



# COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

## CHAIRMAN PATRICK LEAHY

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### SUMMARY

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**Washington, D.C.** – The fiscal year 2022 Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill includes \$220.8 billion in base non-defense discretionary funding, an increase of \$46.7 billion over the comparable fiscal year 2021 level, and \$5.8 billion less than the budget request. In addition, the bill includes \$2.1 billion in allocation adjustments for preventing waste, fraud, abuse, and improper payments, a \$243 million increase over the fiscal year 2021 level, and the same as the President's budget request.

**U.S. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA.)**, Chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee said:

*"I believe strongly that now more than ever, our focus needs to be on ensuring our country can come back better from the COVID-19 pandemic. I'm proud that this bill dramatically increases funding for our public schools and Pell grants to put higher education within reach for more students, and that it would strengthen our public health infrastructure so that we are better prepared for the next pandemic as well as ongoing public health crises like substance use disorders and mental health. Our bill also makes historic investments in maternal and reproductive health, specifically through the Title X family planning program and efforts to fix our country's unacceptable maternal mortality crisis, while removing the Hyde and Weldon amendments that for too long have interfered with millions of peoples' ability to exercise their constitutional right to abortion.*

*"As I've always said, budgets are a statement of your values and priorities—and I believe the investments in this bill are investments in a stronger, fairer future for all our country's kids, workers, families and communities."*

### **Key Points & Highlights**

**Public Health and Preparedness:** As a nation, we were unprepared for the COVID-19 pandemic. Decades of underinvestment in public health infrastructure and erosion of the public health workforce contributed to the pandemic's heavy toll. To ensure we are prepared for the

next public health crisis, the bill makes a new, historic investment in rebuilding our Nation's public health infrastructure.

The bill includes \$9.73 billion for the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, an increase of \$1.85 billion over fiscal year 2021 and the largest increase in budget authority provided to the agency in nearly two decades. This increase includes \$600 million, \$200 million above the President's budget request, in new flexible funding for **public health infrastructure and capacity** for CDC to rebuild a robust and resilient public health infrastructure and for state and local governments to strengthen their infrastructure and capacity to be ready to respond to emerging public health threats.

The bill also increases funding for the **public health workforce** to \$106 million, consistent with the President's Budget request, a \$50 million increase over fiscal year 2021. This investment will help local health departments build back their depleted public health workforce, which lost 55,000 jobs – a quarter of the workforce – since 2009.

It also includes \$715 million, an increase of \$20 million over fiscal year 2021, for the **Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Program** to ensure state and local public health departments have the tools to quickly detect, monitor, and respond to emerging health threats and emergencies.

The bill includes nearly \$3 billion for the **Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)**, an increase of \$498 million over fiscal year 2021 and \$25 million above the President's budget request. These increases include \$905 million, an increase of \$200 million over fiscal year 2021, for the **Strategic National Stockpile**; \$823 million, an increase of \$226 million over fiscal year 2021 and consistent with the President's budget request, for the **Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)**; \$111 million, an increase of \$48 million over fiscal year 2021 and \$20 million over the President's budget request, for the **National Disaster Medical System**; and \$296 million, an increase of \$16 million over fiscal year 2021 and \$5 million over the President's budget request, for the **Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)**. The bill also includes \$335 million, an increase of \$48 million over fiscal year 2021, for **Pandemic Influenza** to improve the effectiveness of the flu vaccine and better respond to changes in flu strains.

**Health Care Equity:** Addressing disparities in health care remains one of our nation's central challenges. The bill supports efforts to expand access to and equity in health care through a number of investments, including by increasing funding for **Community Health Centers** to \$1.8 billion, an increase of \$110 million, to expand access to primary care in underserved areas of the country; expanding **Consumer Assistance, Outreach and Enrollment** through an increase of \$276 million for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that will improve the administration of Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and oversight of nursing homes, including additional resources to support consumer assistance programs in both the Federal and State-based health care exchanges to help consumers understand and access affordable health coverage options; providing an additional \$330 million across multiple NIH Institutes and Centers to expand efforts to identify and reduce health disparities; including \$150 million, an increase of \$30 million, for the **National Health Service Corps** to expand access to

opioid and substance use disorder treatment in rural and underserved areas nationwide and increased funding to help minority and economically disadvantaged students pursue healthcare careers; providing \$403 million to support the **Health Resources Services Administration's** rural health programs, an increase of \$73 million, for underserved rural communities to better address their health care needs and help small rural hospitals improve their financial and operational performance; and focusing on the social determinants of health through an investment of \$153 million, a \$150 million increase, to expand and improve health equity in all States and Territories.

