



UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

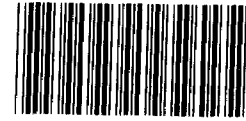
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PROGRAM ANALYSIS  
DIVISION

18 FEB 1983

B-197735

The Honorable Bob Packwood  
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,  
Science and Transportation  
United States Senate



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Dear Mr. Chairman:

Subject: Program and Budget Information for the Committee's  
Views and Estimates Report on the President's  
Budget for Fiscal Year 1984 (GAO/PAD-83-24)

The enclosed material is forwarded for your information and use in preparation of your Committee's views and estimates report on the President's fiscal year 1984 budget proposals. The General Accounting Office has obtained this data from executive agencies and prepared it in this form as part of our responsibilities under 31 U.S.C. 1113. Specifically, the Comptroller General is required to establish and maintain a file of information to meet recurring needs of the Congress for fiscal, budget and program information. The data and information we are providing at this time include:

- A description of data and information maintained in GAO's Legislative, Authorization, Program and Budget Information System (appendix I).
- A listing of programs and authorization data for entities under your Committee's jurisdiction. This listing is useful for reviewing agency program structures (appendix II).
- A listing of programs requiring reauthorization in fiscal year 1983 or later (appendix III).
- A listing of budgetary data by agencies, bureaus, and accounts under your jurisdiction (appendix IV).

We will provide program level budgetary data as it becomes available. We are in the process of collecting this data from the various agencies and will provide it to your staff as soon as we complete our review and verification.

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## BUDGET OVERVIEW FOR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

The 1984 budget proposes further spending restraints and emphasizes program reforms deemed to be priorities by the administration. Total fiscal year 1984 budget authority will increase by \$52.7 billion, or about 6.2 percent, net of receipts. Total outlays will increase by \$43.3 billion, or about 5.4 percent, net of receipts.

The budget for appropriation accounts and budget functions under the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation reflects an increase of \$90 million in outlays and \$654 million in budget authority for fiscal year 1984. The following analysis is provided to highlight the major program and budget changes.

### General Science, Space and Technology

Outlays for programs in the General Science, Space and Technology (250) function of the budget are estimated to increase by \$491 million in fiscal year 1984. Outlays will increase for General Science and Basic Research (251) programs (\$252 million), Space, Science, Applications, and Technology (254) programs (\$84 million) and Supporting Space Activities (255) programs (\$162 million). Space Flight (253) outlays will decrease by \$6 million.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) programs and energy-related general science programs in high energy and nuclear physics comprise the 251 subfunction. Spending for these programs will increase by 16 percent in fiscal year 1984. NSF outlays will increase by \$165 million and energy-related science programs will increase by \$87 million.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) space, science, applications, and technology (254) program outlays will increase by \$84 million in fiscal year 1984. The increase will continue efforts to make the space shuttle fully operational.

Outlays for NASA's Supporting Space Activities (255) programs will increase by 27 percent in fiscal year 1984. The majority of this increase is for lease of the Tracking Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS) and will provide expanded capability to communicate with the space shuttle.

### Natural Resources and Environment

Outlays for the Natural Resources and Environment (300) budget function will decrease by about \$2.3 billion in fiscal year 1984, net of receipts. Spending for programs in the Water

Resources (301) budget subfunction will decrease by \$650 million. Outlays in the Conservation and Land Management (302) budget subfunction will decrease by \$532 million.

Spending in the Pollution Control and Abatement (304) subfunction will decrease by \$272 million. The decrease is primarily a result of cuts in spending for Sewage Treatment Plant Construction Grants (\$300 million) and pollution control and abatement (\$57 million) in the Environmental Protection Agency. Increased spending of \$78 million is proposed for the Hazardous Substance Response Fund.

Spending for the Other Natural Resources (306) subfunction will decrease by \$130 million in fiscal year 1984. Spending decreases are shown for the Department of Interior (\$67 million) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Operations, Research, and Facilities appropriation (\$64 million).

### Transportation

Outlays for programs in the Transportation (400) budget function will increase by nearly \$3.3 billion in fiscal year 1984. The major portion of the transportation spending increase is for maintaining and upgrading interstate and primary highways.

Spending for Ground Transportation (401) programs is estimated to increase by \$2.7 billion in fiscal year 1984. A major increase is proposed for highway systems (\$3.2 billion). The increase is net of a legislative proposal to reduce outlays for contract authority. Spending decreases are proposed for mass transit (\$143 million), railroads (\$389 million), and regulation (\$6 million). The decrease in mass transit outlays reflects the restructuring of operating assistance under new block grants and increased receipts from highway user and gasoline taxes.

The decrease in spending for railroads includes cuts for Commuter rail service (\$135 million), settlement of railroad litigation (\$49 million), Northeast corridor improvement program (\$8 million), Amtrak (\$24 million), Alaska railroad (\$23 million), railroad rehabilitation (\$65 million), Federal rail program administration (\$73 million), and U.S. Railway Association (USRA) (\$3 million). No funding is requested for USRA in fiscal year 1984. The decreases reflect the administration's plans to reduce Federal presence in railroads.

Spending for Air Transportation (402) will increase by \$622 million in fiscal year 1984. Outlays for airways and airports will increase by \$609 million to provide for improvement, operation, and maintenance of the national airspace system. Outlays for aeronautical research and technology will increase by \$20 million.

Spending for Water Transportation (403) programs will decrease by \$40 million in fiscal year 1984. Outlays for Coast Guard Marine Safety and transportation programs will increase by \$52 million. Legislation is proposed to provide for user fees in the amount of \$58 million for selected Coast Guard services rendered to the public.

