

OMNIBUS PROVISIONS

This summary provides highlights of the Fiscal Year 2016 “omnibus” appropriations bill enacted in December. All subdivision conference agreements are on the House Rules Committee website at: <https://rules.house.gov/bill/114/hr-2029-sa>.

This summary focuses on particular areas of interest: geospatial; architecture & engineering; procurement, privatization and contracting out; and government reform.

Readers are advised to additionally review the respective House and Senate Appropriations Committee reports, as items included or discussed therein could provide guidance that agencies will follow in FY16 implementation.

USDA

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$850,856,000 for Conservation Operations. The agreement provides ... \$80,000,000 for the Soil Surveys Program;

USDA/CFTC

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

For the Commodity Futures Trading Commission... The agreement directs the Commission, in accordance with the President's "Reduce the Federal Footprint" initiative, to find ways to decrease space and renegotiate leasing agreements. The agreement directs the CFTC to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on steps the agency is taking to dispose of excess space and reduce rental costs in each building currently leased by the Commission. ... The agreement directs the CFTC to submit, within 30 days of enactment, a detailed spending plan for the allocation of the funds made available, displayed by discrete program, project, and activity, including staffing projections, specifying both FTEs and contractors, and planned investments in information technology.

USDA/APHIS

The agreement includes \$26,000,000 under Wildlife Damage Management for national rabies management, surveillance, and eradication efforts. The agreement also provides an additional \$600,000 for combating wildlife depredation to production aquaculture, an additional \$550,000 for increased feral swine surveillance, an additional \$8,000,000 for aircraft equipment and safety needs, and \$2,000,000 for Wildlife Services education and training.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD002.pdf>

DOC/NOAA

National Ocean Service.-\$500,100,000 is for the National Ocean Service.

Navigation, Observations and Positioning.-Senate language is modified to stipulate that not more than 7 percent of funds available for the Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts program may be used for internal Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts program management costs.

New Vessel Construction.-The agreement provides \$80,050,000 for new vessel construction for NOAA's fleet, contingent upon delivery of the latest fleet modernization and recapitalization plan to the Committees on Appropriations. Such funds shall be competitively awarded and target replacing one of NOAA's oldest vessels currently in operation, per the request. Funding for vessel outfitting and sensor development is expected to be requested in subsequent fiscal years. The agreement supports the Senate's direction that NOAA shall work with the United States Navy in providing program management and contract award support.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD003.pdf>

Commercial Weather Data Pilot.-NOAA shall, through an open competitive process, seek to enter into at least one pilot contract to assess the potential viability of commercial weather data in its weather modeling and forecasting. This funding shall be used to purchase, evaluate, and calibrate available data, which meets the standards and specifications set by NOAA in its Commercial Data Policy. NOAA shall provide the Committees a report on how it plans to implement the commercial weather data pilot program not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

Commercial Crew.-This Act provides up to \$1,243,800,000 for NASA's Commercial Crew Transportation Capability to safely send the Nation's astronauts to and from the ISS by 2017. The Committees note that NASA notified Congress in an August 2015 letter of its decision to modify an existing contract with the Russian government for crew transportation services beyond 2017. That decision was made prior to any final action by Congress on NASA's Commercial Crew Transportation Capability funding for fiscal year 2016. The funds provided in this Act enable NASA to follow the fastest path to independence from Russia by providing for continuing development of a domestic crew launching capability. If necessary, NASA may

derive resources for milestone payments from funds set aside for Russia by NASA for ISS crew launches scheduled to occur after U.S. providers will be operational in 2017. NASA shall reevaluate its need to procure additional seats from Russia in consideration of the funding level being provided within the Space Operations account.

DOC/CENSUS

CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

This Act includes \$270,000,000 for the Current Surveys and Programs account of the Bureau of the Census.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD003.pdf>

DOJ

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. Language is included requiring the Department of Justice to notify the Committees 45 days in advance of any such reprogramming.