**Women's Health and Maternal Mortality:** Each year, approximately 700 women in the United States die from conditions related to or associated with pregnancy or childbirth. To address the unacceptably high levels of maternal mortality, which disproportionately impact women of color, the bill proposes \$237 million to combat maternal mortality, an increase of \$170 million. This includes: \$30 million for NIH's new Implementing a Maternal Health and PRenancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone (IMPROVE) initiative to expand research to reduce preventable causes of maternal death and improve the health of pregnant and postpartum women; \$25 million for a new program to incentivize maternal health care providers to provide integral health care services to pregnant women and new mothers; \$43 million, an increase of \$26 million above fiscal year 2021 and consistent with the budget request, for CDC to expand support for State Maternal Mortality Review Committees; and \$55 million, an increase of \$32 million, for **State Maternal Health Innovation Grants** to expand grants for maternal care services, workforce needs, and postpartum and inter-conception care services.

The bill would also improve access to care by eliminating the discriminatory **Hyde Amendment**, the abortion coverage restriction, included in the bill since 1976, for those who depend on Medicaid and other government-sponsored plans.

The bill also includes \$500 million for the **Title X-Family Planning program**, a vital component of the health care safety net that is essential to addressing health inequities. This is an increase of \$214 million to expand preventive and primary healthcare services at clinics nationwide. The bill requires that all services offered are consistent with the best available evidence-based standards, including the Quality Family Planning guidelines from the CDC.

Finally, the bill provides \$136 million for the **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program**, an increase of \$29 million, to expand evidenced-based prevention approaches to prevent teen pregnancy and STIs among adolescents.

**Medical Research:** The bill provides \$47.9 billion for the National Institutes of Health, an increase of \$5 billion or twelve percent spread across every Institute and Center to advance science and speed the development of new therapies, diagnostics and preventive measures. With this investment, the bill will provide a 58 percent increase over the past seven years.

The bill includes \$2.4 billion for the **Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health**, the President's bold and promising proposal to accelerate the pace of breakthroughs in medicine. The Committee maintains its commitment to finding a treatment and a cure for **Alzheimer's disease**, increasing funding for research supported by the National Institute on Aging by \$235

million. Since fiscal year 2015, Congress has increased research funding for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias by more than 500 percent, making it the largest expenditure of its kind in NIH.

The bill increases support for the **Helping to End Addiction Long-term** or HEAL initiative by \$270 million and other research related to opioids, pain, and pain management by \$350 million. The bill provides \$640 million for the **BRAIN Initiative**, an increase of \$80 million, and \$550 million, an increase of \$25 million, to support National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases research on the mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance, therapeutics, vaccines and diagnostics. As the effects of climate change become increasingly unavoidable, the bill also includes \$100 million for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to support research on its impact on human health.

**Early Learning:** The bill makes major investments in high-quality child care and early education programs by including \$19.8 billion, an increase of \$2.8 billion over fiscal year 2021 levels. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the fragility of our child care system. The lack of available and affordable child care options meant that millions of Americans—especially women of color—were forced to take unpaid leave to care for their children. The ability of families to find child care is essential to working parents with young children and the economy.

The bill includes \$7.31 billion, an increase of \$1.4 billion, to support high-quality child care for working families through the **Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG)**. This investment in CCDBG will allow the program to serve over two million children in fiscal year 2022. The bill also includes \$11.9 billion, an increase of \$1.18 billion, to help all **Head Start** programs provide high-quality early childhood education for children and families beginning before birth through age five. Additionally, the bill includes \$450 million, an increase of \$175 million, for **Preschool Development Grants**. The additional funding will allow states to build capacity to offer preschool and early childhood education programs to children from the time they are born to the age of 5 from low to moderate income families.

The bill includes \$502.6 million, an increase of \$105 million, for **IDEA Preschool Grants** and \$731.9 million, an increase of \$250 million, for **IDEA Grants for Infants and Families**, to support the educational and developmental needs of children with disabilities ages 3-5 and birth to 2, respectively. The bill also provides \$110 million for the **Child Care Access Means Parents in School** program, an increase of \$55 million over the fiscal year 2021 level and \$15 million more than the budget request.

