

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2217, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2217,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I call up the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration without intervention of any point of order.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

(For conference report and statement see proceedings of the House of Thursday, October 11, 2001, at page H6507.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I intend not to object. I simply make this observation in order to afford the gentleman an opportunity to explain what it is we are

doing here and to respond to several other questions that I think are in Members' minds with respect to the bill, and I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, as the manager of this conference agreement, I do not intend to use any of the hour on general debate.

Mr. Speaker, we bring before the House the conference agreement on H.R. 2217—the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2002.

Let me take a moment to thank the members of the Interior subcommittee for their support and guidance this year. I want to extend a special, personal thanks to the ranking minority member, NORM DICKS, for his extraordinary assistance in helping to shape this bill.

This is a good agreement. It provides \$19.1 billion for our public lands, for Indian programs, for critical science and energy research programs, and for cultural institutions like the Smithsonian. Within that total there is \$1.32 billion for the conservation spending initiative, which is the full amount available under the law for the Interior bill.

Let me cover just a couple of the highlights. The conference agreement includes \$210 million for Payments in Lieu of Taxes, \$600 million for maintenance on our public lands and \$144 million for State land and water conservation grants, an increase of \$54 million above the enacted level. There is \$275 million for low income weatherization assistance and State energy grants, an increase of \$84 million above the enacted level. There is \$150 million for a new clean coal power initiative, a key component of the Administration's National Energy Policy. All of these areas are Presidential priorities.

The agreement also extends the recreation fee demonstration program for two years. Under this program, the National parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and other public lands retain fees they collect and use them to make repairs and other improvements that enhance the visitor experience. I am pleased to report that nearly \$1 billion has been collected since the program was begun by this subcommittee in fiscal year 1997.

The conference agreement also provides \$120 million to continue the Everglades restoration program and over \$200 million for building schools and hospitals for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The agreements has \$2 billion to continue the National fire plan in fiscal year 2002. This includes funds for firefighting, restoration, hazardous fuel reduction, and community assistance.

The National Endowment for the Arts is funded at \$98 million and there is \$17 million for the Challenge America Arts Fund. These are the same amounts as in the House-passed bill.

I want to thank the staff in both the House and the Senate and on both sides of the aisle for their hardwork and long hours in getting the agreement in shape and making sure the numbers all worked within our allocation.

This is a good conference report; it conforms to our allocation; it balances the many competing needs of the programs under the jurisdiction of the Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee; and I urge Members to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that a table on the various accounts in the bill agreed to by the conferees be included at this point.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 (H.R. 2217)**  
 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. enacted
<b>TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR</b>						
<b>Bureau of Land Management</b>						
Management of lands and resources .....	733,116	734,312	739,711	746,962	746,632	+ 13,516
Emergency appropriations .....	17,134					-17,134
Conservation .....		26,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	+29,000
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	3,000					-3,000
<b>Total, Management of lands and resources .....</b>	<b>753,250</b>	<b>760,312</b>	<b>768,711</b>	<b>775,962</b>	<b>775,632</b>	<b>+ 22,382</b>
<b>Wildland fire management:</b>						
Preparedness .....	314,712	280,807	280,807	281,807	280,807	-33,905
Fire suppression operations .....	109,865	161,424	161,424	111,614	127,424	+ 17,559
Other operations .....	9,978	216,190	253,575	196,000	216,190	+206,212
Contingent emergency appropriations .....	542,544					-542,544
Contingent emergency appropriations (Suppression) .....				50,000	34,000	+ 34,000
Contingent emergency appropriations (Other operations) .....				20,000	20,000	+20,000
<b>Total, Wildland fire management .....</b>	<b>977,099</b>	<b>658,421</b>	<b>700,806</b>	<b>659,421</b>	<b>678,421</b>	<b>-298,678</b>
Central hazardous materials fund .....	9,978	9,978	9,978	9,978	9,978	
Construction .....	16,823	10,976	11,076	12,976	13,076	-3,747
Payments in lieu of taxes .....	199,560	150,000	150,000	170,000	160,000	-39,560
Conservation .....			50,000	50,000	50,000	+ 50,000
<b>Total, Payments in lieu of taxes .....</b>	<b>199,560</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>220,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>+ 10,440</b>
Land acquisition .....	56,545					-56,545
Conservation .....		47,686	47,686	45,686	49,920	+ 49,920
Oregon and California grant lands .....	104,038	105,165	105,165	106,061	105,165	+ 1,127
Range improvements (indefinite) .....	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Service charges, deposits, & forfeitures (indefinite) .....	7,484	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	+ 516
Miscellaneous trust funds (indefinite) .....	12,405	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	-1,405
<b>Total, Bureau of Land Management .....</b>	<b>2,147,182</b>	<b>1,771,538</b>	<b>1,872,422</b>	<b>1,859,084</b>	<b>1,871,192</b>	<b>-275,990</b>
Appropriations .....	(1,587,504)	(1,697,852)	(1,745,736)	(1,664,398)	(1,688,272)	(+ 100,768)
Conservation .....		(73,686)	(126,686)	(124,686)	(128,920)	(+ 128,920)
Emergency appropriations .....	(17,134)					(-17,134)
Contingent emergency appropriations .....	(542,544)			(70,000)	(54,000)	(-488,544)
<b>United States Fish and Wildlife Service</b>						
Resource management .....	800,330	779,752	809,852	812,814	819,597	+ 19,267
Emergency appropriations .....	6,486					-6,486
Conservation .....		27,000	30,000	33,000	31,000	+ 31,000
<b>Total, Resource management .....</b>	<b>806,816</b>	<b>806,752</b>	<b>839,852</b>	<b>845,814</b>	<b>850,597</b>	<b>+ 43,781</b>
Construction .....	62,877	35,849	48,849	55,526	55,543	-7,334
Emergency appropriations .....	8,481					-8,481
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	17,700					-17,700
<b>Total, Construction .....</b>	<b>89,058</b>	<b>35,849</b>	<b>48,849</b>	<b>55,526</b>	<b>55,543</b>	<b>-33,515</b>
Land acquisition .....	121,188					-121,188
Conservation .....		164,401	104,401	108,401	99,135	+ 99,135
Landowner incentive program (conservation) .....			50,000	50,000	40,000	+ 40,000
Private stewardship grants program (conservation) .....			10,000	10,000	10,000	+ 10,000
Cooperative endangered species conservation fund .....	104,694					-104,694
Conservation .....		54,694	107,000	91,000	96,235	+ 96,235
National wildlife refuge fund .....	11,414	11,414	11,414	14,414	14,414	+ 3,000
Conservation .....			5,000			
<b>Total, National wildlife refuge fund .....</b>	<b>11,414</b>	<b>11,414</b>	<b>16,414</b>	<b>14,414</b>	<b>14,414</b>	<b>+ 3,000</b>
North American wetlands conservation fund .....	39,912					-39,912
Conservation .....		14,912	45,000	42,000	43,500	+ 43,500
Neotropical migratory birds conservation fund .....					3,000	+ 3,000
Conservation .....			5,000			
Wildlife conservation and appreciation fund .....	795					-795
Multinational species conservation fund .....	3,243	3,243	4,000	4,000	4,000	+ 757
State wildlife grants fund .....	49,890					-49,890
Conservation .....			100,000	100,000	85,000	+ 85,000
Rescission .....				-49,890	-25,000	-25,000
<b>Total, State wildlife grants fund .....</b>	<b>49,890</b>		<b>100,000</b>	<b>50,110</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>+ 10,110</b>
Tribal wildlife grants (conservation) .....			5,000			
<b>Total, United States Fish and Wildlife Service .....</b>	<b>1,227,010</b>	<b>1,091,265</b>	<b>1,335,516</b>	<b>1,271,265</b>	<b>1,276,424</b>	<b>+ 49,414</b>
Appropriations .....	(1,212,043)	(830,256)	(874,115)	(886,754)	(896,554)	(-315,489)
Rescission .....				(-49,890)	(-25,000)	(-25,000)
Conservation .....		(261,007)	(461,401)	(434,401)	(404,870)	(+ 404,870)
Emergency appropriations .....	(14,967)					(-14,967)