DOJ/FPI

Section 211 prohibits the use of funds for A-76 competitions for work performed by employees of BOP or Federal Prison Industries, Inc.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD003.pdf>

NASA

This Act includes the following administrative provisions for NASA: a provision that makes funds for announced prizes available without fiscal year limitation until the prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn; a provision that establishes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds; a provision that subjects the NASA spending plan and specified changes to that spending plan to reprogramming procedures under section 505 of this Act; a provision that allows the transfer of unexpired balances for commercial spaceflight activities contained within the Exploration account to the Space Operations account; and a provision extending the availability of appropriations previously appropriated to the Space Shuttle program that have expired through 2025.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD003.pdf>

DOD

MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY

The agreement directs the Secretary of Defense to conduct no maintenance or improvements to Department of Defense real property with a zero percent utilization rate according to the Department's real property inventory database, except in the case of maintenance of an historic property, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), maintenance to prevent a negative environmental impact as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), or to address health and safety requirements.

SIZE OF THE CIVILIAN WORKFORCE

The Department of Defense is taking steps to right-size the military, civilian, and contractor workforces. While the agreement supports a strong civilian workforce and recognizes that much of this workforce performs critical national security and readiness functions, concern remains regarding the size and cost of headquarters and administrative functions and the corresponding size of the civilian staff, particularly at the Pentagon. As required by Section 905 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, the Secretary of Defense is currently conducting a systematic determination of the personnel requirements for headquarters organizations, including at the Pentagon, and the support organizations that perform headquarters-related functions, and is implementing a periodic review and analysis of

personnel requirements. Further, as part of its annual budget documentation, the Secretary of Defense provides a report addressing the size of the three workforces. The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide a briefing to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on the findings of the personnel requirements review referenced above, as well as the annual report on the size of the workforce, not later than 30 days after each report's release.

Section 904 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014, as amended, requires the Secretary of Defense to submit an annual report detailing the streamlining of Department of Defense headquarters. The agreement recognizes that future reports will include an updated baseline number for military, civilian, and contractor workforces for headquarters level of detail, including support organizations, as well as results of the review and further implemented and proposed reductions. The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide an annual briefing to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on the findings of the report not later than 30 days after the report's release. Accurate visibility and budgeting is critical to making fiscally sound decisions regarding the size and compensation of the civilian personnel workforce. The Services consistently overestimate the number of civilians that will be employed during a fiscal year while underestimating the civilian personnel funding requirement. Therefore, the agreement includes reductions for overestimating civilian full time equivalent (FTE) levels and streamlining management headquarters for fiscal year 2016. Additionally, the agreement directs the Department of Defense Inspector General (DOD IG) to provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act that issues recommendations to improve the management of the civilian compensation program and civilian FTE levels. As part of the analysis, the agreement directs the DOD IG to explore the factors influencing average salary and provide suggestions for how to better control its volatility. Also, the DOD IG shall examine how to standardize the types of growth included in pay rates versus program growth across the Services. Finally, the report shall examine steps the Department of Defense should take to formulate a civilian compensation budget to more accurately capture the true cost of the civilian workforce. This language replaces the reporting requirement included under the heading "Civilian Personnel and Pay Management" in House Report 114-139 and under the heading "Civilian Compensation" in Senate Report 114-63.

AIR FORCE DEPOT MAINTENANCE AND CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT

While the Air Force has improved its depot maintenance budget documentation, concerns remain that requesting funding for contractor logistics support (CLS) in the depot maintenance sub-activity group (SAG) limits visibility into the execution of this funding. Separating CLS and Performance Based Logistics (PBL) funding from depot maintenance funding would provide better congressional oversight and visibility. Therefore, the Secretary of the Air Force is directed to create new and separate SAGs specifically for CLS and PBL funding.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR THE DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

Concerns remain regarding the transfer of funds from the In-House Care budget sub-activity to pay for contractor-provided medical care. To limit such transfers and improve oversight within the Defense Health Program operation and maintenance account, the agreement includes a provision which caps the funds available for Private Sector Care under the TRICARE program subject to prior approval reprogramming procedures. The provision and accompanying explanatory statement language should not be interpreted as limiting the amount of funds that may be transferred to the In-House Care budget sub-activity from other budget sub-activities within the Defense Health Program. In addition, funding for the In-House Care budget sub-activity continues to be designated as a congressional special interest item. Any transfer of funds from the In-house Care budget sub-activity into the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity or any other budget sub-activity requires the Secretary of Defense to follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for operation and maintenance funds. The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide written notification to the congressional defense committees of cumulative transfers in excess of \$10,000,000 out of the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity not later than fifteen days after such a transfer. Furthermore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act that delineates transfers of funds in excess of \$10,000,000, and the dates any transfers occurred, from the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity to any other budget sub activity groups for fiscal year 2015. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on budget execution data for all of the Defense Health Program budget activities and to adequately reflect changes to the budget activities requested by the Services in future budget submissions.

