105th Congress, 2d Session – – – – – – – – – – – – – House Document 105–265

REVIEW OF IMPOUNDMENT MESSAGE

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE ACTING COMPTROLLER GENERAL, THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

TRANSMITTING

A REVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT'S SECOND SPECIAL IMPOUNDMENT MESSAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998, PURSUANT TO 2 U.S.C. 685

JUNE 5, 1998.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed

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COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, May 11, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On February 20, 1998, the President submitted to the Congress his second special impoundment message for fiscal year 1998. The message reports twenty-four proposed rescissions of budget authority, numbers R98–1 through R98–24. We have reviewed the proposed rescissions contained in the second special message and found them to be in accordance with the Impoundment Control Act, as amended, 2 U.S.C. §§ 681–692.

Enclosure I provides specific information with regard to several of the proposed rescissions. Enclosure II lists the proposed rescissions as submitted by the President in his special message.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. HINCHMAN,
Acting Comptroller General of the United States.

Enclosures.

ENCLOSURE I

COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT'S SECOND SPECIAL MESSAGE[1]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

R98-2

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Salaries and Expenses
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $350,000
1281600
12X1600

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $577,237,377 and not $577,282,000 as reported by the President.

R98-3

Food Safety and Inspection Service
Salaries and Expenses
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $502,000
1283700
12X3700

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $671,812,185 and not $672,263,000 as reported by the President.

R98-5

Agricultural Marketing Service
Marketing Services
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $25,000
1282500

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[1]The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recently exempted some agencies from the requirement of preparing the standard apportionment form, SF 132, which provides detailed, current information on an account's budgetary resources and the amount being withheld pending rescission. OMB permits exempted agencies to prepare letter apportionments which provide summary information for several accounts. Most of the letter apportionments relevant to the rescissions contained in the President's second special message were prepared during the first quarter of the fiscal year and did not contain current information. In those cases, we have obtained more current, detailed information from the agency.

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $140,737,496 and not $144,592,000 as reported by the President.

R98-7

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Conservation Operations
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $378,000
12X1000

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $775,647,481 and not $775,421,000 as reported by the President.

R98-9

Food and Nutrition Service
Child Nutrition Programs
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $114,000
128/93539
127/83539

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $8,798,740,685 and not $8,799,816,000 as reported by the President.

R98-10

Forest Service
National Forest System
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $1,094,000
12X1106

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $1,567,208,950 and not $1,618,377,000 as reported by the President.

R98-11

Forest Service
Reconstruction and Construction
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $30,000
12X1103

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $315,202,298 and not $311,045,000 as reported by the President.

R98-12

Forest Service
Forest and Rangeland Research
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $148,000
12X1104

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $230,137,554 and not $216,944,000 as reported by the President.

R98-13

Forest Service
State and Private Forestry
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $59,000
12X1105

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $187,456,844 and not $183,237,000 as reported by the President.

R98-14

Forest Service
Wildland Fire Management
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $148,000
12X1115

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $758,053,581 and not $735,707,000 as reported by the President.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

R98-15

Bureau of Land Management
Management of Lands and Resources
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $1,188,000
14X1109

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $675,472,959 and not $687,120,000 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

R98-16

Bureau of Land Management
Oregon and California Grant Lands
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $2,500,000
14X1116

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $125,071,003 and not $124,546,000 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

R98-17

Bureau of Reclamation
Water and Related Resources
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $532,000
14X0680

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $714,779,372 and not $842,809,383 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

R98-18

Bureau of Mines
Mines and Minerals
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $1,605,000
14X0959

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $4,630,962 and not $4,625,890 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

R98-19

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Construction
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $1,188,000
14X1612

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $207,627,763 and not $201,295,155 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

R98-20

National Park Service
Construction
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $1,638,000
14X1039

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $437,607,325 and not $507,135,428 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

R98-21

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Construction
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $737,000
14X2301

According to a letter apportionment schedule and other information provided by the agency, total budgetary resources are $236,741,066 and not $233,051,000 as reported by the President. Agency officials informed us that the funds are not being withheld from obligation.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

R98-22

Office of the Secretary
Payment to Air Carriers
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $2,499,000
69X0150

According to a report on budget execution for the period ended January 1998, total budgetary resources are $725. Agency officials explained that prior to 1992, this account funded the Essential Air Services (EAS) program and that there are an additional $2,498,929 representing obligated balances which have been deobligated and are proposed for rescission. According to agency officials, the funds are being withheld from obligation although this action has not been documented on an apportionment schedule.

R98-24

Maritime Administration
Maritime Guaranteed Loan Program Account (Title XI)
Amount Proposed for Rescission: $2,138,000
69X1752

According to agency officials, the funds are being withheld from obligation although this action has not been documented on an apportionment schedule.

ENCLOSURE II

CONTENTS OF SPECIAL MESSAGE
(in thousands of dollars)

Rescission No.	ITEM	Budgetary Resources
	Department of Agriculture	
	Agricultural Research Service	
R98-1	Agricultural Research Service	223
	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	
R98-2	Salaries and expenses	350
	Food Safety and Inspection Service	
R98-3	Salaries and expenses	502
	Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration	
R98-4	Salaries and expenses	38
	Agricultural Marketing Service	
R98-5	Marketing services	25
	Farm Service Agency	
R98-6	Salaries and expenses	1,080
	Natural Resources Conservation Service	
R98-7	Conservation operations	378
	Rural Housing Service	
R98-8	Salaries and expenses	846
	Food and Nutrition Service	
R98-9	Child nutrition programs	114
	Forest Service	
R98-10	National forest system	1,094
R98-11	Reconstruction and construction	30
R98-12	Forest and rangeland research	148
R98-13	State and private forestry	59
R98-14	Wildland fire management	148
	Department of the Interior	
	Bureau of Land Management	
R98-15	Management of lands and resources	1,188
R98-16	Oregon and California grant lands	2,500
	Bureau of Reclamation	
R98-17	Water and related resources	532
	Bureau of Mines	
R98-18	Mines and minerals	1,605
	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	
R98-19	Construction	1,188
	National Park Service	
R98-20	Construction	1,638
	Bureau of Indian Affairs	
R98-21	Construction	737

Rescission No.	ITEM	Budgetary Resources
	Department of Transportation	
	Office of the Secretary	
R98-22	Payments to air carriers	2,499
R98-23	Payments to air carriers (Airport and airway trust fund)	1,000
	Maritime Administration	
R98-24	Maritime guaranteed loan (Title XI) program account	2,138
	Total, rescissions	20,060

Comptroller General
of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20548

B-279418

May 11, 1998

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