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES**  
**APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 (H.R. 2217) — continued**  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. enacted
<b>National Park Service</b>						
Operation of the national park system .....	1,386,190	1,468,499	1,478,336	1,471,128	1,474,977	+88,787
Conservation .....		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	+2,000
Total, Operation of the national park system .....	1,386,190	1,470,499	1,480,336	1,473,128	1,476,977	+90,787
United States Park Police .....	77,876	65,260	65,260	66,106	65,260	-12,616
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	1,700					-1,700
Total, United States Park Police .....	79,576	65,260	65,260	66,106	65,260	-14,316
National recreation and preservation .....	59,827	48,039	51,804	66,287	66,159	+6,332
Urban park and recreation fund .....	29,934					-29,934
Conservation .....			30,000	20,000	30,000	+30,000
Historic preservation fund .....	94,239					-94,239
Conservation .....		67,055	77,000	74,000	74,500	+74,500
Construction .....	295,024	289,802	299,249	278,585	299,193	+4,169
Emergency appropriations .....	5,288					-5,288
Conservation .....		50,000	50,000	60,000	66,851	+66,851
Total, Construction .....	300,312	339,802	349,249	338,585	366,044	+65,732
Land and water conservation fund (rescission of contract authority) .....	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000	
Land acquisition and state assistance .....	215,141					-215,141
Conservation .....		557,036	281,036	287,036	274,117	+274,117
Total, National Park Service (net) .....	2,135,219	2,517,691	2,284,685	2,295,142	2,323,057	+187,838
Appropriations .....	(2,159,931)	(1,871,600)	(1,894,649)	(1,882,106)	(1,905,589)	(-254,342)
Rescission .....	(-30,000)	(-30,000)	(-30,000)	(-30,000)	(-30,000)	
Conservation .....		(676,091)	(420,036)	(443,036)	(447,468)	(+447,468)
Emergency appropriations .....	(5,288)					(-5,288)
<b>United States Geological Survey</b>						
Surveys, investigations, and research .....	880,106	813,376	875,489	867,474	889,002	+8,896
Emergency appropriations .....	2,694					-2,694
Conservation .....			25,000	25,000	25,000	+25,000
Total, United States Geological Survey .....	882,800	813,376	900,489	892,474	914,002	+31,202
<b>Minerals Management Service</b>						
Royalty and offshore minerals management .....	240,526	252,098	252,597	254,663	253,397	+12,871
Use of receipts .....	-107,410	-102,730	-102,730	-102,730	-102,730	+4,680
Oil spill research .....	6,105	6,105	6,105	6,118	6,105	
Total, Minerals Management Service .....	139,221	155,473	155,972	158,051	156,772	+17,551
<b>Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement</b>						
Regulation and technology .....	100,580	101,900	102,900	102,144	102,800	+2,220
Receipts from performance bond forfeitures (indefinite) .....	274	275	275	275	275	+1
Subtotal .....	100,854	102,175	103,175	102,419	103,075	+2,221
Abandoned mine reclamation fund (definite, trust fund) .....	201,992	166,783	203,554	203,171	203,455	+1,463
Total, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement .....	302,846	268,958	306,729	305,590	306,530	+3,684
<b>Bureau of Indian Affairs</b>						
Operation of Indian programs .....	1,737,378	1,780,486	1,790,781	1,804,322	1,799,809	+62,431
Emergency appropriations .....	1,197					-1,197
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	50,000					-50,000
Total, Operation of Indian programs .....	1,788,575	1,780,486	1,790,781	1,804,322	1,799,809	+11,234
Construction .....	356,618	357,132	357,132	360,132	357,132	+514
Indian land and water claim settlements and miscellaneous payments to Indians .....	37,443	60,949	60,949	60,949	60,949	+23,506
Indian guaranteed loan program account .....	4,977	4,986	4,986	4,986	4,986	+9
(Limitation on guaranteed loans) .....	(59,551)	(75,000)		(75,000)	(75,000)	(+15,449)
Total, Bureau of Indian Affairs .....	2,187,613	2,203,553	2,213,848	2,230,389	2,222,876	+35,263
<b>Departmental Offices</b>						
<b>Insular Affairs:</b>						
Assistance to Territories .....	47,846	41,730	44,569	48,730	51,230	+3,584
Northern Marianas .....	27,720	27,720	27,720	27,720	27,720	
Subtotal, Assistance to Territories .....	75,366	69,450	72,289	76,450	78,950	+3,584

