



washington dc update

House Debate of H.R. 1

February 16, 2011

Yesterday we sent you an update on the House debate of H.R. 1 which is legislation to extend the Continuing Resolution for Appropriations through the remainder of FY11. We are highlighting this process before reporting to you on details of President Obama's FY12 budget request because H.R. 1 is happening right now, whereas the FY12 Appropriations process is likely to be with us for some time.

You will recall that Congressman McClintock, who is the new Chair of the House Water and Power Subcommittee, has filed a number of amendments dealing with funding that is under the authorization jurisdiction of his Subcommittee. These include cutting off all funding for the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI water reuse program and also for the WaterSMART program. We have just received reports, yet to be confirmed, that Mr. McClintock will not offer his Title XVI amendment. So stay tuned.

We have also attached pages from yesterday's Congressional Record which highlights two of Mr. McClintock's amendments yesterday and their fate on the House floor. The first was to cut \$1,897,000 from the Bureau's budget in support of a study on the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement and the second an amendment to reduce the DOE's budget by \$247,000,000 by not spending any more FY11 funds from the DOE Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy account.

You can read for yourself Mr. McClintock's argument for the cutting of \$1,897,000 for the Klamath settlement which was adopted by the House.

The proposal to cut \$247,000,000 from DOE was, however, opposed by the Chair of Energy and Water Appropriations and by the Ranking Democrat. You can read their arguments against the amendment on page two of the attachment. And this amendment failed.

There have been many stories this week concerning the "big picture" of Federal spending. The debate on H.R. 1 gives us a window into the details of how actual Federal budget cutting works and specifically how this impacts issues of concern to the arid west.

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