**Mental and Behavioral Health:** Over the past year, rates of anxiety and depression in adults have roughly tripled, with more than one in four adults in the United States reporting symptoms, up from one in ten in 2019. Additionally, more individuals turned to substances to cope with the stress of the pandemic. Drug overdose deaths are predicted to reach the highest level ever recorded last year, with provisional data from the CDC showing 93,300 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2020, a nearly 30 percent increase over 2019.

To address these issues, the bill includes \$9.1 billion for the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**, an increase of \$3.1 billion over fiscal year 2021.

These increases include more than doubling the **Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG)** to \$1.58 billion, an increase of \$825 million over fiscal year 2021, and includes a new set-aside for prevention and early intervention for mental health care; \$183.8 million, an increase of \$93.7 million for **suicide prevention programs** within SAMHSA, including funding to prepare for the launch of a three digit number for the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**; \$350 million for **Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHCs)**, an increase of \$100 million; more than \$3 billion for the **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant**, an increase of \$1.15 billion over fiscal year 2021, including a new set-aside for recovery services; and \$2 billion, an increase of \$500 million, for **State Opioid Response (SOR) Grants**.

**Maintaining our Humanitarian Commitments:** The bill includes \$6.0 billion for **Refugee and Entrant Assistance** activities, an increase of \$4.1 billion over the fiscal year 2021 level and \$1.6 billion more than the budget request. This includes \$1.1 billion for refugee **Transitional and Medical Services** and **Support Services** programs, an increase of \$494 million over the fiscal year 2021 level and the same as the budget request.

The bill includes \$4.9 billion for the **Unaccompanied Children** program, an increase of \$3.6 billion over the fiscal year 2021 enacted level, and \$1.6 billion more than the budget request. When combined with emergency funding provided in the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2022, this would provide a total fiscal year 2022 program level of \$7.4 billion. For years the UC program has operated on annual funding far less than the actual costs of the program. This bill would provide certainty in funding to allow HHS to invest in long-term solutions and improvements so that the UC program is more resilient and better-prepared for future challenges, and less likely to need to rely on emergency shelters.

In addition, within this amount, \$300 million is for legal services for children, of which \$200 million is specifically for expanding access to legal counsel to work toward the goal of all children having access to counsel during their immigration proceedings; and \$250 million is for post-release services to ensure children are placed in safe and appropriate environments and have access to the trauma-informed care they need after they have been released to their family or sponsor.

**Ending the HIV Epidemic:** An estimated 38,000 Americans are newly diagnosed with HIV every year and, since 1981, more than 700,000 Americans have lost their lives to the disease. The Ending the AIDS Epidemic Initiative (EHE) is an HHS-wide effort to reduce new infections by 75 percent in the first five years of the initiative and by 90 percent over a 10-year period, with the goal of decreasing the number of new HIV infections to fewer than 3,000 per year.

The bill includes \$643 million for EHE, an increase of \$245 million, with resources to focus on high-risk areas by expanding HIV outreach, diagnoses, treatment, prevention, research, and response activities. This includes \$152 million, an increase of \$50 million, to support Community Health Centers in high-need jurisdictions increase prevention and treatment services for people at high risk for HIV transmission, including Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)-related services; \$190 million for the **Ryan White Program**, an increase of \$85 million, to support HIV treatment services and evidence informed practices to link, engage, and retain HIV-positive individuals in care; \$275 million, an increase of \$100 million, for CDC activities to leverage

HIV prevention infrastructure to conduct strategic testing linked to immediate treatment and engagement with the clinical care system; and \$71 million, an increase of \$10 million, for NIH Centers for AIDS Research for dissemination of best practices based on state-of-the-art biomedical research findings.

**Elementary and Secondary Education:** The bill includes historic investments intended to increase access to a high-quality elementary and secondary education for all students. This starts with the foundation of federal assistance for elementary and secondary education, **Title I-A Grants to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)**, where the bill includes \$33.1 billion, an increase of \$16.6 billion more than last year. Title I-A grants provide additional support to schools with a significant number of students living in poverty to help address disparities in educational opportunities and outcomes, particularly for students of color who represent more than half of roughly 25 million students attending Title I-A schools. The bill's investment would be the largest increase in the program's history and could allow grants to be made to approximately 11,000 public schools eligible for assistance under the Title I-A grant program that did not receive such funding previously, as well as increase the size of grants to the approximately 60,000 public schools, or roughly 60 percent of all public schools nationwide, that do receive funding.

