

# Federal Budget Process and Appropriations for Federal Agencies

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# Congress

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- Authorization Committees
  - Define mission of federal agencies
  - Authorize funding levels (nonbinding)
  - Other issues except appropriations
- Appropriations Committees
  - Appropriate funds for federal agencies



# House: Authorization Committees

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- Agriculture
  - Collin Peterson (D-MN) and Bob Goodlatte (R-VA)
- Energy and Commerce
  - John Dingell (D-MI) and Joe Barton (R-TX)
  - Dept. of Energy; energy policy
- Natural Resources
  - Nick Rahall (D-WV) and Don Young (R-AK)
  - USGS, BLM, Forest Service; mineral resources & mining
- Science and Technology
  - Bart Gordon (D-TN) and Ralph Hall (R-TX)
  - R&D at NSF, NASA, DOE, NOAA, EPA, FEMA, OSTP



# Senate: Authorization Committees

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- Agriculture
  - Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
- Commerce, Science and Transportation
  - Daniel Inouye (D-HI) and Ted Stevens (R-AK)
  - NSF, NASA, NOAA, NIST
- Energy and Natural Resources
  - Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) and Pete Domenici (R-NM)
  - Energy Dept, Interior Dept (USGS, MMS, etc)
- Environment and Public Works
  - Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and James Inhofe (R-OK)
  - EPA, CEQ and others

# House Appropriations Subcommittees

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- Agriculture
  - Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Jack Kingston (R-GA)
- Commerce, Justice, Science
  - Alan Mollohan (D-WV) and Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)
- Energy and Water Development
  - Peter Visclosky (D-IN) and David Hobson (R-OH)
- Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
  - Norm Dicks (D-WA) and Todd Tiarht (R-KS)



# Senate Appropriation Subcommittees

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- Agriculture
  - Herb Kohl (D-WI) and Robert Bennett (R-UT)
- Commerce, Justice, Science
  - Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Richard Shelby (R-AL)
- Energy and Water Development
  - Byron Dorgan (D-ND) and Pete Domenici (R-NM)
- Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
  - Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Wayne Allard (R-CO)

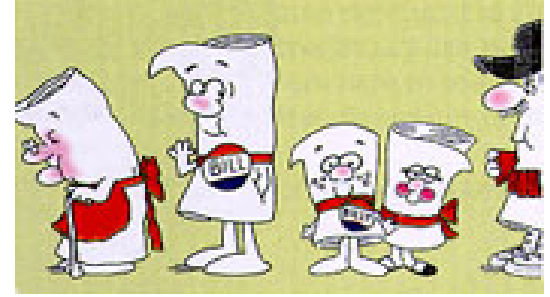
# Introduction of Bill

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- Bill introduced by Member of Congress
- Bill referred to committee(s) with jurisdiction over the bill
- Is the bill co-sponsored by the chair and ranking minority member of the committee(s) and subcommittee(s) with jurisdiction over the legislation?

# Bill in Committee

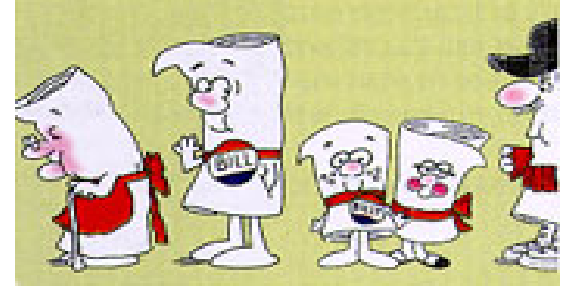
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- Hearings
- Subcommittee votes on amendments
- Subcommittee votes on bill as amended
- Full committee votes on amendments
- Full committee votes on bill as amended
- If approved, the full committee drafts a Committee Report to accompany the bill
  - Important role of "Report Language"
- Repeat this process of other committees

# Bill to Floor

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- Bill reported to chamber
- Placed on calendar
- Bill reaches floor for debate
- Bill is voted on
- If passed, bill is sent to other chamber where it can be passed, rejected, ignored, or amended

