

FY20 Appropriations Highlights for Southern and Eastern Kentucky

Economic Development

Economic Development Programs

- **Reclamation of Abandoned Mine Lands** – in addition to full support for the annual state AML grant program, an additional \$115 million is provided for the continuation of a pilot program successfully implemented in Fiscal Year 2016. This program targets opportunities for reclamation and job creation in struggling coal communities in Appalachia. Kentucky will receive an additional \$25 million in grants for reclamation and economic development.
- **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)** – provides \$175 million for the ARC, \$10 million more than FY19, which includes the most non-highway funding in its history to support economic growth in distressed counties in the central Appalachian region and includes \$10 million to continue an existing program which will increase broadband access. This also includes continued support for the POWER Initiative to support communities that have been adversely impacted by the declining coal industry, by providing resources for job creation, job training, and other employment services. It also includes \$16 million for basic infrastructure improvements in Central Appalachia, targeted towards distressed counties.
- **Economic Development Administration --** allocates \$333 million for the EDA. \$30 million is specifically carved out for EDA's Assistance to Coal Mining Communities program, which supports locally-driven efforts to generate job creation, capital investment, workforce development and re-employment opportunities in coal country.
- **Federal Prison System** – rejects the Administration's attempt to rescind funding for the construction of the Letcher County Prison, affirming congressional support for the project. The Bureau of Prisons' (BOP) salaries and expenses account is funded at \$7.47 billion, an increase of \$220 million, to support the many men and women who honorably serve at BOP facilities in the Fifth District. The committee also directs the Bureau to hire more full-time correctional officers to resolve safety issues that arise from overcrowding at the prisons.
- **National Parks** – provides \$3.38 billion for the National Park Service, including much-needed funding for park maintenance. These funds will support projects at the soon-to-be Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, and Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky.
- **Kentucky Wildlands** – includes the Kentucky Wildlands National Heritage Area Study Act, legislation Congressman Rogers and Senator McConnell introduced earlier this year. This bill begins the federal process to designate Southern and Eastern Kentucky as the Kentucky Wildlands National Heritage Area.
- **Community Service Block Grants, Rural Community Facilities, and Community Economic Development Grants** – provides \$770 million that will allow Community Action Agencies to continue their efforts to support low-income individuals increase self-sufficiency.
- **Payment in Lieu of Taxes** – fully funds the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program for Fiscal Year 2020 at \$500 million. The PILT program compensates local communities for lost

tax revenues due to the presence of Federal lands within their boundaries. Funding from this program will benefit almost every county in the 5th Congressional District.

- **Community Development Financial Institutions** – provides \$262 million within the CDFI program to promote economic revitalization in low-income communities. Kentucky-based organizations like Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation and Community Ventures use these funds to help individuals buy homes, start and grow small businesses, as well as fund projects that improve our local communities. \$20.3 million is also provided for **Community Economic Development** grants, which promote sustainable business development and employment opportunities.
- **New Market Tax Credit**- includes a one-year, \$5 billion extension for the New Market Tax Credit program. Since 2003, NMTC investments of \$42 billion have generated \$80 billion in total project financing and created approximately 1 million jobs. Rural towns and economically-challenged communities have especially benefited from the tax credit and mayors, businesses and investors continue to count on the NMTC as a source of affordable, long-term capital in communities where it is otherwise unavailable.

Rural Infrastructure

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** – provides \$7.65 billion, \$650 million more than fiscal year 2019, for the Corps of Engineers to improve and rebuild the nation’s water resources and infrastructure. It also includes \$20 million for the Corps’ non-structural flood control programs, some of which may be used for projects across Kentucky’s Fifth Congressional District.
- **Water Reallocation Study at Lake Cumberland** – prohibits the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from completing a Water Reallocation Study for Lake Cumberland. This study would result in nearby towns and other users paying more for access to water at the lake.
- **Fishtrap Lake Cleanup** – includes \$2.7 million for the Corps of Engineers operation and maintenance of Fishtrap Lake, which will allow the Corps to continue their cleanup efforts.
- **USDA Infrastructure Programs** – provides \$3.2 billion million for Rural Community Facilities loans, subsidies, and grants, which facilitate construction of healthcare facilities, town halls, child care centers, police offices, libraries, food pantries and other essential communal infrastructure. The bill also provides \$6.9 billion for telecommunications infrastructure loans in rural areas. Finally, the bill provides \$642 million to expand rural broadband.
- **Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS)** – includes \$100 million in funding toward the completion of ADHS that will increase economic opportunities and access throughout the region, and the nation as a whole.
- **Rural Housing Programs – Rural Housing Programs** – \$24 billion is included for USDA Section 502 Loans. \$28 million is available for the Section 504 Housing Repair program. Within HUD, \$10 million is provided for the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Program providing a path to home ownership for low income families. \$1.4 billion is also included for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program to help state and local governments provide affordable housing options to low-income people.

