EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ADMINISTRATION

SPECIAL BENEFITS

SPECIAL BENEFITS

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SPECIAL BENEFITS

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

(Including Transfer of Funds)

For the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses (except administrative expenses) accruing during the current or any prior fiscal year authorized by chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code; continuation of benefits as provided for under the heading "Civilian War Benefits" in the Federal Security Agency Appropriation Act, 1947; the Employees' Compensation Commission Appropriation Act, 1944; sections 4(c) and 5(f) of the War Claims Act of 1948 (50 U.S.C. App. 2012); and 50 percent of the additional compensation and benefits required by section 10(h) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, as amended, [$203,000,000] $163,000,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent year appropriation for the payment of compensation and other benefits for any period subsequent to August 15 of the current year: Provided, That amounts appropriated may be used under section 8104 of title 5, United States Code, by the Secretary of Labor to reimburse an employer, who is not the employer at the time of injury, for portions of the salary of a reemployed, disabled beneficiary: Provided further, That balances of reimbursements unobligated on September 30, [2007] 2008, shall remain available until expended for the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses: Provided further, That in addition there shall be transferred to this appropriation from the Postal Service and from any other corporation or instrumentality required under section 8147(c) of title 5, United States Code, to pay an amount for its fair share of the cost of administration, such sums as the Secretary determines to be the cost of administration for employees of such fair share entities through September 30, [2008] 2009: Provided further, That of those funds transferred to this account from the fair share entities to pay the cost of administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act

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[$52,280,000] $52,720,000 shall be made available to the Secretary as follows: (1) for enhancement and maintenance of automated data processing systems and telecommunications systems, [$21,855,000] $15,068,000; (2) for automated workload processing operations, including document imaging, centralized mail intake and medical bill processing,[$16,109,000] $23,273,000; (3) for periodic roll management and medical review, [$14,316,000] $14,379,000; and (4) the remaining funds shall be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: Provided further, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a notice of injury or a claim for benefits under chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, or the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (33 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), provide as part of such notice and claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as such regulations may prescribe. (Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2008.)

ANALYSIS OF APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

"... together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent year appropriation for the payment of compensation and other benefits for any period subsequent to August 15 of the current year: . . ."

This language provides authority to advance funds from the next fiscal year appropriation anytime between August 15 and September 30 of the current year should such action be required to pay benefits. It enables the Employment Standards Administration to meet any immediate shortage of funds to pay compensation and other benefits during this period without having to request additional resources through a supplemental appropriation.

". . . Provided, That amounts appropriated may be used under section 8104 of title 5, United States Code, by the Secretary of Labor to reimburse an employer, who is not the employer at the time of injury, for portions of the salary of a reemployed, disabled beneficiary: . . ."

This language provides authority to use the Employees' Compensation Fund to pay a portion of the salary of a newly reemployed injured Federal worker receiving long-term benefits. New employers will be reimbursed during the first three years of employment in amounts up to 75% of salary in the workers' first year, declining thereafter. The total amount of salary reimbursement and compensation in a given year will not exceed the total amount which would be paid to the claimant in wage loss compensation at the total rate. Such reimbursement shall be charged to the Employees' Compensation Fund, as are other costs of rehabilitating and arranging reemployment of FECA recipients. The incentive of assisted reemployment increases the possibility that job offers will be made to current FECA beneficiaries who have been difficult to place with their former employer.

". . . *Provided further*, That balances of reimbursements unobligated on September 30, *2008*, shall remain available until expended for the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses . . ."

This language provides authority to carry over an unobligated balance of deposits to the FECA account at the end of the fiscal year for use in the following fiscal year. If this proviso were not in this language, any unobligated deposits remaining at the end of the fiscal year would lapse to Treasury and therefore be unavailable to the Employment

Standards Administration as resources to offset compensation, medical and other benefit payments and expenses.

"*. . . Provided further,* That in addition there shall be transferred to this appropriation from the Postal Service and from any other corporation or instrumentality required under section 8147(c) of title 5, United States Code, to pay an amount for its fair share of the cost of administration, such sums as the Secretary of Labor determines to be the cost of administration for employees of such fair share entities through September 30, *2009*: . . ."