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY

The agreement affirms the significant and lasting benefits that commissaries provide in support of service members and their families. Commissaries help promote healthy base communities by guaranteeing access to fresh foods, including fruits and vegetables, at low prices to military families. Better nutrition and food choices are the first steps toward improved health outcomes and lower health care costs. Commissaries also help military families stretch their budgets and provide stable employment for service members' families and veterans. It is understood that the Department of Defense would like to make commissaries more self-sustaining. The agreement supports finding efficiencies to lower the operational cost of commissaries. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees are willing to review and consider new ways to administrate the commissaries; however, the agreement does not support the proposed funding reduction. The agreement affirms that commissaries must be kept open, affordable, and accessible to military families. Language in House Report 114-139 directed the Secretary of Defense to defer any changes to the Defense Commissary Agency's (DeCA) second destination transportation funding policy that would

increase commissary retail prices until 30 days after the Secretary has submitted a report to the congressional defense committees regarding commissary costs, including the potential efficiencies that can be realized in air transportation contracts. However, prior to House passage of H.R. 2685, the Department of Defense began the transition to a new fresh fruits and vegetables contract throughout the DeCA Pacific Area commissaries. Therefore, in lieu of the direction in House Report 114-139, the Secretary of Defense is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act outlining the current delivery system of commissary benefits in the Pacific Area commissary system, including the anticipated costs related to the transition to a new fresh fruits and vegetables contract throughout the DeCA Pacific Area commissaries; a description of any modifications to the Pacific Area commissary system the Secretary considers appropriate to achieve savings in the delivery of commissary benefits, while still upholding high levels of customer satisfaction and access, providing high quality products, and sustaining discount savings; and the potential efficiencies that can be realized in air transportation contracts and the effect that these efficiencies may have on second destination transportation funding requirements.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD004.pdf>

DOE

FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Coal Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and Power Systems.-The agreement includes funding for the Department of Energy's National Carbon Capture Center consistent with the budget request. The Secretary has previously funded several university-based CCS projects and is encouraged to build on an established research base to support ongoing research and implementation of CCS technologies. The Secretary is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act, a report on the reallocation of base funding to other ongoing Clean Coal Power Initiative demonstration projects. The Department is directed to use funds from Coal CCS and Power Systems for both coal and natural gas research and development as it determines to be merited, as long as such research does not occur at the expense of coal research and development. The agreement provides \$101,000,000 for Carbon Capture, of which \$250,000 is for an assessment of research and development needs to aid in the development and commercialization of direct air capture technologies that capture carbon dioxide from dilute sources, such as the atmosphere, on a significant scale. The agreement contains no direction for post- and pre-combustion capture systems. The agreement provides \$106,000,000 for Carbon Storage, of which \$11,500,000 is for Advanced Storage Research and Development; \$10,000,000 is for Carbon Use and Reuse; \$8,500,000 is for Carbon Sequestration Science; and \$66,000,000 is for Storage Infrastructure. Within Cross Cutting Research, the agreement provides \$24,000,000 for Coal Utilization Science and \$20,500,000 for Plant Optimization Technologies. Within National Energy Technology Laboratory Coal Research and

Development, the agreement provides \$15,000,000 for the Department to expand its external agency activities to develop and test commercially viable advanced separation technologies at proof-of-concept or pilot scale that can be deployed near term for the extraction and recovery of rare earth elements and minerals from U.S. coal and coal byproduct sources having the highest potential for success. The agreement does not include section 507 of the House bill regarding the National Energy Technology Laboratory. The Department has not requested funding to transform the National Energy Technology Laboratory into a government-owned, contractor-operated facility. Consequently, the agreement includes no funds to enable the transformation of the lab.

Technology Transfer.-The Office of Technology Transitions is encouraged to treat the applied research offices equitably when utilizing funds to assist the transfer of federally funded research into the commercial sector. The Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report on the activities of the Office of Technology Transitions and provide a table tracking the usage of the Energy Technology Commercialization Fund to specific technology transfer and partnership activities.

