

HR 2985

Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2006

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Jun 20, 2005

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 109-55.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 109-55. (Aug 2, 2005)

Law: 109-55 (Enacted Aug 2, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/2985>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lewis, Jerry [R-CA-41]

Party: Republican • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Appropriations Committee	House	Reported Original Measure	Jun 20, 2005
Appropriations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 24, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 HRES 396	Procedurally related	Jul 28, 2005: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
109 HRES 334	Procedurally related	Jun 22, 2005: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

(This measure has not been amended since the Conference Report was filed in the House on July 26, 2005. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2006 - **Title I: Legislative Branch Appropriations** - Makes FY2006 appropriations for the Senate for: (1) expense allowances; (2) representation allowances for the Majority and Minority Leaders; (3) salaries of specified officers, employees, and committees (including the Committee on Appropriations); (4) agency contributions for employee benefits; (5) inquiries and investigations; (6) the U.S. Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control; (7) the Offices of the Secretary and of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper (Sergeant at Arms) of the Senate; (8) miscellaneous items; (9) the Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account; and (10) official mail costs.

(Sec. 2) Amends the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1977 to increase from eight to nine the number of individual consultants the Majority and Minority Leaders may each appoint.

(Sec. 3) Amends Public Law 101-302 to extend through FY2006 and each fiscal year thereafter the authorization of funds within the Senate contingent fund for expenses of the U.S. Senate Collection.

(Sec. 4) Amends Public Law 108-83 to permit the use of Senate contingent funds for expenditures, up to \$10,000 in any fiscal year, for meals and refreshments in Capitol facilities in connection with official activities of the Senate Commission on Art or other authorized programs or activities.

(Sec. 5) Amends the Revised Statutes to repeal the requirement that the Secretary of the Senate, under certain conditions, deduct from a Senator's monthly or periodic payments the amount of his or her salary for each day such Senator is absent from the Senate.

(Sec. 6) Amends the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1999 to provide that the authority of the Senate Committee on Appropriations to procure the services of individual consultants or organizations does not need the approval of, nor does it have to report to, the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Makes appropriations for the House of Representatives for FY2006 for: (1) salaries and/or expenses of the House leadership offices, committees (including the Committee on Appropriations), officers and employees, and the Child Care Center; and (2) Members' representational allowances.

(Sec. 101) Requires that any amounts appropriated for a representational allowance for a Member of the House for FY2006 which remain after all payments are made under it be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction or, if there is no federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, to reduce the federal debt.

Makes FY2006 appropriations for salaries and/or expenses of: (1) the Joint Economic and Taxation Committees; (2) the Office of the Attending Physician; (3) the Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office; (4) the preparation of statements of appropriations for both the House and the Senate; and (5) the Capitol Police.

(Sec. 1002) Prohibits the Capitol Police from operating a mounted horse unit during FY2006 or any succeeding fiscal year.

Requires the Chief of the Capitol Police to transfer to the Chief of the U.S. Park Police the horses, equipment, and supplies of the Capitol Police mounted horse unit.

(Sec. 1003) Amends the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require an officer or employee of the Capitol Police, beginning in calendar 2005, to file annual financial disclosure reports with the Clerk of the House.

(Sec. 1004) Establishes in the U.S. Capitol Police the Office of the Inspector General.

Prohibits the reduction, except in certain circumstances, of the pay or benefits of any employee of offices or entities whose duties and responsibilities are transferred to the Office of Inspector General.

Requires financial statements prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the Capitol Police to be audited by the Inspector General or by an independent public accountant, as determined by the Inspector General. (Currently, the CAO provides for such audit by an independent public accountant.)

(Sec. 1005) Requires the Chief of the Capitol Police to submit to Congress a detailed, itemized semiannual report of disbursements for U.S. Capitol Police operations.

Prescribes the semiannual periods as October 1 through March 31 and April 1 through September 30.

(Sec. 1006) Amends the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2004 to establish FY2006 limits on the number of Capitol Police officers to be hired for Library of Congress duty.