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES  
 APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 (H.R. 2217) — continued  
 (Amounts in thousands)**

	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. enacted
Compact of Free Association .....	8,726	8,745	8,745	8,745	8,745	+ 19
Mandatory payments.....	12,000	14,500	14,500	14,500	14,500	+2,500
Subtotal, Compact of Free Association.....	20,726	23,245	23,245	23,245	23,245	+2,519
Total, Insular Affairs .....	96,092	92,695	95,534	99,695	102,195	+ 6,103
Departmental management .....	64,178	64,177	55,177	67,541	67,741	+3,563
Office of the Solicitor .....	40,108	42,207	45,000	44,074	45,000	+4,892
Office of Inspector General.....	27,785	30,490	30,490	34,302	34,302	+6,517
Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians.....	82,446	99,224	99,224	99,224	99,224	+16,778
Emergency appropriations.....	27,539					-27,539
Indian land consolidation pilot.....	8,980	10,980	10,980	10,980	10,980	+2,000
Natural resource damage assessment fund.....	5,391	5,497	5,497	5,872	5,497	+106
Total, Departmental Offices.....	352,519	345,270	341,902	361,688	364,939	+12,420
General Provisions, Department of the Interior						
Abandoned mine/acid mine drainage (PA).....	12,572					-12,572
Total, title I, Department of the Interior:						
New budget (obligational) authority (net) .....	9,386,982	9,167,124	9,411,563	9,373,683	9,435,792	+48,810
Appropriations .....	(8,805,619)	(8,186,340)	(8,408,440)	(8,356,450)	(8,430,534)	(-375,085)
Conservation.....		(1,010,784)	(1,033,123)	(1,027,123)	(1,006,258)	(+1,006,258)
Rescissions.....	(-30,000)	(-30,000)	(-30,000)	(-79,890)	(-55,000)	(-25,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(68,819)					(-68,819)
Contingent emergency appropriations.....	(542,544)			(70,000)	(54,000)	(-488,544)
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(59,551)	(75,000)		(75,000)	(75,000)	(+15,449)
TITLE II - RELATED AGENCIES						
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE						
Forest Service						
Forest and rangeland research .....	229,111	234,979	236,979	242,822	241,304	+ 12,193
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	1,400					-1,400
Total, Forest and rangeland research .....	230,511	234,979	236,979	242,822	241,304	+10,793
State and private forestry .....	271,854	176,244	173,771	186,331	190,221	-81,633
Conservation.....		61,585	104,000	101,000	101,000	+101,000
Contingent emergency appropriations.....	12,473					-12,473
Emergency appropriations.....	11,269					-11,269
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	24,500					-24,500
Total, State and private forestry.....	320,096	237,829	277,771	287,331	291,221	-28,875
National forest system .....	1,297,832	1,314,191	1,320,445	1,324,491	1,331,439	+33,607
Emergency appropriations.....	7,233					-7,233
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	12,000					-12,000
Total, National forest system.....	1,317,065	1,314,191	1,320,445	1,324,491	1,331,439	+14,374
Wildland fire management:						
Preparedness.....	611,143	622,618	616,618	622,618	622,618	+11,475
Fire suppression operations.....	226,140	321,321	321,321	221,321	255,321	+29,181
Other operations.....		336,410	464,366	271,655	336,410	+336,410
Contingent emergency appropriations.....	1,042,975					-1,042,975
Contingent emergency appropriations (Suppression) .....				100,000	266,000	+266,000
Contingent emergency appropriations (Other operations).....				65,000	80,000	+80,000
Total, Wildland fire management .....	1,880,258	1,280,349	1,402,305	1,280,594	1,560,349	-319,909
Capital improvement and maintenance.....	517,427	473,230	485,513	480,286	485,188	-32,239
Conservation.....		50,497	50,000	61,000	61,000	+61,000
Supplemental appropriations (P.L. 107-20) .....	4,000					-4,000
Total, Capital improvement and maintenance.....	521,427	523,727	535,513	541,286	546,188	+24,761
Land acquisition .....	150,872					-150,872
Conservation.....		130,877	130,877	128,877	149,742	+149,742
Acquisition of lands for national forests, special acts.....	1,067	1,069	1,069	1,069	1,069	+2
Acquisition of lands to complete land exchanges (indefinite).....	233	234	234	234	234	+1
Range betterment fund (indefinite) .....	3,293	3,290	3,290	3,290	3,290	-3
Gifts, donations and bequests for forest and rangeland research .....	92	92	92	92	92	
Management of national forest lands for subsistence uses .....	5,488	5,488	5,488	5,488	5,488	
Southeast Alaska economic disaster fund .....	4,989					-4,989

