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Congress was not in session this week due to the July 4th holiday recess but will return next week with less than a month before the month-long August recess to tackle remaining legislative priorities such as curbing rising inflation and gas prices. While Congress was not in session, President Biden released an executive order on Friday to protect access to reproductive health care services across the country after the landmark Supreme Court decision, Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, two weeks ago that overturned the federal right to have an abortion. This comes in response to many state legislatures passing “trigger laws” that outlawed the practice as soon as the Dobbs decision was released. A more detailed fact sheet on the executive order can be found here.

The University of Minnesota Washington Update provides intelligence and analysis on recent federal activities. Faculty visiting Washington, D.C. are encouraged to contact Sarah Neimeyer, Director of Government Relations, at neimeyer@umn.edu. Contact Christina Laridaen, Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, at christina@lewis-burke.com with any questions or comments related to the Update’s content.

Congressional Updates and Funding Opportunities

Congressional Update: House Appropriations Committee Approves FY 2023 Interior and Environment Bill

On June 29, the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee voted 32 to 24 to approve the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies (Interior-Environment) Appropriations bill which provides funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and the National Endowments for the Arts (NEA) and the Humanities (NEH), among other agencies. Overall, the House Interior-Environment bill would provide $44.8 billion in FY 2023, a $6.8 billion increase over current levels, representing an 18 percent increase relative to FY 2022 funding levels and one of the largest increases across the 12 House-proposed FY 2023 spending bills, which on average included a nine percent increase relative to present levels. Compared to the FY 2022 enacted level, the bill would boost EPA funding by $1.9 billion or 20.2 percent, USGS funding by $250 million or 18 percent, USFS by 258 million or 7 percent excluding additional one-time funds for fire management, and NEH and NEA by $27 million or 13 percent each. The next step for this bill is a vote on the House floor, likely to take place during the week of July 11. The Senate has not yet shared details of its appropriations bills, nor have they publicized a schedule for doing so.

A full analysis of the bill with additional details can be found here.
Congressional Update: House Appropriations Committee Approves FY 2023 Commerce, Justice, and Science Bill

On June 28, the House Appropriations Committee approved its fiscal year (FY) 2023 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) appropriations bill by a vote of 31 to 24. The bill would provide a total of $85.5 billion in funding in FY 2023 for the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Economic Development Administration (EDA), and Department of Justice (DOJ), among other programs. This is an almost 10 percent increase over the FY 2022 enacted level. The bill would provide increases to many programs of interest across its portfolio compared to FY 2022 funding levels, but in many cases, these increases fall short of the growth proposed in the president’s FY 2023 budget request. This is especially true in the case of NSF, which would be provided $861 million less than requested.

The top-line funding levels for agencies relevant to the research community are as follows:

- **NSF** would be funded at $9.6 billion, $793.2 million or 9.0 percent above the FY 2022 enacted level but far below the president's budget request of $10.5 billion. NSF’s Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account would be funded at $7.7 billion, $546.1 million or 7.5 percent above the FY 2022 enacted level but $720.5 million or 8.6 percent below the president's FY 2023 budget request. **STEM Education (EDU)**, NSF’s proposed new name for the Education and Human Resources account and Directorate, would receive $1.25 billion, $244 million or 24.3 percent above the FY 2022 level but $127.2 million below the president’s FY 2023 budget request. A substantial portion of the EDU increase would be devoted to a transfer of funding for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program from R&RA to EDU, and without this transfer, their proposed funding increases would be fairly on par.

- **NASA** would be funded at $25.5 billion, $1.4 billion or 5.8 percent above the FY 2022 enacted level and $527.6 million or 2 percent below the Administration’s request. Relative to FY 2022 enacted figures, the Science Mission Directorate would receive a $290.6 million or 3.8 percent increase, and the Space Technology Mission Directorate would receive a $150 million or 13.6 percent increase.

- **NOAA** would be funded at $6.8 billion, an increase of $908.5 million or 15.5 percent over the FY 2022 enacted level, and $77 million or 1.1 percent below the president’s budget request.

- **NIST** would be funded at $1.5 billion, an increase of $244.1 million or 19.8 percent over the FY 2022 enacted level and $6.6 million, or 0.5 percent, above the president’s budget request. NIST’s core research programs would be funded at $953 million, $103 million or 12 percent above the FY 2022 enacted level. However, much of this proposed increase is due to external projects included in the House bill and does not reflect a major increase in the agency’s competitive research budget.

- **EDA** would be funded at $510 million, $136.5 million or 36.5 percent above the FY 2022 enacted level. This is $7.5 million or 1.5 percent above the FY 2023 budget request.

