in conjunction with NTIA. The Committee supports the BOP's request for jamming pilots. The Department shall report to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act, detailing its plans for the implementation of this program. The Committee further directs the Department to submit a report within 90 days of enactment of this act on the costs associated with and the resources needed to conduct a full facility jamming pilot. This report should include technology costs, as well as the staffing needs associated with this type of jamming pilot, for

BOP and for any partner agencies, like the NTIA, that would be involved.

Residential Reentry Centers.—The Committee maintains its concerns and expectations regarding RRCs as outlined in Senate Report 115–139 and codified in Public Law 115–141, including the direction requiring BOP to alert the Committee before adopting any significant change in policy or practice involving RRCs or other recidivism-reduction measures. The Committee directs BOP to refrain from canceling or modifying any existing contracts for RRCs if another BOP-contracted RRC facility does not exist within 100 miles of the existing RRC. In instances where RRC contracts are expiring, the Committee directs BOP to take interim and emergency measures to prevent facility closures and the interruption of services, including by expediting solicitations and re-solicitations for existing services.

Minimum Security Camps.—The Committee does not approve of BOP’s proposal to close or move any of the Bureau’s seven stand-alone federal correctional minimum security camps.

Emergency Preparations.—The Committee directs the GAO to examine how the BOP protects inmates during natural or manmade disasters and emergencies, to include any emergency response plans and standard operating procedures and how existing Federal guidance and best practices are utilized within BOP institutions, and what, if anything, BOP needs to do to strengthen these safeguards in the future. The Committee directs GAO to study the extent to which BOP assesses if its institutions, as well as contracted facilities, are developing plans that incorporate risk management best practices and relevant standards for emergency preparedness.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2019	\$264,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	99,205,000
Committee recommendation	290,000,000

This act includes \$290,000,000 for the construction, acquisition, modernization, maintenance, and repair of prison and detention facilities housing Federal inmates. The recommendation is \$26,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$190,795,000 above the budget request. Within this amount, not less than \$181,000,000 is for costs related to construction of new facilities currently not fully funded that remain on BOP’s Monthly Construction Status Report. BOP shall proceed with ongoing planned and associated new construction efforts to meet projected capacity requirements, as identified in its monthly status of construction reports to the Committee. BOP is directed to continue to provide such reports on a quarterly basis, along with notifications and explanations of any deviation from construction and activation schedules, and any planned adjustments or corrective actions.

The Committee includes bill language in Title V—General Provisions stipulating that no BOP resources may be used for facilities to house detainees from the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Modernization and Repair [M&R] of Existing Facilities.—BOP operates 122 facilities, almost one-third of which are more than 50 years old; 25 are more than 75 years old. These facilities are rap-

idly deteriorating and are in need of extensive work and repair to maintain safe, secure, and functioning facilities. This need is further illustrated by the power and heating outages that occurred for extended periods at several BOP facilities in early 2019. To begin to remedy this, the Committee provides \$109,000,000 for M&R purposes, which is \$10,000,000 above than the enacted level and \$9,795,000 above the budget request.

FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

(LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES)

Appropriations, 2019	\$2,700,000
Budget estimate, 2020	2,700,000
Committee recommendation	2,700,000

The Committee's recommendation provides a limitation on the administrative expenses of \$2,700,000 for the Federal Prison Industries, Inc. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget request.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

In total, the Committee recommends \$3,161,590,000 for State and local law enforcement and crime prevention grant programs, including: \$2,661,590,000 in discretionary appropriations and in mandatory appropriations, and \$500,000,000 from funds provided under section 510 of this act. The total is \$139,290,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$704,590,000 above the budget estimate.

Management and Administration Expenses.—The Department shall, in preparing its fiscal year 2020 spending plan, assess management and administration [M&A] expenses compared to program funding. The Committee directs the Department to ensure that its assessment methodology is equitable and, for programs funded through the CVF, that the assessment reflects a fair representation of the share of each program devoted to common M&A costs. The Committee also directs grant offices to minimize administrative spending in order to maximize the amount of funding that can be used for grants or training and technical assistance. The Committee reiterates the direction provided in Public Law 113–76 that the Department shall detail, as part of its budget submission for fiscal year 2021 and future years, the actual costs for each grant office with respect to training, technical assistance, research and statistics, and peer review for the prior fiscal year, along with estimates of planned expenditures by each grant office in each of these categories for the current year and the budget year.

Streamlining the Grant Application Process.—The Department's grant making components are directed to improve the grant application process to make it simpler for grantees to understand eligibility and submission requirements. The Committee is aware of several instances where support documents were not uploaded despite genuine grantee efforts, and therefore directs the Department to ensure grant submission platforms are more reliable and user friendly. The Committee also expects this process to provide greater clarity to applicants regarding future reporting requirements and deadlines. The Committee understands that some grantees

whose documentation was not uploaded properly, or whose documentation is lacking, often are not notified until several months later when grants are finally awarded. The Department is directed to explore methods to ensure grant application submissions are not possible until the required documentation is appropriately attached and report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act as to how this can be accomplished and what resources may be necessary to technologically achieve this streamlined submission process.

Expanded Purpose Areas for Crime Victim Assistance.—The Committee reminds OVC of the final rule (81 Fed. Reg. 44515) regarding the expansion of purpose areas that can be used for victim services programs including discretionary grants.

Compliance with Federal Laws.—The Committee directs the Department to ensure that all applicants for Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants [Byrne JAG], COPS grants, and State Criminal Alien Assistance Program [SCAAP] funds are required to attest and certify that the potential grant recipients are in compliance with all applicable Federal laws, and shall be required to continue to remain compliant throughout the duration of their grant award period.

Grant Funding Set-Asides.—The Committee notes the significant number of reductions in grant funding allowable for various purposes, including training, technical assistance, research, evaluation, and statistics activities with set-asides ranging anywhere from 2 percent to 10 percent of total grant funding provided. To that end, the Committee directs the Department to continue providing a comprehensive report concurrently with the spending plan that details the total amount provided for each grant program in this act, the specific reductions taken, the purpose for those reductions, and the final use of those resources, including any transfers that may occur among Office of Justice Programs [OJP], Office on Violence Against Women [OVW], and COPS. The Committee expects that the report will provide a complete analysis of the final amounts externally awarded and the amounts retained internally for other purposes.

Grant Funds for Rural Areas.—The Committee is concerned about the needs of rural areas, especially those communities with high crime rates. The Committee wants to ensure that the challenges encountered by the residents of these areas are being addressed through the equitable use of grant funding. The Committee reminds the Department to consider the unique needs of rural communities when making grant awards through the numerous programs funded by this bill.

Tribal Grants and Victim Assistance.—The Committee provides a total of \$77,000,000 in discretionary grant funding for tribes as follows: \$38,000,000 within OJP for tribal assistance; \$5,000,000 for a tribal youth program within the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention [OJJDP]; \$27,000,000 for tribal resources and \$3,000,000 for a Tribal Access Program within the COPS Office; and \$4,000,000 for a special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction program within the OVW.

For tribal assistance grants within OJP, funding is to be used to support efforts to help tribes improve the capacity of their criminal

and civil justice systems. OJP is expected to consult closely with tribal stakeholders in determining how tribal assistance funds will be awarded for detention facilities, including outdated detention facilities that are unfit for detention purposes and beyond rehabilitation; courts; alcohol and substance abuse programs; civil and criminal legal assistance; and other priorities. The Committee directs OJP to submit, as part of the Department's spending plan for fiscal year 2020, a plan for the use of these funds that is informed by such consultation.

In addition, the bill includes a 5 percent set-aside for tribes within the CVF. OVC is directed to consult closely with tribal stakeholders to improve services for tribal victims of crime to include expanded purpose areas described in the OVC final rule effective August 8, 2016. OVC shall continue to follow direction provided by the Committee in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6 regarding grant application requirements, accountability, and assistance.

Human Trafficking in Indian Country.—The Committee encourages the Department of Justice in coordination with the Departments of the Interior and Health and Human Services to work to address the need for and impact of Federal grant assistance regarding human trafficking in Indian Country, to ensure that Federal dollars are used effectively and efficiently.

Science Advisory Board.—The Committee recognizes the contributions of OJP's Science Advisory Board [Board] and encourages the re-establishment of the Board. The Board worked to provide extra-agency review of, and recommendations for, OJP's research, statistics, and grants program. The re-established Board should be comprised of scholars and practitioners in criminology, statistics, sociology, and practitioners in the criminal and juvenile justice fields and should be tasked with ensuring the programs and activities of OJP are scientifically sound and pertinent to policymakers and practitioners.

Housing and Services for Victims of Human Trafficking.—The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et. seq.), as amended by section 224 of Public Law 114–22 (22 U.S.C. 7105 (b)(2)(A)), authorizes the Attorney General to make grants to develop, expand, or strengthen victim service programs for victims of human trafficking, including programs that provide housing. To comply with this Act, the Department entered into a Memorandum of Understanding [MOU] with the Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] to help address the housing needs of human trafficking victims.

On July 2, 2019, HUD published a Notice of Funding Availability [NOFA] to make \$13,500,000 available for grants to eligible organizations to implement and provide housing and trauma-informed, victim-centered services to victims of human trafficking. HUD modified the NOFA on August 26, 2019, before subsequently withdrawing it on September 9, 2019, without any advance notice to applicants or the Committees on Appropriations or Judiciary.

The Committee strongly supports providing resources for victims of human trafficking in accordance with the statute, and is concerned about the lack of transparency and abrupt cancellation of this NOFA. As such, the Committee directs the Department to pro-

vide the Committee with a contingency plan for how to allocate these funds as authorized under 22 U.S.C. 7105(b) if HUD continues to further delay, as well as provide notice of any changes to the MOU within 15 days of enactment of this act.

When transferring Departmental funds to other Federal agencies that administer services as part of a grant, the Department is directed to ensure it is consulted at least 15 days in advance of any changes being made by that agency during the grant making process to include any cancellations or delays of the grant solicitation.

Support Services for Younger Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking.—Young victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking have historically faced barriers to accessing victims services due to stringent requirements to be legally recognized as victims. The Committee encourages the Department to issue guidance that young adults (ages 18–24) that have been identified by qualified youth service professionals as victims of commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking should be eligible for services.

OVC should support mentoring services specifically for children and youth victims of commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking and their families that are comprehensive, specialized, developmentally appropriate, and trauma-informed. Young victims of commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking lack the connection to safe, caring, and consistent adults to support them in responding to adversity and building resilience in the transition to adulthood. Mentors can promote healing, and foster cognitive, social-emotional, and identity development in youth, and provide an ongoing connection to other services and support systems.

OVC is encouraged to support demonstration projects to pilot and evaluate flexible housing options for both youth (aged under 18) and young adult (aged 18–24) victims of commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking during the transition to adulthood. Housing should be safe, developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, and include a variety of flexible options to meet the unique needs of those served inside and outside of the child welfare system.

Post-Conviction Relief for Trafficking Victims.—The Committee recognizes that serious, sustained efforts and investments in victim-centered programs are necessary to help address the rise in human trafficking and is committed to helping victims seek justice and ensure that offenders are held accountable. The Committee is concerned about reports that trafficking victims are prosecuted, both at the Federal and State levels, for crimes directly related to their trafficking. Criminal convictions often disqualify victims from numerous Federal programs and impede their recovery. The Committee is concerned that removing expungement services from eligible activities for OVC grants contradicts the 2017 Trafficking in Persons Report released by the State Department, which encouraged the expansion of vacatur services.

The Committee directs OVC to allow the use of funds for direct representation on vacatur and expungement for a conviction for a non-violent crime that is a direct result of being a trafficking victim. Furthermore, the Committee directs the Department to submit the report required in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6 regarding the Federal Government’s ability to supplement State vacatur programs.

Assistance for Exonerees.—The Committee directs the Department to assess what Federal support and services could be offered to both exonerees throughout their reentry as well as to crime victims and family members in cases where exoneration has taken place. Findings and recommendations are directed to be reported to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this act.

Submission of Officer Training Information.—The Committee directs the Department to continue following direction provided in fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019 regarding the submission of officer training data as part of both the Byrne-JAG and COPS hiring grant process. The Department is further directed to provide this data to the Bureau of Justice Statistics in order to begin a data collection set and issue a report on how officers are trained, what kind of training they receive, and the rank of officers receiving training.

STOP School Violence Act.—The Committee provides a total of \$100,000,000 for the STOP School Violence Act (Division S, Title V of Public Law 115–141) grant program, which is equal to the authorized amount and equal to the fiscal year 2019 level. Of this amount, \$67,000,000 is provided to the Bureau of Justice Assistance [BJA] for evidence-based school safety programs outlined in the act and \$33,000,000 is provided to the COPS Office for their respective competitive grant programs as outlined in the act. States, localities, Tribes and corresponding school districts should consider using BJA funds as permitted under the act for school violence prevention programs to prevent violent acts before a weapon enters a campus, including development and operation of evidence-based school threat assessments and trainings for school personnel and students to identify and report signs of violence against others or self. As designated in the authorization for the COPS portion of this program, funding is allowable for strengthening security measures, such as technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency, locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures.

Consent Decrees and Grant Assistance.—The Committee is aware that the Department's Civil Rights Division is currently enforcing 14 consent decrees. The Committee is also aware of the benefits received by the local communities and their citizens after a consent decree has been successfully enforced and the required reforms are implemented. As tensions between certain communities and police departments have grown in recent years, the Committee seeks to ensure that consent decrees continue to be implemented successfully and encourages the Department to provide additional training and technical assistance for jurisdictions participating in a consent decree with the Department.

Financial Exploitation.—The Committee commends the work of the OVC to address the issue of financial exploitation of older Americans by guardians, conservators, and other fiduciaries. As emphasized in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6, the Committee encourages OVC to continue working with stakeholders to minimize loss of the assets of individuals subject to conservatorship and to improve access to the legal system by victims of conservatorship exploitation.

Peer-to-Peer Training.—The OVC is directed to use up to \$5,000,000 to provide peer-to-peer training on Federal grants management and administration for Victims of Crime Act victim assistance grantees and subgrantees. This peer-to-peer training should cover all aspects of Federal grants management and administration, including needs assessments; stakeholder engagement, including those who speak for victims; system-wide planning; principles of evidence-based practice and data-driven innovation from a victim-centered lens; pre- and post-award processes; principles and functions; application development; program establishment; monitoring and auditing; progress reporting; budget development and review; financial management and reporting; closeout and corrective action plans; and staff responsibilities. The Committee believes contracting with a non-profit entity that has direct experience and expertise in peer-to-peer training for state administering agencies, local government agencies, and non-profit service providers on Federal grants management, administration, and planning is the appropriate mechanism to provide this training.

Issuance of DOJ Grant Solicitations.—The Committee directs all Department of Justice grant making components to have fiscal year 2020 grant solicitations posted no later than May 15, 2020, to ensure applicants to have a minimum of 60 days to submit an application and to ensure that DOJ has adequate time to consider the funding requests and submissions subject to requirements outlined in section 505 of the bill. Should a new grant program be appropriated or an existing grant program be modified by this bill, the Department shall issue solicitations for new programs or re-issue modified grant program solicitations as expeditiously as possible while still meeting the requirements of section 505.

DOJ Grants, Multi-Year Awards Oversight.—The Committee encourages DOJ to review its multi-year grant award processes and protocols to ensure grantees have fully complied with the rules of year one funding before year two funding is disbursed in multi-year grant awards.

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2019	¹ \$497,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	² 492,500,000
Committee recommendation	¹ 500,000,000

¹ Derived by transfer from funding available under section 510 of this act.

² Requested to be derived from funding available under section 510 of this act.

The Committee's recommendation provides \$500,000,000 for OVW grants. The recommendation is \$2,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$7,500,000 above the budget request. Resources are provided to the OVW to respond to the needs of all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, including, but not limited to, Native women, immigrants, LGBT victims, college students, youths, and public housing residents.

The table below displays the Committee's recommendations for the programs under this office.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Committee Recommendation
STOP Grants	215,000
Transitional Housing Assistance	36,500
Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women	2,500
Consolidated Youth Oriented Program	11,000
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	53,000
<i>Homicide Reduction Initiative</i>	4,000
Sexual Assault Victims Services	37,500
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement	43,500
Violence on College Campuses	20,000
Civil Legal Assistance	45,500
Elder Abuse Grant Program	5,000
Family Civil Justice	17,000
Education and Training for Disabled Female Victims	6,000
National Center on Workplace Responses	1,000
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	1,000
Indian Country—Sexual Assault Clearinghouse	500
Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction	4,000
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act	1,000
TOTAL, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs	500,000

STOP Grants.—Within the discretionary budget authority appropriated, \$215,000,000 is for formula grants to the States. This is equal to the budget request and equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level. The recommendation supports increasing access to comprehensive legal services for victims, providing short-term housing assistance and support services for domestic violence victims, and education and training to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities.

Sexual Assault Services Act.—The Committee's recommendation provides \$37,500,000, which is \$2,500,000 above the budget request and equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, to directly fund the needs of sexual assault victims.

As part of VAWA 2005 and reauthorized by VAWA 2013, the Sexual Assault Services Program addresses considerable gaps in services to sexual assault victims. The Committee supports a dedicated stream of funding to provide a broad range of services to adult and child sexual assault victims and their families through the well-established and well-regarded system of community-based rape crisis centers throughout the United States, and maintains its strong commitment to ensuring that these rape crisis centers have access to technical assistance, training, and support.

Protecting VAWA.—The Committee expects the Attorney General to ensure enforcement of Section 5 of the Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–324) and to issue guidance making clear that it would be inappropriate to subject OVW funds to such penalties.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

The OJP is responsible for providing leadership, coordination, and assistance to its Federal, State, local, and tribal partners to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the U.S. justice system in preventing, controlling, and responding to crime. As most of the re-

sponsibility for crime control and prevention falls to law enforcement officers in States, cities, and other localities, the Federal Government is effective in these areas only to the extent that it can enter into successful partnerships with these jurisdictions. Therefore, OJP is tasked with administering grants; collecting statistical data and conducting analyses; identifying emerging criminal justice issues; developing and testing promising and innovative approaches to address these issues; evaluating program results; and disseminating these findings and other information to State, local, and tribal governments. The Committee directs OJP to submit an annual report on grant programs that have not received a sufficient number of qualified applicants.

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

Appropriations, 2019	\$80,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	94,500,000
Committee recommendation	80,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$80,000,000 for the Research, Evaluation and Statistics account. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$14,500,000 below the budget request.

Funding in this account provides assistance in the areas of research, evaluation, statistics, hate crimes, DNA and forensics, criminal background checks, and gun safety technology, among others.

The Committee's recommendations are displayed in the following table:

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Committee Recommendation
Bureau of Justice Statistics	43,000
National Institute of Justice	37,000
<i>Domestic Radicalization Research</i>	5,000
<i>Research on School Safety</i>	1,000
<i>National Study of Law Enforcement Responses to Sex Trafficking of Minors</i>	1,000
<i>National Center on Forensics</i>	2,000
<i>National Center for Restorative Justice</i>	3,000
TOTAL, Research Evaluation and Statistics	80,000

Spending Plans.—The Department shall submit to the Committee as part of its spending plan for State and Local Law Enforcement Activities a plan for the use of all funding administered by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, respectively, for approval by the Committee prior to the obligation of any such funds.

Bureau of Justice Statistics [BJS].—The Committee's recommendation provides \$43,000,000 for the BJS. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 level and \$5,000,000 less than the request.

Data on Police Suicide.—The Committee understands that there is currently no national data concerning suicides of law enforcement officers. To truly understand the scope of this issue and de-

termine rates of death or other trends, BJS is directed to maintain a data set and report on police suicides for Federal, State, and local law enforcement. A status report to the Committee on accomplishing this data collection is requested within 90 days of enactment of this act.

Data Collection on Police Pursuits and High Risk Vehicle Events.—The BJS is encouraged to develop a data collection set to accurately capture the number of deaths and injuries from police pursuits and high risk vehicle events involving law enforcement.

National Institute of Justice [NIJ].—The Committee's recommendation provides \$37,000,000 for the NIJ, in addition to \$3,500,000 transferred from the OVW for research and evaluation on violence against women and Indian women. Within the funds provided for NIJ, \$5,000,000 is provided for domestic radicalization research. The NIJ's mission is to advance scientific research, development, and evaluation to advance the administration of justice and public safety.

National Center on Restorative Justice.—Within the funds available for the NIJ, the Committee provides \$3,000,000 for NIJ to enter into a partnership with an accredited university of higher education and/or law school for the purposes of establishing a National Center on Restorative Justice with the purpose of educating and training the next generation of justice leaders. The Center shall also support research focusing on how best to provide direct services to address social inequities, such as simultaneous access to substance abuse treatment and higher education. The Center shall engage and challenge undergraduate, Master's, and law students, in conjunction with criminal justice professionals, community members, educators, and social service providers, at the State, regional, and national level, aiming to broaden their understanding of justice systems and restorative approaches through a degree program, a summer institute, or short courses, while encouraging access to educational opportunities for incarcerated individuals.

National Study of Law Enforcement Responses to Sex Trafficking of Minors.—The Committee recognizes a growing consensus among policy makers, criminal justice professionals, and practitioners that work with exploited children, that effective law enforcement responses to child sex trafficking need to change. In the past, law enforcement have treated minors caught up in sex trafficking as delinquents, failed to distinguish them from adults involved in prostitution, or overlooked the problem of child exploitation. New approaches emphasize targeting the exploiters who sell and buy sex from minors and treating exploited minors as victims. While much discussion and training has occurred around these issues, it is unclear whether law enforcement practice has changed.

The Committee provides \$1,000,000 for NIJ to administer a competitive grant to an accredited research university to replicate and expand upon a previous national survey of law enforcement agencies conducted in 2005, the National Juvenile Prostitution Study. Through comparisons with the earlier study, it will be able to establish the degree to which law enforcement practices have transitioned from a predominately delinquent perspective to a more victim-focused approach. Additionally, the study will also deter-

mine what barriers law enforcement agencies have faced as they tried to implement practices consistent with the new paradigm.

National Center on Forensics.—The Committee provides \$2,000,000 for the NIJ to facilitate a partnership amongst a full-service State department of forensic science with a medical examiner function; an accredited university of higher education with affiliate medical and law schools; and a statewide district attorneys association for the purpose of providing medico-legal learning opportunities for medical students to train as deputy medical examiners/coroners in underserved rural areas; provide forensic science and legal training to district attorneys, judges, and law enforcement; and develop opportunities as appropriate amongst the designated partners to benefit current and future practitioners in the field.

Understanding the Effects of Human Trafficking.—Due to the complex nature of human trafficking and the lack of available research in this field, the Committee directs NIJ to conduct a study on the short-term and long-term physical and psychological effects of serious harm of human trafficking on victims. This study should be completed in accordance with Section 20 of Public Law 115–392, including entering into relevant agreements with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Impairment Detection Technology.—The Committee remains concerned about the lack of reliable, accurate, and performance-capable devices and technologies that can be used by law enforcement in the field to screen and detect the use of certain drugs, including cannabinoids, opiates, cocaine, methamphetamine, methadone, and fentanyl. The lack of reliable technology for such detection has implications for public safety in terms of ensuring that impaired drivers are not allowed to remain behind the wheel and to ensure the safety of law enforcement coming into contact with dangerous and potent drugs, such as fentanyl. The Committee directs NIJ to immediately submit the report directed in Senate Report 115–275 and codified by Public Law 116–6 to the Committee, and maintains direction for NIJ to report to the Committee every 6 months thereafter until such time as technologies are identified and deployed to law enforcement in the field.

Researching School Violence.—The Committee again provides \$1,000,000 for NIJ to continue to develop a model and best practices for comprehensive school safety including identifying the root causes of violence in schools using the four prior years of research conducted under the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative, which funded 100 projects in K–12 schools aimed at preventing school violence in fiscal years 2014 through 2017. NIJ shall provide a report to the Committee within one year of enactment of this act on the model and best practices for schools.

The Committee continues to direct NIJ to establish metrics to determine the effectiveness in deterring school violence through the grants issued by BJA and COPS as part of the STOP School Violence Initiative. NIJ was directed to provide their methodology on these metrics within 30 days of enactment of this act as directed by Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6. The Committee directs immediate submission of these metrics and also

continues to direct NIJ to publish an annual report on their website of the success of these grants.

Campus Sexual Assault Prevention Research.—The Committee directs NIJ to continue Federal research projects at institutions of higher education on campus sexual assault prevention interventions and advance the dissemination of best practices per direction provided in Public Law 115–141.

Review of Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Programs.—The Committee recognizes the psychological and emotional impacts law enforcement face in responding to stressful and traumatic situations and is disturbed by increased reports of suicides by current and former law enforcement officers. The Committee directs the Department to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this act assessing the availability of existing mental health resources for law enforcement agencies and should also include recommendations for increased access to, and utilization of, mental health counseling and programs focused on law enforcement suicide prevention efforts.

This report shall also review the efficiency and effectiveness of peer responder programs for sworn and non-sworn law enforcement employees, including “train the trainer” models designed to support employees in the wake of a personal or professional crisis. This report should provide a review of the effectiveness of partnerships between peer responder programs and mental health service providers who specialize in clinical psychology services and behavioral sciences. The report should include any additional programs or resources needed to assist the Department in its efforts to aid State and local law enforcement agencies in developing and implementing law enforcement suicide prevention programs.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$1,723,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,482,200,000
Committee recommendation	1,789,790,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides \$1,789,790,000 for State and local law enforcement assistance. The recommendation is \$66,790,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$307,590,000 above the budget request.

The Committee’s recommendations are displayed in the following table:

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Committee Recommendation
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants	545,000
Officer Robert Wilson III VALOR Initiative	12,000
Smart Policing	7,500
Smart Prosecution	8,000
NamUs	2,400
Academic Based Training Program to improve Police-Based Responses to People with Mental Illness	2,500
John R. Justice Grant Program	2,000

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Committee Recommendation
<i>Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution</i>	15,500
<i>Kevin and Avonte's Law</i>	2,000
<i>Drug Field Testing and Training Initiative</i>	2,000
<i>Project Safe Neighborhoods</i>	20,000
<i>Presidential Nominating Conventions</i>	100,000
<i>Juvenile Indigent Defense</i>	2,000
<i>Community Based Violence Prevention</i>	8,000
<i>Regional Law Enforcement Technology Initiative</i>	3,000
<i>Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review</i>	5,500
<i>Collaborative Mental Health and Anti-Recidivism Initiative</i>	1,000
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	150,000
Victims of Trafficking Grants	85,000
Economic, High-Tech, White Collar, and Cybercrime Prevention	14,000
<i>Intellectual Property Enforcement Program</i>	2,500
<i>Digital Investigation Education Program</i>	2,000
Adam Walsh Act Implementation	20,000
Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program	27,500
<i>Transfer to NIST/OLES</i>	1,500
National Sex Offender Public Website	1,000
National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative	78,290
<i>NICS Act Record Improvement Program</i>	25,000
Paul Coverdell Forensic Science	30,000
DNA Initiative	136,000
<i>Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grants</i>	125,000
<i>Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grants</i>	7,000
<i>Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants</i>	4,000
Sexual Assault Kit Initiative [SAKI]	48,000
CASA-Special Advocates	12,000
Tribal Assistance	38,000
Second Chance Act/Offender Reentry	90,000
<i>Smart Probation</i>	6,000
<i>Children of Incarcerated Parents Demo Grants</i>	5,000
<i>Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement</i>	4,500
<i>Pay for Success</i>	7,500
<i>Pay for Success (Permanent Supportive Housing Model)</i>	5,000
Anti-Opioid Initiative	378,000
<i>Drug Courts</i>	80,000
<i>Mentally Ill Offender Act</i>	33,000
<i>Residential Substance Abuse Treatment</i>	31,000
<i>Veterans Treatment Courts</i>	23,000
<i>Prescription Drug Monitoring</i>	31,000
<i>Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program</i>	180,000
Keep Young Athletes Safe Act	2,500
STOP School Violence Act	67,000
Community Trust Initiative	67,500
<i>Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program</i>	17,000
<i>Body Worn Camera Partnership Program</i>	22,500
<i>Justice Reinvestment Initiative</i>	28,000
TOTAL, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance	1,789,790

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.—The Committee recommends \$545,000,000 for Byrne-JAG. Funding is not available for luxury items, real estate, or construction projects. The Department should expect State, local, and tribal governments to target funding to programs and activities that conform with evidence-based strategic plans developed through broad stakeholder involvement. The Committee directs the Department to make technical assistance available to State, local, and tribal governments for the development or update of such plans. Funding is authorized for

law enforcement programs including those that promote data interoperability between disparate law enforcement entities; prosecution and court programs; prevention and education programs; corrections programs; drug treatment and enforcement programs; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs; and crime victim and witness programs, other than compensation.

Smart Prosecution.—State and local prosecutors are involved in more than 90 percent of all criminal prosecutions in the United States. Unfortunately, throughout much of the country, local prosecutors' offices are struggling to effectively adjust to the growing amount of evidence and the subsequent intricacies of the investigation and prosecution of crimes, particularly cyber, organized, and drug crimes, that have come with the digital age. The Committee supports the use of technology, intelligence, and data analytics in innovative ways that enable prosecutors to focus resources on the people and places associated with high concentrations of criminal activity. The Committee directs that OJP dedicate up to \$5,000,000 of the \$8,000,000 provided for Smart Prosecution for competitive grants focused on new solutions to public safety concerns, including the use of technology, intelligence, and data analytics to improve the operations of prosecutors' offices in an effort to more efficiently and effectively aid communities in achieving a reduction in crime.

Regional Law Enforcement Technology Initiative.—The Committee recognizes that the ability of local law enforcement to efficiently gather, analyze, and disseminate pertinent information is critical to investigating, reporting, and responding to crimes and suspicious activity in communities. The Committee believes that a technology initiative focused on leveraging local and regional law enforcement partnerships and enabling a secure method for the sharing of sensitive law enforcement information and resources is vital to the long-term success of our law enforcement personnel and the safety of our citizens. This initiative should be developed by a local governmental entity and may be accomplished through a variety of models, including a fusion center, task force, or center of excellence.

The Committee believes that among locations in the United States, law enforcement operating in the five States comprising the Gulf Coast is well situated to serve as a testbed for such an initiative and has provided not less than \$3,000,000 for the development of an initiative, for the purposes of efficiently supporting and promoting the exchange of information, investigate techniques, and best practices with the ultimate goal of reducing crime and improving officer safety in the competitively selected community. The Committee expects this initiative to serve as an example for how other local governmental entities in the region can leverage local and regional law enforcement partnerships to facilitate the sharing of sensitive law enforcement information and resources to promote the safety of their citizens. The Committee further directs the Department to ensure that the grantee submit a written report on the use of the grant funds, lessons learned, and how such an initiative could be utilized by other law enforcement agencies nationwide.

Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability [VALOR] Initiative.—The Committee's recommendation provides \$12,000,000 within Byrne-JAG for the

VALOR Initiative. The Committee expects Federal law enforcement agencies to continue and expand on efforts to provide local police with information as to whether or not a suspect has a violent history, to the extent that transfer of such information is allowable and available via Federal law enforcement databases, in an effort to prevent officer deaths. The Committee notes that an additional \$10,000,000 is provided under the COPS heading for Protecting Our Lives by Initiating COPS Expansion Act (Public Law 114–199) programs which help to provide active shooter training programs for State and local law enforcement officers.

Kevin and Avonte’s Law.—The Committee provides funding of \$2,000,000 for competitive grants awarded to non-profit and State and local entities to prevent wandering and locate missing individuals with forms of dementia, such as Alzheimer’s Disease, or developmental disabilities, such as autism, as described in the underlying authorization of division Q of Public Law 115–141.

Drug Field Testing and Training Initiative.—The Committee recognizes that crime and forensics labs across the country are overwhelmed, and understands the ripple effect on the justice system when forensic testing is delayed. While some forensic analysis must be conducted in a laboratory environment, the Committee believes that there are other methods, like rapid drug testing, that can be performed in the field. Therefore, within the funds provided, \$2,000,000 shall be spent on a pilot program to establish a training model led by an accredited institution of higher learning that can be used nationwide regarding rapid identification technology and methods which can be used when drugs are discovered in the field. This institution shall provide training to local law enforcement officers both on the methods of conducting rapid field testing to identify drugs encountered in the field as well as proper evidence collection techniques and storage measures, with the ultimate goal of reducing court backlogs for drug related offenses.

Prison Rape Elimination Act Audit Quality Initiative.—Facility audits are a key component in helping agencies move their sexual abuse prevention and response policies from written documents to everyday practices. BJA has outlined a meaningful Quality Improvement Initiative, and the Committee supports the Department using the necessary resources to carry out this work.

Drug-Detection Canines.—The Committee is concerned about the rise in drug trafficking, including that of methamphetamines, within the U.S. and along our borders and recognizes the need for additional drug-detection canines for local and State law enforcement. The Committee reminds the Department that this is a covered purpose area under Byrne-JAG grants and directs the Department to, where possible, further clarify within existing programs, including the AFF’s Equitable Sharing Program, that canines are a permissible use of Federal dollars.

Fentanyl Detection.—The Committee is aware of far too many incidents of first responders experiencing accidental overdoses after coming into contact with fentanyl or fentanyl analogues and understands the role played by fentanyl detection equipment and training on identifying fentanyl, particularly for police officers and other first responders, to keep officers safe by minimizing exposure. As such, the Committee encourages the Department to support the use

of grant funds like Byrne-JAG for the purchase of fentanyl detection equipment and training as well as naloxone distribution for law enforcement safety.

Academic-Based Training Center to improve Police-Based Responses to People with Mental Illness.—The Committee understands that law enforcement officers are often the first responders to calls regarding individuals with mental illnesses and often encounter mentally ill individuals while completing their routine patrol duties. The Committee recognizes the need for support and training so that law enforcement officers and other first responders are better equipped to handle such encounters and help provide appropriate treatment as well as reduce the number of individuals entering the legal system.

The Committee recommends \$2,500,000 for a grant program implementing academic-based, transdisciplinary crisis intervention training to educate, train, and prepare officers so that they are equipped to appropriately interact with mentally ill individuals in the course of completing their job responsibilities. This training should be developed by an institution of higher education, in conjunction with health care professionals to provide crisis intervention training which shall focus on understanding mental and behavioral health, developing empathy, navigating community resources, de-escalation skills and practical application training for all first responders. The Committee expects this grant program to serve as a pilot program, establishing best practices for law enforcement agencies.

Collaborative Mental Health and Anti-Recidivism Initiative.—The Committee recognizes that prison populations across the country have been severely impacted by the increased incarceration of individuals suffering from mental illness. The Committee understands that these individuals are often associated with high recidivism rates, because their access to mental healthcare upon release can be inadequate or non-existent. For many States, a shortage of mental health resources has a direct correlation to the overcrowding of prison systems. For this reason, the Committee provides \$1,000,000 for a pilot program that partners with the appropriate State office or entity, such as the Department of Mental Health or Department of Corrections, to establish a collaborative anti-recidivism effort focused on the therapeutic educational, vocational, evidence-based cognitive-behavioral, and mental health needs of inmates upon intake or arrest through their probationary or parole period that will provide a continuum of programming focused on recidivism reduction as well as the mental health and wellness, and, if needed, long-term assistance with mental health needs.