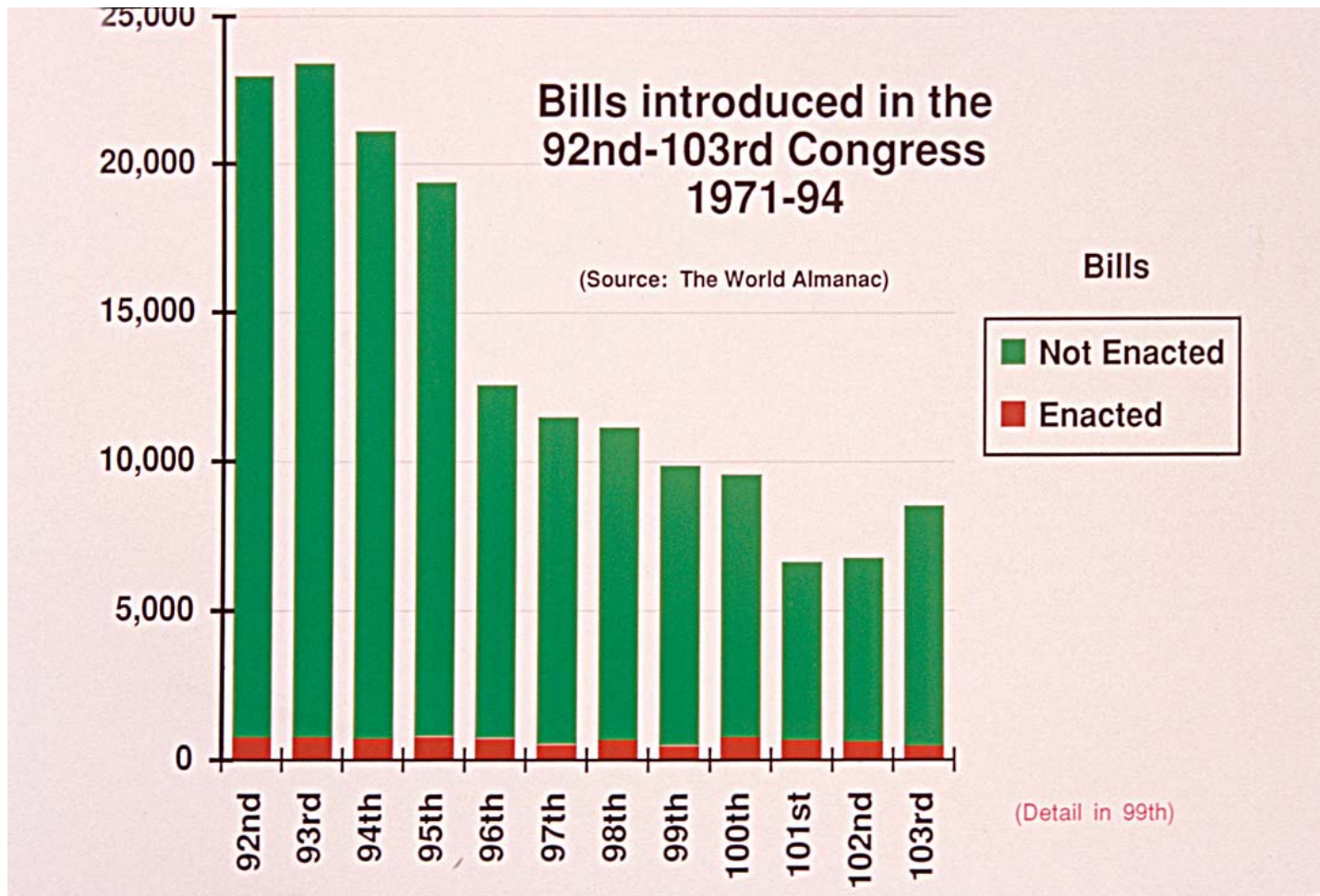


# Bill to Conference and Beyond

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- If Senate and House versions of the bill are different, then a conference committee is convened to reconcile the differences
- Conference report
- House and Senate pass identical bills
- Bill is sent to President for signature or veto

