

# *House Appropriations Committee*

*Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen*

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

## **Minibus #2 Summary: The Fiscal Year 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Funding Bill (Division B)**

*Legislation targets funding to programs that reflect American priorities – medical research, programs to fight the opioid epidemic, and essential education programs for students*

The second minibus package includes the fiscal year 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) funding bill, which includes funding for programs within the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and other related agencies, including the Social Security Administration.

In total, the bill includes \$178 billion in discretionary funding, which is \$1 billion above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. The bill targets investments in medical research, public health, biodefense, education, and important activities that help promote job readiness. The legislation also includes several provisions to rein in unnecessary regulations and to protect the sanctity of life.

The legislation funds critical programs that will protect and save lives both now and in the future, and help prepare the next generation to be part of a productive workforce to grow our economy and provide for their families. This includes investments in vital NIH research to cure diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer's, job training, college preparation, special education programs, programs to combat opioid abuse, and protections against health threats such as pandemics and bio-threats.

### **Bill Summary:**

**Department of Labor (DoL)** – The bill provides a total of \$12.1 billion in discretionary appropriations for DoL – \$94.3 million below the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. The bill provides robust funding for job training programs and sufficient funding for labor enforcement and benefit protection agencies to fulfill their core missions.

- **Employment Training Administration (ETA)** – The legislation provides ETA with \$9.9 billion – a decrease of \$112.5 million below last year's enacted level. This total includes \$2.8 billion for job training grants, \$89.5 million for YouthBuild, and \$790 million in mandatory appropriations for Federal Unemployment Benefits and Allowances, which provides job training programs for workers who lose their jobs as a result of international trade.
- **Job Corps** – The bill provides \$1.7 billion for Job Corps, the same as the 2018 enacted level. The bill supports funding for physical facility safety and security improvements.
- **Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS)** – The bill provides \$300 million for VETS, which is \$5 million above the fiscal year 2018 level. This includes \$50 million for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program and \$3.5 million for a new initiative to connect transitioning service members to apprenticeship opportunities.

**Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** – The bill includes a total of \$90.5 billion for HHS, an increase of \$2.3 billion above last year’s enacted level. The legislation targets funds to effective, proven programs that help improve the health, safety, and quality of life for Americans. Within this amount, the bill includes:

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** – The bill provides a total of \$39.1 billion for NIH, an increase of \$2 billion above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.

The bill provides increases for several critical research initiatives, including:

- \$2.34 billion, a \$425 million increase, for **Alzheimer’s disease research**,
- \$400 million, a \$100 million increase, for the **Cancer Moonshot** research initiative,
- \$429 million, a \$29 million increase, for the **Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN)** initiative,
- \$376 million, an \$86 million increase, for the **All of Us** research initiative,
- \$140 million, an increase of \$40 million, for research to develop a **universal influenza vaccine**,
- \$550 million, an increase of \$37 million, for research on **Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria**,
- \$362 million, an increase of \$11 million, for **Institutional Development Awards**, and
- \$12.6 million for the **Gabriella Miller “Kids First” pediatric cancer research initiative**.

The legislation also expands support for the Down syndrome research initiative established in fiscal year 2018.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** – The legislation includes a total of \$7.9 billion for CDC – \$354 million below the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. After accounting for one-time facilities funding in fiscal year 2018, the legislation provides an increase of \$126 million for CDC on a comparable program level. This includes \$805 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. The bill also continues the longstanding prohibition against using federal funds to advocate or promote gun control.

The bill saves taxpayers \$50 million in future appropriations by creating an **Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund**, where funds only become available for use in the event of a future public health emergency. This fund will allow the Secretary to respond quickly to a pandemic. The bill also includes funding for initiatives proposed in the President’s budget to continue efforts to track children and families affected by the Zika virus and to address infectious disease related to the opioid crisis.

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)** – The bill funds SAMHSA at \$5.7 billion – \$584 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. The legislation maintains a prohibition on federal funds for the purchase of syringes or sterile needles, but allows communities with rapid increases in cases of HIV and hepatitis to access federal funds for other activities, including substance-use counseling and treatment referrals.