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES**  
**APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 (H.R. 2217) — continued**  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. enacted
Reduction for non-conservation funding .....		-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
Conservation (Youth Conservation Corps).....		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	+2,000
<b>Total, Forest Service .....</b>	<b>4,435,391</b>	<b>3,732,125</b>	<b>3,914,063</b>	<b>3,815,574</b>	<b>4,130,416</b>	<b>-304,975</b>
Appropriations .....	(3,361,441)	(3,487,166)	(3,627,186)	(3,357,697)	(3,470,674)	(+ 109,233)
Conservation .....		(244,959)	(286,877)	(292,877)	(313,742)	(+ 313,742)
Emergency appropriations .....	(18,502)					(-18,502)
Contingent emergency appropriations .....	(1,055,448)			(185,000)	(346,000)	(-709,448)
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY</b>						
<b>Clean coal technology:</b>						
Deferral .....	-67,000				-40,000	+27,000
<b>Fossil energy research and development.....</b>	<b>432,464</b>	<b>449,000</b>	<b>579,000</b>	<b>570,390</b>	<b>582,790</b>	<b>+150,326</b>
Strategic petroleum account (by transfer).....	(12,000)					(-12,000)
Clean coal technology (by transfer).....	(95,000)			(33,700)	(33,700)	(-61,300)
Alternative fuels production (rescission) .....	-1,000	-2,000		-2,000	-2,000	-1,000
Naval petroleum and oil shale reserves .....	1,596	17,371	17,371	17,371	17,371	+15,775
Elk Hills School lands fund.....		36,000				
Advance appropriations, FY 2002 .....	36,000					-36,000
Advance appropriations, FY 2003 .....				36,000	36,000	+36,000
(By transfer) .....			(36,000)			
<b>Energy conservation.....</b>	<b>813,442</b>	<b>755,805</b>	<b>940,805</b>	<b>870,805</b>	<b>912,805</b>	<b>+99,363</b>
Biomass energy development (by transfer) .....	(2,000)					(-2,000)
Economic regulation .....	1,996	1,996	1,996	1,996	1,996	
Strategic petroleum reserve.....	160,637	169,009	179,009	169,009	179,009	+18,372
(By transfer) .....	(4,000)					(-4,000)
Energy Information Administration.....	75,509	75,499	78,499	75,499	78,499	+2,990
<b>Total, Department of Energy:</b>						
New budget (obligational) authority (net) .....	1,453,644	1,502,680	1,796,680	1,739,070	1,766,470	+312,826
Appropriations .....	(1,485,644)	(1,504,680)	(1,796,680)	(1,705,070)	(1,772,470)	(+ 286,826)
Advance appropriations.....	(36,000)			(36,000)	(36,000)	
Rescissions .....	(-1,000)	(-2,000)		(-2,000)	(-2,000)	(-1,000)
Deferral .....	(-67,000)				(-40,000)	(+27,000)
(By transfer) .....	(113,000)		(36,000)	(33,700)	(33,700)	(-79,300)
<b>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>						
<b>Indian Health Service</b>						
Indian health services .....	2,265,663	2,387,014	2,390,014	2,388,614	2,389,614	+123,951
Indian health facilities.....	363,103	319,795	369,795	362,854	369,487	+6,384
<b>Total, Indian Health Service.....</b>	<b>2,628,766</b>	<b>2,706,809</b>	<b>2,759,809</b>	<b>2,751,468</b>	<b>2,759,101</b>	<b>+130,335</b>
<b>OTHER RELATED AGENCIES</b>						
<b>Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	14,967	15,148	15,148	15,148	15,148	+181
<b>Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development</b>						
Payment to the Institute.....	4,116	4,490	4,490	4,490	4,490	+374
<b>Smithsonian Institution</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	386,902	396,200	396,200	401,192	399,253	+12,351
Repair, restoration and alteration of facilities.....	57,473	67,900	67,900	67,900	67,900	+10,427
Construction .....	9,479	30,000	30,000	25,000	30,000	+20,521
<b>Total, Smithsonian Institution.....</b>	<b>453,854</b>	<b>494,100</b>	<b>494,100</b>	<b>494,092</b>	<b>497,153</b>	<b>+43,299</b>
<b>National Gallery of Art</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	64,638	66,229	68,987	68,967	68,967	+4,329
Repair, restoration and renovation of buildings.....	10,847	14,220	14,220	14,220	14,220	+3,373
<b>Total, National Gallery of Art.....</b>	<b>75,485</b>	<b>80,449</b>	<b>83,187</b>	<b>83,187</b>	<b>83,187</b>	<b>+7,702</b>
<b>John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts</b>						
Operations and maintenance.....	13,969	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	+1,031
Construction .....	19,956	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	-956
<b>Total, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.....</b>	<b>33,925</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>+75</b>
<b>Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	12,283	7,796	7,796	7,796	7,796	-4,487

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 (H.R. 2217) — continued  
(Amounts in thousands)**

