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House of Representatives

FY2008 COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

MR. SIMPSON: Madame Speaker, in accordance with House earmark reforms, I would like to place in the record a listing of the congressionally-directed projects in my home state of Idaho that are contained in the report of the FY08 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.

I'd like to take just a few minutes to describe why I supported these projects and why they are valuable to the nation and its taxpayers.

The report contains \$1,200,000 for the Idaho State Police to participate in the Criminal Information Sharing Alliance Network (CISAnet). CISAnet is a fully functional information-sharing network comprised of law enforcement agencies from ten states, including Idaho. The program focuses on drug trafficking and border security issues. Sharing of criminal law enforcement information by and between these ten states is vital to securing an area regarded as one of the most vulnerable to our nation's security. These funds would enable Idaho to continue participating in CISAnet. This program has received federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by the Idaho State Police.

The report contains \$800,000 for the Idaho Department of Corrections to participate in the National Consortium of Offender Management Systems (NCOMS) Sharing Software Development Project. NCOMS is a web-based system allowing states and governmental agencies to share offender information. NCOMS and the CIS system make it a reality to track offenders across state lines and beyond with the use of Extensible Markup Language (XML), global standards and partnerships across the law enforcement and corrections communities. Funding would be used to allow more government agencies and entities to effectively use the system and to modify the "coding" of the application to make it more modular, allowing organizations to implement pieces of the application as needed. This program has received federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by the Idaho Department of Corrections.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of Congressionally-directed projects in my district and an explanation of my support for them.

- 1.) \$1,200,000 for Criminal Information Sharing Alliance Network (CISAnet); Idaho State Police
- 2.) \$800,000 for National Consortium of Offender Management Systems (NCOMS) Sharing Software Development Project; Idaho Department of Corrections