

Congresswoman Betty McCollum United States House of Representatives Representing Minnesota's Fourth District

FACT SHEET

Fiscal Year 2018 Omnibus: Interior-Environment Appropriations

Today, Congress passed a \$1.3 trillion omnibus spending bill to fund the government through September 30, 2018. The bill provides \$35.25 billion for functions under the Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee.

"As Ranking Member of the Interior-Environment Subcommittee, my focus has been protecting our environment, upholding our commitments to Native Americans, and preserving our natural resources and cultural treasures. This omnibus meets that test. It rejects President Donald Trump's cuts to the Environmental Protection Agency. It improves education, health, and safety in Indian Country. It includes resources to repair our National Parks and increases funding for the National Endowments for the Arts and the Humanities," Congresswoman Betty McCollum (DFL-Minn.) said. "Because House and Senate Democrats stood strong, this bill is a significant victory for Minnesotans and Americans."

Protecting Our Environment

- The FY2018 omnibus bill provides \$8.821 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, an increase of \$763 million over FY2017.
- The bill includes \$2.856 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, both of which promote public health in our communities through improved water infrastructure.
- The bill provides \$300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which funds vital investments to clean up and protect the largest surface freshwater system in the world.
- Dozens of harmful policy provisions pushed by House Republicans were removed, including those that would have delisted endangered species, rescinded environmental protections, and chipped away at our public lands.

Keeping Our Commitments to Native Americans

- The FY2018 omnibus bill provides \$3.064 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, an increase of \$204 million over FY2017.
 - o This includes a \$100 million increase to repair and replace dilapidated school buildings.
 - o The bill includes a \$25 million increase for public safety in Indian Country.
- The bill includes \$5.537 billion for the Indian Health Service, \$498 million more than in FY2017, to help meet critical health care needs throughout Indian Country.
 - This includes a \$300 million increase for construction and maintenance of health facilities.

Safeguarding Our Natural and Cultural Heritage

- The FY2018 omnibus bill funds the National Park Service at \$3.202 billion, an increase of \$270 million from FY2017. This includes a \$132 million increase for construction to address the maintenance backlog.
- It provides \$425 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, including \$4 million to begin the purchase of Minnesota School Trust lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.
- The bill provides \$153 million each for the National Endowments for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, vital cultural organizations that President Trump has repeatedly proposed eliminating.
- The bill includes \$13 million for Save America's Treasures, a top priority for Congresswoman McCollum which preserves art, buildings, collections, and documents critical to the cultural identity and character of the American people.

Congresswoman Betty McCollum (DFL-Minn.) serves as Ranking Member of the House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee. Congresswoman McCollum represents Minnesota's Fourth District in the United States House of Representatives.