



APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
Majority Caucus • Jim Nussle, *Chairman*

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Volume 2, No. 21

12 December 2002

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003 H.R. 5521

SUMMARY

The District of Columbia appropriations bill (H.R. 5521), as reported by the House Appropriations Committee on 2 October 2002, is consistent with the House-passed Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2003 (H.Con.Res. 353). The legislation complies with the requirements of the Congressional Budget Act.

Under authority granted in Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution (section 8, clause 17), this bill not only provides the District Federal payments for certain activities, but also approves the District's entire budget, including the expenditure of local funds (\$7.4 billion for fiscal year 2003). This *Appropriations Update* reflects only the Federal payments.

COST OF THE LEGISLATION

As reported, H.R. 5521 provides \$517 million in new budget authority [BA], and \$583 million in outlays for fiscal year 2003, which began on 1 October 2002. The figures reflect reductions of \$91 million in BA and \$35 million in outlays from fiscal year 2002 (see Table 1 below). This apparent decline, however, is the result of one-time spending in fiscal year 2002, when \$200 million in BA was added for

emergency response and planning. If H.R. 5521 is enacted as proposed, the BA in this bill will have increased an average of 4.5 percent a year in each of the past 3 years.

The bill does not rescind previously enacted BA, or provide advance appropriations. Table 2 on the next page shows a breakdown of spending provided by the bill.

Table 1: District of Columbia Appropriations Bill
(fiscal years; millions of dollars)

	2002 Enacted ^a	Administration 2003 Request	302(b) for 2003	2003 Bill
Budget Authority	608	379	517	517
Outlays	618	444	583	583

^a House current status.

(continued on reverse side)

READER'S NOTE

Although this measure did not reach the floor, the Appropriations Committee did complete action on it before adjournment of the 107th Congress.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the House Committee on the Budget. It has not been approved by the full committee and may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

The bill complies with sections 302(f) and 311(a) of the Budget Act. The first of these prohibits consideration of bills in excess of a subcommittee’s 302(b) allocation for new budget authority. The second, section 311(a), prohibits consideration of legislation exceeding the aggregate levels

of budget authority and outlays established in the concurrent resolution on the budget. The \$517 million in new discretionary budget authority is the same as the 302(b) allocation to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the District of Columbia.

Table 2. Discretionary Spending in the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill
(in millions of dollars)

	Budget Authority	Outlays
Courts and Defender Services	193	199
Court Services and Offender Supervision	155	157
Tuition Assistance	17	17
Security Planning	15	65
Economic Development and Other Payments	137	145

DISCUSSION

Overall, this bill is \$138 million in BA above the amount requested in the President’s budget. Specific increases are primarily for: payment to the water and sewer authority for capital improvements to the sewer system (\$50 million); capital funds, primarily for a unified command and control center for emergency personnel, and a contribution toward a new state-of-the-art forensic laboratory (\$24 million); payment to the Chief Financial Officer for various projects (\$23 million); credit enhancement revolving fund to facilitate the purchase, construction, and/or renovation of

facilities for public charter schools (\$16 million); special education (\$14 million); the family literacy program (\$5 million); waterfront improvements (\$1 million); asbestos remediation at the Lorton Correctional Complex (\$1 million); fire station capital improvements (\$2 million); and the DC Courts’ automation system (\$2 million).

Other than the increase for the court automation system, these added amounts provide the total fiscal year 2003 costs of the activities mentioned.

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