

Government Affairs Report

Illinois Fire Service Home Day

September 6, 2007



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Analysis of Fiscal Year 2008 Homeland Security Funding

On Monday, February 5th, the White House released its proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2008. The \$2.9 trillion budget includes a 9.5 % increase in non-defense homeland security spending. Although the proposal increases funding in some areas, it would cut first responder grants by \$1 billion dollars. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (Fire Act) would be reduced by nearly \$250 million from the FY07 enacted level, receiving only 30% of its authorized funding. The budget also proposes to zero-out the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants.

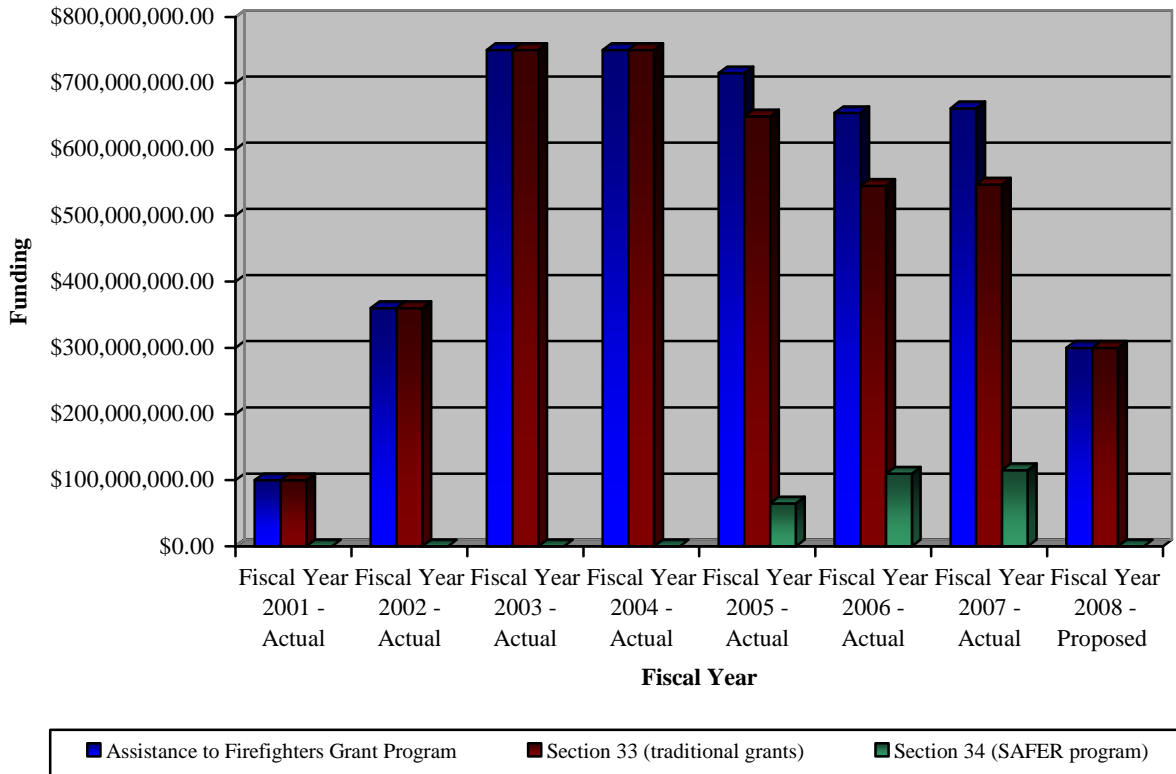
Program	FY07 Enacted	FY08 Proposed	FY08 House	FY08 Senate
Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (Section 33)	\$547,000,000	\$300,000,000	\$570,000,000	\$560,000,000
SAFER (Section 34)	\$115,000,000	\$0	\$235,000,000	\$145,000,000
Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)	\$770,000,000	\$800,000,000*	\$800,000,000	\$820,000,000
State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)	\$525,000,000	\$250,000,000*	\$550,000,000	\$525,000,000
United States Fire Administration (USFA)	\$46,849,000	\$43,300,000	\$43,300,000	\$43,300,000

* \$200 million of the proposed funding for UASI is set aside for Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Grants. \$62.5 million of the proposed funding for SHSGP is also set aside for the LETPG.

