



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

**For Immediate Release:**

October 18, 2021

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### **Senate Appropriations Committee Releases Nine Appropriations Bills: Highlights**

*Prepared by the Office of Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.)*

October 18, 2021—Today the Senate Appropriations Committee released nine appropriations bills that allocate resources to address the pressing priorities of America’s families and communities, and promote U.S. national security. The bills include:

- Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
- Department of Defense
- Financial Services and General Government
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
- Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
- Legislative Branch
- State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
- Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

With a 13 percent increase for non-defense discretionary programs and a five percent increase for defense-related programs, these bills make important investments in our Nation’s infrastructure, our environment, national security, and American families. They include historic increases to educate our Nation’s children, combat climate change, promote affordable housing, and improve healthcare.

### **Highlights include:**

- **Long overdue investments to help care for and educate all of our Nation’s children, such as:**
  - Doubling the funding for Title I-A Grants to Local Educational Agencies—a \$16.6 billion increase over last fiscal year. The increased funds could allow an increase in the size of the grant awards to the nearly 60,000 public schools currently in the program and provide assistance to 11,000 additional schools eligible but not currently receiving grants. More than 60 percent of public schools will receive new or increased assistance through this historic level of funding;
  - \$1.4 billion increase (23 percent more than last fiscal year) for the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to support high-quality child care for working families across the country; and

- \$1.18 billion increase (11 percent more than last fiscal year) for Head Start programs to help provide high-quality education for children and families beginning before birth through age five.
- **Historic funding levels for Department of Justice Violence Against Women Act programs, a 48 percent increase over last fiscal year**—\$246.5 million above last year’s level, for a total of \$760 million. This is the largest appropriation for VAWA since its creation.
- **Makes new and critical investments to combat climate change, including:**
  - An increase of \$130 million (46 percent more than last fiscal year) for EPA’s clean air and climate program to tackle climate change, restore clean air capacity, and dramatically expand and modernize air quality monitoring;
  - For the first time ever, investment in a new Climate Conservation Corps (\$54 million);
  - An increase of \$56 million (17 percent more than last fiscal year) for EPA environmental enforcement and compliance efforts;
  - \$1.45 billion U.S. contribution to the Green Climate Fund and a \$450 million U.S. contribution to the Clean Technology Fund (the first contributions to these funds in nearly four years);
  - \$200 million to allow the General Services Administration (GSA) to procure zero emission and electric vehicles and the associated charging infrastructure on behalf of Federal agencies;
  - In support of the President’s goal of transitioning to a federal fleet of zero-emission vehicles, new funding provided at Department of the Interior (\$73 million), Department of Homeland Security (\$76 million), and Department of Transportation (\$11 million) to advance these goals;
  - \$50 million increase for Federal Aviation Administration to advance Sustainable Aviation Fuels;
  - \$132 million for a Low and No Emission Vehicle Program;
  - \$51 million increase (28 percent more than last fiscal year) for climate research at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
  - \$230 million increase (12 percent more than last fiscal year) for NASA Earth Science to address climate research priorities;
  - \$100 million for the National Institutes of Health to research climate change’s impact on human health and \$110 million, a \$100 million increase, for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to identify its potential health effects and implement health adaptation plans; and
  - \$405 million to continue construction of three new polar weather satellites.
- **Unprecedented investments in tribal communities to improve healthcare, education, social services, water resources, and law enforcement for Native Americans**, including a 15 percent increase for the Bureau of Indian Affairs; a 21 percent increase for the Indian Health Service; a 7.8 percent increase for the Bureau of Indian Education; and

an 18 percent increase for Native American and Alaska Natives housing programs. The bill also provides an unprecedented level of budgetary certainty in Indian Country by – for the first time ever – providing advance appropriations for the Indian Health Service, providing peace of mind to patients and health providers.