- **Clean Water and Drinking Water** – provides \$1.6 billion to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$1.1 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, which support local drinking water and sewer construction projects. These funding levels include \$60 million for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act grants, and allocates nearly \$1.45 billion from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in loans and grants for rural water and waste projects, including funding to help communities of 3,300 or less plan, improve, or manage their water systems.
- **Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)** – includes \$3.4 billion for grants that provide critical infrastructure funding to states and local communities to address economic development and housing needs.

Resources to Combat Opioid Abuse and Addiction

Together we've made progress combatting drug abuse in southern and eastern Kentucky and across the Commonwealth, but more must be done to curb overdose rates and put people on the path to recovery. This bill provides comprehensively support local, state, regional and Federal efforts to combat the opioid crisis, including:

Drug Enforcement and Criminal Justice Activities

The bill includes significant increases in law enforcement, prosecution agencies and grant resources for state and local criminal justice entities.

- \$2.7 billion is included for the **Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)**, \$443 million of which is specifically allocated to combat the diversion of prescription drugs. \$35 million is provided for **Anti-Heroin Task Forces**, and \$13 million is continued for **Anti-Meth Task Forces**.
- \$550 million is provided for **Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement**, and the bill provides \$285 million for the **High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)** program to assist federal, state, and local authorities clean up trafficking hot-spots, which will enable the Appalachian HIDTA to continue its work in southern and eastern Kentucky.
- The bill also includes \$220 million for the **National Guard Counter-Drug program**, an increase of \$65 million. The Kentucky National Guard Counter-Drug program is among the best in the nation, and has eradicated millions of dollars of illegal drugs.
- **Byrne Justice Assistance Grants** are funded at \$547 million, which will support all components of the criminal justice system, including drug and gang task forces to domestic violence programs, treatment, and justice information sharing. Overall, it will help keep Kentucky safe.
- For **Drug Courts**, the bill includes \$150 million for the Department of Justice (DOJ) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to help non-violent offenders struggling with addiction. An additional \$23 million is included for **Veterans Treatment Courts** to help our men and women in uniform who are struggling with addiction.

Treatment, Prevention, Recovery and Research

- The bill provides \$5.7 billion for substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery, as well as research into alternative therapies for pain management.
- Most notably, over \$5.8 billion is provided for the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**, a large percentage of which will be deployed to states for on-the-ground treatment and recovery services. The bill also provides \$12 million for the **Substance Use Disorder Loan Forgiveness program**, championed by Congressman Rogers, to help increase the number of qualified treatment professionals in rural, underserved communities. This program offers student loan repayment of up to \$250,000 for students who agree to work as a substance use disorder treatment professional in areas most in need of their services. The bill also appropriates more than \$475 million for the **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** to continue its **Opioid Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention** program, and \$110 million for **Rural Communities Opioid Response**.
- The legislation provides \$31 million to implement and enhance **Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)**, which help doctors make good prescribing decision and investigators root out bad actors.
- Over \$101 million is approved for the **Drug Free Communities Program**, which provides funding to community-based groups seeking to prevent youth substance abuse.
- To support those in their journey to overcome addiction, \$8 million is provided specifically for **Building Communities of Recovery**, \$4 million is provided for **Treatment, Recovery and Workforce Support** to help people live independently and participate in the workforce, and \$2 million is provided for **Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers**.
- The **National Institute for Health (NIH)** is slated to receive a \$41.5 billion to conduct life-saving research, at least \$250 million of which is focused on efforts to combat opioid addiction.

Programs to Support Rural Educational Achievement and Job Training

- **Head Start** – promotes school readiness, an important part of preparing children for a successful future in the region, with \$10.6 billion for Head Start programs – an additional \$600 million over last year.
- **Career, Technical, and Adult Education** – provides \$1.2 billion for Career, Technical, and Adult Education. This program is an essential component of the high school curriculum. This funding will assist Kentucky schools in providing students with skills necessary for a successful transition to the workforce.
- **Job Corps** – provides \$1.7 billion for FY20, an increase of \$25 million from FY19. This funding will assist the several Kentucky Job Corps locations to continue providing career technical training to our nation’s youth, while allowing them to work towards a high school diploma or college credits. It also promotes a sense of community and family.

Miners, Natural Resources & Energy Dominance

- **Miners' Health and Pensions**- includes the text from H.R. 934 and H.R. 935, two bills Congressman Rogers cosponsored earlier this year. H.R. 934, the Health Benefits for Miners Act, requires the Department of the Treasury to increase funds providing health benefits for retired coal miners. This would ensure that coal miners, who are at risk due to recent coal company bankruptcies, will not lose their retiree health care. H.R. 935, the Miners Pension Protection Act, would transfer additional funds to the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, ensuring the future viability of miners' pensions.
- **Black Lung Disability Trust Fund** – includes a short-term extension of the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund's funding source. This extension will ensure that the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund can continue to provide its vital benefits to those suffering from the disease.
- **Fossil Energy Research** – advances an “all of the above” energy strategy by investing in fossil energy research. These investments in cutting edge technologies will ensure coal remains a significant part of our energy portfolio—both here at home and abroad. Department of Energy (DOE) Fossil Energy Research programs are funded at \$750 million, which is \$10 million above FY19 funding levels. The DOE Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) and Power Systems Program is funded at \$490 million, with \$61 million set aside for the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) to focus on coal, natural gas and oil technologies.

