

I voted Yes on H.R. 2112, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act for 2012. The bill provides a responsible funding in Fiscal Year 2012 for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation and Housing and Urban Development - at a level of \$128 billion. This reflects a decrease in spending of \$750 million from last year.

Importantly, however, the bill includes \$2.3 billion in disaster funding that is much-needed in Upstate as we recover from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. For example, \$200 million in disaster relief is included for the Economic Development Administration, which can help employers in our region get more of our neighbors back to work.

The conference report also includes a continuing resolution to fund the rest of the government at current levels through December 16, 2011.

The bill passed by a vote of 298 – 121.