Gunfire Detection Technology.—Gunfire detection and location technology has been helpful in assisting law enforcement to rapidly respond to gun crime and analyze physical evidence found at the scene. The Committee encourages the Department to work with State and local governments to assist in the further deployment of such technologies, and to collect and analyze data from such systems in order to better address gun related crimes.

National Instant Criminal Background Check System Initiative Grants.—The Committee funds the program at \$78,290,000, which is \$3,000,000 above both the enacted level and the budget request,

to continue to improve the submission of State criminal and mental health records to NICS. This investment will strengthen the national background check system by assisting States in finding ways to make more records available in the NICS system, especially mental health records, thereby addressing gaps in Federal and State records currently available in NICS. Those gaps significantly hinder the ability of NICS to quickly confirm whether a prospective purchaser is prohibited from acquiring a firearm. The Committee expects OJP to track whether grant recipients are submitting data in a timely manner into the NICS system.

Project Safe Neighborhoods [PSN].—The Committee's recommendation includes \$20,000,000 for PSN. The Committee encourages OJP to use PSN funds to support evidence-based and data-driven focused intervention, deterrence, and prevention initiatives that aim to reduce violence. These initiatives should be trauma-informed, recognizing that people who are at risk of committing violence often themselves have been victims of violent trauma or have witnessed traumatic experiences in the past.

Group Violence Intervention [GVI].—The Committee recognizes that GVI is a strategy the Department should consider in its efforts to reduce violent crime. The Committee encourages the Department, in conjunction with the Project Safe Neighborhood program, to fund GVI initiatives in cities where GVI programs have proven to reduce gun violence.

Presidential Nominating Convention Security Funding.—The Committee provides \$100,000,000 for costs related to state and local law enforcement activities incurred as part of their efforts in assisting to secure the 2020 presidential nominating conventions. The Committee expects the Department to develop clear guidelines regarding allowable expenses and communicate these regulations as well as best practices from prior disbursements of convention security grants to the impacted jurisdictions as soon as possible. All payments and reimbursements shall be reviewed and approved by the Department prior to expenditure, as well as audited by the OIG, to ensure efficiency and accountability.

Grants to Combat Human Trafficking.—The Committee's recommendation provides \$85,000,000 for services and task force activities for U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and foreign nationals who are victims of trafficking, as authorized by Public Law 106–386 and amended by Public Law 113–4, of which no less than \$22,000,000 is for the Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Task Force Program. The Committee urges that human trafficking task forces funded under this grant program take affirmative measures to emphasize the investigation and prosecution of persons who patronize or solicit children for sex as a human trafficking demand reduction strategy. OJP shall consult with stakeholder groups in determining the overall allocation of Victims of Trafficking funding and shall provide a plan to the Committee for the use of these funds as part of the Department's fiscal year 2020 spending plan.

The Committee notes that funding provided in this program may be used for victims of sex and labor trafficking who are minors, as authorized under VAWA 2013. Child trafficking victims require specialized care, and these resources can be used for items like res-

idential care, emergency social services, mental health counseling, and legal services. This funding level also includes \$10,000,000 for the Minor Victims of Trafficking Grant program, of which \$8,000,000 is for victim services grants for sex-trafficked minors, as authorized by Public Law 113–4, with the remaining \$2,000,000 for victim services grants for labor-trafficked minors. The Committee encourages OJP to give an affirmative preference to applicants for grants that treat minors engaged in commercial sex acts as victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons, and discourages the charging of such individuals for prostitution or a sex trafficking offense. The Committee encourages DOJ to work in close coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services to encourage collaboration and reduce duplication of effort.

Capital Litigation Improvement and Wrongful Conviction Review.—The Committee recognizes the need for legal representation and investigation services for individuals with post-conviction claims of innocence. Individuals exonerated in 2018 spent an average of almost 11 years incarcerated for their convictions, for a record total of 1,639 years lost and 57 percent of 2018 exonerations—a record 86 of the total 151 exonerations were a result of the work of innocence organizations.

Given the urgent need to identify and remediate wrongful convictions, the Committee directs that at least 50 percent of the \$5,500,000 appropriated to the Capital Litigation Improvement and Wrongful Conviction Review grant programs shall be used to support Wrongful Conviction Review grantees providing high quality and efficient post-conviction representation for defendants in post-conviction claims of innocence. Wrongful Conviction Review grantees shall be nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, and/or State or local public defender offices that have in-house post-conviction representation programs that show demonstrable experience and competence in litigating post-conviction claims of innocence. To avoid any possible conflicts of interest, the Committee directs that the Department shall not require grantees to participate in partnerships between a State or local prosecutor's office and an organization or entity dedicated to ensuring just convictions and/or acquittals. Grant funds shall support grantee provision of post-conviction legal representation of innocence claims; case review, evaluation, and management; experts; potentially exonerative forensic testing; and investigation services related to supporting these post-conviction innocence claims.

Community-Based Violence Prevention [CBVP].—The Committee provides \$8,000,000 for CBVP and directs that these funds support evidence-based and data-driven intervention, prevention, and deterrence focused initiatives that aim to reduce violence. These initiatives should be focused on areas that are disproportionately impacted by violent crime including areas experiencing high rates of illegal firearms arrests and homicides.

Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program.—Within the \$27,500,000 provided for bulletproof vests, \$1,500,000 is to be transferred directly to the NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards to continue supporting ballistic- and stab-resistant material compliance testing programs. The Committee expects the BJA to continue strengthening internal controls to manage the Pat-

rick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program. Improving grantee accountability in the timely use of Federal funds to purchase body armor will help every police officer who needs a vest to get one, thus saving officers' lives.

Body-Worn Camera Partnership Program.—The Committee's recommendation includes \$22,500,000 for a competitive matching grant program to equip State, local, and tribal law enforcement officers with body-worn cameras. The Committee recommends that jurisdictions (1) develop camera policies and procedures with community input; (2) commit to a set of narrow and well-defined purposes for which cameras and their footage may be used; (3) specify clear operational policies for recording, retention, and access; (4) require training for both the proper use of body-worn cameras and for the handling and use of the obtained video and audio recordings; (5) ensure that prior to use of body-worn cameras, privacy and data retention policies are already in place; and (6) as appropriate, make footage available to promote accountability with necessary privacy safeguards.

Second Chance Act Grants and Drug Treatment.—The recommendation provides \$90,000,000 for Second Chance Act [SCA] grants. The Committee expects that SCA funding will support grants that foster the implementation of strategies that have been proven to reduce recidivism and ensure safe and successful reentry back to their communities of adults released from prisons and jails. The SCA supports activities such as employment assistance, substance abuse treatment including MAT options, housing, local transportation, mentoring, family programming, and victim support. SCA grants will also support demonstration projects designed to test the impact of new strategies and frameworks.

The Committee continues to support the Office of Management and Budget's scoring mechanism for SCA grant funding as it relates to opioid abuse and the heroin epidemic. In addition, when awarding SCA grants, the Committee directs the OJP to consider the impact of reentry of prisoners on communities in which a disproportionate number of individuals reside upon release from incarceration. The OJP shall assess the reentry burdens borne by local communities and local law enforcement agencies; review the resources available in such communities to support successful reentry and the extent to which those resources are used effectively; and make recommendations to strengthen the resources in such communities which are available to support successful reentry and to lessen the burden placed on such communities by the need to support reentry.

Project HOPE Institute.—The Committee recognizes the success of Project HOPE. The Committee provides \$4,500,000 for Project HOPE, of which not less than \$500,000 shall be directed to establishing a Project HOPE Institute to provide training, technical assistance, and best practices for jurisdictions replicating the HOPE model.

DNA Backlog and Crime Lab Improvements.—The Committee is once again extremely disappointed that the Department's budget request slashes funding by \$25,000,000 for critical grant programs to help State and local agencies address their backlogs and test forensic evidence. The Committee continues its strong support for

DNA backlog and crime lab improvements by recommending \$136,000,000 to strengthen and improve Federal and State DNA collection and analysis systems that can be used to accelerate the prosecution of the guilty while simultaneously protecting the innocent from wrongful prosecution. Within funds provided, \$125,000,000 is for Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Reduction grants, \$7,000,000 is for Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing grants, and \$4,000,000 is for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners grants.

The Committee expects that the OJP will make funding for DNA analysis and capacity enhancement a priority in order to meet the purposes of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program. The Committee directs the Department to submit to the Committee as part of its spending plan for State and Local Law Enforcement Activities a plan with respect to funds appropriated for DNA-related and forensic programs, including the alignment of appropriated funds with the authorized purposes of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program.

Enforcing the Debbie Smith Act.—Section 3 of The Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–324) codified that not less than 75 percent of amounts made available “for a DNA Analysis and capacity enhancement program and for other local, State, and Federal forensic activities” shall be provided for grants for activities described under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of Section (2)(a) of the DNA Analysis and Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135(a)). This 75 percent requirement had previously been codified by Congress and the President as part of the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act of 2013, which was enacted as Title X of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4). Though this provision has been a part of the U.S. Code for several years, the Department has failed to adhere to the law. Specifically, in their solicitations for both fiscal year 2018 and fiscal year 2019, the Department allocated only \$70,000,000 (58 percent) of the funds to the DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program. With the enactment of Section 3 of the Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016, Congress has made its intent clear. The Committee therefore instructs the Attorney General to ensure that not less than 75 percent of the funds provided under this provision are provided to States and units of local government through grants to address the DNA crime scene evidence backlog.

Additionally, the Justice Served Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–257) was enacted on October 9, 2018, and requires that not more than 7 percent and not less than 5 percent of the funds allocated for the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program be used for “grants for prosecutors to increase the capacity of State and local prosecution offices to address cold cases involving violent crime, where suspects have been identified through DNA evidence.” The Committee directs the Department to implement the Justice Served Act of 2018 in accordance with the clear intent of Congress and ensure that not more than 7 percent and no less than 5 percent of the funds provided under the Debbie Smith program are allocated for the purpose of increasing the capacity of state and local prosecutors to address cold cases.

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative [SAKI].—The Committee’s recommendation includes \$48,000,000 to continue a competitive grant program started in fiscal year 2015 as part of the initiative to reduce the backlog of rape kits at law enforcement agencies. The NIJ shall provide competitively awarded grants with a comprehensive community-based approach to addressing the resolution of cases in the backlog. The Committee directs the NIJ to provide a report not later than 90 days after enactment of this act on its progress in developing a strategy and model to serve as best practices for discovering and testing kits, training law enforcement, and supporting victims throughout the process as required by Public Law 113–235.

Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act [SAFER].—The SAFER Act was included as Title X of the Violence Against Women Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) and was reauthorized by the SAFER Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–107). The Act authorized the Attorney General to make grants for the purpose of helping State and local law enforcement agencies conduct audits of the rape kit backlog. In 2016, the Department fully implemented the SAFER Act by providing grants for such a purpose under the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence-Inventory, Tracking, and Reporting Program. The Committee directs the continuation of this important program to deliver justice for victims of sexual assault.

Paul Coverdell Forensic Science.—The recommendation provides a total of \$30,000,000, of which \$17,000,000 is to specifically target the challenges the opioid and synthetic drug epidemic has brought to the forensics community as described in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6.

Economic, High-Tech, White Collar, and Cybercrime Prevention.—The Committee recommends \$14,000,000 to assist State and local law enforcement agencies in the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of economic, high-tech, and Internet crimes. Given the importance of protecting our Nation’s new technologies, ideas, and products, the Committee includes the request of \$2,500,000 for competitive grants that help State and local law enforcement tackle intellectual property [IP] thefts, such as counterfeiting and piracy.

Additionally, the Committee recognizes the need to expand opportunities for computer and digital forensics education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in order to prepare for these challenges. To meet this need, \$2,000,000 shall be dedicated for a separate competitive grant program to expand a partnership with an institution for higher learning for the purposes of furthering educational opportunities for students training in computer forensics and digital investigation.

Keeping Young Athletes Safe Act.—The Committee again provides funding of \$2,500,000 for a competitive grant program to safeguard young athletes against abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, in sports. The Committee directs that funding be prioritized for curriculum development and training for abuse prevention education in youth athletic programs and for investigation and resolution of sexual abuse claims. OJP is directed to submit a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this act describing how grant funding was used by the grantees by purpose area for the prior fiscal year, the number of trainings provided, the number

of claims investigated, and the number of investigations referred to law enforcement for prosecution.

Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act [CARA] Programs.—The Committee provides a total of \$378,000,000 for CARA programs, including \$80,000,000 for drug courts; \$23,000,000 for veterans treatment courts; \$31,000,000 for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment including access to any of the three MAT options; \$31,000,000 for prescription drug monitoring; \$33,000,000 for the Mentally Ill Offender Act; and \$180,000,000 for the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program [COSSAP].

The Committee directs that funding for COSSAP programs be focused on prevention and education efforts, effective responses to those affected by substance abuse, and services for treatment and recovery from addiction. Of the \$180,000,000 for COSSAP, no less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available for additional replication sites employing the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion [LEAD] model, with applicants demonstrating a plan for sustainability of LEAD-model diversion programs; no less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for education and prevention programs to connect law enforcement agencies with K–12 students; and no less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available for embedding social services with law enforcement in order to rapidly respond to drug overdoses where children are impacted.

The Committee supports specialized residential substance abuse treatment programs for inmates with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders or challenges. Given the strong nexus between substance abuse and mental illness in our prisons and jails, the Committee encourages the Attorney General to ensure that funds provided for residential substance abuse treatment for State prisoners are being used to treat underlying mental health disorders in addition to substance abuse disorders.

The Committee recognizes the importance of drug courts and the vital role that they serve in reducing crime among people with a substance use or mental health disorder. In recent years, drug courts have been on the front lines of the opioid epidemic and have become important resources for law enforcement and other community stakeholders affected by opioid addiction. The Committee encourages Federal agencies to continue to work with State and local governments and communities to support drug courts.

The Committee supports the ability of drug courts to address offenders with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health problems, and supports court ordered assisted outpatient treatment programs for individuals struggling with mental illness. Within the funding provided for drug courts, the Committee encourages OJP to give attention to States and localities that have the highest concentrations of opioid-related cases, and to prioritize assistance to underserved areas whose criminal defendants currently have relatively little opportunity to access drug courts. The Committee encourages OJP to coordinate, as appropriate, with other Federal agencies like the Department of Health and Human Services, as it implements these activities in order to avoid duplication.

The Committee supports the work of mental health courts across the country. The Committee is concerned, however, by the high rates of re-incarceration among individuals with serious mental ill-

ness due to the inadequate access to care for or management of their illness and encourages the Department to include appropriate long-acting medications as an allowable expense to improve treatment adherence and reduce risk for relapse and re-incarceration. Additionally, the Committee urges the Department to provide funding in accordance with Section 14002 of the 21st Century CURES Act of 2016 for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment as authorized in law.

Finally, the Committee recognizes that the 21st Century CURES Act authorized the funding of Forensic Assertive Community Treatment [FACT] Initiatives as part of the adult and juvenile collaboration program grants. The Committee encourages OJP to make funding available for FACT Initiatives within these programs.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2019	\$287,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	238,500,000
Committee recommendation	315,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$315,000,000 for juvenile justice programs. The recommendation is \$28,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$76,500,000 above the budget request.

The Committee strongly supports a comprehensive approach of substantial funding for a robust portfolio of programs that work to improve the lives of the youth in our communities. Title II State Formula and Title V juvenile delinquency prevention grants are the backbone of programs assisting State and local agencies to prevent juvenile delinquency and ensure that youth who are in contact with the juvenile justice system are treated fairly. Combined with other critical programs like youth mentoring, the Committee believes that a balanced level of programming is the way to best help at-risk and vulnerable youth and their families.

The Committee encourages OJJDP to review its suite of grant programs in order to offer services and programs for children and youth who have experienced complex trauma.

The Committee's recommendations are displayed in the following table:

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Committee Recommendation
Part B—State Formula Grants	63,000
<i>Emergency Planning-Juvenile Detention Facilities</i>	500
Youth Mentoring Grants	97,000
Title V—Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants	40,000
<i>Tribal Youth</i>	5,000
<i>Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal</i>	500
<i>Girls in Justice System</i>	2,000
<i>Opioid Affected Youth Initiative</i>	10,000
<i>Children Exposed to Violence</i>	8,000
Victims of Child Abuse Programs	27,000
Missing & Exploited Children Programs	85,000
Training for Judicial Personnel	3,000
TOTAL, Juvenile Justice	315,000

Any deviation from the above plan is subject to the reprogramming requirements of section 505 of this act.

Part B: State Formula Grants.—The Committee provides \$63,000,000 for grants to implement comprehensive State juvenile justice plans, including community-based prevention and intervention programs and activities for juvenile offenders. This amount is \$3,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$5,000,000 above the budget request.

Within the amount provided, the Committee recommends \$500,000 for competitive demonstration grants for State, local, and tribal juvenile justice detention facilities and systems to meet the needs of children and adolescents housed in detention facilities in preparation for, during, and after a disaster, as detailed in the 2011 emergency planning guidance issued by OJJDP.

The Committee directs the OJP to submit as part of its spending plan for State and Local Law Enforcement Activities a plan for the administration of Part B State Formula Grants. The Committee expects this plan to include details pertaining to the formulas utilized in awarding grants under this heading.

The Committee urges DOJ to encourage Title II grant recipients to coordinate with their State education agencies to support continuity of education opportunities for adjudicated youth and encourages the Department to continue its efforts to institute reforms to ensure States' compliance with the Title II core requirements. The Department shall report to the Committee on these efforts 60 days after enactment of this act.

Implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018.—The Committee believes that effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–385) requires timely and comprehensive guidance to states by the Department and OJJDP. The Committee directs DOJ and OJJDP to support full, timely implementation of the law as intended. Further, the Committee urges DOJ and OJJDP to encourage all fifty states and six U.S. territories to fully participate in the Act and its goals of improving outcomes for public safety and youth. Appropriations to DOJ and OJJDP are provided within OJJDP to ensure that States have the training and support to continue as fully participating members in the Act.

Juvenile Diversion Programs.—The Committee encourages the Department to support evidence based diversion programs that focus on non-violent juvenile offenders and incorporate the peer-to-peer model and involve local law enforcement, institutions of higher education, and local health partners to provide a holistic approach to decrease recidivism.

Arts Programs and Therapies for At-Risk and Justice-Involved Youth.—The Committee supports the use and implementation of arts-based programs and therapies at various points in the juvenile justice system as a way to work collaboratively across sectors to achieve system improvements and positive outcomes for youth. As a result, OJJDP is directed to review opportunities to include arts-based methods for prevention, diversion, and residential grant programs.

Youth Mentoring Grants.—To support the critical work of national, regional, and local organizations in nurturing and men-

toring at-risk children and youth, the Committee recommends \$97,000,000 for competitive, peer-reviewed youth mentoring grants, of which \$10,000,000 is for helping youth impacted by opioids. Within 45 days of enactment of this act, the OJP is directed to provide a report and spend plan to the Committee detailing the criteria and methodology that will be used to award these grants, as well as an explanation of any deviations from the criteria and Committee directions used in fiscal year 2019. The Committee expects that the OJJDP will take all steps necessary to ensure fairness and objectivity in the award of these and future competitive grants. The Committee expects OJP to maintain OJJDP's expanded eligibility for local mentoring programs, particularly in rural areas, unaffiliated with national mentoring organizations. The Committee also expects OJP and OJJDP to collaborate with mentoring stakeholders to expand youth mentoring services in rural areas inordinately affected by substance abuse, particularly heroin and opioids, and that are considered at-risk.

Helping Youth Impacted by Opioids.—The recommendation provides \$27,000,000 in OJJDP grant funding to support States, local communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for children, youth, and at-risk juveniles and their families who have been impacted by the opioid crisis and drug addiction. Within this amount, \$10,000,000 is provided to continue the Opioid Affected Youth Initiative within Title V: Delinquency Prevention grants, \$16,000,000 is provided for youth mentoring grants, and \$1,000,000 is provided for Training for Judicial Personnel, which shall be dedicated for specialized training for juvenile and family court judges on handling families impacted by opioids including additional pressures on youth in foster care.

Preventing Trafficking of Girls and Involvement in the Juvenile Justice System.—Girls in the United States with a history of sexual and physical abuse, school failure, substance dependency, and involvement in the welfare system, and who live in impoverished communities or are homeless, are at an increased risk of becoming victims of domestic human trafficking. The Committee provides \$2,000,000 for the “Girls in the Justice System” grant program, which will enable organizations, including nonprofit entities, with a successful track record of administering prevention and early intervention programs for girls vulnerable to trafficking and who are most likely to end up in the juvenile justice system, at a local or State-level, to replicate these programs at a national level. Funding for this program will further support prevention and early intervention strategies and curricula throughout the country, and place vulnerable girls on a path toward success, stability, and long-term contribution to society.

Children Exposed to Violence.—The Committee notes that nearly two-thirds of children in the United States have been exposed to violence, which can impact development, health, and educational outcomes, and perpetuate the cycle of violence and substance abuse. The Committee provides \$8,000,000 for grants to help children exposed to violence, through supportive services for the children and their families, training and awareness to communities, and technical assistance with demonstrated expertise increasing

awareness about and building the capacity of families and communities to help children exposed to violence.

Victims of Child Abuse Act.—The Committee’s recommendation provides \$27,000,000 for the various programs authorized under the Victims of Child Abuse Act (Public Law 101–647) and directs OJJDP to ensure that not less than 90 percent of the grants awarded are for the purposes of developing and maintaining child advocacy centers [CAC], including training and accreditation. The Committee further directs OJJDP to ensure the funds intended to support local CACs are used efficiently with the highest percentage possible of Federal funding expended for local CAC organizational capacity, which is essential for the effective support of implementing the multidisciplinary response to child abuse investigation, prosecution, and intervention services. Within the funds provided, \$5,000,000 shall be for Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers [RCACs] Programs. The RCACs were established to provide information, consultation, training, and technical assistance to communities, and to help establish child-focused programs that facilitate and support coordination among agencies responding to child abuse.

The Committee continues to support efforts by CACs to use their unique model and expertise to help military installations address cases of child abuse, and again provides \$1,000,000 from within the funds provided to continue to support a pilot project to identify, develop, and operationalize best practices. As this effort has been funded since fiscal year 2017, the Committee directs OJJDP to report on the status of this pilot including the locations of CACs and military installations working together, the number of children served through these partnerships, and lessons learned from this pilot program.

Missing and Exploited Children Programs.—The Committee recommends \$85,000,000 for OJJDP’s Missing and Exploited Children Programs in order to support law enforcement agencies and other national organizations that report and investigate missing children cases and also investigate those who exploit children both with and without an online nexus. The Committee directs OJP to provide a spending plan for the use of these funds as part of the Department’s spending plan for fiscal year 2020, which shall include investments in authorized national programs that serve as a resource center and clearinghouse on missing and exploited children, task force grants, and administrative costs for the Internet Crimes Against Children [ICAC] program.

Within funds provided, the Committee directs that the full authorized amount of \$40,000,000 be provided for the purposes of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–267), up to \$32,200,000 of which shall be used to carry out section 34 USC 11293(b)

Within the funds provided, \$4,400,000 is provided for the AMBER Alert program, of which no less than \$3,400,000 is for the operation and activities of the existing AMBER Alert program. The Committee also recognizes the diverse and unique challenges identified in the report to Congress directed by the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act (Public Law 115–166) for the integration of State AMBER Alert communications plans and tribal

systems. Of the funds provided for AMBER Alert activities, \$1,000,000 shall be directed to addressing State/tribal integration consistent with the findings of the report, Public Law 115–166, and a long-term budget and plan by the Department for implementation across all States with affected tribal communities.

Sadly, but thankfully, the public has become more aware of child sexual exploitation and abuse online, and has increasingly reported these instances of abuse. This has led to more reporting to the CyberTipline, which is operated by the National Center for Missing Children [NCMEC]. These tips are filtered and then exported to law enforcement agencies, including ICAC Task Forces. Due to the sheer volume of tips, however, there has not been a mechanism to spot duplicative tips or prevent the flow of false information, in turn creating more work for law enforcement agencies.

The Committee understands the increased need to analyze these tips, but believes this problem is not faced by ICACs alone and is aware of the need for proper deconfliction between ICAC task forces and Federal law enforcement, including law enforcement components within the Department. To remedy these problems in a holistic manner, the Committee directs that no less than \$1,000,000 of the funds provided be used towards continued development of IT solutions to address both duplicative tips and law enforcement deconfliction to ensure that only high-quality information is being provided to law enforcement agencies, including ICACs. This IT solution should be developed with input from all partners in the fight against online child exploitation including NCMEC, ICACs, the FBI and the USMS.

In 2018, the CyberTipline received 18,462,424 reports, NCMEC's national toll-free call center received 166,620 calls and 424,066 cases of missing children reported in 2018 per the FBI. All partners in the fight against child exploitation have important and unique roles, but must work together in the common goal of finding missing children, preventing child exploitation, and catching and prosecuting those who prey on children.

ICAC Training.—The Committee recognizes the work of ICAC task forces to combat the sexual exploitation of children. Within the ICAC portion of the Missing and Exploited Children program, the Committee directs the Department to prioritize expanded training on and use of the ICAC Child Online Protective Services program across Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, including military investigators.

National Endangered Missing Advisory Communications.—The Committee recognizes that the AMBER Alert system has succeeded beyond all expectations, and is credited with directly aiding the safe recovery of approximately 75 children every year. Because immediate public notification is critical in missing child cases and not all cases meet the specific criteria established under the AMBER Alert system, the Committee encourages the Department to explore the establishment of a national endangered missing advisory communications network that would enable immediate public notification for missing child cases who may be in danger of death or serious bodily injury regardless of evidence of abduction. The Department is requested to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment the best way to include these nationwide endangered pub-

lic notifications into existing infrastructure or if a new system is needed, estimated costs for this type of system, and what other Federal, State and local partners are required to successfully operate such a system.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$128,800,000
Budget estimate, 2020	141,800,000
Committee recommendation	141,800,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$141,800,000 for public safety officers benefits. The recommendation is \$13,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and equal to the budget estimate. This program provides a one-time death benefit payment to eligible survivors of Federal, State, and local public safety officers whose death was the direct and proximate result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty or certain eligible heart attacks or strokes. Within funds provided, \$117,000,000 is for death benefits for survivors, an amount estimated by the Congressional Budget Office and considered mandatory for scorekeeping purposes.

The Committee also recommends \$24,800,000, as requested, for disability benefits for injured officers and education benefits for the families of officers who have been permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2019	\$303,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	
Committee recommendation	335,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$335,000,000 for community oriented policing services. The recommendation is \$31,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$335,000,000 above the budget request.

The Committee's recommendations are displayed in the following table:

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Committee Recommendation
COPS Hiring Grants	245,000
<i>Tribal Resources Grant Program</i>	27,000
<i>Tribal Access Program</i>	3,000
<i>Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance</i>	6,500
<i>Regional Information Sharing Activities</i>	38,000
<i>Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act</i>	5,000
POLICE Act	10,000
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces	12,000
Anti-Heroin Task Forces	35,000
STOP School Violence Act	33,000
TOTAL, Community Oriented Policing Services	335,000

Any deviations from the above plan are subject to the reprogramming requirements of section 505.

COPS Hiring Program.—The Committee recommends \$245,000,000 for COPS Hiring grants to help State, local, or tribal law enforcement agencies to create and preserve police officer positions and to increase community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Grants will have an award cap of \$125,000 and require grantees to provide a 25 percent local match. The Committee encourages the COPS Office to focus on efforts to train and increase the capacity of law enforcement agencies, executives and managers serving rural communities to enhance the use of community policing practices and innovations in policing to expand the effectiveness of limited resources.

Regional Information Sharing Activities.—The Committee recommends \$38,000,000, an increase of \$28,000,000 above the budget request and \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, to support activities that enable the sharing of nationwide criminal intelligence and other resources with State, local, and other law enforcement agencies and organizations. Such activities should address critical and chronic criminal threats, including gangs, terrorism, narcotics, weapons, and officer safety or “event deconfliction,” and should reflect regional as well as national threat priorities. In addition, funds shall be available to support local-to-local law enforcement data and information sharing efforts focused on solving routine crimes by sharing law enforcement information not categorized as criminal intelligence. All activities shall be consistent with national information-sharing standards and requirements as determined by the BJA.

Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces.—The Committee’s recommendation provides \$12,000,000 for the COPS Office to make competitive grants to law enforcement agencies in States with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures. These funds shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities such as precursor diversion, laboratories, or methamphetamine traffickers.

Anti-Heroin Task Forces.—The Committee reiterates concerns over the dramatic rise of heroin abuse, deaths, and related crime in the United States. The need for additional resources and training to address these challenges is apparent, and the Committee created the anti-heroin program within the COPS Office in fiscal year 2015, continually providing funding in succeeding fiscal years. Despite the plea for additional resources from law enforcement as well as the interest of the Committee, the Department again proposes to eliminate this program as part of the fiscal year 2020 budget request. Instead, the Committee provides \$35,000,000 for the COPS Office to make competitive grants to law enforcement agencies in States with high per capita levels of primary treatment admissions for both heroin and other opioids. These funds shall be utilized for drug enforcement, including investigations and activities related to the distribution of heroin or unlawful diversion and distribution of prescription opioids. Priority shall be given to those drug task forces, managed and operated by the State, serving a majority of counties in the State.

Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Grants.—The Committee strongly supports efforts to protect the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers. Unfortunately the stress of officers' work and stigma associated with seeking assistance for emotional and mental health issues has led to an increase in suicides for officers across the country. To address this concern, no less than \$3,000,000 of the funding provided for the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (Public Law 115–113) shall be distributed as a competitive grant program for State and local law enforcement agencies to provide better training on officer emotional and mental health, implement suicide prevention programming, and help officers seek assistance in receiving support services.

Veterans Preference in COPS Hiring Grants.—The Committee directs the Department to submit a report outlining the number and cost of veterans hired in accordance with Public Law 115–37 in fiscal years 2018 and 2019 and estimated for fiscal year 2020. Additionally, the Committee directs the Department to continue to follow the authorization provided by Public Law 115–37 regarding the hiring of law enforcement positions in the COPS Hiring grant process.

School Resource Officers.—The Committee directs that the COPS Office continue to implement requirements and procedures regarding written memorandum of understanding and training requirements, including clear definitions of officers' roles and responsibilities on campus, for any COPS Hiring Grant funds used to hire school-based law enforcement officers.

Rural Law Enforcement Training.—The Committee recognizes the rural nature and great distances between major metropolitan areas, and understands the complications and stress this can place on State and local law enforcement in their training. The Committee is aware that some rural communities have limited financial and technological resources to train their law enforcement officers, often extending beyond the availability of equipment, and that funding constraints can make it impracticable to send officers to attend quality training as travel costs alone can take a toll on a small agency's budget. Many of these police departments have a small number of officers on duty and simply cannot have an officer out for training.

The Committee believes distance learning technologies are part of the solution, but recognizes that not all law enforcement training lends itself to an online format, especially scenario-based realistic training. Within the funds provided for Community Policing Development, the Committee directs that \$1,500,000 be used to establish a partnership with a central training academy affiliated with a major research university with statewide training responsibility, including rural areas, to develop and implement training practices and training modules that can be used to alleviate the cost and travel burden on rural law enforcement agencies. These models should include distance based learning technologies, but should also consider methods for providing in person training at a lower cost to rural law enforcement agencies.

Policing Practices and Accountability Initiative.—The Committee supports the COPS Office's efforts to integrate the Task Force on

21st Century Policing recommendations and urges the Policing Practices and Accountability Initiative to continue its work across Department of Justice programs and agencies to provide support and best practices for law enforcement agencies working to address issues of public trust.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends the following general provisions:

Section 201 limits the amount of funding the Attorney General can use for official reception and representation.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds in this title to pay for an abortion except where the life of the mother would be in danger, or in the case of rape or incest.

Section 203 prohibits the use of funds in this title to require a person to perform or facilitate an abortion.

Section 204 requires female prisoners to be escorted when off prison grounds.

Section 205 allows the Department of Justice, subject to the Committee's reprogramming procedures, to transfer up to 5 percent between appropriations, but limits to 10 percent the amount that can be transferred into any one appropriation.

Section 206 limits the placement of maximum or high security prisoners to appropriately secure facilities.

Section 207 restricts Federal prisoner access to certain amenities.

Section 208 requires review by the Deputy Attorney General and the Department's Investigative Review Board prior to the obligation or expenditure of funds for major technology projects.

Section 209 requires the Department to follow reprogramming procedures prior to any deviation from the program amounts specified in this title or the reuse of specified deobligated funds provided in previous years.

Section 210 prohibits the use of funds for OMB Circular A-76 competitions for work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of the Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

Section 211 prohibits U.S. Attorneys from simultaneously holding multiple jobs outside of the scope of a U.S. Attorney's professional duties.

Section 212 permits up to 2 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs to be used for training and technical assistance, and permits up to 2 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to that office to be transferred to the National Institute of Justice or the Bureau of Justice Statistics for criminal justice research and statistics.

Section 213 gives the Attorney General the authority to waive matching requirements for Second Chance Act adult and juvenile reentry demonstration projects; State, tribal and local reentry courts; and drug treatment programs. If a waiver is granted, the Attorney General shall document any factors and material presented by a grantee upon determining that a fiscal hardship exists prior to making an award.

Section 214 waives the requirement that the Attorney General reserve certain funds from amounts provided for offender incarceration.

Section 215 prohibits funds, other than funds for the national instant criminal background check system established under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, from being used to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to a known or suspected agent of a drug cartel where law enforcement personnel do not continuously monitor or control such firearm.

Section 216 places limitations on the obligation of funds from certain Department of Justice accounts and funding sources.

Section 217 permits the Department of Justice to participate in Performance Partnership Pilot collaboration programs.

Section 218 requires the Department to submit notifications to the Committee as required under Section 505 for transfers from the Debt Collection Management of Three Percent Fund.

TITLE III

SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Appropriations, 2019	\$5,544,000
Budget estimate, 2020	5,000,000
Committee recommendation	5,544,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$5,544,000 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy [OSTP]. The recommendation is the same as the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$544,000 above the budget request.

OSTP was created by the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–282) and coordinates science and technology policy for the White House. OSTP provides scientific and technological information, analyses, and advice for the President and the executive branch; participates in the formulation, coordination, and implementation of national and international policies and programs that involve science and technology; maintains and promotes the health and vitality of U.S. science and technology infrastructure; reviews and analyzes, with the Office of Management and Budget, the research and development budgets for all Federal agencies; and coordinates research and development efforts of the Federal Government to maximize the return on the public's investment in science and technology and to ensure Federal resources are used efficiently and appropriately.

Scientific Review.—The Committee maintains a firm belief that long-standing investments in basic research have resulted in transformational discoveries and dramatic improvements in the economy, healthcare, infrastructure, communications, national security, and many other sectors. Much of this success can be attributed to the process of peer review for the allocation of research funding and publication, and on community prioritization, such as through decadal surveys, which provide clear priorities for Federal investment and valuable oversight benchmarks. The Committee directs OSTP to ensure Federal science agencies continue to rely on peer review and prioritization efforts from the scientific community.

