



Hot off the Press:

Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriation Movement: The Senate Appropriations Committee released its twelve spending bills on November 10. None of the bills have been considered by the Committee or the full Senate, but they do provide some insight into the range of funding and policy differences between the House-passed bills and what the Senate is thinking. The bills represent the Senate Republican viewpoint, but in many instances they have worked with the Democrats during drafting. As usual there are policy riders related to such issues as family planning grants and the border wall that must be resolved.

Interestingly, Senate Republicans provided more funds for the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies bill than provided by the House Democrats' bill before they included an addition of \$24.4 billion in pandemic-related emergency spending. Negotiations between the House and the Senate on all these bills is ongoing with a goal of completion before the Continuing Resolution expires on December 11. Whether President Trump will be interested in signing a funding agreement or would prefer another CR remains unknown.

With regard to some of the **programs that support individuals with disabilities**, most of those administered by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), were funded at the previous year's level. However, the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research received \$114,470,000 [NIDILRR], including an increase of \$2.5 million for the ADA National Network Centers. The bill also includes an increase of \$15 million for assistive technology and an increase of \$125 million (under the Department of Education) for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grants to states.

- The [Senate FY 2021 appropriations bills](#) are available.
- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, 2021
 - [Bill Text](#)
 - [Explanatory Statement](#)
 - [Highlights](#)

COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Funding Legislation: With Majority Leader Mitch McConnell now agreeing that a bill is needed before the end of the year, there is slightly more likelihood that they will come to a compromise. But his notion of pandemic relief

seems to remain quite different (much less money) from that of Speaker Pelosi and Secretary of the Treasury Mnuchin.

On the Regulatory Front

House Democrats Attack Administration's plan to finalize a rule that will make it more difficult for eligible Americans to receive their Social Security benefits:

<https://waysandmeans.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/neal-larson-and-davis-slam-harmful-trump-administration-social-security>

SSA Blog on Submitting Disability Update Reports: https://blog.ssa.gov/new-option-for-submitting-your-disability-update-report/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

CCD Submits Comments on Proposed Transfer of Ticket to Work Program -

Co-chairs of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Employment and Training and Social Security Task Forces wrote in response to the Department of Labor (DOL) Request for Information.

http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/Ticket-RFI-Comments_11-13-20_FINAL.pdf

Disability Scoop - Education Department Addresses Special Ed Concerns Related to COVID-19:

<https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2020/11/02/education-department-addresses-special-ed-concerns-related-to-covid-19/29059/>

A Deeper Look (Articles of Interest)

From our colleagues at the CMA - Views on the Supreme Court hearing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) case on November 10: [https://medicareadvocacy.org/supreme-court-hears-case-challenging-affordable-care-act/?emci=cf130ab1-1d25-](https://medicareadvocacy.org/supreme-court-hears-case-challenging-affordable-care-act/?emci=cf130ab1-1d25-eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&emdi=fcbc8e73-3725-eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&ceid=2346462)

[eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&emdi=fcbc8e73-3725-eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&ceid=2346462](https://medicareadvocacy.org/supreme-court-hears-case-challenging-affordable-care-act/?emci=cf130ab1-1d25-eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&emdi=fcbc8e73-3725-eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&ceid=2346462)

Public Charge Rule Struck Down then Ruling Stayed (from Healthsperien and Justice in Aging):

A federal judge in the Northern District of Illinois issued a decision vacating the Trump Administration's public charge rule, declaring that it must be vacated nationwide. The rule, finalized in August, expands federal immigration authorities' ability to deny green cards or visas to legal immigrants based on their potential use of governmental benefits.

<https://www.bloomberglaw.com/public/desktop/document/CookCountyIllinoisetalvWolfetalDocketNo119cv06334NDIllSep232019Co/1?1604423676>

Later that week (November 4), the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals stayed the decision pending its appeal, meaning that the DHS public charge rule can now be implemented while litigation continues.

ACL Awards Contract for Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center:

“The Administration for Community Living’s (ACL) Administration on Disabilities (AoD) is pleased to announce funding of a new Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center that will provide AoD grantees with the tools and resources they need to more effectively help individuals with disabilities achieve meaningful employment with competitive wages in integrated settings.”

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USACL/bulletins/2a8fbdd>

From Families USA:

- CBPP has analysis on how Medicaid expansion has helped narrow racial disparities in health coverage and access – [read their report here.](#)
- They also have a report analyzing how expanding Medicaid would improve coverage for parents and children – [find the full piece here.](#)
- Kaiser Family Foundation has a new resource that looks at the landscape of Medicaid demonstration waivers ahead of today’s election – [read full report here.](#)

Take good care, Brian

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