Welcome to COSSA Headlines

A monthly look at what's new and noteworthy in social science policy

Welcome to

The webinar will begin momentarily.
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Join Audio Conference by Computer

-or-
Dial from your telephone:
+1 (773) 231 9226 (US Toll)
Meeting ID: 148 019 5831

Having Trouble?
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This Month’s HEADLINES

This Month’s DEEP DIVE: COSSA’s 2019 Legislative Agenda and Advocacy Resources

This Month’s HOMEWORK: What you can do this month
This Month’s Experts

Camille Hosman
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Julia Milton
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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 American Law Schools
Association of Research Libraries
Council of Colleges of Arts & 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

COLLEGES & 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
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
The Ohio State University
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Chicago

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
Yale University

CENTERS & 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
Quick Questions

Use the chat box to ask a question.

More opportunities for Q&A at the end.
This Month’s Headlines

CONGRESS

• Partial government shutdown continues
  • More: www.cossa.org/advocacy/funding-updates

• Evidence-Based Policymaking Act Passed by Congress, Awaiting Signature

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

• Droegemeier (OSTP) and Dillingham (Census) Confirmed

• Latest NSF “Big Ideas” solicitation: Harnessing the Data Revolution
  • More: www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/big_ideas/index.jsp

EXECUTIVE BRANCH (cont’d)

• GSA Office of Evaluation Sciences fellowship deadline 1/13
  • More: https://oes.gsa.gov/

• Funding Opportunities
  • More: www.cossa.org/resources/funding-opportunities

COMMUNITY

• Golden Goose nominations open
  • More: https://www.goldengooseaward.org/nomination/

• Gun violence research collaborative RFP:
  • More: https://www.ncgvr.org/

COSSA

• 2019 Social Science Advocacy Day, 4/30 to 5/1
  • Registration is open! www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day

C O S S A

WASHINGTON UPDATE

Subscribe for even more:
www.cossa.org/washington-update
Quick Questions

Use the chat box to ask a question.

More opportunities for Q&A at the end or email me at chosman@cossa.org
Deep Dive

COSSA's 2019 Legislative Agenda and Advocacy Resources
COSSA BY THE NUMBERS
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2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA for SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

① Cancel harmful sequestration cuts and protect non-defense discretionary spending. From defense discretionary programs encompass a wide range of critical federal functions from education and job training to housing, science, natural resources, services for veterans, public health, safety, and security. These and other programs have been cut dramatically and disproportionately in recent years as lawmakers have sought to reduce the deficit. However, experts across the political spectrum agree that the discretionary side of the federal budget is the driving factor behind our nation’s mid- and long-term fiscal challenges.

Congress must act this year to reverse and for all replace sequestration with a balanced approach to deficit reduction that takes into account the deep cuts to non-defense discretionary programs that have already occurred since 2011. In addition, it is critical that the principle of parity between non-defense and defense funding be maintained in any deal to replace sequestration, recognizing the equally important role of both defense and non-defense programs in protecting the safety and security of Americans.

② Provide real growth in research funding, including for basic research, across all STEM disciplines. Federal science agencies like the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have kept America’s innovation ahead of global competitors, thanks to decades of long-term support for basic research. We cannot risk selling out our leadership to other countries that are enhancing their investments in scientific research. Government investment in basic research is just ‘that’ one investment. The economic, national security, and health-related benefits of basic research extend to their immediate and long-term economic winners: it is impossible to produce where the path of scientific inquiry will lead us, as far as economic, national security, and health-related benefits are concerned.

Provide real growth in research funding, including for basic research, across all STEM disciplines.

Advocacy Resources: COSSA’s 2019 Legislative Agenda

① Cancel harmful sequestration cuts and protect non-defense discretionary spending.

② Provide real growth in research funding, including for basic research, across all STEM disciplines.
Advocacy Resources: COSSA’s 2019 Legislative Agenda, continued

3 Invest in and protect the federal statistical and data enterprise.

Federal statistics and data provide decision makers on the federal, state, and local levels with much-needed empirical evidence for making policy and evaluating the performance of government programs. They are used in the private sector to determine where and how to make strategic investments, and the availability of objective, public data helps level the playing field in the economy and keep markets stable. Federal statistical data are rigorously collected and analyzed, generating comparable across time periods, and touch on nearly every aspect of life in America, including demographics, health, the economy, employment, transportation, agriculture, crime, education, energy, and science. The federal statistical system can be significantly strengthened by providing adequate resources and safeguards to ensure that federal statistics are appropriately free from external influences and bias.

