

Appropriations -
Crime

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



Leanne A. Shimabukuro

11/10/99 02:49:10 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc: Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP, Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP

Subject: COPS funding

Note below is from OMB on how much COPS has received in approps over last 5 fiscal years. If we base the "price tag" on approps we received, the total is \$7 billion (\$6.98 billion). Even though the crime bill authorized more, it is fair to say that we reached our 100,000 officers funded goal with the \$7 billion appropriated.

----- Forwarded by Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP on 11/10/99 02:45 PM -----



John E. Thompson
11/10/99 02:40:01 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: COPS funding history

COPS has been appropriated the following amounts (in millions):

1995: \$1,300

1996: \$1,400

1997: \$1,420

1998: \$1,430

1999: \$1,430

COPS Talking Points
November 9, 1999

- In his 1999 State of the Union, the President unveiled a plan to help communities put up to 50,000 more police on our streets to continue our progress in fighting crime. This was a top priority for the President, and this week, the Congress agreed to this demand in the budget.

[Background: The President's budget sought \$1.2 billion for his 21st Century Policing Initiative. While OMB is still ironing out the details, it appears that we have \$900 million to fund our request, of which \$300 million is carried over from FY99, though this figure should not be disclosed publicly. Importantly, the budget agreement fully funds the first installment of our plan to hire up to 50,000 officers by FY 2005.]

- This is a great victory for the American people because over the last six years, we've funded over 100,000 more community police officers for our streets, under budget and ahead of schedule. These officers are making a tremendous difference in reducing crime and keeping American families safe. Crime is down for the seventh year in a row – the longest continuous decline in crime ever recorded.
- As the President has said, we must give police new tools and new partners to be effective in fighting crime the 21st Century. We are pleased that the budget agreement will help equip law enforcement with the latest crime-fighting technology, and also doubles our community prosecutors initiative-- to hire more prosecutors to join efforts with community police to improve public safety.

[Background: The budget agreement provides \$10 million for our community prosecutors, twice the current level of \$5 million, but well below our request of \$200 million. OMB estimates that the bill also provides roughly \$230 million for law enforcement technology, which is two-thirds of our request level of \$350 million. The budget agreement does not provide the \$125 million we requested for COPS crime prevention. OMB is currently awaiting details on all of these figures.]

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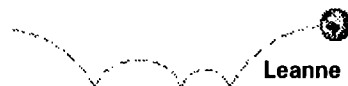
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Bruce,

If you're feeling up to it, take a look at this. Thanks.


Leanne A. Shimabukuro 10/14/99 04:18:37 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP, Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP, Cathy R. Mays/OPD/EOP@EOP, Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP

Subject: COPS Appropriations

I spoke with OMB and Michael Deich is preparing for possible discussions on CJS with appropriations staff as soon as tonight. He would like our feedback as soon as possible on a COPS alternative that OMB believes may be offered.

Our previous alternative: As mentioned in an earlier email we sent on COPS appropriations (below), Jose' believed we needed at least \$795 million to adequately fund our COPS priorities. While significantly below our original request of \$1.275 billion, we thought this level would allow us to meet key priorities: to keep us on track to reach our hiring goal of 30,000-50,000 additional officers, provide some new technology money, and to fund half of our community prosecutors initiative (\$100 million).

Possible alternative proposed by appropriators: The appropriators may offer an alternative which is achievable within the Senate bill that would provide \$825 million for COPS. Under this proposal, the hiring level would roughly match our alternative, with significantly more money for technology, but ZERO for community prosecutors.

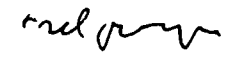
The key question OMB wants to know from us is whether we completely cave on community prosecutors. OMB is floating this alternative by DOJ, but they aren't expecting them to fight hard for the prosecutors initiative. Although I don't like it, my gut is to give up on the prosecutors for another year -- the program isn't technically authorized yet, and we haven't made a strong public case for community prosecutors to start loudly complaining if we don't get them. However, another more strategic question is whether we want to hold out for a higher threshold level (e.g., \$1 billion) as a matter of principle for the COPS program.

Please let me know what you think.