	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. enacted
<b>National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities</b>						
<b>National Endowment for the Arts</b>						
Grants and administration .....	97,785	98,234	98,234	98,234	98,234	+ 449
<b>National Endowment for the Humanities</b>						
Grants and administration .....	104,373	104,882	107,882	109,882	108,382	+ 4,009
Matching grants .....	15,621	15,622	15,622	15,622	16,122	+ 501
<b>Total, National Endowment for the Humanities .....</b>	<b>119,994</b>	<b>120,504</b>	<b>123,504</b>	<b>125,504</b>	<b>124,504</b>	<b>+ 4,510</b>
<b>Institute of Museum and Library Services/ Office of Museum Services</b>						
Grants and administration .....	24,852	24,899	26,899	26,899	26,899	+ 2,047
<b>Challenge America Arts Fund</b>						
Challenge America grants .....	6,985	6,985	17,000	17,000	17,000	+ 10,015
<b>Total, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities .....</b>	<b>249,616</b>	<b>250,622</b>	<b>265,637</b>	<b>267,637</b>	<b>266,637</b>	<b>+ 17,021</b>
<b>Commission of Fine Arts</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	1,076	1,274	1,274	1,174	1,224	+ 148
<b>National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs</b>						
Grants .....	6,985	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	+ 15
<b>Advisory Council on Historic Preservation</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	3,182	3,310	3,400	3,310	3,400	+ 218
<b>National Capital Planning Commission</b>						
Salaries and expenses .....	6,486	7,253	7,253	7,253	7,253	+ 767
<b>United States Holocaust Memorial Council</b>						
Holocaust Memorial Museum .....	34,363	36,028	36,028	36,028	36,028	+ 1,665
<b>Presidio Trust</b>						
Presidio trust fund .....	33,327	22,427	22,427	23,125	23,125	-10,202
<b>Total, title II, related agencies:</b>						
New budget (obligational) authority (net) .....	9,447,466	8,905,511	9,452,292	9,290,352	9,842,428	+ 194,962
Appropriations .....	(8,405,516)	(8,662,552)	(9,165,415)	(8,798,475)	(8,988,686)	(+ 583,170)
Conservation .....		(244,959)	(288,877)	(292,877)	(313,742)	(+ 313,742)
Advance appropriations .....	(36,000)			(36,000)	(36,000)	
Emergency appropriations .....	(18,502)					(-18,502)
Contingent emergency appropriations .....	(1,055,448)			(165,000)	(346,000)	(-709,448)
Rescissions .....	(-1,000)	(-2,000)		(-2,000)	(-2,000)	(-1,000)
Deferral .....	(-67,000)				(-40,000)	(+ 27,000)
(By transfer) .....	(113,000)		(36,000)	(33,700)	(33,700)	(-79,300)
<b>TITLE VII</b>						
United Mine Workers of America combined benefits fund .....	57,872					-57,872
<b>Grand total:</b>						
New budget (obligational) authority (net) .....	18,892,320	18,072,635	18,863,855	18,664,035	19,078,220	+ 185,900
Appropriations .....	(17,269,007)	(16,848,892)	(17,573,855)	(17,154,925)	(17,419,220)	(+ 150,219)
Conservation .....		(1,255,743)	(1,320,000)	(1,320,000)	(1,320,000)	(+ 1,320,000)
Advance appropriations .....	(36,000)			(36,000)	(36,000)	
Emergency appropriations .....	(87,321)					(-87,321)
Contingent emergency appropriations .....	(1,597,992)			(235,000)	(400,000)	(-1,197,992)
Rescissions .....	(-31,000)	(-32,000)	(-30,000)	(-81,890)	(-57,000)	(-26,000)
Deferral .....	(-67,000)				(-40,000)	(+ 27,000)
(By transfer) .....	(113,000)		(36,000)	(33,700)	(33,700)	(-79,300)
(Limitation on guaranteed loans) .....	(59,551)	(75,000)		(75,000)	(75,000)	(+ 15,449)
<b>TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR</b>						
Bureau of Land Management .....	2,147,182	1,771,538	1,872,422	1,859,084	1,871,192	-275,990
United States Fish and Wildlife Service .....	1,227,010	1,091,265	1,335,516	1,271,265	1,276,424	+ 49,414
National Park Service .....	2,135,219	2,517,691	2,284,685	2,295,142	2,323,057	+ 187,838
United States Geological Survey .....	882,800	813,376	900,489	892,474	914,002	+ 31,202
Minerals Management Service .....	139,221	155,473	155,972	158,051	156,772	+ 17,551
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement .....	302,846	268,958	306,729	305,590	306,530	+ 3,684
Bureau of Indian Affairs .....	2,187,613	2,203,553	2,213,848	2,230,389	2,222,876	+ 35,263
Departmental Offices .....	352,519	345,270	341,902	361,688	364,939	+ 12,420
General Provisions .....	12,572					-12,572
<b>Total, Title I - Department of the Interior .....</b>	<b>9,386,982</b>	<b>9,167,124</b>	<b>9,411,563</b>	<b>9,373,683</b>	<b>9,435,792</b>	<b>+ 48,810</b>

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES**  
**APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 (H.R. 2217) — continued**  
 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. enacted
<b>TITLE II - RELATED AGENCIES</b>						
Forest Service .....	4,435,391	3,732,125	3,914,063	3,815,574	4,130,416	-304,975
Department of Energy .....	1,453,644	1,502,680	1,796,680	1,739,070	1,766,470	+312,826
Indian Health Service .....	2,628,766	2,706,809	2,759,809	2,751,468	2,759,101	+130,335
Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation .....	14,967	15,148	15,148	15,148	15,148	+181
Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts						
Development .....	4,116	4,490	4,490	4,490	4,490	+374
Smithsonian Institution .....	453,854	494,100	494,100	494,092	497,153	+43,299
National Gallery of Art .....	75,485	80,449	83,187	83,187	83,187	+7,702
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts .....	33,925	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	+75
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars .....	12,283	7,796	7,796	7,796	7,796	-4,487
National Endowment for the Arts .....	97,785	98,234	98,234	98,234	98,234	+449
National Endowment for the Humanities .....	119,994	120,504	123,504	125,504	124,504	+4,510
Institute of Museum and Library Services .....	24,852	24,899	26,899	26,899	26,899	+2,047
Challenge America Arts Fund .....	6,985	6,985	17,000	17,000	17,000	+10,015
Commission of Fine Arts .....	1,076	1,274	1,274	1,174	1,224	+148
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs .....	6,985	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	+15
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation .....	3,182	3,310	3,400	3,310	3,400	+218
National Capital Planning Commission .....	6,486	7,253	7,253	7,253	7,253	+767
Holocaust Memorial Council .....	34,363	36,028	36,028	36,028	36,028	+1,665
Presidio Trust .....	33,327	22,427	22,427	23,125	23,125	-10,202
<b>Total, Title II - Related Agencies .....</b>	<b>9,447,466</b>	<b>8,905,511</b>	<b>9,452,292</b>	<b>9,290,352</b>	<b>9,642,428</b>	<b>+194,962</b>
<b>TITLE VII</b>						
United Mine Workers of America combined benefits fund .....	57,872					-57,872
<b>Grand total .....</b>	<b>18,892,320</b>	<b>18,072,635</b>	<b>18,863,855</b>	<b>18,664,035</b>	<b>19,078,220</b>	<b>+185,900</b>

