



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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FEATURED NEWS

House Appropriations Subcommittees Begin Marking Up Spending Legislation

The House Appropriations Subcommittees on [Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies \(CJS\)](#) and [Agriculture and Rural Development \(Ag\)](#) hosted markups last week on drafts of their fiscal year (FY) 2019 spending bills. The CJS bill, which is responsible for funding the Census, the Department of Justice, and federal science agencies, among other programs, includes \$8.2 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF), a \$408 million increase above the FY 2018 enacted amount. The Ag bill, which includes funding for the Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration, does not endorse the large cut to the Economic Research Service (ERS) proposed in the President's FY 2019 budget request. Full

details of the committee's spending recommendations are not yet public, but COSSA will provide complete analysis of the spending bills as language is made available. Stay tuned to COSSA's coverage [here](#). Both bills are scheduled to be considered by the full Appropriations Committee later this week.

COSSA IN ACTION

CJRA and COSSA to Host "Ask a Criminologist" Panel on How the Opioid Epidemic and Police-Community Relations Impact Homicides

COSSA and the [Crime & Justice Research Alliance](#) (CJRA) (a collaborative effort of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the American Society of Criminology, both COSSA members) will host the third in a series of "Ask a Criminologist" Congressional briefings on Tuesday, May 22. This interactive briefing will explore key factors, including the opioid epidemic, that led to an increase in homicide rates in communities across the United States in 2015 and 2016 and share how criminologists have been using research and statistics to help policymakers identify and address these causes. The discussion will be moderated by CJRA Past Chair Dr. Nancy La Vigne of the Urban Institute, and featured speakers will include Dr. Howard Spivak, Deputy Director of the National Institute of Justice; Richard Biehl, Chief of Police for the City of Dayton, Ohio; and Dr. Shytierra Gaston, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Indiana University. More information and a link to RSVP can be found [here](#).

Letters & Statements

- 5/7/2018: Friends of NCHS Letter on FY 2019 Funding for the National Center for Health Statistics, [House/Senate](#)
- 5/7/2018: [Letter on Autonomy and Independence for the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics \(PRIS\)](#)

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Congress Questions Commerce, Census on Citizenship Question

Members of Congress questioned Commerce Department and Census Bureau leadership last week over the decision to include a question on citizenship in the 2020 Census. COSSA objects to this decision and has issued a [statement](#) and [action alert](#) on this issue.

On May 8, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held a [progress report hearing](#) on the 2020 Census. Witnesses included Earl Comstock, Director of the Office of Policy and Strategic Planning at the Commerce Department ([testimony](#)); Ron Jarmin, Acting Director of the Census Bureau ([testimony](#)); David A. Powner and Robert Goldenkoff of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) ([testimony](#)); and Justin Levitt, Associate Dean for Research at Loyola Law School, who previously served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the Justice Department during the Obama Administration ([testimony](#)). Invited but not present at the hearing was the current Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, John Gore, who is reported to have spearheaded the request that the citizenship question be added to the Census. Committee Chair Trey Gowdy (R-SC) said that he would issue a subpoena to compel Gore to appear before the Committee. A hearing featuring Gore was subsequently scheduled for Friday, May 18, 2018. Democrats on the Committee criticized the decision to add the citizenship question, questioning the necessity of the Justice Department's request, and Ross's conclusion that the question is "well-tested" because it has appeared on the American Community Survey. Committee Republicans generally defended the decision and were

dismissive of concerns that adding the question without having tested it in a Census environment would add unnecessary risks to the accuracy and integrity of census data.

Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross made his first appearance before Congress since announcing his decision to add the question to the decennial during a May 10 [hearing on the Commerce Department budget](#) in front of the Senate Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. Ross defended his decision in the face of sharp questioning from subcommittee Democrats, including Ranking Member Jeanne Shaheen (D-VT), Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI), Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI), and Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT).

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

National Science Board Elects New Leadership

On May 3, the National Science Board (NSB), the governing body of the National Science Foundation, announced that Diane Souvaine and Ellen Ochoa will serve as the Board's new Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, for the 2018-2020 term. Souvaine has been a member of the NSB for ten years and most recently served as the Vice Chair. Souvaine is a professor of computer science at Tufts University whose research contributions include solving challenging problems in computational geometry and helping extend the results of straight-edged computational geometry into the curved world. Ochoa is an astronaut and the director of the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center. Souvaine will be replacing Maria Zuber, whose term expired this month. More information about Souvaine and Ochoa's election is available on the [NSB website](#).