# Few bills are enacted



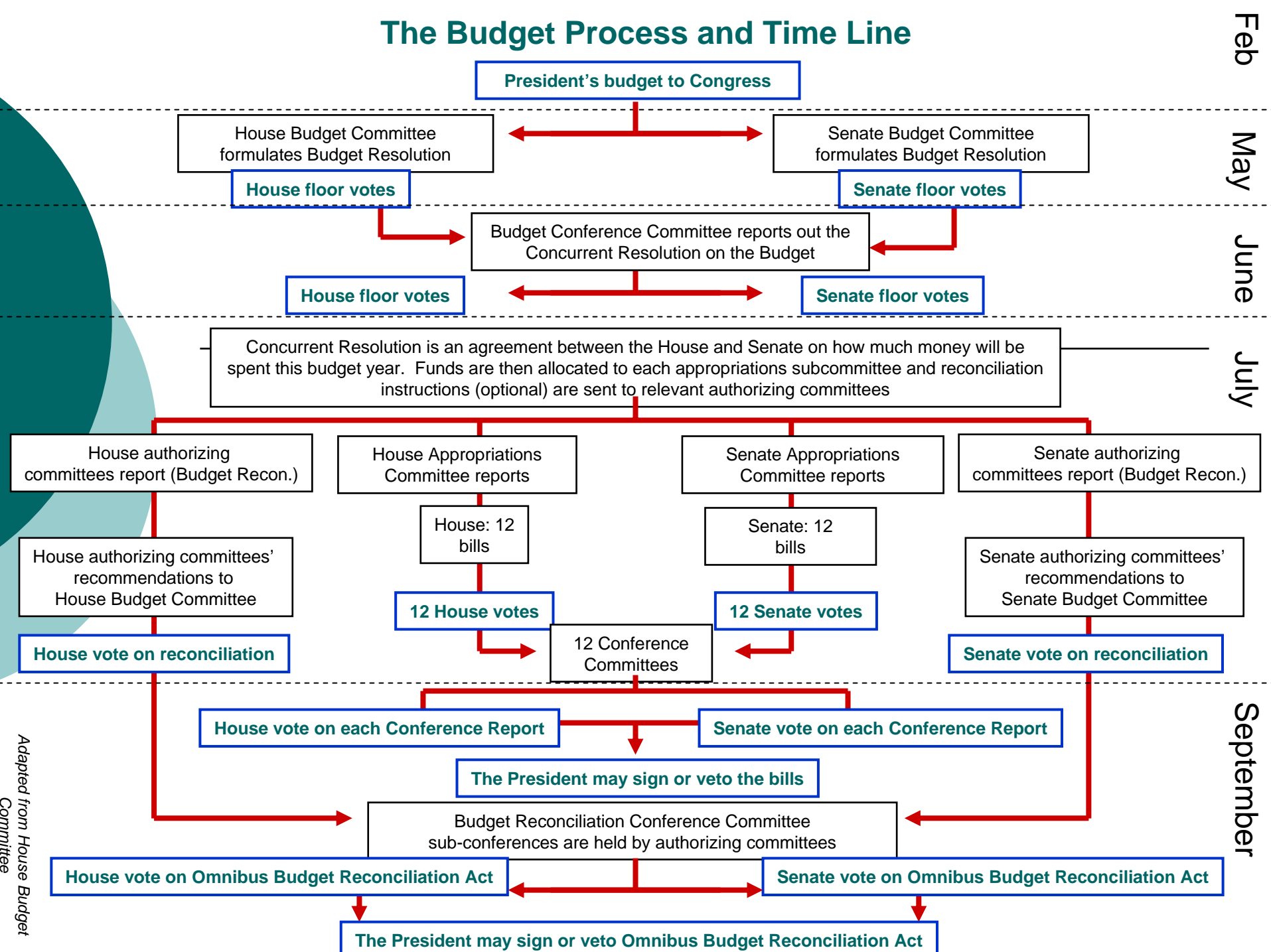


# President's Budget Request

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- White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provides budget guidelines to each federal agency
- Agency submits draft budget to OMB
- Review, revisions, pass back, appeals
- OMB finalizes President's Budget Request to Congress
- The President's FY 2009 Budget Request to Congress was released on February 4

# The Budget Process and Time Line



Feb

May

June

July

September

Adapted from House Budget Committee



# Recent Authorization Bill

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## America COMPETES Act (H.R. 2272)

- Passed the House 367-57
- Passed the Senate (unanimous consent)
- Signed by the President on August 9, 2007
- Authorizes \$33.6 billion from FY 2008-2010 for science, engineering, and mathematics research and education
- Keeps research programs at NSF, DOE Office of Science and NIST on near-term doubling path

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 26, 2008

***Ensure Economic Vitality & National Competitiveness:  
Invest in the National Science Foundation***

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to join us in signing the attached letter requesting that the Commerce, Justice and Science (CJS) Appropriations subcommittee make the National Science Foundation (NSF) a priority as it deliberates the FY 2009 budget.

Advances in science and technology underpin our ability to meet many of the challenges that America faces today, including securing the homeland, preventing terrorism, fostering innovation and economic development, and educating our children to be able to compete in the knowledge-based, global economy. As a nation, we must continue to invest in our scientific enterprise.

