

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

FY 2017 Omnibus Summary – Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations

Legislation reduces spending and invests in proven programs to protect the health and well-being of all Americans

The Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) portion of the Omnibus includes \$161 billion in discretionary funding, which is a reduction of \$934 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$2.86 billion below the previous Administration's budget request.

Funding within the bill is targeted to proven programs with the most national benefit, prioritizing medical research, public health, and biodefense, as well as support for the comprehensive approach to combatting the nation's opioid epidemic. The bill saves taxpayer dollars by cutting funding in lower priority areas, including ineffective or wasteful programs.

In addition, the legislation contains several policy provisions to improve government oversight and to block unnecessary and harmful regulations that hurt economic growth. The bill provides no new funding for ObamaCare. In addition, it also prohibits a taxpayer bailout of the Risk Corridor program, safeguards the Prevention and Public Health Fund from use as an ObamaCare slush fund, rescinds the operating budget of the Independent Payment Advisory Board, and restricts federal funds from being used to lobby for ObamaCare.

The bill also includes a provision to make permanent health benefits for retired coal mine workers whose benefits would otherwise expire. This provision is fully offset.

Bill Highlights:

Department of Labor (DoL) – The bill provides a total of \$12.1 billion for DoL – \$83 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$710 million below the previous Administration's budget request. Within this slimmed-down amount, the bill targets increases for several proven worker training programs, including the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program. It eliminates or reduces funding for unnecessary, harmful, or under-performing programs, including various labor enforcement agencies that have implemented economically damaging policies.

- **Employment Training Administration (ETA)** – The legislation provides ETA with \$9.97 billion – a decrease of \$90 million below last year's enacted level and \$401 million below the previous Administration's budget request. State and local workforce training

and development programs are prioritized, while inefficient or wasteful programs are reduced or eliminated.

- **Job Corps** – The bill provides \$1.7 billion for Job Corps, an increase of \$15 million over the 2016 enacted level. The program helps unemployed young Americans receive education, job training, and employment assistance. Increases are included for safety and security improvements at Job Corps campuses across the country.
- **Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS)** – The bill provides \$279 million for VETS. This includes an \$11.9 million increase to expand the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.
- **Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)** – The bill funds MSHA at \$373.8 million, \$2.1 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$23.6 million below the previous Administration’s budget request. The funding level reflects the declining need for various MSHA activities due to decreased mining activity across the country.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) – The bill includes a total of \$73.5 billion for HHS, an increase of \$2.8 billion above last year’s enacted level and \$3.8 billion above the previous Administration’s budget request. The legislation targets funds to effective, proven programs that help improve health, safety, and quality of life for Americans.

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** – The bill provides a total of \$34 billion for the NIH, \$2 billion above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. It includes specific increases for research related to Alzheimer’s disease, the brain, antibiotic resistance, and the Precision Medicine Initiative.

The bill also provides a general increase to all NIH Institutes and Centers to continue progress in developing new treatments and cures, including increases for Clinical and Translational Science Awards and Institutional Development Awards. The legislation continues support for the Gabriella Miller Kids First pediatric research initiative.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** – The legislation prioritizes funding for critical disease prevention and biodefense activities. The agreement includes a total of program level of \$7.3 billion for the CDC – \$22 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This includes \$6.3 billion in appropriated funds, as well as \$891 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. The bill includes \$112 million – \$42 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level – to expand efforts to combat prescription drug abuse.

The legislation continues funding for CDC’s Public Health Preparedness and Response programs, including the Strategic National Stockpile and programs to enhance State and Local Preparedness capacity. These programs provide supplies and response efforts in the event of a bioterrorism attack or pandemic disease outbreak.

The bill also continues the longstanding prohibition against using federal funds to advocate or promote gun control research.