Leanne

Previous email sent 9/24/99:

(1) Administration Budget request was \$1.275 billion for COPS:

- * \$600 million for hiring and redeployment 
- * \$350 million for crime technology
- * \$200 million for Community Prosecutors
- * \$125 million for community crime prevention

(2) House and Senate bills fund less than half of the Administration's COPS request:

* House bill provides a total of \$405 million for COPS (\$268 million plus \$140 million in unobligated FY99 COPS funds.) A little bit more than half of this funding is for hiring School Resource Officers (SRO's), and the rest is for funding crime technology.

* Senate bill provides a total of \$495 million for COPS (\$325 million plus \$170 million in unobligated FY99 COPS funding.) Most of the funding (\$355 million) is for hiring/redeployment and \$90 million is for technology.

****NOTE:** Both the House and the Senate provide additional crime technology funds outside of the COPS program for a total amount close to our request: \$350 million. Also, the House bill included \$7.5 million in funding outside of COPS for Community Prosecutors.

ANALYSIS:

In a quick assessment, OMB estimated that the House and Senate proposed COPS levels would result in ****1,000 to 2,000 fewer officers hired/redeployed, no community prosecutors and no crime prevention compared with the Administration's request.

Prior to Jose's departure, we met with OMB and DOJ regarding COPS funding during budget negotiations. At that time, we determined that at least \$795 million would be needed to adequately fund our priorities including sufficient funds for hiring to reach our goal of 50,000 additional officers and half of our community prosecutors initiative.

****We'll work with OMB to verify this figure so that we may use it publicly.

Please let us know if you need further information on this issue.

Key Components of the President's Gun Legislation

Last April, the President proposed common sense legislation to make it more difficult for kids and criminals to have access to guns. As with the Senate's juvenile crime bill, the President's gun legislation would:

- close the gun show loophole once and for all by requiring Brady background checks for all guns sold at gun shows and flea markets;
- ban violent juveniles from owning guns as adults;
- require child safety locks with every gun sold;
- prohibit juvenile possession of existing assault weapons; and
- ban the importation of all large capacity ammunition clips.

Additionally, the President's bill also included measures to:

- limit handgun sales to individuals to no more than one per month;
- require a minimum waiting period of 3 days before the purchase of a handgun;
and
- raise the age of handgun ownership from 18 to 21.

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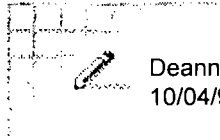
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new 5,000 (4800-7000) new caps



Deanne E. Benos
10/04/99 10:58:30 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: Gun Compromise -- JJ CONFERENCE.

Eric --

Leanne and I shared a copy of this column by Bruce Dold from the Chicago Tribune's Editorial Board, with Bruce after the meeting this morning. While the consensus was that we're still dealing in hypotheticals on the JJ Bill, I thought you might want to take a look at it. (Bruce Dold has been very supportive of gun control in the past, and even spoke with Bob Walker from Handgun Control on background before writing this piece.)

October 1, 1999
Chicago Tribune

TRIGGER THINKERS

R. Bruce Dold

The most critical gun-control debate of 1999 has been coming to a head with few people outside Washington paying any attention, maybe because no one has shot up an office or school in, oh, several days.

Last spring, Congress put on a crass show in the wake of the Columbine High School shootings. The Senate defeated gun-control bills, got spooked when the public noticed, then abruptly turned around and voted to clamp down on gun shows.

The House tried to run a sham bill that in some ways weakened existing gun laws, then wound up stuffing the whole thing. No agreement, no law.

The debate got pretty ugly. House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) stuck his neck out by promising that the House would support some modest gun restrictions, but leaders in his own party undermined him.

Democrats didn't act particularly glum. Some Democrats saw the defeat of gun control as a great opportunity. "Six seats! Six seats!" some of them chanted on the House floor, led by Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-R.I.), the chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. That's how many seats they need to pick up in 2000 to control the House again.

They all took the summer to cool off. Over the last few weeks, a conference committee of the House and Senate has been trying to pick up the pieces. Nobody figured it was going to be easy, because there were a lot of bruised feelings after the House debate in the spring.

In the last few weeks, the conference committee started talking quietly about a compromise on guns. And now there is a deal on the table, offered by House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.)

It does some good things.

It would require that all guns be sold with trigger locks. It would prohibit minors from possessing an assault weapon and would ban any juvenile convicted of a violent crime from buying or owning a firearm for the rest of his life. It would ban the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips.