Open Access to Federal Research.—OSTP is directed to continue providing annual reports to the Committee in order to keep Congress apprised of the remaining progress needed to make federally funded research accessible to the public as expeditiously as possible.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education.—The Committee continues to support effective and mission-oriented STEM education programs at NASA, NOAA, NSF, and NIST within this bill, and encourages OSTP to work with non-Federal education and outreach communities.

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Emerging Contaminants.—The Committee reiterates its concern for the risks associated with exposure to contaminants of emerging concern, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances [PFAS]. OSTP submitted the “Plan for Addressing Critical Research Gaps Related to Emerging Contaminants in Drinking Water” in October 2018, which included a cross-agency Federal research strategy for addressing critical research gaps related to detecting, assessing exposure to, and identifying the adverse health effects of emerging contaminants in drinking water. Within 90 days of the enactment of this act, OSTP shall update that report, including identifying any necessary program, policy, or budgetary resources required, by agency, to support the implementation of the Federal research strategy for fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Research Integrity.—The Committee directs OSTP to convene U.S. Government representatives including science funding agencies, USPTO, the FBI, and other relevant agencies to provide to the Committee, within 180 days of enactment of this act, an assessment that offers a clear set of statements outlining current risks and threats to research integrity from foreign influence. As part of this assessment, representatives will examine, develop, and clearly describe the specific aspects of foreign talent recruitment program contracts and other intellectual property risks that are of concern. OSTP shall also incorporate the work of the Joint Committee on the Research Environment as part of this assessment. The Committee directs OSTP to use this assessment to understand and define the scope and scale of these issues and findings, to develop guidance for government agencies, universities, and the broader research community on indicators of risks to research integrity from foreign influence. OSTP shall report on the extent of these issues and findings across government agencies, universities, and the broader research community, and provide suggested risk mitigation actions that can be implemented by universities and the U.S. Government within their existing missions.

Research on the Great Lakes Resources.—The Committee notes that the Great Lakes resources represent a unique, linked, and economically-critical freshwater ecosystem that faces significant environmental challenges, including invasive species, runoff, and HABs, and believes its long-term health depends on the quality of scientific knowledge and technical and policy solutions gained by research operations. The Committee remains concerned that the vessels of the Great Lakes ecosystem Federal research fleet and regional academic institutions’ fleets are nearing the end of their useful service lives and are inadequate for the demands of their interdisciplinary research mission, and awaits submission of the assessment requested in Senate Report 115–275 and codified in Public Law 116–6.

American Leadership in Semiconductor Technology.—Preserving American leadership in semiconductor technology is important for American innovation, scientific discovery, and national security, as well as the advancement of critical technologies. The Committee encourages OSTP, in coordination with NSF, NIST, and other Federal research agencies and relevant industries, to assess the utilization of semiconductor-specific and semiconductor-related fields in both basic and applied research. The Committee requests a briefing

from OSTP within 180 days after enactment of this act on their findings.

NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

Appropriations, 2019	\$1,965,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,870,000
Committee recommendation	1,965,000

The Committee provides \$1,965,000 for the National Space Council. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$95,000 above the request.

The National Space Council was established by title V of Public Law 100-685 and after ceasing operation in 1993, was reestablished by Executive Order 13803. The National Space Council provides advice and assistance to the President on national space policy and strategy. The Council reviews U.S. Government space policy, including long-range goals; develops strategies for national space activities; and develops recommendations for the President on space policy and space-related issues. The National Space Council's additional roles are to monitor and coordinate implementation of the Nation's objectives in space by executive departments and agencies; foster close coordination, cooperation, and technology and information exchange among the civil, national security, and commercial space sectors; and facilitate resolution of differences concerning major space and space-related policy issues.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$21,500,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	22,615,700,000
Committee recommendation	22,750,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$22,750,000,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The recommendation is \$1,250,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$134,300,000 above the budget request.

NASA was established by the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (Public Law 85-568) to conduct space and aeronautical research and development and to conduct flight activities for peaceful purposes. NASA's unique mission of exploration, discovery, and innovation is intended to preserve the United States' role as both a leader in world aviation and as the pre-eminent space-faring nation. It is NASA's mission to: advance human and robotic exploration, use, and development of space; advance and communicate scientific knowledge and understanding of the Earth, the Moon, the solar system, and the universe; and research, develop, verify, and transfer advanced aeronautics and space technologies.

For Science, the Committee's recommendation strives to keep NASA's near-term launches on track to continue progress in exploring our solar system and the universe, understanding the sun, and observing our planet. The Committee expects NASA to continue making progress on the recommendations of the National Academies' decadal surveys, now and in the future.

This bill continues investments in human spaceflight that will enable travel to the Moon with NASA developed crew and launch vehicles; enables the burgeoning domestic launch industry that is

bringing cargo, and eventually crew, to the International Space Station; and supports NASA's science and technology programs. These elements should be viewed as complementary pieces of a balanced whole.

NASA is directed to continue providing the Committee with a quarterly launch schedule, by mission, that describes risks associated with launch delays due to problems with the launch vehicle, impacts of launch delays to other missions in the launch queue, and a budget estimate of the anticipated carrying costs for missed launch windows.

The Committee expects NASA to maintain focus on improving oversight and accountability throughout the agency. NASA's acquisition management continues to be on the GAO "high risk" list. GAO's most recent assessment of NASA's large-scale projects found the agency's cost and schedule performance on major projects has deteriorated since last year with 9 of 17 projects in development experiencing cost or schedule growth. NASA is directed to cooperate fully and to provide timely program analysis, evaluation data, and relevant information to GAO so that GAO can report to Congress shortly after the annual budget submission and semiannually thereafter on the status of large-scale NASA programs, projects, and activities.

In addition, NASA is directed to provide the Committee, with its budget justification, the reserves assumed by NASA to be necessary within the amount proposed for each directorate, theme, program, project, and activity, or, if the proposed funding level for a directorate, theme, program, project, or activity is based on confidence level budgeting, the confidence level and reserves assumed in the proposed funding level.

The Committee understands that NASA projects undergo major reviews in addition to regular oversight throughout the year. When one of these reviews results in changing the cost profile of a project in the current or budget request year, the Committee expects to be informed in a timely fashion so that its actions can reflect the most recent NASA analysis and expectation. Keeping the Committee up to date should reduce NASA's propensity to submit spending plans that disregard Congressional direction.

The Federal funding priorities for NASA set forth in this bill and report should not be interpreted as suggestions from the Committee. Rather they should be interpreted like any other statutory requirement levied upon NASA. The Committee objects to NASA's efforts in recent fiscal years to redirect funding away from priorities clearly set by the Congress in law. NASA's continued use of section 505 of this bill in this manner will result in limited funding flexibility in the future.

The Committee is supportive of NASA's STEM engagement efforts that provide hands-on learning experiences for middle, high school, and college students, including space launch activities, and therefore rejects the proposed cancellation of education programs. These types of programs allow students to experience the full range of STEM-related skills involved in designing, testing, and launching vehicles and designing payloads to deepen their interest in science and engineering fields.

The Committee has chosen to articulate the funding levels of programs, where appropriate, in the form of tables and, if necessary, supplemented with explanatory report language.

SCIENCE

Appropriations, 2019	\$6,905,700,000
Budget estimate, 2020	6,393,700,000
Committee recommendation	6,905,700,000

The Committee provides \$6,905,700,000 for Science, which is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$512,000,000 above the budget request. The Science account encompasses: Earth Science, Planetary Science, Astrophysics, the James Webb Space Telescope, Heliophysics, and Education. This funding supports NASA programs that seek to answer fundamental questions concerning the ways in which Earth is changing; the comparison of Earth with other planets in the solar system and around other stars; the connections between the Sun and Earth; and the origin and evolution of planetary systems, the galaxy, and the universe, including the origin and distribution of life in the universe. These objectives are assisted by input from the scientific community through decadal surveys and are achieved through robotic flight missions, ground-based scientific research and data analysis, and the development of new technologies for future missions. NASA shall continue its progress toward implementing the recommendations of decadal surveys in Earth Science, Heliophysics, Planetary Science, and Astrophysics.

SCIENCE

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Earth Science	1,945,000
Planetary Science	2,631,100
Astrophysics	1,171,600
James Webb Space Telescope	423,000
Heliophysics	735,000
Total, Science	6,905,700

Earth Science.—Within the amount for Earth Science, the Committee recommendation includes \$108,900,000 for Landsat 9 to maintain a 2021 launch profile; \$161,000,000 for the Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud ocean Ecosystem [PACE] mission to maintain a 2022 launch date; \$18,000,000 for CLARREO Pathfinder to continue progress on a Tier-1 decadal survey recommendation; \$10,000,000 for the Carbon Monitoring System; \$205,200,000 for Earth Venture to support missions under development while maintaining the cadence of future missions; and \$1,900,000 for NASA instruments on the Deep Space Climate Observatory. Within 30 days of enactment of this act, NASA shall report on the 5-year budget profile needed for PACE and CLARREO Pathfinder to achieve their planned launch dates and continue originally planned operations.

The recommendation fully supports, at no less than the request level, NASA–ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar, Small Satellite Con-

stellation Initiative, and Geostationary Carbon Cycle Observatory [GeoCARB]. GeoCARB is due to launch in the summer of 2022 and will demonstrate the feasibility of using a commercial communications satellite to host a scientific NASA payload and could serve as a model for meeting future Earth Science research needs in a cost effective manner. The Committee is also supportive of efforts for the development of aircraft instrumentation and arrays that can conduct remote sensing for scientific and operational research, and directs the agency to continue partnering with non-Federal researchers to test new technologies for analyzing snow, ice, and soil moisture. The Committee remains supportive of collaborative research that works to advance our understanding of the behavior of the Earth engaging academia, particularly students, in its studies and investigations, as these partnerships ensure that NASA's data expertise remains up-to-date and increases the research capacities at universities.

Earth Science Decadal.—The Committee supports the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences' Earth Science and Applications from Space Decadal Survey report and directs NASA to implement its findings to the extent practicable. As articulated by the report, NASA should plan to competitively select future missions that address high-priority target observables in the designated and explorer categories. The Committee is pleased to see NASA's announcement of the Earth Venture Continuity competition and believes an increase in competed, Principal Investigator-led missions will encourage responsible cost and schedule constraints, develop novel remote sensing technologies, and leverage the talents and expertise of scientists at universities and research institutions.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.—The Committee strongly supports NASA's efforts to develop and refine UAV platforms and encourages NASA to improve collaboration and cooperation with other science agencies of the Federal Government to share and expand limited UAV availability, including working with NOAA, to allow expanded utilization and supplement data collection in support of hurricane forecast modeling.

Planetary Science.—The Committee recommendation includes \$160,000,000 for planetary defense of which not less than \$72,400,000 should be for the Double Asteroid Redirect Test [DART] and not less than \$78,000,000 shall be for Near Earth Object Observations. It also includes full funding for the Discovery and New Frontiers programs at \$502,700,000 and \$190,400,000, respectively. The Committee expects NASA to continue the selection and launch cadence of New Frontiers and Discovery class missions in spite of any cost pressures from planetary flagship missions or the Mars program. In addition, the Committee expects NASA to submit a report with the 2021 budget request to frame how the request fulfills the Planetary Community's Decadal Survey.

The recommendation includes the request level for Radioisotope Power Systems. The recommendation also includes up to \$300,000,000, as requested, for Lunar Discovery and Exploration, including \$22,000,000 to continue the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter and up to \$80,000,000 for Commercial Lunar Payload Services. The Committee supports NASA's commitment to utilizing pub-

lic-private partnerships to advance its lunar science and exploration agenda and encourages the agency to leverage the resources and expertise of both private industry and universities in pursuit of these goals. The Committee directs that the Lunar Discovery and Exploration program adhere to the lunar science priorities established by decadal surveys and the National Research Council's Scientific Context for the Exploration of the Moon. Activities funded within the program should meet both lunar science and human exploration needs. The funds provided for lunar exploration are intended to support a mix of procurement of lunar payload delivery services; science instrument development; small satellite development; and long-duration lunar rover development. Given the origin of the program and the Committee's desire to foster a healthy domestic industrial base within the context of a growing market for goods and services in space, the Committee expects NASA to provide funding under this program only for lunar landers and rovers majority-designed, developed, and built in the United States. Additionally, this level of funding supports a regular cadence of at least one robotic mission to the lunar surface per year.

DART.—The Committee directs NASA to continue the development of the DART technology demonstration mission, with a target launch not later than 2022. The program provides a cost-effective way to understand how we protect the planet from asteroid threats. The Committee understands that ground based telescopes and radars will be used to provide the needed measurements to assess the degree of deflection resulting from the DART impactor and that this telescope support is already baselined in the NASA mission. The Committee reminds NASA of its mandate to detect 90 percent of objects greater than 140 meters that threaten Earth by 2020. The Committee directs NASA to develop a plan for funding the Planetary Defense Office for DART and subsequent activities, which will support successive space-based survey missions and technology demonstrations that will rapidly advance the Nation's planetary defense capabilities.

Green Bank Observatory.—The Committee recognizes the significant investment NSF has made to develop the world-class scientific facility at the Green Bank Telescope Observatory [GBO] and the benefit other agencies, including NASA, have gained through their use of the GBO facility. The Committee has therefore encouraged the development and support of multi-agency management plans for GBO, including the exploration of partnerships when feasible to maximize research capabilities at the facility.

Green Bank retains unique capabilities that can augment missions across NASA that leverage the taxpayer investment in the Observatory such as Near Earth Object characterization and support for NASA's fleet of robotic and human missions.

In an effort to foster such partnerships, within 180 days after enactment of this act, NASA shall, in consultation with the NSF and the Department of Defense, conduct a comprehensive cost and technical evaluation of constructing a radio frequency transmit capability at the Observatory. The evaluation shall consider options including the development of a state-of-the-art system and acquiring commercially available capability.

Mars Exploration.—The Committee recommendation includes \$570,000,000 for the Mars Exploration Program to ensure the launch of the Mars 2020 mission and to further development of a Mars Sample Return mission to be launched in 2026. Given that sample return was the highest priority of the previous planetary science decadal survey, NASA shall provide the Committee with a year-by-year funding profile for a planned 2026 Mars sample return launch. In addition, the Committee endorses the mid-term decadal survey recommendation for NASA to develop a comprehensive Mars program architecture, strategic plan, and management structure that maximizes synergy among existing and future domestic and international missions and science optimization at the architectural level. The Committee reiterates its previous direction that if the Mars helicopter demonstration would delay the overall Mars 2020 mission, it should not be included in the Mars 2020 program.

Astrophysics.—The Committee recommendation includes no less than \$98,300,000 for the Hubble Space Telescope, no less than \$10,000,000 for search for life technology development to leverage and scale technologies developed for the James Webb Space Telescope, and \$445,700,000 for the Wide-Field InfraRed Survey Telescope [WFIRST] to fully fund the project established at Key Decision Point-B. The Committee has again rejected the proposal to cut Hubble operations given costs that the program has absorbed to continue three fellowship programs, address hardware degradation through software changes, and enhance the long-term value of Hubble's data archive.

WFIRST.—The Committee rejects the proposal to cancel this mission which was the highest priority of the most recent Astrophysics decadal survey to settle fundamental questions about the nature of dark energy and has provided \$445,700,000 for WFIRST to be developed on a timeline that allows a 2025 launch date. The Committee reiterates the expectation that NASA will use a firm \$3,200,000,000 cost cap in its future execution of the mission. To reduce mission costs and ensure that overlap with the James Webb Space Telescope is maximized, NASA should implement the most efficient development program for the telescope and its instruments. The Committee notes that NASA's higher cost profile for WFIRST includes a 30 percent reserve for a telescope that is already built. WFIRST's use of existing hardware and proven technologies should enable a lower risk mission and shorter cycle time from development to launch.

Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy [SOFIA].—NASA regularly reviews its missions, as part of the senior review process, to measure mission performance based on scientific merit, national needs, the technical status of the mission, and budget efficiency to help resources prioritize and ensure they are meeting their science goals. NASA shall review SOFIA at the appropriate time to determine if this mission should have its prime mission extended.

Science Mission Directorate [SMD] Education.—The Committee provides no less than \$45,600,000 for education. The Committee supports the recommendation that the Astrophysics program continue to administer this SMD-wide education funding. The Com-

mittee encourages SMD-funded investigators to be directly involved in outreach and education efforts and support citizen science. NASA should continue to prioritize funding for on-going education efforts linked directly to its science missions.

Astrophysics Research.—The Committee recognizes the role of the Astrophysics Research program in supporting the development of novel astrophysics observation technologies that lay the foundation of future mission architectures. Additionally, a strong research program maximizes the scientific value of space-based missions by ensuring that the data collected through such observations can continue to provide new insights into the mechanisms behind cosmological phenomena. The Committee also understands that supporting these activities through extramural grant funding contributes to the long-term viability of the U.S. astrophysics community. As such, the Committee recommends \$250,700,000 for Astrophysics Research.

James Webb Space Telescope.—The Committee maintains its strong support for the completion of the James Webb Space Telescope [JWST], and provides \$423,000,000 for JWST. In June 2018, NASA presented the results of a second independent analysis of JWST cost and schedule. Following the recommendations of NASA and the independent team, Congress provided \$304,600,000 for JWST in fiscal year 2019 and raised the development cost cap by \$802,700,000 to accommodate the cost overrun and schedule slip. JWST will be nearly 100 times more powerful than Hubble and cement continued American leadership in astronomy. That is why the Committee was befuddled by NASA's fiscal year 2020 request for JWST of \$352,600,000 rather than the \$423,000,000 that was anticipated in the June 2018 updated cost estimate. The Committee has provided the full amount of \$423,000,000 for JWST and has again included a cost cap for JWST in title V of the bill. The Committee expects to be briefed expeditiously and kept fully informed on issues relating to program and risk management, achievement of cost and schedule goals, and the program's technical status, including any impacts to other projects to accommodate JWST costs. Unfortunately, this expectation, while included in prior acts, has not been met by the agency.

Heliophysics.—The Committee recognizes that a greater understanding of our Sun and the accompanying technologies developed for that purpose will help to mitigate the hazards that solar activity poses to ground- and space-based platforms that strengthen our national security, economic competitiveness, and scientific prowess. The recommendation provides \$735,000,000 for Heliophysics, including \$183,200,000 for Solar Terrestrial Probes, an increase of \$5,300,000 above the request to support continued mission formulation and development of Interstellar Mapping and Acceleration Probe [IMAP], implement accompanying Missions of Opportunity [MOs], and maintain operations for ongoing missions, including the Magnetospheric Multiscale [MMS] mission. The Committee directs NASA to provide not less than the fiscal year 2019 level for operations and scientific analysis for MMS and supports the request level for Research Range.

Heliophysics Explorer.—The Committee is encouraged by NASA's commitment to implement a 2-year cadence of alternating Small

Explorer and Mid-sized Explorer missions, and enable a regular selection of MOs to allow heliophysics researchers to rapidly respond to and participate in missions both inside and outside of NASA. This commitment follows the recommendations of the National Research Council Decadal Survey and can accelerate scientific understanding while developing the scientific workforce through increased research opportunities for students and faculty. The recommendation provides the request level of \$182,000,000 for Heliophysics Explorers.

Diversify, Realize, Integrate, Venture, Educate [DRIVE] Initiative.—The Committee supports implementation of the DRIVE initiative, a top priority of the National Research Council Decadal Survey, and encourages NASA to implement the goal of increasing the competitive research program to 25 percent of the Heliophysics budget request to enable the development of new technologies, establish competitively-awarded DRIVE Science Centers, support multidisciplinary research collaboration, and support early career investigators. The Committee recognizes the increasingly multidisciplinary nature of Heliophysics and seeks to provide researchers with the necessary tools to enable continued scientific progress in this field.

Heliophysics Technology Program.—The Committee recognizes the critical role that technology development programs play in enabling novel and transformative capabilities and mission concepts, and notes the contributions of these programs in other Divisions within SMD. The Committee directs the administration to formally include such a program as a standalone account line in future budget proposals to Congress.

Space Weather Science Applications.—In response to the Space Weather Action Plan and the recommendations of the Decadal Survey, the Committee recommendation provides no less than \$20,000,000 for space weather science applications to support innovation in observational capabilities and advance research-to-operations, operations-to-research, and computational aspects of space weather mitigation. NASA should coordinate with NOAA, NSF, and the Department of Defense to ensure that NASA is focused on research and technology that enables other agencies to dramatically improve their operational space weather assets and the forecasts they generate using data from those assets, including current and future ground-based telescopes and instruments that are expected to come on line, such as the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope. In addition, the Committee recognizes the diversity of activities within Living With a Star [LWS] that contribute to our understanding of the societal impact of the Sun-Earth system and encourages the Administrator to ensure that future budget proposals support missions that are currently operating and enable the formulation and development of future missions, including the next LWS mission.

AERONAUTICS

Appropriations, 2019	\$725,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	666,900,000
Committee recommendation	783,900,000

The Committee provides \$783,900,000 for Aeronautics, which is \$58,900,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$117,000,000 above the budget request. The Aeronautics account funds research in key areas related to the development of advanced aircraft technologies and systems, including those related to aircraft safety, ultra-efficient vehicles and fuel efficiency, hypersonics, and research that supports the Next Generation Air Transportation System in partnership with the Joint Planning and Development Office.

The Committee supports New Aviation Horizons and is encouraged by NASA's efforts toward developing a Low Boom Flight Demonstrator X-plane, referred to as the Low Boom Flight Demonstrator [LBFD]. Within the funds provided for Aeronautics, appropriate funds are included to enable the next X-plane demonstration planned beyond LBFD.

University Leadership Initiative.—The Committee recognizes that universities are uniquely suited to contributing revolutionary advances in aeronautical technologies. This is especially relevant to areas where multidisciplinary convergent research is needed to address complex technical challenges in early stage technology development. The Committee commends NASA for establishing the University Leadership Initiative to leverage university-led research in accordance with the Strategic Implementation Plan.

Electric Air Flight.—NASA is encouraged to strengthen collaborations with the Department of Energy to overcome energy storage challenges for novel modes of mobility like electric air flight.

Advanced Materials Research.—The Committee recognizes the continuing role NASA and university research institutions play in developing advanced materials platforms for next-generation air and space vehicles. NASA is encouraged to partner with academic institutions that have strong capabilities in aviation, aerospace structures, and materials testing and evaluation, and provides \$7,000,000 above the request to advance university-led aeronautics materials research.

Unmanned Traffic Management.—The Committee commends NASA for leveraging its capabilities in assisting the Nation's UAS test sites to advance efforts on the unmanned traffic management [UTM] program. NASA is encouraged to work with Federal agencies, States, counties, cities, and tribal jurisdictions on research toward the development of a UTM system that will ensure the broadest level of acceptance from local jurisdictions.

The Committee is interested in NASA research and development efforts designed to further new innovations in propulsion, simplified vehicle operations, increased automation, and the integration of these operations into controlled airspace. The Committee believes these technologies can address critical mobility challenges.

The Committee further expects NASA to work with industry stakeholders and coordinate with the Federal Aviation Administration to expedite technology introduction and maximize improvements in safety, affordability, and environmental benefits like noise and emissions reduction. As part of this effort, NASA is encouraged to leverage other directorates' research efforts, test sites, and industry partnerships where applicable.

Unmanned Aerial Systems Research.—NASA conducts research to reduce technical barriers associated with integrating UAS into the National Airspace System. This research remains a national priority with the potential to increase public safety and bring economic benefits to a wide range of industries.

Advanced Composite Project.—The Committee understands NASA has concluded the Advanced Composites Project [ACP] that enabled public-private partnerships for collaborative research in aeronautic composites toward the goal of reducing the development and certification timeline for composite aircraft. NASA intends to take the results of the ACP to drive research activities across the Aeronautics portfolio. While NASA advances their integrated Materials, Structures, and Manufacturing strategy to follow on the work of the ACP, the agency should keep in mind the work of the Advanced Composites Consortium to reduce the development and certification timeline for composite aircraft. In order to maintain the capabilities developed through public-private partnerships within the ACP, no less than the fiscal year 2019 funding level is provided for maintaining existing capabilities and intellectual property structures of this vital aeronautics science and technology research program as an element of our national aeronautics research strategy. NASA shall submit to the Committee, no later than 120 days after enactment of this act, a report detailing the utilization of public-private partnership activities developed as part of the ACP, the benefits of the program, and how NASA intends to strategically structure follow-on research activities across the directorate, while continuing to engage industry and academia.

Aerosciences Evaluation and Test Capabilities [AETC].—The Committee recommendation provides for all funding for AETC activities to be consolidated within the Aeronautics account. Aeronautics is the single largest user of these facilities and activities. This consolidation of AETC within a single account is intended to provide sufficient funds for operations and maintenance so that the capabilities are available for use across NASA without the need to transfer funds among disparate mission accounts.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

Appropriations, 2019	\$926,900,000
Budget estimate, 2020	1,146,300,000
Committee recommendation	1,076,400,000

The Committee provides \$1,076,400,000 for Space Technology, which is \$149,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$69,900,000 below the budget request. The Space Technology mission directorate funds basic research that can advance multi-purpose technologies to enable new approaches to NASA's current missions. These technologies can serve all NASA mission directorates and are not solely focused on enabling human spaceflight. Funding for the human research program remains in Exploration Research and Technology and is not transferred to Space Technology, as requested. Space Technology also includes funding for NASA's Small Business Innovative Research [SBIR] and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

The Committee is supportive of many of the technologies being developed within Space Technology, which will have wide ranging benefits for NASA missions and throughout the agency. Of particular note are the enabling technologies of Solar Electric Propulsion; the laser communications relay demonstration; in-space manufacturing and assembly; and composite tanks and structural materials. These key supporting technologies will provide enabling capabilities for multiple robotic and human exploration missions. The Committee is also supportive of the Regional Economic Development Program and encourages NASA to consider expanding the program to all 50 States.

The recommendation includes \$35,000,000 for additive manufacturing, \$20,000,000 for the Flight Opportunities Program, and \$5,000,000 to advance large scale production and use of innovative nanomaterials, including carbon nanotubes.

Satellite Servicing/RESTORE-L.—The Committee recommends \$180,000,000 for the Restore-L Project only to conduct and demonstrate the capabilities to refuel satellites in low-Earth orbit utilizing Landsat-7. The project shall target a launch before Landsat-7's fuel supply runs out in late calendar year 2021. As the program progresses from research to implementation, the Committee encourages NASA to work with private sector and university partners to facilitate commercialization of the technologies developed within the program and directs NASA to submit with its fiscal year 2021 budget request a report on current efforts underway to encourage commercialization of technology within the Restore-L program, with a focus on how intellectual property will be handled. The Committee encourages NASA to make Restore-L's capabilities available to other government agencies that own and operate satellites.

Nuclear Propulsion.—NASA is continuing its work to develop the foundational technologies and advance low-enriched uranium nuclear thermal propulsion systems that can provide significantly faster trip times for crewed missions than non-nuclear options. Not less than \$100,000,000 is for the development of nuclear thermal propulsion, of which not less than \$70,000,000 shall be for the design of a flight demonstration by 2024 for which a multi-year plan is required. Within 180 days of the enactment of this act, NASA, in conjunction with other relevant Federal departments and agencies shall submit a multi-year plan that enables a demonstration no later than 2024 and describes future missions and propulsion and power systems enabled by this capability.

Flight Opportunities Program.—The funding provided for this program may be used to support undergraduate and graduate work in developing flight opportunities payloads. NASA should ensure that funds are available for flight opportunities of science, technology demonstration, and educational payloads developed across all NASA Mission Directorates, as well as external flight opportunities, as authorized under section 907 of the NASA Authorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-267), including competitively-selected opportunities in support of payload development and flight of K-12 and collegiate educational payloads.

Small Business Innovation Research.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the SBIR program and its previous success in

commercialization of results from federally funded research and development projects and includes the requested level for SBIR. The SBIR program encourages domestic small businesses to engage in Federal research and development, and creates jobs. The Committee therefore directs NASA to place an increased focus on awarding SBIR awards to firms with fewer than 50 employees.

EXPLORATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$5,050,800,000
Budget estimate, 2020	6,396,400,000
Committee recommendation	6,222,600,000

The Committee provides \$6,222,600,000 for Exploration, which is \$1,171,800,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$173,800,000 below the budget request using the fiscal year 2019 account structure.

The Exploration account funds the capabilities required to develop, demonstrate, and deploy the transportation, life support, and surface systems that will enable sustained human presence beyond low-Earth orbit and throughout the solar system. The Committee believes the Nation deserves a safe and robust human spaceflight program to explore beyond low-Earth orbit.

EXPLORATION

[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
Orion	1,406,700
Space Launch System	2,585,900
Exploration Ground Systems	590,000
Exploration Research and Development	1,640,000
Advanced Exploration Systems	255,600
Gateway	500,300
Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities	744,100
Human Research Program	140,000
Total Exploration	6,222,600

NASA has embarked on an ambitious goal to return U.S. astronauts to the surface of the Moon by 2024, known as the “Artemis” mission. This is a significant acceleration of the program compared to the original fiscal year 2020 budget request that envisioned the same mission to be accomplished by 2028. The Committee has used the amended request as a guide in formulating its recommendations but also recognizes that several aspects of the accelerated mission are in the early stages of planning and development, and the estimated costs of elements through completion of the near term goal were not available to the Committee. While there is support for the mission, it is difficult to weigh the impacts of the accelerated mission on the overall budget of NASA with only a single year budget proposal. NASA must provide 5-year budget profiles, similar to all other NASA missions and programs, in order to allow a thorough evaluation by the Committee. In the interim, the Committee has provided funds to allow for NASA to advance its human exploration program and awaits further definition of the program and its estimated associated costs.

The Space Launch System [SLS], Orion multi-purpose crew vehicle, and Exploration ground systems are all critical infrastructure for the development and sustainment of the Nation's human exploration goals. These investments will enable the human exploration of space beyond low-Earth orbit, and provide flexibility for a variety of mission destinations including the Moon and Mars.

The Committee provides: \$2,585,900,000 for SLS of which \$300,000,000 is provided for concurrent Exploration Upper Stage [EUS] development and procurement; \$1,406,700,000 for Orion; and \$590,000,000 for Exploration Ground Systems. These funding levels reflect consistent programmatic funding to ensure the earliest possible crewed launch of SLS, as well as prepare for future science and crewed missions.

NASA's Exploration Systems Development is made up of distinct, but equally important pieces: the SLS heavy-lift launch vehicle and its propulsion systems, Orion, and the supporting ground systems that process and enable the launch of these vehicles. If any of these activities are delayed, then the entire exploration enterprise of launching humans beyond low-Earth orbit by NASA is also hindered. Therefore, it is important to view these programs as part of a complete system and to budget accordingly so that the Nation can advance its exploration goals.

It is important to note that the funding levels provided by the Committee support the development of multiple iterations of launch and crew test articles and flight vehicles that are being developed and produced during fiscal year 2020. Flight hardware that will be used for the initial uncrewed and crewed test launches, as well as the flights that will return astronauts to the lunar surface are included within the funding provided, as is funding for procurement of EUS hardware for its initial flight and future missions.

The Committee directs NASA to follow its "Priority of Use" clause for ensuring that its missions are prioritized and that mission related activities and schedules of NASA missions are not impacted by outside activities at its centers. In particular, NASA shall ensure that any non-Federal activities do not interfere with the progress of, and schedule for, the Artemis missions and will report to the Committee any conflicting activities and how the conflict was resolved 15 days prior to any activity taking place.

Exploration Research and Development [ERD].—The Committee provides \$1,640,000,000 for ERD of which \$500,300,000 is for Gateway, \$140,000,000 is for the Human Research Program, \$255,600,000 is for Advanced Exploration Systems, and \$744,100,000 is for Advanced Cislunar and Surface Capabilities. NASA must focus its efforts towards systems enabling a crewed landing on the Moon. This requires quickly identifying requirements and selecting teams that can meet a timeline that will make a safe landing as early as 2024 possible.

Lunar Lander Development.—As NASA embarks on a return to the Moon as part of its larger human exploration strategy, the need for the development of a lander that is tested and ready for crewed missions is of critical importance. In order to support the immediate need for developing a lunar lander capability by 2024, \$44,100,000 is provided for the lunar lander office to lead the support of NASA's accelerated exploration timeline. In order to expe-

dite development of lunar landers, NASA is encouraged to engage in public-private partnerships for lunar lander development and demonstration with at least one U.S. commercial company this year to meet the goal of safely delivering crew to the lunar surface. NASA shall ensure that as part of the lander procurement, an appropriate testing regimen can be executed prior to its crewed use and any selected lander designs can utilize any U.S. launch vehicle, commercial or otherwise, that is available for lunar exploration missions. This will allow for a robust and flexible lander architecture that matches schedule to launch vehicle availability.

Advanced Technologies to Support NASA Air Revitalization Initiative.—NASA could benefit from the Nation’s global leadership in ionic liquid advanced technologies related to mission critical tasks such as air revitalization. The recommendation includes the requested level within AES for applied industry and university research related to development and application of ionic liquid based technologies to aid in air revitalization systems. The Committee encourages NASA to support institutions with strong capabilities in developing these advanced technologies and demonstrated capabilities for translating technology into practice.

SPACE OPERATIONS

Appropriations, 2019	\$4,639,100,000
Budget estimate, 2020	4,285,700,000
Committee recommendation	4,150,200,000

The Committee provides \$4,150,000,000 for Space Operations, which is \$488,900,000 below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$135,500,000 below the budget request. The Space Operations account funds the International Space Station [ISS] and the supporting functions required to conduct operations in space. The ISS is a complex of research laboratories in low-Earth orbit in which American, Russian, and international partner astronauts conduct unique scientific and technological investigations in a microgravity environment.

ISS Research.—Increased crew time aboard the ISS presents more research opportunities. The Committee directs NASA to promote new grant opportunities that will support and further biological and physical sciences research within a microgravity environment, including continued study of and quantifying potential exposure to cosmic rays through initiatives such as the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer. In making grant opportunities available, the Committee urges the Administrator to abide by the priorities established by the National Academies’ decadal survey titled “Recapturing a Future for Space Exploration: Life and Physical Sciences Research for a New Era.”

Commercial Crew and Cargo.—The Committee recommends up to the requested level of funding for Commercial Crew and Cargo, including the Commercial Crew program. The Commercial Crew program is scheduled to launch U.S. astronauts on U.S. vehicles to the ISS during fiscal year 2020.

Commercial Low-Earth Orbit Development [LEO].—The Committee supports maintaining the ISS with direct Federal funding beyond 2025 until a viable alternative exists to achieve NASA’s objectives in LEO. The Committee supports public-private partner-

ships to advance commercial capabilities in LEO, particularly those involving in-kind contributions by NASA, such as making a docking node on the ISS available for partnership opportunities. However, the Committee notes that in NASA's March 27, 2019, report to the Committee providing a multi-year plan for lunar activities, NASA highlights: "a long-term LEO marketplace with primarily non-NASA commercial revenue is not viable without a significant transition period during which the U.S. Government continues to make investments in the market and purchases services from it." The report goes on to say that the transition will last for years, during which NASA will be expected to be the anchor tenant of any so-called commercial venture. Other NASA studies have found that the most promising market for LEO is space tourism. At this time, NASA is undertaking an independent review of its legacy commercialization activity, the ISS National Lab, formerly known as the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space to evaluate its commercial strengths and weaknesses. The recommendation provides \$15,000,000 for Commercial LEO activities to allow for continued opportunities for LEO commercialization that are not primarily dependent on NASA funding. NASA is encouraged to consider how regional partnerships between academia and the private sector can be mobilized and organized to better foster the growth of a commercial user base for space services and microgravity operations.

