

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD NAMED TO SUPPLEMENTAL DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE COMMITTEE BY MAJORITY LEADER

Appointment puts senator in strong position to ensure Pueblo Depot provisions remain in final bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has been appointed to serve as a conferee on the House-Senate Conference Committee that will meet to work out differences between the U.S. House and Senate versions of the FY 2005 Supplemental Appropriations Bill. Senator Allard was appointed to the conference committee by Majority Leader Bill Frist.

The legislation includes provisions added by Senator Allard and Senator Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky), requiring the Department of Defense (DoD) to spend \$372.38 million previously appropriated but not spent for cleaning up chemical weapons stockpiles at the Pueblo Depot in Colorado and the Blue Grass Depot in Kentucky. The Act requires the program manager of the two projects to spend or contract for \$100 million-worth of work at the sites in no more than 120 days.

“This appointment to the conference committee puts me in an even stronger position to ensure that the Department of Defense carries out Congress’ intention that it drop any consideration of moving the chemical weapons out of Pueblo for disposal and begin contracting for the disposal on site,” Senator Allard said.

The supplemental appropriations legislation also forbids the expenditure of the funding provided for Pueblo and Blue Grass on any other program, and it specifically forbids any expenditure whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, on any study related to the transportation of chemical weapons across state lines.

“I look forward to working with the House and Senate leadership to getting an agreement on a final version of the Supplemental Bill that leaves all the language pertaining to the Pueblo Depot intact,” Senator Allard said.