The Census Bureau, for example, is responsible for the Constitutionally mandated decennial census for apportionment and redrawing of Congressional districts. In addition, the data are also used to inform the

4 Support the use of social science research across federal agencies to ensure policies are based on sound evidence.

While Hill activities provide the key players of federal support to social and behavioral science researchers, other departments and agencies support and, just as importantly, utilize social science research in service of their missions. Federal investment in the social and behavioral sciences helps to ensure that policy-making is based on evidence and that taxpayer dollars are wisely allocated. This science touches all sectors, from national defense to agriculture, health, education, and justice. For example:

- The National Institutes of Health (NIH) supports research in areas such as mental health, cancer, diabetes, and aging.
- The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds research in fields like computer science, engineering, and social sciences.
- The Department of Education supports research on educational equity, early childhood development, and teacher effectiveness.
- The Department of Agriculture supports research on food security, nutrition, and the environment.
- The Department of Labor supports research on workforce development, human capital, and work-related injuries.
- The National Institute for Justice (NIJ) funds research on crime, criminal justice, and public safety.

These and other federal research programs provide crucial evidence for informing policy decisions and ensuring that our federal agencies are making the best use of taxpayer dollars. Learn more at www.COSSA.org and www.WhySocialScience.com
Advocacy Resources: Analysis of Policy Proposals and Legislation

February – March

ANALYSIS of the President’s FY 2019 Budget Request for SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Department of Labor

Housed within the Department of Labor is the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), one of 13 principal federal statistical agencies, responsible for measuring labor market activities as well as working conditions and price changes.

DOC’s FY 2019 budget request can be found at: https://www.dol.gov/general/budget/.

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The President’s request includes $609.4 million for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a $400,000 increase compared to the FY 2017 enacted level. This total includes $274 million for Labor Force Statistics, $207.2 million for Prices and Cost of Living, $60.9 million for Compensation and Working Conditions, and $10.6 million for Productivity and Technology (see the table for details).

In FY 2019, BLS plans to evaluate whether the questions from the Telephone Point of Purchase Survey (TOPS) could be incorporated into the Consumer Expenditure Survey, eliminating TOPS as a stand-alone survey. BLS also plans to explore adding a new Electronic Data Interchange Center to expand its collection capacity for the Current Employment Statistics and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Table 19: Department of Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor Force Statistics</td>
<td>267.7</td>
<td>274.0</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prices and Cost of Living</td>
<td>230.4</td>
<td>207.2</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation and Working Conditions</td>
<td>84.3</td>
<td>80.9</td>
<td>-3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Productivity and Technology</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Direction and Staff Services</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Final FY 2018 appropriations have not yet been enacted by Congress. Therefore, comparisons are made to the FY 2017 enacted levels unless otherwise noted.
Advocacy Resources: Analysis of Budget Requests, Appropriations, Legislation

March – August

Analysis of the Final FY 2019 Labor, Health Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill | September 28, 2018

At a Glance...

- The final agreement provides the National Institutes of Health with $318.04 billion in FY 2019, an increase of $2 billion or 5.4 percent over the FY 2018 enacted level.
- The bill provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with a total of $7.892 billion for FY 2019, a decrease of $113.4 million from FY 2018. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) again receives flat funding of $160.4 million.
- The agreement provides $538 million for Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, $4 million above the FY 2018 enacted level.
- The final bill accepts the Senate’s proposed funding level of $633 for Bureau of Labor Statistics, an increase of $3 million above both the FY 2018 enacted level.
- Within the Department for Education, the final bill provides $655.5 million to Institute of Education Sciences, which is a 2.3 percent increase in funding compared to its FY 2018 appropriation.

National Institutes of Health

The final conference report provides NIH with $318.084 billion in FY 2019, an increase of $2 billion or 5.4 percent over the FY 2018 enacted level. This is the amount included in the earlier Senate bill, which is about $750 million higher than the House’s proposal. The appropriation marks the fourth straight year of increases of $2 billion or more for NIH, receiving a total of $59 billion in increases since FY 2016, a 30 percent increase (for reference, the entire budget of the National Science Foundation is about $7.7 billion). Each of NIH’s institutes and centers will see increases above the FY 2018 levels (see chart below for details).

Consistent with the earlier House and Senate bills, the final agreement rejects the Trump Administration’s attempts to create new NIH Institutes by transferring offices and agencies from elsewhere in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to NIH, including a continued push to incorporate the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) into the NIH structure (see the AHRQ section for details).

Funding boosts also continue for NIH’s major priority initiatives, including:

- $2.34 billion, a $425 million increase, to the National Institute on Aging for Alzheimer’s disease research.
- $429 million, a $29 million increase, for the Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative within the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.
- $376 million for the All of Us Precision Medicine Initiative, an increase of $86 million.
- $644.6 million for the Institutional Development Awards (IDeA) program, an increase of $11 million.
- $606.6 million for the Common Fund within the Office of the NIH Director to support short-term, high-impact projects, an increase of about $18.5 million.

