



# West Virginia Wins in FY2024 Minibus



## Senator Manchin's Top Priorities for West Virginia

- **Fight Against the Drug Epidemic:** Includes language reflective of Senator Manchin's FREED of Opioids Act, requiring the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to review the problematic enriched enrollment randomized withdrawal (EERW) clinical trial methodology used to approve opioids.
- **Securing Critical Earmarks for WV (\$191.3 million):** Provides \$191,265,370 in funding for 151 projects Senator Manchin secured through Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Requests, also known as "earmarks", across the first 6 Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 appropriations bills.
- **Economic Development (\$256.4 million):** \$28.6 million for West Virginia for Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Grants, \$65m for ARC POWER Grants & \$75 million for EDA's Assistance to Coal Communities.

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

Senator Manchin worked to include key provisions in the Energy & Water spending bill, which funds the Department of Energy (DOE) at \$50.25 billion, that 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.

- **NETL:** Includes \$144 million for National Energy Technology Laboratory, headquartered in Morgantown, WV.
- **Fossil Energy & Carbon Capture:** Provides \$865 million for Fossil Energy Research & Development, including \$428 million for Carbon Capture, Utilization, Sequestration, and Removal on coal and natural gas systems.
- **Hydrogen:** \$390 million for crosscutting hydrogen research, development, demonstration, and deployment opportunities for the production, storage, and delivery of hydrogen to promote energy security and economic development.
- **Weatherization Assistance Program:** Provides \$366 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program.
- **Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization:** Provides \$5 million for the Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities.
- **DOE EPSCoR:** Provides \$35 million for DOE's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).
- **ARPA-E:** Includes \$460 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) program at DOE.

## Conserving Wild & Wonderful West Virginia and Making Our Communities Better, Safer Places to Live

Whether you want to hunt, camp, fish, hike, or visit one of our national forests and state parks, there is no shortage of opportunities for lovers of the great outdoors to enjoy everything our incredible little state has to offer. That is why Senator Manchin worked to include several important provisions in the Interior and Environment spending bill, which funds the Department of the Interior at \$15.1 billion, so that West Virginia can continue its wild and wonderful outdoor legacy all while making communities across the state better and safer places to live.

- **LWCF and Great American Outdoors Act:** Allocates \$900 million in mandatory funding for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Federal and State programs, and \$1.97 billion in mandatory funding for Department of the Interior (DOI) and Forest Service deferred maintenance projects, as provided in the Great American Outdoors Act. Projects receiving funding include:
  - **Monongahela National Forest:** \$685,000 of National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund allocated to replace the Holcomb Bridge.
  - **New River Gorge National Park and Preserve:**

- \$36.1 million of National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund allocated to remove excess structures and abandoned buildings (Phase II), address deficient utilities, historic structures, and visitor facilities.
  - \$655,000 in Land and Water Conservation Fund allocations.
- **Gauley River National Recreation Area:** \$920,000 in Land and Water Conservation Fund allocations.
- **AMLER:** Provides \$130 million for the Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program. West Virginia will receive \$28.6 million for this program.
- **Making the AML program easier to navigate for states:** Includes language directing the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement to work with states to simplify the AML process and ensure this essential funding is getting to states in an efficient and effective manner.
- **National Conservation & Training Center (NCTC):** \$26.5 million to maintain the USFWS Center, located in Shepherdstown.
- **Chesapeake Bay Watershed:** \$92 million for watershed conservation and other efforts in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, which includes much of the eastern portion of West Virginia.
- **Chesapeake WILD Act Grants:** \$8 million for the Chesapeake WILD Grant Program which supports habitat restoration efforts, West Virginia saw an inaugural grant award in 2022.
- **Remediating Brownfields:** \$98 million for EPA Brownfields projects, with 10% of these grants dedicated to areas where at least 20% of the population have lived under the poverty level for the past 30 years.
- **Protecting Electric Reliability from Harmful EPA Regulations:** Adopts Senate language directing EPA to seek input from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) regarding the reliability impact of proposed power plant regulations.
- **Ensures Safe Water:** Provides \$5 million for work within the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program related to Class VI wells for geological sequestration, including \$1.2 million for education and training.
- **Protecting Recreational Boating and Fishing Communities:** Adopts Senate language directing the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to engage with affected stakeholders and incorporate relevant comments before issuing any interim or final rules to protect endangered whales and to support technology deployment as an alternative vessel-strike reduction tool.
- **Superfunds:** \$537 million for the Hazardous Substance Superfund account.
- **Legacy Roads and Trails:** \$6 million to repurpose Legacy Roads and Trails.