Supporting the NSF is key to maintaining our pre-eminence in science and technology. NSF investments are aimed at the frontiers of science and engineering, where advances in fundamental knowledge drive innovation, progress, and productivity. **We believe that NSF should be funded at the COMPETES Act authorized level of \$7.326 billion in the FY 2009 budget.** We hope that you will join us in asking for support by signing the attached letter and include NSF in the programmatic requests you submit to the CJS Subcommittee (no financial disclosure is necessary). For your reference, the FY08 estimate appropriated \$6.065 billion for NSF, and the FY09 request is \$6.854 billion.

To sign the letter, or for answers to any questions, please contact Julia Jester in Rep. Ehlers' office (x53831) or Chris Hartmann in Rep. Holt's office (x55801). *Deadline to sign is March 12.*

Sincerely,



Vernon J. Ehlers  
Member of Congress



Rush Holt  
Member of Congress



Bob Inglis  
Member of Congress



Brian Baird  
Member of Congress

*Please turn over*



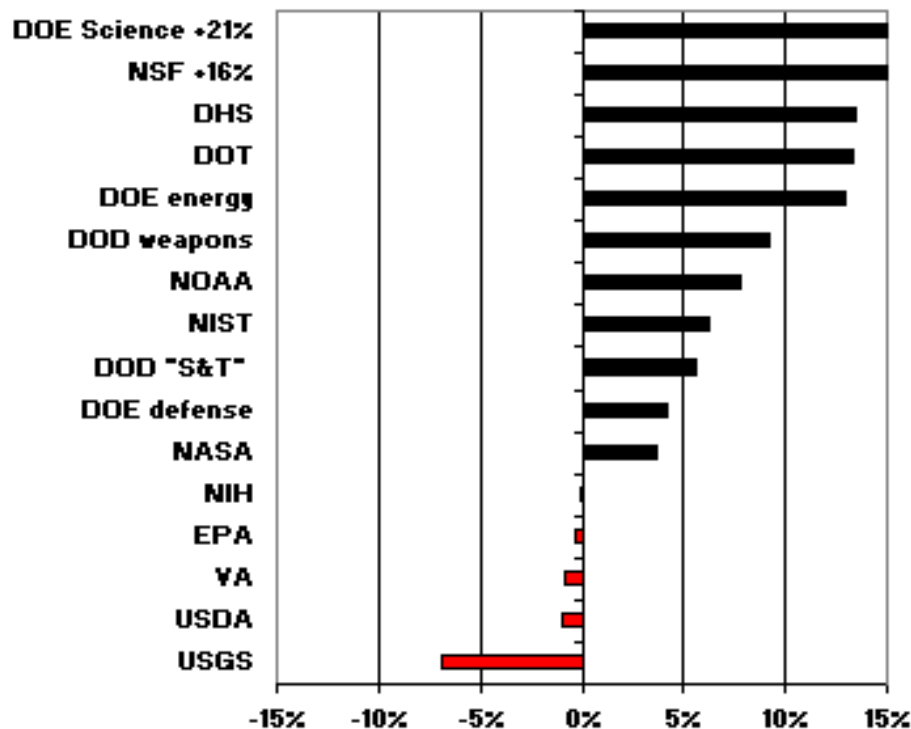
# Recent Appropriations Bills

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- Full-year continuing resolution for FY 2007
  - Most agencies received flat funding, but NSF received a substantial budget increase
- Omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2008
  - Large budget increases for NSF and DOE Office of science were eliminated in a last-minute compromise

