



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### **Funding Highlights:**

- Provides \$8.8 billion in base discretionary funding for the Department of Commerce to create the conditions for economic growth by promoting trade and investment, spurring innovation, gathering and acting on environmental intelligence, and fueling a data-driven economy. This includes:
  - Funding for the National Institute of Standards and Technology laboratories to accelerate advances ranging from cybersecurity to advanced manufacturing, and to further expand lab-to-market transfers of manufacturing and other technologies;
  - Supporting key trade enforcement and promotion activities that will grow the economy, invest in underserved markets and regional economic development, and encourage greater investment in the United States;
  - Expanding SelectUSA, an initiative to attract, retain, and expand business investment in the United States in order to create jobs, spur economic growth, and promote U.S. competitiveness;
  - Continuing the Administration's strong support for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's critical weather, research, and oceans programs, including fully funding its next generation of weather satellites to maintain launch dates and provide critical, time-sensitive information to decision-makers throughout the Government and private sector; and
  - Providing \$753 million to support key research and testing of innovative design methods necessary to achieve an effective 2020 decennial census at the lowest cost possible.

### **Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative:**

- Through the Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative, supports:
  - A National Network for Manufacturing Innovation with up to 45 manufacturing innovation institutes across the Nation, building on the four institutes already launched and the five institutes that the Administration has committed to funding, led by the Departments of Energy, Defense, and Agriculture;

- National Institute of Standards and Technology efforts to accelerate advances in top research priorities including advanced manufacturing, forensics, cybersecurity and disaster resilience, and improve scientific facilities;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research, including weather and ocean research, and modernization of its observation and data gathering capabilities by replacing a NOAA research vessel;
- Catalytic investments in communities and regional economies to increase their ability to accelerate production of value-added goods and services, including their capacity for advanced manufacturing;
- Development of data and tools that businesses can use to help market and sell goods abroad; and
- A Nation that is better prepared for the impacts of climate change by improving coastal resilience to severe weather events, climate hazards, and changing ocean conditions, including through research grants to improve severe weather prediction and the understanding of climate change impacts on various sectors, including fisheries.

**Reforms:**

- Invests in regional economic competitiveness by providing \$210 million to the Economic Development Administration to support community and regional economic development, commercialization of research and development, and catalytic capital projects—while making reforms to ensure that these funds have the greatest impact for distressed communities.
- Closes one ocean science laboratory and consolidates another to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) plays a critical role in promoting U.S. economic growth and providing vital scientific and environmental information. The Budget provides Commerce with \$8.8 billion to support mission areas across its diverse bureaus. Key investments are made in areas such as export promotion, investment promotion, and enforcement activities, development of weather satellites, wireless and broadband access, and research and development to support long-term economic growth. At the same time, efficiency gains, such as from streamlining operations in the Census Bureau, and reductions in lower-priority activities enable Commerce to achieve administrative and programmatic savings.

***Invests in America's Long-Term Growth and Competitiveness***

**Strengthens U.S. Manufacturing and Innovation.** The Budget provides \$141 million, a \$13 million increase over the 2014 enacted level for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, with the increase focused on expanding technology and supply chain capabilities to support technology adoption by smaller manufacturers to improve their competitiveness. The Budget also includes \$15 million for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia, a public-private partnership that will support industry consortia to develop technology road maps to address common manufacturing challenges faced by American businesses.

The Budget maintains the President's commitment to increase funding for key basic research agencies, including \$680 million for National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) laboratories. This funding will accelerate advances in a variety of important areas, ranging from cybersecurity and forensic science to advanced communications and disaster resilience. In response to the President's 2011 Memorandum on Accelerating Technology Transfer and Commercialization, the Budget provides \$6 million for NIST efforts to accelerate and expand technology transfer across the Federal Government, which will enhance the competitiveness of U.S. industry by sharing innovations and knowledge from Federal laboratories.

**Promotes American Exports and Investment in the United States.** To promote exports and foreign investment in the United States, the Budget includes \$497 million for the renamed International Trade and Investment Administration (ITIA), an eight percent increase over the 2014 enacted level. Funding for ITIA includes \$15 million to accelerate operations of the Interagency Trade Enforcement Center, an interagency effort to address unfair trade practices and barriers to boost U.S. exports, and \$20 million to expand SelectUSA, which promotes "on-shoring" and actively brings job-creating investment to the United States from around the world. The Budget will expand SelectUSA, supporting the first-ever, fully coordinated U.S. Government effort to recruit businesses to invest and create new jobs in the United States. Other funds support increased export promotion activities in underserved markets around the world and ITIA's role in the Administration's BusinessUSA initiative, a one-stop shop to connect businesses with Federal Government resources more effectively and efficiently.

**Enhances Export Control Enforcement.** The Budget includes \$111 million for the Bureau of Industry and Security to sustain export licensing and enforcement activities, as well as to support the bureau's ongoing work under the Administration's Export Control Reform (ECR) initiative. The \$9 million increase from the 2014

enacted level will support the bureau's expanded export licensing and export enforcement operations that will improve service to U.S. exporters as controlled items shift from the State Department to the Commerce Department's jurisdiction. The Administration's continued efforts to implement the ECR initiative will advance national security and economic competitiveness by better focusing U.S. controls on transactions to destinations or end users of concern, while facilitating secure trade for controlled items with U.S. allies and close partners.