Rocket Propulsion Test Program and Testing Infrastructure.—The Committee recommends the fiscal year 2020 requested amount for the NASA Rocket Propulsion Test program to ensure test infrastructure remains adequate to support the SLS and other propulsion development programs. The Committee notes that NASA is planning to utilize its existing test facilities for the SLS green run test and that NASA anticipates doing so for Exploration Upper Stage testing in the future. The Committee encourages NASA to develop plans to fully utilize NASA-owned rocket testing infrastructure for commercially developed launch vehicles to ensure that these vehicles are not only tested in the same manner as Government-developed launch vehicles, but also at the same facilities, to ensure consistency in testing across all potential vehicles.

Space and Flight Support Launch Services.—The Committee believes that small launch vehicle development will lead to a capability that will maximize benefits to the government, the private sector, and universities while promoting increased participation in the small launch market. The recommendation supports funding in Space Technology, Science, and Exploration, estimated at \$21,500,000, that is provided to the Launch Services Program to procure launch vehicles of small payloads to increase opportunities for improved access to suborbital and orbital launch opportunities once the current round is completed. NASA shall also keep the Committee informed of the two upcoming demonstration launches planned for 2019, as well as its future plans to maximize utilization of this program that will lower small launch costs and increase access to space.

Space Communications.—The recommendation supports the completion of the Space Network Ground Segment Sustainment project. The Committee recognizes and appreciates the complexities

involved in sustaining NASA's Near Earth, Space, and Deep Space communications networks and infrastructure, which support NASA's scientific and exploration activities. The Committee directs NASA to develop a plan, budget, and timeline for sustainment of NASA's existing communications network and infrastructure. No funding is provided for the proposed new Communications Services Program.

21st Century Launch Complex.—The Committee notes that maintaining multiple launch sites contributes to assured access to the ISS for NASA, researchers, and industry. The recommendation includes \$15,000,000 for NASA-owned launch facilities, of which \$10,000,000 shall be for the Wallops Flight Facility launch complex. Within 45 days of enactment of this act, NASA shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a prioritized list of remaining needs for NASA-owned launch facilities necessary for range modernization to meet critical maintenance, capacity, and range safety needs over the next 5 years, along with an indication of whether these projects are planned to be funded under Exploration or Construction of Facilities [CoF]. The Committee notes that significant funding for Kennedy Space Center and Wallops Flight Facility projects have been previously included in CoF in both the fiscal year 2019 enacted bill and in this act.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS
ENGAGEMENT

Appropriations, 2019	\$110,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	
Committee recommendation	112,000,000

The Committee does not agree with the proposed cancellation of the activities within the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Engagement account. The Committee provides \$112,000,000 for STEM Engagement, which is \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$112,000,000 above the budget request. As part of this activity, NASA is directed to continue progress toward the Committee and NASA's shared goal of capping administrative costs at no more than 5 percent. This account funds STEM education activities to educate and inspire our next generation of explorers and innovators.

STEM ENGAGEMENT
[In thousands of dollars]

	Committee recommendation
NASA Space Grant	47,000
Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research [EPSCOR]	22,000
Minority University Research and Education Project	33,000
STEM Education and Accountability Projects	10,000
TOTAL	112,000

Space Grant.—The Committee provides \$47,000,000 for Space Grant and directs that all 52 participating jurisdictions be supported at no less than \$760,000. NASA shall limit administrative costs to the fiscal year 2019 level and shall continue to have a goal

of reducing administrative costs to no higher than 5 percent. The Committee encourages NASA to use increased funding to evaluate program performance, augment base grants, and competitively respond to local, regional, and national needs.

Competitive Program.—The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for the Competitive Program for Science, Museums, Planetariums, and NASA Visitors Centers within the STEM Education and Accountability Projects. This competitive grant program supports interactive exhibits, professional development activities, and community-based programs to engage students, teachers, and the public in STEM. The Committee is concerned that the program is now focused on coalition building rather than developing cutting-edge educational products for wide distribution, and that this change occurred without community input. The Committee encourages NASA to follow the program's authorized purpose.

SAFETY, SECURITY, AND MISSION SERVICES

Appropriations, 2019	\$2,755,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	3,084,600,000
Committee recommendation	2,934,800,000

The Committee provides \$2,934,800,000 for Safety, Security, and Mission Services, which is \$179,800,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$149,800,000 below the budget request. The Safety, Security, and Mission Services account funds agency management, including headquarters and each of the nine NASA field centers, as well as the design and execution of non-programmatic Construction of Facilities and Environmental Compliance and Restoration activities.

Independent Verification and Validation [IV&V] Program.—Within the amounts provided for cross-agency support, the Committee recommends \$39,100,000 for NASA's IV&V Program. If necessary, NASA shall fund additional IV&V activities from within the mission directorates that make use of IV&V services.

Moon to Mars Office.—As NASA moves forward with its plans to emphasize lunar research and human exploration of the Moon, it is important for NASA to have a clear, agency-wide vision to align efforts toward the implementation of an integrated Moon to Mars campaign. The Committee encourages NASA to consider a structure similar to other offices, such as the Office of the Chief Technologist and the Office of Chief Scientist as a model that could be followed. Such an office with a focus on lunar exploration would allow for agency-wide coordination of resources and activities across multiple directorates, while not disrupting NASA's current organization with major structural reorganizations. The Committee believes that sufficient funding is available if NASA chooses to pursue the organization of such an office pursuant to section 505 of this act.

Information Technology.—The Committee is extremely concerned with reports from the Inspector General [IG] and GAO on the state of NASA's Information Technology security. NASA needs to have outward facing systems that provide information and scientific data to users. These systems must have protections in place for sensitive data and internal operations. NASA requires an appropriate workforce to ensure the agency's IT systems are secure. Both the IG and

GAO highlight deficiencies within the Office of the Chief Information Officer. NASA is directed to provide the Committee with its plans to implement the recent recommendations of the IG and GAO on IT security no later than 30 days after enactment of this act.

Cybersecurity.—The Committee’s recommendation includes the full request for Agency Information Technology Services to support shifting NASA’s IT model to one that enhances cybersecurity with strong governance and information security practices.

Annual Financial Audit.—Over the past 8 fiscal years, NASA has received clean financial audit opinions. The Committee expects that NASA will take every action necessary to achieve clean financial audits this year and in the future. In order to maintain a stable financial base for executing NASA’s mission, no funds are provided to implement, alter, or configure changes to its financial system to accommodate Category B apportionments for amounts below NASA appropriation account levels.

Buy American Provisions.—NASA is reminded of language included in the NOAA section of this report regarding Buy American provisions which apply to NOAA, NASA, and NSF related to the acquisition, construction, or conversion of a marine vessel or marine vessel components.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$348,200,000
Budget estimate, 2020	600,400,000
Committee recommendation	524,400,000

The Committee provides \$524,400,000 for Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, which is \$176,200,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$76,000,000 below the budget request. The Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration account provides for design and execution of programmatic, discrete and minor revitalization, construction of facilities projects, facility demolition projects, and environmental compliance and restoration activities.

PFAS.—The Committee is aware that NASA, in collaboration with local, State, and Federal agencies, has conducted testing of the groundwater monitoring wells and drinking water wells near Wallops Flight Facility for the presence of PFAS. The Committee supports this action and urges NASA to act expeditiously to understand the extent of PFAS in and around the Wallops facility and to determine the need for action. The Committee also acknowledges NASA’s role in the development of PFAS guidelines and standards promulgated by the Administration, and urges NASA to take steps to improve transparency of the underlying data recommendations used in the formation of this guidance.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2019	\$39,300,000
Budget estimate, 2020	41,700,000
Committee recommendation	40,000,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides \$40,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General, which is \$700,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,700,000 below the budget request. The

Office is responsible for promoting efficiency and preventing and detecting crime, fraud, waste, and mismanagement.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The Committee includes bill language regarding the availability of funds for certain prizes. NASA is reminded that under the authority provided in section 20144 of title 52, United States Code, no prize may be announced until the funds needed to pay it have been appropriated or committed to in writing by a private source. NASA is directed to provide any written notification under subsection (h)(4) of that section to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The Committee also includes bill language regarding transfers of funds between accounts and the NASA spending plan for fiscal year 2020.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$8,075,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	7,066,000,000
Committee recommendation	8,317,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$8,317,000,000 for the National Science Foundation [NSF]. The recommendation is \$242,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,251,000,000 above the budget request.

NSF was established as an independent agency by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (Public Law 81-507) and is authorized to support research and education programs that promote the progress of science and engineering in the United States. The Foundation supports research and education in all major scientific and engineering disciplines through grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and other forms of assistance in all parts of the United States. NSF also supports unique domestic and international large-scale research facilities.

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Appropriations, 2019	\$6,520,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	5,662,960,000
Committee recommendation	6,769,670,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$6,769,670,000. The recommendation is \$249,670,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,106,710,000 above the budget request.

The Research and Related Activities [R&RA] appropriation funds scientific discovery, trains a dynamic workforce, and supports broadly accessible state-of-the-art tools and facilities. Research activities contribute to the achievement of these outcomes through expansion of the knowledge base; integration of research and education; stimulation of knowledge transfer between academia and the public and private sectors, and international activities; and brings the perspectives of many scientific disciplines to bear on complex problems important to the Nation. NSF's discipline-oriented R&RA account includes: Biological Sciences; Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Engineering; Geosciences; Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Social, Behavioral and Eco-

conomic Sciences; Office of Cyberinfrastructure; Office of International Science and Engineering; Office of Polar Programs; Integrative Activities; and the U.S. Arctic Research Commission.

The Committee's fiscal year 2020 recommendation supports Federal long-term basic research that has the potential to transform our economy and our way of life in the context of a constrained Federal budget. Private industry, foundations, and non-profits bring additional expertise, resources, and capacity to NSF-funded research. This can further accelerate discovery and translation of research to products and services, and enhance the preparation of the future workforce to benefit society and grow the American economy. The Committee strongly encourages NSF to leverage the Nation's research communities through partnering and collaboration to make available infrastructure, expertise, and financial resources to the U.S. scientific and engineering research and education enterprise.

Scientific Facilities and Instrumentation.—A critical component of the Nation's scientific enterprise is the infrastructure that supports researchers in discovery science. Investments to advance the frontiers of research and education in science and engineering are critical to the Nation's innovation enterprise. The Committee encourages NSF to fully fund its U.S. scientific research facilities and instruments to adequately support scientists and students engaged in sustained, cutting-edge research. The recommendation fully supports the budget request for the new Facility Operation Transition pilot and operation of the National Ecological Observatory Network at no less than the fiscal year 2019 level.

Astronomy.—U.S.-based astronomy researchers and facilities funded through NSF continue to make groundbreaking discoveries utilizing world-class scientific research instruments and facilities. NSF funding enables research in the United States, at facilities across the globe, and at observatories operated by universities, including the National Optical Astronomy Observatories, the National Radio Astronomy Observatories, and the National Solar Observatory. As NSF determines the appropriate levels of support for astronomy research grants by scientists and students engaged in ground-breaking research and investments, the Committee expects NSF to continue its support of world-class scientific research facilities and instrumentation to maximize its investments in research while preliminarily preparing for facility upgrades and activities associated with supporting the next Astrophysics decadal. In addition to this support, partnerships should be explored when feasible to maximize research capabilities at such facilities.

Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope.—The Committee supports the budget request for operations of the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope [DKI-ST]. This new telescope will be a major enabler of solar research and the understanding of space weather that can affect our climate and communications systems. As the telescope begins operations in fiscal year 2020, the Committee encourages NSF to support DKI-ST's existing ancillary academic partnerships that have made the construction of this telescope successful.

10 Big Ideas.—NSF has embarked on a long-term plan to use 10 Big Ideas, along with two convergence accelerators, to guide funding for areas that will drive NSF's long-term research agenda and

investments in fundamental research. These ideas are meant to define the focus of cutting-edge research uniquely suited for NSF's broad portfolio. The Committee is supportive of NSF using its position as the lead Federal agency in supporting basic research in all fundamental science areas and expects that as NSF uses the 10 Big Ideas as a focusing tool, the funding for the fundamental scientific disciplines will be maintained. The Committee has provided significant funding above the amount requested in fiscal year 2020. Therefore, NSF shall maintain its core research at levels not less than those provided in fiscal year 2017. The Committee believes that the additional funds provided for fiscal year 2020 are more than adequate to continue basic research and allow NSF to position the United States to continue as a global science and engineering leader using the 10 Big Ideas framework.

Windows on the Universe.—One of NSF's 10 Big Ideas includes pursuing multi-messenger research that utilizes NSF's previous investments in both physics and astronomy to simultaneously study cosmic events in light, particles, and gravitational waves. NSF is encouraged to support both ongoing operations of existing and future NSF funded astronomy and physics facilities within its budget as part of their 10 Big Idea planning.

Navigating the New Arctic.—As NSF continues the Navigating the New Arctic program, the Committee urges NSF to formulate research programs leveraging expertise from regions accustomed to adapting to changing marine ecosystems. Specifically, NSF should consider the impact of the opening of the two trans-Arctic sea routes and the proximity to deep U.S. ports.

Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research [EPSCoR].—The Committee underscores the importance of the EPSCoR program in spurring innovation and strengthening the research capabilities of institutions that are historically underserved by Federal research and development funding. The EPSCoR program is funded at no less than \$190,000,000. NSF shall make every effort to achieve efficiencies to ensure that no more than 5 percent of the amounts provided for the program are used for administration and other overhead costs. The Committee supports NSF's reexamination of eligibility criteria for EPSCoR and, in order to maintain certainty for EPSCoR States, the Committee directs NSF to share the findings of its reexamination with Congress before taking any action to remove a State from the program.

Online Influence.—The Committee encourages NSF to consider additional research efforts that could help counter foreign influence efforts from our adversaries, like Russia, on U.S. social media platforms designed to influence U.S. perspectives and undermine confidence in U.S. elections. The Committee is especially supportive of research involving collaboration between scientists in disparate scientific fields to help identify and focus future research investments. To the extent practicable, NSF should engage other Federal agencies to help identify areas of research that will provide insight that can mitigate influence in future elections.

U.S. Neutron Monitor Network.—The United States currently operates 15 neutron monitoring stations, but this critical infrastructure has degraded over time. Neutron monitoring has important implications in many fields, including space weather. In fact, the

National Space Weather Action plan states: “DOC, DOD, and NSF, in collaboration with academia, the private sector, and international partners, will develop options to sustain or enhance the worldwide ground-based neutron-monitoring network to include real-time reporting of ground-level events to operational space-weather-forecasting centers.” To meet that goal, within 90 days of enactment of this act, NSF shall complete a plan to ensure a sufficient number of neutron detectors are deployed to adequately characterize the radiation environment and support a real-time alert and warning system. The plan should be developed in consultation with operators of the current U.S. network and include annual funding requirements to sustain and upgrade the network.

Study of Temperate Woodland and Alpine Ecosystems and Ecoregions.—The Committee expects NSF to continue supporting research on unique mountain temperate woodland ecosystems and ecoregions, and to advance research in this area in order to better understand and sustain the health and vitality of mountain ecosystems.

Mathematical Sciences Institutes.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the NSF Mathematical Sciences Institutes across the country, which provide important basic research in multiple fields.

Rules of Life.—One of the research gaps in biological knowledge is the inability to look at an organism’s genetics and environment and predict its observable characteristics. Research in this area will open new doors to answer fundamental questions in life sciences. To that end, the Committee supports NSF’s funding for research in plant genomics and directs NSF to continue to advance the ongoing plant genomics research program, further its work in crop-based genomics research, and to maintain a focus on research related to crops of economic importance. These activities directly address the Rules of Life research question that is a focus of NSF.

VORTEX-SE.—NSF has been working in conjunction with NOAA to build up to a full research campaign to study the unique characteristics of tornadoes in the southeast. The previous field campaigns in 2016 and 2017 have provided important new insights into the observing strategy for the larger VORTEX-SE field campaign and the field data collected as part of these campaigns is currently being assimilated into storm-scale models, which in turn enables improvements in tornado forecast capability. In preparation for the upcoming field campaign, the Committee expects that future budget requests for VORTEX-SE will include adequate budgetary resources for associated research and instrumentation that will maximize the scientific return of the upcoming field campaign. As part of VORTEX-SE, the Committee encourages NSF to look beyond its traditional research disciplines and programs and to utilize the collaborative opportunities of the Prediction of and Resilience against Extreme Events program for co-funding grants that enhance understanding of the fundamental natural processes and hazards of tornadoes in the southeast and to improve models of these seasonal extreme events.

High-Performance Computing Planning.—The Committee commends NSF on its continuing commitment to its high-performance computing and data analysis capabilities, including the potential for mid-scale research infrastructure, but is concerned these invest-

ments fall short of scientific and engineering needs. NSF should remain committed to developing and supporting systems that facilitate tremendous leaps in computational simulation including artificial intelligence, storage, quantum computing, and data analyses that enable a broad range of scientific research. Leading edge high-performance computing infrastructure is vital for continued U.S. world leadership and international scientific competitiveness, particularly given computational investments and technical achievements in high-performance computing by other nations, notably China and Japan. NSF should invest in additional high-end computational systems to fully meet science and engineering needs. The Committee recommends that NSF establish a timely, well-funded budget line in future budget submissions to Congress to support world-class leadership computing for the national open science community.

Domestic Manufacturing.—The Committee encourages NSF to continue to support meritorious research on the U.S. steel industry including through the Innovation and Partnerships program.

Innovation Corps.—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2019 amount for the Innovation Corps [I-Corps] program to build on the successes of its innovative public-private partnership model. Technology transfer is an important contributor to American innovation, and NSF plays a critical role in enabling our Nation's brightest academic minds to bring their ideas and ingenuity to the marketplace. Scientists are trained in discovery but need help turning their research into real-world products and profits. Programs like I-Corps create jobs in our laboratories today and jobs in American industries tomorrow. The Committee encourages NSF to facilitate greater participation in the program from academic institutions in States that have not previously received awards.

Marine Research.—The recommendation maintains current funding levels for existing marine research facilities and directs NSF to accept new proposals from the academic research community for research supported by these facilities. The Committee further directs NSF to develop a plan, in coordination with the academic research community, to ensure the science community's continued access to capabilities comparable to those currently provided by existing NSF marine research facilities.

Earth Systems Science.—NSF is encouraged to look at existing resources, including Federally Funded Research and Development Centers and major facility programs, and determine how these core resources can act as natural integrators for an Earth Systems science approach within NSF and to develop regional approaches using this method to demonstrate its effectiveness.

Coastlines and People.—The Committee encourages NSF to continue research that advances understanding of the impacts of coastal environmental viability and natural hazards on populated coastal regions and is encouraged by emerging efforts such as Coastlines and People.

Quantum Science.—The Committee recommends at least \$106,000,000 for quantum information science research, as authorized in the National Quantum Initiative Act, to support basic interdisciplinary quantum information science and engineering research

and human resources development in all aspects of quantum information science and engineering. The Committee recommendations also includes \$50,000,000 for up to five Multidisciplinary Research Centers for Quantum Research and Education to conduct basic research and education activities in support of the goals and priorities of the National Quantum Initiative Act. The Committee recommends these Centers be established at institutions with recognized leadership in the Quantum Information Science field and its applications. The Committee also encourages NSF to establish these Centers in locations where close collaboration with industry is possible and encourages NSF to consider Centers that focus on trapped ion quantum computing and/or the optics underlying it, superconducting quantum computing, and other promising technologies.

Artificial Intelligence [AI].—The Committee recognizes the importance of research in the fundamentals of AI. NSF’s ongoing research on understanding and pushing the boundaries related to AI crosses multiple scientific disciplines and is fundamentally at the core of NSF’s Harnessing the Data Revolution and the Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier Big Ideas. To continue the progress in this emerging field, the Committee fully funds AI activities across NSF at the request level.

Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure.—The recommendation fully funds the mid-scale research instrumentation program and encourages the Foundation to make no fewer than one mid-scale award in an EPSCoR State.

HBCUs Excellence in Research.—The Committee supports the Historically Black Colleges and Universities [HBCUs] Excellence in Research program, and the recommendation includes \$15,000,000 for the program. The program is assisting in addressing NSF’s previously troubling track record of only providing substantial research funding to a small number of HBCUs.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

Appropriations, 2019	\$295,740,000
Budget estimate, 2020	223,230,000
Committee recommendation	253,230,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides \$253,230,000 for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction [MREFC]. The recommendation is \$42,510,000 below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$30,000,000 above the budget request.

The MREFC appropriation supports the acquisition, procurement, construction, and commissioning of unique national research platforms and facilities as well as major research equipment. Projects supported by this appropriation push the boundaries of technology and offer expanded opportunities for the science and engineering community. Preliminary design and development activities, ongoing operations, and maintenance costs of the facilities are provided through the R&RA appropriation account.

The Committee’s recommendation includes funding at the requested level for the continued construction of the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope and the Antarctic Infrastructure Modernization for Science, as well as the requested amount to initiate the High Luminosity-Large Hadron Collider Upgrade. The Committee notes

that fiscal year 2019 was the final year of appropriations for construction of the three Regional Class Research Vessels and the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope. Operations funding for these projects is included within Research and Related Activities in fiscal year 2020 and future years.

The recommendation provides \$75,000,000 for Mid-scale research infrastructure. This amount is \$30,000,000 above the requested level. The Committee commends NSF for its planned investments in mid-scale research infrastructure, including the provision of larger mid-scale instrumentation under the MREFC account after the Committee repeatedly directed the Foundation to determine how best to support projects of this scale. Using MREFC for larger Mid-scale projects will allow these projects to benefit from the oversight that all MREFC projects undergo. NSF is encouraged to award at least one project led by an institution in an EPSCoR State.

The Committee encourages GAO to continue its annual review of programs funded within MREFC so that GAO can report to Congress shortly after each annual budget submission of the President and semiannually thereafter on the status of large-scale NSF projects and activities based on its review of this information.

Buy American Provisions.—NSF is reminded of language included in the NOAA section of this report regarding Buy American provisions which apply to NOAA, NASA, and NSF related to the acquisition, construction, or conversion of a marine vessel or marine vessel components.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Appropriations, 2019	\$910,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	823,470,000
Committee recommendation	937,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$937,000,000 for this account. The recommendation is \$27,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$113,530,000 above the budget request.

The Education and Human Resources appropriation supports a comprehensive set of programs across all levels of education in STEM. The appropriation supports activities that unite school districts with institutions of higher learning to improve precollege education. Other precollege activities include the development of the next generation of STEM education leaders, instructional materials, and the STEM instructional workforce. Undergraduate activities support curriculum, laboratory, and instructional improvement; expand the STEM talent pool; attract STEM participants to teaching; augment advanced technological education at 2-year colleges; and develop dissemination tools. Graduate support is directed to research and teaching fellowships, internships, and instructional workforce improvement by linking precollege education systems with higher education. Programs also seek to broaden the participation of groups underrepresented in the STEM enterprise and promote informal science education.

Advanced Technological Education.—The Committee provides \$75,000,000 for Advanced Technological Education.

Fellowships and Scholarships.—The Committee does not adopt the proposed funding reductions for the Improving Undergraduate

STEM Education, Robert Noyce Scholarship Program, or the Graduate Research Fellowship and instead provides the fiscal year 2019 funding level for these programs.

CyberCorps: Scholarships for Service.—The CyberCorps program has awarded more than 3,000 scholarships to train Federal cybersecurity professionals. Nearly half of the program's graduates are placed in national security and defense agencies. The Committee provides no less than \$55,000,000 for the CyberCorps: Scholarships for Service program, of which not less than \$7,500,000 should be used to continue work with community colleges that have been designated as a Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance 2-Year Education [CAE2Y] by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, including through providing scholarships to students at CAE2Y's who will not transfer into a 4-year program, such as career-changers who possess 4-year degrees and veterans of the Armed Forces. Additionally, the Committee urges NSF to collaborate with the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education at NIST on their efforts to develop cybersecurity skills in the workforce, especially in support of non-traditional or technical degree qualifications.

Informal Science Education.—The Committee maintains its strong support for NSF's informal science education program and provides no less than \$62,500,000 for Advancing Informal STEM Learning. The Committee encourages NSF to coordinate and provide necessary support for investments in both in- and out-of-school time STEM education programs across Federal agencies, including support for extracurricular STEM programs. The Education and Human Resources directorate is further encouraged to continue its NSF-wide efforts to support informal STEM education programs, including leveraging the research directorates to support activities that match their respective content areas.

Division of Research on Learning [DRL] in Formal and Informal Settings.—As part of the research funded through the DRL, the Committee recognizes the importance of out-of-school time STEM mentor-led engagement programs, including STEM networks, festivals, and competitions. Such programs are highly effective in filling the higher education STEM pipeline. The Committee urges NSF to focus on populations underrepresented in the STEM fields and encourages NSF to fund out-of-school time STEM engagement program activities.

Division on Human Resource Development.—The Committee recommends \$35,000,000 for the HBCUs Undergraduate Program, \$8,000,000 for the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate, \$46,000,000 for the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation, \$15,000,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program, and \$24,000,000 for Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology. In addition, \$40,000,000 is provided for the Hispanic Serving Institutions program to build capacity at institutions of higher education that typically do not receive high levels of NSF funding.

Bioprocessing.—The Committee encourages NSF to include training in bioprocessing within appropriate research areas as part of their educational efforts.

Inclusion Across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Under-represented Discoverers in Engineering and Science [INCLUDES].—The Committee supports the Big Idea to broaden participation in science and engineering by developing networks and partnerships that involve organizations and consortia from different sectors committed to the common agenda of STEM inclusion, and the recommendation provides \$20,000,000 for INCLUDES.

Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers [ADVANCE].—The Committee is supportive of the ADVANCE program, which funds efforts to address systemic barriers to women's STEM careers. To maintain these efforts, the Committee provides \$18,000,000, the same as the fiscal year 2019 funding level.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

Appropriations, 2019	\$329,540,000
Budget estimate, 2020	336,890,000
Committee recommendation	336,900,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$336,900,000 for Agency Operations and Award Management. The recommendation is \$7,360,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$10,000 above the budget request.

The appropriation provides salaries and expenses, including: staff salaries, benefits, travel, training, rent, advisory and assistance services, communications and utilities expenses, supplies, equipment, and other operating expenses necessary for management of NSF's research and education activities.

The Committee continues to believe that NSF should include criteria that evaluate how a proposal will advance our Nation's national security and economic interests, as well as promote the progress of science and innovation in the United States.

The Committee reiterates its long-standing requirement that NSF submit reprogrammings when initiating new programs or activities of more than \$500,000,000 or when reorganizing components. The Committee expects to be notified of reprogramming actions which involve less than the above-mentioned amount if such actions would have the effect of changing the agency's funding requirements in future years, or if programs or projects specifically cited in the Committee's reports are affected.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

Appropriations, 2019	\$4,370,000
Budget estimate, 2020	4,100,000
Committee recommendation	4,500,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$4,500,000 for the Office of the National Science Board. The recommendation is \$130,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$400,000 above the budget request.

The National Science Board is the governing body of NSF and is charged with serving as an independent adviser to the President and Congress on policy matters related to science and engineering research and education.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2019	\$15,350,000
Budget estimate, 2020	15,350,000
Committee recommendation	15,700,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$15,700,000 for the Office of Inspector General. The recommendation is \$350,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$350,000 above the budget request.

The OIG appropriation provides audit and investigation functions to identify and correct deficiencies that could lead to instances of fraud, waste, or mismanagement.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The bill includes two administrative provisions. One allows limited transfers of funds among accounts.

The other requires notification for disposal of certain assets.

TITLE IV
RELATED AGENCIES
COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$10,065,000
Budget estimate, 2020	9,200,000
Committee recommendation	10,200,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$10,200,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Commission on Civil Rights, \$135,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,000,000 above the request.

State Advisory Committees [SAC].—The SACs represent the eyes and ears of the Commission in their respective States. The Committee is pleased with the Commission's decision to extend all existing SAC charters from 2 years to 4 years and looks forward to the improvements in work quality that can be attributed to this change. In order to facilitate these improvements, additional funding has been provided to allow each of the SACs to hold at least one face-to-face meeting annually and to enable the Commission to provide the SACs with appropriate support in order accomplish this goal.

Donations.—The Commission shall provide to the Committee quarterly updates on all gifts and donations, as well as the terms of and specific activities funded by the gift or donation. Additionally, anticipated funding from gifts or donations shall be included in the Commission's annual spend plan.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$379,500,000
Budget estimate, 2020	355,800,000
Committee recommendation	384,500,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$384,500,000 for Equal Employment Opportunity Commission [EEOC] salaries and expenses. This recommendation is \$5,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$28,700,000 above the request.

The EEOC is the leading Federal agency dedicated to eradicating employment discrimination in both the public and private sectors on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, pregnancy, age, disability, and family medical history or genetic information. The EEOC serves both U.S. public and private workplaces by helping provide a fair and inclusive workplace, which engenders employee satisfaction and commitment, and enhances employee retention, productivity, and profitability.

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Inventory Backlog Reduction.—The Committee notes that at the end of fiscal year 2018, the EEOC had a private sector inventory of 56,626 cases and a substantial Federal sector hearing inventory. While this represents a significant decrease in the inventory backlog, it still represents a substantial number of unresolved cases. Using appropriated funds for activities that do not directly resolve this backlog of existing and incoming claims denies cases with complainants the opportunity of a timely resolution. EEOC's own budget submission states that justice delayed is justice denied. Therefore, the Committee directs the EEOC to prioritize its staffing and resources toward reducing the number of current and outstanding unresolved private sector pending charges and public sector hearings. Further, EEOC is directed to report to the Committee within 30 days of enactment on the number of A, B, and C charges for each of the last 5 fiscal years.

Public Comment on EEOC Guidance.—The Committee is concerned that as the EEOC conducts its business in protecting against employment discrimination, its guidance proposals can be adopted without the opportunity of public input prior to implementation and enforcement. Therefore, if requested by at least two Commissioners, the EEOC shall make any new guidance available for public comment in the Federal Register for not less than 30 days prior to taking any potential action on proposed guidance.

State and Local Enforcement Assistance.—The Committee recommends up to \$30,500,000 to assist State and local enforcement agencies. This will help ensure that EEOC provides adequate resources to its State partners.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$95,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	101,000,000
Committee recommendation	99,400,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$99,400,000. The recommendation is \$4,400,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and is \$8,300,000 above the budget request. The ITC's direct request to Congress was \$101,000,000, which is \$1,600,000 higher than the amount provided.

ITC is an independent, quasi-judicial agency responsible for conducting trade-related investigations and providing Congress and the President with independent technical advice related to U.S. international trade policy. The Committee reminds the administration and the Office of Management and Budget that Congress granted ITC specific bypass authority for submitting its budget estimate to the Legislative Branch, pursuant to section 175 of the Trade Act of 1974. Therefore, all future budget estimates for ITC shall be transmitted to Congress without revision by the President, pursuant to such act.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Appropriations, 2019	\$415,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	18,200,000
Committee recommendation	425,500,000

The Committee's recommendation rejects the proposal to terminate the payment to LSC and provides \$425,500,000 for payment to LSC. The recommendation is \$10,500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$407,300,000 above the President's budget request.

The Committee's recommendation provides \$388,200,000 for basic field programs, to be used for competitively awarded grants and contracts; \$22,000,000 for management and administration; \$4,000,000 for client self-help and information technology; \$5,300,000 for OIG; \$1,500,000 for loan repayment assistance; and \$4,500,000 for LSC's Pro Bono Innovation Fund.

Governance and Management.—LSC must continue to improve its governance and management in order to further restore the transparency of the organization and direct additional funds into legal aid, where resources are desperately needed. The Committee expects the Inspector General of LSC to continue conducting annual audits of LSC grantees to ensure that funds are not being used in contravention of the restrictions by which LSC grantees are required to abide.

Pro Bono Innovation Fund.—The Committee's recommendation provides no less than \$4,500,000 to continue the Pro Bono Innovation Fund. This fund supports innovative projects that promote and enhance pro bono initiatives throughout the Nation, as well as leverages Federal dollars to increase free legal aid for low-income Americans by engaging private attorneys.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

The Committee's recommendation continues the administrative provisions contained in the fiscal year 1998 appropriations act (Public Law 105–119) regarding operation of this program to provide basic legal services to disadvantaged individuals and the restrictions on the use of LSC funds.

LSC funds cannot be used to engage in litigation and related activities with respect to a variety of matters including: (1) redistricting; (2) class action suits; (3) representation of illegal aliens; (4) political activities; (5) abortion; (6) prisoner litigation; (7) welfare reform; (8) representation of charged drug dealers during eviction proceedings; and (9) solicitation of clients. The exception to the restrictions occurs in a case where there is imminent threat of physical harm to the client or prospective client.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$3,516,000
Budget estimate, 2020	2,449,000
Committee recommendation	3,616,000

The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of the Marine Mammal Commission and instead provides \$3,616,000. The recommendation is \$100,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$1,167,000 above the budget request.

The Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors on Marine Mammals provide oversight and recommend actions on domestic and international topics to advance policies and provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Commission provides precise, up-to-date scientific information to Congress on issues related to the safety of marine mammals.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$53,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	59,000,000
Committee recommendation	54,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$54,000,000 for the Office of the United States Trade Representative [USTR]. The recommendation is \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$5,000,000 below the budget request. USTR is responsible for developing and leading international negotiations for the United States on policies regarding international trade, direct investment, and commodities. Its areas of responsibility include all matters relating to the World Trade Organization; trade, commodity, and direct investment matters dealt with by certain international institutions; industrial, agricultural, and services trade policy; and trade-related protection of intellectual property and the environment.

Within funds provided, the Committee continues to support USTR's accepting full financial responsibilities of the Interagency Center on Trade Implementation, Monitoring, and Enforcement (formerly named the Interagency Trade Enforcement Center) in fiscal year 2020.

Trade and Agricultural Exports.—The Committee supports efforts to reduce foreign tariffs and non-tariff trade barriers for U.S. agricultural exports, including the strong enforcement of trade rules and regulations. However, the Committee is concerned that trade actions resulting in decreased foreign market access for U.S. agricultural products due to retaliation threaten to harm our Nation's farmers and ranchers. The Committee urges USTR and the Secretary of Commerce to fully evaluate and consider the impact foreign tariffs and other retaliatory actions have on U.S. farmers and ranchers when negotiating with trade partners and in making trade related decisions.

Trade Enforcement.—The Committee recognizes that strong trade enforcement is critical to promoting free, fair, and reciprocal trade. As the administration continues to pursue new and modified trade agreements with global partners, the Committee encourages enhanced prioritization of compliance monitoring and the prosecution of enforcement actions.

