

FY18 Omnibus Highlights

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 \$155 million for ARC, which supports economic growth in distressed counties in the Appalachian region, including \$10 million to continue an existing program which will increase broadband access. This also includes \$50 million for the POWER Initiative to support communities, primarily in Central Appalachia, that have been adversely impacted by the declining coal industry, by providing resources for job creation, job training, and other employment services.
- **Economic Development Administration** -- allocates \$301.5 million for the EDA, an increase of \$25 million from FY17. \$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. Additionally, this legislation encourages the EDA to use these funds to support broadband infrastructure projects, which will help communities attract new industries and grow local economies.
- **Federal Prison System** -- includes \$7.1 billion for Federal Prison System Salaries and Expenses, an increase of \$105 million from FY17 enacted level, to support federal employees at the four federal prisons in our region. The bill also includes an additional \$50 million to construct a new federal prison in Letcher County, Ky., bringing the total reserved for this project to \$494 million.
- **National Parks** – provides \$3.2 billion for the National Park Service, including much-needed funding for park maintenance and \$23 million for the celebration of the National Park Centennial. These funds will support projects at Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Cumberland Gap National Historic Park and Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky.
- **Community Service Block Grants, Rural Community Facilities, and Community Economic Development Grants** – provides \$715 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 2019 at \$530 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 \$250 million 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.

- **HubZone** – includes \$3 million to help small businesses in rural communities gain preferential access to federal procurement opportunities.

Rural Infrastructure

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** – provides \$6.83 billion, \$789 million more than FY17, for the Corps of Engineers to improve and rebuild the nation's water resources and infrastructure. This includes \$5.4 million for the Corps' non-structural flood control programs, some of which may be used for the Town of Martin Redevelopment Plan.
- **Water Reallocation Study at Lake Cumberland** – prohibits the US 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.
- **USDA Infrastructure Programs** – provides an additional \$201.5 million for Rural Community Facilities loans and grants, which facilitates construction of healthcare facilities, town halls, child care centers, police offices, libraries, food pantries and other essential communal infrastructure. The bill also provides \$5.5 billion in loans to finance power generation, transmission, and distribution systems and \$690 million for telecommunications infrastructure in rural areas. Finally, the bill funds a \$600 million increase for broadband grants and loans, 90 percent of which must go to rural areas without sufficient service currently.
- **Rural housing programs** – \$25.1 billion, a \$100 million increase, is included for USDA Section 502 Loans. \$31.5 million is available for the Housing Repair program. Within HUD, \$50 million is provided for the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Program. \$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 \$1.69 billion to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund \$1.16 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, which support local drinking water and sewer construction projects. The bill also provides a \$500 million increase to improve water quality and ensure the safety of drinking water in rural communities through technical assistance grants.
- **Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)** – includes \$3.3 billion for grants that provide critical infrastructure funding to states and local communities to address economic development and housing needs.

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 \$9.8 billion for Head Start programs – an additional \$600 million over last year.
- **Career, Technical, and Adult Education** – provides \$1.8 billion for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, an increase of \$110 million from FY17. 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 FY18, an increase of \$14.5 million from the FY17 level. 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.

Pro Coal Provisions

Impact on Coal Exports – includes language prohibiting any funds in the bill from being used for to either directly or indirectly prohibit coal-fired power projects around the globe.

EPA Funding / Oversight – freezes EPA funding at the FY17 level. Since FY10, EPA funding has been reduced by \$2.2 billion. It also reduces funding for EPA regulatory activities by \$23.5M from FY17 and holds EPA staffing to the lowest level in 30 years. EPA’ staffing levels have been reduced by 650 positions over the last year, and 3,106 since FY10.

Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) – the bill provides \$10.37 million for state training grants and ensures those funds may be used to help coal operators manage the cost associated with the expensive equipment necessarily for complying with the MSHA Dust Rule. The bill also expresses concern that the level of MSHA inspectors far exceeds that which is required to ensure the safe operation of existing domestic coal mines and directs the agency to take action, including reductions in force if necessary, to ensure sufficient industry oversight that does not exceed statutory and regulatory requirements.

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 \$727 million, which is \$59 million above FY17 funding levels. The DOE Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) and Power Systems Program is funded at \$481 million, with \$53 million set aside for the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) to focus on coal, natural gas and oil technologies.

Anti-Drug Funding

Together we’ve made progress combatting drug abuse in southern and eastern Kentucky and across the Commonwealth, but more must be done to curb ever-increasing drug overdose rates and put people on the path to recovery. Consequently, this bill achieves record funding levels to comprehensively support local, state, regional and Federal efforts to combat addiction and drug trafficking, 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.

\$2.1 billion is included for the **Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)**, \$419.5 million of which is specifically allocated to combat the diversion of prescription drugs. \$10 million is provided to support state and local law enforcement efforts to **clean up methamphetamine labs**, and \$8 million is continued for **Anti-Meth Task Forces**.

