

## **REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

## Proposed Appropriation Language

### REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, [~~\$1,800,000~~]*\$1,700,000*, as authorized, of which [~~\$711,000~~]*\$737,000* may be made available for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program and may be paid to "Diplomatic and Consular Programs": *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

# REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

## *Resource Summary*

(\$ in thousands)

Appropriations	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 CR <sup>(1)</sup>	FY 2014 Request	Increase/Decrease From FY2012
Enduring Funds	1,674	1,456	1,700	26

FY 2012 Actual includes \$227,000 transferred from Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service.

(1) The FY 2013 CR is based on the annualized continuing resolution calculation for FY 2013 (P.L. 112-175).

### *Program Description*

As authorized by Section 4 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act, the Department of State's Repatriation Loans program provides emergency loans to assist destitute Americans abroad who have no other source of funds to return to the United States. They include Americans temporarily abroad who are without funds because of unforeseen events such as theft, illness, or accident; individuals suffering from serious physical or mental illness who need to return to the United States for medical care; Americans residing abroad with an alien spouse needing assistance to escape an abusive situation; and individuals caught in a disaster or emergency abroad who need to be removed from harm's way. Approval of a repatriation loan is not based on an applicant's credit worthiness, but rather destitution. State Department repatriation loans are provided for temporary subsistence and transportation to a U.S. port of entry.

When U.S. citizens abroad become destitute and are unable to fund their return home, they may enlist the assistance of the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in the country in which they are stranded. Consular officers first attempt to obtain funds for the person in need from family members and/or friends in the United States. If this cannot be done, the post is authorized in certain circumstances to purchase transportation for direct return to the United States and to provide food and lodging for the period prior to the next available flight, via U.S. carrier whenever possible. The recipient is required to sign a promissory note for the amount of the loan. The length of the repayment is 60 days. The Department of State actively seeks repayment of these loans. To encourage repayment, the recipient's passport is restricted at the time the loan is granted to allow return to the United States only. This restriction remains in effect until the loan is repaid.

The Repatriation Loan Program directly benefits U.S. citizens by providing them with the means to return to the United States if destitute. During FY 2012, 1,068 repatriation loan cases were processed abroad.

#### FY 2012 Actual Loans Serviced

<u>Region</u>	
Africa	80
Western Hemisphere	375
East Asia/Pacific	236
Europe	238
Near East	119
<u>South Central Asia</u>	<u>20</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,068</b>

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### Subsidy

Amounts requested for the subsidy funds represent the estimated costs to the U.S. Government of loans that are unlikely to be repaid.

### Performance

When U.S. citizens overseas require financial assistance during personal emergencies or times of natural disasters and crises, CA has the authority under 22 U.S.C. 2671(b)(2)(B) to loan funds to "destitute citizens of the United States who are outside the United States" as long as the loans are "made for the [citizens'] return to the United States..." The Department tracks how often a repatriation loan is provided to U.S. citizens who request and qualify for emergency financial assistance, thereby removing them from potentially harmful situations.

<b>Strategic Goal 7: Build a 21st century workforce; and achieve U.S. government operational and consular efficiency and effectiveness, transparency and accountability; and a secure U.S. government presence internationally</b>								
<b>Strategic Priority</b>		American Citizen Services						
<b>Active Performance Indicator</b>		NEW APP INDICATOR: Of those U.S. citizens who request and qualify for a repatriation loan, percentage to whom loans are disbursed.						
<b>Prior Year Results and Ratings</b>					<b>FY 2012</b>		<b>Planned Targets</b>	
<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result and Rating</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Baseline	100% (Baseline)  New Indicator, No Rating	100%	100%
<b>Impact</b>		For all U.S. citizens who are eligible, a repatriation loan will be available to allow for their safe and secure return to the United States.						
<b>Methodology</b>		CA analyzed the volume of repatriation loans requested for fiscal years 2008-2011. All loans "approved" were requests from U.S. citizens who were determined to be eligible for repatriation. Those "denied" were requests from U.S. citizens who either were not eligible, or withdrew their requests for assistance. Loans marked "abandoned" are requests which were terminated for reasons not related to the applicant's eligibility.						
<b>Data Source and Quality</b>		American Citizens Services software, which is the primary "system of record" used by CA and overseas posts to provide services to U.S. citizens overseas. There are no known data quality issues that would compromise confidence in the data.						

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### *Justification of Request*

The FY 2014 Request for \$1.7 million is an increase of \$26,000 over the FY 2012 Actual level. The request will allow the Department of State to subsidize and administer the Repatriation loans program consistent with the guidelines in the Credit Reform Act of 1990.

The FY 2014 Request of \$1.7 million will provide a loan level of up to \$2.7 million (63 percent). For FY 2014, the Department is also requesting continuation of authority within the Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service account (EDCS) to allow the transfer of up to \$1 million into this account from EDCS if loan requirements exceed the requested level. Further, the Department is considering funding \$737,000 of administrative costs with fees from the Border Security Program.

### *Funds by Object Class*

(\$ in thousands)

Repatriation Loans Program Account (REPAT)	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 CR	FY 2014 Request	Increase/Decrease From FY2012
2500 Other Services	710	710	0	(710)
3300 Investments and Loans	964	746	1,700	736
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,674</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>26</b>

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