It tries to finesse the most contentious issue of the spring, background checks at gun shows. Licensed gun dealers have to do a background check before they can sell you a gun. But you can walk up to an unlicensed dealer at a gun show and buy, no questions asked. That makes no sense. Most Democrats and Republicans agree that a background check should be required at gun shows; the question is how to do it.

The Senate voted to make gun buyers wait three days for the background check to be finished before they could pick up their purchase. The House wanted to limit the background check to just 24 hours--and if the check wasn't completed by then, the buyer would get his gun.

Hyde proposes that gun buyers would have to wait only 24 hours for the background check to be done. But if the check turns up a red flag, such as an unresolved arrest report, the wait would be extended to three days for a more extensive background check.

If that's all there were to it, the choice for Democrats would be easy: Take the deal.

But apparently there is more. The Hyde proposal still appears to create loopholes that could exempt some gun-show sales from the background checks. Some fear the compromise might actually ease the rules on interstate shipment of guns.

So Democratic leaders and gun-control groups aren't ready to buy in to Hyde. Not just yet.

The Democrats have a winning political issue. The Columbine shootings made the public much more aware of gun violence. Polls show most of the gun proposals in debate, including trigger locks and background checks at gun shows, have overwhelming public support. Texas Gov. George W. Bush recently said he supports several of the gun-control provisions in this mix. Texas and gun control. You don't often see

those words in the same sentence.

But the Democrats also are in danger of overplaying their hand.

At best, they will get modest changes in Hyde's package. If they hold out for more and scuttle gun control altogether, they'll invite the conclusion that gun-control rhetoric is more valuable than gun-control law for them, at least when it comes to taking the House in 2000.

With Democratic support, Hyde's compromise would win in the House and Senate. Last week, the House had a series of test votes on gun control. One motion, sponsored by Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.), included most of the provisions of the Hyde compromise, and passed the House 241-167.

This is probably the last chance for gun control for a year, two years, maybe a long time. Members of Congress aren't likely to want to fiddle around with such a hot-button issue next year, months before an election. And if the polls hold up and Bush is elected president, well, he may express support for some gun measures but he won't be leading any charge.

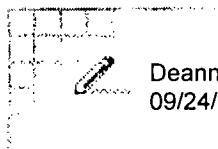
"The perfect must not become the enemy of the good," Hyde likes to say. Hyde's proposal is fairly good. It is better than what House Republicans offered in the spring. It could be even better--but it won't get much better.

Does anyone really want to pass gun control this year? We're about to find out.

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Deanne E. Benos
09/24/99 10:10:59 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP@EOP, Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP, Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: FYI -- Conyers Notes "Substantial Problems" with Hyde "Compromise" on ABCNEWS.com

FYI -- This story on the Juvenile Justice bill ran on ABCNEWS.com yesterday. At the very end of the piece, Rep. Conyers states there are "substantial problems" with Hyde's most recent compromise proposal he has seen. House Judiciary, who referred me to this story, maintains they are in the process of educating reporters that a compromise is not as close as Hyde reported in the wire story last night.

Deanne

House Pushes for Gun Control

House Votes Overwhelmingly to Get Strong Gun Legislation

By David Phinney
National Correspondent
ABCNEWS.com

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23 — The pressure is on congressional leaders for stronger gun-control measures as rank-and-file House members voted overwhelmingly today to take action on the juvenile crime bill now stuck in backroom negotiations.

With a strong bipartisan vote of 305-117, the House recommended that a final version of the juvenile crime bill take aim at closing loopholes that allow criminals and other banned purchasers to buy guns at gun shows and from non-licensed dealers.

The House-Senate conference on resolving differences in the juvenile crime bill has been held up for months, mainly over the gun-control issue.

No Weakened Provisions Either

The House also advised that the bill not weaken existing gun-safety laws and urged that it aid the enforcement of current laws against criminals who use guns.

The measure, offered by Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., came against a backdrop of talks between House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill., and the

committee's ranking Democrat, John Conyers of Michigan, on gun-control language that might break the deadlock and be acceptable to all sides.

Rep. Connie Morella, R-Md., said the vote represents support for legislation that requires gun-safety locks, raising the age to 21 for purchasing handguns, and limiting purchases to one gun a month.