Water Power.-The Secretary is directed to establish a separate Water Power Technologies Office within EERE and to recruit from academia, industry, and the national laboratories a manager to lead the efforts of this office. The agreement provides \$45,000,000 for marine and hydrokinetic technologies (MHK) and \$25,000,000 for conventional hydropower. Within the funding provided for MHK, not less than \$22,000,000 is to support competitive private sector-led research, development, and deployment of advanced marine energy conversion systems and component technologies, including wave and current (tidal, river, ocean), to increase energy capture, reliability, and survivability for lower costs, and not less than \$5,000,000 is to continue development and construction for an open water, fully energetic, grid connected wave energy test facility. The agreement provides no funding for the incubator program or the clean energy manufacturing initiative. Within the funding provided for conventional hydropower, up to \$3,900,000 is for the purposes of Section 242 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and not less than \$5,000,000 shall support competitive demonstrations to assess the commercial viability of new or advanced pumped storage technologies.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD005.pdf>

PMA

CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of \$93,372,000 for the Western Area Power

Administration (W AP A). Not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act, W APA shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report with a detailed accounting of its allocation of the budget authority provided in this Act, categorized by region (including Headquarters), and including the number of contractors and FTEs funded during this fiscal year.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD005.pdf>

USACE

Public-Private Partnership Program.-There is strong support in Congress for the public-private partnership (P3) program authorized in section 5014 of WRRDA 2014. As part of its Civil Works Transformation initiative, the Corps has been discussing for several years the idea of public-private partnerships as a project delivery tool to help sustain the performance of existing infrastructure and construct new infrastructure more quickly. Water resource projects are different from more traditional P3 projects in key ways, however, and these issues need to be addressed before a P3 program could be viable. The Corps is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act a report detailing any work to date on developing public private partnerships generally (including public-public-private partnerships or P4s) and on implementing section 5014 specifically (including a schedule for issuing implementation guidance). The report also shall include a list of any P3 or P4 demonstration projects being evaluated and a detailed description of the goals, advances, and remaining challenges for each such demonstration project. The Corps of Engineers should demonstrate the value of projects that use a Partnership model and should select at least one project identified in the report required above as a new construction start. In addition to the report required above, the Secretary is directed to develop a policy on how proposals for public-private partnerships will be considered by the Corps and how these partnerships will be incorporated into the budget policy.

Additional Funding for Ongoing Work.-When allocating the additional funding provided in this account, the Corps shall consider giving priority to completing or accelerating ongoing work that will enhance the nation's economic development, job growth, and international competitiveness, or are for studies or projects located in areas that have suffered recent natural disasters. While this funding is shown under remaining items, the Corps shall use these funds in investigations, construction, and operation and maintenance, as applicable. Modernization of equipment for river channel armoring and stabilization is an activity eligible to compete for the additional funding provided in this account. Of the additional funds provided in this account for flood control, the Corps shall allocate not less than \$25,000,000 for additional flood control construction projects. Of the additional funds provided in this account for other authorized project purposes, the Corps shall allocate not less than \$3,000,000 for operation and

maintenance of facilities that are educational or to continue land management of mitigation features. No funding is required to be allocated for land surveying equipment.

NATIONAL COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM \$6,300,000,000 budget \$6,300,000,000 actual

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD005.pdf>

Treasury

Cloud Computing.-Transitioning to commercial cloud computing services offers significant savings and more agility to federal agencies. In fiscal year 2015, the Department was directed to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Ho use and Senate on current and planned cloud computing usage by bureau and office. The Department shall provide a follow-up report, including an update on the use of commercial cloud computing services, current plans for the expansion of cloud computing to leverage the utility-based model, the security benefits of transitioning Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) moderate systems and data to cloud computing, any factors delaying or inhibiting the expansion of cloud computing usage, and the cost savings achieved in fiscal year 2016 by the utilization of commercial cloud computing services by November 30, 2016.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD006.pdf>

OMB

Section 714 prohibits Federal employee training not directly related to the performance of official duties.

Section 742 prohibits funds to begin or announce a study or public-private competition regarding conversion to contractor performance pursuant to OMB Circular A-76.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD006.pdf>

General Provisions

Section 623 prevents conflicts of interest by prohibiting contractor security clearance related background investigators from undertaking final Federal reviews of their own work.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD006.pdf>

SEC

Spending Plan.-The SEC is directed to submit, within 60 days of enactment, a detailed spending plan for the allocation of appropriated funds displayed by discrete program, project, and activity, including staffing projections, specifying both FTEs and contractors, and planned investments in information technology. The SEC is also directed to submit, within 60 days of enactment, a detailed spending plan for the allocation of expenditures from the Reserve Fund.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD006.pdf>

DHS

Big Data

The Department, led by the CIO, is developing a strategy for big data to help guide the efforts components have undertaken to more effectively utilize data in support of analytic activities and decision-making. The OIG is directed to review the strategy, inventory component investments in this area, develop recommendations to ensure these investments are coordinated and effective, and update the Committees on its findings not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Section 517. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued classifying the functions of the instructor staff at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center as inherently governmental for purposes of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act.

