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APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST
(EC 4109)

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A REQUEST TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 1997 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEPTEMBER 19, 1996.—Ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, July 17, 1996.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

SIR: I ask the Congress to consider amendments to the FY 1997 appropriations requests for the Department of Transportation that would provide additional resources to improve the safety of the air transportation of hazardous materials. The proposed increase in funding is fully offset by reductions to other Department of Transportation programs.

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.

Estimate No. 18
104th Congress, 2nd Session

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

July 17, 1996

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration are amendments to your FY 1997 appropriations requests for the Department of Transportation. In total, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

As described in the enclosures, the proposed amendments would make the following changes to the pending FY 1997 requests in order to improve the safety of the air transportation of hazardous materials:

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Operations

- Provide an additional $10.5 million and 130 positions for FAA Operations. These additional resources would enable the FAA to increase hazardous materials inspections of air carriers, freight forwarders, freight consolidators, and repair stations.

Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA)

- Provide an additional $3.4 million and 18 positions for RSPA's Hazardous Materials Safety Program. These additional resources would complement the FAA initiative by: expanding RSPA's inspections of air hazardous materials shippers; expanding current hazardous materials research initiatives to focus on air transportation, reactive chemicals, and explosives; developing additional training materials focusing on air transportation; and increasing the dissemination of information to both air carriers and shippers. RSPA

would inspect shippers (i.e., those who originate the shipments of hazardous materials), while FAA would inspect all others. RSPA would increase its inspections of shippers of hazardous materials by air from about 500 to 1,500 per year.

The additional resources requested would be fully offset by reductions to the following Department of Transportation programs: FAA Facilities and Equipment; FAA Research, Engineering and Development; and the Federal-aid Highways Program.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I join Secretary Pena in recommending that the proposals be transmitted to Congress.

Sincerely,

Jacob J. Lew
Acting Director

Enclosures

Agency:	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bureau:	FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Heading:	Operations
FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page:	744
FY 1997 Pending Request:	$4,918,269,000 (Total request) $2,742,602,000 (Trust fund) $2,025,667,000 (General fund)
Proposed Amendment:	$10,514,000 (Total request) $13,135,000 (Trust fund) -$2,621,000 (General fund)
Revised Request:	$4,928,783,000 (Total request) $2,755,737,000 (Trust fund) $2,023,046,000 (General fund)

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$4,918,269,000" and substitute $4,928,783,000; delete "$2,742,602,000" and substitute $2,755,737,000; and delete "2,025,667,000" and substitute $2,023,046,000.)

This amendment would increase the appropriations request for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Operations by $10.5 million and 130 positions for a Dangerous Goods Inspection Initiative. With these additional resources, the FAA will increase inspections of air carriers, freight forwarders, and repair stations to ensure that shipments of hazardous materials by air are transported properly. In addition, the FAA will increase outreach and dissemination of information to all of these groups in an effort to prevent hazardous materials accidents from occurring.

This proposal, and a related amendment for the Research and Special Programs Administration, would be fully offset by reductions to the pending requests for the FAA's Facilities and Equipment program and Research, Engineering and Development program, and the Federal-aid Highways program, as proposed in the accompanying budget amendments.

Agency:	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bureau:	RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
Heading:	Research and Special Programs
FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page:	768
FY 1997 Pending Request:	$28,169,000
Proposed Amendment:	$3,410,000
Revised Request:	$31,579,000

This amendment would increase the pending Research and Special Programs request by $3.4 million and 18 positions for the Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA) hazardous materials safety program. These additional resources would complement the FAA's Dangerous Goods Inspection Initiative by expanding RSPA's inspections of air hazardous materials shippers. In addition, these resources would allow RSPA to expand hazardous materials research initiatives, develop additional training materials focusing on air transportation, and increase the dissemination of information to both air carriers and shippers.

This proposal, and a related amendment for the FAA's Operations program, would be fully offset by reductions to the pending requests for the FAA's Facilities and Equipment program and Research, Engineering and Development program, and the Federal-aid Highways program, as proposed in the accompanying budget amendments.

Agency:	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bureau:	FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Heading:	Facilities and Equipment (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)
FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page:	748
FY 1997 Pending Request:	$1,788,700,000
Proposed Amendment:	-$11,000,000
Revised Request:	$1,777,700,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "1,788,700,000" and substitute $1,777,700,000 and delete "$1,571,700,000" and substitute $1,560,700,000.)

This amendment would decrease the appropriations request for the Federal Aviation Administration Facilities and Equipment program. These resources would, instead, be used for the Dangerous Goods Inspection Initiative, as proposed in the accompanying budget amendments. Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

Agency:	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bureau:	TITLE III GENERAL PROVISIONS
Heading:	Section 310(d)
FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page:	780
FY 1997 Pending Request:	$241,173,000
Proposed Amendment:	-$19,000,000
Revised Request:	$222,173,000

The above adjustment in the general provisions reflects a reestimate of bonus obligations as a partial offset for the Dangerous Goods Inspection Initiative. Together, the amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

Agency:	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bureau:	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
Heading:	Federal-Aid Highways (Limitation on Obligations) (Highway Trust Fund)
FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page:	720
FY 1997 Pending Request:	$17,714,000,000 (Total request) $241,173,000 (Bonus program)
Proposed Amendment:	-$19,000,000 (Total request) -$19,000,000 (Bonus program)
Revised Request:	$17,695,000,000 (Total request) $222,173,000 (Bonus program)

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$17,714,000,000" and substitute $17,695,000,000 and delete "$241,173,000" and substitute $222,173,000.)

This amendment would decrease the obligation limitation for the Federal-Aid Highways program by $19 million based on a reestimate of bonus program obligations. The resulting reduction in outlays would offset, in part, the Dangerous Goods Inspection Initiative proposed in the accompanying budget amendments. Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

Agency:	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bureau:	FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Heading:	Research, Engineering, and Development (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)
FY 1997 Budget Appendix Page:	749
FY 1997 Pending Request:	$195,700,000
Proposed Amendment:	-$10,000,000
Revised Request:	$185,700,000

This amendment would decrease the appropriations request for the Federal Aviation Administration Research, Engineering, and Development program. These resources would, instead, be used for the Dangerous Goods Inspection Initiative, as proposed in the accompanying budget amendments. Together, these amendments would not increase the proposed budget totals.

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