### **Keeping America Safe & Protecting Our National Security**

Senator Manchin is proud to serve on the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC), which is charged with providing oversight and assistance to our nation's military. He also serves as ranking member of the Cybersecurity Subcommittee, which oversees policies and programs related to cyber forces and capabilities.

- **West Virginia National Guard:** The bill includes funding for multiple military construction projects and programs ran by the West Virginia National Guard (WVNG), including:
  - Military Construction for WVNG facilities: \$34.35 million for engineering, design, and construction of WVNG facilities, including: the 130<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's squadron operations facility, the Charleston National Guard readiness center, support for terrorism and force protection deficiencies, and a small arm firing range.
- **Compacts of Free Association (COFA):** Includes Senator Manchin's COFA package which approves the agreements to amend and renew the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau. It also provides \$7.1 billion in mandatory funding over the next 20 years to implement the amended Compact agreements.
- **Uranium Funding:** Includes \$2.72 billion for the procurement of uranium as authorized in Senator Manchin's Nuclear Fuel Security Act that was passed as part of the FY24 NDAA is included.
- **Strategic Petroleum Reserve:** Adopts legislation Senator Manchin has championed to restrict sales of crude oil from America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China.
- **Critical Minerals:** Adopts Senate language requiring EPA to publish a report detailing the impact of any vehicle-related regulation on the amount of critical minerals extracted, processed, or recycled by a foreign entity of concern (FEOC) and alternative approaches that would reduce the need from FEOCs.

## Preserving West Virginia's Federal Workforce

There are more than 21,000 federal employees in WV. Through his role on the Appropriations Committee, Senator Manchin is committed to ensuring these agencies have the support they need & our workforce continues to grow and thrive in the state. Some of these facilities include:

- FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division: The bill includes \$10.6 billion in funding for the FBI and directs the FBI to allocate adequate resources for the crucial National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) performed at CJIS. This important work is key to implementing the *Bipartisan Safer Communities Act*.
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF): The bill includes \$1.63 billion for the ATF and requires the ATF to provide a report on the physical maintenance needs of the Martinsburg facility and the entire Bureau.
- Bureau of Prisons (BOP): BOP is funded at \$8.4 billion and includes Senator Manchin's language encouraging the use of retention and recruitment incentives to reduce hiring shortages that have created unsafe conditions at Federal Correctional Complex Hazelton. The bill also includes Senator Manchin's language calling for greater accountability and transparency of unsafe conditions at BOP facilities.

### WV Contributions in Science & Space:

- Green Bank Observatory (GBO): Up to \$10.83 million for GBO to ensure continued support and operations the facility through multi-agency plans or directly through the National Science Foundation (NSF). After years of work, Senator Manchin helped save GBO in 2020 after it was proposed for divestment by the NSF.
- NASA IV&V: Level funding for Safety, Security and Mission Services within the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which supports the Katherine Johnson Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V) Program in Fairmont. The Katherine Johnson IV&V Program provides mission-critical software to NASA, including language directing NASA to fund additional IV&V activities from within mission directorates that make use of IV&V services.
- Research: WV benefits from key science and space-related educational research programs, including \$805 million for the NASA Heliophysics Program, \$26 million for NASA EPSCoR, & \$58 million for NASA Space Grants, which support research at WV universities.