SAMHSA funding includes:

- \$1.9 billion for the **Substance Abuse Block Grant**, the same as the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
- \$89 million for Criminal Justice activities – the same as the fiscal year 2018 enacted level – including \$70 million specifically for **drug courts**.

- The bill includes over \$6.7 billion to address substance use and mental health, including **opioid and heroin abuse**, which is \$228 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. This amount includes \$1.5 billion in state opioid response grants.
- **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)** – The bill includes \$6.8 billion for HRSA, which is \$107 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted. The amount includes:
  - \$325 million for the **Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education**, an increase of \$10 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
  - \$122.5 million for the **Healthy Start** program, an increase of \$12 million above fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
  - \$678 million for the **Maternal and Child Health Block Grant**, an increase of \$26 million over the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
- **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)** – The recommendation provides \$338 million for AHRQ, \$4 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
- **Administration for Children and Families (ACF)** – The bill provides \$23.2 billion in discretionary funding for ACF, which is \$357 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
  - **Early childhood** programs receive an increase of \$250 million. **Head Start** receives \$10.1 billion, a \$200 million increase, and the **Child Care and Development Block Grant** receives \$5.3 billion, a \$50 million increase above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
  - The bill maintains funding for **Preschool Development Grants** at \$250 million, the same as the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.
  - The bill provides a \$10 million increase for the **Community Services Block Grant**, for a total of \$754 million for Community Service programs.
- **Administration for Community Living (ACL)** – The bill funds ACL at \$2.2 billion, which is \$25 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. This amount includes:
  - \$907 million for **senior nutrition** programs, of which \$251 million is for the **Meals on Wheels** program.
- **Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF)** – The bill provides \$2 billion for PHSSEF, an increase of \$868million above the fiscal year 2018 level The total funding level includes:
  - \$562 million, an increase of \$25 million, for the **Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)**,
  - \$735 million, an increase of \$25 million, for **Project BioShield**, for the acquisition of medical countermeasures, and
  - \$260 million, an increase of \$10 million, for **Pandemic Influenza Preparedness**.

**Department of Education** – The bill funds the Department of Education at nearly \$71.5 billion, which is \$581 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. The total funding level includes:

- **Special Education** – The bill includes nearly \$12.4 billion for IDEA special education grants to states, an increase of nearly \$87 million over the fiscal year 2018 enacted level, which will maintain the federal share of special education funding to states.
- **Student Support and Academic Achievement State Grants** – The bill includes \$1.17 billion, \$70 million above the fiscal year 2018 level, for grants that provide flexible funds to states and school districts to expand access, improve school conditions, and increase the use of technology. This robust level of funding will support school safety activities, including student mental health services, bullying prevention, and professional development for personnel in crisis management.
- **Pell Grants** – The maximum Pell Grant award is increased by \$100 to \$6,195, funded by a combination of discretionary and mandatory funds.
- **Impact Aid** – The bill provides over \$1.4 billion for Impact Aid, an increase of \$32 million above the fiscal year 2018 level.
- **Charter Schools** – The bill increases funding for charter schools by \$40 million, to a total of \$440 million.
- **TRIO and GEAR UP** programs, which help first-generation college students prepare for, enter, and complete college, are increased by \$50 million and \$10 million, respectively, bringing TRIO programs to a total of \$1.06 billion and GEAR UP to a total of \$360 million.
- **Career, Technical and Adult Education** – The bill provides \$1.9 billion for career, technical and adult education programs, an increase of nearly \$95 million over fiscal year 2018, to ensure that all students have the opportunity to continue to develop their skills after high school and enter into good-paying jobs.

#### Other Related Agencies –

- **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)** – The bill includes \$1.08 billion for CNCS, \$19 million above fiscal year 2018.
- **Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB)** – The bill provides an advance appropriation of \$445 million for CPB for fiscal year 2021, which is the same level of advance funding provided in fiscal year 2018.
- **Social Security Administration (SSA)** – The bill provides \$12.9 billion to administer SSA activities, which is \$2 million above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. This funding level is sufficient to ensure those served by the program receive efficient and timely assistance and service.

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