"We want to close the loopholes," she said after the vote while meeting with the group Million Mom March, which is organizing a gun-control rally for next Mother's Day, May 14.

"Our goal is to limit access to firearms by children and criminals. Efforts to eliminate the gun violence that has plagued our nation should be a nonpartisan issue," she said.

Later in the day, House members also debated a measure to insist that the conference committee begin meeting daily until a final version of the juvenile justice bill with gun-control provisions is agreed upon.

Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, D-N.Y., the lead sponsor of the effort, said it was important to express the will of the House to the conference. "If we can add pressure, then that's what I am going to do," she said.

Although staffs for the House-Senate conference have been consulting with each other from time to time, the member lawmakers have met only once because of deep divisions over waiting periods for purchases at gun shows.

"We became gridlocked," Lofgren, a member of the conference, said on the House floor.

But Hyde urged caution, claiming the conferees need time. "A stampede is ill-advised," he said. "Compromise is difficult. We have to make concessions, but concessions that are prudent, and that is true for both sides."

Compromise Sought

Last spring, a contentious Senate passed a series of gun-control provisions only weeks after the massacre at a Colorado high school. With senators equally divided between support and opposition, Vice President Al Gore was called upon to cast the tie-breaking vote.

A slightly different set of proposals died in the House, with some Republicans claiming they were too strong and some Democrats asserting that they were too weak.

Hyde said that while he supported the general goals of Lofgren's motion, "I do not support using them as a Trojan horse for more invidious goals."

He said he would oppose efforts to eliminate gun shows or establish a national registry for firearms.

Hyde's compromise plan with the Senate calls for a two-tiered timetable for background checks at gun shows.

In most cases, the checks would have to be completed in 24 hours. If the check turned up a "red flag" such as a question about an arrest history, officials would have three business days to investigate further.

Republican aides said the proposal is still being refined, and detailed written versions have not circulated widely.

Democrats said they are waiting for more details.

Conyers said substantial problems remain with the proposals he has seen, "which would create substantial loopholes in gun-show background checks," including the definition of gun shows and record-keeping requirements.

Conyers also protested a provision that would allow public schools to display the Ten Commandments in classrooms.

Lawmakers in both parties as well as gun-control lobbyists said it is hard to evaluate Hyde's proposal until they see the complete wording, such as the precise circumstances that would set off the three-day checks and the definition of a gun show.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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September 30, 1999

Time	Name	Organization	Phone Number	Message
8:30	Lowell		6-2734	Call about Radio Address
9:59 am	Michael Deich		5-3120	Call Re: COPS

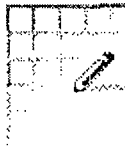
Let's Home

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except COPS → a show of auth. →
funding

Kreps: should we have a unit to help
COPS + pressure out to leave out?

pre-conf now → conf next wk; MAT would meet
to

CRIME -
COPS Appropriate



Deanne E. Benos
09/24/99 05:42:46 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Update on COPS Appropriations.

Per your request, Leanne prepared this COPS Appropriations update for you:

(1) Administration Budget request was \$1.275 billion for COPS:

- * \$600 million for hiring and redeployment
- * \$350 million for crime technology
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- * \$125 million for community crime prevention

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****We'll work with OMB to verify this figure so that we may use it publicly.

wait."

Senate Democrats succeeded in July in adding the measure to a spending bill for the Commerce, Justice and State departments. The House version of the bill does not include the gay rights measure.

Republican leaders now want the issue removed from the spending bill, said John Czwartacki, a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.

Opponents have said the measure would discriminate by creating special classes of victims such as gays, would usurp states' rights and would have a "chilling effect" on free speech.

"What crime isn't a hate crime?" Czwartacki said. "It's offensive to any family who's a victim of a crime to say that their crime is somehow less hurtful."

The measure would add acts of hatred motivated by sexual orientation, gender and disability to the list of hate crimes already covered by federal law -- acts sparked by prejudice based on race, religion, color or national origin. It would boost penalties for the crimes and allow federal prosecutors to step in if local authorities decide against prosecuting.

Democrats said they would fight to keep the measure alive.

"Hate crimes are modern-day lynchings," Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said. "Congress has a responsibility to act this year."

"I find it utterly appalling that after a year of hate crimes that this provision is being pulled from the bill," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

Message Sent To:

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