



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Dave Obey (D-WI), Chairman

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Obey Releases Proposal for Subcommittee Allocations 302(b)s

WASHINGTON - Today Chairman Obey is circulating the subcommittee allocations - known as 302(b)s - for fiscal year 2009 appropriations bills. These allocations will be considered by the full committee on Wednesday, June 18th at 10:00 AM.

Subcommittee allocations reject the harmful cuts and fiscal phony baloney found in the President's budget - laid out in the summary done by the committee in February - and allow for modest but important investments in key priorities.

View subcommittee allocations: <http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY09302bProposal6-13-08.pdf>

View the February summary: <http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/Budget2008Release.pdf>

In considering the comparison between the President's budget and the proposal for the House it is important to note:

The President's budget slashed key programs:

- Programs to help workers at the Department of Labor are cut \$1.2 billion during an economic downturn
- Community Service, Social Service, and Community Development Block Grants are cut \$2.3 billion
- Healthcare access programs are cut by nearly \$1 billion
- 50 Education programs totaling \$3.3 billion are eliminated, when we should be investing in our future workforce
- Efforts to provide for, improve, and repair affordable housing for low-income Americans are cut \$1.3 billion, when the housing crisis has increased demand
- Homeland Security Grants are cut \$2 billion
- State and Local Law Enforcement programs at DOJ are cut \$1.6 billion
- The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to help families deal with growing energy bills is cut \$570 million
- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy programs are cut by \$467 million, at a time when we should be making record investments in these areas

And it shortchanges obvious costs:

- Food assistance for Women Infants and Children (WIC) can't keep up with skyrocketing food prices and increased enrollment during tough economic times
- Highway and transit infrastructure would face a \$1 billion shortfall below the amount required by SAFETEA-LU
- Medical Research at the National Institutes of Health is frozen, resulting in hundreds of fewer research grants