North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA].—The Committee notes that no provision of NAFTA or the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 103–182) authorizes the President to withdraw from NAFTA pursuant to Ar-

ticle 2205 of such Agreement without the prior enactment of an act of Congress, or a joint resolution directing the President to issue a withdrawal.

Section 301 Exclusion Process.—The Committee notes that any further tariffs imposed on goods from China under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 shall be followed by an exclusion process that allows U.S. businesses to obtain relief from the tariffs. USTR is directed to initiate this process within 30 days of the imposition of the tariffs, following the same procedures as those in prior rounds, allowing stakeholders to request that particular products classified within a tariff subheading that are subject to new tariffs be excluded from Section 301 tariffs.

De Minimis Thresholds.—The Committee recognizes the current disparity in *de minimis* thresholds have a disproportionate impact on small businesses, that often take advantage of e-commerce to send low-value shipments to customers in foreign countries. USTR is encouraged to consider these impacts when negotiating with trading partners to address excessively low *de minimis* thresholds.

Economy Act Transfers.—USTR is directed to continue isolating Economy Act payments as individual transfers and to submit documentation of and justification for all Economy Act transfers, regardless of amount, to and from other Federal agencies, to the Committee not less than 15 days before such transfers of sums are made.

Travel.—USTR is directed to provide monthly travel reports detailing all trips outside of the United States, including the purposes and costs of such trips. Additionally, USTR shall continue to provide the Committee with quarterly reports outlining the status of ongoing trade negotiations, enforcement activities, and objectives achieved for existing trade agreements.

TRADE ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2019	\$15,000,000
Budget estimate, 2020	10,000,000
Committee recommendation	15,000,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$15,000,000 for the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund as authorized under the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–125). The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$5,000,000 above the budget request.

Trade Enforcement Trust Fund.—The Committee supports efforts to enforce U.S. rights under trade agreements and to increase compliance of U.S. trade partners. The Committee directs USTR, as part of its fiscal year 2020 spending plan, to provide a breakdown of expenses for the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund's activities.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2019	\$5,971,000
Budget estimate, 2020	6,555,000
Committee recommendation	6,300,000

The Committee's recommendation provides \$6,300,000 for the State Justice Institute [SJI]. The recommendation is \$329,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$255,000 below the budget request.

SJI was created in 1984 to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration in State courts.

Fines, Fees, and Bail Practices.—The Committee notes that one of SJI's priority areas of investment for fiscal year 2019 was fines, fees, and bail practices. The Committee encourages SJI to continue investments in this area, including assisting State courts in taking a leadership role in reviewing fines, fees, and bail practices to ensure processes are fair and access to justice is assured; implementing alternative forms of sanctions; developing processes for indigency review; and transparency, governance, structural reforms that promote access to justice, accountability, and oversight; and projects that implement the principles of Conference of Chief Justices/Conference of State Court Administrators National Task Force on Fines, Fees, and Bail Practices.

TITLE V
GENERAL PROVISIONS
(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends the following general provisions for the departments, agencies, offices, and commissions funded in the accompanying act. Similar provisions were included in the fiscal year 2019 act.

Section 501 prohibits the use of appropriations for certain publicity and propaganda purposes.

Section 502 prohibits any appropriations contained in this bill from remaining available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly provided.

Section 503 limits funds for certain consulting purposes.

Section 504 provides that, should any provision of the bill be held to be invalid, the remainder of the act would not be affected.

Section 505 stipulates the policy and procedures by which funding available to the agencies funded under this bill may be reprogrammed for other purposes.

Section 506 provides for a penalty for persons found to have falsely mislabeled products.

Section 507 requires agencies to provide quarterly reports to the Appropriations Committees regarding unobligated balances.

Section 508 requires agencies and departments funded in this bill to absorb any necessary costs related to downsizing or consolidation within the amounts provided to the agency or department.

Section 509 limits funds for the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products.

Section 510 stipulates obligation of receipts and the use of certain funds for victim services available under the Crime Victims Fund.

Of the funds set aside for Indian tribes, the Committee expects that the Office for Victims of Crime [OVC] will award such funds to Indian tribes that have not been designated high-risk grantees by the Department of Justice and that comply with grant application requirements. OVC is expected to provide instructional model grant applications and other guidance to aid tribes in preparing grant applications. Grant-receiving tribes will need to certify that grant funds will not be used to supplant funds otherwise available for tribal victim assistance so that OVC can ensure grant accountability and that grants are being used effectively to improve services for tribal victims of crime.

Section 511 prohibits the use of Department of Justice funds for programs that discriminate against, denigrate, or otherwise under-

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mine the religious beliefs of students participating in such programs.

Section 512 limits transfers of funds between agencies.

Section 513 requires the Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Legal Services Corporation to conduct reviews of activities funded in this bill and requires certifications regarding conflicts of interest.

Section 514 prohibits funds for certain telecommunications and information technology acquisitions unless the acquiring department or agency has assessed the supply chain risk of the technology, including risks from technology originating in China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea.

Section 515 prohibits the use of funds to support or justify the use of torture.

Section 516 limits funds pertaining to certain activities related to the export of firearms.

Section 517 limits funds that would deny permits to import certain products.

Section 518 prohibits funds for activities that seek to include certain language in new trade agreements.

Section 519 prohibits funds to authorize a national security letter in contravention of the statutes authorizing the FBI to issue national security letters.

Section 520 requires notification to the Committees in the event of cost overruns.

Section 521 authorizes funds appropriated for intelligence activities for the Department of Justice during fiscal year 2020 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020.

Section 522 prohibits contracts or grant awards in excess of \$5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee has certified in writing that he or she has filed all Federal tax returns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the IRS Code of 1986, and has no unpaid Federal tax assessment.

Section 523 specifies rescissions of prior appropriations.

Section 524 prohibits the use of funds to purchase first class or premium airline travel in contravention of current regulations and improves reporting.

Section 525 prohibits the use of funds to pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees at any single conference outside the United States and limits the cost of any such conference incurred by an agency, with certain exemptions.

Section 526 prohibits the use of funds in this act for the transfer or release of certain individuals detained at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to or within the United States, its territories or possessions.

Section 527 prohibits the use of funds in this act to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house certain individuals who, as of June 24, 2009, were located at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or control of the Department of Defense.

Section 528 requires agencies funded in this bill to report on undisbursed balances.

Section 529 prohibits the use of funds by NASA, OSTP, or the National Space Council to engage in bilateral activities with China or a Chinese-owned company or effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at certain facilities unless the activities are authorized by subsequent legislation or NASA or OSTP have made a certification pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

Section 530 prohibits funds made available by this bill from being used to deny the importation of certain shotgun models.

Section 531 prohibits the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network that does not block pornography, except for law enforcement purposes.

Section 532 requires departments and agencies funded in this bill to submit spending plans to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees within 45 days of enactment of this bill.

Section 533 prohibits the use of funds to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

Section 534 prohibits funds to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance or performance that fails to meet the basic requirements of the contract. The Committee directs any head of any executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this bill to require that all contracts within their purview that provide award fees to link such fees to successful acquisition outcomes, specifying the terms of cost, schedule, and performance.

Section 535 prohibits the use of funds by the Department of Justice to prevent States from implementing laws related to a certain section of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Section 536 prohibits the use of funds by the Department of Justice to prevent States from implementing State laws related to medical marijuana.

Section 537 requires quarterly reports from the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation of travel to China.

Section 538 limits formulation and development costs for the James Webb Space Telescope.

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7, RULE XVI OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Rule XVI, paragraph 7 requires that every report on a general appropriation bill filed by the Committee must identify items of appropriation not made to carry out the provisions of an existing law, a treaty stipulation, or an act or resolution previously passed by the Senate during that session.

The Committee recommends funding for the following programs or activities that currently lack an authorization for fiscal year 2020, either in whole or in part, and therefore fall under this rule:

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW—FISCAL YEAR 2020

Agency/program	Last year of authorization
Department of Commerce:	
International Trade Administration:	
Export Promotion	1996
Bureau of Industry and Security:	
Export Administration	1994
Economic Development Administration:	
Salaries and Expenses	2008
Economic Development Assistance Programs:	
Public Works and Economic Development	2008
National Telecommunications and Information Administration:	
Salaries and Expenses	1993
National Institute of Standards and Technology:	
Scientific and Technical Research and Services	2013
Industrial Technology Services	2013
Construction of Research Facilities	2013
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:	
Operations, Research, and Facilities:	
National Ocean Service	1993
Integrated Ocean Observatory System Regional Observatory	2013
Coral Reef Conservation	2004
Coastal Zone Management	1999
Title IX Fund	2019
Marine Protection, Research, Preservation & Sanctuaries	2005
Species Recovery Grants	1992
National Marine Fisheries Service:	
Marine Mammal Protection	1999
NOAA Marine Fisheries Program	2000
Interjurisdictional Fisheries	2012
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management	2013
Oceanic and Atmospheric Research:	
National Sea Grant College Program	2014
Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	1993
Ocean Exploration Research	2015
Ocean Acidification	2012
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction:	
National Ocean Service:	
Marine Protection, Research, Preservation & Sanctuaries	2005
Department of Justice:	
General Administration:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Justice Information Sharing Technology	2009

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APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW—FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued

Agency/program	Last year of authorization
Executive Office for Immigration Review:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Office of Inspector General:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
U.S. Parole Commission:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Legal Activities:	
General Legal Activities:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Antitrust Division:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
U.S. Attorneys:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Foreign Claims Settlement Commission:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Fees and Expenses of Witnesses	2009
Community Relations Service:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Assets Forfeiture Fund Current Budget Authority	2009
U.S. Marshals Service	2009
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Federal Prison Detention	2009
Construction	2009
National Security Division:	
Salaries and Expenses	n/a
Interagency Law Enforcement:	
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement	2009
Federal Bureau of Investigation	2009
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Construction	2009
Drug Enforcement Administration:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives:	
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Federal Prison System	2009
Salaries and Expenses	2009
Buildings and Facilities	2009
Office on Violence Against Women Programs:	
STOP Grants	2018
National Institute of Justice Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women	n/a
Transitional Housing	2018
Tribal Special Domestic Violence	2018
Consolidated Youth Oriented Program	n/a
Homicide Reduction Initiative	n/a
Grants to Encourage Arrest	2018
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act	2018
Research—Violence Against Indian Women	2015
Sexual Assault in Indian Country Clearinghouse	n/a
Office of Justice Programs:	
Research, Evaluation, and Statistics:	
National Institute of Justice	1995
Bureau of Justice Statistics	1995
State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance:	
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants	2012
Body-Worn Camera Partnership	n/a
VALOR Initiative	n/a
Smart Policing	n/a
Smart Prosecution	n/a
John R. Justice Grant Program	2014
Adam Walsh Act	2009
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	2011
Smart Probation	n/a
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demo Grants	n/a

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW—FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued

Agency/program	Last year of authorization
Pay for Success (Discretionary)	n/a
Pay for Success (Permanent Supportive Housing Model)	n/a
National Sex Offender Website	n/a
Veterans Treatment Courts Program	n/a
Rape Kit Backlog	n/a
Justice Reinvestment Initiative	n/a
Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement	n/a
Court Appointed Special Advocate	2019
Juvenile Justice Programs:	
Emergency Planning in Juvenile Justice Facilities	n/a
COPS Programs:	
COPS Hiring Program	2009
Regional Information Sharing Activities	2003
National Aeronautics and Space Administration:	
Science	2017
Aeronautics	2017
Exploration	2017
Space Operations	2017
Education	2017
Safety, Security and Mission Services	2017
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration	2017
Office of the Inspector General	2017
National Science Foundation	2013
Related Agencies:	
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:	
Salaries and Expenses	2000
Commission on Civil Rights:	
Salaries and Expenses	1995
International Trade Commission:	
Salaries and Expenses	2004
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation:	
Salaries and Expenses	1980
Marine Mammal Commission:	
Salaries and Expenses	1999
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative:	
Salaries and Expenses	2004
State Justice Institute:	
Salaries and Expenses	2008

¹ NOAA authorizations are spread across over 60 separate statutory authorities. In many cases, the authorizations do not match exactly to specific programs.

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7(c), RULE XXVI OF THE
STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Pursuant to paragraph 7(c) of rule XXVI, on September 26, 2019, the Committee ordered favorably reported a bill (S. 2584) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, provided, that the bill be subject to amendment and that the bill be consistent with its budget allocation, and provided that the Chairman of the Committee or his designee be authorized to offer the substance of the original bill as a Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute to the House companion measure, by a recorded vote of 31–0, a quorum being present. The vote was as follows:

Yeas	Nays
Chairman Shelby	
Mr. McConnell	
Mr. Alexander	
Ms. Collins	
Ms. Murkowski	
Mr. Graham	
Mr. Blunt	
Mr. Moran	
Mr. Hoeven	
Mr. Boozman	
Mrs. Capito	
Mr. Kennedy	
Mrs. Hyde-Smith	
Mr. Daines	
Mr. Rubio	
Mr. Lankford	
Mr. Leahy	
Mrs. Murray	
Mrs. Feinstein	
Mr. Durbin	
Mr. Reed	
Mr. Tester	
Mr. Udall	
Mrs. Shaheen	
Mr. Merkley	
Mr. Coons	
Mr. Schatz	
Ms. Baldwin	
Mr. Murphy	
Mr. Manchin	
Mr. Van Hollen	

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COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 12, RULE XXVI OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 12 of the rule XXVI requires that Committee reports on a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part of any statute include “(a) the text of the statute or part thereof which is proposed to be repealed; and (b) a comparative print of that part of the bill or joint resolution making the amendment and of the statute or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by stricken-through type and italics, parallel columns, or other appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions which would be made by the bill or joint resolution if enacted in the form recommended by the Committee.”

In compliance with this rule, no changes to existing law are displayed because this bill proposes no changes.

BUDGETARY IMPACT OF BILL

PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PURSUANT TO SEC.
308(a), PUBLIC LAW 93–344, AS AMENDED

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority		Outlays	
	Committee allocation	Amount in bill	Committee allocation	Amount in bill
Comparison of amounts in the bill with the subcommittee allocation for 2020: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies:				
Mandatory	336	336	329	¹ 329
Discretionary	70,833	73,333	74,452	¹ 76,252
Security	5,695	5,695	NA	NA
Nonsecurity	65,138	67,638	NA	NA
Projection of outlays associated with the recommendation:				
2020				² 49,682
2021				17,550
2022				5,665
2023				2,692
2024 and future years				3,323
Financial assistance to State and local governments for 2020	NA	– 2,773	NA	² 59

¹ Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

² Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

NA: Not applicable.

NOTE.—Consistent with the funding recommended in the bill for the 2020 Census and in accordance with subparagraph (G) of section 251(b)(2) of the BBEDCA of 1985, the Committee anticipates that the Budget Committee will provide a revised 302(a) allocation for the Committee on Appropriations reflecting an upward adjustment of \$2,500,000,000 in budget authority plus associated outlays.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2019 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2019 appropriation	Budget estimate
TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE					
International Trade Administration					
Operations and administration	495,000	471,096	521,250	+ 26,250	+ 50,154
Offsetting fee collections	— 11,000	— 11,000	— 11,000	.....	.....
Direct appropriation	484,000	460,096	510,250	+ 26,250	+ 50,154
Bureau of Industry and Security					
Operations and administration	79,050	87,652	87,652	+ 8,602	.....
Defense function	39,000	40,000	40,000	+ 1,000	.....
Total, Bureau of Industry and Security	118,050	127,652	127,652	+ 9,602	.....
Economic Development Administration					
Economic Development Assistance Programs	265,000	.....	279,500	+ 14,500	+ 279,500
Salaries and expenses	39,000	29,950	40,000	+ 1,000	+ 10,050
Total, Economic Development Administration	304,000	29,950	319,500	+ 15,500	+ 289,550
Minority Business Development Agency					
Minority Business Development	40,000	10,000	40,000	.....	+ 30,000
Economic and Statistical Analysis					
Salaries and expenses	101,000	107,990	107,000	+ 6,000	— 990
Bureau of the Census					
Current Surveys and Programs	270,000	264,005	274,000	+ 4,000	+ 9,995

Periodic censuses and programs	3,551,388	5,885,400	4,784,319	+ 1,232,931	- 1,101,081
2020 Census (H. Res. 293; HR 2021; Public Law 116-37)			2,500,000	+ 2,500,000	+ 2,500,000
Subtotal	3,551,388	5,885,400	7,284,319	+ 3,732,931	+ 1,398,919
Total, Bureau of the Census	3,821,388	6,149,405	7,558,319	+ 3,736,931	+ 1,408,914
National Telecommunications and Information Administration					
Salaries and expenses	39,500	42,441	42,441	+ 2,941	.....
United States Patent and Trademark Office					
Salaries and expenses, current year fee funding	3,370,000	3,450,681	3,450,681	+ 80,681	.....
Offsetting fee collections	- 3,370,000	- 3,450,681	- 3,450,681	- 80,681	.....
Total, United States Patent and Trademark Office .....					.....
National Institute of Standards and Technology					
Scientific and Technical Research and Services	724,500	611,719	753,500	+ 29,000	+ 141,781
Industrial Technology Services	155,000	15,172	161,500	+ 6,500	+ 146,328
Manufacturing extension partnerships	(140,000)	.....	(145,500)	(+ 5,500)	(+ 145,500)
National Network for Manufacturing Innovation	(15,000)	(15,172)	(16,000)	(+ 1,000)	(+ 828)
Construction of research facilities	106,000	40,690	123,000	+ 17,000	+ 82,310
(Legislative Proposal) .....	.....	288,000	.....	.....	- 288,000
Working Capital Fund (by transfer)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	.....	.....
Total, National Institute of Standards and Technology	985,500	955,581	1,038,000	+ 52,500	+ 82,419
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration					
Operations, Research, and Facilities	3,596,997	3,058,383	3,727,466	+ 130,469	+ 669,083
(By transfer)	(157,980)	(158,407)	(174,774)	(+ 16,794)	(+ 16,367)
Subtotal	3,596,997	3,058,383	3,727,466	+ 130,469	+ 669,083
Procurement- Acquisition and Construction	1,755,349	1,406,236	1,552,528	- 202,821	+ 146,292
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery	65,000	.....	65,000	.....	+ 65,000
Fishermen's Contingency Fund	349	349	349	.....	.....
Fishery Disaster Assistance	15,000	.....	.....	- 15,000	.....
Fisheries Finance Program Account	- 8,000	- 8,000	- 8,000	.....	.....

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2019 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2019 appropriation	Budget estimate
Total, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	5,424,695	4,456,968	5,337,343	- 87,352	+ 880,375
Departmental Management					
Salaries and expenses	63,000	79,107	61,000	- 2,000	- 18,107
Renovation and Modernization .....	.....	1,100	1,000	+ 1,000	- 100
Office of Inspector General	32,744	33,043	32,744	.....	- 299
Public Safety Trust Fund transfer .....	.....	.....	(2,000)	(+ 2,000)	(+ 2,000)
Business Application System Modernization .....	.....	22,000	22,000	+ 22,000	.....
Total, Departmental Management	95,744	135,250	116,744	+ 21,000	- 18,506
Total, title I, Department of Commerce	11,413,877	12,475,333	15,197,249	+ 3,783,372	+ 2,721,916
(By transfer)	166,980	167,407	185,774	+ 18,794	+ 18,367
TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE					
General Administration					
Salaries and expenses	113,000	114,740	114,740	+ 1,740	.....
Justice Information Sharing Technology	32,000	33,875	33,875	+ 1,875	.....
Total, General Administration	145,000	148,615	148,615	+ 3,615	.....
Executive Office for Immigration Review	563,407	672,966	672,966	+ 109,559	.....
Transfer from immigration examinations fee account	- 4,000	- 4,000	- 4,000	.....	.....
Direct appropriation	559,407	668,966	668,966	+ 109,559	.....
Office of Inspector General	101,000	101,646	105,000	+ 4,000	+ 3,354

United States Parole Commission	13,000	13,308	13,308	+308	.....
Salaries and expenses					
Legal Activities					
Salaries and expenses, general legal activities	904,000	927,453	924,000	+20,000	.....
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	13,000	13,000	13,000	+3,000	.....
Salaries and expenses, Antitrust Division	164,977	166,755	166,755	+1,778	.....
Offsetting fee collections—current year	—136,000	—141,000	—141,000	—5,000	.....
Direct appropriation	28,977	25,755	25,755	—3,222	.....
Salaries and expenses, United States Attorneys	2,212,000	2,254,541	2,278,360	+66,360	.....
United States Trustee System Fund	226,000	227,229	227,229	+1,229	.....
Offsetting fee collections	—360,000	—309,000	—309,000	+51,000	.....
Direct appropriation	—134,000	—81,771	—81,771	+52,229	.....
Salaries and expenses, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission	2,409	2,335	2,335	—74	.....
Fees and expenses of witnesses	270,000	270,000	270,000	.....	.....
Salaries and expenses, Community Relations Service	15,500	.....	16,000	+500	.....
Assets Forfeiture Fund	20,514	20,514	20,514	.....	.....
Total, Legal Activities	3,329,400	3,431,827	3,468,193	+138,793	.....
United States Marshals Service					
Salaries and expenses	1,358,000	1,373,416	1,410,000	+52,000	.....
Construction	15,000	14,971	17,000	+2,000	.....
Federal Prisoner Detention	1,552,397	1,867,461	1,867,461	+315,064	.....
Total, United States Marshals Service	2,925,397	3,255,848	3,294,461	+369,064	.....
National Security Division					
Salaries and expenses	101,369	109,585	110,000	+8631	.....
Interagency Law Enforcement					
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement	560,000	550,458	550,458	—9,542	.....
Federal Bureau of Investigation					
Salaries and expenses	3,729,250	3,755,738	3,841,128	+111,878	.....
Counterintelligence and national security	5,462,887	5,501,689	5,626,774	+163,887	.....
					+85,390
					+125,085

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2019 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2019 appropriation	Budget estimate
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses	9,192,137	9,257,427	9,467,902	+ 275,765	+ 210,475
Construction	385,000	51,895	485,000	+ 100,000	+ 433,105
Total, Federal Bureau of Investigation	9,577,137	9,309,322	9,952,902	+ 375,765	+ 643,580
Drug Enforcement Administration					
Salaries and expenses	2,687,703	2,722,295	2,783,152	+ 95,449	+ 60,857
Diversion control fund	— 420,703	— 443,142	— 443,142	— 22,439	.....
Total, Drug Enforcement Administration	2,267,000	2,279,153	2,340,010	+ 73,010	+ 60,857
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program .....	.....	254,000	.....	.....	— 254,000
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives					
Salaries and expenses	1,315,678	1,368,440	1,370,000	+ 53,322	+ 1,560
Federal Prison System					
Salaries and expenses	7,250,000	7,061,953	7,470,000	+ 220,000	+ 408,047
Buildings and facilities	264,000	99,205	290,000	+ 26,000	+ 190,795
Limitation on administrative expenses, Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated	2,700	2,700	2,700	.....	.....
Total, Federal Prison System	7,516,700	7,163,858	7,762,700	+ 246,000	+ 598,842
State and Local Law Enforcement Activities					
Office on Violence Against Women:					
Prevention and prosecution programs	(497,500)	.....	(500,000)	(+ 2,500)	.....
(By transfer)					(+ 500,000)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2019 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2019 appropriation	Budget estimate
National Science Foundation					
Research and related activities	6,449,000	5,591,960	6,698,670	+249,670	+1,106,710
Defense function	71,000	71,000	71,000	.....	.....
Subtotal	6,520,000	5,662,960	6,769,670	+249,670	+1,106,710
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	295,740	223,230	253,230	- 42,510	+ 30,000
Education and Human Resources	910,000	823,470	937,000	+27,000	+113,530
Agency Operations and Award Management	329,540	336,890	336,900	+ 7,360	+ 10
Office of the National Science Board	4,370	4,100	4,500	+130	+400
Office of Inspector General	15,350	15,350	15,700	+350	+350
Total, National Science Foundation	8,075,000	7,066,000	8,317,000	+242,000	+1,251,000
Total, title III, Science	29,582,509	29,688,570	31,074,509	+1,492,000	+1,385,939
TITLE IV—RELATED AGENCIES					
Commission on Civil Rights					
Salaries and expenses	10,065	9,200	10,200	+135	+1,000
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission					
Salaries and expenses	379,500	355,800	384,500	+5,000	+28,700
International Trade Commission					
Salaries and expenses	95,000	91,100	99,400	+4,400	+8,300
Legal Services Corporation					
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation	415,000	18,200	425,500	+10,500	+407,300

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2019 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2019 appropriation	Budget estimate
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS					
ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DISASTER RELIEF ACT, 2019					
Economic Development Administration					
Economic Development Assistance Program (emergency)	600,000	.....	.....	— 600,000	.....
National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration					
Operations, Research and Facilities (emergency)	120,570	.....	.....	— 120,570	.....
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (emergency)	25,000	.....	.....	— 25,000	.....
Fishery Disaster Assistance (emergency)	150,000	.....	.....	— 150,000	.....
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE					
U.S. Marshals Service: salaries and expenses (emergency)	1,336	.....	.....	— 1,336	.....
Federal Prison System: buildings and Facilities (emergency)	28,400	.....	.....	— 28,400	.....
Related Agencies					
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation (emergency)	15,000	.....	.....	— 15,000	.....
Total, Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019	940,306	.....	.....	— 940,306	.....
EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND SECURITY AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER ACT, 2019					
Department of Justice: Excutive Office of Immigration Review (emergency)	65,000	.....	.....	— 65,000	.....
United States Marshal Service: Federal Prisoner Detention (emergency)	155,000	.....	.....	— 155,000	.....
Total, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance and Security at the South- ern Border Act, 2019	220,000	.....	.....	— 220,000	.....

Total, Other Appropriations	1,160,306	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand total	73,007,306	72,381,233	79,389,503	+ 6,382,197	+ 7,008,270	
Appropriations	(72,907,826)	(73,325,233)	(77,216,477)	(+ 4,308,651)	(+ 3,891,244)	
Rescissions	(- 1,060,826)	(- 944,000)	(- 326,974)	(+ 733,852)	(+ 617,026)	
Emergency appropriations	(1,160,306)	(2,500,000)	(+ 1,339,694)	(+ 2,500,000)	
(By transfer)	664,480	167,407	685,774	+ 21,294	+ 518,367	

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CHARLES H. LYLES/LYLES-SIMPSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

October 2019	Borden Wallace – Louisiana
October 2018	Christopher M. Blankenship – Alabama
October 2017	Joseph I. Gill, Jr. – Mississippi
October 2016	Michael S. Ray – Texas
November 2015	Ellie Francisco Roche – NMFS/Florida
October 2014	Michael C. Voisin (<i>Posthumous</i>) – Louisiana
<i>(Award name changed to Lyles-Simpson Award)</i>	
March 2013	Larry B. Simpson – Mississippi
October 2012	R. Vernon Minton (<i>Posthumous</i>) – Alabama
October 2011	Virginia Vail – Florida
October 2010	Albert L. King, Sr. – Alabama
October 2009	William S. “Corky” Perret – Mississippi
October 2008	Ralph Rayburn (<i>Posthumous</i>) – Texas
October 2007	Wayne E. Single – Florida
October 2006	Robert P. Jones – Florida
October 2005	Leroy T. Kiffe – Louisiana
October 2004	Hal Osburn – Texas
October 2003	Andrew J. Kemmerer – NMFS/Mississippi
October 2002	Jerald K. Waller – Alabama
October 2001	Walter Fondren, III – Texas
October 2000	James M. Barkuloo – FWS/Florida
October 1999	Senator Trent Lott – Congressional/Mississippi

October 1998	Thomas Heffernan – Texas
October 1997	Walter M. Tatum – Alabama
October 1996	Tommy D. Candies – Louisiana
October 1995	Edwin A. Joyce – Florida
October 1994	Theodore H. Shepard – Louisiana
October 1993	Louis A. Villanova – Alabama
October 1992	J. Burton Angelle – Louisiana
October 1991	John A. Mehos – Texas
October 1990	Hugh A. Swingle – Alabama
October 1989	I. B. “Buck” Byrd – NMFS/Florida
October 1988	John Ray Nelson – Alabama
October 1987	Senator John Breaux – Congressional/Louisiana
October 1986	J. Y. Christmas – Mississippi
October 1985	Theodore B. Ford (<i>Posthumous</i>) – Louisiana
March 1984	Charles H. Lyles – Mississippi

Spring 2020 IJF Activities

Red Drum Management Profile

The Red Drum technical task force met in November and reviewed several portions of the various chapters. There was considerable discussion regarding the available commercial and recreational data for the fisheries chapter. The only TTF member that had not been identified was a commercial/recreational rep. It was suggested that Harlon Pearce would be a good candidate and after contacting him, he agreed to join the group. The next work session will be before the end of March.

Mangrove Snapper Management Profile

The Mangrove Snapper task force will be established late this spring. Staff will request representatives from the state agencies at the March 2020 meeting. Work will begin on that document mid-year.

Otolith Manual Revision

The third revision to the fish ageing manual is nearing completion. The IJF and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) staff continue to format the various techniques chapters and species-specific protocols. The revision will be completed and distributed this year.

Other Activities

Tripletail Genetics

The IJF program continues to have the angler derived Tripletail tissue samples processed to characterize the population throughout the Gulf and South Atlantic as well as worldwide. It is hoped that this information will prove invaluable as we move forward on marine aquaculture in the Gulf and will improve management of our wild fish stocks.

Tripletail Acoustic Tagging

The IJF staff purchased and deployed 50 Vemco acoustic tags for Tripletail in the northern Gulf and the Florida Keys in collaboration with Dr Jim Franks at GCRL. The effort released 30 tagged fish in Mississippi Sound in October and another 20 in the middle Keys in December. A data gap/research need identified in the Tripletail Profile was the lack of information on the migration patterns of Tripletail in the Gulf. This project should help determine the timing of migration, conditions contributing to the onset of migration, and identify the extent of the overwintering grounds for fish from the northern Gulf. Plans are to continue with more tagging this coming year.

Regional Flounder Symposium

A number of state partners have reported issues with flounder in recent years and as a result of the IJF Small Grants effort, the IJF staff will coordinate a large symposium this summer to begin to explore these issues. Fishery experts from each state in the Gulf and South Atlantic will be invited along with other disciplines such as climatology and oceanography to discuss what might be going on with flounder and develop a plan to address the population declines.

Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP)
March 2020

Since October, SEAMAP has completed the Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey and the Vertical Line Survey. The Spring Plankton Survey will start in April.

Funding continues to be an issue with fishery independent sampling in the Gulf of Mexico. Over the past several years, SEAMAP has used supplemental funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund to help collect fishery independent data using SEAMAP protocols during SEAMAP surveys. NFWF funding has ended for Florida and will end this year for Alabama and Mississippi. The lack of SEAMAP funds and cessation of NFWF funding will drastically impact Florida's participation in the SEAMAP Shrimp/Groundfish Surveys this year since NFWF was funding approximately 20 days of sampling during the Summer and Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Surveys.

NFWF held a meeting in December to discuss and review the state's fishery independent survey work that has been completed over the past five years. While NFWF recognized the importance of fishery independent data and the need for additional funding for fishery independent data collection, they were not sure that NFWF should be the funding source for that data collection. SEAMAP has been level funded since 2014. Additional funds are needed desperately if fishery independent data collection is to continue at current sampling levels.

The new SEAMAP Habitat Mapping Work Group met in November. SEAMAP now owns a side scan sonar unit that the states can use to map off their coast. This was the first meeting of this Work Group. The meeting focused on determining how involved each state could be in mapping off their respective coasts, developing an operations manual, learning how to set up and deploy the side scan sonar unit, and processing the side scan data. While the ability to map is promising for collecting data that can be used to plan several SEAMAP surveys, since SEAMAP does not have funding dedicated to mapping, paying for data collection and processing is problematic. Once the Habitat Mapping Work Group becomes more established, the Work Group would like to pursue outside funding sources to pay for ship time and the processing of data.

The Commission continues to manage SEAMAP data and distribute the data to interested parties. The Commission has fulfilled four SEAMAP data requests since October. The various SEAMAP databases have been downloaded 72 times since October.



Sport Fish Restoration Program Update

Spring 2020

- The Program Coordinator has incorporated all the final edits from the TCC into the updated edition of the ASMFC's and GSMFC's 2004 publication "*Guidelines for Marine Artificial Reef Materials: Second Edition*". The finalized document was sent to the TCC, and its final approval is on the agenda for their March meeting. Once approved by the TCC and the full Commission, the document will be made available electronically through the GSMFC's website. Moving forward, this will be a living document so the TCC Artificial Reef Subcommittees can update specific chapters as new information becomes available without having to do a full revision of the document. The Program Coordinator will also explore ways to more concisely display the main pros and cons of the different material types into a quick reference guide.
- Through a partnership with the University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Lab, the Program Coordinator has been able to start testing the field component of the Gulf Artificial Reef Monitoring and Assessment Program. This field sampling is testing a draft standardized monitoring protocol that was modeled after existing long-term monitoring programs, utilizing comparable gear types and methodologies where possible. It is also testing the gear that was built for the program, as well as a data entry program that was developed by the GSMFC. The long-term goal of this effort is to develop a program that will provide standardized baseline data for artificial reefs across the Gulf of Mexico. This will allow states to assess impacts from natural and man-made disasters in the future, and to understand how their reefs are functioning over time, compared to natural reefs. Currently, the GSMFC Computer System Administrator is working on developing version two of the data entry program to make it more user-friendly and to minimize the amount of time that collected fish have to be onboard the monitoring vessel.
- The Program Coordinator worked with MS DMR to conduct the second year of the Jimmy Sanders Memorial Lionfish Challenge. Some changes to the tournament were made based on feedback from the divers who participated in the first year, including running the tournament for the entire year, and reducing the number of lionfish necessary to be entered into the monthly prize drawings. Although these changes did result in more diver participation, we still didn't see a large increase in the number of collected fish. The Coordinator will continue to work with MS DMR to determine the best way to proceed with the tournament in future years. These efforts are made possible by the support from sponsors like Engel Coolers, Neritic Diving, ZooKeeper, and Fishing Chaos.
- We are working to increase funding for the program so the Commission can help to support and coordinate more sport fish restoration activities across the Gulf of Mexico.