Section 550. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified amending Public Law 113-76 regarding reimbursable public-private partnerships and donation authority related to CBP port of entry operations.

DHS/CBP

DoD Reuse-As directed in the Senate report, CBP shall continue to analyze the application of unused DoD equipment to its border security mission and deploy available equipment to the extent practicable.

AIR AND MARINE OPERATIONS

A total of \$802,298,000 is provided for Air and Marine Operations. The President's budget request for Salaries and Expenses is decreased by \$5,824,000 to fund a realistic and achievable number of FTE.

The amount provided for the Operations and Maintenance PP A is increased by \$1,800,000 for enhancements to the Air and Marine Operations Center (AMOC) and for continuity of operations requirements; \$2,000,000 for Vehicle and Dismount Exploitation Radar operations; \$2,500,000 for P-3 aircraft maintenance; \$4,500,000 for patrol aircraft mission upgrades; and \$4,000,000 for unmanned aerial system (UAS) ground control stations and power systems. In addition, the Procurement PP A is increased by \$10,300,000 for aircraft sensors; \$11,000,000 for a replacement UAS; \$5,000,000 for mission systems software and computers; \$8,000,000 for UAS radars; \$2,300,000 for fixed-wing and rotary-wing radars; \$6,000,000 for AMOC building upgrades; and \$5,600,000 for improved communications capabilities. As requested, \$44,000,000 is provided for procurement of two Multirole-Enforcement Aircraft.

Effective Use of Air Assets

Congress has consistently supported air and marine operations essential to border security, and has routinely appropriated above the requested amount for procurement and operation of airframes, sensors, and cameras. These assets are critical to enhancing situational awareness and communications capabilities necessary to transmit data collected for both strategic planning and operational response. Making the most efficient use of these resources, however, requires more than relating resource hours to interdictions, which has historically been used as a measure for success. The Office of Air and Marine (OAM) reports that it is working to develop agency-wide performance measures to more optimally integrate air assets and sensors in a way that improves both operational and strategic awareness. This process must be based on identifying relevant key measures to inform future acquisition decisions and operational tasking and must be determined in coordination with the JTFs and OAM's customers. Such measures should include, at a minimum: operational cost per resource hour; resource hours per mission type; and resource availability rate. These key measures identify performance gaps

and help leaders steer resource hours to meet the agency's targeted performance outcomes. Once relevant performance measures are found to be valid and reliable, OAM must effectively measure its resource performance, compare this performance to baseline targets, and then explain how resources were managed to satisfy mission needs, including minimizing fuel costs and maximizing mission availability. These measurements should inform strategic planning at OAM, and the resulting plan shall be briefed to the Committees within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

UAS Pilots

The bill provides the additional funding requested for UAS pilots, crew, and training. Within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act, CBP shall provide the Committees a report on UAS pilots and training requirements, as detailed in the Senate report.

DHS/CG

National Security Cutter

A total of \$743,400,000 is provided for the National Security Cutter (NSC) program. The total includes \$640,000,000 for award and production costs associated with a ninth National Security Cutter, notwithstanding future costs for post-delivery activities. In addition, \$12,000,000 is included for the necessary top-side engineering design work to support the deployment of small UAS equipment on NSCs.

DHS/FEMA

FLOOD HAZARD MAPPING AND RISK ANALYSIS PROGRAM

A total of \$190,000,000 is provided for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis. With an additional \$155,899,000 available for flood mapping activities through the National Flood Insurance Fund, FEMA's fiscal year 2016 resources for flood plain mapping total \$345,899,000. This amount will enable FEMA to make significant progress toward its goal of maintaining 80 percent of its mapping inventory as maps with new, validated, or updated engineering. As directed in the Senate report, FEMA shall ensure mapping updates are done in coordination with ongoing state and local flood mitigation efforts.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

A total of \$181,198,000 is provided for the National Flood Insurance Fund, for which administrative costs shall not exceed four percent.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD007.pdf>

DOI

The agreement also includes \$452,000,000 to fully fund the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program fiscal year 2016. The agreement does not provide requested funds for the Coastal Resilience Fund.

