

# FY 09 Omnibus – The Cherry on Top of the Stimulus Sundae

*(Prepared by the House Appropriations Committee – Republican Staff)*

Over the last year, the American taxpayer has been on the hook for bailing out huge corporations, propping up failing quasi-government organizations, and providing hundreds of billions of dollars in “stimulus” programs – many of which will have little or no positive impact on the economy.

However, instead of giving American families a break by tightening the reins on spending, the 2009 Omnibus instead adds billions in additional funds to federal programs and agencies. Given the state of our national economy and the pressure already facing future budgets, this bill goes beyond what our nation and the American taxpayers can afford. Congress simply cannot continue this massive spending spree with little regard to cost effectiveness, timeliness, practicality, or even need.

## Omnibus Breakdown – How does it compare?

The FY 2009 Omnibus contains funding for nine out of twelve regular Appropriations bills for a grand total of \$410 billion in spending. This is \$32 billion - or an 8% increase - over last year’s budget for the same agencies.

The 2009 spending in this bill vastly outpaces average increases in inflation and median household incomes. In fact, **this bill will grow government spending at more than double the rate of inflation and almost triple the rate of median growth in household incomes.** While American families are having to cut back their household budgets because of the floundering economy, Democrats in Congress are ushering in the largest increase in discretionary government spending since the 1970s.

- Increase in inflation (2001 – 2008 yearly average) = 3.1%
- Increase in Median Household Income (2001 – 2008 yearly average) = 2.7%
- Average national home appreciation over last year = **-12.4%**
- **Increase in 09 Omnibus bill over 2008 levels = 8%**

## Omnibus Funding Breakdown in Billions:

Subcommittee	2008 Funding Level	09 Omnibus Funding Level	\$ Increase Over 2008	% Increase Over 2008
Agriculture	\$18.1	\$20.5	\$2.4	13%
Commerce/State/Justice	\$51.8	\$57.7	\$5.8	11%
Energy & Water	\$30.9	\$33.3	\$2.4	8%
Financial Services	\$20.6	\$22.7	\$2.1	10%
Interior	\$26.6	\$27.6	\$1	4%
Labor/HHS	\$144.8	\$152.3	\$7.4	5%
Leg Branch	\$4	\$4.4	\$.432	11%
State/Foreign Ops	\$32.8	\$36.6	\$3.8	12%
Transportation/HUD	\$48.8	\$55	\$6.2	13%

# Omni is just the tip of the iceberg... what are we REALLY spending?

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The huge overall increase in funding in the Omnibus is just the latest in a series of government spending sprees, including the massive “stimulus” package passed just this month.

The Omnibus appropriations bill contains funding for many of the same agencies and programs that received funds in the “stimulus” bill. Therefore, to uncover the true level of spending for these programs this year, the funding levels of both bills must be combined.

For example, the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services receive \$152 billion in the 09 Omnibus – an increase of \$7.4 billion over the 2008 funding level. The House-passed stimulus bill contains \$124.3 billion for 2009 for the same agencies. When you combine the total funding under both bills for 2009, this year these departments will receive \$276.6 billion – **or a 91% increase over last year!**

This shocking trend is evident throughout all programs and agencies funded in the Omnibus. In fact, the combined FY 2009 funding for agencies included in both bills is \$680 billion – \$301 billion more than these programs received 2008, for an 80% increase in spending this year!

The true combined cost of these massive increases will eventually be passed on to the American taxpayer. And, many of these increases will carry forward into years to come, regardless of economic necessity or damage to our nation’s finances.

**The following is a summary of the combined cost of 2009 spending contained in the FY 2009 Omnibus and the recently passed “stimulus” bill (by subcommittee, in billions):**

Subcommittee	2008 Funding Level	09 Omnibus Funding Level	“Stimulus” Funding for 2009	Combined Total FY 09 Spending	Percent Increase Over FY 08
Agriculture	\$18.1	\$20.5	\$5.7	\$26.1	<b>45%</b>
Commerce/State/Justice	\$51.9	\$57.7	\$15.3	\$72.9	<b>41%</b>
Energy & Water	\$30.9	\$33.3	\$43.3	\$77.6	<b>151%</b>
Financial Services	\$20.6	\$22.7	\$6.8	\$29.5	<b>43%</b>
Interior	\$26.6	\$27.6	\$10.9	\$38.5	<b>45%</b>
Labor/HHS	\$144.8	\$152.3	\$124.3	\$276.6	<b>91%</b>
Leg Branch	\$4	\$4.4	\$0.025	\$4.4	<b>12%</b>
State/Foreign Ops	\$32.8	\$36.6	\$0.6	\$37.2	<b>13%</b>
Transportation/HUD	\$48.8	\$55	\$61.8	\$116.8	<b>139%</b>
Totals	\$378.4	\$409.9	\$269.7	\$679.6	<b>80%</b>

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