Makes the Memorandum of Understanding between the Library of Congress and the Capitol Police entered into on December 12, 2004, effective through FY2006, subject to such modifications that may be made in accordance with the modification and dispute resolution provisions of such Memorandum.

(Sec. 1007) Prohibits individuals to whom overtime compensation was paid under the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2003 in violation of the restrictions applicable to the payment of such compensation under such Act from being required to repay the compensation if the compensation was paid for services provided before June 15, 2005.

Excepts from this prohibition against required repayment any officers or employees of the U.S. Capitol Police whose annual salary is specified in statute and is not established under the schedule of rates of basic pay established and maintained by the Capitol Police Board.

Makes FY2006 appropriations for salaries and/or expenses of: (1) the Office of Compliance; (2) the Congressional Budget Office (CBO); (3) the Architect of the Capitol (AOC), including for the care and operation of Capitol buildings and grounds, Senate and House office buildings, the Capitol power plant, Library of Congress buildings and grounds, Capitol Police buildings and grounds, the Botanic Garden (including for the care and operation of the National Garden but not for its construction); (4) the Capitol Visitor Center; and (5) the Library of Congress for salaries and expenses (including rescission of funds), the Copyright Office, Congressional Research Service (CRS), and Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Earmarks funds for Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to reimburse the National Federation of the Blind for costs incurred in the operation of its NEWSLINE program.

(Sec. 1100) Permits the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), in certain circumstances, to waive claims against its employees for overpayment of pay allowances, and of travel, transportation, and relocation expenses and allowances.

(Sec. 1201) Amends the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1991 to increase from eight to nine the number of positions under the AOC's jurisdiction whose rate of basic pay may be fixed by the AOC up to 135% of the minimum rate

for GS-15.

(Sec. 1202) Amends the 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act for Further Recovery From and Response To Terrorist Attacks on the United States relating to the AOC's authority to acquire facilities for computer backup for offices in the legislative branch. Allows the AOC, in the case of a building or facility acquired through purchase for such purposes, to enter into or assume a lease with another person for the use of any portion of the building or facility that is not required for such purposes, subject to the approval of the entity which approved the acquisition.

(Sec. 1301) Authorizes the expenditure of up to \$5,000 for the incentive awards program of the Library of Congress.

(Sec. 1302) Establishes an upper limit \$109.943 million for the FY2006 obligational authority of the Library of Congress with regard to certain reimbursable and revolving fund activities.

Authorizes the Librarian of Congress, subject to specified conditions, to transfer temporarily up to \$1.9 million of funds appropriated in this Act for Library of Congress salaries and expenses to the revolving fund for the FEDLINK Program and the Federal Research Program established under the Library of Congress Fiscal Operations Improvement Act of 2000.

(Sec. 1303) Amends the Miscellaneous Appropriations Act, 2001 to provide that up to a specified amount out of additional funds made available for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program shall remain available until expended, and may be used for competitive grants to state governmental entities, without regard to any matching contribution requirement, to work cooperatively to collect and preserve at-risk digital state and local government information.

(Sec. 1304) Makes funds available for the Library of Congress under this Act available for transfer to the Department of State as remittance for a fee charged by the Department for FY2006 for the maintenance, upgrade, or construction of U.S. diplomatic facilities, but only to the extent that the amount of the fee so charged is equal to or less than the unreimbursed value of the services provided during FY2006 to the Library of Congress on State Department diplomatic facilities.

(Sec. 1305) Amends the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1996 to repeal the prohibition against obligational authority under the heading "Library of Congress" for activities in support of parliamentary development, except for Russia, Ukraine, Albania, Slovakia, and Romania.

(Sec. 1306) Library of Congress Digital Collections and Educational Curricula Act of 2005 - Requires the Librarian of Congress to administer a program to teach educators and librarians how to incorporate the digital collections of the Library of Congress into educational curricula.

Authorizes the Librarian to: (1) establish an educational consortium to support the program; and (2) make funds appropriated for the program available to consortium members, educational institutions, and libraries.