Greater Sage-Grouse.-The agreement provides a total of \$63,250,000 for sage-grouse conservation, including \$60,000,000 for the Bureau of Land Management and \$3,250,000 for the Fish and Wildlife Service. The agencies are directed to focus this funding toward on-the-ground conservation measures to improve and preserve sage-grouse habitat and the sagebrush ecosystem. The Bureau is reminded of the concerns outlined in the House and Senate reports as Congress continues to hear complaints about the effect of the sage-grouse land use plan amendments, which are not limited to activities within Bureau controlled sage-grouse habitat. In order for the sage-grouse, communities, and States to thrive, all partners must work in good faith. As such, the Bureau and the Forest Service are directed to closely work with each of the 11 States and the affected communities to address the issues unique to each State and seek to collaboratively resolve all issues. The Bureau is directed to provide guidance to its State offices and partners on how it will update sage-grouse habitat maps, adopt new scientific information, as appropriate, and engage State, local, nongovernmental, and private partners.

DOI/FWS

Recovery.-The agreement includes \$1,373,000 for Cooperative Recovery; \$1,659,000 as requested for ecosystem restoration of the Bay Delta; \$1,000,000 to continue the wolf-livestock demonstration program as authorized by Public Law 111-11; \$2,000,000 to reduce the backlog of delistings and downlistings; and \$500,000 for multi-partner recovery actions. The Service is directed to prioritize the recovery of the California condor and northern aplomado falcon and provide the necessary funding to enable the longstanding public-private partnerships to continue to support the wild populations through captive propagation, releases, and management, as the Service and the States work to address the continued environmental threats to these species.

DOI/NPS

Park Partnerships.-In recent years, the Committees have expressed support for ongoing public private partnerships and strongly encouraged the Service to expand their use. The Committees encourage the Service to find ways to further engage partners to facilitate the accomplishment of park projects consistent with the applicable laws and regulations that govern use of Federal appropriations.

DOI/USGS

Core Science Systems.- The bill provides \$111,550,000, which includes a \$3,000,000 increase for 3D Elevation: National Enhancement, and the requested increase of \$1,322,000 to fund the Alaska mapping program.

Climate and Land Use Change.-The bill provides \$139,975,000, which includes an increase of \$4,300,000 for Landsat science activities for Landsat 9 and no funding for the free flying thermal infrared instrument. The Survey is expected to focus on drought impacts and adaptive management with the funding provided within this activity.

Energy, Minerals, and Environmental Health.- The bill provides \$94,511,000, which includes the requested increase of \$2,440,000 for the critical minerals program. The proposed decrease of \$2,000,000 for mapping activities is rejected and the Committees expect the Survey to continue with geologic mapping activities in areas of the country where high quality mineral and energy resources remain unmapped at a useable scale.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD008.pdf>

USDA/FS

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

The agreement provides \$291,000,000 for Forest and Rangeland Research. This includes \$75,000,000 for Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA), which is sufficient to expand FIA to interior Alaska.

Fire Suppression Aviation.-The Service is directed to evaluate and provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations evidence of the cost savings expected to result from the acquisition of Federal aircraft. The evaluation should include costs charged to the Forest Service as well as those charged to other Federal agencies so that the Committees have an accurate accounting of the actual cost of Federal ownership compared with the utilization of private contractors.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD008.pdf>

HHS

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The agreement includes \$3,669,744,000 for the Program Management account to support a broad range of activities including claims processing and program safeguard activities performed by Medicare contractors.

HHS/NIH

Undiagnosed Disease Program (UDP).-The agreement continues support for the Undiagnosed Disease Network within the UDP, and requests an update in the fiscal year 2017 budget request on steps NIH has taken to accelerate discovery and innovation in the way we diagnose and treat patients with previously undiagnosed diseases, including its efforts to support data

collection and sharing within the 40 research community. Further, NIH is encouraged to explore public/private partnership opportunities and other ways to expand the impact of the program.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD009.pdf>

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

The agreement includes \$79,736,000 for authorized publishing, printing and binding for the Congress.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

The agreement includes \$6,832,000.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD010.pdf>

MILCON/VA

The Department is encouraged to seek out public-private partnerships, particularly with research universities, those with and without medical schools, to expand its efforts related to suicide prevention, post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and substance abuse disorders.