This language provides that those funds paid by the Postal Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and other entities required to pay their "fair share" of the costs of administering the claims by their employees under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, shall be paid into the Special Benefits Account of the Employees' Compensation Fund.

"*. . . Provided further*, That of those funds transferred to this account from the fair share entities to pay the cost of administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, *$52,720,000* shall be made available to the Secretary as follows: (1) for enhancement and maintenance of automated data processing systems and telecommunications systems, *$15,068,000*; (2) for automated workload processing, operations, including centralized mail intake and medical bill processing, *$23,273,000*; (3) for periodic roll management and medical review *$14,379,000*; and (4) the remaining funds shall be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts:. . . "

It further provides that $52,720,000 of those funds shall be made available to the Secretary of Labor for certain administrative expenditures, including the operation and enhancement of the (Federal Employees' Compensation) computer system, program staff training on the document imaging system, and Federal FTE and other resources for periodic roll management and financial management activities intended to support FECA program and its ability to oversee and control outlays from the Compensation Fund. The balance of the "fair share" funds shall revert to Treasury.

"*. . . Provided further*, That the Secretary of Labor may require that any person filing a notice of injury or a claim for benefits under chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code,, Chapter 81, or 33 U.S.C. 901 et seq., provide as part of such notice and claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as such regulations may prescribe . . ."

This language provides authority to require disclosure of Social Security account numbers (SSNs) by individuals filing claims under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) or the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA) and its extensions. Their use will help prevent duplicate claims being filed by the same claimant in different district offices and make it easier to match data from different benefit programs to detect errors (including fraud), consistent with Congressional mandates to do so. A legislative change is needed because the Privacy Act prevents agencies from requiring disclosure of SSNs unless disclosure is required by Federal statute. (See Privacy Act, Dec. 31, 1974, P.L. 93-579, section 7, Stat. 909.)

AMOUNTS AVAILABLE for OBLIGATION (Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2007 Comparable		FY 2008 Estimate		FY 2009 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	**125**	**227,000**	**127**	**203,000**	**127**	**163,000**
Other Supplementals and Rescissions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Appropriation, Revised	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Transfer to:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Transfer from:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Comparative Transfer To:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Working Capital Fund for centralized services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Comparative Transfer From:	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.1) Subtotal Appropriation	125	227,000	127	203,000	127	163,000
(adjusted)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offsetting Collections From:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements (includes Fair Share funding)	0	2,429,900	0	2,533,700	0	2,568,800
Trust Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.2) Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0
B. Gross Budget Authority	**125**	**2,656,900**	**127**	**2,736,700**	**127**	**2,731,800**
Offsetting Collections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deduction:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unobligated Balance	0	1,377,642	0	1,487,434	0	1,548,734
B.1) Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Budget Authority	**125**	**4,034,542**	**127**	**4,224,134**	**127**	**4,280,534**
Before Committee	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offsetting Collections From:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
IT Crosscut	0	0	0	0	0	0
C.1) Subtotal	125	4,034,542	127	4,224,134	127	4,280,534
D. Total Budgetary Resources						
Other Unobligated Balances	0	-1,487,434	0	-1,548,734	0	1,546,634
Unobligated Balance Expiring	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	**125**	**2,547,108**	**127**	**2,675,400**	**127**	**2,733,900**

SUMMARY OF CHANGES
Special Benefits

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 2008 Estimate	FY 2009 Agency Request		Net Change
Budget Authority				
General Funds	$203,000	$163,000		**($40,000)**
Offsetting Collections (including Fair Share)	$2,533,700	$2,568,800		**$35,100**
Fair Share Administrative Expense (non-add)	($52,280)	($52,720)		**$440**
Carryover from previous year	$1,487,434	$1,548,734		**$61,300**
Total - *includes rescissions & transfers*	$4,224,134	$4,280,534		**$56,400**
Full Time Equivalent				
General Funds	127	127	+/-	**0**
Trust Funds			+/-	**0**
Total	**127**	**127**	+/-	**0**

