

Dear UAA Members:

We would like to keep you informed on fast moving legislation related to foreign assistance.

The House voted on H.R. 7006, the foreign assistance appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2026. What is in the bill? The bill is designed to:

- Reassert Congress's constitutional authority over federal spending, affirming Congress's power of the purse.
- Demonstrate bicameral, bipartisan support for foreign assistance. Both chambers and both parties approved funding levels more than \$20 billion above the Administration's overall request.
- Fund the American First Opportunity Fund Account but without any new authorities and with notification requirements.
- Strengthen oversight and accountability, ensuring funds are obligated and expended as Congress intends.
- Reinforce information sharing between the Administration and Congress, ensuring appropriate notification and transparency.

What this bill does *not* do

- Codify DOGE-related cuts.
- Abolish USAID.
- Implement the reductions proposed by OMB.
- Mandate staffing levels.
- During debate of the bill, the Crane amendment related to democracy funding was not approved.

What happens next

- The bill now moves to the Senate, where a vote is expected the week of January 26. The Administration has stated its support for the bill and the President is expected to sign it into law.
- If the bill is signed into law, it will be important to keep a close eye on the Administration's implementation of its provisions, e.g. adherence to sectoral directives.

Many of our members have asked how best to engage with their Congressional Representatives to express their own personal views on the need for and design of the bill-and we would urge you to do so now. If you require assistance engaging with Congress on your personal views, organizations such as Aid on the Hill have online resources. Please see the attached link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdg3F1IoAinZx1ZWlWySnY3JYJ5LYb_1V88N2K-Vzi-FVGL6A/viewform