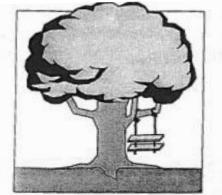
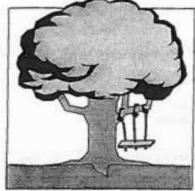


Appropriations 101 – Staffer Perspective for Understanding the Process

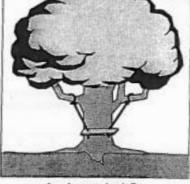
February 13, 2025



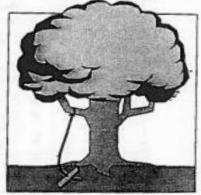
As Introduced



As Amended In Committee



As Amended On Second Reading

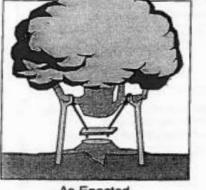


As implemented By The State Agency

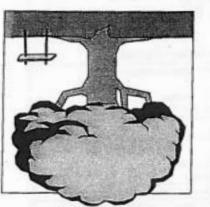


What Was Actually Needed

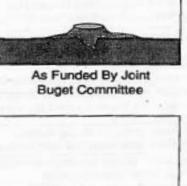
How to navigate through a complex process

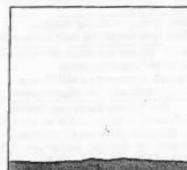


As Enacted



As Reported By The Media





As Understood By

The Public



A LOT has changed with Congress and the country since 1789

✤ 37 more states * (3.9 million in 1790) ✤ 761,179 people per congressional district ♦ (30,000 in 1789) ✤ 30,000+ statutes (estimate)

