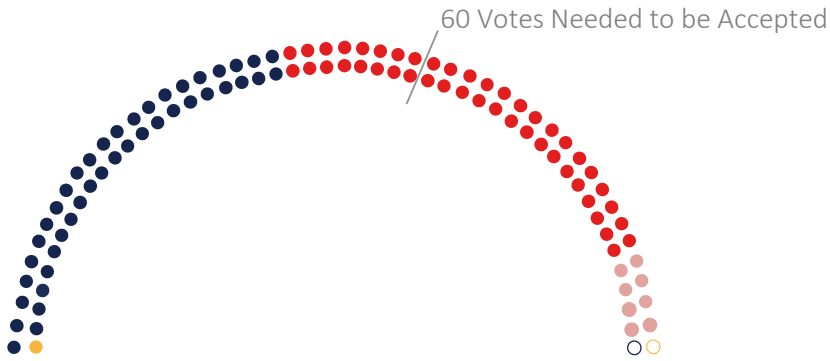


First Appropriations Bill Passes After Initial Hold Up Over Controversial Amendment

How the Senate Voted on the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill



Votes by Party	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Republicans	● 46	● 8	○ 0
Democrats	● 43	● 0	○ 1
Independents	● 1	● 0	○ 1
Total	90	8	2

“The energy security and water infrastructure bill is important for our country, we know it will support public safety, waterways infrastructure, energy innovation [and] our nuclear deterrence posture.”

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

Analysis

- The Iran Heavy Water Amendment from Sen. Cotton (R-AR), had held the bill in committee until it was voted down on its own.
- The bill, H.R. 2028, is the first appropriations bill to be approved this year and leaders hope it will set the tone for bipartisan progress moving forward with the next appropriations bills.
- Most of the legislation is not controversial with increases in funding of \$355 million over 2016 levels with a \$1.163 billion increase for the Department of Energy’s defense-related programs and an \$808 million decrease for the nondefense portions of the bill.
- The bill heads to the House next where a similar version passed out of committee in April, but it is unclear if appropriations processes will begin without a budget.

Source: Devin Henry, “Senate Passes \$37.5 Billion Energy and Water Bill After Ending Iran Fight,” The Hill, May 12, 2016; U.S. Senate, “Roll Call Votes 114th Congress -2nd Session,” April 19, 2016.