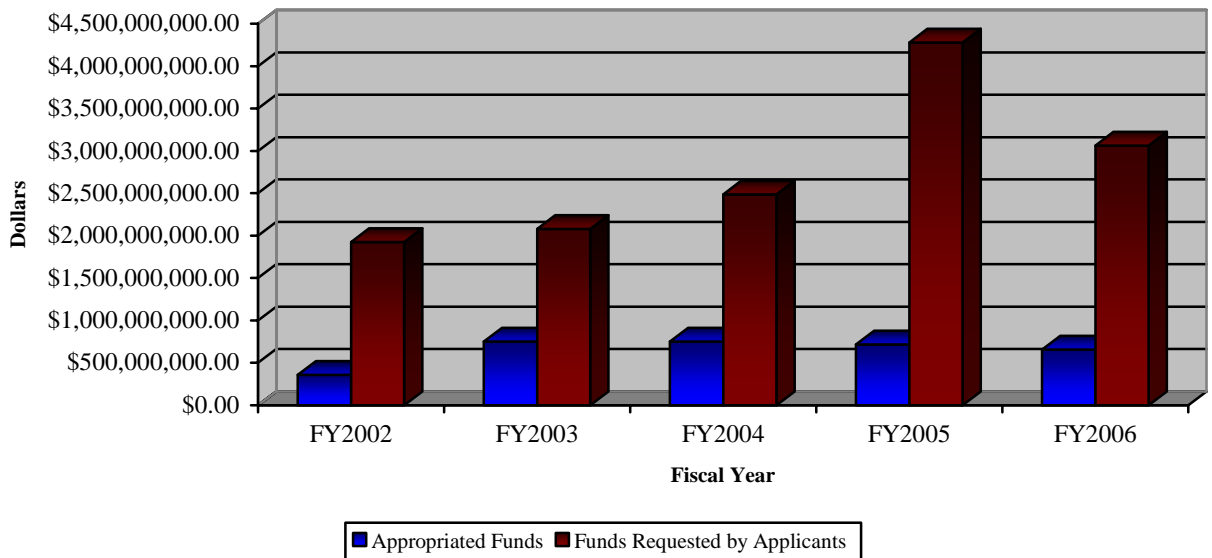
The United States Fire Administration received a slight reduction in funding, but this is largely due to the Noble Training Center being moved outside of the office.

On June 15, 2007 the House of Representatives approved H.R. 2638, the Fiscal Year 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, by a vote of 268-150. The Senate approved an amended version of the bill on July 26th by a vote of 89-4. The two houses will now convene a conference committee to resolve differences in the two versions of the legislation before sending the bill back to their respective houses for final approval. President Bush has issued a veto threat on any appropriations bill that exceeds the White House's budget recommendations.

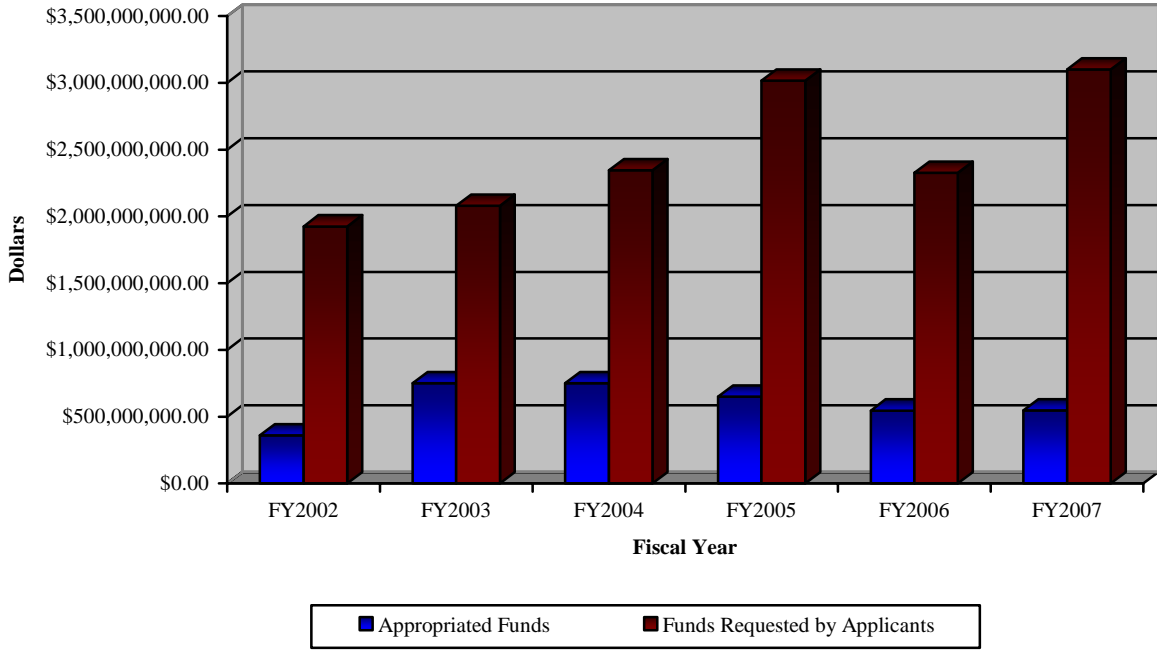
**History of Funding for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program
(FIRE & SAFER)**



Funding vs. Requests (FIRE & SAFER)



Funding vs. Requests (FIRE Only)



Funding vs. Request (SAFER Only)

