

Congressman Mike Quigley

Fiscal Year 2015 programmatic requests for the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science

\$15 million for **Byrne Competitive Grants**

Explanation: This program supports the implementation of evidence-based and data-driven strategies on issues of national significance and builds state, local, and tribal capacity for criminal justice planning and program development.

\$384 million for **Byrne Justice Assistance Grants**

Explanation: The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG Program provides state and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas, including law enforcement, prosecution and court programs, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, crime victim and witness initiatives, and planning, evaluation and technology improvement programs.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program**

Explanation: These resources are used to target neighborhoods that produce a significant proportion of crime or type of crime within the larger community. BCJI is a community based strategy that aims to prevent and control violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in designated high crime neighborhoods by providing funding to support partnerships between law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations that balance targeted enforcement with prevention, intervention, and neighborhood restoration services.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for **Coastal Zone Management Program**

Explanation: These funds help the Illinois Coastal Management Program (ICMP) in their work to preserve, protect, restore, and where possible, enhance coastal resources in Illinois.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for **Community Oriented Policing Services Program**

Explanation: The COPS Hiring Grant Program has enabled law enforcement agencies to form vital partnerships among communities and law enforcement officers, combat criminal activities, and develop and implement problem solving and crime prevention programs nationwide.

\$10 million for the **Competitive Program for Science Museums, Planetariums, NASA Visitor Centers**

Explanation: This program provides competitive funding for science museums and planetariums to enhance programs related to space exploration, aeronautics, space science, earth science or microgravity.

\$810 million for the **Crime Victim Fund**

Explanation: This fund helps the Office for Victims of Crime collect and distribute program funding for crime victims and victims' service providers.

\$44 million for the **Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program**

Explanation: If we truly want to lower the exorbitant criminal justice costs associated with substance abuse related crime, we must look to the readymade solution in Drug Courts. Drug Courts save money, cut crime, and serve those in need; they are transforming the criminal justice system across the nation by creating a systematic response to substance abuse and crime as an alternative to incarceration.

\$8 million for the **Environmental Literacy Grants Program**

Explanation: The Environmental Literacy Grants (ELG) program supports STEM learning by providing funding for formal and informal education projects implemented on regional and national scales, with the goal of increasing environmental stewardship and informed decision-making among the public and K-12 audiences.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Interagency Trade Enforcement Center**

Explanation: The ITEC represents a more aggressive —whole-of-government approach to addressing unfair trade practices, and serves as the primary forum within the federal government for executive departments and agencies to coordinate enforcement of international and domestic trade rules.

\$30 million for the **Juvenile Accountability Block Grant**

Explanation: The basic premise underlying the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program is that both offender-focused and system-focused activities must hold the offender accountable and address the fact that three parties are affected by juvenile crime, the offender, the victim and society.

\$486 million for the **Legal Services Corporation**

Explanation: The Legal Services Corporation distributes nearly 94% of its total funding to 135 independent nonprofit legal aid programs which provide legal assistance to low-income individuals and families in every congressional district. Programs that receive LSC grants help the most vulnerable populations, such as military veterans seeking disability benefits, families facing unlawful evictions or foreclosures, and women seeking protection from abuse.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act**

Explanation: People with serious mental illness are significantly overrepresented in the criminal justice system. MIOTCRA addresses the need for greater collaboration between the criminal justice system and mental health agencies by supporting a wide variety of innovative programs, including mental health courts, specialized law enforcement-based responses, in-facility treatment for mental illnesses and substance abuse, and interventions for youth who are involved or at risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system.

\$187.5 million for the **National Instant Background Check System (NICS) Act Record Improvement Program**

Explanation: The law provides for grants to states to upgrade their electronic databases, incentives for states to transmit electronic records to NICS, penalties for states that do not comply, and requirements for keeping the system up-to-date, including the removal of obsolete or erroneous records.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)**

Explanation: National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) grants are used to enhance the quality and completeness of the nation's criminal history record systems by providing financial and technical assistance to states for the establishment or improvement of computerized criminal history record systems.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **National Sea Grant College Program**

Explanation: These programs serve as the core of a dynamic, national university-based network of over 300 institutions involving more than 3,000 scientists, engineers, educators, students and outreach experts. The network engages the power of academia and a wide variety of partners to address issues such as coastal hazards, sustainable coastal development and seafood safety.

\$7.5 billion for the **National Science Foundation**

Explanation: The National Science Foundation is a vital partner to the University of Illinois, providing more than \$273 million across the three campuses. The University of Illinois needs this funding to support basic research in all disciplines and fund significant projects such as Blue Waters, the world's most powerful academic supercomputer, and the Emiquon Field Station, which monitors floodplain restoration and conservation efforts.

