Proposed House & Senate Spending Levels for Fiscal Year 2024: Labor, Health, & Human Services 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 Labor, Health, & Human Services programs should look like. If the House budget prevails, federally funded family planning, HIV prevention, teen pregnancy prevention, and women's health research are all in jeopardy.

Proposed House Bill Summary

The House Bill for FY 2024 provides \$163 billion in funding- a **\$63.8 billion cut** from FY 2023 Specifically...

The House bill cuts NIH funding by \$3.8 billion.

- This includes a \$573 million cut to the National Institute of Health (NIH)'s Office of the Director, which includes the Office of Research on Women's Health.
- Women's health is already grossly underfunded; in 2020, just 10% of the NIH budget went to diseases and illnesses that disproportionately affect women.
- Losing the Office of Research on Women's Health means losing valuable research on cervical cancer, maternal mortality, heart health, and more.

The House bill cuts CDC funding by \$1.6 billion.

- The bill completely eliminates funding for the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) programs:
 - The Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative, which aims to eradicate HIV in the U.S. by 2023.
 - The only federally funded family planning program, Title X, which serves 4 million people per year.
 - The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, which educates 130K youth per year on preventing unwanted pregnancy.

Proposed Senate Bill Summary

The Senate Bill for FY 2024 provides \$130.5 billion in funding and includes increases for key research, discretionary funding, and maternal health initiatives. Specifically...

The Senate bill increases NIH funding by \$943 million.

- This includes a \$100 million increase for mental health research, a \$100 million increase for Alzheimer's research and a \$60 million increase for cancer research.
- The bill also provides \$1.2 billion for core Maternal and Child Health programs. These programs focus on improving health before, during, and after pregnancy, improving the wellbeing of children and families, and reducing infant death.

The Senate bill increases \$13.5 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Labor.

- This influx of funding could be used to strengthen education and compliance around employee health benefits.
- 159 million people are currently covered by employer-sponsored health insurance.