

Appropriations Update-September 10, 2009

University of Minnesota Federal Relations Report Supplement

Senate Appropriations Committee Approves Fy10 Labor-HHS-Education Funding Bill (From AAU, July 31, 2009)

The Senate Appropriations Committee on July 30 approved the FY10 Labor-HHS-Education funding bill with \$163.1 billion in discretionary spending, which is \$2.4 billion more than the companion measure approved by the House on July 24 (H.R. 3293).

National Institutes of Health. The bill includes \$30.8 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which is the same as the Administration's FY10 request, \$442 million above FY09 funding, and \$500 million below the House-passed level. (This funding does not include the \$10.4 billion appropriated to NIH through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act).

The Committee report notes that proposed funding for NIH "falls below the amount needed to keep up with biomedical inflation," but adds that the "record-high" increase provided by ARRA "greatly mitigates the need for more funding than the administration has requested in fiscal year 2010."

As with the House committee, the Senate report rejects the Administration's proposal to "earmark" increases for cancer and autism research as a "dangerous precedent." The report adds, "The Committee has long subscribed to the view that funding levels for individual diseases should be determined without political interference....In the long run, no one's interest would be served if Members of Congress with no professional expertise in medical research were asked to make funding decisions about hundreds of diseases and health conditions."

Student Aid: The bill provides \$19.3 billion for student financial aid. As with the House bill, the measure would maintain the maximum discretionary Pell Grant award at \$4,860, which, when combined with mandatory spending of \$690 approved through the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, would raise the maximum award to \$5,550 for the 2010-2011 school year. This is an increase of \$200 over the FY09 maximum award.

Also like the House bill, the measure does not include language (as expected) proposed by the Administration that assumes the Pell Grant will become an appropriated entitlement, as this proposal is currently being considered by the authorizing committees.

Perkins Loans: The bill provides no funding for the Perkins Program, noting that the Administration has proposed to restructure the program as a mandatory credit program. The House bill continues discretionary funding for Perkins, pending congressional review of the Administration's legislative proposal, but provides only \$49.7 million for loan cancellations, a reduction of \$18 million from FY09.

Work-Study, SEOG, and LEAP: As with the House bill, the Senate measure level funds these programs at FY09 levels (\$980.5 million, \$757.5 billion, and \$63.9 million, respectively). Unlike the House bill, which would add \$20 million each to the TRIO and GEAR UP programs, the Senate bill would level fund the two programs at \$848.1 million and \$313.2 million, respectively.

Javits and GAANN: As with the House bill, the Senate measure would level fund the Javits and GAANN graduate education programs at \$9.7 million and \$31 million, respectively.

Student Aid Administration: The House and Senate bills provide an additional \$117 million for a total of \$870.4 million, presumably to handle increased student loan activities.

International Education Programs: The bill provides \$118.9 million for Title VI international education programs and Fulbright Hays, which is \$10 million less than the Administration's request and the House-approved level.

Senate Approves FY 2010 Energy And Water Appropriations Bill (From AAU, July 31, 2009)

The Senate on July 29 approved its version of the FY10 Energy and Water funding bill (S. 1436) by a vote of 85 to 9.

The bill provides \$27.4 billion for the Department of Energy, which is \$519 million more than the House-approved level of \$26.9 billion, \$605 million above FY09 funding, but about \$1 billion less than the Administration's FY10 request of \$28.4 billion.

DOE Office of Science. The Senate bill would fund the DOE Office of Science at \$4.9 billion, which is \$45 million below the House-approved level and \$43 million below the Administration's FY10 request of \$4.94 billion. (The Office of Science also received \$1.6 billion in Recovery Act funds, to be spent over FY09 and FY10.) The Senate bill includes about \$41 million in congressional directed projects; the House bill includes about \$38 million. These projects would reduce the amount of money available to support the funding requested by the President.

The Senate-passed bill funds Basic Energy Sciences at \$1.65 billion, which is \$25 million less than the House level and about \$35 million below the request. Advanced Scientific Computing would receive \$399 million, which is \$10 million below the House level and the request. Nuclear Physics would receive \$540 million, or \$4 million above the House level and \$12 million below the request; High Energy Physics would receive \$813 million, \$6 million below both the House level and the Administration request; Biological and Environmental Research would receive \$604 million, the same as the Administration request and \$7 million above the House level; and Fusion Energy

Sciences would be funded at \$416 million, \$5 million below the request and \$25 million below the House level.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. The Senate bill would provide \$2.248 billion, which is \$70 million below the request, about \$2 million below House funding, and \$319 million above the FY09 level.

Innovation Hubs. The Department has requested \$280 million to initiate eight Energy Innovation Hubs. The Senate bill supports three hubs: Fuels from Sunlight (within the Office of Science), Energy Efficient Building Systems (within in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), and Modeling and Simulation (within Nuclear Energy). The committee report says that the Fuels from Sunlight and Energy Efficient Building Systems hubs should each receive \$22 million, but only if the Department of Energy is able to free up the funding by supporting with Recovery Act funds an infrastructure/roads project associated with the planned expansion of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. It is unclear from the committee report how much funding is being provided for the Modeling and Simulation hub.

