



## Capitol News!

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### Dear NASHIA Member,

Welcome to *Capitol News* featuring an update on federal appropriations to fund federal government for the remaining fiscal year ending Sept. 30. Over the weekend, bi-partisan House and Senate appropriators hashed out an Omnibus bill and released their recommendations, which Congress expects to pass. The agreement includes level funding for the Federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program, which provides funding for State and Protection & Advocacy (P&A) grants. Below is a narrative followed by a chart of selected disability, prevention and research program recommendations.

Once federal funding is approved for the current year, appropriators will continue to work on appropriation bills for FY 2018, beginning Oct. 1. The President is expected to release his recommendations by mid-May or even early June. Once his budget recommendations are released, NASHIA will hold a *Capitol News Live!* webinar so that Rebeccah Wolfkiel, NASHIA Government Consultant, can provide an overview and strategies for continuing TBI funding and other issues of importance. Stay tuned!

Meanwhile, visit the NASHIA [website](#) to keep abreast of public policy activities. Please feel free to use posted materials and to contact Susan L. Vaughn, Director of Public Policy at [publicpolicy@nashia.org](mailto:publicpolicy@nashia.org) if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

### This Week in Congress

Facing a deadline for funding federal government beyond Friday, negotiators have released a proposed Omnibus spending bill expected to be passed at the end of the week. The House Republican leadership is also trying to resurrect a bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Currently, there are not enough Republican votes to pass the bill, but the Leadership is working hard to change that. Meanwhile, the President has prioritized tax reform legislation as part of his agenda, which was announced in a press conference and a written summary late last week.



### FY 2017 Appropriations

#### Negotiators Approved a Bi-partisan Omnibus Bill to Continue Federal Funding

Last Friday, the House and Senate passed a continuing resolution to keep federal government funded for a week until Members could agree to a funding bill. On Sunday night, bipartisan negotiators agreed to an Omnibus appropriations [bill](#) to fund government for the remaining fiscal year ending Sept. 30. Congress is expected to pass the FY 2017 Omnibus bill this Friday and the President is expected to sign it to avoid a government shutdown. Overall the Omnibus bill includes a \$15 billion increase in defense funding, which is offset by a \$15 billion increase in non-defense

discretionary (NDD) funding over the FY 2017 caps. The additional \$15 billion for defense and \$15 billion for NDD over the sequester caps is what was agreed to in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (BBA), and was the level the Appropriations Committees had always assumed.

The Omnibus bill includes \$161 billion in base discretionary spending for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and Related Agencies, which is \$934 million below the FY 2016 level. Below is a summary of the agreement.

**Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** - The bill includes a total of \$73.5 billion for HHS, an increase of \$2.8 billion above last year's enacted level and \$3.8 billion above the previous Administration's budget request. The legislation targets funds to effective, proven programs that help improve health, safety, and quality of life for Americans. A summary of program recommendations is as follows.

- **Administration for Community Living (ACL)** - The agreement funds ACL at \$1.9 billion, which is \$1.2 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. **The Federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program administered by the ACL is recommended to be level funded, same level as last year.** The bill provides \$838 million - a \$3 million increase - for programs supporting senior nutrition, such as Meals on Wheels. The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation (NIDILRR) research is level funded at \$103.970 million.
- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** - The bill provides a total of \$34 billion for the NIH, \$2 billion above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. It includes specific increases for research related to Alzheimer's disease, the brain, antibiotic resistance, and the Precision Medicine Initiative. The agreement increases funding for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative by \$110 million.
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** - The legislation prioritizes funding for critical disease prevention and biodefense activities. The agreement includes a total of program level of \$7.3 billion for the CDC - \$22 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This includes \$6.3 billion in appropriated funds, as well as \$891 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. The bill includes \$112 million - \$42 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level - to expand efforts to combat prescription drug abuse. The bill also continues the longstanding prohibition against using federal funds to advocate or promote gun control research.
- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)** - The bill funds SAMHSA at \$3.6 billion - \$130.5 million above the previous Administration's budget request. Within this funding, the bill provides an increase of \$150 million over last year for programs that address the prevention and treatment of opioid and heroin use. Combined with \$500 million in funding authorized by the 21st Century Cures Act, the agreement supports a total increase of \$650 million in fiscal year 2017 for initiatives aimed at addressing the nation's opioid addiction crisis.
- **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)** - The bill includes \$6.4 billion for HRSA - \$77 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. Within the total, the bill provides \$1.5 billion for Community Health Centers, which is the same as the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$149 million above the previous Administration's budget request.
- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)** - The bill provides \$3.7 billion for CMS program management and operations, which is equal to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$440 million below the previous Administration's budget request. **The bill does not include additional funding to implement ObamaCare programs and continues prohibitions and limitations on use of federal funds related to ObamaCare.**

**Department of Education** - The bill funds the Department of Education at \$68 billion, which is

\$1.2 billion below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$2.3 billion below the previous Administration's budget request.