Aquatic Nuisance Species Program Update

Spring 2020

- The Program Coordinator set up and hosted the fall Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel (GSARP) meeting on November 19-20th, in Charleston, South Carolina. The details from the meeting, including presentations, can be found on the Panel's website.
- The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) held its fall meeting on November 5-7th, at the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland.
- Region 4 USFWS AIS Small Grants Program: Over the last six years of this program, we have been able to fund 39 projects totaling \$850K. The Program Coordinator has started discussions with the USFWS about this year's funding opportunity, and will work with the regional office to get the RFP distributed as soon as their budget is finalized.
- Invasive Species Traveling Trunk: The GSARP's Education and Outreach workgroup will continue to explore other materials that can be added to the trunks to keep them new and relevant. They will also look at developing lesson plans to make it easier for teachers to incorporate the materials in the trunks into their science curriculums. The trunks have been utilized for 1,552 days since they were made available to the public in the summer of 2012.
- The Program Coordinator is chairing the ANSTF's Prevention Committee which is tasked with addressing five key outputs of the new ANSTF Strategic Plan:
 - Evaluate and refine the NISC/ANSTF pathway risk assessment process, consistent with the 2009 National Research Council publication "Science and Decisions: Advancing Risk Assessment"; and complete guidelines for the use and interpretation of these tools.
 - Work with applicable Federal agencies and responsible industry sectors to make organisms in trade importation data electronically available and searchable for organisms (wildlife and plants) imported into the United States; ensure this data is correctly identified to species.
 - Assess new ANS introductions to determine where prevention measures may have been lacking, been ineffective, or resulted from gaps in authority.
 - Establish an ad-hoc committee to evaluate and implement the roles and responsibilities of the ANSTF under the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA).
 - Enter into national prevention practices and agreements with natural resource agencies and responsible industry sectors that consider invasion risks within operations.
- The GSARP's spring meeting is scheduled for April 21-22nd, in Mobile, Alabama.
- The spring ANSTF meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 5-7th, in Mystic, Connecticut.

FISHERIES INFORMATION NETWORK PROGRAM

The Fisheries Information Network (FIN) is a state-federal cooperative program to collect, manage, and disseminate statistical data and information on the marine commercial and recreational fisheries of the Southeast Region. The FIN consists of two components: Commercial Fisheries Information Network (ComFIN) and the Southeast Recreational Fisheries Information Network [RecFIN(SE)].

The scope of the FIN includes the Region's commercial and recreational fisheries for marine, estuarine, and anadromous species, including shellfish. Constituencies served by the program are state and federal agencies responsible for management of fisheries in the Region. Direct benefits will also accrue to federal fishery management councils, the interstate marine fisheries commissions, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries Program. Benefits that accrue to management of fisheries will benefit not only commercial and recreational fishermen and the associated fishing industries, but the resources, the states, and the nation.

The mission of the FIN is to cooperatively collect, manage, and disseminate marine commercial, anadromous and recreational fishery data and information for the conservation and management of fishery resources in the Region and to support the development of a national program. The four goals of the FIN include planning, managing, and evaluating commercial and recreational fishery data collection activities; to implement a marine commercial and recreational fishery data collection program; to establish and maintain a commercial and recreational fishery data management system; and to support the establishment of a national program.

The organizational structure consists of the FIN Committee, two geographic subcommittees (Caribbean and Gulf), standing and ad hoc subcommittees, technical work groups, and administrative support. The FIN Committee consists of the signatories to the MOU or their designees, and is responsible for planning, managing, and evaluating the program. Agencies represented by signatories to the MOU are the National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

The FIN Committee is divided into two standing subcommittees representing the major geographical areas of the Region: Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. These subcommittees are responsible for making recommendations to the Committee on the needs of these areas. Standing and ad hoc subcommittees are established as needed by the FIN Committee to address administrative issues and technical work groups are established as needed by the Committee to carry out tasks on specific technical issues. Coordination and administrative support of the FIN is accomplished through the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

ONGOING TASKS FOR FUNDING IN 2020 FIN COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Coordination and Administration of FIN Activities

\$523,608

This task will provide for the coordination, planning, and administration of FIN activities throughout the year as well as provide recreational and commercial information to the FIN participants and other interested personnel. This is a continuation of an activity from the previous year and pertains to all modules of the program.

Collecting, Managing and Disseminating Marine Recreational Fisheries Data

\$4,258,428

This task will provide for the conduct of the MRIP survey in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida for shore, for-hire, and private modes and will provide partial funding for LA Creel in Louisiana. This task will provide for coordination of the survey, an intercept survey of shore, for-hire and private boat anglers to estimate angler catch using the existing MRIP methodology, and entry of the data. The states will also conduct weekly telephone calls to a 10% random sample of the Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida charter boat captains to obtain estimates of charter boat fishing effort. This is a continuation of an activity from the previous year.

Operations of FIN Data Management System

\$146,479

This task will provide for operations of the data management system for the FIN. This task will provide funding for the FIN Data Base Manager, and ComFIN Programmer. Responsibilities include further development of data modules structures; routine loading of commercial catch data; recreational landings, effort, and biological data; and maintenance of DMS. This is a continuation of an activity from the previous year.

Trip Ticket Program Development and Operation

\$1,331,321

This task will provide for the further development and implementation of commercial trip ticket systems in the Gulf of Mexico. This task provides funding for Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama to operate their trip ticket programs. Funding for Texas trip ticket activities will be supported by the IJF program in 2020. All five Gulf States have operating trip ticket programs, which allows for a complete census of all commercial fisheries landings in the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, it provides funding for Bluefin Data to implement and operate an electronic trip ticket reporting program that allows for a more efficient means for dealers to report the necessary data.

TOTAL

\$6,259,846

NEW TASKS FOR FUNDING IN 2020 FIN COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Transition to Mobile Tablet Data Collection Methods for MRIP APAIS

\$76,800

This task will allow Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi biologists utilize electronic tablet platforms for collecting MRIP APAIS data eliminating paper reporting methods. ACCSP has already transitioned to tablet data collection and GulfFIN is utilizing similar hardware and software that has been tested and implemented on the Atlantic Coast. This task provides funding for purchasing tablets, application support and maintenance, and travel costs for training. This task is funded through 2020 NOAA FIS RFP.

**Alabama State Report
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's
Spring 2020 – Gulf Shores, AL**

Emerging Issues Pertinent to Gulf of Mexico Fisheries.

1. Regulatory

The Reef Fish Endorsement was promulgated by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources last year. The Reef Fish Endorsement will be required for any person possessing, taking or attempting to take any gulf reef fish species listed in Rule 220-3-.46 including all triggerfish, snapper, grouper, tilefish, jacks (includes banded rudderfish but not crevalle jack) wrasses and hogfish. This endorsement is required for all resident and non-resident anglers 16 years of age and older, and includes disabled, veteran's appreciation, 65 and older, lifetime license holders, pier licenses, annual saltwater licenses, trip licenses, commercial fishermen, and charter boats. Through December 31, 2019, a total of 8,015 resident and non-resident reef fish endorsements have been issued compared to 55,706 saltwater fishing licenses and angler registry applications being issued. Over the same period, 177 reef fish vessel endorsements have been issued.

Activities Related to Artificial Reef Programs.

Phase two of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Alabama Artificial Reef and Habitat Enhancement Project continues to provide funding for reef fish habitat enhancement and monitoring projects in the inshore, nearshore, and offshore waters of Alabama.

AMRD continues to coordinate with BOEM, USACE, and NMFS for authorization to designate approximately 110 square miles of water bottoms as artificial reef zones. A \$742,724.42 contract to perform a phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed water bottoms has been executed and the remote-sensing surveys are expected to begin by June 2020 and a formal consultation with NMFS is likely to be initiated to evaluate the project's impact on threatened and endangered species. Approximately 48 square miles between 6 and 10 miles offshore of Baldwin County, approximately 62 square miles between 10 and 20 miles offshore of Mobile County, and four reef sites in Mobile Bay will be enhanced to provide habitat for various estuarine and marine reef-associated finfish after federal regulatory requirements are satisfied.

Three circalittoral reef zones near the Baldwin County, AL beaches will be enhanced with 327 anchored reef modules. A \$1,140,000 contract to build, transport, and install the shallow-water, anchored reef modules is being executed and construction is anticipated to begin by April 2020.

The shallow-water reef modules will provide habitat for a wide range of shallow-water reef associated finfish such as Sheepshead, Gray Snapper and flounder.

Activities Associated with the Gulf of Mexico Crab Fisheries.

1. Observer

Two trips were conducted with the same commercial crab vessel in October and November. All traps fished were sampled resulting in 623 crabs being measured and identified to sex. Bycatch species in the traps were documented and forty crabs were returned to the lab for examination of abnormalities and internal/external parasites.

2. Derelict traps

This program was funded by a grant awarded by the NOAA Marine Debris Program and included cleanups in spring of 2017, 2018, and 2019. In 2019, 20 volunteers removed 114 derelict crab traps. A total of two hundred sixty-two crab traps were removed during this program.

Activities Related to Fisheries Dependent Data Collection.

1. Observer

AMRD continued its at-sea charter vessel sampling program funded by NFWF for the fifth and final year (2019). The program consists of one sampler riding on a volunteer federally permitted for-hire vessel operating out of Mobile or Baldwin Counties to observe fishing activities and to collect sex, lengths, and weights from target reef fish species such as snappers, groupers, triggerfish, porgies, amberjacks, and grunts. From September through December 31, 2019, AMRD samplers completed 4 out of 4 scheduled trips collecting data from priority reef fish species. During October trips, one hundred and twenty-one fish were observed captured and released. Five Red Snapper, one Gray Triggerfish, and one Vermilion Snapper were measured, tagged and released. Nine dolphin depredations were documented on released fish, with one tagged fish being depredated upon.

2. APAIS

AMRD continued the collection of dockside Access Point Angler Intercept Survey interviews and validation of charter vessel activity. From September 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, AMRD samplers completed a total of 184 APAIS assignments and interviewed 1,000 anglers. Training and fish tests were provided to APAIS staff in August and will be held again in February.

3. Biological sampling

AMRD continued operation of the Biological Sampling Program for the collection of otoliths from recreationally and commercially harvested marine finfish. The program was re-implemented on September 1, 2018 and will continue through February 28, 2020. March 2020 will begin another 18-month sampling period for this program. From September 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, a total of 402 sets of otoliths with 19 additional measurements representing all primary targeted species were collected by AMRD's staff.

4. Snapper Check

Snapper Check continued into October with an extension of Red Snapper season. Six hundred and forty-four landing reports were submitted by anglers from private boats, and thirty-one landing reports were submitted for charter boats. Approximately ten percent of all reported private vessel trips were validated by dock-side surveys to correct for under reporting. In total, one hundred seven reef fish were sampled for representative length to weight data. During the 2019 red snapper season, 1,062,281 pounds were estimated to have been harvested by private and state charter vessels. AMRD staff will work with NMFS staff and consultants to develop method(s) to calibrate catch estimates between Snapper Check and APAIS estimates derived using the Fishing Effort Survey effort estimates. It is anticipated this work will be completed by March 2020.

5. Shrimp conversion

The AMRD is participating in a project with Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC), other Gulf States, and federal partners to validate commercial conversion factors of processed brown and white shrimp. Samples are currently being collected from Alabama seafood dealers. Data analysis should be completed by October 2020.

Activities Related to Fisheries Independent Sampling.

1. NFWF

The Alabama Marine Resources Division (AMRD) completed the final year of fisheries monitoring projects funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund. AMRD is in the process of completing a five-year completion report.

2. Shellfish

AMRD biologists continue to monitor oyster densities on Alabama's public oyster reefs. From July 2, 2019 through September 11, 2019, a total of 370 SCUBA quadrat samples were collected and processed. Samples were collected from reefs that were planted with cultch between 2014 through 2016 and from non-planted reefs for comparison. Very low legal oyster

densities were observed on many of the reefs surveyed, however, densities of oyster spat and sublegal oysters were better than the last two years overall. Oyster drills were present but not in abundance due to several extended periods of low salinity which occurred between January and May of 2019. Following data analysis, several areas in the Heron Bay and the Cedar Point West management zones showed significant increased densities of legal-sized oysters from previous years. A determination was made to open selected oyster management zones for a limited harvest beginning on November 11, 2019. As of December 27, 2019, a total of 9500 sacks were harvested from reef areas the AMRD had planted with cultch between 2014 and 2016 in Mississippi Sound and Mobile Bay. The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) closed waters to oyster harvest for several weeks due to high river stage (>8ft at the Barry Steam Plant, Bucks Landing, AL). The ADPH collected water samples after the river stage receded below 8ft and public waters were opened to harvest the first week of February.

AMRD obtained Natural Resources Disaster Assessment (NRDA) funding for the construction of an Eastern oyster hatchery and remote larval setting facilities. Construction should begin in 2020 with an oyster spat production next spring.

3. SEAMAP

Fall activities were completed for bottom long line, vertical line, and trawl surveys. Alabama and Mississippi worked together to conduct trawl sampling at twenty-four stations from the Mississippi River to Panama City in an effort to maximize funding which has remained level in recent years. Bottom longline sampling in waters less than ten meters in depth was completed at three stations. Catches were comprised of eleven species with Gafftopsail Catfish being the most abundant. Vertical line sampling was completed at twenty-nine stations; the catches were comprised of nine species totaling eighty-seven fish with Vermilion Snapper and Red Porgy being the next most abundant species after Red Snapper.

4. Inshore Gillnet

For fiscal year 2019 (October 2018-September 2019) Gillnet sampling was conducted each month using small mesh perpendicular sets ranging from 2-4 inches, and large mesh parallel sets ranging from 4.5-6 inches. A total of 240 sets were completed with a total of 60 different species sampled comprising 10,899 observed individuals. Over 700 otoliths were collected on taxa where corresponding length, weight, sex, and gonads weight were measured. Whole specimens of gilled/wedged Gulf Menhaden were collected at 10/mesh/month in order to age them through scales by trained staff members. Index of abundance and age/growth analysis are being conducted on several inshore species, primarily Spotted Seatrout, Atlantic Croaker, and Gulf Menhaden.

Combined catch from AMRD fishery independent gillnets in FY2019, 120 small mesh sets (2"-4") and 120 large mesh sets (4.5"-6"):

Species	Caught	Otoliths	CPUE
Sp. Seatrout	281	88	1.171
S. Mullet	543	229	2.263
W. Mullet	217	117	0.904
Sheepshead	14	14	0.058
G. Flounder	0	0	0.000
So. Flounder	7	6	0.029
Red Drum	117	85	0.488
Atl. Croaker	417	77	1.738
So. Kingfish	43	12	0.179
S. Mackerel	96	54	0.400
Bl. Drum	36	17	0.150
G. Menhaden	5656	0	23.567
Totals	7427	699	

Other State Activities.

1. Mariculture

Stock enhancement efforts continued at the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center (CPMC). For this quarter, only Florida Pompano (*Trachinotus carolinus*) were released. Approximately 13,200 Florida Pompano were released into coastal Alabama waters. Spawning for this species will resume in the spring of 2020. Renovations to the Southern Flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*) larval rearing room are complete. Southern Flounder spawning activities will begin in January of 2020. Renovations to our flounder broodstock infrastructure have begun and will continue throughout the winter and spring of 2020. An additional 4 brood tanks will be added for Southern flounder culture. Collection efforts for Spotted Seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) have continued, with approximately 50 trout being collected in this period. Spawning events are planned for the fall of 2020.

2. Boating Access

AMRD has plans for increasing the parking area at Delta Port boat launch and access in Coden and is working on an application to the USACE for replacing the Lightning Point ramp in Bayou La Batre.

3. Outreach

The Alabama Seafood Marketing Program continued under the direction of the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission. The Alabama Seafood Marketing Program consists of public relations, television commercials, print ads and articles, radio ads, billboards, speaking appearances,

distribution of marketing materials, sponsorships of events and participation at community festivals and chef events to promote the benefits of seafood consumption. The marketing program's website is www.eatalabamaseafood.com. The program to date has been very successful.

4. Enforcement

From September 2019 through January 2020, AMRD enforcement officers conducted 1,795 commercial fishermen intercepts, 6,066 recreational fishermen intercepts, 733 seafood dealer and processor inspections, 5,619 hours of patrol (combined vessel patrol and shore patrol), and 2,017 vessel boarding's.

Between September 1st and January 31st, the Enforcement Section participated in many outreach events including multiple boat shows and other organizational programs, as well as, visiting area schools and fishing tournaments to provide education opportunities.

In September 2019, the Enforcement Section received a second Port Security Grant totaling more than \$273,865, this will be combined with the 2018 Port Security Grant award of \$313,000. Both grants will be used to update and expand the capabilities of the current coastal remote monitoring system, a network of video cameras throughout coastal Alabama. AMRD Enforcement is continuing the construction and enhancement updates provided by the grant. The construction and additions to the current system will provide a much higher quality video with a greatly enhanced storage life, along with the addition of six new camera locations, increasing the coverage area. The new cameras will also have greatly enhanced video capabilities.

2019 marked the return of commercial oyster harvest on public oyster reefs of Alabama. Due to AMRD management efforts, the ability to harvest commercially significant quantities of oysters from the public reefs has begun to rebound. AMRD enforcement has focused a large number of man hours checking the oyster harvesters and monitoring the oyster reefs to keep illegal activity and poaching in check.

The Enforcement Section, in conjunction with the Fisheries Section, was awarded a grant that will be used for both monitoring and protecting Marine Mammals and Turtles. This grant will provide specialized monitoring equipment to monitor turtle nesting areas and established nesting sites. Along with turtle nesting and protection, the grant provides funding to educate the public about marine mammal interactions with people and to help enforce current laws related to this interaction. The award will provide remote solar/battery-powered cameras that are fed into the existing monitoring system. These cameras will help to track turtle movement and to monitor known nesting sites.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Technical Coordinating Committee
Mississippi State Report (July 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

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1. Emerging Issues Pertinent to Gulf of Mexico Fisheries

Bonnet Carré Spillway Opening

The Bonnet Carré Spillway, located in Norco, Louisiana, is used to divert flood waters of the Mississippi River through Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Borgne into the Mississippi Sound. The US Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) operates the spillway when river flows at New Orleans are at 1.25 million cubic feet per second. After historical rains in the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys caused increased river stages, the USACE opened the spillway on Feb. 27, 2019 through April 11, 2019. Following the initial closure, the river stages remained high and the spillway was reopened May 10 through July 27, 2019. The spillway was opened for an unprecedented 123 total days in 2019.

Oyster Impacts

Shellfish Bureau (SB) staff collected oyster samples to track the continued effects and recovery of the oyster resources affected by the opening of the Bonnet Carré Spillway. Oysters were sampled across all major reefs in the Mississippi (MS) Sound. Traditionally oyster samples are collected through two methods: square meter dive and one-minute dredge tows. Due to the presence of harmful algae related to the spillway opening throughout the MS Sound, square meter dive samples could not be collected. Staff collected 204 one-minute dredge tow samples and analyzed the data to track oyster mortality, condition, and recruitment. Overall, the oyster resources in the western MS Sound experienced approximately 96.9% mortality rate across all size classes of oysters, while the mortality in the eastern MS Sound was determined to be approximately 63.8%. SB staff were interested in collecting data to monitor the residual effects to oyster spawning and recruitment following the prolonged exposure of the oysters to freshwater. Typically oyster spawning and recruitment in the MS Sound are observed from July to November. Sampling efforts conducted during spawning season 2019 indicate little to no recruitment.

Shrimp and Crab Impacts

In response to the 2019 openings of the Bonnet Carré Spillway, Shrimp and Crab Bureau staff completed 48 trawl samples in the western Mississippi Sound from July 1, 2019 to September 23, 2019. These data are important in monitoring potential short-term trends in abundance during and immediately following the spillway opening. Hydrological data to include salinity, temperature, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen was also collected at the surface and bottom at each station during each sampling event.

Mississippi's Brown Shrimp fishery experienced significant losses as a result of the 2019 Bonnet Carré Spillway openings. Hancock County Blue Crab landings were also below the previous 5-year average in 2019.

Cyanobacteria Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Event

A harmful algal bloom (HAB) of *Microcystis* spp. persisted along the MS Gulf Coast from June to September. *Microcystis* spp. is a freshwater cyanobacteria with a long history of wreaking havoc on freshwater systems across the US and causing HABs when nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus are abundant in the environment. MDMR staff began increased monitoring of phytoplankton population and density on February 27. The first sighting of *Microcystis* spp. within the Mississippi Sound was on June 12. During the months of June through August, in addition to *Microcystis* spp., there were multiple blooms of different plankton. There were 1,333 water samples collected between MDMR and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to monitor HAB activity. MDMR had toxin analysis conducted on 92 seafood tissue samples and 77 water samples.

2. Activities Related to Artificial Reef Programs

The Artificial Reef Bureau (ARB) continued monthly monitoring of fish assemblages and physiochemical parameters at selected inshore reef sites. ARB staff collaborated with the Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks to monitor artificial reefs via roving SCUBA diver surveys. Divers were able to conduct 20 surveys though encountered low-visibility issues stemming from the opening of the Bonnet Carré Spillway. In conjunction with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, the second annual Jimmy Sanders' Memorial Lionfish Challenge began January 1, 2019 and ran through December 1, 2019. Eight Participants harvested a total 33 lionfish from federal waters adjacent to MS territorial waters during the 2019 challenge. Biological data as well as harvest location was collected for each fish.

ARB staff continued efforts to renew permits for all nearshore artificial reefs, keys, and the Cat Island artificial reef zone.

3. Activities Associated with the Gulf of Mexico Crab Fisheries

Escape Rings and TED's

Utilizing NOAA Disaster Recovery funds from the 2011 opening of the Bonnet Carré spillway, the MDMR has been able to provide 69,942 crab trap escape rings and 7,136 terrapin excluder devices (TED's) at no cost to resident crab fishermen.

Terrapin Interactions

Staff continued to manage the Terrapin Reporting App, which is used to collect information from the commercial crab industry on interactions between commercial crab traps and diamondback terrapins. The program currently includes 35 participating commercial crab fishermen who provide data to MDMR staff through a mobile App which collects information such as number of traps fished, fishing location, soak time, and if terrapins were observed. Approximately 1,268 reports were submitted by participants from July to December 2019 and approximately 5,472 reports have been submitted since the project began in October 2017.

4. Activities Related to Fisheries Dependent Sampling

MRIP

The Finfish Bureau (FB) continued to oversee the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) in Mississippi. A total of 240 assignments and 1,308 surveys were completed July through December 2019 in Jackson, Harrison, and Hancock Counties. Survey site validations were conducted at all active sites to update the site registry for 2019, as state-wide site effort estimates continue to be refined and edited to better reflect the most recent and updated charter for-hire license database. This will allow FB staff to develop a more comprehensive and accurate active vessel frame to estimate for-hire effort more precisely.

Trip Tickets

FB collected commercial landings data from fishermen and dealers utilizing the Mississippi Trip Ticket program to monitor the quota on Red Drum, Southern Flounder, and Spotted Seatrout. From July through December 2019, there were 3,995 paper and electronic trip tickets submitted. All 2019 commercial landings data to date have been verified and sent to GSMFC. Mississippi currently has 386 active commercial fishermen and 66 dealers participating in the trip ticket program. The current number of commercial fishermen selling their own catch using a Fresh Product Permit and participating in the trip ticket program is 82.

Age and Growth

The FB collected and processed 259 otoliths as part of the MDMR biological sampling program from twelve species: Atlantic Croaker, Black Drum, Gray Snapper, Red Snapper (commercial), Sand Seatrout, Sheepshead, Spotted Seatrout, Southern Flounder, Southern Kingfish, Spanish Mackerel, Striped Mullet, and Tripletail.

Tails 'n' Scales

Mississippi's recreational Red Snapper electronic reporting system, Tails n' Scales, completed another successful landings program for the 2019 season. This year was the second year of the Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP), which allowed each gulf state to set their own seasons for

private recreational anglers and state charter for-hire vessels. Mississippi's private recreational season lasted for 79 days, while the season length for state charter for-hire vessels was 20 days. The federal for-hire season was 62 days, although vessels with federal reef fish permits were not included in the EFP. Mississippi's quota was 151,584 lbs., which was split proportionally between the private recreational and state for-hire sectors. The state for-hire quota was 2,642 lbs. due to a reduction from exceeding the components quota in 2018. In total Mississippi harvested 150,279 lbs. of the state's Allowable Catch Limit (ACL) which resulted in approximately 99.1% of the quota being met. With the passing of Amendment 50 by the Gulf Council, Mississippi is planning to provide consistent seasons similar to those established under the EFP.

5. Activities Related to Fisheries Independent Sampling

Finfish Sampling

Long-term fishery independent sampling continued in conjunction with the NOAA Project "Monitoring and Assessment of Mississippi's Interjurisdictional Marine Resources". With cooperation from the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL), 523 otoliths were collected July through December 2019. Samples were collected from eleven different species: Atlantic Croaker, Black Drum, Gray Snapper, Red Drum, Sand Seatrout, Sheepshead, Spanish Mackerel, Spotted Seatrout, Southern Flounder, Southern Kingfish, and Striped Mullet.

From August 21st through September 30th, 2019, the FB equipped ten Atlantic Tripletail with pop-up satellite tags (PSATs) through a USFWS Sport Fish Restoration Grant. The PSATs are programmed to record location, water temperature, and depth readings for each fish through Spring 2020. Results from the tags will be disseminated as data arrives and is verified.

The Fishery Independent Fyke Net sampling program, used to target Southern Flounder, resumed in May 2019. From July through November, 27 traps were set and retrieved from three stations (Deer Island, Belle Fontaine Beach, and Davis Bayou).

The FB, in conjunction with GCRL, is currently in year four of sampling for the NFWF Reef Fish project. From July through October, 32 sites were sampled by MDMR and 60 sites were sampled by GCRL for a total of 92 sites.

Shrimp and Crab Sampling

The Shrimp and Crab Bureau (SCB) continued to conduct monthly fishery independent trawl sampling under the project "Monitoring and Assessment of Mississippi's Interjurisdictional Marine Resources". This sampling program includes six fixed stations located along a transect

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Technical Coordinating Committee
2020 Louisiana Spring State Report

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Emerging Issues Pertinent to Gulf of Mexico Fisheries

Flooding Event / Fisheries Disaster

Based on days at or above flood stage at Baton Rouge, the 2018-19 Mississippi River flood is the longest lasting flood on record since 1900 (when records became available). The Bonnet Carré Spillway opened for an unprecedented two times in 2019, for a total of 123 days. In September 2019, the Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross determined that a catastrophic fisheries disaster occurred in Louisiana. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) compiled a report showing losses in economic value by fishery in November 2019 and submitted to NOAA for approval.

Oyster Lease Moratorium

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) has approved a notice of intent for lifting the oyster lease moratorium. This preliminary approval requires a 90-day public comment period. Following the comment period and upon ratification of the new regulations, LDWF will begin lifting the moratorium in phases.

Activities Related to Artificial Reef Programs

Offshore

LDWF's Artificial Reef Program continues to assess and permit reef deployments related to offshore oil and gas structures. The Program has accepted four new structures. There are 25 structures permitted for deployment as permanent artificial reefs, and one new reef site has been recently proposed. Permitting of an additional 4 structures is currently underway.

Multi-beam surveying of the Program's offshore reefs is ongoing (annually) and is available on the Program's website. The Program has completed two pilot projects using remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) surveys to sample offshore reefs and is developing plans to create a comprehensive biological monitoring Program for these reefs.

Inshore

LDWF's Artificial Reef Program enhanced four inshore reefs across the state, including two sites in Lake Pontchartrain: West End with 3,000 tons of limestone and Lake Front with 1,950 tons of limestone, and two sites in Vermillion Bay area: Cypremort Point with 7,650 tons of limestone and Rabbit Island with 9,750 tons of limestone. These sites were enhanced using NRDA Recreational Use funds. The Program continues to hold four additional inshore permits to enhance existing inshore artificial reefs at Point Mast, Independence Island, California Point, and Bird Island, also using NRDA Recreational Use funds. The Program also deployed four new inshore reef sites in the Biloxi Marsh area through a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation. These sites will soon be surveyed, and if in compliance, will be accepted into the Program.

Nearshore

LDWF's Artificial Reef Program holds two permits to enhance existing nearshore reefs; the Pickets and Grand Isle 9 nearshore reefs have been approved for Recreational Use Restoration funding. The Program is finalizing the acceptance of four new nearshore reefs: The Ship Shoal 94 and 108 and Vermilion 119 and 124 reefs were deployed with funding from the Artificial Reef Fund. Vermilion 119 and 124 were done in partnership with Coastal Conservation Association of Louisiana. The Program is currently applying for permits and drafting agreements to create more nearshore reefs.

Monitoring

Through funds provided by the Louisiana Restoration Area Trustee Implementation Group, LDWF conducts the following monitoring of LDWF inshore and nearshore artificial reefs: The monitoring of 11 inshore and nearshore artificial reef enhancement sites was initiated. This is part of a 5-year plan to assess the success of artificial reefs enhanced in an effort to mitigate for recreational use opportunities lost during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Monitoring efforts include the study of the aquatic organisms utilizing the reef enhancement sites as well as observations of recreational users. Together, those efforts are intended to provide insight into the overall biological health of the reef enhancement sites as well as insight into whether those sites are providing enhanced recreational opportunities to the public.

Activities Associated with the Gulf of Mexico Crab Fisheries

Policy and Regulations

During the fall of 2019, the take and/or possession of female blue crabs was prohibited for a 35-day period beginning the second Monday of September; this regulation ended on October 13, 2019. The commercial harvest of immature female blue crab is permanently prohibited.

Derelict Crab Trap Program

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission promulgated a rule defining the 2020 derelict crab trap cleanup areas at the August 1, 2019 meeting. These six defined cleanup or closure areas will span across the coastal regions of Louisiana with two in the Pontchartrain Basin and one in each of the following basins: Barataria, Terrebonne, Vermilion-Teche, and Calcasieu. All closures will take place between February and March and last for 10 – 14 days.

Sustainability

In July 2019, the Louisiana blue crab commercial trap fishery underwent the first surveillance audit against the Marine Stewardship Council Management Standard v2.0. The final assessment report was completed in September 2019 and recommended that the Louisiana blue crab commercial trap fishery be granted continued certification.

In December 2019, the Louisiana blue crab commercial trap fishery underwent the third surveillance audit against the Audubon Nature Institute's Gulf United for Lasting Fisheries

Responsible Fisheries Management Standard v1.2. During this audit, the two remaining non-conformances were closed. The final assessment should be completed in January 2020.

Stock Assessments

An updated stock assessment of blue crab in Louisiana waters was completed in April 2019 and presented to the LWFC in June of 2019. Results from this assessment indicated that the blue crab stock is not overfished or experiencing overfishing. The blue crab indices of abundance will be analyzed in the spring of 2020 to determine if a full stock assessment is needed.

Landings

All 2019 blue crab landings and dockside values are preliminary and subject to change due to incomplete trip ticket data. Preliminary blue crab landings from July 2019 - December 2019 totaled 22.8 million pounds with a dockside value of \$27.6 million. Landings during this time period decreased by nearly 5 million pounds compared to 2018 and approximately 2.8 million pounds when compared to the five-year average. Dockside value also declined by approximately 14 percent compared to 2018 and 9 percent compared to the five-year average. The 2019 average blue crab price per pound during this period totaled \$1.21, which was \$0.03 higher than 2018 and \$0.02 more than the five-year average. Significant statewide reductions in blue crab landings have been noted due to the 2019 flood event. Blue crab annual landings totaled 37.7 million pounds with a dockside value of \$53 million. Blue crab landings were down by 7.4 and 5.3 million pounds compared to 2018 and the five-year average, respectively. The dockside value of blue crab in 2019 was significantly less than that in 2018 (\$63.7 million) and \$5.9 million below the five-year average.

Activities Related to Fisheries Dependent Data Collection

LA Creel

Through the LA Creel program, 6,221 recreational fishing trips, comprised of 16,381 individual anglers, were surveyed during 2019 Sample Weeks 27 – 52 (July 1, 2019 – December 29, 2019). Fifty-two different interviewers completed 806 assignments during the sample period.

Fish kept by anglers and allowed to be viewed by interviewers are referred to as observation Type 1 fish. Fish in possession of the angler at the time of survey but not seen by the interviewer are classified as observation Type 2 fish. For the sample period as above, there were 51,141 Type 1s and 12,812 Type 2s, which means that 80 percent of all fish in possession of the angler at the time of survey were identified and counted by staff.

Fish returned to the water or caught and used for bait are also recorded for certain species. Those species are:

1. Black Drum
2. Gray Snapper
3. Gray Triggerfish

4. Greater Amberjack
5. King Mackerel
6. Red Drum
7. Red Snapper
8. Sheepshead
9. Southern Flounder
10. Spanish Mackerel
11. Spotted Seatrout

Fish thrown back because they were under the legal minimum length are coded as Type 3. Fish caught and used as bait during the trip are coded as Type 4. Fish thrown back or given away prior to interview for any reason not covered by codes 3 and 4, such as too big, not wanted, etc., are coded as Type 5.

During the same time period as provided above, staff recorded 50,826 Type 3's, 1 Type 4, and 7,676 Type 5's.

LDWF continues to modify the SAS assignment draw program to make the draw process more efficient. The new program has been in use, in one iteration or another, since February 2019.

The iPad application used for data entry for dockside surveys was to undergo a rebuild in the spring of 2019, but this has been pushed back to the spring of 2020. A vendor has been contracted to rebuild the application in another platform so that future maintenance and changes to the application can be accomplished in-house by state IT staff. The goal is to have a working version sometime in May 2020.

Age and Growth

Since the new BIOFIN agreement covers recreational species only, LDWF's Age and Growth Lab in Baton Rouge relies on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) TIP sampling for commercial otoliths. The lab has processed recreational and independent otoliths during 2019. From July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, the lab has received 6,615 marine fisheries otoliths and aged 6,448 of these otoliths. The lab has also received and aged 743 freshwater otoliths. All otolith collection and ageing data has been transferred to GSMFC through the month of December. Staff are currently completing December 2019 otolith processing.

LDWF's Fisheries Research Lab in Grand Isle processes yellowfin tuna otoliths, which are not included in the age and growth lab's total for this time period. During the period of July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, a total of 218 yellowfin tuna otoliths have been collected and 100 have been aged.

Otolith totals are as follows:

- Black crappie – 313

- Black drum – 1,065
- Cobia – 22
- Gray snapper – 117
- Greater amberjack – 35
- Gray triggerfish – 0
- King mackerel – 1
- Largemouth Bass – 312
- Red drum – 1,447
- Red snapper – 362
- Sheepshead – 426
- Southern flounder – 711
- Spotted seatrout – 2,243
- Striped mullet – 119
- Tripletail - 13
- Vermilion snapper – 16
- White crappie – 118
- Blackfin tuna – 17
- Yellowfin tuna – 218.

Commercial Shrimp, Oyster, and Crab Seasons and Landings

Shrimp

The 2019 fall shrimp season opened statewide on August 5, 2019, at 6:00 pm, except for the portions of state inside waters from Freshwater Bayou eastward to the Atchafalaya River, which opened at 6:00 am on the same day due to a nighttime trawling prohibition.

All 2019 shrimp landings (heads on unless specified otherwise) and dockside values are preliminary and subject to change after a thorough review of trip ticket data. Preliminary statewide shrimp landings from July 2019-December 2019 (all species combined) totaled approximately 52 million pounds with a dockside value of \$79.2 million. Shrimp landings during this period increased by 4 percent when compared to landings in 2018, but showed a loss of 13 percent compared to the five-year average. The 2019 dockside value was 6 percent greater than the dockside value in 2018, but was 19 percent lower than the five-year average.

