



Monday, October 18, 2021

I. Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee FY 2022 bill

- **Bill text, summary, explanatory statement, and CEF's updated funding table** – This afternoon, Senate Appropriations Committee chair Patrick Leahy (D-VT) released the nine remaining fiscal year (FY) 2022 appropriations bills, including the Labor-HHS-Education bill. The Committee is unlikely to mark up any of these bills before they are negotiated with the House versions. Links to materials follow.
 - [Bill text](#)
 - [Committee summary \(press release\)](#)
 - [Explanatory statement](#) – This is normally called the Committee Report, but since the Committee did not act, it is being released as the Explanatory Statement. It's a very useful document that explains the rationale and intent behind the funding levels. The table showing programmatic funding levels for all Department of Education programs is on pages 361-370.
 - **CEF's funding table (attached)** – The updated funding table shows funding levels for FYs 2018 through 2021, and for FY 2022 it shows the President's request, the House-passed level, and the funding in the bill released by the Senate Appropriations Committee today, with comparisons between the Senate and the FY 2021 level. Programs with proposed increases are shown in blue, cuts are in red, and programs with funding frozen at the current FY 2021 level are shown in black ink. As you can see, almost every program gets a funding boost over the FY 2021 level.
- **Overall summary: a big education increase but smaller than the President requested or in the House-passed bill** – The Senate appropriations bills have the same discretionary total as the President requested and as in the House bills but provide more for defense than either of those entities because they match the allocation in the bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act. By providing a 5% increase for defense rather than the 2% requested by the President, that leaves a 13% increase for non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs, which is smaller than the 16% increase in the House bills. The Labor-HHS-Education bill provides a 35% increase over the comparable level of funding for the Department of Education for FY 2021 – what would be a historic increase except that it is less than the 41% increase in the President's budget and the House-passed appropriations bill. Today's bill provides \$4.4 billion less than those two budgets, with most of the difference

coming out of the size of the increase for Title I: an increase of \$16.6 billion (100%), which is \$3 billion less than the House and President's levels. It also does not include the \$1 billion increase for mental health grants that is in the other two budgets. The only program cut below the FY 2021 level is for the Education Department's program administration (i.e., salaries), which is cut by \$10 million (2.3%). Early education programs in the Department of Health and Human Services get big increases that are slightly smaller than in the House bill, and library and museum programs also get similar increases.

- **Areas where the Senate draft is higher than the President or House-passed bill** -- Despite the lower overall total, there are a few programs that receive more funding than the other two proposals, including:
 - **School safety national activities** - up \$810 million over 2021; the House and President's budget put money into other mental health grant programs;
 - **Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Forgiveness** – funded at the FY 2021 level of \$50 million, which is \$25 million more than the other two budgets;
 - **congressionally directed spending (aka, earmarks) in the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education** - \$72 million more than the House-passed level;
 - **Magnet Schools Assistance** – increased by \$62 million over the FY 2021 level of \$109 million, which is \$30 million more than the other two FY 2022 budgets; and
 - **Institute of Education Statistics** - \$52 million above the House level, with a new line-item for program administration.