**Promotes Regional Economic Development.** The Budget includes \$210 million for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to support innovative economic development planning, regional capacity building, and catalytic capital projects. The Budget includes \$25 million for the Regional Innovation Strategies Program to promote economic development planning and projects that spur entrepreneurship and innovation at the regional level. The Budget also proposes reforms to the economic development grants to ensure grantees demonstrate measurable progress in achieving economic development goals, and provides EDA the flexibility to award catalytic grants tailored to address communities' specific economic needs, delivering the greatest impact for distressed regions.

**Continues Strong Support for Weather Satellites and Weather Forecasting.** The Budget provides \$2 billion to continue the development of NOAA's polar-orbiting and geostationary weather satellite systems, as well as satellite-borne measurements of sea level and potentially damaging solar storms. These satellites are critical to NOAA's ability to provide accurate forecasts and warnings that help to protect lives and property. The Budget also fully supports the National Weather Service, including funding for research, modeling, and supercomputing capacity to accelerate advancements in forecasting. Further, the Budget provides funding for centralized hydrological forecasting and studies that will inform ongoing efforts to enhance the National Weather Service's decision-support capabilities, and build a Weather Ready Nation that is more resilient to extreme weather events.

**Strengthens Research and Ocean and Coastal Stewardship.** The Budget includes significant investments in NOAA's ocean and coastal research and observing programs, while increasing support for habitat and species conservation activities that are essential to restoring and maintaining healthy, sustainable oceans. Increased funding for NOAA's research and development activities will enhance the agency's ability to detect, understand, and forecast global and ecosystem-scale changes and provide sound, science-based information to support decision-making and help communities prepare for the consequences of a changing climate. The Budget also supports investments such as coastal zone management grants, which promote well-coordinated ocean and coastal science and management activities. The Budget includes a proposal to close one ocean science laboratory and consolidate another, which will allow for more efficient operations through reduced fixed costs.

**Prioritizes Critical Telecommunications Investments, Innovation, and Policy Coordination.** The Budget demonstrates the Administration's continued commitment to broadband telecommunications as a driver of economic development, job creation, technological innovation, and enhanced public safety. The President's dual broadband vision—supported by the Budget—of freeing up 500 MHz of Federal spectrum and connecting over 99 percent of schools to high-speed broadband connections through the ConnectED initiative will create thousands of quality jobs and ensure that students have access to the best educational tools available. The Budget supports implementation of telecommunications provisions enacted in the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, which will reduce the deficit by nearly \$20 billion over the next 10 years through spectrum auctions. These auctions will increase commercial access to wireless broadband spectrum while investing \$7 billion to realize the vision of a fully-interoperable public safety and first responder broadband network. The Budget also provides \$7.5 million for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's new Internet Policy Center to

enhance the Department's coordination and policy-making across broadband stakeholders, as well as additional investments of over \$20 million for the Federal Communications Commission to make critical reforms to its Universal Service Fund program, make information technology upgrades, and provide robust program support for high priority 2015 spectrum auctions.

**Protects Innovators and Ensures a World-Class Patent System.** Through implementation of the America Invents Act, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office continues to make it easier for American entrepreneurs and businesses to bring their inventions to the marketplace sooner, converting ideas into new products and new jobs. The Budget proposes several legislative reforms designed to improve the transparency and efficiency of the American patent system, complementing a series of administrative actions the Administration announced in June 2013, which will help to protect innovators from frivolous litigation and ensure the highest-quality patents in the system.

**Invests in an Efficient and Effective 2020 Decennial Census.** The Budget provides \$753 million, an increase of \$281 million over the 2014 enacted level, to support key research and testing of innovative design methods necessary to achieve an effective 2020 decennial census at the lowest cost possible. This research and testing phase must be complete by the end of 2015 to make important 2020 operational decisions. Without this additional funding for key testing, much of the cost containment efforts leading up to the 2020 Census will face increasing operational risk and decreasing accuracy.

### ***Supports Evidence-Based Decision-Making***

**Improves and Expands Federal Statistical Measures.** The Budget includes \$16 million to invest in the development of three Commerce statistical measures that will improve evidence-based decision-making across the Federal Government and the private sector. In the Census Bureau, \$5 million is provided to improve the supplemental poverty measure to allow for more fair and

accurate indexing and analysis of poverty programs. An additional \$5 million is provided to the Census Bureau to increase access to critical business datasets and to create a new field of research into the conditions and outcomes of business investments in research, development, and innovation by expanding existing data projects.

In the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), an investment of \$4 million will improve the

measurement and understanding of U.S. foreign direct investment as part of “Build it Here, Sell it Everywhere,” supporting the SelectUSA initiative and its foreign and domestic stakeholders. An additional investment of \$2 million in BEA will initiate “Big Data for Small Business,” a new data program that will collect a new Small Business Gross Domestic Product measure to support decision-making by business owners and investors as well as small business analyses.