

APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

April 27th,
2026

FY27 Spending Totals Approved, But May Change

Last week, the House Appropriations Committee approved totals for six of the twelve annual funding bills, as the committee works to mark up the full slate of fiscal 2027 bills by the end of June. Committee Chair Tom Cole (R-OK) said the initial fiscal 2027 spending allocations cover only about 20 percent of discretionary funding, reflecting a deliberate decision to begin with the less complex portions of the budget. He emphasized that this approach mirrors last year's strategy of starting with areas that can be more easily adjusted later. The remaining allocations, particularly those tied to defense, are still in flux but could come in the next few weeks.

Cole acknowledged that reaching a bipartisan, bicameral agreement could stretch as late as the end of the fiscal year (or even the calendar year). At the same time, he signaled an aggressive posture toward advancing the appropriations process in the House, aiming to prompt Senate action. According to Cole, Senate appropriators themselves encouraged this approach, telling him that House passage of bills would generate the pressure needed for the Senate to follow suit and accelerate progress toward a final fiscal 2027 deal.

GOP Leaders Float Third Reconciliation Bill to Move Along Immigration Funding

House Republican leaders are pushing for a floor vote next week on the Senate's budget resolution as the first step toward advancing an immigration enforcement funding bill aligned with President Trump's June 1st deadline. Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) emphasized the need for a "clean" resolution to expedite the process, but leadership faces resistance from conservative members seeking to expand the scope of the measure. Behind closed doors, Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) and Budget Chair Jodey Arrington (R-TX) have been working with GOP factions to shore up support while signaling that additional policy priorities could be addressed in a subsequent reconciliation package. A potential third reconciliation bill could include tax changes, increased defense spending, and cuts to social programs, reflecting broader Republican policy ambitions. However, internal divisions persist, with some lawmakers demanding that future legislation be fully offset, and others warning that political and procedural constraints may limit opportunities to pass another party-line bill before the midterms.