

What is report language?

When an Appropriations Committee of either the House or Senate report an appropriations bill to the full House or Senate, the committee often publishes a report that provides more detailed guidance to departments and agencies. Items in the “report language” can include detailed spending instructions or restrictions, as well as directives that require, or encourage, departments or agencies to take a specific action or refrain from taking a specific action.

FY 2008 Defense Appropriations Bill (HR 3222)

In HR 3222, the FY 2008 Defense Appropriations bill, the bill was accompanied by report language that included a directive to the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), formerly named the School of the Americas (SOA). Here is the text of the directive:

WESTERN HEMISPHERE INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

The Committee supports the mandate of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (the Institute) to be a transparent and democratic institution. To promote such transparency and democratic values, the Committee directs the Institute to release to the public the names of all students and instructors at the Institute for fiscal years 2005 and 2006. The list shall include all names, including but not limited to the first, middle, and maternal and paternal surnames, rank, country of origin, courses taken or taught, and years of attendance. In all future fiscal years, this same information shall be made available and provided to the public no later than 60 days after the end of each fiscal year.

More information...

You can [access the full HR 3222 report language online](#) , or click on the image in the right hand corner to download a PDF document limited to the text of the directive to WHINSEC.

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For other questions, please contact the SOA Watch Legislative Coordinator, Pam Bowman, at (202)-234-3440 or [pbowman\(@\)soaw.org](mailto:pbowman(@)soaw.org)