Conference Report: FY 2019 Energy and Water Development Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Legislative Branch Appropriations Minibus

Division A: Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies
$44.64 billion in discretionary funding - $1.44 billion above FY18

Investing in American Infrastructure:
- Provides an increase in funds for our nation’s water resources infrastructure by directing $7 billion the Army Corps of Engineers, a $172 million increase above the 2018 level
- $3.2 billion for navigation projects and studies that will advance American competitiveness and export ability, and improve the functionality of our ports and waterways
- $2 billion for flood and storm damage reduction activities that will improve public health and safety in communities across the country

Prioritizing National Security
- $15.23 billion for the Department of Energy’s nuclear weapons security programs, $560 million above 2018 enacted levels
- $120 million for research and development to strengthen the security of our electric grid

Targeting Funds for Economic Growth
- $13.5 billion for the Department of Energy’s energy programs, $554 million above 2018 enacted level, including:
  - $2.38 billion for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, $57 million above 2018 level
  - $1.949 billion for Nuclear Nonproliferation
  - Maintains the Department of Energy’s loan guarantee programs

Division B: Legislative Branch
$4.836 billion in discretionary funding, $130 million above 2018 enacted
Prioritizing Safety and Security

- $456.3 million for the Capitol Police, $29.8 million above 2018 levels, to enhance the safety and security of the Capitol Complex for Members, staff, and thousands of guests who visit each day
- 733.7 million for the Architect of the Capitol to make essential security and safety improvements to the historic buildings of the U.S. Capitol
- Includes $696 million for the Library of Congress, modernizing the Library’s information technology

Partnerships with Higher Education

- Dedicates funding for paid internships, which will open the door to a broader pool of students and young people who have the ability and interest to serve Congress

Maintaining Fiscal Responsibility

- Maintains the 10% spending cut for Congress that has been in place since FY 2010
- Continues the Member pay freeze that has been in place since FY 2010
- Provides $589.75 million, a $10.8 million increase, for the Government Accountability Office, to continue GAO’s critical oversight work that provides Congress with accurate, nonpartisan reporting of how taxpayer dollars are spent

Division C: Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

$98.1 billion in discretionary funding - $5.3 billion above 2018 enacted

Supporting our Veterans

- $86.5 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs, an increase of $5 billion above the 2018 level – the largest dollar amount in the history of the VA
- $72.3 billion for VA medical care
  - $8.6 billion for mental health care services
  - $400 million for opioid abuse prevention
• $1.1 billion to modernize the VA’s electronic health record system to provide seamless care to veterans as they transition from military service
• $192 million for the Inspector General, $28 million above the 2018 level specifically for VA investigations;
• Provides resources needed to address the overwhelming number of allegations being reported;
• Speeds up claim processing for more than 450K veterans who are waiting for the compensation they deserve.

**Improving VA Financial Management**
• Strengthens oversight and accountability to ensure taxpayer dollars are being used wisely to benefit our veterans:
  o Stronger oversight and limits on VA construction projects
  o $192 million for the Inspector General, $28 million above 2018 level

**Rebuilding our Military Infrastructure**
• $10.3 billion for military construction projects for our service members and their families, a $241 million increase from 2018
• $1.6 billion for family housing, $173 million above 2018 level
• $352 million for the construction or alteration of new or existing military medical facilities
• $100 million for enhancing anti-terrorism efforts, Force protection, and safety on military installations