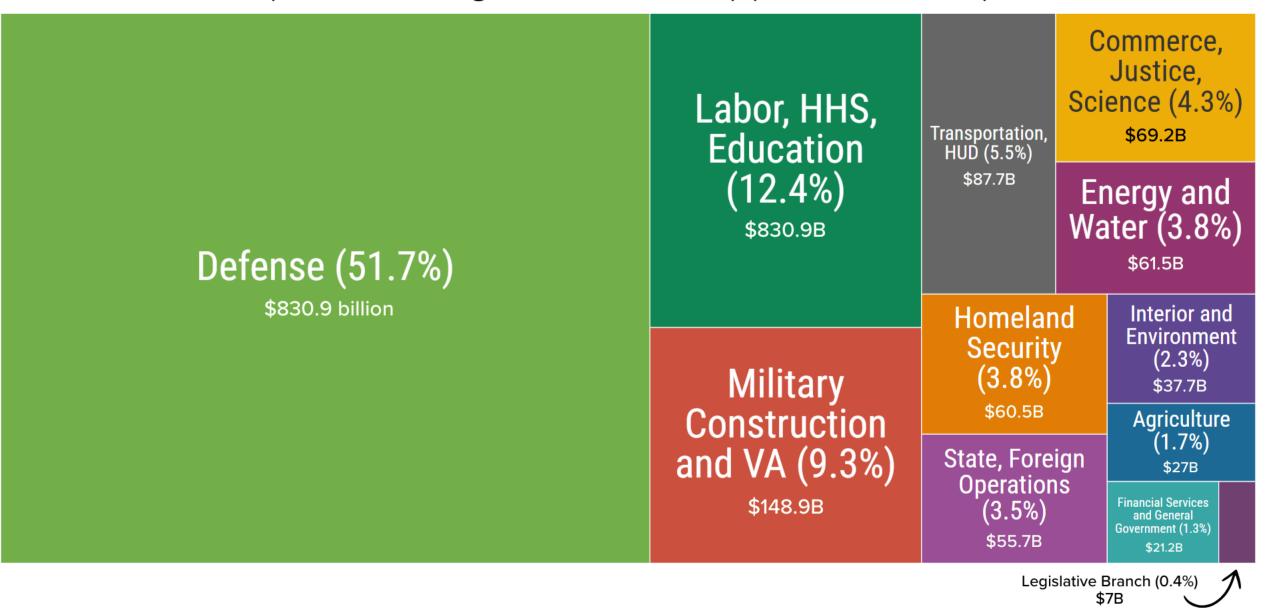


The Appropriations & Budget Process

House & Senate Appropriations Committees Views & estimates President's Budget • Full committees make 302 (b) CBO suballocations to their respective •Reestimates President's Budge 12 subcommittees Baseline Senate Authorizing Committees: House Authorizing Committees Agriculture Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry House & Senate Appropriations Committees (12) Education and Labor Armed Services House & Senate Budget Agriculture and Rural Development Energy and Commerce Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committees Food and Drug Administration, Commerce, Science & Transportation Financial Services •Hold Hearings Commerce, Justice and Science Energy & Natural Resources Foreign Affairs Defense Energy & Water Development Government Reform Environment & Public Works House & Senate Budget FinancialServices Homeland Security Finance Homeland Security Committees House Administration Foreign Relations Interior and Environment Each Committee holds a markup Labor, HHS and Education Iudiciary Health, Education, Labor & Pensions and reports out the concurrent Legislative Branch Natural Resources Homeland Security & Government Affairs resolution on the budget Military Construction and Science & Technology Indian Affairs Veterans Affairs Select Intelligence State and Foreign Operations Judiciary House & Senate Floors Transportation, Treasury and Rules & Administration Small Business Consider amendments Housing & Urban Development Transportation & Infrastructure Select Intelligence • Votes to pass the Budget Veterans' Affairs Small Business Resolution 12 House & Senate Appropriations Ways & Means Special Aging Subcommittees Select Energy Ind. & Global Veterans' Affairs Hold Hearings Budget Resolution Conference Report Warming •House & Senate vote to pass conference report 12 House & Senate Appropriations Subcommittees •Conference report includes: 302 (a) spending allocations; reconciliation • Each holds a markup & reports out appropriations legislation instructions 16 House & 16 Senate House & Senate Floors House & Senate Budget Committees Authorizing Committees Consider a mendments Package Reconciliation language from Voteto adopt 12 appropriations •Hold hearings Authorizing Committees bills and send to conference Report Out reconciliation bill 16 House & 16 Senate Appropriations bill Conference Reports Authorizing Committees House & Senate Floors •Adopt 12 conference reports • Each holds a markup & reports out and send to President for signature •Consider Amendments authorization legislation •Pass Reconciliation bill and send to conference White House White House House and Senate Floors Signed by President or allowed •Vetoed by President Bill •Consider amendments to become law without signature Reconciliation Bill Conference Report Returned to House or origin • Votes to pass each authorization bill House & Senate vote to adopt conference and senf to conference report and send to President for signature House & Senate • Requires 2/3 vote to override in each chamber Authorization Bill Conference Report White House •Signed by President or White House •Vetoed by President Bill Continuing Resolution (CR) Needed if: House and Senate vote to adopt conference report and send to President for signature •Failure to pass 12 appropriations bills allowed to become law Returned to House of Failure to overturn a veto without signature origin House & Senate Floors White House White House •Consider amendments •Vote to pass the CR and send to conference •Vetoed by President Bill Signed by President or allowed House & Senate Returned to House of to become law without •Requires 2/3 vote to override veto in each chamber signature origin CR Conference Committee House & Senate vote to adopt conference report and sent to President for signature **Executive Branch** House & Senate Laws Requires 2/3 vote to •Setting mandatory spending Congressional Budget Office White House White House override vote in each revenue levels Signed by President or allowed Vetoed by President Bill chamber Authorizing Committees •Setting levels authorized to be to become law without signature Returned to House of origin appropriated **Budget Committees** House & Senate **Appropriations** Committees Requires 2/3 vote to override in each chamber

The Federal Budget Framework – 1974 Budget and Impoundment Control Act

Discretionary Spending - 302(a) and 302(b) Allocations (FY25 Funding - \$1.606 Trillion) (Senate version)



Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

JANUARY

- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) finalizes the new budget request.
- President speaks to Congress signaling his priorities in the State of the Union.

MARCH

- Appropriations and authorizing committee hearings begin on the budget request.
- Budget Committees draft annual resolution.
- Possible House and Senate floor action taken on their versions of the Congressional Budget Resolution
- Members send priority requests to appropriators on Appropriations subcommittees.

FEBRUARY

- President's budget request is sent to Congress for its consideration.
- Budget Committees start hearings on a Congressional Budget Resolution.