- **Significant resources to promote conservation, preserve our natural infrastructure, and protect our federal lands**, including an 11 percent increase for the National Park Service; a 16 percent increase for the Forest Service; an 18 percent increase for the Bureau of Land Management; and a 16 percent increase for the Fish and Wildlife Service.
- **Critical funding increases for mental and behavioral health services and to combat substance abuse.** These funds are desperately needed as rates of anxiety and depression have soared during the COVID-19 pandemic, and drug overdose deaths are expected to reach their highest levels to date. Funding includes:
  - \$3.1 billion increase (51 percent more than last fiscal year) for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA);
  - An increase of \$825 million, to more than double the Mental Health Block Grant program funding for a total of \$1.58 billion;
  - \$183.8 million for suicide prevention programs within SAMHSA, double that of last fiscal year, including funding to prepare for the launch of a three digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline; and
  - Significant new resources for substance abuse, including
    - \$1.15 billion more for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant (62 percent more than last fiscal year);
    - \$500 million increase for State Opioid Response (SOR) Grants (33 percent more than last fiscal year); and
    - A 14 percent increase for Anti-Opioid and Substance Abuse Grants at the Department of Justice.
- **An 84 percent increase from last fiscal year for programs to strengthen police-community relations, including grants for training, de-escalation, implicit bias, and crisis intervention.** In total, \$129.5 million more than last year is included for fiscal year 2022, for a total of \$283 million in funding.
- **Significant increases to reduce homelessness, improve housing conditions, and increase affordability, including:**
  - A historic 30 percent increase in the Public Housing Capital Fund to improve living conditions and address capital improvements;

- An 8.6 percent increase in Homeless Assistance Grants, including \$2.75 billion for renewal of 6,500 Continuum of Care programs that serve over 750,000 people, and \$290 million for Emergency Solutions Grants, which support over 350,000 people in emergency shelters each year; and
- A seven percent increase for the HOME program that will be used to create over 18,000 new affordable housing units, and assist over 13,000 households with Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.
- **75 percent increase for Title X-Family Planning** (for a total of \$500 million, a \$214 million increase above last fiscal year) **and eliminates the Hyde Amendment.**
- **Provides significant increases for international family planning, and codifies the reversal of the Mexico City Policy.** Funding includes:
  - \$650 million for bilateral family planning and reproductive health programs (up 13 percent over the last fiscal year);
  - \$55 million for the UN Population Fund (up 69 percent over last fiscal year); and
  - \$705 million for international family planning (up 16 percent increase over last fiscal year).
- **A 24 percent increase over last fiscal year for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, including a new \$600 million investment to strengthen U.S. public health infrastructure for total funding of \$9.7 billion, an increase of \$1.85 billion, and the largest increase in budget authority provided to the agency in nearly two decades.
- **A 28 percent increase for the Strategic National Stockpile**, for a total of \$905 million, which was not able to meet the needs of the Nation when COVID-19 struck.
- **Much-needed increases in global health and pandemic preparedness**, specifically \$10.35 billion for global health programs, which is a \$1.2 billion increase from the last fiscal year (up 13 percent). The funding supports \$1 billion for global health security focused on pandemic prevention and response, which is \$810 million above last fiscal year.
- **Historic investments in medical research to ensure America remains on the cutting edge of advanced medical science and research, including:**
  - A 6 percent increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (\$2.6 billion more than last fiscal year) to speed the development of new therapies, diagnostics, and preventative measures;

- \$2.4 billion to create the first ever Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), the President’s bold and promising proposal to accelerate the pace of breakthroughs in medicine;
  - \$237 million, an increase of \$170 million over last fiscal year, to combat maternal mortality rates, which also includes public health programs throughout HHS to reduce preventable causes of maternal death and improve the health of pregnant and postpartum women;
  - \$9.5 billion, a \$1 billion or 12 percent increase over last fiscal year, for the National Science Foundation (NSF);
  - \$7.5 billion, a seven percent increase over last fiscal year, for the Department of Energy Office;
  - \$500 million, a 17 percent increase over last fiscal year, for Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E); and
  - \$24.8 billion, a six percent increase over last fiscal year, for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
- **Significant resources to help implement President’s plan to combat PFAS pollution.** This includes \$760.9 million at the Department of Defense for environmental remediation accounts to address PFAS contamination on military bases and in neighboring communities. The Department of Defense faces a huge cost for PFAS cleanup in coming years, and the additional funds will go a long way to mitigating those bills. Additionally, increased funds are included at EPA in the Interior Appropriations bill through Superfund, public water programs, and others to help accelerate efforts to identify, address, and prevent PFAS contamination.
  - **Rescinds \$1.9 billion in border wall funding from previous years and repurposes it for smart border security technology and other capabilities to facilitate trade and travel,** as well as for environmental remediation due to border-barrier construction.
  - **For the first time since Fiscal Year 2010, there is no Defense funding for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO).**