Brown shrimp landings from July 2019 - December 2019 were 3.2 million pounds with a dockside value of \$4.7 million. Total brown shrimp landings during this period were 53 percent lower than 2018 and 63 percent below the five-year average. Brown shrimp annual landings in 2019 (19.4 million pounds) were well below historic values, showing a decrease of 22.6 million pounds compared to 2018 and a loss of 13.9 million pounds compared to five-year average. Annual brown shrimp dockside value in 2019 was \$18.2 million, which is 47% and 53% below 2018 and the five-year average. Brown shrimp landings were expected to be lower than normal due to the 2019 flood events.

White shrimp landings from July 2019 - December 2019 totaled approximately 63.3 million pounds, with a dockside value of \$101.5 million. White shrimp landings during this time period were 5.7 million pounds higher than in 2018, but were 2 million pounds lower than the five-year average. White shrimp dockside value and price per pound were also above the values in 2018 by \$10.6 million and \$0.04, respectively, but below the five-year average by \$8.1 million and \$0.10. White shrimp annual landings increased by 14 percent when compared to 2018 (54.5 million) but declined by 5 percent compared to the five-year average (66.4 million). The annual dockside value of white shrimp was \$16.6 million higher than in 2018, but \$9.8 million below the five-year average.

Blue Crab

Described in the Activities Associated with the Gulf of Mexico Crab Fisheries section above.

Oyster

The 2019-20 oyster season opened November 1, 2019. The table below summarizes the 2019-2020 oyster season to date for Louisiana's major public oyster areas. This year, the goal was to reduce harvest stress as a means to conserve remaining resource from 2019 flooding event, and manage areas as recommended by the shell budget model thresholds—all of which should help minimize reef degradation.

Area	Season Opening	Season Closure	Season/type	Days open	Harvest	CSA
Seed Grounds East of Mississippi river and North of MRGO	closed					1
Seed Grounds East of Mississippi river and South of MRGO	closed					
Hackberry Little Lake, Barataria Bay	closed					3
Deep Lake, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity and Lake Tambour	closed					5
Lake Mechant and Bay Junop	closed					
Sister Lake	18-Nov	18-Nov	1-day Seed harvest	1	1,250 bbl	
	19-Nov	25-Nov	Market Oyster Harvest	7	10,314 sacks	
Vermilion Bay	closed					6
Calcasieu Lake	1-Nov	20-Jan	East Cove: Market Oyster Harvest	80	3,279 sacks	7
	1-Nov	TBD	West Cove: Market Oyster Harvest	TBD	TBD	

Activities Related to Fisheries Independent Sampling

Stock Assessments

LDWF completed stock assessments of black drum, sheepshead, southern flounder, and striped mullet that will be presented to the LFWC for transmittal to the Louisiana Legislature in

February 2020. These assessments use a statistical catch-at-age model to estimate annual time-series of spawning stock biomass and fishing mortality rates. Time-series of fishery catches-at-age along with relative abundance indices developed from LDWF fishery independent surveys are the primary model inputs. Based on results of these assessments, the black drum, sheepshead, and striped mullet stocks are currently not overfished or undergoing overfishing. The southern flounder stock, however, is currently considered overfished. Management options to improve the status of the southern flounder stock will be presented to the LWFC in 2020.

Fisheries Research Lab

LDWF's Fisheries Research Lab in Grand Isle is the base for the state's offshore fisheries independent monitoring and research projects. The lab also serves as a point of contact for the public, visiting researchers, and educational programs. Some current activities at the lab are summarized below:

Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP)

In 2019 LDWF participated in three SEAMAP surveys: shrimp/groundfish, vertical line, and bottom longline. On these surveys, teams of three to nine fisheries biologists collect, process, and enter both catch data and environmental parameters, including a water column profile. These surveys are conducted from April through October with data management and reporting completed during the winter. During the reporting period, sampling and reporting were completed for all three surveys. LDWF representatives participated in the Fall GSMFC meeting and the SEAMAP Habitat Mapping Workshop.

Spotted Sea Trout Life History Study

In 2018, biologists from LDWF's coastal study areas (CSAs) obtained ovaries and otoliths from dockside sampling (n=1,216). During the reporting period, these samples were aged and histologically staged, and batch fecundity (n=18) was taken where applicable. Spawning fraction and frequency was smaller and more variable than expected, which may be due to lack of larger individuals collected. Spawning frequency was calculated from the 147-day spawning duration multiplied by the spawning fraction equations. Batch fecundity was then multiplied by spawning frequency to achieve annual fecundity. Fecundity data was added from a previous pilot study on spotted seatrout in 2015 (n=11) and from previous work in 1994-1995 (n=25). Both of these datasets were generated from spotted seatrout collected in Barataria Bay. Annual fecundity within length was $1.076(\text{TotalLength})^{2.692}$ while annual fecundity at age was $34,007,142(1-e^{-(0.451 \cdot \text{Age})})^{2.307}$. However, annual fecundity was directly proportional (linear) to body weight, which suggests that spawning stock biomass is an appropriate substitute for total egg production in stock assessment. Future collections may be useful in monitoring increases or decreases in egg production, which may be an indicator of stock health.

Black Drum Life History Study

In November and December 2019, LDWF biologists sampled 122 black drum ovaries. These two months of sampling is just a start of what will continue until the end of May 2020. Of the 122 ovaries histological processing has started on 96 samples. As the project develops, ovarian

histology will be used to determine the length of the spawning season and frequency of spawning within that season. That spawning frequency estimate will be combined with batch fecundity to determine annual fecundity and total egg production of the stock. Additionally, this data will determine if spawning stock biomass is an appropriate proxy for total egg production.

Offshore Red Drum Age Structure

The lack of a consistent biological sampling source for offshore red drum has hindered stock assessment, but the LDWF portion of the SEAMAP bottom longline survey could provide a fisheries independent source of otolith and gonad samples. Otoliths would provide abundance of age or year classes within the population while gonad samples would deliver spawning frequency and fecundity estimates. The abundance indices from standardized sampling coupled with age and reproductive analysis from the otolith and gonad samples would more accurately assess the adult population of red drum off Louisiana.

During the 2019 SEAMAP bottom longline survey, LDWF collected otoliths from 259 red drum. Though the majority of those landings occurred outside of the spawning season during spring sampling, 19 gonads were collected from female red drum closer to the spawning season during summer and fall bottom longline sampling. Ages for red drum collected offshore ranged from 4 to 34 years. These data will likely be critical in characterizing the offshore spawning stock of red drum off the Louisiana coast in future stock assessments.

Artificial Reef Monitoring for Sportfish

In order to enhance the monitoring of sportfish species on artificial reef structures, LDWF biologists from the Grand Isle Fisheries Research Lab are using a combination of vertical line sampling, video sampling, and diver surveys. Ten percent of the artificial reef structures in the LDWF Offshore Artificial Reef Program were randomly selected and added to the 2019 vertical line survey. During the reporting period, 19 of 48 assigned Artificial reef vertical line stations were sampled following the SEAMAP vertical line protocol, with gear-paired video collected at each station.

Also during the reporting period, 742 unique GoPro videos were compiled from previous SEAMAP vertical line surveys (2015-2018). These videos were filtered for visibility and pre-read to define video read time bounds. Of the total collected, 299 videos were determined to be readable. For all videos (2015-2018), video surveys were found to encounter more species and a more diverse and even fish community. Community models estimated that video surveys accumulated more than twice the number of species than vertical line gear.

Additionally, LDWF included a roving diver survey component into the LDWF artificial reef monitoring effort. While LDWF has previously conducted dive surveys at standing platforms, no dive surveys had been conducted at artificial reef sites prior to 2018. Biologists surveyed finfish species at the artificial reef site and the nearest standing platform. During 2019, artificial reef survey divers conducted 2 dive surveys on 2 structures in the Western zone with one reefed

structure (EC272H) and the nearest standing platform to that structure (VR282D). Diver data and videos were captured at both sites and is in the process of review.

Shrimp Sampling

LDWF conducts fisheries independent sampling for shrimp year-round statewide using three trawl sizes: 6-foot, 16-foot, and 20-foot. The 6-foot trawl samples gather data in the interior marshes of Louisiana and are used to set the opening and closure dates for the spring inshore shrimp season. These samples are typically taken throughout April and again at the end of June and beginning of July, depending on environmental conditions. In 2019, a total of 254 6-foot trawl samples were conducted. Samples conducted in late June indicated an increased presence of juvenile white shrimp, resulting in a state white spring inshore shrimp closure on June 28, 2019, except for the following: The Louisiana portion of the Mississippi Sound, Breton Sound, and Chandeleur Sound. During weeks 24 and 25, white shrimp recruitment was very similar to the 10-year average.

The 16-foot trawl sampling data are used to constantly monitor the state shrimp resource, along with other species of interest. During 2019, a total of 1,774 16-foot trawl samples were conducted. These data were used to open state inshore waters for the 2019 fall inshore shrimp season. The fall inshore shrimp season was set at the August 1, 2019, LWFC meeting utilizing the most current 16-foot trawl data (Work Week 29). This data indicated that 50% of the available resource was at or larger than 100 count, although white shrimp CPUE remained below the 10-year average. The statewide opening of the 2019 fall inshore shrimp season was on August 5, 2019, at 6:00 pm, except for the portions of state inshore waters from the Atchafalaya River west to Freshwater Bayou. Continued monitoring during the fall indicated that the average white shrimp size was greater than 100 count. Law states that white shrimp over 100 count may only be harvested from October 15 – the third Monday of December, so a Declaration of Emergency was signed to close all state inshore waters on December 16, 2019, at official sunset, except for the following state inshore waters: Lake Pontchartrain, Chef Menteur and Rigolets Passes, Lake Borgne, Mississippi Sound, Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, and a section of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Orleans parish from the East Closure Sector Gate westward to the intersection with the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal. These data will be used to close the remaining portions of state inshore waters once white shrimp size has decreased.

The 20-foot trawl sampling data are used to monitor shrimp resources in state offshore waters. A total of 273 20-foot trawl samples were conducted during 2019. Data collected in the 20-foot trawl samples will be used to close portions of state offshore waters, if warranted.

Crab Sampling

Fisheries independent sampling data for blue crab is collected with 16-foot trawls. These data are used to calculate juvenile and adult blue crab indices of abundance for the blue crab stock assessment. Statewide blue crab catch per effort was low for most of 2019, but did begin increasing during the fall.

Oyster Sampling

Sampling for the 2019-2020 oyster stock assessment for the public oyster seed grounds in Louisiana was completed in July 2019. Sampling consisted of 105 sample sites, totaling 525 square-meter samples collected in the public oyster seed grounds. LDWF's 2019 oyster stock assessment indicated that Louisiana is experiencing the lowest stock size ever recorded on the public oyster seed grounds. This stock assessment of approximately 249,800 barrels of oysters represents a 6 percent decrease from already depleted 2018 levels and an overall decrease of 92 percent from the long-term average (compared to prior stock assessments without the Sabine Lake public oyster area stock). The low stock is due to a combination of factors, such as degradation of habitat, extreme weather events, harvest pressure, hydrological and environmental changes. The 2019 Mississippi River flood event contributed to even higher oyster mortalities statewide.

LDWF conducted a stock assessment in the Sabine Lake public oyster area for 2019-2020. Availability in this area is estimated to be 78,899 barrels of seed oysters and 100,053 barrels of sack oysters. Due to Act 159 (2018) that instituted a moratorium on oyster fishing in Sabine Lake, these totals are not reflected in the overall statewide availability. Square-meter sampling will only be conducted in Sabine Lake every other year, with the next sampling scheduled for July 2021. Additional sampling may occur as needed to monitor for possible mortality events associated with significant freshwater input events.

Additional stock assessment (square-meter) sampling was conducted in the Lake Pontchartrain and Barataria basins in April/May and September/October 2019 as part of an agreement with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA). In the Barataria Basin, additional sampling was also conducted on private lease areas per the CPRA agreement to further characterize oyster resources in that basin.

LDWF also conducts regular 24" dredge sampling on public oyster seed grounds statewide—sampling events are conducted monthly (less July) on 74 sampling stations and quarterly on 6 (Sabine Lake only) sampling stations, with two replicates per station, to monitor size frequency, presence and/or absence, and mortality. Through December 31, 2019, 1,654 regular dredge samples were taken.

Finfish Sampling

LDWF conducts biological monitoring for finfish statewide in the coastal, nearshore, and offshore areas of Louisiana. During fiscal year 2018-19, the fisheries independent finfish sampling program collected 944 gillnet samples, 1,227 seine samples, and 270 trammel net samples for a 100 percent overall completion rate statewide. Electro-fishing samples (661 total) are being conducted within some Louisiana estuarine environments to provide fisheries data to CPRA.

Other State Activities

Finfish Seasons and Regulations

Louisiana waters opened to the harvest of king mackerel on July 1, 2019, concurrent with an opening in federal waters.

Louisiana adjusted the daily possession limit for commercially harvested large coastal sharks from 45 to 55 per day on August 13, 2019, concurrent with an adjustment in federal waters.

At its September 2019 meeting, the LWFC approved a Notice of Intent (NOI) to modify recreational size limits for shortfin mako sharks. The NOI proposes a change from 54 inches minimum fork length to 71 inches and 83 inches minimum fork length for male and female shortfin mako sharks, respectively. Public comments are being taken until November 7, 2019.

Louisiana waters and federal waters closed to the private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper on September 3, 2019. Louisiana waters subsequently reopened, on a weekends only basis (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) beginning September 27, 2019, including the Monday of Veterans Day, until it closed again on November 24, 2019. Beginning on November 28, 2019, the season reopened on a daily basis and was closed at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2019.

Louisiana waters closed to the recreational harvest of greater amberjack on October 31, 2019, concurrent with a closure in federal waters.

Louisiana waters closed to the commercial harvest of gray triggerfish on November 27, 2019, concurrent with a closure in federal waters.

Louisiana waters closed to the commercial and recreational harvest of lane snapper on December 13, 2019, concurrent with a closure in federal waters.

Louisiana waters closed to the commercial harvest of spotted seatrout on December 31, 2019.

Louisiana waters closed to the recreational harvest of gag grouper on January 1, 2020, concurrent with a closure in federal waters.

Louisiana waters closed to the recreational harvest of gray triggerfish on January 1, 2020, concurrent with a seasonal closure until March 1, 2020 in federal waters.

Louisiana waters opened to the commercial and recreational harvest of lane snapper on January 1, 2020, concurrent with an opening in federal waters.

During February 2020, LDWF is conducting 8 statewide meetings in Gray, Baton Rouge,

Lafayette, Metairie, Slidell, Lake Charles, Alexandria, and Ruston to solicit public input and future management of spotted seatrout stocks in Louisiana waters. The most recent stock assessment for the species indicated the stock is overfished and undergoing overfishing.

Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Monitoring

LDWF continued to maintain a stranding and rescue response program for the state through September 30, 2019. Between July 1, 2019, and September 30, 2019, LDWF received and investigated all stranding reports of marine mammals and sea turtles. These reports were received from members of the public, law enforcement agencies, local government officials, property managers, and other entities including barrier island restoration construction crews working on remote islands and beaches along the Louisiana coast. Depending on the state of decomposition, marine mammal and sea turtle carcasses were field-sampled, necropsied in the field, or recovered for a necropsy by a veterinarian and trained staff in a laboratory-based setting.

LDWF continued to monitor beaches between July 1, 2019, and September 30, 2019, where appropriate, and as schedules allowed. LDWF staff conducted active surveillance for any stranded marine mammals or sea turtles during these surveys. Beach surveys were conducted with state equipment (4x4 trucks or UTVs) on easily accessed beaches and in remote locations where reports may go undetected by the public. During this reporting period, LDWF conducted a total of 11 beach surveys.

Marine Mammals

LDWF handled marine mammal strandings during this period including bottlenose dolphins and a kogia. Staff conducted numerous external marine mammal exams and collected minimal samples, due to decomposition level of the carcasses. Staff conducted several field necropsies including a field necropsy of the kogia on the eastern end of Elmer's Island. A batch marine mammal necropsy session was conducted on July 10 in which 8 frozen neonate/fetus carcasses were necropsied at the Louisiana State University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostics Laboratory, BSL-3 Lab.

In August 2019, LDWF staff worked with NOAA, Audubon Nature Institute, and Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network in a live dolphin rescue near Holly Beach in Cameron, Louisiana. The dolphin was removed from an enclosed ditch and transported to a rehabilitation facility in Texas.

Sea Turtles

LDWF also handled sea turtle strandings during this period. Of those, one sea turtle was found in an abandoned trawl net near the Chandeleur Islands, one was a lethal take of a Kemp's ridley that occurred by LDWF's Fisheries Research Lab SEAMAP Bottom Longline Cruise, and one was a live sea turtle rescue by USCG Grand Isle Sector response and carcass recovery after it passed away. In addition to these sea turtle strandings, there were numerous tagged turtles that were found dead across the Louisiana coast. A batch sea turtle necropsy session was held on August

13 and 14, 2019, at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostics Laboratory, BSL-3 Lab. LDWF and NOAA personnel coordinated for the two-day session in which 39 sea turtle necropsies were conducted; there were 26 Kemp's ridley, 8 green, and 5 loggerhead sea turtles.

During the month of July, LDWF staff coordinated and participated in a live green sea turtle release out of Port Fourchon, Louisiana.

Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery

The Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery located on Grand Isle, Louisiana, is operated through a collaborative effort between LDWF and Louisiana Sea Grant (LSG). LSG assists with facility operations, provides technical guidance, manages the LSG Breeding Program, and supports the oyster industry through extension, outreach, and research projects. LDWF focuses on the production of diploid and triploid seed and larvae for state restoration projects, as well as commercial sales to support the industry.

Fall 2019 larval production focused on producing diploid pediveligers for setting on whole oyster shell, diploid and triploid pediveligers and seed for pending sales, and seed for LSG research projects. Spring diploid larval production was successful, but fall larval and seed production was low, possibly due to environmental factors including those related to water quality. LDWF and LSG complete weekly and daily water quality testing, including *Vibrio* and marine bacteria testing; however, there are other factors outside the scope of the hatchery's testing that may contribute to low larval production. LDWF and LSG tried improving fall diploid and triploid larval production through the use of EDTA in larval tanks and completing algae treatment trials dosed with EDTA and different volumes of media solution. EDTA is used by other hatcheries to protect larvae against *Vibrio* bacterial infection. LDWF and LSG are also collaborating with other universities and a private hatchery in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to complete additional water quality sampling through winter and spring 2020. Results from the hatcheries will be used to compare differences or similarities between water quality and larval production.

Spat on Shell Projects

In 2019, in collaboration with the Grand Isle Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery, LDWF developed a spat on shell protocol to investigate and monitor survival and growth with hatchery-raised animals by following protocols developed by the 2014 remote setting pilot project. Fall of 2019 spat-on-shell production began in August by setting hatchery-produced oyster larvae onto approximately 40 cubic yards of recycled oyster shell. LDWF partners with the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) and their Oyster Shell Recycling Program, and receives a portion of the shell collected by CRCL. Setting tanks were located underneath the LDWF Fisheries Research Lab in Grand Isle, Louisiana. Four setting rounds were completed in August by setting approximately 134,033,731 pediveliger larvae on shell. The resulting spat-on-shell were deployed on sites within LDWF's Hackberry Bay 2012 Cultch Plant. LDWF staff will continue to monitor survival (average number of spat per shell) and growth (millimeters per month) of spat at deployment locations. Future deployments in spring 2020 will focus on

restoring high mortality areas as observed in the public oyster seed grounds across the state, especially on the east side of the Mississippi River.

Boating and Non-Boating Access Projects

LDWF has several new and ongoing boating and fishing access projects, which are funded through the Sport Fish Restoration Program and administered by local entities. LDWF accepts project proposals on an annual basis and evaluates them based on ranking criteria and available funding. Current projects include:

- Port Sulphur Civic Drive Fishing Pier – design phase
- St. Tammany Fishing Pier – design phase
- West End – Breakwater Drive Boat Launch – construction phase
- New Iberia Boat Slips Boating Infrastructure Grant Program – design phase
- City of New Iberia CVA Sanitation Facility – design phase
- Indian Creek Recreation Area Fishing Pier – design phase
- City of New Iberia Civic Center Marina Phase I – design phase

Additional boating and fishing access projects were recently approved by the Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group for funding from the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill and are currently being designed and implemented.

Seafood Industry Professionalism

LDWF seeks to give the state's seafood industry access and training to the latest trends, requirements, and technology in their profession, as expert training will yield higher quality products and give the seafood community a competitive advantage in the marketplace. Since the launch of Louisiana Fisheries Forward: Advancing Our Seafood Industry, this one-of-a-kind professionalism program for Louisiana's commercial fishing industry has received inquiry, acknowledgement, and recognition throughout many facets of local, regional, national and world fishing industries.

Year 3 of the current Louisiana Fisheries Forward contract was recently completed. During the final quarter five mini videos were produced along with corresponding flyers, several hands-on workshops were conducted which included new and trending topics, and the Louisiana Fisheries Forward Refrigeration Demo Unit traveled the state. This unit is a 6,500-pound trailer that consists of a brine freezer, plate freezer, and chilled water system. Additionally, we produced two videos, a freshwater commercial fishing video characterizing the fishery and a recreational for hire video characterizing the charter fishing industry in Louisiana.

In addition, work continues on the production of educational materials (referred to as fast fact sheets), the offering of in-person training sessions (referred to as dock days), a refrigeration demonstration project, and the planning of the 2020 Louisiana Fisheries Forward Summit which will take place on March 11 2020 in Kenner, LA. (<https://www.lafisheriesforward.org/summit/>).

Aquatic Plant Control

Invasive aquatic weeds continue to threaten access and recreational activities throughout Louisiana. Fall surveys conducted from July-September 2019 revealed an estimated 248,299 acres of nuisance aquatic plant coverage, mostly composed of water hyacinth (58,436 acres) and giant salvinia (48,957 acres). Fall surveys are conducted at the end of the growing season and usually reflect slightly more coverage than spring surveys conducted at the beginning of the growing season. From July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, LDWF applied EPA-approved herbicides to 23,880.1 acres of nuisance vegetation across the state. The majority of plant control efforts focused on giant salvinia and water hyacinth, with 9,768.8 and 11,057.3 acres treated, respectively. A major area of focus was Black and Clear Lakes in Natchitoches Parish, both of which suffer from a chronic giant salvinia infestation. A total of 1,971 acres of giant salvinia were treated on Black and Clear Lakes. LDWF treated approximately 1,082 acres of water hyacinth on Lake Long.

Winter temperatures and isolated flood events have the potential to be major factors in determining the severity of aquatic vegetation impacts, especially giant salvinia, in Louisiana. Occurrences of below freezing temperatures, for the duration of several hours, provide excellent control of aquatic vegetation. The lack of below freezing temperatures experienced thus far this winter will lead to higher than usual spring aquatic vegetation coverage. Drawdowns are currently being conducted on several waterbodies throughout Louisiana. Vegetation assessments will be made in the spring, and herbicide applications will be made accordingly.

from western Horn Island to Bernard Bayou, and in September 2019 monitoring was expanded by adding eight fixed stations in the Western Mississippi Sound from Gulfport to Heron Bay. A total of 84 trawls were completed from July to December 2019.

The SCB conducted trawl sampling at 8 fixed stations within the western Mississippi Sound to monitor impacts of the 2019 Bonnet Carré Spillway opening. Sampling was completed from July to September 2019 and a total of 48 trawl samples were completed during this time period. The SCB continued fishery independent trap surveys for Blue Crabs within the three major bay systems – St. Louis Bay, Biloxi Bay, and the lower Pascagoula River. Each bay system was sampled monthly from July to December 2019 for a total of 18 sample sets. This program, which began in 2015, provides data on CPUE, sex composition, and abundance of Blue Crabs.

Shellfish Sampling

Each year, the MDMR SB conducts an extensive oyster reef assessment on all significant public oyster resources in state waters from May to August, which is entirely composed of fisheries independent sampling. This year, due to harmful algae blooms associated with the Bonnet Carré Spillway and the resulting near total loss of the State's oyster resources, the annual oyster reef assessment was not conducted.

6. Other State Activities

State Records for Recreational Fishing

A total of seven recreational fishing records were approved by the CMR as state records between July and December 2019. Six records were set in the Conventional Youth category: Gray Snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*), Ladyfish (*Elops saurus*), Crevalle Jack (*Caranx hippos*), Bonnethead (*Sphyrna tiburo*), Atlantic Bumper (*Chloroscombrus chrysurus*), and Hardhead Catfish (*Ariopsis felis*). One record was set in the All Tackle category for Red Lionfish (*Pterois volitans*).

Shrimp Studies

The SCB participated in a GSMFC funded research project to develop more accurate weight conversions for commercially important shrimp species. The project includes procuring samples from the shrimp industry, collecting head-on, head-off, and peeled/deveined weights and lengths and determined conversion factors by species and count size. SCB staff has processed 634 shrimp to date. The project will be completed in December 2020.

Shrimp Inspections and Permits

The SCB manages the live bait shrimp licensing program. Inspections and technical assistance were provided as needed to the 14 licensed dealers across Mississippi's three coastal counties. The SCB manages the Special Permitting program which includes Scientific Research Permits, Brood Stock Permits, Non-profit Harvesters Permits, and Experimental Gear Permits. SCB staff issued 15 Special Permits from July to December 2019.

Oyster Aquaculture

The SB began training the second class of Off-Bottom Oyster Aquaculture Program (OBOA) in 2019. The class teaches potential and current commercial oyster farmers the basics of off-bottom oyster aquaculture. Topics in the course include oyster biology, hatchery basics, nursery options, seed handling, farm site selection, overview of off-bottom culture gear, methods to control fouling, splitting, and grading, business planning, risk management, permitting, public health considerations and marketing. Twenty-one participants are currently enrolled in the program and approximately 250,000 oysters are being grown through the program. Private lease applications are currently being submitted to the Mississippi Secretary of State for approval. Thirteen participants from the first OBOA class have signed Public Trust Tidelands Sub-leases for a total of 27 acres leases inside the MDMR Commercial Aquaculture Park. Commercial operations harvested approximately 160,000 oysters in 2019.

Shellfish Management

The SB conducts the water sampling compliance program in order to maintain shellfish growing waters classifications through the FDA. From July through December 2019, SB staff collected 779 routine fecal coliform water samples. These samples are used to manage the openings and closings of oyster reefs. The samples are collected by boat, in sterile bottles, one-half meter below the surface on the windward side. The samples are placed on ice and transported to an FDA certified microbiology laboratory.

Seafood Technology Bureau

The Seafood Technology Bureau (STB) conducted 154 inspections including pre-operational, follow-up, certification, standardization, and routine inspections. A total of 87 sanitation and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) deficiencies were cited. The required bi-annual water quality sampling for seafood processing facilities for September was completed with a total of 45 samples taken.

In December, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) conducted a Program Element Evaluation of the *Vibrio* Risk Management Plan Implementation of the Mississippi Shellfish

Sanitation Program. During the evaluation, five processors were inspected. The result of the evaluation was a “conformance” rating. This is the highest rating a program can receive.

The STB in collaboration with the FDA conducted four workshops – two Basic Seafood HACCP, one Sanitation Control Procedures (SCP), and one *Vibrio Vulnificus*. The workshops were held free of charge for Mississippi residents. They were made possible through a grant from the Mississippi Tidelands Trust Fund Program which is administered by the Mississippi Secretary of State’s Office and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. A total of 24 students attended HACCP, nine attended SCP, and nine attended the *Vibrio Vulnificus* workshop.

In July, staff from the STB completed instructor training with the FDA for conducting traceback procedure courses. The training enables the STB staff to administer the FDA Traceback Investigations course to the residents of Mississippi. This course teaches facilities proper procedures to conduct traceback investigation in the event of a recall or illness. Grant funds secured from the FDA also allowed two staff members to attend the Gulf States Atlantic States Shellfish Conference in Savannah, Georgia in August.

In October, STB staff presented to the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference the bureau’s participation in a national pilot program testing voluntary shellfish standards. The program was done in collaboration with three other state regulatory partners and the FDA. The goal of the standards is to create a uniform foundation for the design and management of a shellfish regulatory program resulting in a high-quality regulatory program. The standards include comprehensive self-assessments and auditing procedures. The STB implemented the standards and will continue the program in 2020 encouraging continuous improvement and innovation in the safety and regulation of shellfish in the State of Mississippi.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
70th Annual Spring Meeting
Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, 11 March, 2020
Gulf Shores, AL

1. Emerging Issues Pertinent to Gulf of Mexico Fisheries.

PROPOSED REGULATORY CHANGES

Statewide Recreational and Commercial Fishing

Proposed changes to flounder regulations

To manage a declining flounder fishery, we have two proposals submitted to the TPW Commission that would decrease fishing effort during the fall spawning run, as well as protect smaller spawning capable females. We estimate this will increase spawning biomass by 58%. These proposed regulations include:

- Closing November 1 to December 14 to all flounder fishing (currently no gigging in Nov and reduced catch of 2 fish/person for that period compared to 5 during rest of year).
- Increase the minimum size limit to 15-inches (currently 14-inch min size limit).

Proposed changes to Paddle Craft All-Water Guide License

- Modify the course requirements by removing courses that are no longer listed, available, or have been redesigned and/or are being renamed. Change requirement to include successful completion of a “paddle craft leading course” from the American Canoe Association or another TPWD approved course.

Oyster Updates

Oyster Mariculture Update

TPWD continues to develop oyster mariculture program details for consideration by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission in March 2020. A briefing of the Oyster Mariculture Program was made to the Commission in November 2019 and a status update was provided in January 2020. We are currently working on the administrative code for what the mariculture program may look like and will approach our commission with this proposal in March. Once proposed, we will conduct regulatory hearings for public input, with final adoption considered in May 2020.

Oyster Shell Recovery

HB51 (85th Legislative Session, 2017) included a requirement that dealers purchasing oysters harvested from Texas bay systems return 30%, by volume, of the total quantity of oysters harvested during the previous license year. In lieu of returning this cultch back to public oyster reefs, dealers can pay the department a sack fee that will allow the department to return an equivalent amount to public reefs. The current amount of this fee per sack is \$1.32. So far, in

2019-20 landings reported to the Texas Commercial Landings Program (LY20 Sep-Dec), 332,509 sacks (110 lbs/sack) of oysters were landed from TX bays. That total amounts to 5,773 cubic yards of cultch or \$438,912 due from oyster dealers. In LY 2019, dealers worked with TPWD to place 9,705 cubic yards of cultch back into TX bays, while remaining dealers paid \$190,090 into the Shell Recovery Fund (for future planting) (Table 1).

Table 1. Summary of Oyster Shell Recovery program (LY2018-2020)

LY (Sep-Aug)	Sacks Harvested	Cultch Due (cu yds)	Fee in lieu of cultch	Final Disposition	
				Cultch	Fee
2018	564,787	9,805.3	\$745,518.84	6,590.6	\$215,211.48
2019	754,565	13,100.0	\$996,025.80	9,705.3	\$190,090.16
*2020	332,509	5,772.7	\$438,911.88	0.0	\$19,302.36

*As of 2/4/2020 (through December landings)

Texas Oyster Landings

Oyster landings in LY2020 were slightly greater than LY2019 during the same period (Nov-Dec) (Table 2 and 3). License year 2019 was a good year by comparison to previous years, so LY2020 looks to be even better. While landings for both years were relatively high in Nov, landings in LY2019 dropped off in December. In LY2019, there were a number of areas closed to harvest in December due to rainfall/runoff, which resulted in a decrease in trips made in December, possibly explaining some reduction in harvest. In comparison, the recent December (LY2020) did not see any area closures.

Table 2. Texas oyster landings comparison between LY19 and LY20 for public oyster season for combined Nov/Dec.

LY	Month	Sacks	Meat wt (lbs)	Value (\$)
2019	Nov+Dec	237,876	1,527,164	9,513,124
2020	Nov+Dec	293,847	1,886,498	12,350,593

Table 3. Public oyster landings for months of Nov and Dec for License Years 2019 and 2020.

LY	Month	Sacks	Meat wt (lbs)	Value (\$)
2019	11	151,828	974,736	6,079,304
2019	12	86,048	552,428	3,433,820
2020	11	150,830	968,329	6,548,875
2020	12	143,017	918,169	5,801,718

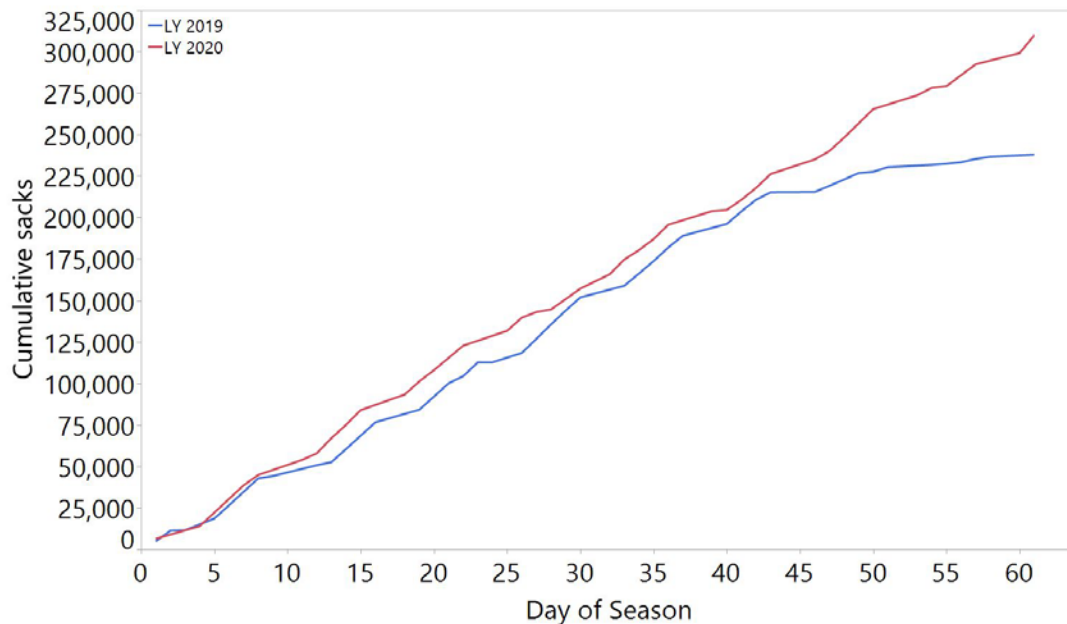


Figure 1. Cumulative number of sacks collected by the Texas oyster fishery in the first 60 days (Nov-Dec) of the public season during LY2019 and LY2020.

2019 Texas EFP Red Snapper Landings

Texas opened Federal waters on June 1 and closed on August 2, earlier than the initially projected 97-day season. Good weather days in June and July (especially holiday weekends) resulted in a higher than expected number of trips and the average weight of red snapper landed was higher than the previous year. At the time of closure, 215,939 cumulative pounds of Red Snapper were landed. After closing the Federal waters, the State waters remained open through the end of the year. At the end of the year (2019), Texas had 260,606 total pounds of Red Snapper landed, which was 98.3% of the Texas ACL (265,090).