Explanation of Change	FY 2008 Base		FY 2009 Change Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Costs of pay adjustments	0	10,379	0	0	0	295	0	295
Personnel benefits	0	2,556	0	0	0	54	0	54
Travel	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0
GSA Space Rental	0	445	0	0	0	18	0	18
Communications, utilities & miscellaneous charges	0	184	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other services	0	17,068	0	0	0	0	0	0
Working Capital Fund	0	464	0	0	0	73	0	73
Purchase of goods and services from other Government accounts	0	66	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	20,314	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supplies and materials	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment	0	710	0	0	0	0	0	0
Built Ins Subtotal	**127**	**52,280**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**440**	**0**	**440**

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Explanation of Change	FY 2008 Base		FY 2009 Change: Trust Funds		FY 2009 Change: General Funds		FY 2009 Change: Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
B. Programs:								
Change in Offsetting Collections	0	2,533,700			0	+35,100	0	+35,100
Change in Carryover from FY 2008	0	1,487,434			0	+61,300	0	+61,300
C. Financing:								
Total Increase	**127**	**4,021,134**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**+96,400**	**0**	**+96,400**
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Built Ins Subtotal	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
B. Programs:								
Budget Authority	0	203,000			0	-40,000	0	-40,000
C. Financing:								
Total Decrease	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**-40,000**	**0**	**-40,000**
Total Change	**127**	**4,224,134**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**+56,400**	**0**	**+56,400**

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SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY and FTE by ACTIVITY Special Benefits (Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2007 Comparable		FY 2008 Estimate		Agency Request	
Amount	**FTE**	**Amount**	**FTE**	**Amount**	**FTE**	**Amount**
Total Obligational Authority	**125**	**$4,106,925**	**127**	**$4,224,134**	**127**	**$4,280,534**
Federal Employees' Compensation Act Benefits		$3,828,891		$3,968,854		$4,064,814
Federal Employees' Compensation Act Appropriation		$224,000		$200,000		$160,000
FECA Fair Share	125	$51,034	127	$52,280	127	$52,720
Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Benefits	0	$3,000	0	$3,000	0	$3,000

NOTE: FY 2007 reflects actual FTE.

SPECIAL BENEFITS

AUTHORIZING STATUTES

Public Law / Act	Legislation	Statute No. / US Code	Volume No.	Page No.	Expiration Date
P.L. No. 267, 39 Stat. 742	Federal Employees Compensation Act approved September 7, 1916	5 U.S.C. 8101 et seq.			N/A
P.L. 77-784	War Hazards Compensation Act of 1942	42 U.S.C. 1701			N/A
P.L. 80-896	War Claims Act of 1948	50 U.S.C. 2001-30013			N/A
P.L. 69-803	Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, approved March 4, 1927, section 44(a) and 44(j)	33 U.S.C. 901			N/A

APPROPRIATION HISTORY
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Budget Estimates to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriations	FTE
1999	179,000	179,000	179,000	179,000	102
2000	79,000	79,000	79,000	79,000	121
2001	56,000	56,000	56,000	56,000	125
2002	121,000	121,000	121,000	121,000	124
2003	163,000	163,000	163,000	163,000	133
2004	163,000	163,000	163,000	163,000	133
2005	233,000	233,000	233,000	233,000	128
2006	237,000	237,000	237,000	237,000	127
2007	227,000	227,000	227,000	227,000	127
2008	203,000	203,000	203,000	203,000	127
2009	163,000	0	0	0	127

SPECIAL BENEFITS

OVERVIEW

<u>Introduction</u>

Federal Employees' Compensation Program

The Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) provides for payment of benefits to Federal civilian employees of the United States who are disabled as a result of injury or illness sustained in the performance of duty, and to the dependents of disabled employees in case of death resulting from such injury or illness. Under extensions of FECA, benefits are also paid to certain groups such as War Hazards, non-Federal law enforcement officers, Job Corps enrollees, and certain Federally-supported volunteers.