Transportation Pilot Program.-To take advantage of innovations in on demand transportation made possible through mobile application technology, the Department is encouraged to conduct a pilot program of this method as a means for transporting veterans to VA facilities and private providers. The pilot program would use transportation network companies to transport veterans for medical care in at least three metropolitan areas in three different VISNs. The pilot would take advantage of existing flexibility in current Federal procurement law, including 41 U.S.C. 1902, to enable transportation network companies to fully participate in the pilot program in a manner consistent with their standard business model. Each trip would be considered a unique transaction for the purposes of compliance with micro-purchase procedures. The Secretary shall evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot and determine: (1) how transportation network companies can meet gaps in transportation services; (2) the extent to which veterans' transportation needs are being met in a cost-effective manner; and (3) satisfaction from veterans with the quality of the transportation service and ease of use.

Third Party Fee Collection. -The Committees have urged VA for several years to improve its systems for collection of third party payments that are owed to VA for non-service-connected care for veterans at both VA and non-VA facilities. With exponential increases in non-VA care, it is all the more important for VA to increase collections of payments it is rightfully owed. The Department is instructed to conduct a pilot similar to the one described in the Senate report. Emphasis should be placed on automated solutions, as recommended in the September Independent Assessment, but also on the use of private sector revenue cycle management techniques and small balance recovery and appeals processes. The pilot should test these approaches with claims resulting from both VA and non-VA facility care.

Alternative Sources of Construction Funding.- For two years, the Committees have directed VA to work collaboratively with other executive branch agencies that have substantial construction portfolios, private sector contractors, and other non-governmental experts to explore the feasibility of new funding mechanisms for VA construction, such as private development lease-backs, and report to the Committees on these alternative mechanisms. The executive branch clearance process has apparently prevented the submission of this report. Therefore, the Department is directed to provide directly to the Committees not later than 10 days after enactment of this Act the draft report submitted to the Office of Management and Budget.

DOD BRAC

Infrastructure Inventory and Assessment of Infrastructure Necessary to Support On-Going Defense Activities.-Language in House Report 114-92 requiring the Secretary of Defense to conduct an inventory and assessment of infrastructure necessary to support ongoing Defense activities is modified to conform to a similar requirement in Sec. 2815 of P.L. 114-92, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

The agreement provides \$663,245,000 for Military Construction, Army. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$109,245,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement provides \$1,669,239,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$91,649,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

The agreement provides \$1,389,185,000 for Military Construction, Air Force. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$89,164,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides \$2,242,867,000 for Military Construction, DefenseWide. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$175,404,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services. Within this amount, an additional \$15,000,000 is provided for the Missile Defense Agency planning and design account. The additional funding is to expedite the construction and deployment of urgently needed missile defense assets in various locations within the Continental United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement provides \$197,237,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$20,337,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement provides \$138,738,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$5,104,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

The agreement provides \$113,595,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$9,318,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

The agreement provides \$36,078,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$2,208,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

The agreement provides \$65,021,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$13,400,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

The agreement includes section 111 establishing a preference for American architectural and engineering services for overseas projects.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD011.pdf>

STATE & FOREIGN

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD012.pdf>

DOT

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

The agreement provides \$500,000,000 for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, commonly known as the "TIGER" program. Funds are available for highway and bridge projects; transit projects; passenger and freight rail projects; and port, inland port, and land ports of entry projects. The Secretary is reminded to consider worthy transportation projects in suburban areas when meeting geographical requirements. The agreement does not include funds for planning activities.

DOT/FAA

Section 119A prohibits funds to increase fees under 49 U.S.C. 44721 until the FAA provides a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and explains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order 13642.

Pathfinder program/commercial airports.-The agreement supports FAA's Pathfinder program and encourages the FAA to expand the program to include a commercial airport, in conjunction with the UAS center for excellence as evaluator. A letter report is requested on findings related to such expansion no later than 180 days after enactment.

Pathfinder program/electric utilities.-The agreement encourages FAA to consider including electric utility companies in the Pathfinder program to increase the understanding of the role unmanned aerial systems can play in supporting disaster recovery and ensuring the resiliency of the electric grid.