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) under my reservation.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for reserving his reservation and also for yielding the time. I just want to comment on one aspect of the conference committee report, and I want to thank the conference committee for its attention.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on a provision affecting the tribal interests in my district, the Lytton Rancheria in California and in the City of San Pablo. Last year the appropriate authorizing committees in both the House and the Senate developed authorizing language to address a land into trust provision unique to the Lytton Rancheria.

This conference committee revisited this issue in the Subcommittee on Interior of the Committee on Appropriations due to the exceptionally unique circumstances which necessitated the enactment of Section 819 of Public Law 106-568, taking lands into trust for the purposes of gaming.

I want to clarify that our action here did not diminish requirements that the tribe fully comply with provisions of Public Law 100-497 and in particular, with respect to Class III gaming, the compact provision of Section 2710(d) or any relevant Class III gaming procedures.

I want to thank the conferees for their attention to this issue and the determination that the tribe must proceed according to current law.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on a provision affecting tribal interests in my district—the Lytton Rancheria of California and the City of San Pablo. Last year the appropriate authorizing committees in both the House and the Senate developed authorizing language to address a land into trust provision unique to the Lytton Rancheria. This conference committee revisited this issue in the Interior Appropriations bill due to the exceptional and unique circumstances which necessitated the enactment of Section 819 of P.L. 106-568, taking lands into trust for the purposes of gaming. I want to clarify that our action here did not diminish the requirement that the tribe fully comply with the provisions of P.L. 100-497 and in particular, with respect to Class III gaming, the compact provision of Section 2710(d) or any relevant Class III gaming procedures.

I want to thank the conferees for their attention to this issue and determination that the tribe proceed according to current law.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Continuing under my reservation, I am happy to yield to the distinguished chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I would like to say to the Members of the House, Mr. Speaker, that this conference went very smooth because of

the good work being done by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the chairman, and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS), the ranking member.

The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and I had an opportunity to participate in this conference agreement. Our colleagues in the Senate did as well. Most of the controversies were almost all eliminated. We have a good bill here today, and I appreciate the gentleman reserving the right to object so that we can have this brief dialogue on this bill, and I would hope that we would receive the support of the membership.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), and continuing under my reservation, Mr. Speaker, since the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS) is not here, I just would like to make one comment.

I think this bill is a perfectly reasonable bill and I intend to support it. I am especially pleased with the fact that the new conservation initiative known in some corners as the Lands Legacy Variation, I am very pleased with the funding level provided in this bill for that item.

As the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) knows, last year we had a huge argument about whether or not land purchasing programs ought to be consolidated into a giant entitlement program. It was the feeling of the committee that we could make land acquisition a high priority without turning it into an entitlement. The subcommittee was then chaired by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS), and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA) and myself and several others worked out the agreement at that time to maintain that as an expanded discretionary program. We indicated at the time that we intended to keep stepping that program up, to keep pace with the needs.

The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) has seen to it that this has happened along with other conferees, and certainly the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS). I am very pleased by that. I think this has been a very large step forward in the conservation area, and I think the entire Congress can be proud of it.

I want to thank also the staff on the committee for the excellent work that they have done.

Mr. MCCRERY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman, Mr. SKEEN and the ranking member, Mr. DICKS, on their hard work on this important appropriations legislation before the House today. This bill provides funding for many important programs in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, just to name a few. So thank you both for making sure these vital programs received appropriate funding.

Recently, I and several of my distinguished colleagues from Louisiana, sent a letter requesting that the Interior Conference Committee consider the inclusion of language in this bill that is very important to some of our constituents, the Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana. We sent the letter to bring to the attention of the Interior Conferees a situation that has unfortunately developed in Louisiana.

The Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana currently services over 450 tribal members through Indian Health Services or IHS funds, and expects this number to rise due to its ever-increasing population. Unfortunately, access to IHS or tribally operated facilities and hospital access for certain medical needs, such as dialysis machines and specialized medical treatments, is limited. This is particularly problematic, given that diabetes is the Tribe's most critical health care problem. Consequently, because this type of care is not provided on-reservation, the Coshatta's health care costs have increased dramatically because tribal members must obtain services from local and community health centers.

The Tribe does receive funding from IHS for health services performed off reservation but current levels fall significantly short of budget. Like most of Indian Country, the Coshatta Tribe needs more money for preventive care. They need to purchase necessary medical equipment, increase the clinic's hours of operation and hire a full-time physician to staff the clinic. The Tribe is fully committed to providing quality health care to its tribal members and in fact currently dedicates many of its own resources to this cause. Additional IHS funding would go a long way in helping the Coshatta Tribe meet the health care needs of its members.

Additional funds are key here and on that point, I'd like to commend the Conferees for including much needed additional funds for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. More specifically, I was pleased to see the Contract Health Services account increased. These funds will go a long way to address the health needs of the Native American tribes across the United States. I also want to specifically thank Mr. DICKS and all of the Conferees for their commitment to work with the Louisiana delegation to ensure that the Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana is the recipient of some of these funds so they can address their critical health care needs.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as the House considers passage of the conference report on the Interior Appropriations bill for FY 2002, I wanted to speak about the issue of Compact Impact Aid funding for Guam.

