

that the budget proposal to reduce regulatory grants would undermine the State-based regulatory system. It is imperative that States continue to operate protective regulatory programs as delegation of authority to the States is the cornerstone of the surface mining regulatory program. Further, the agreement does not provide funds to expand and enhance Federal oversight activities of State programs.

Coal Miners' Benefits.—For nearly 20 years, Congress has facilitated the secure retirement of coal miners by providing funding for retiree healthcare benefits through the Abandoned Mine Lands program. However, there are additional threats to miners' pension and health plans as the result of the 2008 financial crisis and a recent corporate bankruptcy. If Congressional action is not taken to address the long-term solvency of these pension and healthcare funds prior to the end of the 113th Congress, the Administration is encouraged to consider legislative alternatives to address these concerns as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

The bill provides \$27,399,000 for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$2,429,236,000 for Operation of Indian Programs. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions and changes to the budget request:

New Tribes.—The agreement supports the requested amount of \$463,000 for new Tribes and notes the challenge of reconciling the timing of the tribal recognition process with the annual budget formulation process. If additional Tribes are recognized during fiscal year 2015 beyond those contemplated in the budget request, the Bureau is urged to support their capacity building efforts to the extent feasible.

Road Maintenance.—The agreement includes \$2,000,000 above the budget request which may be used for school bus routes. The agreement does not include further reporting requirements.

Trust – Real Estate Services.—Consistent with the request, \$127,002,000 is provided for trust-real estate services programs, including \$7,000,000 to implement Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement activities.

Education.— The agreement includes \$2,000,000 for the development and operation of tribal departments or divisions of education as authorized in 25 U.S.C. 2020.

The Bureau is directed to publish its internal review of Early Child and Family Development programs and to consult with Tribes, other current program partners, and Congress before initiating the pilot projects proposed in the request. Any new pilot projects shall not reduce funding for currently operating Family and Child Education programs.

The Bureau is directed to publish the results of the most recent Johnson-O'Malley student count, and to consult with Tribes and Congress before proposing any changes in the distribution of future funds or in the frequency or method of future counts.

The Bureau is encouraged to coordinate with the Indian Health Service to establish a pilot program integrating preventive dental care at schools within the Bureau system.

The agreement includes bill language providing the Secretary with the authority to approve satellite locations of existing BIE schools if a Tribe can demonstrate that the establishment of such locations would provide comparable levels of education as are being offered at such existing BIE schools, and would not significantly increase costs to the Federal Government. The intent is for this authority to be exercised only in extraordinary circumstances to provide Tribes with additional flexibility regarding where students are educated without compromising how they are educated, and to significantly reduce the hardship and expense of transporting students over long distances, all without unduly increasing costs that would otherwise unfairly come at the expense of other schools in the BIE system.

In order to be successful, the Administration's emphasis on education must be complemented by efforts to improve interagency coordination for the multiplicity of programs that affect the wellbeing of Native American children. In addition to education, these include healthcare, social services, child welfare and juvenile justice programs. It is recommended that the Bureau, working in concert with other affected Federal agencies, examine ways to support such a cross-cutting coordination effort, including the establishment of a commission on Native American children.

Public Safety and Justice.—The agreement includes \$1,000,000 above the budget request to provide training in Indian country to carry out the new provisions in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

The Indian Law and Order Commission's November 2013 report notes that Federal investment in tribal justice for Public Law 83–280 States has been more limited than elsewhere in Indian country. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Bureau, in coordination with the Department of Justice, is directed to report to the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction on the budgetary needs of tribal courts in these States.

Executive Direction and Administrative Services.—The Bureau is directed to fund the requested program evaluations for education and social service programs within the amounts provided in this program.

Indian Arts and Crafts Board.—Funding for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board is retained within the Office of the Secretary rather than transferred to the Bureau as requested.

CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$128,876,000 for Construction. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions and changes to the budget request:

Education.—The agreement includes \$20,165,000 for school replacement, \$3,823,000 for employee housing repair, and \$50,513,000 for facilities improvement and repair. The amount for school replacement completes the funding requirements for the school construction project started in fiscal year 2014 and covers design costs for the final two schools on the 2004 priority list. The Bureau is directed to publish a new list in time for the fiscal year 2016 funding cycle.