Authorizes appropriations.

(Sec. 1307) Library of Congress Inspector General Act of 2005 - Establishes in the Library of Congress an Office of Inspector General to: (1) conduct and supervise audits and investigations (excluding incidents involving violence and personal property) relating to the Library of Congress; (2) provide leadership and coordination and recommend policies to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness; and (3) provide a means of keeping the Librarian of Congress and Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to Library administration and operations.

Appropriates funds for: (1) the Government Printing Office (GPO) for congressional printing and binding (including transfer of funds); (2) GPO for the Office of Superintendent of Documents for salaries and expenses (including transfer of funds); (3) a payment to the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund; (4) the Government Accountability Office (GAO) for salaries and expenses; (5) a payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund; and (6) a payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund.

Title II: General Provisions - (Sec. 201) Sets forth authorized or prohibited uses of funds appropriated by this Act identical or similar to corresponding provisions of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005.

Title III: Continuity in Representation - (Sec. 301) Amends federal election law concerning the election of Senators and Representatives to require states to hold special elections for the House within 49 days after a vacancy is announced by the Speaker in the extraordinary circumstance that vacancies in representation from the states exceed 100. Waives the 49-day requirement if, during the 75-day period beginning on the date of the vacancy announcement, a regularly scheduled general election or another special election for the office involved is to be held.

Requires determination of the candidates who will run in the special election: (1) within 10 days after the vacancy announcement by the political parties authorized by state law to nominate candidates; or (2) by any other method the state considers appropriate.

Sets forth requirements for judicial review of any action brought for declaratory or injunctive relief to challenge such a vacancy announcement. Requires a final decision within three days of the filing of such an action. Makes a final decision non-reviewable.

Requires a state, in conducting such special election, to ensure to the greatest extent practicable (including through the use of electronic means) that absentee ballots are transmitted to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters within 15 days after the Speaker announces that the vacancy exists. Requires a state to accept and process any otherwise valid ballot or other election material from an absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter, as long as the ballot or other material is received by the appropriate state election official within 45 days after the state transmits it to the voter.

Applies this subsection to the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 2, 2005:** Signed by President.
- **Aug 2, 2005:** Signed by President.
- **Aug 2, 2005:** Became Public Law No: 109-55.
- **Aug 2, 2005:** Became Public Law No: 109-55.
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Conference report considered in Senate by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S9323-9330, S9333-9335, S9373)
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Conference report agreed to in Senate: Senate agreed to conference report by Yea-Nay Vote. 96 - 4. Record Vote Number: 211.
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Senate agreed to conference report by Yea-Nay Vote. 96 - 4. Record Vote Number: 211.
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Cleared for White House.
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Presented to President.
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Presented to President.
- **Jul 28, 2005:** Rule H. Res. 396 passed House.
- **Jul 28, 2005:** Mr. Lewis (CA) brought up conference report H. Rept. 109-189 for consideration under the provisions of H. Res. 396. (consideration: CR H7023-7030)
- **Jul 28, 2005:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2985.
- **Jul 28, 2005:** The previous question was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H7030)
- **Jul 28, 2005:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the conference report the Chair announced that pursuant to the rule the yeas and nays were ordered and the Chair postponed proceedings on agreeing to the conference report until later in the legislative day.
- **Jul 28, 2005:** The House proceeded to consider the conference report H.Rept. 109-189 as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7031)
- **Jul 28, 2005:** Conference report agreed to in House: On agreeing to the conference report Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 305 - 122 (Roll no. 451).
- **Jul 28, 2005:** Motions to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 28, 2005:** On agreeing to the conference report Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 305 - 122 (Roll no. 451).
- **Jul 28, 2005:** Conference papers: message on House action held at the desk in Senate.
- **Jul 27, 2005:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 396 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of the conference report to H.R. 2985. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Mr. Taylor (NC) asked unanimous consent that the House disagree to the Senate amendments, and agree to a conference (consideration: CR H6463)
- **Jul 26, 2005:** On motion that the House disagree to the Senate amendments, and agree to a conference Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** The Speaker appointed conferees: Lewis (CA), Kingston, Granger, Doolittle, LaHood, Obey, Hoyer, and Moran (VA).
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Mr. LaHood asked unanimous consent that managers on the part of the House have until midnight on July 26 to file a conference report on H.R. 2985. Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Conference committee actions: Conferees agreed to file conference report.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Conferees agreed to file conference report.
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Conference report filed: Conference report H. Rept. 109-189 filed. Filed late, pursuant to previous special order.(text of conference report: CR H6628-6638)
- **Jul 26, 2005:** Conference report H. Rept. 109-189 filed. Filed late, pursuant to previous special order. (text of conference report: CR H6628-6638)
- **Jul 14, 2005:** PRIVILEGED MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE - The Chair laid before the House a privileged message from the Senate requesting that the House return to the Senate the papers accompanying H.R. 2985. Without objection, the request was agreed to.
- **Jul 14, 2005:** Message received in Senate: Returned to Senate pursuant to the request of the Senate.

