

NASA'S FY2010 BUDGET REQUEST

The following table tracks the NASA FY2010 budget request as it worked its way through Congress. The House passed the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) appropriations bill (H.R. 2847), which includes NASA, on June 18, 2009 after three days of debate. Several “colloquies” were held during floor debate to clarify some of the bill’s provisions, especially on June 16, and can be read in the Congressional Record for that day. The Senate Appropriations Committee reported its version (S. Rept. 111-34) on June 25, 2009. Agreement on the final bill was reached as part of the FY2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act (H.R. 3288), which passed the House and Senate on Dec. 10 and Dec. 13, 2009 respectively. The bill was signed into law on Dec. 16, 2009. Important language concerning Project Constellation was added during final negotiations and is provided verbatim [below](#). Note that the NASA portion of the bill includes \$67 million in “congressionally directed spending,” more commonly known as “earmarks.” Note that it is difficult to make an apples-to-apples comparison of the request to the final appropriations because Congress created a new account, [Construction and Environmental Compliance](#), and moved money from several of the Mission Directorates into it. Thus, what may look like a cut in funding may instead reflect a reallocation from one account to another. Also, though it appears that the FY2010 appropriation is about \$1 billion more than FY2009, that is only if one does not include the \$1 billion in stimulus funds provided earlier this year.

NASA's FY2010 Budget Request and Congressional Action (in \$ millions)

	FY2009 ^a	Stimulus Bill ^{b,c}	FY2010 Request ^a	House-passed (HR 2847) ^b	Senate Cmte ^b	Final Version (H.R. 3288) ^f
Science	4,503	400	4,477	4,496	4,517	4,469
Aeronautics	500	150	507	501	507	501
Exploration	3,506	400	3,963	^e 3,293	3,940	3,746
Space Operations	5,765	0	6,176	6,097	6,162	6,147
Education	169	0	126	175	140	182.5
Cross Agency Support	3,306	50	3,401	3,164	3,384	3,194
Construction and Environmental Compliance ^d	0	0	0	442	n/a	448
Inspector General	34	2	36	35	36	36
Total	17,782	1,002	18,686	18,203	18,686	18,724

Totals may not add due to rounding.

^a Source: [NASA budget books](#)

^b Source: [H. Rept. 111-149](#) and [S. Rept. 111-34](#) to accompany H.R. 2847, the FY2010 Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) appropriations bill.

^c [The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#), or the “stimulus bill.” The funds may be spent over two years (FY2009-2010).

By Marcia S. Smith

©Space and Technology Policy Group, LLC

^d This category was created by the House Appropriations CJS subcommittee to consolidate NASA funding for these activities. The subcommittee made a number of changes to reorganize the NASA budget and moved funds from Science, Aeronautics, Exploration, Space Operations and Education into Cross Agency Support into this new account. See H. Rept. 111-149 for further information. The Senate committee did not make these changes, but they were adopted in conference. See note [below](#).

^e In the version passed by the House, the Constellation program was cut \$586 million and \$19.8 million was added for Advanced Technology Development. The remaining \$103 million difference is due to the changes explained in note ^d. See page 145 of H. Rept. 111-149 for further information.

^f The final version of the bill was incorporated as Division B of the FY2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.R. 3288. The Senate did not pass the original bill (H.R. 2847). The [conference report](#) for H.R. 3288 is H. Rept. 111-366, which passed the House on December 10 and the Senate on December 13, 2009. The bill was signed into law on December 16. A Public Law number has not been assigned yet.

Language Concerning Project Constellation

Conferees included language in the bill that prohibits any of the funds in the bill from being used to terminate any aspect of Project Constellation or to initiate a replacement program. The language is on page 90 of [Division B](#), beginning on line 9:

Provided, That notwithstanding section 505 of this Act, none of the funds provided herein and from prior years that remain available for obligation during fiscal year 2010 shall be available for the termination or elimination of any program, project or activity of the architecture for the Constellation program nor shall such funds be available to create or initiate a new program, project or activity, unless such program termination, elimination, creation, or initiation is provided in subsequent appropriations Acts.

According to accompanying report language (see the [Statement of Managers for Division B](#), page 110 ff), the provision was included because Congress is awaiting a decision from the White House about its plans for Project Constellation and Congress wants time to consider the decision before approving any changes to the course that Congress already has approved and funded for several years.

New Construction and Environmental Compliance Account

Congress created this account to consolidate the funds NASA spends on construction of facilities and environmental compliance (see page 118 ff of the Statement of Managers). Of the \$448 million in the account, \$13.7 million is for the Science Mission Directorate, \$90.8 million for the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate, \$27.3 million for the Space Operations Mission Directorate, and \$317.5 million for Cross Agency Support (\$249.3 for institutional investments and construction of facilities; \$67.2 million for environmental compliance).