Significant health and safety hazards exist at Indian educational facilities across the country, including the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The Bureau is urged to continue to work with Tribes to repair and replace substandard educational facilities.

Public Safety and Justice.—The Committees continue to encourage the Bureau to consider establishing regional detention centers at new or existing facilities, such as the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Justice Center, as it works to combat the crime problem in Indian Country.

Maintenance Shortfalls.—The Bureau is encouraged to request full funding for facilities maintenance needs in future budget requests.

INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIMS SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

The bill provides \$35,655,000 for Indian Land and Water Claims Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The bill provides \$7,731,000 for the Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

The bill provides \$265,263,000 for Departmental Offices, Office of the Secretary, Departmental Operations. The detailed allocation of funding by program area and activity is included in the table at the end of the statement. The bill provides \$12,000,000 for the Office of Valuation Services. The amount provided for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue includes fixed costs and partial funding for verification pilots, as requested.

National Monument Designations.—The Department is directed to work collaboratively with interested parties, including the Congress, States, local communities, Tribal governments and others before making national monument designations.

Indian Arts and Crafts Board.—The Committees have provided funding for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board within the Office of the Secretary rather than moving it to the Bureau of Indian Affairs as proposed in the budget request.

Invasive Species.—The National Invasive Species Council is directed to submit an interagency crosscut budget for fiscal years 2013 through 2016 not later than 90 days after the President submits a fiscal year 2016 budget to the Congress. The crosscut budget should include the same seven general spending categories as in prior year reports.

INSULAR AFFAIRS ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

The bill provides \$85,976,000 for Assistance to Territories, equal to the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

Within these amounts, the bill includes a total of \$3,000,000 to continue discretionary grants to mitigate the impact of Compact-related migration on affected jurisdictions, as authorized by section 104(e) of Public Law 108–188. This amount is equal to the fiscal year 2014 level. As in previous years,

the Department shall allocate these grants in conjunction with other currently authorized mandatory grants in order to help offset educational costs incurred by these jurisdictions.

COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

The bill provides \$3,318,000 for Compact of Free Association. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$65,800,000 for the Office of the Solicitor. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$50,047,000 for the Office of Inspector General. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS FEDERAL TRUST PROGRAMS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$139,029,000 for the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$804,779,000 for Department of the Interior Wildland Fire Management, which is \$63,797,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level (excluding the additional fire suppression funding that was included as repayment for fire transfers in fiscal year 2013). Of the funds provided, \$291,657,000 is for suppression operations, which combined with \$92,000,000 in the FLAME Wildfire

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Executive direction.....	7,979	8,125	7,979	---	-146
Total, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund.....	27,399	28,695	27,399	---	-1,296
TOTAL, OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT.....	150,112	144,805	150,112	---	+5,307
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION					
Operation of Indian Programs					
Tribal Budget System					
Tribal Government:					
Aid to tribal government.....	25,839	24,614	24,614	-1,225	---
Consolidated tribal government program.....	74,623	76,348	76,348	+1,725	---
Self governance compacts.....	152,881	158,767	158,767	+5,886	---
Contract support.....	242,000	246,000	246,000	+4,000	---
Indian self determination fund.....	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
New tribes.....	463	463	463	---	---
Small and needy tribes.....	1,845	1,845	1,845	---	---
Road maintenance.....	24,303	24,461	26,461	+2,158	+2,000
Tribal government program oversight.....	8,128	8,181	8,181	+53	---
Subtotal.....	535,082	545,679	547,679	+12,597	+2,000

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Human Services:					
Social services.....	35,763	40,871	40,871	+5,108	---
Welfare assistance.....	74,809	74,809	74,809	---	---
Indian child welfare act.....	10,710	15,433	15,433	+4,723	---
Housing improvement program.....	8,000	8,009	8,009	+9	---
Human services tribal design.....	411	407	407	-4	---
Human services program oversight.....	3,085	3,105	3,105	+20	---
Subtotal.....	132,778	142,634	142,634	+9,856	---
Trust - Natural Resources Management:					
Natural resources, general.....	5,165	5,089	5,089	-76	---
Irrigation operations and maintenance.....	11,342	11,359	11,359	+17	---
Rights protection implementation.....	35,297	35,420	35,420	+123	---
Tribal management/development program.....	9,230	9,244	9,244	+14	---
Endangered species.....	2,673	2,675	2,675	+2	---
Cooperative landscape conservation.....	9,947	9,948	9,948	+1	---
Integrated resource information program.....	1,996	3,996	2,996	+1,000	-1,000
Agriculture and range.....	30,558	30,494	30,494	-64	---
Forestry.....	47,735	45,895	47,735	---	+1,840
Water resources.....	10,543	10,297	10,297	-246	---
Fish, wildlife and parks.....	13,823	13,577	13,577	-246	---
Resource management program oversight.....	5,986	6,018	6,018	+32	---
Subtotal.....	184,295	184,012	184,852	+557	+840