2. Activities Related to Artificial Reef Programs.

Rigs-to-Reefs

The Reef Program received the following donations to the program:

Date	Rig	Removal type	Donation	Jacket
Oct 2019	MU-A-111 A	Partial removal	\$500,000	8-pile

As previously reported, the PN-A-42 permit renewal application was reviewed by the USACOE in the Winter 2018 and Spring 2019. There is currently a partially removed structure there, however, a renewed “construction” permit from the USACOE is required before Williams Oil and Gas can tow PN-A-956 to this location. The final USACOE permit for PN-A-42 was issued in May 2019. During the permitting process, the Corps asked for outside consultation by NOAA. After

the consultation with NOAA, the Corps decided to withdraw its consultation request and issued a “No Effects” ruling on the permit. NOAA’s endangered species group had expressed concerns that reefing platforms (and other materials) could endanger sea turtles through entanglements with fishing line that might be snagged on the reefs. The Corps ruled that their only jurisdiction is on the actual construction of the reef and not long-term effects. TPWD can minimize impacts to turtles in numerous ways but elimination of all fishing line on reefs is not possible. NOAA would like to develop a regional PDC (project design concept) for all Gulf states on acceptable materials and how they could be modified. This particular structure involves a FERC permit because of the classification of the pipeline. FERC asked for consultation on the platform removal/reefing from other federal agencies. NOAA Endangered Species personnel are disapproving the project because of future potential concerns that fishermen will fish on the platform, loose fishing line, and turtles will be entangled and drown. While there is no evidence that this would occur, it is possible. BSEE leadership is addressing the concerns / review process with FERC officials and we hope to get a resolution soon.

Dale Shively (AR Program Director) participated in a conference call with LA Congressman Garrett Graves, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement Director Scott Angelle, other Gulf state artificial reef program managers, and representatives from other federal agencies. The discussion revolved around a concern raised by the Congressman and Coastal Conservation Association leadership that too many petroleum platforms are being removed (scrapped) instead of being reefed and the loss of marine habitat and fishing opportunities. TPWD will be writing a letter of support for reefing obsolete platforms and documenting the biological and economic value of these sites. This discussion will be on-going.

A proposal was created for an 80-acre boundary map where Anadarko Oil and Gas could tow a spar (floating) platform for deployment as an artificial reef. The spars are about 30ft wide and over 500ft long cylinders. Reefing the spars is not definite at this point as the side scan and ROV surveys are required before final permitting of the reef site in the future.

TPWD worked with W&T Offshore, Inc. and Oceaneering to set up a contract for removing a damaged cross member (pipe) on the HI-A-389A reefed platform. The platform is inside the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary boundary which complicates the situation. The pipe would normally be cut loose (it is hanging by one metal tag) and lowered to the bottom next to the platform base. In this case, it must be removed and transported to another reef site. The damaged cross member on the top of the reefed HI-A-389A platform was removed by Oceaneering Co. Oceaneering conducted the removal via ROV and a crane.

We are also working with Fieldwood Energy to secure a donation of the HI-A-545 platform. It will be towed to the TPWD HI-A-520 reef site once the USCOE permit is renewed. There is a question about having an archaeological survey at the HI-A-520 reef, but BSEE has survey coverage of the surrounding area that should suffice. When these older reef sites were permitted years ago, the USACOE archaeologist would make a determination of whether a survey was needed or not, based on historical shipping lanes. In this case, the reef was permitted without one, as the survey was waived. We have had recent cases where we were obligated after-the-fact to go into an existing reef site and conduct a survey to get permits renewed.

Ships-to-Reefs

The NRDA contracts for the MV Kraken, Freeport (Vancouver) and Matagorda Reef Sites required 2 years of follow-up surveys following deployment of reef materials. The final sidescan of the Kraken reef was received by Naismith Surveyors by October 2019. TPWD received the final sidescan surveys from UT-RGV on the Freeport (Vancouver) and Matagorda Nearshore Reef deployments. These reports will be added to the final Kraken ship reef sidescan survey report in fulfillment of NRDA reporting requirements for 3 projects funded through BP Mitigation funds. All reports will be sent to NRDA trustees in fulfillment of TPWD Artificial Reef Program requirements.

Nearshore Reefs

A scope of work and budget were submitted for a reefing contract with the nonprofit group Friends of Rio Grande Valley Nearshore Reef. They will be loading approximately 1500 tons of concrete railway ties and reefing them at the Corpus Christi Nearshore Reef, using Hurricane Harvey relief funds. The Friends group is the only entity that has successfully reefed this type of material and has placed thousands of tons in the Rio Grande Valley Nearshore Reef (PS-1105).



The TX General Land Office Surface Lease for Kate's Reef (offshore of Galveston in state waters) was received. All permits have been signed that are required for deployment of reef materials.

After a little rain delay courtesy of Tropical Storm Imelda, all materials were deployed in the north region of Big Man's nearshore reef site. This reef site is located within Texas state waters, just 7 miles off the coast of Galveston Island State Park. Funding for this project was paid in part by the Texas General Land Office under the Coastal Management Program. With this deployment, Big Man's reef site contains both low and mid-relief material; 180 pyramids and 180 low-relief reef plates.

Full proposals for two Coastal Management Programs (CMP grant cycle 25) were drafted. The first GLO proposal is to reef 100 low-relief structures (plates) and 100 pyramids at Sabine

Nearshore Reef (\$333,333 total cost) and the second is for hiring an engineering firm to assess the removal and reefing of the Queen Isabel causeway in Port Isabel.

Sempra LNG hosted a reception to celebrate the start of their LNG plant construction. The local county judge Jeff Branick, Sabine Port Authority staff, CCA representatives and others were present to accept a \$100,000 donation to the Friends of Sabine Nearshore Reef for future artificial reef construction.

The reef program was granted a board seat on the Flower Gardens Banks National Marine Sanctuary. This committee is interested in surrounding petroleum platforms that have, or may be, converted to reefs.

The Artificial Reef Program has recently seen an impact from the shrimping fleets. Trawl nets, doors, and other gear have been lost within our reef sites. Dale Shively met with members of the Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) in Brownsville to discuss ways to avoid TPWD Artificial Reefs when trawling. There was much interest and a little “excitement” from some shrimpers who wanted to be reimbursed if they lost trawls inside TPWD reefs, which is not a possibility. Currently, TPWD has worked with Sea Grant in order to provide the Texas Shrimpers with coordinates for the centers and corners of each TPWD reef site.

3. Activities Associated with the Gulf of Mexico Crab Fisheries.

Trends in the commercial landings data show an overall decline since the early 1980's, with some improvements in recent years (Figure 2). Again, in 2019 landings have increased over last year. While we have discussed possible regulation changes that may benefit this fishery while also recovering stocks, we are currently analyzing fishery independent data to compare with our landings data for confirmation of possible increase in stocks or need for action.

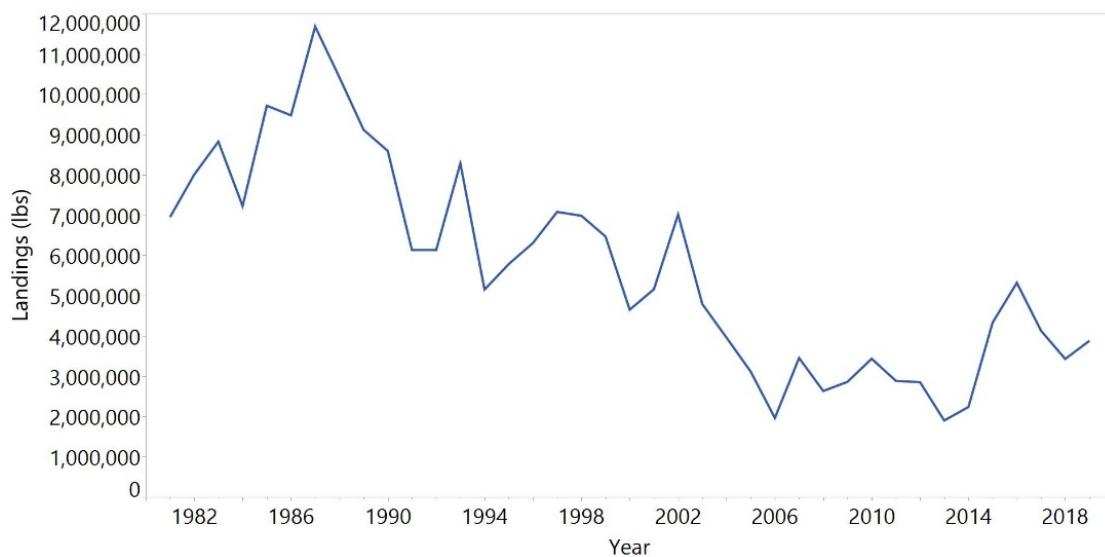


Figure 2. Texas commercial Blue Crab landings from 1982-2019.

4. Activities Related to Fisheries Dependent Data Collection.

During the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's 2018-19 creel survey year (15 May 2018 through 14 May 2019), 1,123 surveys were conducted at boat-access sites along the coast.

For private-boat bay-pass anglers, an estimated 4,548,500 man-hours were expended to harvest an estimated 1,090,000 fishes. Staff conducted 10,034 target interviews involving 24,977 anglers. Of the 56 species encountered, Spotted Seatrout, Red Drum, Black Drum, and Atlantic Croaker were most frequently landed. Mean party size was 2.5 people and mean trip length was 5.5 hours. Staff observed 27,754 fishes and measured the length for 21,036 of them.

For private-boat Texas Territorial Sea anglers, an estimated 152,400 man-hours were expended to harvest an estimated 47,000 fishes. Staff conducted 501 target interviews involving 1,539 anglers. Of the 45 species encountered, Red Snapper, King Mackerel, Spotted Seatrout, and Sand Seatrout were most frequently landed. Mean party size was 3.1 people and mean trip length was 6.1 hours. Staff observed 2,893 fishes and measured the length for 1,896 of them.

For private-boat Exclusive Economic Zone anglers, an estimated 167,000 man-hours were expended to harvest an estimated 50,900 fishes. Staff conducted 365 target interviews involving 1,326 anglers. Of the 57 species encountered, Red Snapper, King Mackerel, Atlantic Spadefish, and Spanish Mackerel were most frequently landed. Mean party size was 3.6 people and mean trip length was 7.8 hours. Staff observed 2,480 fishes and measured the length for 1,548 of them.

Fishery-dependent collection of otoliths for the Gulf States Biosampling program

We are collecting otoliths from multiple species in conjunction with the GSMFC biosampling program. Otoliths are being collected and aged via independent contractors paid by GSMFC. To date, the following samples have been processed:

Table 4. Summary of otoliths collected from recreational species at boat ramps for Gulf States Biosampling program.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Processed	Requested
Gray Snapper	<i>Lutjanus griseus</i>	10	75
Vermillion Snapper	<i>Rhomboplites aurorubens</i>	163	170
Red Snapper	<i>Lutjanus campechanus</i>	303	400
Triggerfish	<i>Balistes capriscus</i>	0	50
King Mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus cavalla</i>	14	300
Sheepshead	<i>Archosargus probatocephalus</i>	59	70
Southern Flounder	<i>Paralichthys lethostigma</i>	78	100
Black Drum	<i>Pogonias cromis</i>	392	340
Red Drum	<i>Sciaenops ocellatus</i>	801	750
Spotted Seatrout	<i>Cynoscion nebulosus</i>	1611	1500

5. Activities Related to Fisheries-Independent Sampling.

SEAMAP

Vertical line (VL)

Sampling for 2019 was completed in October, with Texas vessels completing 65 stations from June to October 2019. Sites were only sampled off central and south Texas coastlines, in order to collect samples within all three depth strata (10-20, 20-40, 40+; Table 5). There have been significantly fewer samples selected in the 10-20 than 20-40 strata, and 4x more selected within the 40-150 strata, despite adding many artificial reefs in state waters within the 10-20' depth zone. The large area of banks offshore Texas in the 40-150 strata are a popular fishing location, and there has been a steady decrease in percent of stations within that strata that had Red Snapper landed on vertical longlines. However, no consistent trend was obvious in shallower depth strata. Overall, 13 species were captured in 2019, with 425 fish landed; however, Red Snapper made up 91.8% of the catch composition.

Table 5. Summary of Red Snapper catches from SEAMAP Vertical Line sampling over the last 3 years from each of the depth strata.

Year	Depth Strata (m)	# of Stations Completed	# of Hooks Fished	# of Red Snapper	Mean TL (mm)	Mean Weight (kg)	# of Stations with Red Snapper	% Stations with Red Snapper
2017	10-20	9	260	17	273	0.39	7	77.8
	20-40	18	420	140	484	1.71	16	88.9
	40-150	32	960	198	504	1.78	29	90.6
2018	10-20	8	240	10	262	0.27	3	37.5
	20-40	19	570	152	476	1.69	13	68.4
	40-150	33	990	167	497	1.82	28	84.8
2019	10-20	8	240	28	395	0.94	4	50.0
	20-40	19	570	161	457	1.44	14	73.7
	40-150	36	1140	201	527	2.00	23	63.9

6. Other State Activities.

License Buyback Program

Shrimp

Buyback Round 38

- Application period closed January 17, 2020 (Open approximately 60 days)
- 20 applications received
- Currently reviewing bids

Finfish

Buyback Round 26

- Application period closed January 17, 2020 (Open approximately 60 days)
- 2 applications received
- Currently reviewing bids

Crab

Buyback Round 23

- Application period closed January 17, 2020 (Open approximately 60 days)
- No applications received

Oyster

Buyback Round 3

- Application period closed January 17, 2020 (Open approximately 60 days)
- 2 applications received
- Currently reviewing bids

Fisheries Enhancement Program (Hatcheries)

2019 Water Body	Red Drum Fingerlings stocked	Spotted Seatrout Fingerlings stocked	Southern Flounder Fingerlings stocked
Aransas	2,415,731		32,999
Corpus Christi	853,876		
East Matagorda	1,281,797	506,769	
Galveston	6,540,020	340,043	6,360
Lower Laguna Madre	1,624,755	627,821	
Sabine Lake	1,526,185		
San Antonio	459,869	15,000	
West Matagorda	2,794,711	115,029	
Upper Laguna Madre	2,264,460		
Freshwater			
Calaveras	821,976		
Kleberg Park	2,879		
Lake Bryan	171,933		
Victor Brauning	223,351		
Total	20,981,543	1,604,662	39,359

Perry R. Bass Marine Fisheries Research Station Updates

1. PRB Projects

Sciaenidae otolith collection

Otolith collections from routine gill net samples continued as was processing and ageing of otoliths collected in previous years. All otolith age files have now been compiled into a single database to promote efficient use of the data. Although physical samples go back to 1995, preliminary analysis of Spotted Seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) otolith data has resulted in fishes back-aged to the 1990 cohort. Significant trends in growth among years and among Texas estuaries have been observed, and these trends are being statistically correlated with water quality data as well as long-term climatological and freshwater inflow data. Currently, work is ongoing on a publication dealing with spotted seatrout age and body growth over a near 30-year span.

Eastern Oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) population genomics

This project will consist of sampling oysters throughout the Gulf and using high-throughput “next generation” approaches for generating a high resolution single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP) genomic data set. This will allow us to assess patterns of migration and gene flow (stock structure) as well as potential genetic loci under localized natural selection. We have hired a 1-year technician to assist in this work. To date, we have received samples from Florida ($n = 3$) and Louisiana ($n = 2$) with the assistance of contacts at state agencies made through GSMFC. We have also sampled 7 locations in Texas, including the hybrid zone between two previously described divergence populations. We are in the process of partnering with Dr. David Portnoy (TAMUCC) for completing the genomic library preps and bioinformatics analysis. These data will potentially assist us in assessing genetic “compatibility” between different areas in Texas and the broader Gulf of Mexico, and will inform ongoing efforts to write policy for oyster mariculture in Texas.

Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) high-resolution population genomics

Preliminary analysis has begun on Black Drum population genomics in the Upper Laguna Madre. Previously noted life history differences between Black Drum from Baffin Bay as compared to other Texas inshore areas suggests the possibility of genetic divergence on a relatively small geographic scale. We have used microsatellite data and discriminant analysis of principle components (DAPC) to demonstrate weak but significant genetic divergence between Baffin Bay and other Texas bays. Samples have been selected for a high-resolution genomic library, and these samples have now been sequenced using the reduced-representation “ddRAD” method. Analysis of sequence data and QC has begun on this data set. In addition, a complementary library of mtDNA sequences has been generated for approximately 700 Black Drum, coast-wide in Texas, and including samples from other Gulf and Atlantic estuaries.

Detection of white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) in wild Gulf shrimp

We are measuring the presence and prevalence of white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) in Brown and White shrimp from Texas. We have been in collaboration with Dr. Arun Dhar of the aquaculture pathology laboratory, University of Arizona, in obtaining an infection-positive control sample of *Litopenaeus vannamei* (Pacific White Shrimp). Additionally, we have identified and utilized an appropriate PCR-based laboratory assay for detecting White Shrimp. Sampling began in March and ended in November 2019 in select Texas bay systems in an effort to detect underlying presence of WSSV and evaluate the risks of imported exotic bait shrimp to wild populations. The presence of other shrimp pathogens may also be evaluated with this data collection. As of this date, there have been no positive samples of WSSV in any shrimp samples collected along the Texas bays in this survey, and around 1500 samples have been processed so far.

Detection of shrimp black gill disease in wild Gulf shrimp

We are continuing work on a study on the presence and prevalence of shrimp black gill (sBG) in White (*L. setiferus*) and Brown (*F. aztecus*) shrimp in Texas. The actual pathogen that drives this disease is unknown, so our data will contribute significantly to understanding the cause and epidemiology of this disease in the Gulf and Atlantic. As of this date, 77% of the 1120 samples processed so far are positive for the sBG ciliate. Black Gill positive shrimp are present in every Texas bay sampled, and are present along the Texas coast in varying numbers from March to November, with a seasonal peak of 96% of samples collected in October. Out of bays with completely processed

samples, Galveston Bay has the highest annual prevalence (86%), followed by Sabine Lake (78%), West Matagorda Bay (75%), and East Matagorda Bay (72%). Corpus Christi Bay and Upper and Lower Laguna Madre samples are currently being processed, and environmental models will be analyzed with the completion of lab work.

Observation of growth in two sizes of post-release Red Drum *Sciaenops ocellatus*

We are cooperating with the TPWD stock enhancement branch to determine whether there are differences in growth and body condition between stock enhancement Red Drum that are above versus below the size targeted at the time of harvest (35 mm). Samples of fish will be collected at harvest, and individuals will be fit with coded wire tags and released into mesocosms. Based on a preliminary field trial, it was determined that outdoor caging trials were not feasible due to the nature of weather during the course of the year in Matagorda Bay, and so a controlled mesocosm experiment will be done in our wetlab instead. Three 21-day trials will be done between November 2019 and August 2020. Trial 1 has already been completed from November 1-18th of 2019, resulting in higher mortality rates and lower growth rates for the less-than target size class fish. Trial 2 will be completed in May 2020, and Trial 3 will be completed August 2020.

Determination of hatching dates in wild Southern Flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*)

Young-of-the-year Southern Flounder will be collected during routine monitoring bag seines and trawls by Texas Parks and Wildlife personnel. Otoliths will be extracted from all individuals and daily increment rings will be used to determine hatching dates for Southern Flounder. Hatching dates will be related back to environmental (water quality) conditions to render understanding of spawning and hatching conditions for Southern Flounder. Samples are currently being collected for this project, and a methodology for extracting, sanding and polishing otoliths has been tested on a small sample of individuals.

2. Collaborative projects

Range-wide population genetic structure of alligator gar (*Atractosteus spatula*)

In collaboration with Dr. Brian Kreiser, (University of Southern Mississippi), we are analyzing mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) sequence data already on hand in our lab, in an effort to examine the range-wide population structure of the species. Dr. Kreiser is analyzing a microsatellite DNA data set, and together we will attempt to compare and contrast historical versus contemporary patterns of movement and demographic exchange among drainages in the Gulf basin. Sampling has been completed, and almost all genetic data has been generated. Analysis of both data sets is ongoing (mtDNA, Texas Parks and Wildlife; genomic microsatellites, University of Southern Mississippi) and we are moving towards writing a manuscript detailing this effort and its findings.

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First (1949-1950)	Forty-fourth (1993)
Second (1950-1951)	Forty-fifth (1994)
Third (1951-1952)	Forty-sixth (1995)
Fourth (1952-1953)	Forty-seventh (1996)
Fifth (1953-1954)	Forty-eighth (1997)
Sixth (1954-1955)	Forty-ninth (1998)
Seventh (1955-1956)	Fiftieth (1999)
Eighth (1956-1957)	Fifty-first (2000)
Ninth (1957-1958)	Fifty-second (2001)
Tenth (1958-1959)	Fifty-third (2002)
Eleventh (1959-1960)	Fifty-fourth (2003)
Twelfth (1960-1961)	Fifty-fifth (2004)
Thirteenth (1961-1962)	Fifty-Sixth (2005)
Fourteenth (1962-1963)	Fifty-Seventh (2006)
Fifteenth (1963-1964)	Fifty-Eighth (2007)
Sixteenth (1964-1965)	Fifty-Ninth (2008)
Seventeenth (1965-1966)	Sixtieth (2009)
Issues 18 through 25 (1966-1967 through 1973-1974) were not published	Sixty-First (2010)
Twenty-sixth (1974-1975)	Sixty-Second (2011)
Issue 27 (1975-1976) was not published	Sixty-Third (2012)
Twenty-eighth (1976-1977)	Sixty-Fourth (2013)
Twenty-ninth (1977-1978)	Sixty-Fifth (2014)
Thirtieth (1978-1979)	Sixty-Sixth (2015)
Thirty-first (1979-1980)	Sixty-Seventh (2016)
Thirty-second (1980-1981)	Sixty-Eighth (2017)
Thirty-third (1981-1982)	Sixty-Ninth (2018)
Thirty-fourth (1982-1983)	
Thirty-fifth (1983-1984)	
Thirty-sixth (1984-1985)	
Thirty-seventh (1985-1986)	
Thirty-eighth (1986-1987)	
Thirty-ninth (1987-1988)	
Fortieth (1988-1989)	
Forty-first (1989-1990)	
Forty-second (1991)	
Forty-third (1992)	

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"**COMPACT NEWS**," a newsletter from the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Staff, is edited by Nancy K. Marcellus and currently published bi-annually (April and November).

For more information on publications, please contact:

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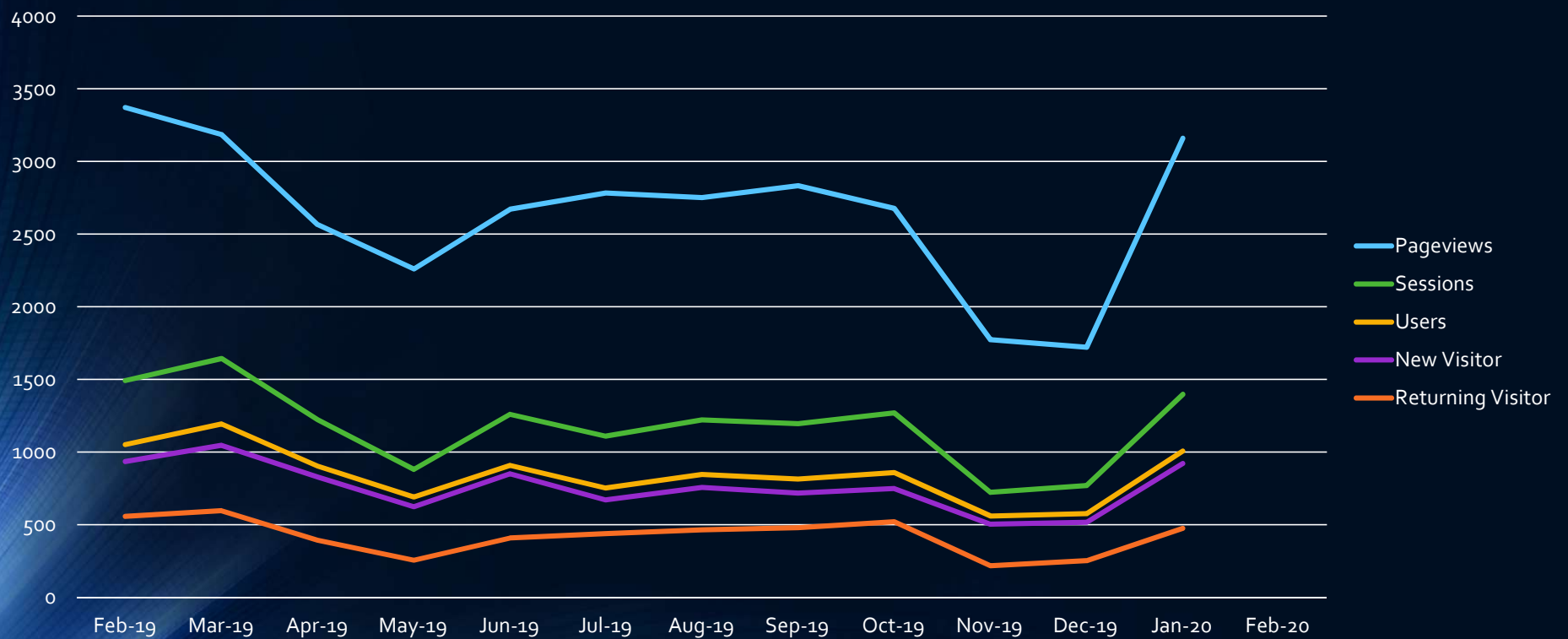
May 1993. Proceedings: Fifth Annual MARFIN Conference, October 28-29, 1992, Corpus Christi, Texas.



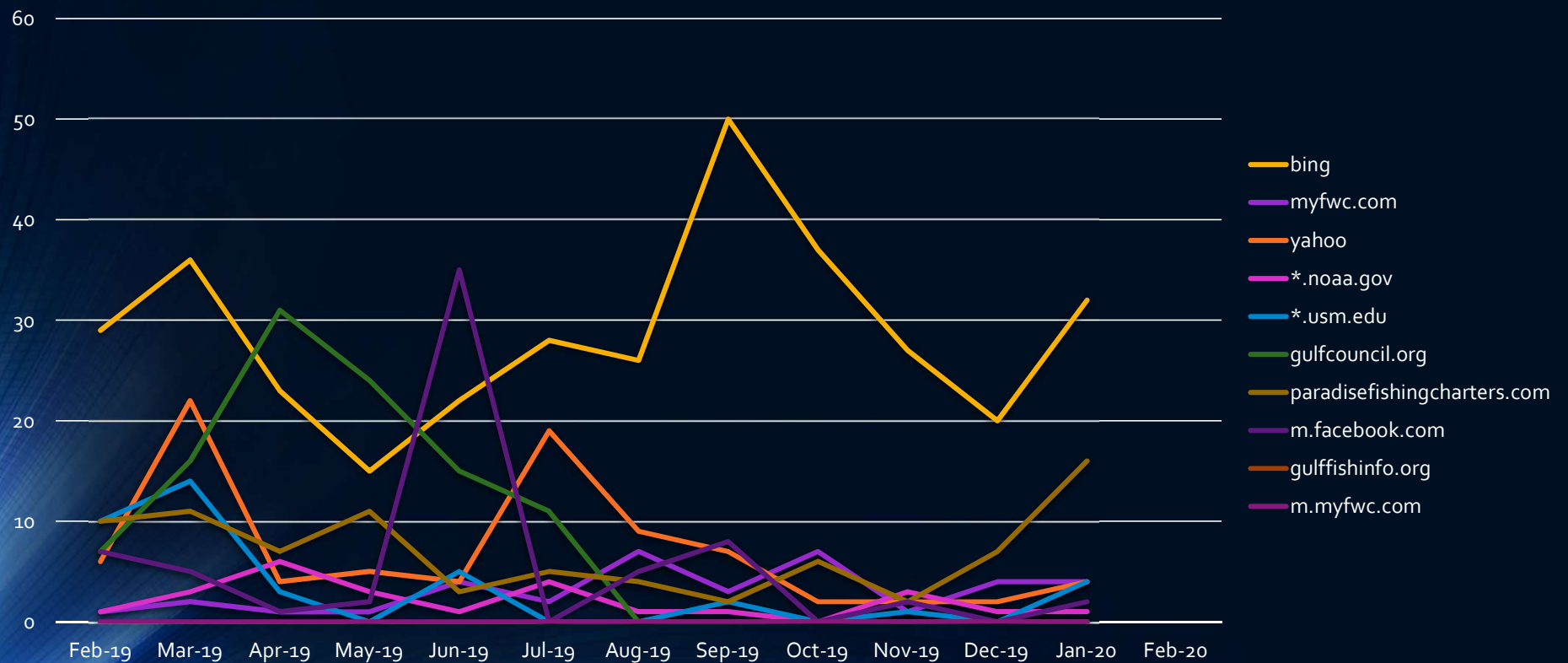
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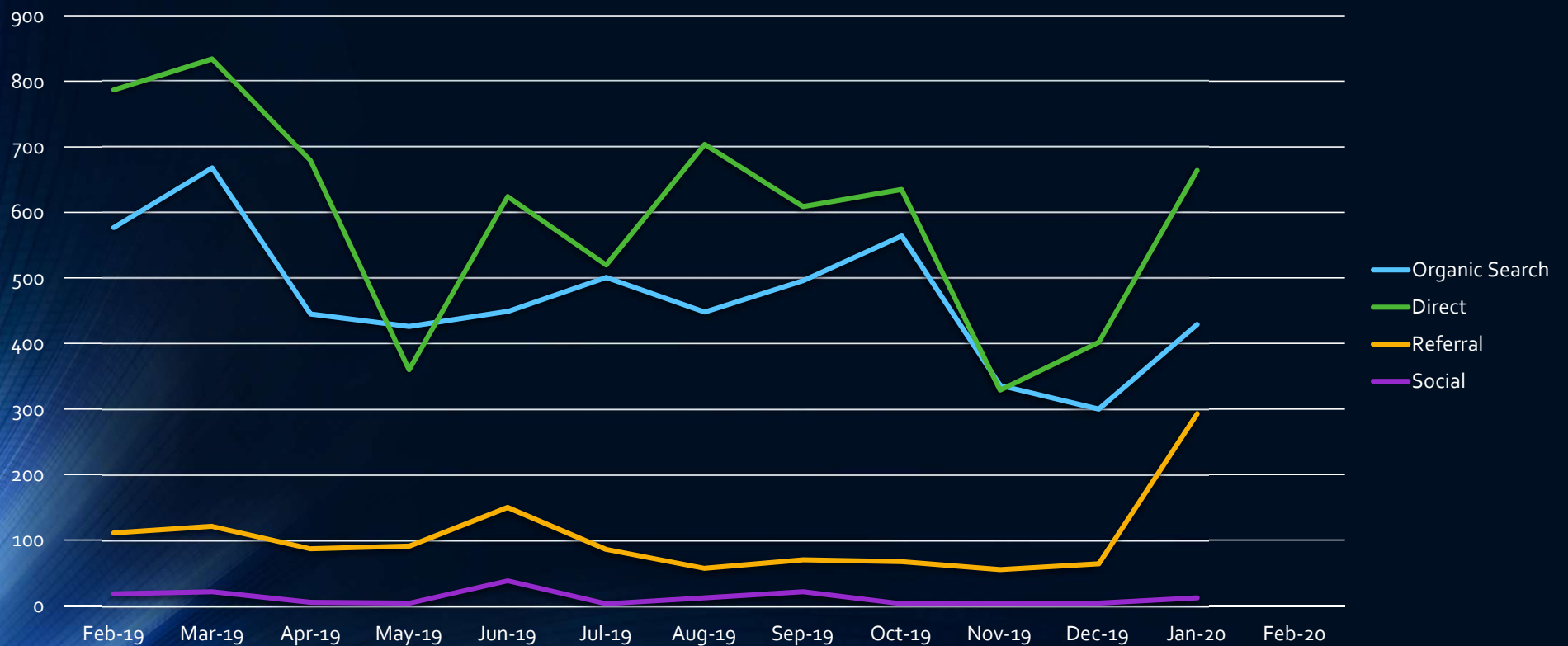
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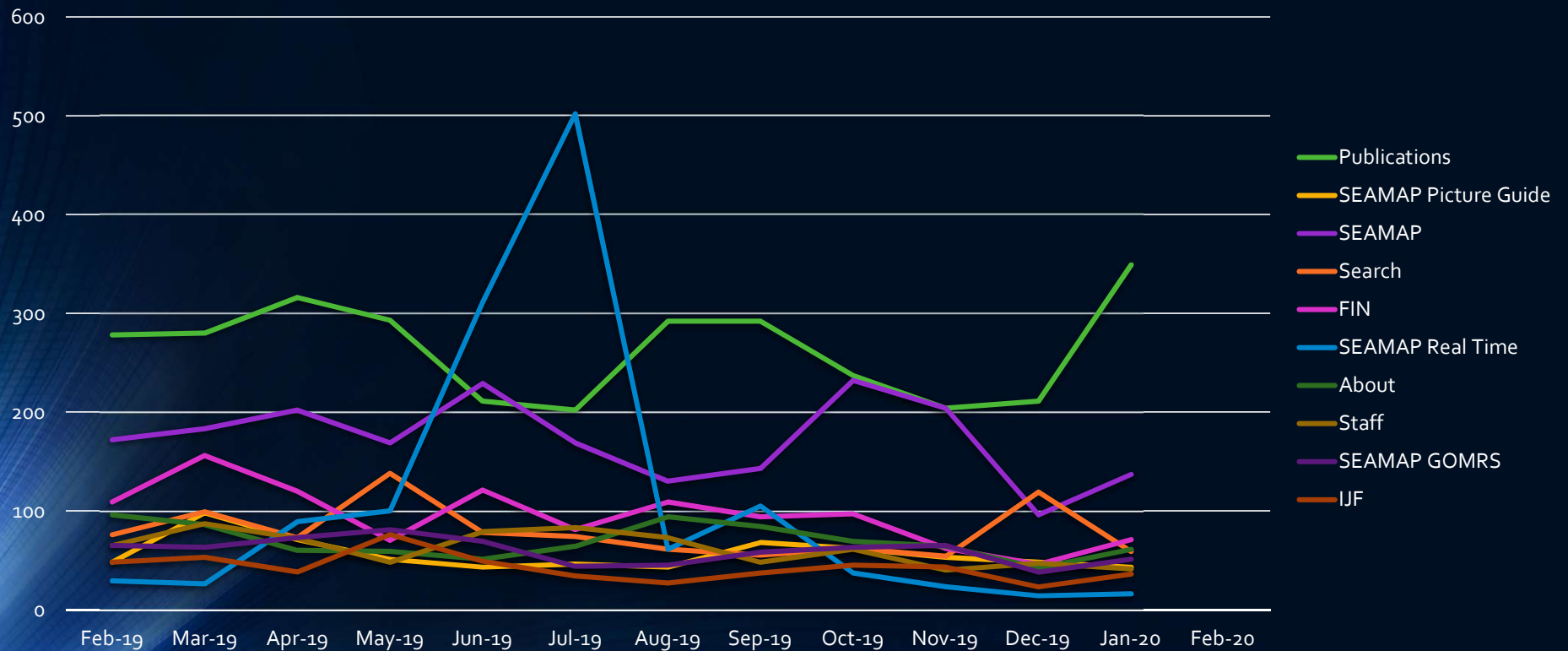
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