

FY 2017 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS for SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH LABOR, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH – \$34.6 BILLION

COSSA urges Congress to appropriate at least \$34.6 billion for FY 2017 for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NIH is the world's leading supporter of basic biomedical, behavioral, and social science research, fostering discoveries to enhance the health and well-being of Americans. The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) exists to coordinate and infuse social and behavioral science research across NIH's 27 institutes and centers, emphasizing the important role behavioral and social factors often play in illness and health.

This \$2.5 billion increase represents 5 percent real growth above the projected rate of biomedical inflation, and will help ensure that NIH-funded research can continue to improve our nation's health and enhance our competitiveness.

Social and behavioral science discoveries supported by NIH have:

- Reduced tobacco use, possibly the biggest public health success story of the 20th century.
- Reduced the risk of developing type-2 diabetes by demonstrating the impact of lifestyle changes, such as diet and regular physical activity.
- Slowed the HIV/AIDS epidemic by extending our knowledge about decision-making, drug use, and sexual behavior.

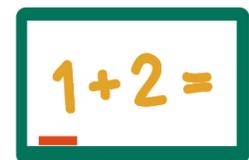


INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES – \$728 MILLION

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) provides the U.S. Department of Education with critical statistics, research, and evaluation needed to improve education policy and practice. In order to enable the best research, data collection, statistical analysis, and dissemination, **COSSA urges Congress to appropriate \$728 million to IES for FY 2017.** This appropriation will restore funding for the Regional Educational Laboratories and the National Center for Special Education Research to FY 2010 levels.

IES-supported research has:

- Substantially improved the quality of education research.
- Led to the development of early interventions for improving child outcomes.
- Generated and validated assessment measures for use with children.
- Led to the establishment of the “What Works Clearinghouse” for education research, highlighting interventions that work and identifying those that don't.



COSSA is a nonprofit national organization serving as a united voice for more than 100 professional associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and colleges and universities who care about a robust social and behavioral scientific research enterprise. We represent the collective science policy interests of all fields of social and behavioral science research, including but not limited to sociology, anthropology, political science, psychology, economics, statistics, language and linguistics, population studies, law, communications, educational research, criminology and criminal justice research, geography, history, and child development.



AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY – \$364 MILLION

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) funds research on improving the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of America’s health care system. **COSSA urges Congress to appropriate \$364 million to AHRQ for FY 2017**, thereby undoing the effect of the 8.2 percent cut in FY 2016.

AHRQ is the only agency in the federal government with the expertise and explicit mission to fund research on improving health care at the provider level (i.e., in hospitals, medical practices, nursing homes, and other medical facilities). Its work complements—not duplicates—other HHS agencies.

AHRQ-funded research provides us with the evidence, data, and tools we need to tackle some of the health care system’s greatest challenges. For example, AHRQ-funded research:

- Has been instrumental in reducing hospital-acquired conditions by 17% in five years, translating to 87,000 lives and nearly \$20 billion in health care costs saved.
- Improves care for people suffering from multiple chronic conditions, a group that accounts for two-thirds of U.S. health care spending.
- Helps doctors make better decisions and improve patients’ health by taking advantage of electronic health records and other IT advances.



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION & FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES – \$78.7 MILLION

COSSA urges Congress to appropriate a total of \$78.7 million for the Department of Education’s International Education and Foreign Language programs. These programs play a significant role in developing a steady supply of graduates with deep expertise and high quality research on foreign languages and cultures, international markets, world regions, and global issues. The modest increase in funding would broaden opportunities for students in international and foreign language studies, and contribute to strengthening U.S. human resource capabilities on strategic areas of the world that impact our national security and global economic competitiveness.



Within the \$78.7 million, COSSA urges Congress to appropriate \$70.15 million to Title VI and \$8.56 million to Fulbright-Hays.

WHY SOCIAL SCIENCE?

The Federal Government’s modest annual investment in social and behavioral science research yields significant benefits for the American people.

New findings continue to **increase the efficiency of our industries, improve the quality of K-12 education, help us understand crime patterns and evaluate prevention strategies, help manage our natural resources, keep our troops safe, help us to be informed as consumers, and allow paralyzed individuals to communicate.**

Among the countless innovations enabled by federal support for basic social science research are **GPS, spectrum auctions, life-saving kidney exchanges, and warning systems to protect lives and property from extreme weather events.**

Knowledge derived from social and behavioral science research has made our **population healthier, our democracy fairer, our nation safer, and our economy stronger.**

