



UPDATED - Amendments (Part 1) to H.R. 6147: Interior & Environment, Financial Services & General Government Appropriations Act, 2019 (Rep. Calvert, R-CA)

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FLOOR SCHEDULE:

H.R. 6147 is expected to be considered beginning on July 17, 2018, under a [structured rule](#).

According to the House Majority Whip's Office, amendment debate is expected to begin on the evening of July 17, 2018, with any request for a recorded vote rolled to the following day.

The rule would make in order 70 amendments to the Interior & Environment Appropriations Act and 16 amendments to the Financial Services & General Government Appropriations Act.

Further amendments will be summarized in additional Legislative Bulletins

Amendments 1 – 41 Made in Order Under the Rule:

Division A: Interior & Environment Appropriations Act, 2019

1. [Biggs \(R-AZ\) \(#129\)](#): This amendment would reduce by \$2.4 million funding for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Land acquisition account and increase by \$1.5 million the National Park Service (NPS) Operation of the National Park System account with the intent that such funds be used to address the NPS maintenance backlog.

Some conservative may believe that addressing the maintenance backlog would be a more efficient use of taxpayer resources than adding even more land to an overburdened federal property portfolio.

2. [Kustoff \(R-TN\) \(#151\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$5 million within the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Agency Resource Management account be used for "controlling Invasive Asian Carp in the Mississippi and Ohio River Basins and preventing them from entering and establishing in the inland river systems of Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee."
3. [Soto \(D-FL\) \(#84\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$500,000 within the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Agency Resource Management account be used for "the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species."

4. [Lance \(R-NJ\) \(#87\)](#): This amendment would reduce funding by \$3.85 million for the USFWS Construction account and increase funding for the USFWS Agency Resource Management account by \$1 million with the intent that such funds be used for the [Delaware River Basin Restoration Program](#).
5. [Courtney \(D-CT\) \(#105\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$300,000 within the NPA Operation of the National Park System be used for the [New England Scenic Trail](#).

Some conservatives may be concerned that while this amendment may not technically violate the prohibition on earmarks contained in the House Republican Conference rules, it is nonetheless highly parochial in nature in that the only runs through two states, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

6. [Blumenauer \(D-OR\) \(#50\)](#): This amendment would increase funding by \$5 million for the NPS Historic Preservation Fund and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

Some conservatives may feel that that expending government funds on preservation grants that largely go to restore and preserve local buildings and sites is an inappropriate use of federal funds and should be paid for by local and state governments. Further, funding for these grants come from Outer Continental Shelf oil lease revenues which are primarily intended to offset the disparate impacts of some offshore oil and gas exploration and production activity borne by coastal states and localities

7. [Sewell \(D-AL\) \(#89\)](#): This amendment would increase funding by \$2.5 million for the NPS Historic Preservation account for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights Movement, and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

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8. [Jackson Lee \(D-TX\) \(#164\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$500,000 of funds provided to the NPS Historic Preservation Fund account be used for "competitive grants for the survey and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks associated with communities currently under-represented."

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9. [Clyburn \(D-SC\) \(#18\)](#): This amendment would increase funding by \$2 million for the NPS Historic Preservation account for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

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10. [Jackson Lee \(D-TX\) \(#165\)](#): This amendment would increase funding for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities by \$1 million within funding appropriated to the NPS Historic Preservation Fund.
11. [Poe \(R-TX\) \(#131\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$20 million of funds within the NPS Historic Preservation account, specifically those allocated to Save America's Treasures grants, be used for the [National Maritime Heritage grant program](#).