The House bill provides just \$35 million for the centers within the Office of Science Basic Energy Science program, citing redundancy of the program with other DOE initiatives and a lack of implementation details.

RE-ENERGYSE. DOE has requested \$115 million in FY10 for a new clean energy education initiative called, REgaining our ENERGY Science and Engineering Edge (RE-ENERGYSE). The Senate bill provides no funding for RE-ENERGYSE.

The House Committee report notes that the panel supports the desired results of the proposed RE-ENERGYSE program but believes the Administration's justification for it lacks sufficient details. The Committee also expresses concern that the program might duplicate existing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education programs at DOE and other federal agencies. The Committee bill does not fund the program, but it provides \$7.5 million for DOE to conduct a study to better define future energy education and workforce needs and to understand gaps in existing federal STEM education efforts that should be filled appropriately by DOE.

As proposed by the Administration, the RE-ENERGYSE program would provide \$80 million for higher education programs, including support for new experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate students as well as three-year fellowships for doctoral students and one-year postdoctoral opportunities in energy-related fields. The program also would grant competitive awards to universities to develop and offer a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Energy Studies, focused on clean energy.

The remaining \$35 million in the program would support technical training and K-12 education. This includes support for community colleges to train technicians and faculty in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, and for activities

aimed at engaging K-12 students and their teachers in such activities as reducing energy use at their schools and moving toward a zero-carbon footprint.

Neither bill would provide FY10 funding for the new Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), for which the Administration requested \$10 million. The new agency received \$400 million in Recovery Act funds and \$15 million in FY09.

The White House Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) on S. 1436 expresses concern that the bill provides less than requested for the Office of Science, which “would not maintain the President’s proposed path to double the funding of this office over 10 years.” The statement also “strongly opposes” reductions in funding for both the Energy Innovation Hubs and RE-ENERGYSE.

House Approves FY 2010 Defense Appropriations Bill

(From AAU, July 31, 2009)

The House approved the FY10 Defense appropriations bill (H.R. 3322) on July 30 by a vote of 400 to 30. The measure would increase funding for 6.1 basic research over the FY09 appropriation and the FY10 Administration’s budget request. An updated version of the FY10 appropriations table for Defense research accounts has been posted on the AAU website.

H.R. 3322 would provide \$1.93 billion for 6.1 basic research. This is \$89.3 million, or 4.8 percent, above the FY09 level of \$1.84 billion, and \$133 million, or 7.4 percent, above the Administration's request of about \$1.8 billion.

For the broader Science & Technology (S&T) category, the House bill would provide \$13.18 billion, a cut of \$303 million, or 2.2 percent, from the FY09 level of \$13.49 billion. However, this is \$1.53 billion, or 13.2 percent, above the Administration’s request of \$11.65 billion. S&T programs include defense-wide and military service funding for 6.1 basic research, 6.2 applied research, and 6.3 advanced technology development.

Within this total, applied research (6.2 programs) would receive \$4.93 billion, a \$185.9 million, or 3.6-percent, cut from the FY09 level of \$5.11 billion, but a \$680.2 million, or 16-percent, increase over the Administration's request of \$4.25 billion. Advanced technology development (6.3 programs) would receive \$6.33 billion, a \$206.4 million, or 3.2-percent, cut from the FY09 level of \$6.53 billion, but a \$720.5 million, or 12.9-percent, increase over the Administration's request of \$5.6 billion.

Overall, the measure includes \$80.24 billion for Defense Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E). This is a cut of \$282.8 billion, or 0.4 percent, from the FY09 level, but \$1.29 million, or 1.6 percent, more than the Administration’s FY10 request.

Update From APLU's Board on Agriculture Assembly's Budget and Advocacy Committee (August 15, 2009):

The House of Representatives and Senate have passed the F.Y. 2010 Agriculture Appropriations bill, providing funds for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and other agencies. We are pleased to report that — compared to F.Y. 2009 — 11 of the 13 NIFA funding lines targeted by the BAA's Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC) received increases in one or both bills.

BAC Priorities House-Senate Conference (in millions of dollars)

NIFA Program	APLU	House	Senate
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	300.000	213.000	295.181
Smith Lever 3(b) and 3(c)	300.000	295.000	300.000
Evans-Allen Program (Research)	49.000	48.000	49.000
1890 Institutions Extension	43.000	44.000	41.354
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	30.000	28.000	30.000
1994 Institutions Extension	5.000	4.321	4.000
1994 Institutions Research	3.000	1.610	2.000
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Prog.	68.000	68.000	68.139
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk	10.000	8.396	8.427
New Technologies for Ag Extension (eXtension)	5.000	1.500	2.000

For each of these NIFA programs, the BAA supports the **higher** of the House or Senate number as indicated by the green shading.\