\$542 million is provided for **Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement**, and the bill provides \$280 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 \$236 million for the **National Guard Counter-Drug program**, an increase of \$120 million from the President's request and \$2 million more than the FY17 level. 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 \$415 million, an increase of \$109 million from the FY17 level. This funding 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 \$164 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 \$20 million is included for **Veterans Treatment Courts** to help our men and women in uniform who are struggling with addiction. Activities under the **Second Chance Act** are also funded at \$85 million.

Treatment

Over \$4 billion is included for treatment services alone, across a broad spectrum of programs within the federal government.

Most notably, over \$5 billion is provided for the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**, including a \$1 billion increase for its treatment programming and a \$25 million increase to its prevention programming. The bill also provides an additional \$105 million to allow **National Health Service Corps** members to deliver Substance Use Disorder treatment services to our communities. The bill also appropriates more than \$475 million for the **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** to continue its **Opioid Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention** program – more than double the amount appropriated last year. The legislation also encourages HHS to facilitate training of healthcare professionals and paramedics and to increase access to emergency devices, like Naloxone, and allocates.

Prevention, Recovery and Research

The legislation provides \$30 million to implement and enhance **Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)**, which help doctors make good prescribing decision and investigators root out bad actors.

\$99 million is approved for the **Drug Free Communities Program**, which provides funding to community-based groups seeking to prevent youth substance abuse. \$119 million is available for a **Strategic Prevention Framework**, which provides prevention professionals a comprehensive process for addressing the substance misuse and related behavioral health problems facing their communities.

\$7.434 million is provided specifically for **Recovery Community Services Program** and **Building Communities of Recovery** to support those in their journey to overcome addiction.

The **National Institute for Health (NIH)** is slated to receive an overall increase of \$3 billion increase for life-saving research, \$500 million of which is focused on efforts to combat opioid addiction.

Defense / Homeland Security / Veterans

Defense

The FY18 Defense bill rebuilds our military, supports our troops, and invests in critical weapons and equipment. It also targets additional funding to requirements identified by military leaders, including higher troop levels, readiness efforts, infrastructure, and equipment modernization.

- **Overall Defense Spending** – provides our men and women in uniform over \$61 billion more dollars over last year's levels, a total of \$654 billion. This is the biggest year to year increase in defense spending in 15 years.
- **Taking Care of Soldiers** – includes a 2.4% pay raise for our troops. It also provides \$1.4 billion to ensure quality housing for the more than 1 million service members using these services, and \$708 million for new or existing military medical facilities to continue support and care for our troops, their families, and wounded troops abroad.
- **Combating Global Threats** – funds our ongoing operations against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and supports increased US military presence in European nations being threatened by Russian aggression through the European Deterrence Initiative.
- **Readiness and Training** – supports readiness programs, increased flight and training time, as well as depot maintenance in order to ensure that our troops and their equipment are prepared for the demands of responding to worldwide threats.
- **Health Care & Research** – provides \$34.4 billion—an increase of \$300 million from FY17- - for the Defense Health Program. This funding will provide comprehensive care for our active duty troops and retirees and crucial research on cancer, traumatic brain injury, cancer, and psychological health.

Homeland & Border Security

- **Protecting Our Borders** - Customs and Border Protection is receiving a \$1.8 billion million increase in funding—which will be used to hire more agents, advanced border technology, and utilize new tools that will help stop the illegal flow of drugs and people across our borders.
 - It also provides for more than 90 miles of a border wall system (16 more miles than the President's request) by including \$1.57 billion for a physical barrier and associated technology and personnel.
 - The bill includes \$655.6 million for border and port technology: communications, surveillance systems, opioid detection, and the National Targeting Center.
- **Enforcing Immigration Laws** - Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is getting a \$641 million increase in funding, which will be used for detention, electronic monitoring, GPS tracking, and hiring of additional officers to tackle our nation's illegal immigration crisis.
 - **Deporting Illegal Immigrants** -- ICE receives \$159 million to support the identification, location, and arrest of removable aliens in the U.S.

Veterans

- **Overall VA Funding** -- Provides \$81.5 billion for the VA, including the largest funding increase for the VA in history-- \$7.1 billion (9.5%) above FY17. It funds VA medical care at \$68.8 billion, providing care for more than 7 million veteran and dependent patients.
 - The bill includes \$782 million 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 500,000 veterans still awaiting final decisions on their claims
- **VA Medical priorities** -- provides funding for the VA's medical priorities, including \$386 million for opioid abuse prevention, \$8.4 billion for mental health care, \$186 million for suicide prevention outreach, \$316 million for traumatic brain injury treatment, \$7.3 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.

Other Highlights

- **Diabetes Research and Prevention** – provides an additional \$100 million for Diabetes research at the National Institutes of Health and \$2.8 million more for CDC's Diabetes Prevention Program.
- **Legal Services Corporation** – provides \$410 million for the Legal Services Corporation. . This funding has helped eastern Kentucky in past years by assisting many of the victims of the Eric Conn fraud scheme. This funding will continue to allow those in need to have access to legal representation.
- **Comprehensive School Safety** -- includes the STOP School Violence Act, a bipartisan bill introduced by Congressman Rogers, and provides \$75 million for its anti-school violence programs. These grants will help students, teachers, and officers receive the training they need to identify warning signs and threats of violence before they occur.