

Analysis of House Vote

FY10 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Bill

On July 9th, the House passed the \$48.8 billion FY10 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations bill (H.R. 3081) by a large margin of 318 to 106 and decisively defeated four cutting amendments. Given the state of the economy, pressure on the budget and partisan wrangling, we were very pleased with the final vote, especially among some of our priority groups like the Freshman, Blue Dogs and Republican legislators – with whom we held unique lobby days to discuss this issue.

Key Votes

The USGLC monitored five votes to determine the level of support for International Affairs spending. We opposed four cutting amendments and supported final passage of the bill.

1. Buyer (R-IN-04) Amendment – An amendment proposing to cut \$2.2 billion from the bill: **Failed 156 to 271**
2. Flake (R-AZ-06) Amendment – An amendment proposing to cut \$8 million from citizen diplomacy programs: **Failed 164-268**
3. Culberson (R-TX-07) Amendment – An amendment proposing to cut \$506 million from Multilateral Assistance programs: **Failed 174-256**
4. Stearns (R-FL-06) Amendment – An amendment proposing to cut \$76.7 million from the Peace Corps: **Failed 172-259**
5. Final Passage – **Passed 318-106**

Overall Vote and Amendment Analysis

Summary

- Support for the International Affairs Budget increased among Republicans, Blue Dogs and Freshmen Members of Congress.
- All four cutting amendments were soundly defeated with solid bipartisan support.
- Fiscally conservative Blue Dog Democrats overwhelmingly supported H.R. 3081 and 81% opposed all four cutting amendments.
- This year, 87% of Freshmen Members voted in favor of H.R. 3081.
- Support for final passage among Republicans improved by 40% over the last recorded vote on the FY08 State, Foreign Operations bill two years ago.

Of the **251 Democrats** present and voting:

- **242 or 96% voted for final passage.**
- **219 or 87% voted against all four cutting amendments.**
- **Only 9 voted against final passage:** Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (SD), Dennis Kucinich (OH), Jim Matheson (UT), Mike McIntyre (NC), Collin Peterson (MN), Fortney Stark (CA), Bart Stupak (MI), Gene Taylor (MS), and Harry Teague (NM).
- **Only 22 voted for one or more cutting amendments.**
 - 20 of the 22 voted in favor of final passage: Adler (NJ), Altmire (PA), Bean (IL), Boccieri (OH), Bright (AL), Childers (MS), Dahlkemper (PA), DeFazio (OR), Ellsworth (IN), Giffords (AZ), Halvorson (IL), Hodes (NH), Holden (PA), Kirkpatrick (AZ), Kratovil (MD), Minnick (ID), Schrader (OR), Shuler (NC), Titus (NV), Wilson, Charlie (OH).

Of the 173 Republican Members present and voting:

- **76 Republicans or 44% voted for final passage** compared to only 31 Republican or 16% who voted for final passage of the FY08 State, Foreign Ops bill.
- **97 Republicans or 56% voted against final passage** compared to 164 or 84% two years ago on the FY08 State, Foreign Ops bill.

Freshmen Take a Stand

- In February 2009, the USGLC held a “freshmen” lobby day in hopes of engaging these newly elected officials in our issue.
- This year, 87% of the freshman voted for final passage of the bill.
 - 48 of the 55 Freshmen Members voted for final passage.
 - 31 of 32 Democrats and 16 of 22 Republicans
 - 21 voted against all of the cutting amendments
- 7 Freshman voted against final passage
 - 6 Republicans: Jason Chaffetz (UT); Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO), Cynthia Lummis (WY), Tom McClintock (CA), Pete Olson (TX), and Bill Posey (FL)
 - 1 Democrat: Harry Teague (NM)
- Of the 35 Freshmen Members we met with in 2009:
 - 10 of the 14 Freshmen Republicans (71%) voted for final passage.
 - 19 of 20 Freshman Democrats (95%) voted for final passage.

Republicans the USGLC Met with Hold the Line

- In June 2009, the USGLC held a “GOP” lobby day with the aim of maintaining bipartisan support for the International Affairs Budget.
- Of the 40 Republican Members we met with:
 - 23 or 58% voted for final passage
 - 17 or 42% voted against final passage.

Blue Dog Coalition Stays the Course

- An impressive 47 of the 52 Blue Dog Coalition Members (90%) voted for final passage.
- Only 9 of the 47 Blue Dog Coalition Members voting in favor of final passage also voted for one or more cutting amendments.
- 5 Blue Dog Coalition Members voted against final passage: Herseth Sandlin (SD), Matheson (UT), McIntyre (NC), Peterson (MN), and Taylor (MS)