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Trust - Real Estate Services.....	126,758	127,002	127,002	+244	---
Education:					
Elementary and secondary programs (forward funded)..	518,318	520,755	536,897	+18,579	+16,142
(Tribal grant support costs).....	(48,253)	(48,253)	(62,395)	(+14,142)	(+14,142)
Post secondary programs (forward funded).....	69,793	69,793	69,793	---	---
Subtotal, forward funded education.....	588,111	590,548	606,690	+18,579	+16,142
Elementary and secondary programs.....	118,402	119,195	119,195	+793	---
Post secondary programs.....	61,887	64,182	64,182	+2,295	---
Education management.....	20,354	20,464	20,464	+110	---
Subtotal, Education.....	788,754	794,389	810,531	+21,777	+16,142
Public Safety and Justice:					
Law enforcement.....	325,696	327,296	328,296	+2,600	+1,000
Tribal courts.....	23,241	23,280	23,280	+39	---
Fire protection.....	1,077	1,274	1,274	+197	---
Subtotal.....	350,014	351,850	352,850	+2,836	+1,000
Community and economic development.....	35,300	35,996	35,996	+696	---
Executive direction and administrative services.....	225,782	229,755	227,692	+1,910	-2,063
(housing improvement, road maint, etc. in bill lang)..	(46,361)	(46,553)	(48,553)	(+2,192)	(+2,000)

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Indian Arts and Crafts Board.....	---	1,279	---	---	-1,279
Total, Operation of Indian Programs.....	2,378,763	2,412,596	2,429,236	+50,473	+16,640
Construction					
Education.....	55,285	55,533	74,501	+19,216	+18,988
Public safety and justice.....	11,306	11,306	11,306	---	---
Resources management.....	32,759	34,427	34,427	+1,668	---
General administration.....	10,774	8,642	8,642	-2,132	---
Total, Construction.....	110,124	109,908	128,876	+18,752	+18,988
Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians					
White Earth Land Settlement Act (Admin) (P.L.99-264)..	625	625	625	---	---
Hoopa-Yurok Settlement Fund (P.L.96-420)(P.L.100-580)..	250	250	250	---	---
Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement (P.L.101-618)....	142	142	142	---	---
Navajo Water Resources Development Trust Fund (P.L.111-11).....	6,000	4,000	4,000	-2,000	---
Navajo Gallup Water Settlement (P.L.111-11).....	7,782	9,000	9,000	+1,218	---
Duck Valley Water Rights Settlement (P.L.111-11).....	12,044	---	---	-12,044	---
Taos Pueblo Water Rights Settlement (P.L.111-291).....	8,812	15,392	15,392	+6,580	---
Aamodt Settlement (P.L.111-291).....	---	6,246	6,246	+6,246	---
Total, Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians.....	35,655	35,655	35,655	---	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>					
Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account					
Indian guaranteed loan program account.....	6,731	6,731	7,731	+1,000	+1,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTAL, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND INDIAN EDUCATION.....	2,531,273	2,564,890	2,601,498	+70,225	+36,608
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES					
Office of the Secretary					
Leadership and administration.....	123,053	122,885	122,885	-168	---
Management services.....	21,564	19,468	20,747	-817	+1,279
Office of Natural Resources Revenue.....	119,383	122,919	121,631	+2,248	-1,288
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	264,000	265,272	265,263	+1,263	-9
Insular Affairs					
Assistance to Territories					
Territorial Assistance					
Office of Insular Affairs.....	9,448	9,779	9,448	---	-331
Technical assistance.....	14,504	17,504	14,504	---	-3,000
Maintenance assistance fund.....	1,081	2,857	1,081	---	-1,776
Brown tree snake.....	3,500	3,000	3,500	---	+500