

**April 19th, 2012**

*As Prepared For Delivery*

"I thank Chairman Wolf, Ranking Member Fattah, Chairman Rogers and their staffs for their hard work on this bill. The Majority worked closely with our side to put this bill together, and there were many issues where we were able to reach agreement.

"I continue to be concerned about the outlook for this year's appropriations bills. This Committee's Fiscal Year 2013 allocation is based on the Ryan budget which reneges on the Budget Control Act agreement that established \$1.047 trillion as the discretionary allocation.

"While the level of funding in this bill may not be as low as a strict proportional reduction based on the Ryan budget, it is nevertheless not adequate to meet the needs in this area. In comparison, the Senate Subcommittee approved its CJS bill on Tuesday, and it is \$731 million higher than the House allocation.

"The House bill contains several funding levels that will be difficult for Democrats to support. The COPS hiring program is cut by 76 percent, even as state and local budgets continue to recover from historic losses in revenue.

"The Legal Services Corporation is also cut when it should be getting an increase. The recession has drastically increased the need for legal aid for those who can't afford it, and the Legal Services Corporation helps to ensure that access to justice is not limited to only those who can afford an attorney.

"I am also concerned that some important NOAA programs have been cut, in part to pay for necessary new satellites. While I support the development and deployment of new satellites, it is important that we find a way to pay for them without making such drastic reductions in other important NOAA programs.

"There are some positive aspects of this bill, and I want to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for funding the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund at this year's enacted level. As we continue to make progress on the recovery of the West Coast salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act, the PCSRF remains one of our most potent tools. And I want to thank the Subcommittee for once again funding an increase to the Mitchell Act program so that the hatcheries along the Columbia River system can be reformed to better operate toward the goal of recovery under the ESA.

"I appreciate that this bill provides significant increases for our federal law enforcement agencies – especially an additional \$23 million for the FBI to investigate cyber intrusions. Additionally, the bill provides healthy funding levels for the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and many important NASA programs.

"Thank you again, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to working with you, Chairman Rogers, Ranking Member Fattah and the members of this Subcommittee to improve the bill as it moves forward in the process."