Provisions to Promote Rural Health and Medical Research

- **Viral Hepatitis** – provides \$39 million in funding for the Prevention of Viral Hepatitis Program at CDC to help states prevent, surveil, and respond to Hepatitis outbreaks such as the Hepatitis A outbreak plaguing Kentucky.
- **Diabetes Research and Prevention** – provides \$2.1 billion for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases in addition to the \$2 million increase in funding for the National Diabetes Prevention Program.
- **Healthcare Extenders** – authorizes Community Health Centers, Teaching Health Centers Graduate Medical Education, and the Special Diabetes Program, as well as a delay to the Medicare cuts to Disproportionate-Share Hospitals, through May 22, 2020. These programs help provide access to care, especially in rural areas.
- **Rural Health Programming** – provides extensive funding for rural health, including nearly \$318.2 million in funding for rural health promotion, research, and telehealth programs. It also includes \$27.3 million for the National Diabetes Prevention Program at CDC, which works to prevent or delay type-2 diabetes.
- **Groundbreaking Research** – achieves a substantial \$2.6 billion increase, for a total of \$41.7 billion, for the world's largest biomedical research agency, the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This includes \$2.8 billion dedicated to Alzheimer's research and \$195 million for the Cancer Moonshot research initiative.

Defense / Homeland Security / Veterans

Defense

The FY20 Defense appropriations bill continues to rebuild our military, and is fully consistent with the President's National Defense Strategy and Nuclear Posture Review. It prioritizes readiness, taking care of our service members and their families, and ensuring that the military has the capabilities it needs to fight and win our nation's wars.

- **Overall Defense Spending** – This bill provides \$693.3 billion for the Department of Defense, \$19 billion more than FY19. This includes \$70.7 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations, ensuring that the men and women in uniform overseas have the tools they need to be successful.
- **Taking Care of Soldiers** – The bill includes a 3.1% pay raise for our troops—the largest pay raise in a decade.
- **Space Force** – The bill funds the U.S. Space Force, a sixth military branch that will ensure U.S. interests are protected around the world, and in space.
- **Readiness and Training** – The bill supports key readiness programs that will prepare our troops for combat and peacetime missions, including flight time and battle training, equipment and facility maintenance, and base operations.
- **Health Care & Research** – The bill provides \$34 billion for the Defense Health Program, which provides comprehensive care for our active duty troops, their families, and retirees. It also funds critical research for many health issues which affect our service members, including several forms of cancer, traumatic brain injuries, and psychological health.
- **Electronic Health Record** – Includes strong oversight measures to ensure that DOD finally provides our troops with an electronic health record that can also be used by the VA.

Veterans

The bill provides \$91.9 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the largest dollar amount in its history. It funds VA medical care at \$80 billion, providing care for more than 7 million veteran and dependent patients.

The bill includes \$1.5 billion for the new VA electronic health record, ensuring our veterans receive proper care, with timely and accurate medical data transferred between identical systems at the VA and the Department of Defense.

The bill seeks to further reduce the disability claims backlog to ensure adequate compensation and care for the almost 65,000 veterans still awaiting final decisions on their claims.

- **VA Medical priorities** – provides funding for the VA's medical priorities, including \$402 million for opioid abuse prevention, \$9.4 billion for mental health care, \$222 million for suicide prevention outreach, \$1.8 billion for homeless veterans treatment, services, housing, and job training, and \$270 million for rural health initiatives, ensuring veterans in rural America, and Kentucky, can receive the care they earned.
- **Rural Veteran Transportation** – Provides \$5 million for a pilot grant program that will provide grants to states and veterans service organizations to provide transportation services for veterans who live in rural America, like many of KY-5's veterans.

Homeland & Border Security

- **Protecting Our Borders** – Customs and Border Protection is receiving \$14.92 billion – which will allow the agency to hire an additional 300 Border Patrol processing staff, procure advanced border technology, and stop the illegal flow of drugs and human trafficking across our borders.
 - It provides \$1.375 billion for construction of new border wall, as well as no restrictions on the President’s authority to enforce our immigration laws.
 - It provides \$16 million for the intelligent enforcement of opioid trafficking under the new INTERDICT Act, which Congressman Rogers cosponsored in the last Congress.
- **Enforcing Immigration Laws** – Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is receiving a \$492 million increase in funding, which will be used for detention, intelligent monitoring and tracking, and hiring of additional officers to tackle the illegal immigration crisis in our nation.
- **Boosting the Coast Guard** – The U.S. Coast Guard is receiving \$105 million for the procurement of a new, long-range surveillance C-130J aircraft to assist in the identification and interdiction of illegal drug smuggling and human trafficking.
- **Disaster Relief** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is receiving an increase of \$5.7 billion to help our first responders prepare for, and adequately react to, unpredictable events in our communities. The bill includes \$2.9 billion for FEMA grant programs to assist states and localities mitigate and respond to disasters, while prioritizing rural preparation and response.