#### STATUS OF ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS, AND FUNCTIONS

The following highlights cover the status of reprogrammings, terminations and proposals for new programs in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The proposed reorganization of the Department of Energy was not approved. As a result, Energy programs proposed for transfer to the Department of Commerce and various other agencies are again shown under the Department of Energy in the fiscal year 1984 Budget.

#### Reprogrammings and Transfers

The budget activity structure for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Operations, Research, and Facilities appropriation (06-48) 13-1450 (306) shows a major reprogramming in the 1984 budget. Programs in 14 budget activities were reprogrammed into 5 activities. The revised program structures appear in the LAPIS computer listing in appendix II.

Programs in the following appropriations are proposed for transfer to Operations, Research and Facilities (06-48) 13-1450 (306) in fiscal year 1984: Coastal Zone Management (06-48) 13-1451 (302), Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries, (06-48) 13-5139 (376), and repayments to the Coastal Energy Impact Fund (06-48) 13-4315 (452). After the transfers, funding for programs covered by these appropriations will decrease by \$109 million in fiscal year 1984.

Two appropriations were transferred from National Bureau of Standards (06-52) to Economic and Statistical Analysis (06-08). These were the Technical Information Clearinghouse Fund, (06-08) 13-4310 (376) and Information Products and Services (06-08) 13-8546 (376).

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, appropriation (21-10) 69-8016 (401) for State and Community Highway Safety, is being renamed as Highway Traffic Safety Grants. No funds are requested for school bus driver training in fiscal year 1984.

#### Terminations

Several programs in the NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities appropriation are proposed for termination in fiscal

year 1984. They are the Sea Grant program, the undersea research program, the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, and regional ocean pollution projects.

#### New Program

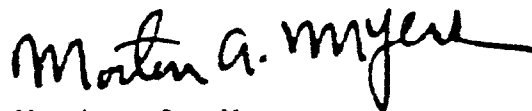
A new appropriation for Motor Carrier Safety Grants, account (21-05) 69-8027 (401), is shown for the Federal Highway Administration in fiscal year 1984. Authorized by the Surface Transportation Assistance Act, the grants will go to States to raise the level of commercial motor vehicle safety standards enforcement. These funds may not be used to substitute Federal for State and local dollars.

#### PROGRAMS REQUIRING REAUTHORIZATION

A number of programs under the Committee's jurisdiction will require reauthorization for fiscal year 1983 or later. To facilitate identification and review of these programs, we have prepared a special listing of programs with expiring authorizations. The listing is arranged by agency and appropriation account (see appendix III).

We hope that the information we have provided will assist you in your analysis and reporting on the fiscal year 1984 budget.

Sincerely yours,



Morton A. Myers  
Director

Enclosures - 4

cc: Chris Ostrom

bc: Mr. Havens (OCG)  
Mr. Myers (PAD)  
Mr. Corazzini (PAD)  
Mr. Fundingsland (PAD)  
Mr. Hunter (PAD)  
Mr. Jenney (PAD)  
Ms. Dyess (PAD)  
Ms. Condon (PAD)  
Ms. Boals (PAD)  
Ms. McFarlin (PAD)  
Mr. Peach (RCED)  
Mr. Subalusky (RCED)  
Index and Files  
File 972915

LEGISLATIVE, AUTHORIZATION, PROGRAM AND  
BUDGET INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Comptroller General is required by law (31 U.S.C. 1113) to conduct a continuing program to identify congressional needs for fiscal, budget, and program information. The law also requires that the Comptroller General and the Director of the Congressional Budget Office individually or jointly establish and maintain a file in order to meet these congressional needs. GAO has created the Legislative, Authorization, Program and Budget Information System (LAPIS) which currently includes authorization and budget information on all Federal agency programs.

Our approach over the past year has been to build on previous years' efforts and improve the overall information development and report processing. GAO has reviewed and refined program structures for all Federal agencies; identified authorizing committee and appropriation subcommittee jurisdictions for programs; added new data elements to enhance program and oversight information reporting; verified authorization and budget data; and improved ADP capabilities for storing, maintaining, and providing access to the data.

The LAPIS inventory not only supports our assistance to congressional authorizing committees on their March 15 views and estimates reports, but it is also used for generating other lists and supporting analytical work in a variety of areas. In addressing other congressional information needs, we have provided report listings by funding expiration dates to support work on reauthorizations; listings of legislation by public law, title, and section to support legislative analysis; and listings of specific agency programs to support oversight and program evaluation.

The inventory currently contains information on over 6,000 Federal programs, activities and projects. The following data elements are available for each program, activity or project listed in LAPIS:

- Administering agency and bureau, or independent commission,
- Budget function and subfunction,
- Citation of the law that authorizes the program, including the public law name and the relevant title and section of the U.S.Code,
- Name of program, activity, or item,
- Type of record (program, administrative, financial, supplemental, rescission),

- Appropriation account number, fund code, and transmittal type,
- House and Senate authorizing committee jurisdiction,
- House and Senate authorizing subcommittee jurisdiction for selected committees,
- House/Senate appropriation subcommittee jurisdiction,
- Amounts authorized, if specified, and/or narrative description of funding provisions,
- Funding expiration dates for programs,
- Related budget authority, outlays, obligations, and offsetting collections for the past, current, and budget years,
- Senate/House program policy areas,
- Special program areas, e.g., for use in identifying special Government-wide programs such as:
  - disaster assistance programs,
  - entitlement programs, and
  - research and development programs,
- Program description and objective statements,
- Impacted target groups, and
- GAO issue area and lead division codes.

The maintenance of LAPIS is an on-going process. Continued revisions to the system are necessitated due to reprogrammings, new legislation, changes in committee jurisdiction, new budget function classifications, and various other factors. We are continuing to expand, update and refine the program inventory to ensure its effectiveness in meeting our legislative mandate.