

President Obama Releases Budget for Fiscal Year 2011

President Obama released his budget for Fiscal Year 2011 (FY2011) this past Monday, February 1, 2010. It is now up to Congress to review this request, hold hearings with department and agency leadership and public witnesses, and then write and pass their own budget resolution, typically by mid-April. The Appropriations Committees in both the House and the Senate will then work to pass all 12 appropriations bills by early summer. Below is a short summary of a few of the budget provisions important to ASPH and its priorities.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

The Department of Health and Human services received a \$51 billion increase, to \$911 billion. This includes an increase of \$2.3 billion for discretionary programs such as \$1 billion for biomedical research; \$372 million for food safety surveillance, enforcement and prevention services at the FDA and CDC and \$290 million for community health center services

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality saw an increase of \$214 million, to \$611 million.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Although the overall CDC FY 2011 budget request shows a \$100 million increase, the funding for CDC's core programs actually received a \$132 million cut. The majority of CDC's programs were either cut or level funded, including several environmental health programs, health promotion programs, cancer prevention and control, injury prevention and control programs and the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant. However, one gain was the proposal to create a new Health Prevention Corps to provide support for state and local health departments.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

The FDA budget includes \$421 million to support the new Center for Tobacco Products. The proposed Center is an effort to ramp up the public health effort to regulate tobacco products.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

HRSA saw a \$28 million increase, to \$7.6 billion. This includes \$2.5 billion to expand service capacity in community health centers and \$995 million for health care workforce and diversity programs.

National Institutes of Health

The National Institutes of Health saw a \$1 billion increase, to \$32.3 billion. Funding for discretionary nutrition programs, including school breakfasts, would rise by \$400 million to \$8.1 billion.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture saw an overall decrease of \$1.1 billion, to \$23.9 billion in discretionary spending for the Agriculture Department. However, as part of the President's pledge to end child hunger by 2015, budget includes a \$400 million increase, to \$8.1 billion, for

discretionary nutrition programs, including Women, Infants and Children; National School Lunch; and school breakfast.

U.S Department of State

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) saw an increase of just under \$2 million, this is less than the funding authorized by the Lantos-Hyde PEPFAR Reauthorization. Global Health and Child Survival programs under the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) received a 24% increase over FY2010 appropriation to \$3.013 billion. This includes a \$16 million increase for global health initiatives.

Additional important public health provisions include:

- A major increase in support for public health emergency preparedness, including a \$136 million increase to \$476 million (from \$341 million) for Office of the Biomedical Advance Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to support the next generation of medical countermeasures;
- \$4 million to support Safe Routes to School Programs to encourage healthy community design;
- \$50 million for a new Healthy Food Financing Initiative to bring grocery stores and other healthy food retailers to underserved communities, and;
- \$17 million boost for the Section 317 child immunization program.