

# Proposed House & Senate Spending Levels for Fiscal Year 2024: FDA & Agriculture Programs



## A Quick Primer on the Appropriations Process

(Or How the Country Decides on a Budget Each Year)

The president submits a budget to Congress for the federal government every fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) Congress must pass 12 appropriations bills or pass a continuing resolution before the October 1st deadline to fund the government for the following year. Right now, the U.S. House and Senate have very different ideas about what funding for FDA & Agriculture programs should look like – and millions of women and children could be harmed if the House budget prevails.

### Proposed House Bill Summary

The House Bill for FY 2024 provides \$17.5 billion in funding- a **\$9 billion cut** from FY 2023 and the lowest funding level since 2007. Specifically...

#### The House bill slashes WIC funding by \$800 million.

- The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities estimates that up to **750k eligible people- primarily toddlers, preschoolers, and postpartum adults - would be turned away** from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) if this bill prevails.
- Another **4.6 Million** beneficiaries would have their benefits severely cut.
- The proposed bill would also **reduce access to fruits and vegetables** for WIC beneficiaries.

#### The House bill decreases mandatory funding for SNAP by \$32 Million.

- **Women and children especially rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**
- Women are 63% more likely to rely on SNAP benefits.
- One third (**33%**) of all SNAP recipients are **aging women of color**.

### Proposed Senate Bill Summary

The Senate Bill for FY 2024 provides \$25.993 billion in funding and **includes increases for key food, drug, and nutrition initiatives**. Specifically...

#### The Senate bill increases WIC funding by \$615 million.

- **This is good news, but it is not enough.** Even with this increase, up to 800k eligible postpartum people and young children will be turned away from WIC.
- However, **those currently enrolled in WIC will receive their full benefits and do not have to fear severe cuts**
- WIC contributes to **food security, healthier births, nutritious diets, and academic achievement**. WIC needs an additional **\$7.3 million** in funding to meet the current needs of the population.

#### The Senate bill increases FDA funding by \$20 million.

- \$7 million of this would go to **increasing safety and oversight of cosmetics** for the first time ever.
- **This is a huge victory for women's health**, because toxic cosmetics in products like hair straighteners have been proven to cause cancer and fibroids.