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12. [Dingell \(D-MI\) \(#75\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$250,000 of funding appropriated to the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) Surveys, Investigations, and Research account be used to "continue and expand advanced technologies research in the Ecosystem Fisheries Program."
13. [Courtney \(D-CT\) \(#103\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$250,000 of funding appropriated to the USGS Surveys, Investigations, and Research account be used to "develop a map showing pyrrhotite occurrences across the United States."
14. [Hanabusa \(D-HI\) \(#39\)](#): This amendment would increase the USGS Surveys, Investigations and Research account by \$4.8 million, with the intent that this amount be used for the Volcano Hazards Program to ameliorate impacts caused by volcanic eruptions, and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.
15. [Kildee \(D-MI\) \(#9\)](#): This amendment would increase funding by \$1 million to USGS Surveys, Investigations and Research account with the intent that it be used "to eradicate grass carp" and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.
16. [Johnson \(R-OH\) \(#94\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$30 million funding for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund's grants to States for economic and community development activities associated with the reclamation of abandoned mine lands, with the intent that these funds be used to "provide for a balanced distribution of funds among Appalachian states." The bill presently dictates that funding appropriated for these activities be directed in equal amounts to the three Appalachian States with the largest unfunded needs for the reclamation of [Priority 1 and Priority 2 sites](#).
17. [Johnson \(R-OH\) \(#92\)](#): This amendment would expand the number of Appalachian states eligible for funding for economic and community development activities associated with the reclamation of abandoned mine lands from the 3 with the largest unfunded needs for the reclamation of [Priority 1 and Priority 2 sites](#) to the 6 with the largest unfunded needs for the reclamation of Priority 1 and Priority 2 sites.

18. [O'Halleran \(D-AZ\) \(#20\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$36 million of funds appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Construction account be used for "public safety and justice facility construction."
19. [O'Halleran \(D-AZ\) \(#19\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$10 million funding for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Construction account and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.
20. [Plaskett \(D-VI\) \(#69\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$3.8 million funding for Assistance to Territories within the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs. Such funding is to be used for the Office's salaries and local activities such as coral reef initiatives and brown tree snake control and research. The amendment would also reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

Some conservatives may believe that the activities funded by the Assistance to Territories program are inherently local in nature and thus should be funded by the territory in question.

21. [Moore, Gwen \(D-WI\) \(#16\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$500,000 funding for the Smithsonian Institution's Salaries and Expenses account, with the intent that this funding be used to "better support efforts, including the creation of temporary or permanent exhibits that better tell and increase understanding and education about the history, voices, and narratives of underrepresented communities, including African-Americans and tribal communities," and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

Conservatives may believe that funding for the Smithsonian Institution falls outside the scope of Congress's Article I, Section 8 authorities, and is low priority at a time when our national debt is over \$21 trillion.

22. [Welch \(D-VT\) \(#123\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$4 million funding for EPA Geographic programs, with the intent that it be used for the Lake Champlain Basin Program, and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

The [RSC Budget](#) for FY 2019 and the President's Budget request for FY 2019 would eliminate Geographic programs. As the RSC Budget notes, "These activities should be funded by the communities that benefit from them, not the federal government."

23. [Vargas \(D-CA\) \(#59\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$5 million funding for the U.S.-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program within the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.
24. [Esty \(D-CT\) \(#82\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$7 million funding within the EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants STAG account to carry out the EPA's Brownsfields program and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.
25. [Grijalva \(D-AZ\) \(#96\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$2.5 million funding for the Department of the Interior Inspector General's Office and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.

26. **[Denham \(R-CA\) \(#26\)](#)**: This amendment would increase by \$2 million [Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation \(WIFIA\)](#) administrative expenses funding by \$2 million and reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary of the Interior's Department Operations account by the same amount.
27. **[O'Halleran \(D-AZ\) \(#21\)](#)**: This amendment would increase by \$3 million funding [Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation](#), Salaries and Expenses account and reduce funding for the [Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians](#) by the same amount.
28. **[Heck \(D-WA\) \(#91\)](#)**: This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$500,000 of funds appropriated to the EPA Science and Technology account should be used by the EPA to fund the [Clean Watersheds Needs Survey](#).
29. **[Adams, Alma \(D-NC\) \(#121\)](#)**: This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$742,000 within the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account be use "to emphasize the need for greater funding for the Environmental Justice program area within the account."

The [President's Budget](#) request for FY 2018 proposed eliminating the Environmental Justice Program. Also, the [RSC Budget](#) supports Rep. Sam Johnson's H.R. 958, the Wasteful EPA Programs Elimination Act of 2017 which, among other things, would eliminate the Environmental Justice Program.

30. **[Soto \(D-FL\) \(#72\)](#)**: This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$468,000 of funding appropriated to the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account be used for the National Estuary Program.
31. **[Langevin \(D-RI\) \(#31\)](#)**: This amendment would increase by \$1 million funding for EPA Geographic Programs, with the intent that it be used for the Southern New England Estuaries Program, and reduce by the same amount funding for Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Grants.

