

NFPRHA Analysis

Final Labor-HHS Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations

On March 9, 2022, Congress released its omnibus funding package for fiscal year (FY) 2022, which passed the House later that day and the Senate on March 10. The president signed it into law on March 15. Despite strong proposals in the House-passed and Senate-proposed bills, the final package contained only small increases for public health programs and no improvements at all for reproductive health priorities, including the Title X family planning program.

LAW OVERVIEW

- The final spending package appropriated \$1.5 trillion for FY 2022, including \$782 billion in defense spending and \$730 billion in non-defense spending. Those increases were 5.6 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively, when compared to FY 2021.
- The law provided \$214 billion in funding for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, of which \$108 billion is dedicated for the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). That level was substantially above FY 2021 funding of \$97 billion for HHS but below President Biden's proposal of \$132 billion. The package included just \$286.5 million for the Title X program, marking its eighth consecutive year of level funding.
- In order to pass the Senate, this package needed 60 votes in the Senate, including at least 10 Republicans. As such, the package was substantially less progressive than the bill passed by the House, which required far less Republican support, and the draft proposed by the Senate, which was written entirely by Democrats.

POLICY PROPOSALS

- The law did not include new language proposed by the House and Senate to emphasize the critical role of the Title X family planning program to provide access to high-quality, medically accurate, and client-centered family planning and sexual health care to people who have low incomes and/or are un- or under-insured.

- The final package retained all existing bans on abortion coverage. This included the Hyde amendment, which bars Labor-HHS funds from paying for abortions outside of very limited exceptions, and the Weldon amendment, which makes it easier for health care providers and institutions to refuse to provide or refer for abortions.

SPECIFIC FUNDING LEVELS

Comparisons below are provided to the enacted FY 2021 appropriations bills signed into law in December 2020.

- \$286.5 million for the Title X family planning program, level funding.
- \$1.7 billion in discretionary funding for the Section 330 federally qualified health center program, an increase of \$65 million.
- \$748 million for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program, an increase of \$35 million.
- \$1.3 billion for CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, and TB prevention, a \$31 million increase.
- \$2.5 billion for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, an increase of \$71 million.
- \$1.7 billion for the Social Services Block Grant, level funding.
- \$101 million for the evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program, level funding.
- \$35 million for abstinence-only education programs, level funding.