

I voted Yes on H.R. 5326, Making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Fiscal Year 2013.

The bill funds the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and related agencies for fiscal year 2013. In total, the legislation contains \$51.1 billion in funding – a responsible reduction of \$1.6 billion below last year's level which acknowledges the real need for fiscal responsibility given our burdensome national debt.

Importantly, however, H.R. 5326 prioritizes programs and devotes additional resources to our most critical needs. For example, the FBI, Drug Enforcement Agency, and Violence Against Women programs all receive funding increases to support the important work they do. To ensure that the 21st century is the American Century and we remain globally competitive, the National Science Foundation (NSF) would be funded \$299 million above the 2012 level. This funding increase is devoted to core research and education activities critical to innovation and U.S. economic competitiveness.

Additionally, on the House floor I supported amendments to crack down on unfair Chinese trade practices, boost programs which combat violence against women, and cut funding for those government programs that have proven wasteful and ineffective.

Overall, this legislation strikes a balance of responsibly reducing spending overall, while investing in our federal government's most critical law enforcement and research missions.

The bill was approved by a vote of 247 – 163.