



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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The Facts on Appropriations Bills: How this Congress Stacks Up

The President's rhetoric on Appropriations bills is over the top when you consider the record. Since the President Took Office...

- the Federal government has operated under a C.R. for at least some portion of every year;
- Congress has enacted only 6 (of a possible 74) appropriations bills before the end of the Fiscal Year, September 30th;
- the President has signed 3 omnibus appropriations bills in 6 years; and
- Appropriations bills were completed in December twice, in January twice, and in February twice.

| Fiscal Year | # That Passed House Before August Recess | # Enacted Before 10/01 | # of Continuing Resolutions | Appropriations Bills Completed |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| FY 2007 | 10 of 11 | 1 | 4 CRs | Last bill enacted 2/15/07 |
| FY 2006 | 11 of 11 | 2 | 3 CRs | Last bill enacted 12/30/05 |
| FY 2005 | 10 of 13 | 1 | 3 CRs | Omnibus enacted 12/8/04 |
| FY 2004 | 11 of 13 | 2 | 7 CRs | Omnibus enacted 1/23/04 |
| FY 2003 | 5 of 13 | 0 | 12 CRs | Omnibus enacted 2/20/03 |
| FY 2002 | 9 of 13 | 0 | 8 CRs | Last bill enacted 1/10/02 |

House Democrats: 9 Months and Already a Record of Accomplishment

Two Years' Work in One Year: Democrats immediately tackled the 9 appropriations bills Republicans failed to complete last year, writing and passing a continuing resolution that was enacted on February 15th.

Implementing Unprecedented Earmark Reform: In January the House passed new rules that brought openness and accountability to the earmarking process. For the first time there are public lists of every funded earmark that identify the requesting members and members are now required to sign a letter identifying the purpose of earmarks they request, the name of the recipient, the recipient's address, and certifying that they have no financial interest in the earmark.

A Return to Oversight: Before marking up the first appropriations bill, the committee held over 200 oversight hearings, nearly double the amount held by the Republican Majority last year.

Passing Bills Through the House: This year the House passed all 12 appropriations bills before the August recess, only the second time the House has accomplished that feat since the President took office.