The bill includes \$15.5 billion, an increase of \$2.6 billion more than last year, for the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B State Grants** program. These funds would support services to an estimated 7.6 million students with disabilities. If enacted, it would raise the federal contribution by two percentage points to 15 percent of average per pupil expenditures, the largest increase in two decades. State and local taxpayers must cover the shortfall when the federal investment fails to meet the promised 40 percent federal share of average per pupil expenditures.

The bill also includes \$917.4 million, an increase of \$120 million more than fiscal year 2021, for the **English Language Acquisition** program. Roughly 10 percent or 5 million public school students were English Language Learners in 2018. The bill includes \$1.6 billion, an increase of \$64.7 million more than fiscal year 2021 and \$24.7 million more than the budget request, for **Impact Aid**, which helps make up for lost local revenue because of the presence of Federal activities and federally owned land that would otherwise be available to support more than 1,000 local school districts.

Finally, the bill includes \$400 million, an increase of \$370 million more than fiscal year 2021, for **Full Service Community Schools**. This investment will support the planning, implementation, and operation of full-service community schools that improve the integration, accessibility, and effectiveness of academic, social, and health services for children and families, particularly for children attending high-poverty schools, including high-poverty rural schools.

**Ensure Workers' Health, Safety, and Rights Are Protected:** The bill provides \$278.7 million, an increase of \$32.7 million more than last year's bill, to the **Wage and Hour Division (WHD)** to administer and enforce laws covering more than 148 million workers. These laws include the federal minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and child labor requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act. WHD recovers an average of \$1,120 in back wages for each employee as

a result of its investigations into employer wage theft and illegal compensation practices, so additional resources will mean more workers will be able to keep the pay they've earned and access the rights afforded to them under the nation's labor laws.

The bill includes \$665.9 million, an increase of \$74.1 million, for **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**, which is responsible for enforcing the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 in the Nation's workplaces. The increased investment will strengthen OSHA's capacity to ensure employers provide safe and healthful workplaces, including those created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill includes an increase of \$20 million for approximately 200 additional staff for OSHA's enforcement program. The bill also includes \$28.5 million, an increase of \$10.1 million, to implement a strong regulatory agenda, including standards on infectious diseases, workplace violence prevention, and heat stress.

The bill includes \$135.7 million, an increase of \$30 million more than last year, to rebuild the lost capacity of the **Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)**, which has experienced a 40 percent reduction in its staffing level compared to a decade ago. OFCCP administers and enforces three equal employment opportunity laws that make it unlawful for contractors and subcontractors doing business with the federal government to discriminate in employment because of race, color, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), national origin, disability, or status as a protected veteran.

The bill provides \$222.5 million, an increase of \$41.5 million more than fiscal year 2021, to the **Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA)**. This includes \$27 million to restore enforcement capacity lost in the past five years when EBSA investigative staff decreased by 22 percent. EBSA is responsible for protecting more than 154 million workers, retirees and their families who are covered by approximately 722,000 private retirement plans, 2.5 million health plans, and 885,000 other welfare benefit plans.

The bill includes \$402.2 million, an increase of \$22.4 million more than fiscal year 2021, for the **Mine Safety and Health Administration**.

The bill provides \$125.8 million, an increase of \$30 million more than last year, for the **Bureau of International Labor Affairs** to ensure workers and businesses in the United States are not put at a competitive disadvantage by trading partner countries failing to abide by labor provisions of trade agreements and trade preference programs.

### **Other Highlights**

#### **Department of Labor**

The bill includes \$13.8 billion in base discretionary funding for the Department of Labor, an increase of \$1.3 billion over the fiscal year 2021 level, and \$417 million less than the budget request.

**Workforce Training and Development:** The bill includes \$2.9 billion for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State grants, an increase of \$93 million, and \$685 million for Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service State Grants, an increase of \$15 million. It also

provides \$245 million, an increase of \$60 million, for Registered Apprenticeships; \$120 million, an increase of \$24 million, for Youth Build, and \$25 million for a new National Youth Employment Program; and \$125 million, an increase of \$25 million, for Reentry Employment Opportunities.

**State Unemployment Insurance Operations:** The bill includes \$2.8 billion, an increase of \$459 million for grants to states for the administration of Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs; and, in addition, a \$50 million increase to support the development of information technology solutions that can be deployed in states to ensure timely and equitable access to UI benefits.

**Office of Disability Employment Policy:** The bill provides \$42.7 million, an increase of \$4.2 million, to further the objective of eliminating physical and programmatic barriers to the training, labor force participation and employment of people with disabilities, including the transition to competitive, integrated employment for youth and adults with disabilities.