- Jul 14, 2005:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 12, 2005:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 11, 2005:** Senate requests return of official papers by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR 7/1/2005 S7739-7749; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR 7/1/2005 S7739-7748)
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Senate insists on its amendments, asks for a conference, appoints conferees Allard; DeWine; Cochran; Stevens; Durbin; Johnson; Byrd. (consideration: CR 7/1/2005 S7749)
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jun 24, 2005:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.
- **Jun 24, 2005:** Committee on Appropriations. Reported by Senator Allard with amendments. With written report No. 109-89.
- **Jun 24, 2005:** Committee on Appropriations. Reported by Senator Allard with amendments. With written report No. 109-89.
- **Jun 24, 2005:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 138.
- **Jun 23, 2005:** Committee on Appropriations. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably prior to receipt from the House.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** Rule H. Res. 334 passed House.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 334. (consideration: CR H4934-4962)
- **Jun 22, 2005:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2985 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union pursuant to H. Res. 334 and Rule XVIII.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** The Speaker designated the Honorable John Linder to act as Chairman of the Committee.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** GENERAL DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with one hour of general debate on H.R. 2985.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to H. Res. 334, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Baird amendment.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Baird amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Baird requested a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to H. Res. 334, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Jo Ann Davis (VA) amendment.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Jo Ann Davis amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mrs. Jo Ann Davis requested a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to H. Res. 334, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Flake amendment.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 334, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the McHenry amendment.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 334, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Hefley amendment.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Hefley amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Hefley requested a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** UNFINISHED BUSINESS - The Chair announced that the unfinished business was the question of adoption of amendments which had been debated earlier and on which further proceedings had been postponed.
- **Jun 22, 2005:** The House rose from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union to report H.R. 2985.

- Jun 22, 2005:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule. (consideration: CR H4961)
- **Jun 22, 2005:** The House adopted the amendment as agreed to by the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** Mr. Obey moved to recommit to Appropriations. (consideration: CR H4961-4962)
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** Floor summary: DEBATE - By unanimous consent, debate on the Obey motion to recommit was limited to 4 minutes, equally divided and controlled.
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** The previous question on the motion to recommit was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H4961)
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** On motion to recommit Failed by recorded vote: 180 - 232 (Roll no. 302).
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 330 - 82 (Roll no. 303).(text: CR H4946-4952)
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 330 - 82 (Roll no. 303). (text: CR H4946-4952)
 - **Jun 22, 2005:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
 - **Jun 21, 2005:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 334 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2985 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order.
 - **Jun 20, 2005:** Introduced in House
 - **Jun 20, 2005:** The House Committee on Appropriations reported an original measure, H. Rept. 109-139, by Mr. Lewis (CA).
 - **Jun 20, 2005:** The House Committee on Appropriations reported an original measure, H. Rept. 109-139, by Mr. Lewis (CA).
 - **Jun 20, 2005:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 83.