Unmanned aerial systems (UAS).-The agreement includes \$17,635,000 for unmanned aircraft systems research, an increase of \$8,000,000 above the budget request. Within this increase, \$3,000,000 is provided to help meet FAA's UAS research goals of system safety and data gathering, aircraft certification, command and control link challenges, control station layouts and certification, sense and avoid, and environmental impacts; and \$5,000,000 is provided for the center of excellence on unmanned aerial systems, for a total of \$5,500,000 for the center. It is expected that UAS flight operations conducted as part of center of excellence research be performed at one or more of the six UAS test sites selected for UAS research and airspace integration.

Operations funding.-The agreement includes the full budget request for the air traffic

organization, aviation safety, and security and hazardous materials safety. The agreement includes reductions of less than two percent from commercial space activities, and less than one percent from finance and management, NextGen planning, and staff offices. These reductions are taken without prejudice. The agreement funds overall FAA operations at 99.95 percent of the budget request to ensure the highest possible level of air traffic services, for both general and commercial aviation. The agreement also fully supports FAA's efforts to hire over 1,500 controllers in fiscal year 2016, and the FAA is directed to make the investments necessary to enhance its controller hiring capabilities to meet its fiscal year 2016 hiring goals.

Contract towers.-The agreement provides \$154,400,000 for the contract tower program.

DOT/FTA

Section 166 exempts an area in Washington State from enforcement of the charter bus rule.

DOT/NHTSA

Section 142 prohibits funds in the Act for the National Roadside Survey.

Section 143 prohibits funds from being used to mandate global positioning systems in private vehicles without consideration of privacy concerns.

DOT/PHMSA

The agreement provides \$21,000,000 for the necessary operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

PIPELINE SAFETY (PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides \$146,623,000 for pipeline safety. Of that amount, \$22,123,000 is derived from the oil spill liability trust fund, to remain available until September 30, 2018, and \$124,500,000 is derived from the pipeline safety fund, of which \$59,835,000 is available until September 30, 2018. The agreement provides not less than \$1,058,000 for the one-call state grant program. The agreement includes a provision which provides that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be for formalization and implementation of certain regulatory activities required by law. The agreement includes \$12,000,000 for research and development, of which up to \$2,000,000 is for the pipeline safety research competitive academic agreement program. The agreement also includes \$44,894,000 for state pipeline safety grants, and \$1,500,000 for state damage prevention grants.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD013.pdf>

HUD

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The agreement includes a new account entitled "Working Capital Fund" and provides the Secretary with the authority to transfer amounts provided in this title for salaries and expenses, except those for the Office of Inspector General, to this account for the purpose of funding centralized activities. The Department is required to centralize and fund from this account any shared service agreements executed between HUD and another federal agency. In addition, HUD is provided with the legal authority to centralize and fund from this account printing, records management, space renovation, furniture, and supply services at the discretion of the Secretary. However, the Committee expects that, prior to exercising discretion to centrally fund an activity, the Secretary shall have established transparent and reliable unit cost accounting for the offices and agencies of the Department that use the activity and shall have adequately trained staff within each affected office and agency on resource planning and accounting processes associated with the centralization of funds to this account. Further, prior to centralizing either furniture or space renovation, the Committee directs the Department to deliver a comprehensive, multi-year real property improvement plan which details all planned space realignments, capital improvements, maintenance requirements, and other costs associated with carrying out HUD's most recent strategic plan including any elements of the General Service Administration (GSA) study on the Weaver Building that HUD plans to include as part of its Reimbursable Work Agreement with GSA, and including any space realignments planned in conjunction with the Administration's "Freeze the Footprint" initiative. Prior to exercising its authority to transfer funds for activities beyond what is required for shared service agreements, the Committee expects HUD to establish a clear execution plan for centralizing the additional activities and to properly vet that plan with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to transferring such funds into the Working Capital Fund. HUD shall include in its annual operating plan a detailed outline of its plans for transferring budgetary resources to the Working Capital Fund in fiscal year 2016. The agreement does not include direction from the House report regarding reductions in HUD staff to offset the cost of outsourcing transaction work through shared service agreements. The agreement does not include direction from the House report for HUD to include a transfer plan in its annual operating plan or to report on future amendments to such plan.

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD013.pdf>

Intel & Miscellaneous

<https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules.house.gov/files/114/PDF/114-SAHR2029ca-MP.pdf>

