



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

Analysis of the House FY 2019 Labor, Health Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill | July 12, 2018

On July 11, the full House Appropriations Committee approved its [fiscal year \(FY\) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies \(Labor-HHS\) Appropriations Bill](#); the Labor-HHS Subcommittee advanced the bill on June 15. This bill contains annual funding proposals for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Education (ED), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), among other federal departments and agencies.

The Senate Appropriations Committee reported its version of the bill on June 28 ([more here](#)).

At a Glance...

- **The House bill includes a total of \$38.334 billion for NIH in FY 2019**, a \$1.25 billion or 3.4 percent increase over the FY 2018 level. This amount is 10.8 percent over the President's request, but nearly 2 percent below the Senate bill.
- **The bill would allocate \$7.58 billion to the CDC**, a cut of \$422.9 million compared to FY 2018 and about \$230 million less than the amount proposed by the Senate bill.
- **The House bill includes \$334 million for AHRQ**, flat with the FY 2018 enacted level and the same as the amount proposed by the Senate. The bill does not accept the Administration's proposed consolidation of AHRQ as a new institute within the NIH.
- **The House bill would provide flat funding for BLS at \$612 million**, \$3 million less than the amount proposed by the Senate, but still more than the amount requested by the Administration.
- **Within the Department of Education, the bill would provide \$613.5 million to the Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**, which would be flat with its FY 2018 appropriation and 17.6 percent above the FY 2019 funding request from the Administration.

The next step for the bill is consideration by the full House. As previously mentioned, it remains to be seen whether or how House and Senate leadership will proceed with the individual appropriations bills this year. The November midterm elections, confirmation of a new Supreme Court Justice, and other pressing legislative priorities will use up much of the waning months of the 115th Congress. Fiscal year 2019 will almost certainly begin under a continuing resolution (CR) on October 1, 2018. Stay tuned to [COSSA's coverage](#) for new developments.

Summarized below are the House Appropriations Committee's proposals for the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Department of Education.

The bill, Committee's full report, and webcast of the markup can be found [here](#).

National Institutes of Health

The House bill includes a total of \$38.334 billion for NIH in FY 2019, a \$1.25 billion or 3.4 percent increase over the FY 2018 level. This amount is 10.8 percent over the President’s request, but nearly 2 percent below the Senate bill. Each of NIH’s institutes and centers would see increases above the FY 2018 levels (see chart below for details), and the Committee states that it “expects the 3.4 percent increase of funds... to support an increase in the number of new and competing Research Project Grants, with a focus on early-stage investigators and investigators seeking first-time renewals.” During the mark up, Committee Democrats expressed displeasure that the bill falls short of the goal of a \$2 billion increase, as the Senate bill would provide.

Consistent with the Senate bill, the House rejects attempts by the Trump Administration to create new institutes by transferring offices and agencies from elsewhere in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to NIH, including the proposal to move the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) into NIH (see the AHRQ section for details).

Bill language and the Committee report accompanying the bill provide specific funding allocations for several of NIH’s major programs and initiatives, including:

- \$2.31 billion, a \$401 million increase, to the National Institute on Aging for **Alzheimer’s disease research**, \$24 million below the Senate amount.
- \$429 million, a \$29 million increase, for the **Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neuro-technologies (BRAIN) initiative** within the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, consistent with the Senate level.
- \$365.6 million for the **Institutional Development Awards (IDeA) program**, an increase of \$15 million and almost \$4 million more than the Senate bill.
- \$601.6 million for the **Common Fund** within the Office of the NIH Director to support short-term, high-impact projects. This is about \$5 million less than the Senate level.

Below is a summary of relevant report language that could impact social and behavioral science research.

Office of the Director

The House bill includes \$165 million for the **Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) program**, which is the successor to the National Children’s Study. The Committee report directs NIH to “submit and make public a summary of progress made to date, including an analysis of the composition of the funded cohort studies, the capacity of the Network to conduct trials among rural and underserved children, and the short- and long-term goals of the program.”

National Institute on Aging

Regarding Alzheimer’s disease, the report accompanying the bill states that the Committee “commends the NIA for its leadership in supporting longitudinal, population-based cohort studies into the causes of dementia... [and] encourages NIA to diversify its cohort studies, with the specific goal of better understanding disease burden and biomarkers by race and geographic region.” Further, the Committee “encourages NIA to support research exploring the disproportionate impact Alzheimer’s disease has on people of color...”

In addition, the House report includes similar language to the Senate encouraging NIA to “fund a pilot community-based peer support program designed to develop an accessible, feasible, and sustainable program that capitalizes on the expertise of former caregivers,” to help reduce the prevalence of stress, depression, and declining physical health among those providing care to older adults with dementia.

