

NFPRHA Analysis

The House Labor-HHS Proposal for Fiscal Year 2022

On July 15, 2021, the House Appropriations Committee approved its fiscal year (FY) 2022 funding bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS). If enacted as written, the bill would promote substantial improvements in public health, including by making a historic investment in the Title X family planning program.

BILL OVERVIEW

- The bill proposes \$254 billion in spending for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, of which \$120 billion is dedicated for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). That level is substantially above current funding of \$97 billion for HHS but below President Biden's proposal of \$132 billion.
- The bill will next go to the full House of Representatives for consideration. It is currently unclear when the Senate's Labor-HHS bill will be released or receive a vote.

POLICY PROPOSALS

- The bill and report include important language underscoring the purpose 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 committee also emphasized the importance of promoting health equity within and through the program, a key part of the Biden administration's proposed Title X regulations released in spring 2021.
- In each of its bills, the House Appropriations Committee removed all restrictions on using federal funds for abortion, a significant victory for reproductive health, rights, and justice. In the Labor-HHS bill, this means the bill does not include 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 REQUESTS

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

- \$400 million for the Title X family planning program, an increase of \$114 million.
- \$1.8 billion in discretionary funding for the Section 330 federally qualified health center program, an increase of \$148 million.
- \$869 million for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program, an increase of \$156 million.
- \$1.5 billion for CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, and TB prevention, a \$188 million increase.
- \$2.7 billion for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, an increase of \$231 million.
- \$1.9 billion for the Social Services Block Grant, an increase of \$200 million.
- \$130 million for the evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program, an increase of \$29 million.
- No funds for abstinence-only programs, a reduction of \$35 million.