\$266 million for **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

Explanation: OJJDP supports states, local communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for juveniles. The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system's efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families. Through its components, OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research**

Explanation: NOAA and the nation depend on the cutting-edge science provided by its research programs. The research programs provide the science necessary to help NOAA achieve its goals to: serve society's needs for weather and water information; lead the effort to understand and monitor climate variability and change to enhance society's ability to plan and respond; work to protect, restore and manage the use of coastal and ocean resources through ecosystem-based management; and support the Nation's commerce with information for safe, efficient and environmentally sound transportation.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking**

Explanation: The SMART Office provides jurisdictions with guidance regarding the implementation of the Adam Walsh Act as well as technical assistance to states, territories, Indian tribes, local governments, and to public and private organizations. The SMART Office also tracks important legislative and legal developments related to sex offenders and administers grant programs related to the registration, notification, and management of sex offenders.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Public Telecommunication Facilities Program**

Explanation: Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP) provides funding for the infrastructure and upgrades that enables the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) to meet its universal service requirement. PTFP predates the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, and is the only federal source of start-up funding for stations looking to enter underserved communities. These stations often bring service to Native American reservations, rural, and minority communities.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Reduce Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus Grant Program**

Explanation: This program encourages institutions of higher education to adopt comprehensive, coordinated responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Campuses, in partnership with community-based nonprofit victim advocacy organizations and local criminal justice or civil legal agencies, must adopt protocols and policies that treat violence against women as a serious offense and develop victim service programs that ensure victim safety, offender accountability, and the prevention of such crimes.

\$45 million for the **Regional Information Sharing Activities (RISA) Program**

Explanation: The Regional Information Sharing Activities Program successfully supports law enforcement efforts to combat major crimes, apprehend and prosecute offenders, resolve criminal investigations and ensure officer and public safety. The program provides investigative and case support, enhances officer safety and securely links thousands of criminal justice agencies to allow for intelligence sharing using state-of-the-art technology to combat organized and violent crime, gang activity, drug activity, human trafficking, identity theft and other criminal priorities, all while promoting officer safety.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Regional Innovation Program**

Explanation: The Regional Innovation Program supports EDA's interagency effort to build regional innovation clusters. These initiatives aggregate existing investments and technical assistance from multiple federal agencies to strengthen regional industry clusters – networks of interconnected firms and institutions working to accelerate job growth, business formation and expansion, innovation, workforce training, and small business development.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Second Chance Act**

Explanation: The Second Chance Act invests in government and nonprofit agencies to provide reentry programs to adults and youth returning to our communities from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities. The programs address the myriad of needs that people returning have, including mental health and substance abuse treatment, housing,

employment, and education—needs that, when unmet, can increase the likelihood that a person will reoffend.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for the **Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors Formula Grant Program**

Explanation: The STOP Grant Program is at the core of effective coordinated community responses to domestic violence and sexual assault which helps hundreds of thousands of victims find safety and receive services every year, while holding thousands of perpetrators accountable for their actions. While STOP is an extremely effective program, its funding has remained stagnant for years while the need for STOP services, training, and responses has increased.

\$9 million for the **State Criminal Alien Assistance Program**

Explanation: The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) is designed to reimburse states and local correctional facilities for the costs associated with the incarceration of criminal aliens. Awards provide partial reimbursement to states for the costs of incarcerating criminal aliens based upon the total funds available under the program and the amount requested from all states and local governments.

\$15 million for **Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms**

Explanation: TAAF is a small but effective program that provides technical assistance to U.S. businesses negatively impacted by international trade agreements, thus assisting distressed companies in stabilizing their businesses, improving competitiveness, and remaining employers in their communities. In the last five years alone the TAAF has assisted almost 900 small U.S. manufacturers, helping to save and create over 80,000 American jobs.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for **United States Equal Employment Opportunities Commission**

Explanation: The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information.

Support the President's FY 2015 Request for **Veterans Treatment Courts**

Explanation: Veterans Treatment Courts are designed to address the fundamental problem with this troubled population of veterans by addressing the reasons for their criminal behavior. By keeping these veterans out of prisons, and focused on rehabilitation and sobriety, this program supports a long-term solution versus a short-term punishment.

\$19 million for the **Victims of Child Abuse Act**

Explanation: The Victims of Child Abuse Act funds Children's Advocacy Centers which provide an efficient, cost-effective mechanism for handling cases of severe child abuse and are strongly supported by law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary.

\$569.5 million for the **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)**

Explanation: The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a cornerstone of our nation's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Its effective coordinated community response model helps hundreds of thousands of victims

find safety and receive services while holding thousands of perpetrators accountable for their actions. VAWA also supports victims' long-term stability and security, and it addresses the unique barriers that many victims face in accessing services and finding justice.

\$33 million for VAWA Youth and Prevention Programs

Explanation: This funding helps individual victims of abuse and helps schools and communities develop appropriate policies and procedures to address teen dating violence.