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Appropriations tracker: Deal reached on allocations, CR extends clock

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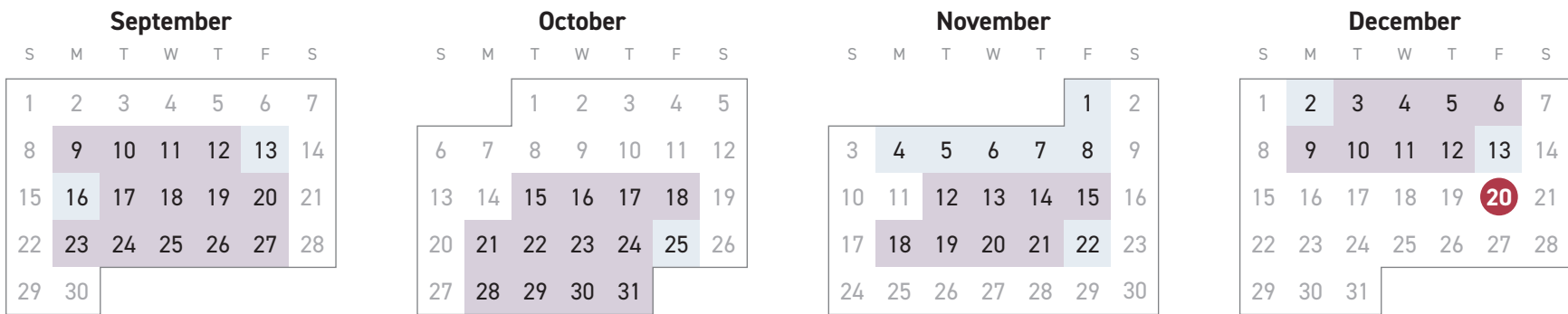
With hours remaining before the previous stopgap bill expired, President Donald Trump signed another continuing resolution extending the federal government's current funding levels through Dec. 20. Congressional appropriators now have another month to negotiate a compromise spending package — setting up the possibility of a final confrontation on the House and Senate floors just days before Christmas, under the threat of a government shutdown.

Congressional leaders have reached a deal determining the topline allocations of funds, but spending levels will not be made public until the full slate of bills is finalized. The ongoing dispute over funding for Trump's proposed border wall could still derail the process once lawmakers work on the details.

Like others before it, the stopgap funding measure had several provisions attached that did not merely extend funding, such as new funding for the 2020 Census, a military pay raise and a change that would let states keep \$7.6 billion of unobligated transportation funding. However, a hoped-for extension of funding for historically black colleges and universities was not included, and military leaders said the stopgap approach is hampering military readiness.

2019 Congressional Calendar

Senate in session Both chambers in session Continuing resolution deadline



Appropriators remain optimistic on passage of further bills

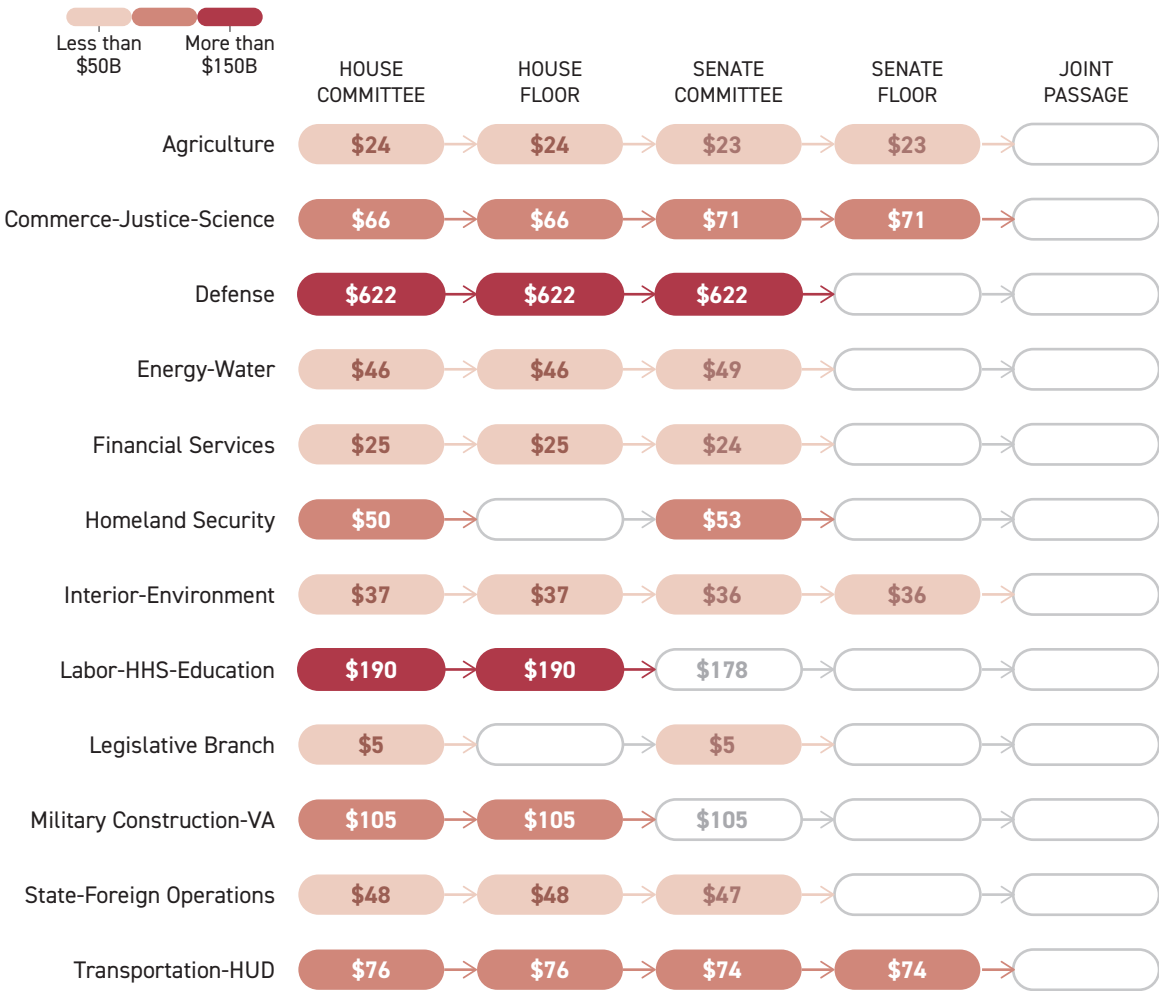
Amid signs that the White House and Congress were nearing a deal on topline spending levels, senior appropriators expressed optimism that at least some of the detailed spending bills could be negotiated before time runs out.

Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and Mike Simpson (R-Idaho), the top members of the Energy and Water appropriations subcommittee, expressed optimism that their bill could be negotiated in time. Kaptur cited "good meetings" with her Senate counterpart, Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.).

But Simpson also added that it was unlikely Congress would succeed in addressing all 12 appropriations categories across the government.

Nonetheless, congressional sources say passing all twelve bills in December remains the goal, especially now that a deal has been struck on the overall funding amounts.

Legislative passage and funding levels (in billions) for FY 2020 appropriations bills



Note: Figures exclude OCO military, census funds and changes to mandatory programs. House and Senate bills for Legislative Branch appropriations are not fully comparable because each chamber sets its own spending levels, per tradition.

Sources: Senate Appropriations Committee; Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, "Appropriations watch: FY 2020"; John Donnelly, "Skinny defense bill omits key element: CQ Roll Call

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