APRIL

- Congressional Budget Resolution debate continues.
- April 15th Statutory deadline for completion of Congressional Budget Resolution (frequently missed)

MAY

- Congressional Budget Resolution debate concludes.
- May 15 Statutory date after which appropriators may begin to consider bills even if a Congressional Budget Resolution is not finalized.
- House/Senate Appropriations issue 302(b) allocations to their respective subcommittees.

JULY

- Senate Appropriations subcommittees/full committee markups are underway.
- Senate floor consideration of appropriations bills begin
- Federal agencies begin to formulate the next fiscal year's budget proposal.

JUNE

- House Appropriations subcommittee/full committee markups are underway.
- > House floor debate on appropriations bills begin.

AUGUST

- House/Senate stand in recess during August (dates vary).
- House/Senate appropriations staff begin conference negotiations.

SEPTEMBER

- Appropriations House/Senate conference negotiations begin.
- House and Senate conferees meet to finalize bills.
- Conference bills are approved by the full House and then the full Senate.
- President signs bills into law after conference bills are approved by Congress.

NOVEMBER

OMB and federal agencies negotiate the next fiscal year's budget request with rounds of feedback and input.

OCTOBER

- October 1st New federal fiscal year begins.
- Continuing resolutions begin remaining bills.
- Any appropriations negotiations not resolved in September continue.
- Federal agencies send proposals for next fiscal year's budget to OMB.

DECEMBER

OMB and federal agencies resolve differences on next fiscal year's budget request.

Opportunities to Engage in the Appropriations Process



Ways to be Engaged in the Appropriations Process

Submit ap	propriations requests
or sub	mit congressional
su	pport letters.

- Timeframe typically February and March after the budget request is released to Congress
- •Requests include three primary ways related to a policy or programs:
- Funding request levels (programmatic and member requests)
- •Report language requests
- Bill language requests

Engage in the appropriations or authorizing committee oversight process

- •Timeframe typically March July
- •Hearing process by:
- •Asking questions at authorizing, budget and appropriations hearings
- •Submitting questions for the record

Ways to be Actively Engaged in the Appropriations Process



Timeframe – typically June, July, September rest of year?
If an appropriations bill or minibus package of bills is on the floor, this may be a chance to offer amendments.

Indicate member priorities to federal agencies

Timeframe – throughout the entire year, but often later in the year
In terms of the federal agency budget development process, it is best to be in contact with the federal agencies early fall as they are formulating their future budget requests to Congress for the next fiscal cycle.



Individual Member Requests – An Overview

- Reformed process was reestablished in FY2021 after being prohibited for a decade
- House and Senate reforms (examples)
 - 1% of discretionary funding limit; for-profit entities banned; members must post requests
- House and Senate Approaches (118th Congress guidance)
 - Senate Congressionally Directed Spending / House Community Project Funding
 - Cap for House members (up to 15 requests) and no caps for Senators
 - Subcoms/accounts Senate 9 subcoms/60 accounts // House 7 subcoms/36 accounts
- Increased transparency GAO has been analyzing enacted requests Tracking the Funds
- Participation (bipartisan & bicameral) FY24 80.5% overall (83.7% of House & 66% of Senate)

Key Documents and Information

- Administration Budget Request White House / Office of Management and Budget
- Congressional Justifications (CJs) Specific request outlined by each department and agency
- House and Senate offices have online portals for requests to the Appropriations Committees
- Budget Committee resolution 302(a) and Appropriations Committee 302(b)
- Appropriations Subcommittee 'marks' summary, bill and report
- Appropriations Full Committee 'marks' summary, bill and report
- Continuing Resolutions
- Conference report in the form of an individual bill, a minibus, or an omnibus



Key Elements for Engagement

- Office Have a good internal organizational system set up (DC and district)
- Fly-in season Meet with constituents in Washington or the district
- Deadlines and requirements (sorting requests, selecting priorities, getting member approval, making submissions)
- Programmatic and individual member requests Be aware of both options
- Subcommittee engagement Highlight requests & provide insight on member priorities
- Constituent updates Stay in touch in a timely manner on where things stand
- Highlight wins Focus on the provisions enacted that were member priorities