- **Special Education** - The bill includes \$12 billion for IDEA special education grants to States, an increase of \$90 million over the fiscal year 2016 enacted level, which will maintain the federal share of special education funding to states.

**Social Security Administration (SSA)** - The bill provides \$12.5 billion for the administration of SSA activities - a decrease of \$60 million from the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. One-time costs for building renovations provided in fiscal year 2016 account for a majority of the decrease. The bill supports program integrity efforts at the fully authorized level of \$1.8 billion, an increase of nearly \$400 million over the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

<b>AGENCY and PROGRAM</b>	<b>FY 2016 Omnibus Bill</b>	<b>FY 2017 Omnibus Bill</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>			
<b>Administration for Community Living</b>			
<b>Traumatic Brain Injury (State Grant and P&amp;A Grant Programs)</b>	\$9,321	\$9,321	\$0
Independent Living Administration			
Independent Living	\$101,183	\$101,183	\$0
<b>Administration on Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (DD) Administration</b>			
DD Councils	\$73,000	\$73,000	\$0
P&A	\$38,734	\$38,734	\$0
University Centers of Excellence on Disabilities	\$38,619	\$38,619	\$0
DD Projects of National Significance	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
<b>Aging and Disabilities Services</b>			
HCBS Services	\$347,724	\$350,224	\$2,500
Center for Integrated Services			
Lifespan Respite Care	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$0
Assistive Technology (AT) Act	\$34	\$34	\$0
<b>National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research</b>	\$103,970	\$103,970	\$0
<b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</b>			
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	\$1,177,096	\$1,115,596	(\$61,500)
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities	\$135,610	\$137,560	\$1,950
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control	\$236,059	\$286,059	\$50,000
<b>National Institutes of Health</b>			
National Institute of Child Health & Human Development	\$1,339,802	\$1,380,295	\$40,493
National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke	\$1,696,139	\$1,783,654	\$87,515
<b>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</b>			

Center for Mental Health Services	\$532,571	\$562,571	\$30,000
Children's Mental Health	\$119,026	\$119,026	\$0
<b>Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality</b>			\$0
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes	\$196,800	\$187,156	(\$9,644)
<b>Administration for Children and Families</b>			\$0
Office of Child Care	\$2,761,000	\$2,856,000	\$95,000
Social Services Block Grant (Title XX)	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$0
Children and Family Services Program	\$10,984,268	\$11,294,368	\$310,100
Community Services Block Grant Act Programs	\$751,383	\$742,383	(\$9,000)
<b>Health Resources and Services Administration</b>			
Early Intervention Program	\$205,079	\$201,079	(\$4000)
Emergency Medical Services for Children	\$20,162	\$20,162	\$0
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	\$638,200	\$641,700	\$3,500
Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals	\$107,381	\$107,381	\$0
<b>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>			
<b>Office of Special Education Programs</b>			
IDEA Part B State Grants	\$2,629.5	\$2,719.0	\$90,000
Parent Information Centers	\$30,047	\$28,047	(\$2,000)
<b>Rehabilitative Services Administration</b>			
Rehabilitation Services			
Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants	\$3,391,770	\$3,398,554	\$6,784
Client Assistance State Grants	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$0
Training	\$30,188	\$29,388	(\$800)
Demonstration and Training Programs	\$5,796	\$5,796	\$0
Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights	\$17,650	\$17,650	\$0
Supported Employment State Grants	\$27,548	\$27,548	\$0
Services for Older Blind Individuals	\$33,317	\$33,317	\$0
<b>OTHER</b>			
Committee for Purchase from People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled	\$6,191	\$8,000	\$1,809
National Council on Disability	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$0

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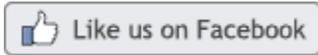
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*The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators assists State government in promoting partnerships and building systems to meet the needs of individuals with brain injuries and their families.*



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