### Agricultural & Forestry Research in West Virginia

- Precision Aquaculture: \$2 million for the National Center for Cool & Cold Water Aquaculture in Leetown, WV to study sustainable domestic aquaculture production.
- Appalachian Honeybees: \$ 1.5 million for the continued operations of the Pollinator Recovery, Education & Research Center in Hinton, WV to study pollinator populations for food system sustainability.
- Appalachian Natural Products Research: \$1 million for the Appalachian Natural Products Research Center at Marshall University to study natural products for drug development.

## Taking Care of our Families and Friends

### Youth Homelessness

- Interagency Council on Homelessness: Provides \$4.3 million for the USICH, which is the only federal agency exclusively dedicated to ending homelessness throughout the country.

### Housing Assistance

- Performance Based Contract Administrators (PBCA): Language included that would prohibit the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from soliciting or accepting bids for PBCA contracts. If HUD wishes to consider new bids in the future, the Department must consult with Congress and relevant stakeholders to ensure that state housing finance agencies are not excluded from future solicitation of bids.
- \$32.3 billion for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, which helps reduce rents paid by low-income families.
- Increasing Housing Supply: Secures \$3.3 billion for Community Development Block Grants and \$1.25 billion for the HOME Investment Partnership Program, two of the main programs used in the Mountain State to rehabilitate homes and improve communities

- Combatting Homelessness: Includes \$4.05 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants, which are awarded annually to communities throughout West Virginia to increase their ability to administer housing services and prevent homelessness through the state.
- Promoting Economic Independence: Provides \$195 million for self-sufficiency programs, including \$140 million for the family self-sufficiency program (FSS). FSS, a program operated through HUD, is one of the Department's primary tools for assisting families utilizing public housing programs achieve financial independence and reduce their dependence on welfare and rental programs.

### **Food Security and Child Nutrition**

- \$122 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- \$7 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and Children.
- \$480 million for the Commodity Assistance Program, which includes the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) & the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

### **Healthcare**

- **Community Health Centers (CHCs)**: Includes \$4.4 billion, a \$270 million increase from FY23 levels. Health centers in West Virginia treat 1 in 3 patients.
- **Special Diabetes Program**: Includes \$160 million, a nearly a \$10 million increase from current funding levels. West Virginia has the highest rate of individuals with diabetes, this funding helps support research and funding for diabetes. This is the first funding increase for the Special Diabetes Programs since FY04.
- **Teaching Health Center program**: Includes \$201 million for a 59% increase above FY23 funding levels.
- **National Health Service Corps**: Includes \$364 million for a \$35 million increase, to support the National Health Service Corps which support health providers in rural and underserved areas.
- **Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education**: Includes \$175 million a \$48.5 million increase, to ensure we are training our next generation of doctors.

## **Keeping Our Promise to Veterans**

Senator Manchin recognizes the sacrifices and patriotism of our veterans, and he is committed to ensuring veterans receive the best available care and benefits. As a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs since he first joined the Senate in 2010, Senator Manchin is proud to continue that mission and be a strong voice for improving veterans' services and programs.

- Medical Care: \$121 billion for the VA to provide essential health services to Veterans.
- Rural Health and Telehealth: \$342 million capacity & transportation access in rural and highly rural areas like West Virginia. This includes \$15 million set aside for Highly Rural Transportation Grants.
- PACT Act: The Fiscal Responsibility Act provided full funding for the Toxic Exposures Fund for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.
- Mental Health: \$16.2 billion for mental health programs including \$559 million for suicide prevention.
- Caregivers: \$2.4 billion to expand the Caregivers Program and support family caregivers in Veterans' families.
- VA Benefits: \$3.9 billion to administer benefits, including disability compensation benefits to Veterans and their survivors. This funding will support the VA's efforts to increase the number and scope of claims and decrease the claims backlog.
- Homelessness: \$3.1 billion to prevent Veteran homelessness.
- Information Technology: \$6.4 billion to improve IT systems to help transfer health records across the U.S.
- Protecting Veterans' Second Amendment Rights: Includes language championed by Senator Manchin that would prohibit the VA from interfering with a veteran's right to purchase a firearm without a court order.