	Enacted FY 2018	Request FY 2019	Senate FY 2019	House FY 2019	House vs. FY 2018	House vs. Request	House vs. Senate
National Institutes of Health	37084	34588.4	39084.0	38334.0	3.37%	10.83%	-1.9%
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences	75.7	70.1	78.2	76.6	1.2%	9.3%	-2.0%
National Cancer Institute	5664.8	5626.3	6147.1	6136.0	8.3%	9.1%	-0.2%
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences	742.4	685.1	806.8	751.2	1.2%	9.7%	-6.9%
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	142.2	130.7	146.6	143.9	1.2%	10.1%	-1.9%
National Eye Institute	772.3	711.0	797.0	781.5	1.2%	9.9%	-1.9%
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	3383.2	3112.0	3490.2	3423.6	1.2%	10.0%	-1.9%
National Human Genome Research Institute	556.9	513.0	575.9	563.5	1.2%	9.9%	-2.1%
National Institute on Aging	2574.1	1988.2	3084.8	3005.8	16.8%	51.2%	-2.6%
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	509.6	469.1	525.9	515.7	1.2%	9.9%	-1.9%
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	5260.2	4761.9	5506.2	5368.0	2.0%	12.7%	-2.5%
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	586.7	545.5	605.4	593.7	1.2%	8.8%	-1.9%
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	377.9	346.6	389.7	382.4	1.2%	10.3%	-1.9%
<i>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</i> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	1452.0	1339.6	1507.3	1469.3	1.2%	9.7%	-2.5%
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	460.0	424.0	474.7	465.5	1.2%	9.8%	-1.9%
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	447.7	413.2	462.0	453.1	1.2%	9.7%	-1.9%
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	2120.8	2115.4	2030.9	2144.3	1.1%	1.4%	5.6%
National Institute on Drug Abuse	1383.6	1137.4	1420.6	1400.1	1.2%	23.1%	-1.4%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	751.1	693.2	775.1	760.1	1.2%	9.7%	-1.9%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	1862.5	1831.7	1856.0	1895.8	1.8%	3.5%	-2.1%
National Institute of Mental Health	1711.8	1612.2	1871.3	1790.2	4.6%	11.0%	-4.3%
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	303.2	280.5	314.8	306.8	1.2%	9.4%	-2.5%
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	2145.1	1838.6	2275.6	2228.8	3.9%	21.2%	-2.1%
National Institute of Nursing Research	158.0	145.8	163.1	159.9	1.2%	9.7%	-1.9%
National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality*	0.0	256.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%	-100.0%	0.0%
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health*	0.0	200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%	-100.0%	0.0%
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research *	0.0	95.1	0.0	0.0	0.0%	-100.0%	0.0%
National Library of Medicine	428.6	395.5	442.2	433.7	1.2%	-1.9%	9.7%

* Administration's proposed reorganization of other HHS agencies

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The House bill would allocate \$7.58 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a cut of \$422.9 million compared to FY 2018 and about \$230 million less than the amount proposed by the Senate bill. The total includes \$6.7 billion in discretionary funds and \$848 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the principal statistical agency within the CDC, would receive flat funding of \$160.4. The Senate had proposed a \$1 million increase for the agency, which is struggling under the impact of several years of flat or near-flat budgets.

Like the Senate bill, the House bill again rejects the Administration’s proposed creation of the America’s Health Block Grant program, which would have eliminated funding for a number of disease-specific programs under the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion portfolio in favor of flexible block grants to states. In addition, it does not accept the Administration’s request to consolidate the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as an institute within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Language in the Committee report states, “The Committee believes NIOSH’s mission does not align with NIH’s focus on biomedical research and is better achieved within CDC.”

The Committee report includes a provision preventing funds from being used to “advocate for or promote gun control,” although the [FY 2018 omnibus bill](#) clarified that this clause should not prevent the CDC from researching gun violence. However, as no additional funding is included in the bill, the CDC is unlikely to undertake such research.

Language in the Committee report also directs that the CDC report on its efforts to develop and evaluate interventions targeting child sexual abuse and to identify research gaps related to preventing child sexual abuse. The report also requests that the CDC initiate a demonstration project to develop forecasts that can help states experiencing the highest rates of opioid-related overdoses intervene and prevent overdoses.

	Enacted FY 2018	Request FY 2019	Senate FY 2019	House FY 2019	House vs. FY 2018	House vs. Request	House vs. Senate
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	8005.8	5660.8	7812.8	7582.9	-5.3%	34.0%	-2.9%
HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB Prevention	1127.3	1117.3	1132.3	1147.3	1.8%	2.7%	1.3%
Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Promotion	1162.9	939.3	1166.8	1197.4	3.0%	27.5%	2.6%
National Center for Health Statistics	160.4	155.0	161.4	160.4	0.0%	3.5%	-0.6%
Environmental Health	205.8	157.0	205.8	196.4	-4.6%	25.1%	-4.6%
Injury Prevention and Control	648.6	266.3	648.6	690.6	6.5%	159.3%	6.5%
Occupational Safety and Health	335.2	0.0	335.3	335.2	0.0%	+\$335.2m	0.0%
Global Health	488.6	408.8	488.6	488.6	0.0%	19.5%	0.0%
Public Health Preparedness and Response	1450.0	800.0	1470.0	860.0	-40.7%	7.5%	-41.5%

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

The House bill includes \$334 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), flat with the FY 2018 enacted level and the same as the amount proposed by the Senate. The bill does not accept the Administration's proposed consolidation of AHRQ as a new institute within the NIH, which likely would have required separate legislation to enact.

