

Public Policy Update

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U.S. Congress Passes Final Fiscal Year 2011 Budget

On Thursday, April 14th, the House and Senate passed the final Fiscal Year 2011 continuing resolution ([H.R. 1473](#)) which would cover federal government expenditures through the remainder of the fiscal year. President Obama signed the bill into law on Friday, April 15th. Republicans and Democrats agreed to a \$39.9 billion cut to FY2010 funding levels including cuts to key discretionary health and human services funding. The final negotiations yielded the following cuts/changes to federal programs that support NFP implementing agencies and provide valuable services to NFP clients (as compared to FY2010):

- **Provides level funding** (\$662 million) for Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant;
- **Restores funding** (\$750 million) for the Prevention and Public Health fund, as authorized through the Affordable Care Act;
- **Restores \$109 million** for the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (\$5 million cut);
- \$340 million **increase** for Head Start;
- \$504 million cut to WIC;
- \$1.2 billion cut to HRSA discretionary funding which includes health professions, Ryan White Care Act programs, and the following significant cuts:
 - \$600 million cut to Community Health Centers;
 - \$17 million cut to Title X Family Planning grants;
- \$20 million cut to the Community Services Block Grant;
- \$22.5 million cut to Youthbuild; and
- \$72 million cut to the Corporation for National & Community Service, which administers the Social Innovation Fund.

Click [here](#) to view the Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee press release which includes a comprehensive list of cuts to the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services, Education and other agencies. Click [here](#) to view the full continuing resolution, bill summary, and full list of federal budget cuts compared to FY2010 funding levels and the FY2011 President's budget request on the House Appropriations Committee website.

MIECHVP Maintenance of Effort

The final continuing resolution does not include the language (included in the first continuing resolution) negating the Maintenance of Effort requirement for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. The Maintenance of Effort requirement remains in effect and States should plan to sustain their level of State general funding for evidence-based home visitation services as of March 23, 2010. HRSA has indicated that further clarification on the MOE definition will be provided through FAQs and additional guidance for Updated State Plans prior to the May/June deadline.

Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Update

Earlier this month, House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI-1st) unveiled the FY2012 Budget Resolution, the initial response to President Obama's FY2012 budget request and setting the stage for another round of heated debates on federal deficit reduction. To view the House Budget Committee's "Path to Prosperity" Budget Resolution for FY2012, click [here](#). The Senate Budget Committee will also respond

to the President's request through the chamber's budgetary process and will likely not agree with the House FY2012 budget resolution. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees will start work on the FY2012 spending bills in early May, which will launch another difficult discussion around discretionary funding cuts for the coming year. NFP Policy & Government Affairs staff will continue to monitor how these budgetary debates will impact NFP implementing agencies and the new Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

Please contact your Program Developer or the NFP Policy & Government Affairs team at pga@nursefamilypartnership.org if you have questions regarding this Public Policy Update. For more information, please also visit www.nursefamilypartnership.org.