



15 Ways the FY15 Appropriations Act Will Grow the Economy and Strengthen the Middle Class

- 1. Small Business Administration (SBA).** Today, over half of working Americans either own or work for a small business. This bill will ensure that small businesses continue to have access to credit and technical assistance through the SBA with \$888 million in funding. This includes \$220 million in funds for entrepreneurial development grants, \$24 million more than FY14, and \$195 million for business loans and \$187 million to support disaster lending to businesses recovering after major natural disasters. *You can access state-by-state information on the presence and importance of small business [HERE](#).* [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 2. Supporting Travel and Tourism through Brand USA.** The bill reauthorizes the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Revitalization Act or Brand USA, which promotes international travel and tourism to the United States. It is estimated that in 2013 alone, the efforts of Brand USA motivated an additional 1.1 million visitors to come to the United States and who spent \$3.4 billion in our economy. This program is privately funded and is estimated to infuse \$264 million to the Department of the Treasury over 10 years. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 3. The National Institute of Standards and Technology.** (NIST; \$676 million, \$25 million more than FY14). Economic growth can be directly attributed to innovation, research, and development. NIST funding enables business visionaries to develop new technology applications and resources to promote the global competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers. This bill supports American manufacturing through the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership and Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia accelerating expansion and implementation of cutting-edge technology. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 4. Law & Order Programs** (\$393 million over FY14). This bill provides the DOJ with \$28 billion in funding and resources to fight crime and terrorism and to protect communities and families. This bill provides \$2.3 billion (\$55 million over FY14) for programs like Byrne Justice Assistance Grants, Community Oriented Policing Services hiring grants, Violence Against Women Act programs, and juvenile justice and mentoring grants. This funding will help law enforcement place an additional 1,000 cops on the beat and will help law enforcement to reduce its backlog of approximately 400,000 rape kits. The bill also dedicates about \$26 billion to DOJ's national security, law enforcement, investigation, and prosecution missions. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
 - A list of organizations that have previously received VAWA-funded grants, organized by state, can be found [HERE](#).

- Information about the prevalence of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence in your state can be found [HERE](#).
 - State-by-state data related to the number of adults and children seeking domestic violence services, the types of services requested, and the number of service requests that went unmet because of lack of resources can be found [HERE](#).
 - Information about State Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Allocations in FY 2014 can be found [HERE](#).
 - Information about the FY14 Community Oriented Policing Services Grantee Award Package can be found [HERE](#).
- 5. Gun Safety Programs.** (\$53 million over FY14 enacted level). This bill dedicates \$1.1 billion to helping states, the ATF, the FBI, and the DOJ combat gun violence. It includes \$142 million (\$13 million over FY 2014) for the FBI to run instant background checks; \$798 million (22 million above FY 2014) for the ATF for criminal enforcement, investigations, and inspections and to keep guns away from traffickers and criminals; \$73 million to help states improve interstate background checks; \$15 million to train police on how to respond to active shooters; \$3 million for firearm safety materials; and \$75 million for school safety assessments and the improvement of school safety plans. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 6. Science and Basic Research Programs.** (\$172 million over FY14). This bill dedicates \$7.3 billion to the National Science Foundation. These funds will provide approximately 350 more competitive grants and support approximately 4,100 more technicians, teachers, scientists, and students involved in science, technology, and innovation. *A list of organizations that have previously received National Science Foundation awards, organized by state, can be found [HERE](#).* [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 7. Cybersecurity Programs.** It is estimated that the personal information of approximately 50% of adults in the U.S. has been compromised by cybercrime in the last year. This bill dedicates \$722 million to combatting cybercrime, the impacts of which can be devastating, by helping DOJ respond to cyber-attacks and prosecute criminals. The bill also provides \$96 million (\$5 million more than FY 2014) for the National Institute of Standards and Technology to create the cyber standards to better protect critical infrastructure. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 8. Crime Victims Programs.** (\$1.6 billion over FY14). This bill raises the cap on the Crime Victims Fund to \$2.36 billion to help victims of violent crime and their families receive critical care and services. This funding will allow states to dramatically increase direct compensation to victims of violent crime and victim assistance grants provided to non-profit organizations for counseling, legal assistance, and outreach services. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 9. Community Health Centers (CHCs).** The bill includes \$1.492 billion for CHCs, which when combined with the mandatory funding provided for CHCs in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), results in a total FY15 program level for CHCs of \$5.092 billion, an increase of \$1.452 billion over FY14. This funding level could increase access to care for up to 11 million new patients, through new and expanded health centers. [National Association of Community Health Centers, [3/7/14](#)]