The principal costs of the program are compensation benefits for disability and death, and medical expenses. Factors influencing the cost of compensation benefits and medical expenses include the number of covered employees; the wage levels on which compensation is based; the severity and frequency of injuries; the average length of disability; the cost of medical care; cost-of-living changes based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI); and the number of employees choosing this compensation instead of using sick or annual leave. Most beneficiaries receive payments on a four-week cycle based on a program year beginning July 1st, so there are thirteen payments made during a fiscal year under normal circumstances.

Resources needed to meet required payments of benefits from the Special Benefits fund are composed of direct appropriations and reimbursements from other Federal and non-Federal agencies for the cost of compensation and medical care incurred by the Department of Labor (DOL) on behalf of these employees.

Fair Share financing provides for operations and maintenance of the Integrated Federal Employees' Compensation System (iFECS); support for the document imaging system; operation of centralized mail intake and centralized bill processing; maintenance of DFEC's telecommunications system; and Periodic Roll Management (PRM) and Medical Bill Review (MBR). These investments are aimed at improving services and better managing the expenditure of compensation funds.

Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Program

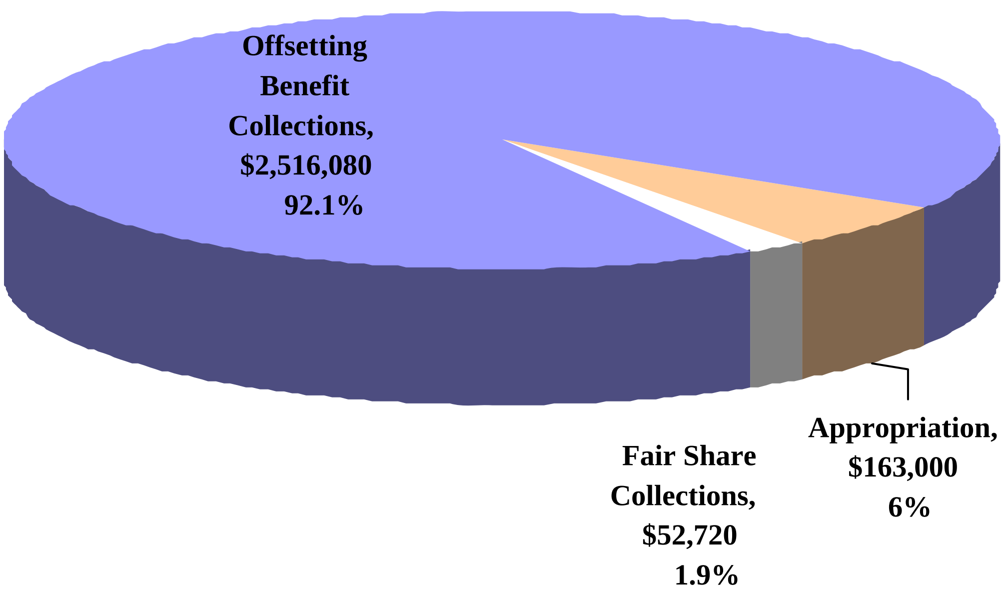
Section 10(h) of the amended Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA) authorized annual adjustments in compensation to beneficiaries in cases of permanent total disability or death occurring on or prior to October 27, 1972, with the Federal Government paying half the costs of the annual increase for compensating those cases. Direct appropriation provides the necessary resources to meet the required annual increase in benefits for the Federal share of the costs for compensation and related benefits for the pre-1972 cases. The remaining 50% of the compensation is paid by private insurance companies and/or employers.