While I am pleased that the conference report includes \$6.38 million for Guam, \$4 million for Hawaii, and \$2 million for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, I remain concerned about the failure of the federal government to identify a better funding solution for areas impacted by the migrations of citizens from the Freely Associated States. Guam received \$7.58 million and \$9.58 million for FY 2000 and FY 2001, respectively. Because of the failure of the federal government to identify other sources of funding, Guam, the CNMI, and Hawaii are forced to secure funding from the same source, out of the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs's budget.

This should not be the case as funding for overall territorial funding has decreased over the last decade. Other federal agencies like the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Labor should also be viewed as potential sources of long term funding.

Guam is impacted more than any other territory or state by the unmonitored migration to Guam by citizens of the Freely Associated States in Micronesia that continues to have significant financial and social impacts on our island. Since the Compact of Free Association was established in 1986, Guam only started to receive Compact Impact Aid in FY 1996. During the FY 1996–FY1999 period, Guam received \$4.58 million annually from the Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs budget. However, the Government of Guam expends between \$15–\$25 million annually to provide educational and social services for migrants from the Freely Associated States under the Compact agreements.

Although there continues to be differences between the Government of Guam and the Department of Interior on the actual impact costs, the Department of Interior has acknowledged "best estimates" of \$12.8 million for compact costs to Guam annually. The Government of Guam estimates that it has spent \$180 million between 1986–2000 for Compact Impact costs, while federal reimbursement has been \$41 million through FY 2001. Most recently, the General Accounting Office released on October 5, 2001, report entitled, "Migration from Micronesia Nations Has Had Significant Impact on Guam, Hawaii, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands." The report concluded that Freely Associated States migration has clearly had a significant impact on Guam, Hawaii, and the CNMI, and noted that it particularly affected the budgetary resources of Guam and the CNMI, "locations that have relatively small populations and budgets, and economies that have recently suffered economic setbacks." As the U.S. government continues to negotiate expiring provisions of the Compact agreements with the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, I hope that policymakers will take a careful look at some of the findings in this GAO report.

This is a difficult time for all Americans and all jurisdictions need assistance. Guam is facing a particularly difficult time. The terrorist attacks have caused a downturn in tourism and serious economic difficulties for Guam. Even prior to the attacks, Guam had a 15% unemployment rate due to Asian economic problems. Guam was not in a position to deal with these costs in the past few years. Given the current situation, Guam is in an even more precarious situation.

Rest assured that I will make sure that Congress has a strong say on the inadequate funding levels and funding sources for Compact Impact aid, as well as migration provisions, on any proposed agreements.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Interior Appropriations Conference Report for FY 2002 and I want to express by sincerest thanks to Chairman SKEEN and Ranking Member DICKS for their support of the provisions in the bill to aid the Virgin Islands in overcoming its fiscal crisis.

I want to also commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for the skillful way in which they guided the Interior bill through the legislative process this year. I cannot remember a time, during my tenure in Congress, that the Interior Appropriations bill has been one of the first to clear both houses of Congress with near unanimous support.

Mr. Speaker, the Conference Agreement is \$186 million over FY 2001, \$214 million over the House bill and \$414 million over the Senate bill. It fully funds the new Conservation Trust Fund and provides and increase of about 50% for our nation's weatherization programs for low-income families. The National Endowment for the Arts is funded at a \$10 million increase over last year and it provides no funding for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWAR) while funding certain Department of Energy programs at a \$313 million increase over last year.

This is a good bill; a fair bill and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today in support of H.R. 2217, the fiscal year 2002 Interior appropriations conference report. This Member also commends the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), Chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, and the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS), the Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee for their hard work on this important bill.

This Member is appreciative of the \$15 million appropriation for continued construction for the replacement Indian Health Service Hospital located in Winnebago, Nebraska. Of course, it is unfortunate that the appropriation is less than the Administration's request and the House-passed allocation which would have completed the appropriations for the hospital project; however, at least construction can continue under this reduced funding level. Furthermore, this Member would like to thank the Members of the Subcommittee and the Subcommittee staff for the invaluable assistance they have provided over the years in obtaining funding for this new hospital, which is much needed and will greatly benefit Native Americans in Nebraska.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, this Member urges his colleagues to support H.R. 2217.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my disappointment that this conference report does not contain the important mining protections of the Inslee-Horn Amendment which the House strongly endorsed when we first considered this bill in June.

There was bipartisan support for this amendment, which would have kept in place badly needed protections for the environment, taxpayers and the health of western communities against the most irresponsible mining practices.

Such protections are needed because independent reports estimate the old mining laws have left taxpayers with a potential cleanup liability in excess of \$1 billion.

The old regulations and the 1872 mining law simply did not account for destructive new practices like open pit mining with chemicals such as cyanide and sulfuric acid. These new 3809 regulations are the first attempt to address environmental and taxpayer problems arising from modern mines.

These protections were the work of four years of public input and continue to enjoy strong public support. During a 45-day public comment period on the proposed weakening of the mining rules, 47,000 citizens (out of 49,000 comments received) opposed weakening the rule.

Even though the Inslee-Horn Amendment was not included in this report, we must continue to urge the Interior Department to leave the current rules in place. In particular we must retain: strong water resource protections and cleanup standards; strong bonding requirements; and the ability for federal land managers to deny the most irresponsible mines.

Taxpayer protections without adequate environmental standards on destructive

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Interior Conference Report. This bill includes important funding for conservation programs and includes monies for the maintenance of wildlife habitat protection in national parks, forests and refuge areas. I am especially happy to see that 65 million dollars was included for the Forest Legacy Program which provides assistance in the private and voluntary conservation of our forest lands, including \$2 million dollars to protect the Adirondack Lakes in beautiful upstate New York. Since 1990 the Forest Legacy Program has protected nearly 100,000 acres of forest lands in eight states, ensuring that these lands will never be developed but will be managed sustainably and continue to provide much needed raw materials for today's marketplace. In addition, given the recent attacks on New York City and the threat of bioterrorism we have been very concerned about the quality of our water supply.