Below is a summary of relevant report language that could impact the research community. You can refer to COSSA’s reporting on the individual House and Senate bills to review additional directives impacting NIH.
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Advocacy Resources – be an advocate!

Cossa ★ 2019
Social Science Advocacy Day
April 30 - May 1, 2019 ★ Washington, DC
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Protect the 2020 Census: Tell Congress to Oppose Citizenship Question

Dear COSSA Member:

On Monday, the Department of Commerce announced that it is directing the Census Bureau to include a question about respondents’ citizenship on the 2020 Census. Given that the question is being added without any of the research and testing the Census Bureau routinely undertakes to evaluate changes to the questionnaire, this decision could affect the quality and integrity of the 2020 Census and add to its cost. COSSA opposes this decision and released a statement yesterday.

Census data is too important to risk an untested question that has not been fielded since 1950. The decennial census is an irreplaceable source of data for researchers across the social sciences who use it to generate valuable findings about the U.S. population that can be used to inform evidence-based policies. In addition, information from the decennial census undergirds numerous other surveys and data sets at the Census Bureau and beyond, so a problem at the source would have far-reaching implications across the statistical system. We have no way of knowing what future insights will be lost if this data is compromised.

Visit our TAKE ACTION page to tell your Members of Congress to reject this decision and protect the integrity and accuracy of the 2020 Census by passing legislation to remove this question.

Feel free to share this alert with others who care about ensuring a fair and accurate 2020 Census. And don’t hesitate to reach out to COSSA if you have any questions! Thank you for taking action on this important issue.

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS | www.cossa.org

It’s Social Science Advocacy Day!

Tell Congress to Protect Funding for Social Science Research & Data

Today, social science advocates from across the country will take to Capitol Hill to tell their Congressional representatives to protect funding for social and behavioral science and to share with them the important role research in the social sciences play in making our population healthier, our democracy safer, and our economy stronger.

Click here to see a message from Representative Paul Tonko welcoming our advocates to Washington and calling on Congress to maintain our investments in social and behavioral science.

But you don’t need to be in Washington to participate in Advocacy Day! Visit our TAKE ACTION page to write to your Members of Congress and tell them why you support funding for social science research. We have all the resources you need to get started, including brand new talking points, state fact sheets, and one-pagers.

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS | www.cossa.org

Amendments Threaten FY 2018 Funding for Social Science at NSF, Census, and Institute of Education Sciences

September 7, 2017

Today the House is considering H.R. 3354, an appropriations bill for fiscal year (FY) 2018 that includes funding for the Departments of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, and the National Science Foundation, among others. COSSA has learned of three amendments that present a threat to the social and behavioral sciences—one which picks winners and losers among scientific disciplines at NSF, one which uses the already-underfunded Census as a piggy bank to fund other initiatives, and a third that cuts much-needed funding from the Institute of Education Sciences.

We are asking you to call your House Representative TODAY and tell them to vote NO on these three amendments. The House will be considering some of these amendments this afternoon, so your action is needed quickly. More details and talking points on each are below.

Find your House Member by entering your address here. To reach your Representative, you can call the House of Representatives switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or look up their number in the House Directory. Feel free to consult COSSA’s Advocacy Handbook for tips on how to contact your Member of Congress.

Thank you very much for your quick action on this important issue. Please feel free to circulate this alert widely.

DETAILS ON AMENDMENTS & TALKING POINTS

Proposed Amendments to H.R. 3354,
The Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act, 2018

Amendment Targeting the National Science Foundation (Amendment #150)

Sponsor: Lamar Smith (R-TX)

The amendment would increase NSF research funding in the physical and biological sciences at the expense of NSF’s other research directorates (including the Social, Behavioral, Economics Sciences Directorate).

Talking points:

- This amendment rejects the long-standing practice of allowing NSF to determine how to allocate its research dollars based on the best available science.

- NSF prioritizes research investments based on the advice of its own technical experts, world-renowned and highly regarded merit review process, and countless scholars housed at universities and laboratories.
Advocacy Resources

Dr. Jane Smith
Director of Advocacy
Cossa

Communicating with Congress

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

But the First Amendment is not the only thing Congress can do to improve your life. Congress can also hold hearings, pass laws, and allocate funds. By doing so, Congress can make a real difference in your life.

We all know that the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects our rights to freedom of religion, speech, and the press. But what about the rights of Congress to conduct investigations and hearings? The First Amendment protects the government against interference by Congress. But Congress can still conduct investigations and hearings if it so chooses.