Summary of Performance										
	FY 2004		FY 2005		FY 2006		FY 2007		FY 2008	FY 2009
	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Target
Lost production days rate (LPD per 100 employees) for the United States Postal Service	146	147.2	148	134.4	146	142.5	129.8	135.2	142	139
Lost production days rate (LPD per 100 employees) for All Other Government Agencies	55.4	61.9	61	56.1	60	52.2	49	46.3	48.5	48
Periodic Roll Management savings	$18 million	$24.4 million	$17 million	$23.2 million	$13 million	$16.1 million	$8 million	$17.1 million	$14 million	$12 million
Medical Treatment Cost Containment	8.5%	2.4%	8.6%	6.3%	8.7%	6.3%	8.3%	8.1%	Remain below Milliman USA Health Cost Index	Remain below Milliman USA Health Cost Index
Meet Communications Goals	3 of 5	4 of 5	3 of 5	3 of 5	4 of 5	4 of 5	4 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6	5 of 6

Cost Model

Total new budget authority requested for Special Benefits in FY 2009 is $2,731,800,000 consisting of $160,000,000 in direct appropriations, for FECA, $3,000,000 for Longshore and Harbor Workers' benefits and offsetting collections from Federal agencies including $2,516,080,000 for benefits and $52,720,000 for Fair Share.

FY 2009 Budget Request
Special Benefits Budget Request $2,731,800
(Dollars in Thousands)



Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)

In FY 2004, the FECA program was rated "Moderately Effective" and in FY 2005, a PART review rated the Longshore Program "Adequate". Details of these PART reviews can be seen at:
http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/index.html

Efficiency Measures

OWCP tracks three efficiency measures and is proposing one new measure associated with the FY 2009 budget request for Defense Base Act claims processing in the Longshore program. Additional information can be found in the individual budget activity component sections.

Program	Efficiency Measure	FY 2009 Target
FECA	Periodic Roll Management savings	$12 million
FECA	Average Medical Costs	Remain below the Milliman USA index
Longshore	Claims managed per FTE	414 cases
Longshore	DBA claims meeting standards	TBD

PERFORMANCE GOAL AND INDICATORS

Performance Goal 4B, "Reduce the impact of work-related injuries"

	FY 2004		FY 2005		FY 2006		FY 2007		FY 2008	FY 2009
	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Target
Lost production days rate (LPD per 100 employees) for the United States Postal Service	146	147.2	148	134.4	146	142.5	129.8	135.2	142	139
Lost production days rate (LPD per 100 employees) for All Other Government Agencies	55.4	61.9	61	56.1	60	52.2	49	46.3	48.5	48
Periodic Roll Management savings	$18 million	$24.4 million	$17 million	$23.2 million	$13 million	$16.1 million	$8 million	$17.1 million	$14 million	$12 Million
Medical Treatment Cost Containment	8.5%	2.4%	8.6%	6.3%	8.7%	6.3%	8.3%	8.1%	Remain Below Milliman USA Health Cost Index	
Meet Communications Goals	3 of 5	4 of 5	3 of 5	3 of 5	4 of 5	4 of 5	4 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6	5 of 6

Budget Authority Before the Committee (Dollars in Thousands)							
					FY 2009		
	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2008 Estimate	Diff. FY 07 Comp/ FY 08 Est	Current Law	Legislative Proposal	Diff. FY 08 Est /FY 09 Req
Activity Appropriation	**50,761**	**52,280**	**52,280**	**52,280**	**52,720**	**0**	**440**
FTE	**125**	**127**	**127**	**127**	**127**	**0**	**0**

NOTE: FY 2007 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2007 was 125.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Fair Share Funding	FTE
2004	$163,000,000	$39,261,000	133
2005	$233,000,000	$39,668,000	128
2006	$237,000,000	$53,695,000	127
2007	$227,000,000	$51,034,000	127
2008	$203,000,000	$52,280,000	127

FY 2009

Total new budget authority requested for Special Benefits in FY 2009 is $2,731,800,000 including a direct appropriation of $163,000,000, of which $3,000,000 is Fair Share. Fair Share funding for DFEC administration of $52,720,000, and $2,516,080,000 for benefits.