NSF and Air Force Sign Letter of Intent

On May 9, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson and National Science Foundation (NSF) Director France Córdoba signed a [Letter of Intent](#) to create a new partnership for collaboration on science and engineering research to strengthen national security. The strategic partnership will focus on research in space operations and geosciences, advanced material sciences, information and data sciences, and workforce and processes. These common areas of interest will create opportunities for cooperation at all levels of research and a pathway between basic research supported by NSF and advanced technologies needed to support Air Force functions.

The two agencies have already had initial discussions on research topics, including the convergence of artificial intelligence, data and materials, and placements for fellows from NSF's Graduate Research Intern Program. More information can be found on the [NSF website](#).

Nomination Opportunities

- CDC: [Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control](#) (Closes: June 1, 2018)

Funding Opportunities

- **NEW:** CDC: [NIOSH Occupational Safety and Health Research \(R01\)](#) (Closes: July 6, 2018)
- NIH/NIGMS: [Training Modules to Enhance the Rigor and Reproducibility of Biomedical Research](#) (Closes: June 29, 2018)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to Promote Health \(R21 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: June 16, 2018)
- Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences: [Broad Agency Announcement for Basic Scientific Research](#) (W911NF-18-S-0001) (Closes: June 15, 2018)
- NSF: [Dear Colleague Letter: Achieving New Insights through Replicability and Reproducibility](#) (Closes: June 11, 2018)
- SSA/ORES: [Retirement and Disability Research Consortium \(RDRC\)](#) (Closes: June 8, 2018)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to](#)

- [Promote Health \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: June 5, 2018)
- [IARPA: Forecasting Counterfactuals in Uncontrolled Settings \(FOCUS\)](#) (Closes: May 30, 2018)
- NIFA: [Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program](#) (Closes: May 24, 2018)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- NIH/NIA: [Request for Information \(RFI\): Inviting Scientific Interest in Geroscience Summit III](#) (Closes: June 1, 2018)
- IARPA: [Request for Information on Credibility Assessment Datasets](#) (Closes: May 31, 2018)
- OHRP: [Comment Period on Six Month Delay of Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects](#) (Closes: May 21, 2018)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

Funding Opportunities

- Rita Allen Foundation: [Misinformation Solutions Forum](#) (Closes: May 31, 2018)

Recent Reports

- NEW: NASEM: [Opportunities for Improving Programs and Services for Children with Disabilities](#)
- NEW: NASEM: [The Integration of the Humanities and Arts with Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Higher Education](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

- [American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference](#), May 16-19, 2018, Denver, CO
- [AAPSS: 2018 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lecture: John Holdren](#), May 17, 2018, Washington, DC
- [Ask a Criminologist: Understanding Increases in Homicide Rates: How the Opioid Epidemic and Police-Community Relations Impact Homicides](#), May 22, 2018, Washington, DC
- [Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting](#), May 29-June 1, 2018, Washington, DC
- [The Lab @ DC: Why the Maternal Mortality Rate is so High in DC and How We Address It](#), May 31, 2018, Washington, DC
- [NIH Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honors](#), May 31, 2018, Bethesda, MD
- [Law and Society Association Annual Meeting](#), June 7-10, 2018, Toronto, Canada
- [Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), July 26-29, 2018, Portland, OR
- [Joint Statistical Meetings](#), July 28-August 2, 2018, Vancouver, Canada

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [events page](#). COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to jmilton@coffa.org.

Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association
American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Economic Association
American Educational Research Association
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Criminology
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
Association of American Law Schools
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Political Science Association
National Communication Association
Population Association of America
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Research in Child Development

Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
African Studies Association
American Association of Geographers
American Council of Learned Societies
American Evaluation Association
American Historical Association
American Psychosomatic Society
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations
Association of Research Libraries
Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
Council on Social Work Education
Economic History Association
History of Science Society
Midwest Sociological Society
National Association of Social Workers
National Council on Family Relations
North American Regional Science Council
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Prevention Research
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Southern Political Science Association
Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Political and Social Science
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Institute for Social Science Research,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NORC at the University of Chicago
RTI International
Social Science Research Council

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fielding Graduate University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University, The
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Georgia
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, San Antonio
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Virginia Tech
West Virginia University
Yale University

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The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for and widespread use of social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.

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