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GPO's APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2002 APPROVED

*Requested levels are fully funded; increased funds
provided for Superintendent of Documents online
information systems*

With Senate passage of the conference agreement on H.R. 2647, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for FY 2002, on November 1, Congress completed action on GPO's appropriations, clearing the measure for the President. The President signed the bill into law on November 12.

Under Title I of the Act, \$81 million was approved for GPO's Congressional Printing and Binding Appropriation, which is used to cover the costs of printing work that GPO performs for Congress, such as the Congressional Record, bills, reports, and hearings. This is the full amount requested by GPO for FY 2002.

Under Title II of the Act, \$29.6 million was approved for the Salaries and Expenses Appropriation of the Superintendent of Documents, also the full amount requested by GPO. This funding is used to cover the costs of distributing Government publications as required by law (including distribution to Federal depository libraries), cataloging and indexing documents, distributing Government publications to recipients designated by law, and distributing Government publications to other nations which agree to send copies of their official publications to the Library of Congress.

The Salaries and Expenses Appropriation for FY 2002 includes funding for additional staff to locate and catalog online Government information,

modernize GPO's cataloging system, and support the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) Electronic Collection made available through GPO's acclaimed Internet site, *GPO Access* (www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess). A management audit of GPO, conducted in 1998 by Booz-Allen & Hamilton, Inc., recommended that GPO seek increased funding from Congress for *GPO Access*. *GPO Access* today hosts more than 200,000 titles and is used by the public to retrieve 30 million documents each month. Funding was also provided to enhance GPO's data archiving capabilities, refresh essential legislative and regulatory online files, and acquire automated information systems in support of the FDLP.

GPO's request of 3,260 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees for FY 2002 was also approved.

Together, the two appropriations to GPO total \$110.6 million, representing about 4% of total legislative branch funding overall.

Earlier this year, in the supplemental appropriation for FY 2001, GPO was provided with \$9.9 million to fund a prior year shortfall in congressional printing and binding and \$6 million for energy-efficient air conditioning and lighting improvements recommended by the General Accounting Office. With the supplemental, GPO's appropriations for FY 2001-which originally were \$99.2 million-totaled \$115.1 million.

Also approved was a legislative amendment that will extend the life of GPO's early retirement and separation incentive programs for an additional three years. These programs were originally enacted in FY 1999 for 3 years. Under them, 98 GPO employees have taken early-out retirements, resulting in an estimated \$5 million in savings.

(Self-Mailer)

