

Document 0623

[20623001]

The fiscal 1989 budget deficit figure came out Friday .

[20623002]

It was down a little .

[20623003]

The next time you hear a Member of Congress moan about the deficit , consider what Congress did Friday .

[20623004]

The Senate , 84-6 , voted to increase to \$ 124,000 the ceiling on insured mortgages from the FHA , which lost \$ 4.2 billion in loan defaults last year .

[20623005]

Then , by voice vote , the Senate voted a pork-barrel bill , approved Thursday by the House , for domestic military construction .

[20623006]

Compare the Bush request to what the Senators gave themselves :

[20623007]

For construction in West Virginia , Mr. Bush requested \$ 4.5 million ; Congress gave Senator Byrd 's state \$ 21.5 million .

[20623008]

Senator Byrd is chairman of the Appropriations Committee .

[20623009]

For Iowa , a \$ 1.8 million request became \$ 12 million for Senator Grassley , ranking minority member of a military construction subcommittee .

[20623011]

Senator Sasser of Tennessee is chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on military construction ; Mr. Bush 's \$ 87 million request for Tennessee increased to \$ 109 million .

[20623012]

In a remark someone should remember this time next year , Senator Sasser said , " I think we 've seen the peak of military construction spending for many years to come . "

[20623013]

Tell us about spending restraint .

[20623014]

Tell us about the HUD scandals .

[20623015]

Tell us what measure short of house arrest , will get this Congress under control .