## **Moving West Virginia Forward**

### **Economic & Community Development:**

- Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC): \$200 million for ARC (level funding with FY23). West Virginia is the only state fully within the ARC. The bill includes key initiatives for the state including:
  - \$65 million for the ARC Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) initiative to support coal impacted communities.
  - \$13 million to continue ARC's program to address the opioid crisis.

- \$15 million for broadband funding for distressed counties in North and North Central Appalachia.
- **Economic Development Administration (EDA):** \$468 million for EDA, including \$75 million (+\$27m) in assistance to coal communities and \$50 million for the Regional Innovation Program. WV is the largest per capita recipient of EDA funds, which provides critical funding to foster innovation in rural communities.

**Increasing Broadband Connectivity in WV:** As a result of our state's beautiful mountains and deep valleys and hollers, broadband deployment costs in West Virginia are much more expensive. Senator Manchin has fought to ensure that funding for broadband deployment prioritizes rural areas like West Virginia that need it the most:

- **USDA:** \$90 million for the ReConnect rural broadband program and \$20 million Community Connect.
- **Commerce:** \$59 million for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which will be responsible for distributing much of the broadband funding included in last year's bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. WV received \$1.2 billion through the \$42.45 billion Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program from NTIA.

#### **Protecting American Manufacturing & Creating Jobs:**

- **Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEP):** \$175 million (level funding with FY23) for MEPs across the country, including Morgantown, to work with small- and mid-sized manufacturers to create jobs and increase profits.

### **Rebuilding our Infrastructure**

As a member of the Transportation, Housing & Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Manchin has prioritized funding to help rural areas like WV. That's why he authored the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, which included \$500 billion for our nation's infrastructure needs.

**Roads and Highways:** 55% of WV's 38,000 miles of public roads are considered to be in poor or fair condition, while 20% of our 7,314 bridges are considered structurally deficient.

- \$350 million for the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS), including \$250 million in advance appropriations through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
- \$250 million for a new bridge bundling grant program.
- \$345 million for discretionary grant programs at the Department of Transportation, including RAISE grants. Thanks to Senator Manchin, WV has received \$128.1 million in RAISE grants in the past several years.

**Clean Drinking Water:** West Virginia has an estimated \$1.4 billion in drinking water needs and \$3.3 billion in wastewater needs. Senator Manchin strongly supports programs for rural water infrastructure, including:

- \$1.63 billion for EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and \$1.12 billion for EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) program, totaling \$2.75 billion.
- \$595 million for the Rural Utilities Service Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program, including \$255 million for Water and Waste Disposal Grants, and \$21.8 million for the Circuit Rider Program.

**Waterways, Navigation and Flood Control:** \$216 million for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Expenses to safeguard communities from flooding and extreme weather, including natural infrastructure and levee improvements.

**Airports:** Senator Manchin believes that we must do everything we can to open up West Virginia, and our airports provide a window to our wild and wonderful state. Senator Manchin's priorities include:

- \$532.4 million to support level funding for the Airport Improvement Program for small and rural airports, which greatly benefits airports like those in WV.
- \$348.5 million in annual funding for the Essential Air Service (EAS) program to connect over 170 small communities in the U.S. to the National Air Transportation System. This program ensures small, rural airports like Beckley, Clarksburg, Lewisburg, Morgantown, & Parkersburg maintain scheduled air service. Language also ensures service continues in all communities.
- Also includes \$10 million for the Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP).

**Railroads & Transit:** Senator Manchin has long fought to preserve & protect WV's rail infrastructure, vital for transportation purposes and for shipping. The bill includes \$2.42 billion for Amtrak and includes the Senator's language directing Amtrak to continue to provide a station agent in each Amtrak station that lost one in 2018.