

Reasons to Vote Against H.R. 7617

H.R. 7617 contains seven appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21):

- Defense;
- Commerce, Justice, and Science;
- Energy and Water Development;
- Financial Services and General Government;
- Homeland Security;
- Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; and
- Transportation, Housing and Urban Development.

\$1.367 trillion in discretionary spending, which includes \$68.6 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism funding and \$210 billion in emergency funding

*Democrats have chosen to play politics with the appropriations process instead of working to craft bipartisan legislation for FY21 that Members on both sides of the aisle can support and the President can sign into law. **Like the first appropriations package the House considered last week, this package of appropriations bills spends billions of dollars on top of what the current budget agreement allows. Existing, bipartisan provisions are removed, and controversial policies and funding proposals are inserted.***

EXCESSIVE SPENDING

- Designates \$210 billion as “emergency” spending, which is additional funding on top of the budget caps in the Bipartisan Budget Act signed into law last year. Within the total,
 - \$186 billion is for the Democrats’ partisan infrastructure plan; and
 - Another \$24 billion is for coronavirus relief, even though the Democrats passed \$3 trillion in supplemental appropriations in May and those needs are being considered in the Senate.

CONTROVERSIAL POLICIES AND FUNDING PROPOSALS

JEOPARDIZES OUR NATION’S SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Repeals both the 2001 and 2002 Authorizations for Use of Military Force (AUMF), which would jeopardize the military’s ability to conduct counterterrorism operations worldwide.
- Emboldens Iran and prevents the United States from exercising the right to defend ourselves and our allies, such as Israel, by prohibiting action against Iran unless the United States declares war or Iran attacks us first.
- Does not stop the self-professed mastermind of the September 11th attacks and other terrorists at Guantanamo Bay detention camp from being brought to U.S. soil or sent to another country.
- Underfunds activities that maintain and modernize our nuclear weapons stockpile.
- Undercuts America’s path toward renewed space supremacy and dominance over China.

CONTROVERSIAL POLICIES AND FUNDING PROPOSALS (CONT.)

DEFUNDS THE POLICE AND TARGETS LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Appeals voices calling for the defunding of police by:
 - Prohibiting state and local law enforcement agencies from receiving excess military equipment, including bullet-proof vests and other items needed to protect and serve communities;
 - Underfunding the Federal law enforcement agencies of the Department of Justice; and
 - Halting state and local grant funding for school hardening equipment, drug trafficking investigations, suicide prevention measures, and other law enforcement assistance until numerous policing reform laws are enacted at the state and local levels.
- Funds a police misconduct registry that would be required by law to report baseless accusations.

ENCOURAGES ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

- Prevents funds from being used for a border wall system along the southern border, rescinds funds made available for the border wall last year, and restricts funds from Treasury Department seizures and confiscations from being used to address the border crisis.
- Provides free lawyers for migrants crossing the southern border.
- Allows recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals to be eligible for Federal employment.
- Hinders efforts to address the backlog of 1.2 million pending immigration cases, slowing the removal of unauthorized aliens and delaying justice for aliens eligible for immigration relief.
- Cuts funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention beds, thereby restricting ICE's ability to enforce laws on the books and detain criminals.
- Prohibits the Administration from implementing policies to stem the flow of illegal immigration and human trafficking.

REVERSES PRO-LIFE POLICIES AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PROTECTIONS

- Makes changes to family planning grants, requiring funds to go to Planned Parenthood clinics.
- Blocks the Administration's rule with respect to conscience protection from going into effect.
- Forces faith-based providers to discuss abortions, even if they have a personal objection.
- Allows District of Columbia local funds to be used to pay for abortions.

SLOWS ECONOMIC RECOVERY

- Prevents the Administration from enforcing regulations and rules that protect jobs and reignite the economy.
- Limits the ability of the Securities and Exchange Commission to help small businesses and Main Street investors.

INCLUDES OTHER HARMFUL PROVISIONS

- Directs \$100 million to ineffective outreach programs for failed Obamacare (Navigator Grants).
- Blocks critical water storage projects in the West where droughts are common.
- Increases energy efficiency and renewable energy, but nuclear and fossil energy are below FY20.
- Prevents funds from being reallocated from the failed California High-Speed Rail project.
- Eliminates several long-standing, bipartisan Second Amendment protections.
- Prohibits the Census Bureau from compiling any 2020 Census data regarding citizenship.
- Allows Election Security Grants to go to states without laws that prohibit a foreign national from collecting ballots.
- Limits the Administration's ability to negotiate collective bargaining agreements with unions.
- Limits education choice for low-income students in the District of Columbia.