- **DOJ** would be funded at $38.5 billion, an increase of $3.3 billion or 9.4 percent above the FY 2022 enacted level and $765 million or 1.9 percent below the budget request. Its research portfolio would prioritize studies on domestic radicalization, violence against women, violence against American Indians, surveys on the campus sexual assault climate, gun violence prevention, and school safety, among other issues.

A full analysis of the bill with additional details can be found [here](#).

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UMN Washington Update
Prepared by Lewis-Burke Associates LLC
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Congressional Update: House Appropriations Committee Approves FY 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Bill

On June 30, the House Appropriations Committee amended and approved the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS-ED) spending bill by a vote of 32-24 along party lines. The appropriations bill would provide a total of $224 billion in discretionary funding, a $28 billion increase over FY 2022, to support the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies. During the full Appropriations Committee’s mark-up, Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) offered a Manager’s Amendment, which included technical changes to the Subcommittee’s bill approved on June 23. With the recent Supreme Court decision to roll back federal abortion rights, much of the markup discussion centered on Republican attempts to include the Hyde Amendment, which restricts federal support for abortion services, but the amendment ultimately failed.

The bill would provide $124 billion to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), a $15.6 billion increase above the FY 2022 enacted level and $325 million above the President’s budget request. Of this amount, the bill would provide $47.5 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an increase of $2.5 billion above the FY 2022 enacted level. Notably, the bill proposes that the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), recently established in the FY 2022 omnibus appropriations bill and placed within the NIH by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra, should now be located as a separate entity within HHS. Additionally, within HHS’ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the bill would provide $678 million for Title VII Health Professions programs, a $159 million increase above FY 2022 enacted level, and $324 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs, a $44 million increase over FY 2022 enacted levels. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would be funded at $10.5 billion, a $2 billion or 24.1 percent increase above the FY 2022 enacted level but $231 million or 2.2 percent below the budget request. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) would receive $9 billion, a $2.6 billion or 41 percent increase above the FY 2022 enacted level but a $1.1 billion or 11 percent decrease compared to the budget request. Key priority areas reflected in the bill include addressing mental health, particularly among children and adolescents, and substance use disorders, especially in pregnant or postpartum women; expanding access to health services for rural and underserved populations; addressing current and anticipated healthcare workforce shortages; bolstering public health infrastructure; and health equity.

The FY 2023 bill would also provide the Department of Education (ED) with $86.7 billion, an over $10 billion increase above current levels, but $1.6 billion less than the President’s budget request. Of note, the bill would provide $7,395 for the maximum Pell Grant award, an increase of $500 above the FY 2022 enacted level and would extend federal student aid eligibility to DACA-eligible students and those with temporary protected status. Additionally, the Department of Labor (DOL) would receive $15 billion in discretionary funding, which is $1.9 billion more than in FY 2022. DOL initiatives and programs that would receive increased funding include Registered Apprenticeships, the Strengthening Community College Training Grants, and direction for DOL to partner with the Department of Education to explore creating programs at four-year institutions of higher education.

Please find a detailed analysis and relevant Labor-HHS-ED funding charts in the attached document.

Sources and Additional Information:

• The Committee Report accompanying the bill, prior to adoption of modifying amendments, is available at https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220630/114968/HMKP-117-AP00-20220630-SD003.PDF.

• The FY 2023 House Labor-HHS-ED Community Project Funding list can be found at https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/democrats.appropriations.house.gov/files/LHHS%20CPF%20Disclosure%20Table-%20Final.pdf.

Funding Opportunity: DOD Releases Defense Education and Civilian University Research Partnership

The Department of Defense (DOD) released a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for Minerva’s Defense Education and Civilian University Research (DECUR) partnership. DECUR provides funding for partnerships between civilian universities and Professional Military Education (PME) institutions to conduct social science research of interest to DOD, with the goal of building stronger relationships with the social science community. The nine topics of interest for this program are the same as the priorities listed under the Minerva Research Initiative, DOD’s signature social science research program. DOD is particularly interested in proposals that align with the upcoming 2022 National Defense Strategy. The Minerva Research Initiative’s goal is to utilize social science research to improve DOD’s understanding of the forces that shape national security priorities. More information on Minerva can be found here.

White papers, while not mandatory, are strongly encouraged and should be submitted no later than September 8, 2022 at 3:00 PM ET. Full applications should be submitted no later than November 22, 2022 at 3:00 PM ET. DOD anticipates funding five to six awards at $200,000 per year for two years, totaling $2 million in funding. Applications should include a principal investigator (PI) from a civilian university and a co-PI from a PME. Army-affiliated PME institutions are not eligible to participate. Non-profit institutions and commercial entities can be included only as sub-awardees. The full solicitation can be found at www.grants.gov under solicitation number “HQ003422NFOEASD04.”