

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
House of Representatives, U. S.
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 21, 1961

The Honorable Omar Burleson, Chairman
Committee on House Administration
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the established procedure of your Committee and in support of H. Res. 128, I submit the proposed budget of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs for the 87th Congress. The amount of \$60,000 is requested for expenses in connection with studies and investigations authorized by H. Res. 92. Estimated requirements for expenditures are given below by category and are compared with actual expenditures for the 86th Congress:

	<u>Estimated</u> <u>87th Congress</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>86th Congress</u>
Travel - Members and Staff	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 24,130.54
Per diem	15,000.00	12,944.28
Salaries	15,500.00	15,927.97
Reporting	5,000.00	4,070.33
Miscellaneous (Telephone, telegraph, committee room supplies)	2,000.00	4,793.27
Unexpended	<u>-</u>	<u>13,133.61</u>
TOTAL	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 75,000.00

On a jurisdictional basis, expenditure requirements are estimated to be about as follows:

Irrigation and Reclamation	20 percent
Territorial and Insular Affairs	20 percent
Mines and Mining	10 percent
Public Lands	15 percent
Indian Affairs	20 percent
National Parks	15 percent

The budget proposed for the 87th Congress is \$15,000.00 below the amount approved by the House in the 86th Congress and almost \$2,000 less than the actual expenditures in the 86th.

It is contemplated that the Committee's requirements for travel funds will be somewhat less in the 87th Congress than in the 86th. A large part of the travel expense in the 86th Congress resulted from field hearings in Guam and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and hearings in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Needs for travel to these areas in the 87th are expected to be considerably reduced. However, increases for travel are expected in other phases of the Committee's work.

The amount included for reporting is to cover the estimated costs of reporting field hearings only. The amount included for salaries is to cover the need for additional staff assistance on a temporary basis in connection with several special problems which the Committee has. There is an immediate need for a special consultant to assist the Committee on Territorial matters. Other needs may develop later.

With respect to the work of the subcommittees, it is anticipated that funds will be needed in connection with the following specific matters:

Irrigation and Reclamation

(1) Possible field hearings and on-the-ground inspections in several project areas in connection with (a) legislation to authorize reclamation projects, including the Fryingpan-Arkansas project in Colorado, the Savery-Pot Hook project in Colorado and Wyoming, the Burns Creek project in Idaho, the San Juan-Chama project and the Navajo Indian irrigation project in New Mexico, the Garrison Diversion project in North Dakota, the Mid-State project in Nebraska, the Mann Creek project in Idaho, the Baker project in Oregon, and the Crater-Long Lakes project in Alaska, and (b) developments under the Small Reclamation Projects Act and the Rehabilitation and Betterment Act.

(2) Possible field hearings and special studies in connection with (a) legislation providing for the application to Federal agencies and activities of State laws governing the control, appropriation and distribution of water, (b) legislation establishing new policies and procedures for formulating and evaluating water resources development projects, and (c) legislation to expand and extend the saline water research program.

Territorial and Insular Affairs

(1) Possible field hearings relating to the status, progress and administration of the territories and insular possessions of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including the operation and administration of the Puerto Rico Commonwealth Act of 1952, the Virgin Islands Organic Act and Corporation Act, and the Guam Organic Act.

(2) Possible field hearings and special studies in connection with the consideration of organic legislation for American Samoa and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and the extension of various laws of the United States to these areas.

Mines and Mining

(1) Possible field hearings on (a) legislation to improve the position of the domestic minerals industries; (b) legislation relating to the administration and operation of the mining and mineral leasing laws; and (c) legislation relating to mineral resources of the public lands and mineral resources surveys.

(2) Investigations and studies involving (a) long range domestic minerals programs and the effects upon domestic mining industries of the world metals situation and (b) problems resulting from extensive strip mining on the public lands.

Public Lands

(1) Possible field hearings on (a) legislation relating to the administration of the public lands of the United States and the forest reserves created out of the public domain, (b) legislation to modernize the public land laws, and (c) legislation to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System.

(2) Investigations of matters pertaining to the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Indian Affairs

(1) Possible field hearings on (a) legislation relating to the administration of Indian affairs, (b) legislation to establish new policies and programs, and (c) legislation to release Indian tribes and bands from Federal supervision.

(2) Investigations of particular Indian matters needing study or problems that may develop.

National Parks

(1) Possible field hearings on (a) legislation relating to the administration of the National Park system, (b) legislation to create new national parks, national seashores, national monuments, etc.

(2) Investigations of particular matters relating to the National Park System that may need study.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Wayne N. Aspinall
Chairman