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**House: Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations [Bill](#) and [Report](#)**

Program (funding levels in millions)	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18 POTUS Request	FY18 House
Manufacturing Extension Partnership	130	130	130	6 <sup>1</sup>	100
National Network for Manufacturing Innovation	—	25	25	15	5
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	250	261	276	30 <sup>2</sup>	176
Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms	12.5	13	13	0	n/a
Coastal Zone Management Act (grants only)	71.2	75	85	0	45
National Sea Grant College Program	62.8	64	63	0	63

Other notable funding and provisions:

*Economic Development Administration (EDA)*

The report includes language prioritizing funding for the Public Works and the Regional Innovation Program, while also encouraging EDA to support the development of regional innovation clusters that focus on advanced wood products.

*Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)*

The report cites the Appropriations Committee’s awareness of recent efforts by MEP to examine ways to reduce administrative costs and provide more direct assistance to the centers. Language is included that requires MEP to provide to the Committee an updated report detailing the amount of funds to be maintained at headquarters and the uses of those funds. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) shall also provide the Committee with updates on the status of competition of the centers.

*Census Bureau*

The report calls for a total of \$1.25 billion for Periodic Censuses and Programs, which is \$51 million above the FY2017 level and the same as the President’s request. The recommendation provides for a transfer of \$2,580,000 to the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General (OIG) for oversight of the Census Bureau. The recommended increase will support completion of research and the beginning of design, development, and testing for the 2020 Census. The report also encourages the Census Bureau to reconsider its proposal to cancel two of the three census tests scheduled for 2018.

<sup>1</sup> The budget requests \$6 million to effectuate the discontinuation of federal funding for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

<sup>2</sup> The budget request \$30 million to conduct an orderly closeout of EDA beginning in 2018.

*American Community Survey (ACS):* The report states continued concerns about the burdensome nature of the ACS and directs Census to focus on its core, constitutionally mandated decennial Census activities. The Bureau shall continue to provide quarterly briefings to the Committee on efforts to ensure the necessity of all the questions on the ACS; on efforts to ensure that non-response follow-up is conducted in the least intrusive manner; and on congressional outreach conducted by the Respondent Advocate.

*Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing (CEDCaP):* The report supports the Bureau's efforts to develop a more flexible and secure enterprise architecture that will enable Census to realize economies of scale to support data collection efforts. The Bureau shall continue to provide quarterly briefings regarding the status of these efforts. The report also recommends bill language withholding 50 percent of the funds for information technology related to 2020 census delivery, including the CEDCaP program, until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations and the GAO an expenditure plan for CEDCaP.

The report also includes language directing the Census to increase outreach activities to historically undercounted communities.

#### *Disaster Resilient Buildings*

The report includes language aimed at improving the resiliency of buildings by encouraging the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Engineering Division to partner with academic research institutions that have expertise in mitigating the effects of natural disasters to study and recommend best practices for resilient planning and construction. The Committee also urges NIST to study building standards and develop recommendations on how building standards for buildings, homes, and infrastructure could be improved (e.g. fortified structures and durability of materials) to enhance resiliency.

#### *NOAA*

The report cites the Appropriations Committee's continued concerns about the increasing prevalence of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and supports the ongoing work of the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science on HABs and encourages NOAA to prioritize research that strives to determine and mitigate the impact of HABs on human health and wellbeing as authorized by the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act. The Committee encourages NOAA to develop and leverage promising technologies to increase our understanding, monitoring, and prediction of the occurrence of HABs.

#### *Fisheries*

The report includes language providing \$3 million for the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act grants that provide grants for state and interstate surveys and research.

#### *Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)*

The report includes \$31 million for IOOS regional observations. The Committee supports ongoing efforts to examine ways to increase use of autonomous gliders, and encourages IOOS to procure additional autonomous gliders.

#### *Marine Debris Program*

The report cites the Appropriations Committee's appreciation for the work that the Marine Debris Program has done to address marine debris affecting the ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes environment, as well as navigation safety in the United States. The Committee urges the Marine Debris Program to continue its work to reduce and prevent the amount of plastic debris entering the oceans.

### *Fish Information Networks*

The report includes language supporting the Fish Information Networks, the State-Federal cooperative programs that coordinate data collection, data management, and informational management essential for accurate monitoring of commercial and recreational fishing impacts. Fish Information Networks shall be adequately funded within the level of funding provided for Fisheries Data, Collections, Surveys and Assessments.

### *Integrated Ocean Acidification Research*

The report includes language encouraging NOAA, in coordination with the Office of Science and Technology Policy, to implement a program to competitively award prizes under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) to stimulate innovation to advance the understanding, research, or monitoring of ocean acidification or its impacts or to develop management or adaptation options for responding to ocean acidification. In prize competitions, the Committee encourages NOAA to prioritize communities, environments, or industries that are currently in distress due to the impacts of ocean acidification.