FECA program activities and strategies in FY 2009 that are supported by Fair Share resources will include:

- PRM case review;
- Implementation of new approaches to revitalize the continuation of pay (COP) Telephonic Nurse program and expand services to Federal agencies to improve disability management outcomes and increase return to work;
- Continuation of DFEC's lead role for the Safety, Health and Return to Employment (SHARE) Government-wide initiative to reduce lost production days and increase the average timeliness of Notice of Injury submissions;
- Continued containment of medical costs through centralized medical bill processing, fee schedule adjustments, and monitoring of claims;
- Continued improvement of basic business processes, including full leveraging of modernized automated processing through the Integrated Federal Employees' Compensation System (iFECS); centralized medical services authorization and medical bill processing; expansion of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI); and increasing use of

electronic information services.

FY 2005 through 2008 was a period of consolidation of many data processing and work processes in the DFEC program. These include IT system modernization, centralization of mail intake and document imaging, and centralization of medical bill processing. DFEC will need to continue to pursue technology and other solutions to improve efficiency and effectiveness, and meet the goals of the President's Management Agenda (PMA). Challenges remain in DFEC to expand the capabilities of the new iFECS to improve customer service delivery by further automating or consolidating workload processes and providing claimants and Federal agencies better and fuller access to case and cost information; to improve fiscal integrity by ensuring improved accuracy and timeliness; and developing capabilities, such as data warehousing, with which to effectively integrate budget and performance management. By providing better access to data, both employing agencies and OWCP will be better able to manage workers' compensation costs.

DFEC will continue its PRM strategy to service cases with longer-term or permanent disabilities in an effort to assess continued eligibility for benefits. Long-term case management outcomes are expressed in DFEC's performance goal to reduce compensation benefit costs through its PRM reviews. In FY 2007, directed PRM reviews produced $17,100,000 in new savings.

OWCP's success in medical cost control results from several administrative steps taken in recent years (centralized bill processing, strengthened review of treatment authorization requests, fee schedules; and stronger automated edits and other controls) – initiatives made possible through Fair Share funding. In FY 2007, the rate of increase in average FECA medical benefit payments rose by 8.1% -- below the national average of 8.3% as reported by the Milliman USA Health Cost Index. The rate of growth in average FECA medical case costs has consistently remained below the growth rate in nationwide costs. FECA's lower growth rate, compared to Milliman, is equivalent to nearly $30,000,000 annually in lower medical treatment costs since FY 2001.

WORKLOAD SUMMARY			
	2007 Actual	2008 Target	2009 Target
Cases Created	134,436	134,000	134,000
Wage-Loss Claims Received	19,104	19,000	19,000
Compensation payments and Medical bills processed 1/	5,815,228	5,800,000	5,800,000
Periodic Payment Cases 2/	51,125	51,000	50,000
PERIODIC ROLL MANAGEMENT			
PRM Universe Cases 3/	46,500	46,000	45,000
PRM Final Resolutions 4/	3,678	3,000	3,000
Savings due to adjustments and terminations (000)	$17,100	$14,000	$12,000

1/ Includes both Medical bills approved and denied for payment.
2/ Includes all long-term disability and fatal cases.
3/ Includes only long-term disability cases assigned to PRM review units.
4/ Does not include case review resolutions due to death of beneficiary.

FECA Fair Share

CHANGES IN FY 2009

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes		
Built-In		
To Provide For:		
Costs of pay adjustments		331
Personnel benefits		64
One day less of Pay		-45
GSA Space Rental		18
Working Capital Fund		73
Built Ins Subtotal		**440**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	**52,720**	**127**

Long Shore

Budget Activity before the Committee
(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2008 Estimate	Diff. FY07 Comp./ FY08 Est.	FY 2009 Request	Diff. FY08 Est./ FY09 Req.
Activity Appropriation	**3,000**	**3,000**	**3,000**	**0**	**3,000**	**0**
FTE	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

<u>Five-Year Budget Activity History</u>

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	FTE
2004	3,000,000	0
2005	3,000,000	0
2006	3,000,000	0
2007	3,000,000	0
2008	3,000,000	0

FY 2009

Priority for this activity will be to continue providing prompt and accurate payment of compensation and related benefits to claimants, pursuant to Section 10(h)(2) of the amended Act. In FY 2009, the Federal share of required payments will be $3,000,000 which will include the increase necessary for the annual October weekly wage adjustment.