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)** – The bill funds SAMHSA at \$3.6 billion – \$130.5 million above the previous Administration’s budget request. Within this funding, the bill provides an increase of \$150 million over last year for programs that address the prevention and treatment of opioid and heroin use. Combined with \$500 million in funding authorized by the 21st Century Cures Act, the agreement supports a total increase of \$650 million in fiscal year 2017 for initiatives aimed at addressing the nation’s opioid addiction crisis.

The bill maintains robust funding for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant at \$1.8 billion. The agreement increases funding for the Mental Health Block Grant by \$30 million, for a total of \$563 million.

- **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)** – The bill includes \$6.4 billion for HRSA – \$77 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. Within the total, the bill provides \$1.5 billion for Community Health Centers, which is the same as the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$149 million above the previous Administration’s budget request.

The bill also provides \$300 million for the Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education program – \$5 million more than the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$300 million more than the previous Administration’s budget request. The bill increases funding for rural health programs by over 4 percent, for a total of \$156 million, nearly \$12 million more than the previous Administration’s budget request.

- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)** – The bill provides \$3.7 billion for CMS program management and operations, which is equal to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$440 million below the previous Administration’s budget request.

The bill does not include additional funding to implement ObamaCare programs, and continues prohibitions and limitations on use of federal funds related to ObamaCare.

- **Administration for Children and Families (ACF)** – The bill provides \$19.5 billion in discretionary funding for ACF, which is \$385 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

The Head Start program receives \$9.3 billion, including a \$85 million increase for a cost-of-living adjustment for Head Start grantees. The agreement also provides a \$95 million increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, for a total funding level of \$2.9 billion. The agreement supports the Preschool Development Grants program at \$250 million.

- **Administration for Community Living (ACL)** – The bill funds ACL at \$1.9 billion, which is \$1.2 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. The bill provides \$838

million – a \$3 million increase – for programs supporting senior nutrition, such as Meals on Wheels.

Department of Education – The bill funds the Department of Education at \$68 billion, which is \$1.2 billion below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$2.3 billion below the previous Administration’s budget request.

- **Special Education** – The bill includes \$12 billion for IDEA special education grants to states, an increase of \$90 million over the fiscal year 2016 enacted level, which will maintain the federal share of special education funding to states.
- **Student Support and Academic Achievement State Grants** – The bill includes \$400 million for a newly authorized grant program that provides flexible funds to states and school districts to expand access to a well-rounded education, improve school conditions, and improve the use of technology.
- **Pell Grants** – The maximum Pell Grant award is increased to \$5,920, funded by a combination of discretionary and mandatory funds. The bill rescinds a portion of Pell Grant surplus funds.
- **Impact Aid** – The bill provides over \$1.3 billion for Impact Aid, an increase of \$23 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

Other Related Agencies –

- **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)** – The bill includes \$1 billion for CNCS, \$65 million below last year’s enacted level.
- **Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB)** – The bill provides an advance appropriation of \$445 million for CPB for fiscal year 2019, which is the same level of advance funding provided in the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and the previous Administration’s budget request. The bill continues to support the upgrade of the interconnection system.
- **National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)** – The bill includes \$274.2 million for NLRB – the same as last year’s enacted level. The legislation includes a continuation of the prohibition on use of electronic voting in union elections.
- **Social Security Administration (SSA)** – The bill provides \$12.5 billion for the administration of SSA activities – a decrease of \$60 million from the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This funding will ensure those served by the program receive efficient and timely assistance and service. One-time costs for building renovations provided in fiscal year 2016 account for a majority of the decrease. The bill supports program integrity efforts at the fully authorized level of \$1.8 billion, an increase of nearly \$400 million over the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

Protecting Life – The bill contains several provisions to protect life, including continuing all longstanding restrictions on abortion funding that have been included in the legislation in prior years. The legislation also increases funding for sexual risk avoidance programs for teens (formerly known as abstinence education) by 50 percent.

For the full Committee Report on the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education portion of the Omnibus, including a detailed funding table, please visit:

<https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules.house.gov/files/115/OMNI/DIVISION%20H-%20LABORHHS%20SOM%20OCR%20FY17.pdf>

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