



Congress Approves Fiscal Year 2020 Omnibus Appropriations Bills, Sends Funding Legislation to President

On Dec. 19, the Senate approved all 12 appropriations bills for fiscal year 2020 (FY20) in two omnibus legislative packages. The House had previously approved the funding legislation on Dec. 17. The final FY20 appropriations legislation now heads to President Trump for his signature into law. The President is expected to approve the bills before Dec. 23, when government funding would otherwise effectively run out. The text of the omnibus package that includes the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS) bill can be found [here](#) and report language for the Labor-HHS bill can be found [here](#).

\$10M Increase for Title V in the FY20 Labor-HHS

Total funding for the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant included in the FY20 Labor-HHS bill is \$687,700,000, which represents a \$10 million increase over fiscal year 2019 levels. From our initial reading, the \$10 million increase is allocated as follows:

- \$2 million - Alliance on Innovation for Maternal Health (AIM) for a total of \$5 million
- \$7 million - Infant Toddler Courts for a total of \$10 million (note that funding for this program was transferred to Title V Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) last fiscal year)
- \$523,000 – SPRANS set-aside for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- \$477,000 – For state formula grants

Other Key Maternal and Child Health Highlights in the FY20 Labor-HHS Bill

A few noteworthy policy and funding provisions included in the FY20 appropriations package include the following:

- \$50 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to **modernize public health data systems**.
- \$25 million split evenly between CDC and the National Institutes of Health to **study firearm injury and mortality prevention**. (Note that this represents the first time in more than 20 years that the federal government has funded gun violence prevention research.)

- **Raises the age to purchase tobacco to 21 years old** across the nation, to take effect within roughly 9 months of enacting the bill.
- Extends funding for five months (through May 22, 2020) for several health programs whose authorization is set to expire on Dec. 20. These programs include the personal responsibility education program (PREP), community health centers, national health service corps, teaching health centers, and federal diabetes programs.

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