The \$500,000 dollars designated in the Forest Legacy Program for the New York City watershed project is an important and vital step in protecting New York City's drinking water. The critical funding of the Forest Legacy Program will ensure that these areas continue to provide recreational opportunities, filter our water, clean our air, and protect tourism and forest product jobs in the area. I am also pleased that this legislation includes \$98 million for the National Endowment for the Arts and \$125 million for the National Endowment of the Humanities, amounts which exceed the current funding levels for these valuable agencies. We cannot ignore the rich cultural benefits that the arts provide to our nation. Additionally, the arts generate approximately \$3.6 billion each year for local economies across the country.

I am disappointed that an oil royalties amendment of mine—which was included in the House-passed version of the bill—was removed in conference. The amendment would have ensured that the Royalty in Kind program would not continue to lose money for America's tax payers. I offered the amendment to guarantee that oil industry fees, collected through the so-called "Royalty in Kind" program, earn at least fair market value or more. I will continue to work on this issue; we must stop what I consider to be a Corporate Welfare Scheme.

Mr. Speaker, I support the conference report and I want to thank the Conferees for working together to bring to the floor an Appropriations

bill that both sides of the aisle can and should support.

I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill, representing a fair compromise between the versions that were passed in each House. While I certainly would have preferred a higher level of funding in some of the key programs of this bill, I am encouraged by many elements of the compromise. The conference report represents a fair effort to provide the necessary funds to maintain the National Park System and our federal land management agencies, to address tribal needs through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to increase wildfire readiness, to encourage important energy research and conservation programs, and to offer the small—but important—cultural funding through the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

One of the most important aspects of this bill and of the conference report, I believe, was the decision to honor the commitment we made last year when we enacted the Conservation Spending Trust Fund. I am extremely pleased that both the House and Senate bills contained full funding of \$1.32 billion for these conservation programs—a dramatic increase over the \$1.2 billion that was provided in the current year and \$637 million in Fiscal Year 2000. This six-year effort represents the most significant increase ever approved for conservation spending across federal environmental accounts that will boost land acquisition, maintenance and wildlife habitat protection in national parks, forests and refuge areas. This was an important step taken last year in the House, and I am proud that we have brought the final version of the Fiscal Year 2002 bill to the floor in a form that included all of the funding anticipated in the second year of this conservation spending agreement.

Despite an allocation in conference that was lower than many of us would have preferred, I am very pleased that this conference agreement funds several specific programs at adequate levels, including:

- \$85 million for State Wildlife Grants;
- \$140 million for stateside Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants;
- \$50 million for the new Land Owner Incentive Program;
- \$115 million for the National Endowment for the Arts;

- A 50 percent increase for the Weatherization program over last year's level;

- \$2.2 billion for National Fire Plan activities, \$300 million over the President's budget request.

As the Ranking Democratic Member of the Interior Subcommittee, I want to thank all of my colleagues in the House for the substantial input and advice you have given to me and to our staff, and I assure you that I have made a diligent effort to attempt to address as many of those concerns as possible within the limitations of our allocation. I also want to thank the professional staff of the Interior Subcommittee for the long hours and meticulous attention to detail that has characterized their work on this legislation. Every member of the Subcommittee—Democrats as well as Republicans—appreciates their hard work under tight deadlines.

So I urge my colleagues to approve this bill. I am convinced that it responds to the most urgent environmental needs of our nation at this time, and that it addresses the major priorities of the Interior Department and the related programs with the Departments of Agriculture and Energy.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Both sides have yielded back all time for debate on the conference report.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the conference report.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on adoption of the conference report are postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2904, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2904, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I call up the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2904) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House without intervention of any point of order.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

(For conference report and statement see proceedings of the House of Tuesday, October 6, 2001, at page H6831).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, but I have only reserved the right to object here in order to give the gentleman from Ohio an opportunity to explain what we are doing here.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OLVER. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, as the manager of this conference agreement,

I do not intend to use any of the hour on general debate; however, I would like to have the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) recognized.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I too wanted to object with the reservation on this for the purpose of asking the chairman and the ranking member a few questions about the bill. But I also do not intend to object to the bill but I want to reserve the right to do that. So if it is appropriate on the gentleman's time frame, I would like to ask a couple of questions if the gentleman will continue to yield.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I continue to yield to the gentleman on my reservation.

Mr. KINGSTON. I thank both of the gentlemen and I want to say that my office and the gentleman's committee have worked very diligently for over a year now on a housing issue for Fort Stewart, Georgia and the City of Hinesville, Georgia, that I will not go into the details of. It is a project, as we know, that the staff on the committee is somewhat familiar with.

We have worked hard on this and have also had the honor of having the chairman of the committee come to our area and meet with several of the elected officials from Hinesville and Liberty County, Georgia, and I have been assured that we had this project under control and moving in the right direction.

Yesterday upon my return to Washington I was extremely shocked and extremely disappointed to find out that a problem had developed on this project, and even though it did pass the House, when this bill left the House it unfortunately disappeared in the conference committee. Maybe there was some lukewarm support or lukewarm objections from the Senate, but I also understand that there was a glitch with the authorizing committee, which I did not know about. So I wanted to express these concerns to the chairman and the ranking member and kind of flush it out for maybe next year if that is our only fallback position at this time.

Again, this was a very vital and important project for the folks in Hinesville, Georgia and Liberty County and Fort Stewart as well.

Mr. HOBSON. If I may respond, if the gentleman will continue to yield, first of all, I want my colleagues to know that I feel very badly about this because I have been to Hinesville and I have been involved in this project. I want to see this project succeed. This is a new type of situation that we really have not done before in the military, and that is one of the reasons I wanted to do it.

This helps the community, it helps the Army, and I think it helps the