There are a number of ways you can contact your member of Congress:

- Meet with your Member of Congress, either in person or on the phone
- Attend a town hall meeting
- Call your Member of Congress
- Join a local advocacy group
- Write a letter to the editor

Finding Your Member of Congress

It’s easy to find your member of Congress. Just go to the website of your Member of Congress and look for a link to contact them. You can also call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to be connected to your Member of Congress.

Once you have identified your Member of Congress, you can do a little background research to find out how your party feels about various issues. It’s important to remember that a Member of Congress represents the people of his or her district, not just the people in his or her party.

Calling your Member

No matter what method you choose to reach out to Congress, knowing what you want to say and how to say it can make your advocacy much more effective.

The Title

"The Title" is the first thing that people will think about when they see your name on a letter. Make sure it is clear and concise, and that it accurately reflects the issue you are advocating for.

The Body

The body of your letter should be no more than two paragraphs. Make sure it is well-written and free of jargon. Include a clear and concise statement of the issue, and explain why it is important to you and your community.

The Conclusion

The conclusion of your letter should restate the key points you made in the body of your letter, and ask for a specific action from your Member of Congress. Include your contact information, including your name, address, and phone number.

SUCCESSFUL ADVOCACY + THE RIGHT PEOPLE + THE RIGHT TIME = THE RIGHT MESSAGE

And it has to be on one page.
Advocacy Resources: State-Level Social Science Funding

Based on federal data (NSF National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics)

- R&D funding in anthropology; economics; political science and government; sociology, demography, and populations studies; and other social sciences; law; communications; and social work

- Department-level funding for HHS, NSF, USDA, NASA, DOD, Energy, and NASA.

- PDFs available for all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, and Guam

INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD

Advocacy Resources: University-Level Social Science Funding

Rankings of Colleges & Universities by Federal Social Science R&D Funding

https://www.cossa.org/sbs-r-d-rankings/

- Official release of 2019 Rankings: Monday, January 14
- PDF & Interactive Dashboard
- 468 Institutions
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How COSSA Shares Information: Members-Only Emails

- As-it-happens information on
- Breaking social science news
- New COSSA programs, materials, analyses
- Time-sensitive opportunities to engage (nominations opportunities, requests for comment)
- Upcoming events
- Open to anyone affiliated with or employed by a COSSA member organization
- Colleagues can sign up by emailing jmilton@cossa.org
How COSSA Shares Information: Washington Update

• Every other Tuesday

https://www.cossa.org/washington-update/archive/

• Running lists of:
  • Nomination Opportunities
  • Funding Opportunities
  • Notices & Requests for Comment
  • Recent Reports
  • Open Positions
  • Fellowships & Professional Development

• Archives back to 1982
How COSSA Shares Information: COSSA’s Website

- Policy Statements & Testimony
- Funding & Policy Updates
- Take Action
- Resources

Resources
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- Federal Funding of Social and Behavioral Science Research, by State
- College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D
- Setting the Record Straight on “Wasteful Research”
- HOT TOPICS
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How COSSA Shares Information
The COSSA Team: Your On-Call Experts

• Answer policy questions
• Present at conferences, at your university, in DC or virtually on advocacy, the policy landscape, recent developments, and future outlook
• Plan advocacy strategies on issues of concern
• Disseminate information to the COSSA community
• Connect with other COSSA members

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Let’s hear from you!

If using computer microphone: raise your hand!
   Step 1: select “participants”
   Step 2: select “raise hand”
      (may be in sidebar)
   Step 3: after you’re unmuted, ask your question!

If using telephone audio/microphone: put your question in the chat box!
Homework

- **Sign up for Social Science Advocacy Day!**
  - Early bird registration is now open!
    - [www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day](http://www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day)

- **Share with your colleagues**
Tune in each month – 2nd Thursday

Tell your colleagues to sign up for COSSA Member Messages and Alerts—MEMBERS ONLY (email Julia at jmilton@cossa.org)

Encourage other organizations and universities to Join COSSA (email Wendy at wnaus@cossa.org)

Send us your ideas for DEEP DIVES (email Camille at chosman@cossa.org)
Next Month:

❑ February’s HEADLINES

❑ DEEP DIVE: The President’s FY 2020 Budget Request*

*Depending on release date
Did you miss last month’s Headlines?

Visit: www.cossa.org/resources/headlines
Camille Hosman, Assistant Director of Government Relations
Email: chosman@cossa.org

Julia Milton, Director of Public Affairs
Email: jmilton@cossa.org

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@SocialScienceAssociations