

NFPRHA Analysis

The President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2022

On May 28, 2021, President Biden released his fiscal year (FY) 2022 budget request. While the proposal has no force of law, nor is Congress bound to adopt it, the document does provide a roadmap that leaders in the House and Senate may choose to follow. Below is NFPRHA's analysis of portions of the proposal that would impact the publicly funded family planning network and the individuals and communities it serves.

OVERARCHING BUDGET FRAMEWORK

- The budget plan proposes \$6 trillion in spending in FY 2022, including \$1.7 trillion for discretionary programs and \$4 trillion in mandatory spending.¹ Relative to President Trump's FY 2021 budget, this proposal increases nondefense discretionary funds by more than 27%, while it increases discretionary defense funding by only 0.2%.
- The budget plan includes \$131.8 billion for discretionary programs within the US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), relative to President Trump's final proposal for just \$96.4 billion.

POLICY PROPOSALS

- The president's budget includes two important steps forward for abortion access: the plan removes the Hyde amendment, which bars abortion coverage in Medicaid and other HHS programs, as well as the ban on the District of Columbia using its locally raised funds to provide abortion coverage to Medicaid enrollees in the district.
- Unfortunately, the proposal does not go far enough on reproductive health policy. The plan retains a ban on health insurance plans for federal employees that include abortion coverage and on federal inmates receiving abortion care while incarcerated.

¹ Discretionary spending refers to funds appropriated annually by Congress, while mandatory spending includes programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid that do not need annual funding from Congress. In addition to these two broad categories, the federal government also owes approximately \$300 billion annually in interest payments on the national debt.

- The plan also retains the Weldon amendment, which prohibits federal agencies, as well as state and local governments and other programs that receive money under the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, from "discriminating" against individuals, health care facilities, insurance plans, and other entities because they refuse to provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or refer for abortions.
- The plan does not include restrictions on whether abortion providers can receive HHS funds for other programs. President Trump had included a proposal to bar Planned Parenthood affiliates from receiving any HHS funds in each of his four budgets.
 - The president listed the Title X family planning program as a priority for his administration in a preview of the budget that was released on April 9, 2021.

SPECIFIC FUNDING REQUESTS

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

- \$340 million for the Title X family planning program, an increase of \$54 million.
- \$1.6 billion in discretionary funding for the Section 330 federally qualified health center program, an increase of \$50 million.
- \$823 million for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program, an increase of \$110 million.
- \$1.4 billion for CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, and TB prevention, a \$107 million increase.
- \$6 billion for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the same as current funding.
- \$2.6 billion for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, an increase of \$131 million.
- \$1.7 billion for the Social Services Block Grant, the same as current funding.
- \$101 million for the evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program, the same as current funding.
- \$35 million for abstinence-only programs, the same as current funding.