

NFPRHA Analysis

House Appropriations Bills for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024

On July 13, 2023, the House Appropriations Committee released its draft FY 2024 bill for the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS). The Labor-HHS Subcommittee passed the legislation in a voice vote on July 14. Below is NFPRHA's analysis of this bill and other House Appropriations Committee measures that are relevant to the publicly funded family planning network and the individuals and communities it serves.

OVERALL FUNDING FRAMEWORK

- On June 3, 2023, President Biden signed into law the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, which, among other impacts, set appropriations levels for FY 2024 at approximately the same level as FY 2023 and allowed a 1% increase from FY 2024 to FY 2025. Despite this agreement, the House Appropriations Committee has proposed FY 2024 funding levels that would place government spending well below those agreed-to levels.
- The House Labor-HHS bill includes \$147 billion in funding, 29% below current funding levels. HHS received \$104 billion in funding, 14% below current funding levels.

POLICY PROPOSALS

- As has been the case in recent years, House Republicans tied Title X (ten) very closely to abortion and considered it to be a partisan program when drafting the legislation. The House bill would eliminate funding for the Title X family planning program and the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. Despite that elimination, the bill further strains the Title X network by attempting to interfere with federal regulations regarding the nondirective pregnancy options counseling required in Title X. The bill further states that HHS may not create or operate a pregnancy options hotline, as the Office of Population Affairs had proposed.
- The Labor-HHS bill also attempts to bar Planned Parenthood from participating in any programs run by HHS, including Medicaid. This language was previously

- proposed in bills considered by Congress during the Trump administration to repeal the Affordable Care Act but never became law.
- The committee proposes maintaining all existing abortion coverage riders, including the Hyde and Weldon amendments in the Labor-HHS bill and similar provisions in other bills.
 - Outside of the Labor-HHS bill, notable reproductive health policy riders include: ban on the current FDA policy for mifepristone; ban on the current Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs policies to expand access to abortion care for those populations; eliminating funding for the United Nations Population Fund; and expanding the global gag policy on foreign aid. Many bills, including Labor-HHS, also include restrictions or bans on gender-affirming care.
 - The Labor-HHS bill eliminates all funding for the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative started by President Donald Trump.

SPECIFIC FUNDING REQUESTS

The House's FY 2024 proposed funding levels are listed below, along with any increase or decrease in proposed funding levels when compared to the FY 2023 omnibus appropriations measure, signed into law in December 2022.

- No funding for the Title X family planning program, a decrease of \$286.5 million
- \$1.9 billion in discretionary funding for the Section 330 federally qualified health center program, the same as current funding
- \$781 million for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program, a decrease of \$41 million
- \$1.2 billion for CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, and TB prevention, a decrease of \$220 million
- \$6 billion for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the same as FY 2023
- \$2.3 billion for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, a decrease of \$239 million
- \$1.7 billion for the Social Services Block Grant, the same as current funding
- No funding for the evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program, a decrease of \$101 million
- \$40 million for discretionary abstinence-only programs, an increase of \$5 million