

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A REQUEST TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR
1997 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, THE GENERAL
SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, AND THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL
MANAGEMENT



JULY 22, 1996.—Ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, July 22, 1996.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

SIR: I ask the Congress to consider amendments to the FY 1997 appropriations requests for the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the General Services Administration, and the Office of Personnel Management. These amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

The details of these actions are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20503

July 22, 1996

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration are amendments to your FY 1997 appropriations requests for the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the General Services Administration (GSA), and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). In total, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

P.L. 104-53, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 1996, transferred selected functions from the Comptroller General of the United States to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. The Act stated that the Director of OMB could delegate these functions to other Executive Branch departments and agencies.

The functions have now been delegated to the Departments of Defense, State, and the Treasury, GSA, and OPM. The effective date of the delegations and transfers was June 30, 1996. The proposed FY 1997 budget amendments would provide for the full-year costs of the functions delegated to Defense, GSA, and OPM. The OMB Determination Order that delegated the functions provided funds for the Department of State for the last quarter of FY 1996 only.

At the time the FY 1997 Budget was prepared, determination of the specific delegations of the transferred functions had not been made. The budget authority associated with the functions was, as a placeholder, requested in the Treasury Department's Financial Management Service (FMS). Of the total amount included in the budget for these functions, \$1.3 million would remain in the FMS account, and \$2.0 million would now be requested in the following agencies, as proposed in the accompanying amendments: DOD, \$0.8 million; GSA, \$0.7 million; and OPM, \$0.5 million.

The functions delegated to the Department of the Treasury by OMB cover certifying payments to creditors of the United States and settlement of claims against the United States. The functions delegated to the Defense Department cover claims related to uniformed services members' pay, allowances, travel, transportation, relocation, survivor benefit plans, loss and damages, and unclaimed property. The functions delegated to GSA involve claims related to civilian travel, civilian relocation, and freight rates. The functions delegated to OPM cover civilian pay, civilian leave, settlement of deceased employees' accounts, and claims for proceeds of canceled checks for veterans' benefits payable to deceased beneficiaries.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the heads of the affected departments and agencies in recommending that the proposals be transmitted to Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Jacob J. Lew
Acting Director

Enclosures

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| Agency: | DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY |
| Bureau: | FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE |
| Heading: | Salaries and Expenses |
| FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page: | 796 |
| FY 1997 Pending Request: | \$200,070,000 |
| Proposed Amendment: | -\$2,000,000 |
| Revised Request: | \$198,070,000 |

This FY 1997 budget amendment would decrease the appropriations request for Salaries and Expenses of the Financial Management Service (FMS) by \$2 million. This reduction would be offset by accompanying budget amendments that would increase pending appropriations requests for the Department of Defense (DOD), the General Services Administration (GSA), and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

Section 211 of Public Law 104-53, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1996, transferred selected functions from the Comptroller General to the Director of OMB. The Act stated that the Director could delegate the functions to other Executive Branch departments and agencies. The effective date of the delegations and transfers was June 30, 1996.

Since determination of the specific delegations had not been made at the time the FY 1997 Budget was prepared, the budget authority associated with the functions was requested in the FMS Salaries and Expenses account. Of the total amount included in the budget for these functions, \$1.3 million would remain in the FMS account, and the accompanying budget amendments would increase pending appropriations requests as follows: DOD, \$0.8 million; GSA, \$0.7 million; and OPM, \$0.5 million.

The OMB Determination Order provided for transfer from the General Accounting Office to the Department of the Treasury of the personnel (16 filled positions and one vacancy), funds for the fourth quarter of FY 1996, records, and property (including contracts) associated with the delegated functions.

The functions delegated to the Treasury Department by OMB cover:

- o Claims for amounts payable from the permanent, indefinite appropriation authorized pursuant to judgments rendered against the United States and as otherwise provided for by law, and related matters. In extraordinary cases, typically involving claims for unusually large amounts or claims that will have significant precedential effect, OMB may request that the Treasury Department consult with OMB as part of the Department's review of the claim(s);
- o Remission of claims for liquidated damages assessed against Government contractors; and,
- o Certain international claims.

Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Bureau: OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Heading: Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide

FY 1997 Budget
Appendix Page: 305

FY 1997
Pending Request: \$10,156,468,000

Proposed Amendment: \$800,000

Revised Request: \$10,157,268,000

This FY 1997 budget amendment would provide for the full-year costs of the functions delegated to the Department of Defense (DOD) by OMB, effective June 30, 1996, pursuant to section 211 of P.L. 104-53, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1996. The OMB Determination Order provided for transfer from the General Accounting Office of the personnel (nine filled positions and one vacancy), funds for the fourth quarter of FY 1996, records, and property (including contracts) associated with the delegated functions.

The functions delegated to DOD by OMB cover:

- o Claims related to uniformed services members' (does not include civilian employees of the service) pay, allowances, travel, transportation, retired pay, and survivor benefits;
- o Claims by transportation carriers for amounts collected from them for loss or damage incurred to property incident to shipment at Government expense;
- o Claims for proceeds of sale of unclaimed property coming into the custody or control of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Coast Guard;
- o Final settlement of accounts of members of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard;

- o Reports on disposition of the effects of deceased members of the Army and Air Force for settlement;
- o Claims for the proceeds of the sale of motor vehicles and items of household goods and personal property of members of the Uniformed Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration commissioned officers, and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service) reported dead, injured, ill, or absent for a period of more than 29 days in a missing status; and,
- o Claims for the proceeds from the disposition of effects of deceased residents of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

The FY 1997 Budget included the amount requested by this proposal in the appropriations request for the Salaries and Expenses account of the Treasury Department's Financial Management Service (FMS). An accompanying budget amendment would reduce the pending request for the FMS account. Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

Agency: GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Bureau: GENERAL SERVICES

Heading: Salaries and Expenses

FY 1997 Budget
Appendix Page: 899

FY 1997
Pending Request: \$109,473,000

Proposed Amendment: \$700,000

Revised Request: \$110,173,000

This FY 1997 budget amendment would provide for the full-year costs of the functions delegated to the General Services Administration (GSA) by OMB, effective June 30, 1996, pursuant to section 211 of P.L. 104-53, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1996. The OMB Determination Order provided for transfer from the General Accounting Office of the personnel (six filled positions and one vacancy), funds for the fourth quarter of FY 1996, records, and property (including contracts) associated with the delegated functions.

The functions delegated to GSA by OMB cover:

- o Claims for expenses incurred by Federal civilian employees for official travel and transportation, and relocation expenses incident to transfers;
- o Requests by carriers for review of GSA's actions taken pursuant to audits of carriers' bills; and,
- o Claims for the proceeds of the sale of motor vehicles and items of household goods and personal effects of Federal civilian employees reported dead, injured, ill or absent for a period of more than 29 days in a missing status.

The FY 1997 Budget included the amount requested by this proposal in the appropriations request for the Salaries and Expenses account of the Treasury Department's Financial Management Service (FMS). An accompanying budget amendment would reduce the pending request for the FMS account. Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

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| Agency: | OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT |
| Heading: | Salaries and Expenses |
| FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page: | 915 |
| FY 1997 Pending Request: | \$86,576,000 |
| Proposed Amendment: | \$500,000 |
| Revised Request: | \$87,076,000 |

This FY 1997 budget amendment would provide for the full-year costs of the functions delegated to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) by OMB, effective June 30, 1996, pursuant to section 211 of P.L. 104-53, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1996. The OMB Determination Order provided for transfer from the General Accounting Office of the personnel (four filled positions and two vacancies), funds for the fourth quarter of FY 1996, records, and property (including contracts) associated with the delegated functions.

The functions delegated to OPM by OMB cover:

- o Claims involving Federal civilian employees' compensation and leave, and settlement of deceased employees' accounts; and,
- o Claims for proceeds of canceled checks for veterans' benefits payable to deceased beneficiaries.

The FY 1997 Budget included the amount requested by this proposal in the appropriations request for the Salaries and Expenses account of the Treasury Department's Financial Management Service (FMS). An accompanying budget amendment would reduce the pending request for the FMS account. Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.