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

The bill includes \$117.6 billion in base discretionary funding for the Department of Health and Human Services, an increase of \$20.9 billion over the fiscal year 2021 level and \$1.8 billion less than the budget request.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** The bill includes \$9.7 billion for the CDC, an increase of \$1.85 billion over fiscal year 2021 and the largest increase in budget authority provided to the agency in nearly two decades. Additional increases not mentioned above include \$713 million for the Section 317 Immunization Program, a \$100 million increase; \$663 million for Opioid Overdose Prevention and Surveillance, a \$188 million increase; \$247.5 million for the Office of Smoking and Health, a \$10 million increase; \$226 million for Influenza Planning and Response, a \$25 million increase; \$192 million for the Antibiotic Resistance Initiative, a \$20 million increase; \$150 million for the Public Health Data Modernization Initiative, a \$100 million increase; \$115 million for Community and Youth Violence Prevention; a \$100 million increase; \$110 million for the Climate and Health Program, a \$100 million increase; \$103 million for Safe Motherhood and Infant Health, a \$40 million increase; \$102 million for Rape Prevention, a \$50 million increase; and other increases.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA):** The bill provides \$9.1 billion for SAMHSA, an increase of \$3.1 billion over fiscal year 2021. Additional increases not mentioned above include: \$180.5 million for **Project AWARE**, a \$73.5 million increase, which includes \$25 million to support school and community-based trauma and mental health services; \$10 million for a new **Behavioral Health Coordinating Office**, to establish a national crisis care system; \$162.1 million, an increase of \$66.8 million for **Criminal and Juvenile Justice Programs** to address the unmet mental and behavioral health needs of incarcerated individuals; \$65.5 million, an increase of \$23.5 million for **First Responder Training**, for the prevention of drug overdose deaths; as well as other increases.

**Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA):** The bill includes \$9.2 billion for HRSA, an increase of \$1.7 billion above fiscal year 2021 and \$1 billion above the President's budget request. This includes increases for dozens of programs that expand access to high quality



health care, train health care providers, support maternal and child health care, and provide HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) Program Management:** The bill includes \$4.3 billion, an increase of \$276 million, to improve the administration of Medicare, Medicaid, and the ACA.

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ):** The bill includes \$380 million, an increase of \$42 million more than the fiscal year 2021.

**Administration for Children and Families (ACF):** The bill includes \$32.3 billion in discretionary funding for ACF, an increase of \$7.6 billion over the fiscal year 2021 enacted level. Some of these increases include: \$3.9 billion for the **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**, an increase of \$175 million; \$453 million for the **Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA)**, an increase of \$271 million; \$23 million, an increase of \$10 million, for the **Domestic Violence Hotline**; increases in programs to prevent child abuse and promote child welfare, including \$125 million, an increase of \$35 million for **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act state grants**, \$85 million, an increase of \$24 million for **Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)**, and \$121 million, an increase of \$102 million for **Child Welfare Training**, which includes a new grant program to prevent disparities in the child welfare system; and \$800 million for the **Community Services Block Grant** program, a \$24.7 million increase over fiscal year 2021.

**Administration on Community Living:** The bill provides \$2.8 billion, an increase of \$570 million, to expand support for older Americans and Individuals with Disabilities. This includes \$576 million for **home delivered meals**, an increase of \$300 million, and \$500 million for home and community based supportive services, an increase of \$107 million. It also includes approximately \$14 million for the **Lifespan Respite program**, an increase of \$7 million.

### **Department of Education**

The bill includes \$98.4 billion in base discretionary funding for the Department of Education, an increase of \$24.9 billion over the fiscal year 2021 level and \$4.4 billion less than the budget request.

**Pell Grants:** The bill increases the discretionary portion of the maximum Pell grant award by \$400, the same as the budget request. This is the largest increase provided by the Committee since fiscal year 2009, and when combined with mandatory funding under current law would increase the maximum Pell grant award to \$6,895 for the 2022-23 school year.

**Federal TRIO programs:** The bill includes \$1.3 billion, an increase of \$186 million over the fiscal year 2021 level, which will support an increase for each TRIO program, including funding down the slate of high-quality applications from previous competitions.

**Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority Serving Institutions:** The bill includes \$1.1 billion, an increase of \$295 million over fiscal year 2021.

