

110TH CONGRESS }
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

COMMITTEE PRINT

of the

**COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

on

H.R. 2764 / Public Law 110-161

[Legislative Text and Explanatory Statement]

BOOK 2 OF 2—DIVISIONS G-L



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CLERK'S NOTE

This committee print provides a compilation of the enacted text and applicable explanatory material for the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (H.R. 2764; P.L. 110–161).

The Consolidated Appropriations Act was developed through a legislative procedure referred to as “amendments between the Houses”. The House of Representatives took up an appropriations bill that had been passed by both the House and the Senate (the State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, H.R. 2764) and replaced the entire Senate-passed text with an 11-division consolidated appropriations package covering all regular annual appropriations bills except the Defense Appropriations Act (which had already been enacted separately).¹ The Senate then agreed to this House amendment,² thereby completing congressional action on divisions A through K of the final Consolidated Appropriations Act.

The House also added a second amendment to H.R. 2764, inserting a division L making supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense.³ The Senate adopted a substitute for that amendment⁴ and the House subsequently agreed to that substitute,⁵ resolving the remaining difference between the House and the Senate versions of H.R. 2764. The President signed the legislation on December 26, 2007 and it became Public Law 110–161.

As directed by the House of Representatives,⁶ Mr. Obey, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, filed an Explanatory Statement in the Congressional Record of December 17, 2007 covering the legislation contained in divisions A through K of the Consolidated Appropriations Act.⁷ The Explanatory Statement was provided to the House Rules Committee the previous evening and its full text

¹ On December 17, 2007, Chairman Obey moved that the House concur in the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2764 with two House amendments printed in House Report 110–497 (see *Congressional Record*, December 17, 2007, pages H15516–25 and H15528–15726). The rule providing for consideration of this motion (H. Res. 878) directed that separate votes be taken on each of the two amendments. The first amendment, substituting divisions A through K of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for the Senate-passed version of H.R. 2764, was agreed to by a vote of 253 yeas to 154 nays with 1 voting “present” (Roll No. 1171). The second amendment, adding a division L containing supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense, was agreed to by a vote of 206 yeas to 201 nays (Roll No. 1172).

² On December 18, the Senate concurred in House amendment No. 1 to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2764, by a vote of 76 yeas to 17 nays with 1 voting “present” (Vote No. 441) (see *Congressional Record*, December 18, 2007, pages S15830–34 and S15843–88).

³ This is the second House amendment referred to in footnote 1 above.

⁴ On December 18, the Senate agreed to a motion by Senator McConnell to concur in House amendment No. 2 with a further Senate amendment (see *Congressional Record*, December 18, 2007, pages S15844–45 and S15860–61). The motion was agreed to by a vote of 70 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 439).

⁵ On December 19, the House agreed to the Senate amendment to House amendment No. 2 to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2764 (see *Congressional Record*, December 19, 2007, pages H16860–64, H16887–89, H16901–13). The vote was 272 yeas to 142 nays (Roll No. 1186).

⁶ H. Res. 869, section 3.

⁷ The submission of this Explanatory Statement is noted on page H15479 of the December 17, 2007 *Congressional Record*. The Statement itself appears in books II and III of the December 17 *Record*.

was made available to Members of Congress and the public on the Rules Committee website by early morning on December 17.

Section 4 of the Consolidated Act provides that this Explanatory Statement “shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of divisions A through K of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference”. The text of the Explanatory Statement is reproduced in full in this committee print.

For the convenience of users, this print is organized according to the 12 divisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, with the legislative text of each division paired with the applicable portion of the Explanatory Statement.