The [RSC Budget](#) for FY 2019 and the President's Budget request for FY 2019 would eliminate Geographic programs. As the RSC Budget notes, "These activities should be funded by the communities that benefit from them, not the federal government."

The [RSC Budget](#) for FY 2019 would eliminate DERA grants. It notes, "Grants made under Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) have gone to wasteful projects involving cherry pickers, electrifying parking spaces at rest stops, and retrofitting old tractors."

32. **[Jayapal \(D-WA\) \(#54\)](#)**: This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that enforcement of EPA's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability ("[Superfund](#)") Act is important.
33. **[Palmer \(R-AL\) \(#65\)](#)**: This amendment would eliminates funding for the DERA grant program and sends the savings to the spending reduction account.

The [RSC Budget](#) for FY 2019 would eliminate DERA grants. It notes, "Grants made under Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) have gone to wasteful projects involving cherry pickers, electrifying parking spaces at rest stops, and retrofitting old tractors."

Key Vote Yes: [National Taxpayer's Union](#)
 Outside Group Support: [Heritage Foundation](#)

34. [LaMalfa \(R-CA\) \(#135\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$5 million funding for the National Forest Service's National Forest System account, with the intent that the funds be used for eradicating, enforcing, and remediating illegal marijuana grow operations on National Forest System land, and reduce the Forest Service's Forest and Rangeland Research account by the same amount.
35. [Welch \(D-VT\) \(#122\)](#): This amendment is intended to express the Congressional intent that \$5 million within the Forest Service's State and Private Forestry Account be used "to help mitigate the spread of and the [Emerald Ash Borer](#)."
36. [Polis \(D-CO\) \(#108\)](#): This amendment would increase the Forest Service's State and Private Forestry Account by \$2 million, with the intent that it be used for the Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program, and decrease the Forest Service's Wildland Fire Management account by the same amount.
37. [Polis \(D-CO\) \(#107\)](#): This amendment would increase by \$10 million funding for hazardous fuels management activities of the Forest Service, and reduce by the same amount funding for the Forest Service's [forest products program](#).
38. [Biggs \(R-AZ\) \(#111\)](#): This amendment would reduce the Forest Service land acquisition account by 10% (\$3.5 million) and send the savings to the spending reduction account.

The [RSC Budget](#) of FY 2019 would eliminate land acquisition funding.

Key Vote Yes: [National Taxpayer's Union](#)

39. [Grothman \(R-WI\) \(#169\)](#): This amendment would reduce funding for the National Endowment on the Arts and the Humanities by 15% (\$46.5 million) and send the savings to the spending reduction account.

The [RSC Budget](#) would eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, stating "The federal government should not be in the business of funding the arts. The Constitution is clear about the federal government's proper role "to promote the progress of Science and useful Arts" as the protection of private property rights: "securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries". Support for the arts can easily and more properly be found from non-governmental sources." The [President's budget request](#) would also eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Key Vote Yes: [National Taxpayer's Union](#)

40. [Beyer \(D-VA\) \(#26\)](#): This amendment strikes section 430, which would prohibit the use of funds to require permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material under the Clean Water Act (CWA) for agricultural activities identified in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of [Section 404\(f\)\(1\) of the CWA](#).
41. [Beyer \(D-VA\) \(#25\)](#): This amendment would strikes section 431, which would repeal the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rule changing the definition of "navigable waters" under the Clean Water Act This is commonly referred to as the "WOTUS" rule. The section also states that until such time as the EPA and Corps issue a new rule, and such rules goes into effect, any regulation or policy affected by the repealed rule shall be applied as if that repealed rule had not been issued.

In 2014, the EPA and the Corps proposed regulations that would reverse the long-standing definition of what waters would be regulated by the Clean Water Act. These regulations would

place significant permitting and regulatory costs on many property owners. This regulation has been criticized by the [Heritage Foundation](#) as allowing regulation of “all ditches, except in narrow circumstances... even includ[ing] man-made ditches,” and by the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#) that it would “subject farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, home builders, local governments—nearly any property owner—to new layers of reviews and permitting.”

Outside Group Opposition: [Heritage Foundation](#)

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*

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