

WALTER B. JONES
3D DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

ROOM 2333
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3415

COMMITTEES:
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1105-C CORPORATE DRIVE
GREENVILLE, NC 27858
(252) 931-1003
(800) 351-1697

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

June 3, 2016

Chairman Harold Rogers
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Nita M. Lowey
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

Three months ago I sent you the attached letter asking for inclusion of the following language in all future appropriations bills:

"None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography."

You may recall that this language was included in four of the twelve fiscal year 2016 appropriations bills, which were signed into law in December, 2015. So far this year the Appropriations Committee has taken action on nine of the twelve appropriations bills for fiscal year 2017. I am very pleased to see this language included in eight of those nine bills. That is tremendous progress over last year, and I am grateful for your leadership in making it happen. I look forward to seeing the language in the three bills still awaiting committee action, and to working with you on the floor to secure inclusion of the language in the one bill (Transportation, Housing and Urban Development) which did not include the language coming out of committee.

Thanks again for your work on this issue. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

Attachment

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 8, 2016

Chairman Harold Rogers
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Nita M. Lowey
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

In reviewing the recently passed omnibus appropriations bill for fiscal year 2016 (H.R. 2029), we noticed several divisions of the bill included the following language:

“None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.”

This language was included in Division B, which funded Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies; Division F, which funded the Department of Homeland Security; Division H, which funded the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies; and Division J, which funded Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies.

However, the language was not in the divisions of the bill funding the rest of the government, including: Division A, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies; Division C, Department of Defense; Division D, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies; Division E, Financial Services and General Government; Division G, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies; Division I, Legislative Branch; Division K, Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies; and Division L, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

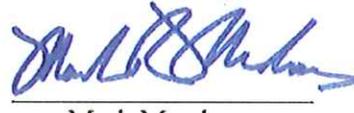
We applaud you for including this funding restriction for many parts of the government. However, we are deeply troubled that it was not included for all the federal government. In particular, it was not included for several agencies, including the EPA, the SEC, and the Department of Interior, which have been the subject of high profile media stories about their employees surfing porn at the office.

Unless necessary as part of a criminal investigation, prosecution or adjudication, federal employees should not be able to view, download or exchange pornography on the taxpayers' dime. We respectfully urge you to ensure that this important funding restriction is included in all future appropriations bills.

Thank you for your service, and for your attention to this important matter.

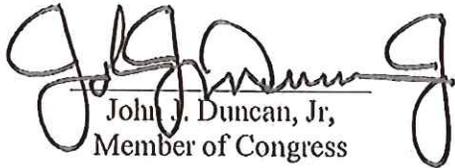
Sincerely,

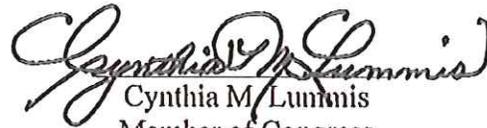

Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress


Mark Meadows
Member of Congress


Ted S. Yoho
Member of Congress


Paul A. Gosar
Member of Congress


John J. Duncan, Jr.
Member of Congress


Cynthia M. Lummis
Member of Congress