# President's FY09 Budget Request for R&D

**FY 2009 R&D Request (without earmarks; preliminary)**  
Percent Change from FY 2008 excluding '08 earmarks



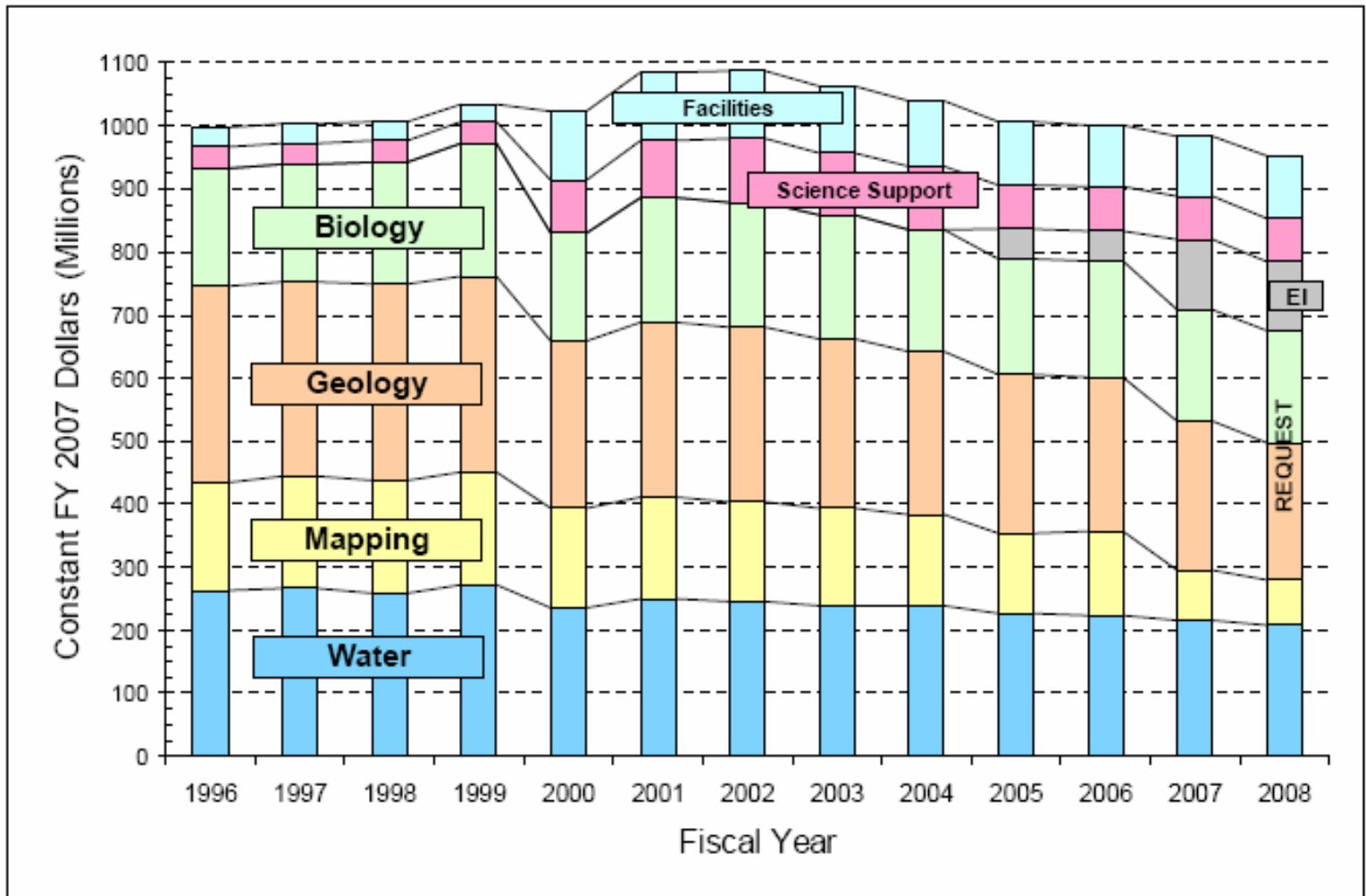
Source: AAAS, based on OMB R&D data and agency estimates for FY 2009.

DOD "S&T" = DOD R&D in "6.1" through "6.3" categories plus medical research.

DOD weapons = DOD R&D in "6.4" and higher categories. R&D earmarks as tabulated by AAAS from final 2008 appropriations in December 2007 analyses. FEB. '08 PRELIMINARY © 2008 AAAS



# USGS Budget Over Time



Source: USGS Coalition

# Recommended Actions

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- Ask Members of Congress to restore proposed cuts in the USGS budget. The USGS Coalition recommends a funding level of \$1.3 billion for the USGS in FY 2009.
- Ask Representatives to sign the “Dear Colleague” letter from Rep. Ehlers (R-MI) and Rep. Holt (D-NJ). This letter asks the Appropriations Committee to fund the National Science Foundation at the level authorized in the America COMPETES Act, which is \$7.3 billion in FY 2009.
- Ask Senators to sign the “Dear Colleague” letter from Sen. Lieberman (I-CT) and Sen. Bond. This letter asks the Appropriations Committee to provide \$6.85 billion for the National Science Foundation in FY 2009.