- 10. National Institutes of Health (NIH).** The bill provides \$30.3 billion, an increase of \$150 million in base funding, and \$238 million in Ebola-related research, to fund biomedical research at the 27 Institutes and Centers that comprise NIH. This level of funding would support approximately 260 additional new research project grants. This level will allow NIH to allocate a 25% increase in the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Initiative, as well as provide \$65 million for the second year of the Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, an increase of \$25 million, which is working on major advances in Alzheimer’s disease, autism, schizophrenia, epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, and other brain disorders. *State-by-state information on NIH funding impacts can be found [HERE](#).* [NIH Director Francis Collins testimony, [4/29/14](#)]
- 11. Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG).** The bill provides \$2.435 billion, a \$75 million increase over FY14 levels, for CCDBG. In total, this program helps nearly 1.5 million children, and their families, nationwide every month. These critical services support children’s health development and learning, while allowing parents to work, seek employment, or receive job training or education. In November, Congress overwhelmingly passed a bipartisan reauthorization of the CCDBG program, the first since 1996, which included important updates and reforms to improve the quality of child care programs, including requiring states to strengthening health and safety standards. *State-by-state data regarding the Child Care Development Fund, including state participation, policies, and funding can be found [HERE](#).* [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#); [DPCC](#)]
- 12. Job Training.** The bill includes \$2.6 billion, an increase of \$36 million, for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grants to states to provide job training skills and assistance to low-skilled adults, dislocated workers and low-income youth with barriers to employment. The bill also increases the Governor’s Reserve to 10% from 8.75%. The funding increase provided for the WIOA state grant programs will allow the Governor’s Reserve to grow without reducing funds for local areas. Combined with funding provided in FY14, the FY15 funding level will provide an increase of \$138 million for the Governor’s Reserve out of an overall increase of \$156.5 million for state grant funding. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 13. Keeping Our Promise to Veterans.** The bill provides \$159.14 billion, an increase of \$9.4 billion above FY14 levels, to the Department of Veterans Affairs, which provides medical care to the men and women who bravely serve our nation. This includes \$7.42 billion for healthcare and support services for homeless veterans, including \$374 million for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and VA’s Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH) and \$58.66 billion in FY16 advance appropriations for veterans medical services, protecting critical services for veterans a full year in advance of any congressional budget negotiations. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]
- 14. Investing in Scientific Leadership and Clean Energy Technologies.** The omnibus includes \$27.9 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE), \$636 million more than FY14, to develop clean energy technologies that combat climate change while creating U.S. jobs, secure dangerous nuclear and radiological materials and clean up the country’s cold war environmental legacy. This includes \$5.1 billion for the Office of Science, which is the largest federal sponsor of basic research in the physical sciences and supports 22,000 researchers at 17 national laboratories and more than 300

universities. It also includes \$3.7 billion for applied energy programs that support research, development, demonstration, and deployment of an extensive range of clean energy technologies, including renewable energy, keeping the U.S. at the forefront of energy innovation. [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]

15. Rebuilding American Infrastructure. The omnibus includes \$53.8 billion for transportation and housing programs that communities and states care deeply about, \$1.8 billion more than the bill passed by House Republicans (H.R. 4745). The bill provides funding for a broad range of transportation infrastructure, including roads and bridges, railroads, airports and transit systems, including \$500 million for DOT TIGER grants to state and local governments to support transportation infrastructure, including bridges, railroads, transit systems and port infrastructure. *You can access state-by-state and county information on the bridges and infrastructure [HERE](#) and [HERE](#), as well as an interactive map on the state of bridges [HERE](#).* [Senate Committee on Appropriations, [12/9/14](#)]