



West Virginia Wins in Financial Services & General Government; Labor, Health & Human Services, Education, & Related Agencies; Defense; and Energy & Water Development Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriations Bills

Maintaining Regular Order in the Appropriations Process

A member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Manchin was proud to join his colleagues in marking up and reporting the next four Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Appropriations bills out of Committee: the Financial Services and General Government bill; the Labor, Health & Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies bill; the Defense bill; and the Energy & Water Development bill. Last year's work on the Fiscal Year 2024 funding bills was the first time since 2018 that the Senate reported all 12 annual appropriations bills to the full Senate, and this markup is the next step towards accomplishing the same for Fiscal Year 2025.

Holding Treasury Accountable, Preserving our Federal Workforce and Fighting the Drug Epidemic

Senator Manchin is proud to be a member of the **Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee**, which provides funding to the Department of the Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Federal Communications Commission. This Subcommittee also has oversight over much of West Virginia's federal workforce, including the Bureau of Fiscal Services in Parkersburg, and the FBI Facility in Clarksburg, as well as government agencies that work to address the drug epidemic.

- **Inflation Reduction Act Implementation:** The *Inflation Reduction Act* was drafted and signed into law to spur innovation to support a domestic manufacturing supply chain, reducing our reliance on foreign materials and strengthening our energy security. However, the Treasury Department has repeatedly ignored both the intent and the written word of the law in issuing the tax credits authorized by the program – in short, implementing the extreme bill they wanted, rather than the strong, pragmatic legislation they got.
 - Senator Manchin secured strong language in the bill acknowledging this, and directing the Treasury Department to revisit the rules it has issued on certain IRA tax credits to ensure true alignment with the IRA and its goals, and update those rules.
- **Getting the Bureau of Fiscal Service Back to Work:** Despite the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau of the Fiscal Service still allows its employees to telework all but two days a pay period. Because of the actions of the Bureau, which employs more than two thirds of its workforce in Parkersburg, the economic activity of downtown Parkersburg and the surrounding areas has been severely impacted. Senator Manchin secured language requiring the Bureau to publicly disclose how many people are working in the office currently and what their plans are to get the totality of their workforce back to the office.
- **Providing Benefits to FBI Police Officers:** The FBI facility in Clarksburg, West Virginia is home to 10% of the FBI's federal workforce, including an outsized number of FBI Police officers. Despite being responsible for the same duties as other federal law enforcement officers like Capitol Police, FBI Police officers do not receive the same rates of pay or retirement benefits as other

LEOs. Senator Manchin's office has worked with the FBI for years to determine what legislative fixes would be needed to correct this issue as well as any corresponding appropriations.

- FBI has indicated that what has prohibited them from delivering these fixes is a cost estimate on what it would take to make this adjustment; however, the Office of Personnel Management refused to assist.
- Last year, report language was included requiring FBI and OPM to work together to develop these estimates. And this year, Senator Manchin secured additional language that directs the FBI and OPM to report to the Appropriations Committee within 4 months on their work and deliver final estimates.
- **High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program:** Provides \$290.2 million in funding for HIDTA, which will ensure our law enforcement has the resources necessary to reduce the supply of illicit drugs like fentanyl, prevent overdoses, protect communities and save lives across the Mountain State.
- **The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP):** Increases funding for the ONDCP, with \$30.803 million in funding to prevent overdoses and ensure strong regulations on opioids.
- **Other Federal Drug Control Programs:** Includes \$137.512 million in discretionary funding (+\$1.362 million over FY24). This includes the Drug-Free Communities Program and Community-based coalition enhancement grants (GARA Grants)

Keeping America Safe & Strengthening Our National Security

Senator Manchin is an ardent supporter of the United States military and the brave men and women who fight for our freedoms. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, the Senator helped fund critical priorities for the **Department of Defense** in the FY25 bill, including over \$76 million in direct investments for West Virginia's military industry.

- **Joint All-Domain Training Center:** Senator Manchin secured \$16.5 million to support the construction of a modernized training center in Southern West Virginia based on demand from the joint force.
- **Biosynthesizing Critical Chemicals:** Senator Manchin included \$16.5 million to support the project to produce chemicals for munitions from bacteria at the WVU Innovation Corporation.
- **National Guard:** The bill includes funding for multiple military programs run by the West Virginia National Guard (WVNG), including:
 - **Ridge Runner Exercise:** Throughout the [years](#), Senator Manchin has been a strong advocate for the Ridge Runner Exercise. That's why he secured \$10.5 million for next year's Ridge Runner exercise, which brings in allies from around the world to West Virginia to train to counter Russian and Chinese malign tactics.
 - **\$50 million for the National Guard Youth Challenge Academies**, which provides at-risk youth across West Virginia and the country with the education and structure they need for a bright future.
 - **\$20 million for the National Guard STARBASE Program**, which is an educational program where young students can participate in challenging "hands-on, mind-on" activities in aviation, science, technology, engineering, math, and space exploration.
- **Project Pele Program:** \$22.5 million to support the microreactor program and the fuel needed to power them for the resiliency of critical national security sites. The West Virginia National Guard also supported the inaugural transportation of this reactor and the testing and evaluation of its usage.