**Campus-Based Student Aid Programs:** The bill includes \$905 million, \$25 million more than the fiscal year 2021 level and the budget request for Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants; and \$1.23 billion, \$40 million more than the fiscal year 2021 level and the budget request for Federal Work Study.

**School-Based Health Professionals:** The bill includes \$820 million, an increase of \$800 million more than fiscal year 2021, within the Safe Schools National Activities Program to increase the number of qualified, well-trained mental health professionals in schools, including school counselors, social workers, psychologists, or other mental health professionals, which could also support school nurses.

**Improved Assessments:** The bill \$58.8 million, an increase of \$50 million more than fiscal year 2021 and the budget request, for competitive grants to State Education Agencies (SEAs) or consortia of SEAs to carry out activities designed to improve the quality validity, and reliability of State academic assessments.

**Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants:** The bill includes \$1.32 billion, an increase of \$100 million more than fiscal year 2021 and the budget request, for formula grants to states for subgrants to school districts for support of a wide-range of activities focused on promoting well-rounded education, safe schools and learning environments, and access to education technology.

**Magnet Schools:** The bill includes \$179 million, an increase of \$70 million more than fiscal year 2021 and \$30 million more than the budget request, for the Magnet Schools Assistance program. This program supports grants to school districts to establish and operate magnet schools that are part of a court-ordered or federally approved voluntary desegregation plan. At this level, the Department Education would be able to make approximately 50 new awards for the creation and expansion of magnet school programs.

**Rural Education:** The bill provides \$200 million, an increase of \$12 million more than fiscal year 2021 and \$7 million more than the budget request, in additional resources for rural school districts and schools that may be used for a range of uses to help them overcome unique resource and capacity issues.

**Education for Homeless Children and Youth:** The bill invests \$146.5 million, an increase of \$40 million more than fiscal year 2021 and the budget request, for assistance to each State to support an office of the coordinator of education for homeless children and youth to develop and implement State plans for educating students experiencing homelessness, and to make subgrants to Local Education Agencies to support the education of those children. The number of identified, enrolled students reported as experiencing homelessness was nearly 1.4 million students in academic year 2018-19, significantly increased from 1.1 million students in 2010-11.

**Education Research:** The bill provides \$267.9 million, an increase of \$70 million more than the fiscal year 2021 bill, for education research, development, evaluation, and national dissemination activities.

**Office for Civil Rights (OCR):** The bill provides \$144 million, an increase of \$13 million more than fiscal year 2021, to the OCR. OCR is responsible for the enforcement of laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, and age in all programs and institutions that receive financial assistance from the Department of Education. Additional funds would support an increased staffing level needed to help OCR effectively fulfill its mission.

### **Related Agencies**

**Social Security Administration:** The bill includes \$13.9 billion, an increase of more than \$1 billion over the fiscal year 2021 level, for SSA's administrative expenses.

**Corporation for National and Community Service:** The bill provides \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$64 million over the fiscal year 2021 level, for national and community service programs.

**National Labor Relations Board (NLRB):** The Committee recommendation includes \$301.9, an increase of \$27.7 million over fiscal year 2021.

**Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS):** The bill includes \$282 million, an increase of \$25 million.

**Corporation for Public Broadcasting:** The bill provides advance funding for fiscal year 2024 of \$565 million, an increase of \$90 million more than the amount for fiscal year 2023, and \$20 million for fiscal year 2022 for the public broadcasting interconnection system, which will support investments in system-wide infrastructure and services that benefit the American people.

### **Eliminates Controversial Legacy Policy Riders**

The bill eliminates the discriminatory **Hyde Amendment** the abortion coverage restriction, included in the bill since 1976, for those who depend on Medicaid and other government-sponsored plans. It drops the Weldon Amendment as well.

The bill eliminates the **Needle Exchange Amendment** which prohibited federal funding from being used to support syringe service programs.

The bill drops the prohibition on using funding to develop a **unique patient health identifier** for each individual's health information. The long-standing ban has been a barrier for health institutions to reliably share information about patients, and during COVID-19, for public health entities to effectively trace contacts and track immunizations.

The bill eliminates the prohibition of using HRSA funds to support **alternative dental providers**. Dental therapists are licensed providers who play a similar role in dentistry to that of physician assistants in medicine.

The bill also removes the prohibition on NLRB allowing unions to use **electronic voting** in representation elections. The LHHS bill has carried this rider since 2012. The House bill again includes \$1 million for the NLRB to develop and implement a system of electronic voting.

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