	Enacted FY 2018	Request FY 2019*	Senate FY 2019	House FY 2019	House vs. FY 2018	House vs. Request	House vs. Senate
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	334.0	256.0	334.0	334.0	0.0%	30.5%	0.0%
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes	197.2	127.3	192.7	192.7	-2.3%	51.4%	0.0%
Patient Safety	70.3	69.8	70.3	70.3	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%
Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination	94.3	50.1	94.3	94.3	0.0%	88.1%	0.0%
Health Information Technology	16.5	0.0	16.5	16.5	0.0%	+\$16.5m	0.0%
U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	11.6	7.4	11.6	11.6	0.0%	57.4%	0.0%
Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys	70.0	72.2	70.0	70.0	0.0%	-3.0%	0.0%

* Figures reflect the amounts specified for the proposed National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality within NIH.

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The House bill would provide flat funding for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at \$612 million, \$3 million less than the amount proposed by the Senate, but still more than the amount requested by the Administration. Some funding would be moved away from Labor Force Statistics and Compensation and Working Conditions programs (\$1 million and \$500,000, respectively) and reallocated among BLS' other funding accounts.

	Enacted FY 2018	Request FY 2019	Senate FY 2019	House FY 2019	House vs. FY 2018	House vs. Request	House vs. Senate
Bureau of Labor Statistics	612.0	609.4	615.0	612.0	0.0%	0.4%	-0.5%
Labor Force Statistics	274.0	274.0	277.0	273.0	-0.4%	-0.3%	-1.4%
Prices and Cost of Living	209.0	207.2	209.0	210.0	0.5%	1.3%	0.5%
Compensation and Working Conditions	83.5	80.9	83.5	83.0	-0.6%	2.5%	-0.6%
Productivity and Technology	10.5	10.6	10.5	10.8	2.9%	1.7%	2.9%
Executive Direction and Staff Services	35.0	36.6	35.0	35.2	0.6%	-3.9%	0.6%

Department of Education

Within the Department of Education, the House bill would provide \$613.5 million for the **Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**, which would be flat with its FY 2018 funding level but 17.6 percent above the FY 2019 funding request from the Administration. Much like the Senate proposal for IES, all accounts within IES would be held flat with their FY 2018 funding levels, including Research, Development, and Dissemination; Regional Education Laboratories; the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES); Research in Special Education; Statewide Data Systems; Assessment; and Special Education Studies and Evaluations. Also reflecting the Senate proposal, the

House Committee recommends funding NCES at nearly 3 percent below the amount requested by the Administration. The Committee rejected the Administration’s proposal to eliminate the Regional Education Laboratories and Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems.

For the **International Education and Foreign Language Studies programs**, the House bill includes a total of \$65.1 million in funding for Domestic Programs (also known as Title VI) and \$7.1 million for Overseas Programs (also known as Fulbright-Hays). The House’s allocation for Title VI and Fulbright-Hays is good news, as both programs were eliminated in the President’s FY 2019 budget request.

Lastly, the House bill includes \$23 million for the **Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program** for FY 2019, another program slated for elimination in the Administration’s budget request. The funding levels for the International Education and Foreign Language Studies programs and the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program proposed by the House are identical to the levels included in the Senate spending bill.

	Enacted FY 2018	Request FY 2019	Senate FY 2019	House FY 2019	House vs. FY 2018	House vs. Request	House vs. Senate
Institute of Education Sciences	613.5	521.6	615.5	613.5	0.0%	17.6%	-0.3%
Research, Development, and Dissemination	192.7	187.5	192.7	192.7	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%
National Center for Education Statistics	109.5	112.5	109.5	109.5	0.0%	-2.7%	0.0%
Regional Educational Laboratories	55.4	55.4	55.4	55.4	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Research in Special Education	56.0	54.0	56.0	56.0	0.0%	3.7%	0.0%
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Assessment	156.7	156.7	158.7	156.7	0.0%	0.0%	-1.3%
Statewide Data Systems	32.3	0.0	32.3	32.3	0.0%	+\$32.3m	0.0%
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	72.2	0.0	72.2	72.2	0.0%	+\$72.2m	0.0%
Domestic Programs (Title VI)	65.1	0.0	65.1	65.1	0.0%	+\$65.1m	0.0%
Overseas Programs (Fulbright- Hays)	7.1	0.0	7.1	7.1	0.0%	+\$7.1m	0.0%
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need	23.0	0.0	23.0	23.0	0.0%	+\$23.0m	0.0%

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