- **Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR):** \$20 million for DEPSCoR, which is a capacity-building program designed to strengthen the research infrastructure at colleges and universities in underutilized states, including West Virginia University.
- **Digital Environment Testing of Armored Vehicles:** Senator Manchin secured \$2 million to support a project at Summit Point, West Virginia to reduce costs in armored vehicle development by testing them digitally before building them.

Protecting our Coal Miners and Taking Care of our Families and Friends

As a member of the **Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies** subcommittee, Senator Manchin fights to secure strong funding for West Virginia workers, students, and families. The bill provides \$231.4 billion in discretionary funding, including \$122.8 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, \$80 billion for the Department of Education, and \$13.8 billion for the Department of Labor.

- **Substance Use, Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services (SUPTRS) Block Grant:** Provides \$2.048 billion, a \$40 million increase, in FY25 funding for the Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s SUPTRS Block Grant Program (formerly SAPT) to support lifesaving substance use disorder treatment, prevention, and recovery services.
- **State Opioid Response (SOR) Grants:** Includes \$1.6 billion, a \$25 million increase, in FY25 funding for SAMHSA's SOR Grant Program to provide critical funding to states to ensure they have the necessary resources to address the drug epidemic from every angle, as well as language including a 15 percent set aside for states with the highest age-adjusted mortality rate related to substance abuse disorders, including West Virginia.
- **Jessie's Law:** Senator Manchin secured language to improve implementation of *Protecting Jessica Grubb's Legacy Act* and to fully implement *Jessie's Law*. The *Legacy Act* passed in 2020 and had a final rule published in February 2024 implementing the law. *Jessie's Law* was passed in 2018, but could not be implemented until the changes made in the *Legacy Act* were made.
- **Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Dislocated Coal Miners:** \$1.095 billion in FY25 funding for the ETA's Dislocated Worker Assistance program, which provides employment and training assistance to individuals affected by coal plant closures or substantial layoffs at coal mine operations and their immediate family.
- **Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA):** Funds the MSHA at \$392.8 million, which works to prevent death, illness, and injury from mining and promote safe and healthful workplaces for U.S. miners.
- **Black Lung Disability Trust Fund:** Includes \$485.7 million in FY25 funding for the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund to ensure adequate funding for benefits for individuals with black lung and their survivors in perpetuity and to protect the Trust Fund from future funding challenges.
- **Vision and Dental Plans:** Includes language reflective of Senator Manchin's *DOC Access Act*, encouraging the Department of Labor to not allow dental and vision insurance to avoid state laws regulating anticompetitive practices. West Virginia's state government passed both dental and vision insurance laws that this language would help support.
- **Student Loan Dashboard:** Includes language reflective of Senator Manchin's *SMARTER Debt Act*, which directs the Department of Education to study the best way to establish a government-wide, interactive, online dashboard that provides prospective students and their families with information about the availability of current Federal student loans and loan repayment programs across the Federal Government. This will help attract borrowers to public service and highly needed professions.

- **Rural Definitions:** Includes language to encourage the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) to continue to work on adopting the Road Ruggedness Scale, in order to better capture the mountainous and rugged terrain of Appalachia. Also includes language to direct the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) to adopt the Road Ruggedness Scale into their definition of rural.
- **Rural National Cancer Institute:** Includes language that encourages the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to review its criteria for awarding Cancer Center Support Grants (CCSGs) to consider supporting Cancer Centers that are primarily providing care to rural patients, conducting cancer research with rural populations, or otherwise are focused on cancer in rural America, such as cancer hospitals in West Virginia.
- **Department of Education Title I Education Grants:** \$18.687 billion in FY25 funding for Department of Education Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to provide services to the most vulnerable students, including those experiencing homelessness, to purchase clothing, immunizations, food, medical services, tutoring, transportation, and other needs. More than 350 schools in all 55 LEAs in West Virginia receive Title I funding.
- **Job Corps:** \$1.76 billion for Job Corps in FY25. Job Corps providers training, room and board for students ages 16-24. West Virginia has a Job Corps training program in Charleston, and a Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center in Harpers Ferry. The bill also includes language to help streamline application requirements for homeless youth to join Job Corps.

Keeping West Virginia on the Cutting Edge of Innovation, Securing Our Energy Future and Ensuring No One is Left Behind

In conjunction with his work as Chairman on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Senator Manchin worked to include key provisions in the **Energy & Water** spending bill, which funds the Department of Energy (DOE) at \$52.3 billion and supports the communities that made us the energy powerhouse we are today, helps reduce our reliance on foreign sources of energy, and incentivizes using all of our domestic resources in an environmentally responsible way.

- **Appalachian Regional Commission:** \$200 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission as well as \$15 million set aside for broadband in economically distressed areas within the Northern Appalachian Region and report language recommending relocating the Appalachian Regional Commission Headquarters to West Virginia.
- **Strengthens Department of Energy's Role in AI:** Includes report language supporting the Department of Energy's AI initiatives, including an update on the implementation of the *Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence for Science, Security, and Technology (FASST)* initiative.
- **National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL):** Provides \$146 million for NETL which is headquartered in Morgantown, West Virginia.
- **Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities:** Includes \$7 million for the Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities.
- **Nuclear:** Provides \$1.675 billion for the Office of Nuclear Energy at the Department of Energy.
- **Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program:** Includes report language giving the Secretary discretion on how to use unobligated funds appropriated for the Civil Nuclear Credit Program in the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law*, one option of which is for the Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program.