



WASHINGTON UPDATE

Volume 34, 2015 Volume 34, Issue 12

In This Issue

FEATURED NEWS

[House and Senate Appropriations Committees Approve FY 2016 Labor-HHS Bills](#)

COSSA IN ACTION

[COSSA Endorses *Innovation Imperative*](#)

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

[Agriculture Appropriations Bill Would Cut USDA Research and Statistics](#)

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

[OBSSR Marks 20th Anniversary at NIH, on Capitol Hill](#)

[ACS Launches New Website](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

FEATURED NEWS

House and Senate Appropriations Committees Approve FY 2016 Labor-HHS Bills

The Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate advanced their respective fiscal year (FY) 2016 bills for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS). The House passed its version on June 24 (see COSSA's [preliminary analysis](#) of the bill), and the Senate on June 25. Both bills would provide sizable increases for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with a larger increase coming from the Senate's bill. The House bill proposes to completely eliminate the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) but maintains strong funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), while the Senate keeps AHRQ but would inflict significant cuts to both agencies.

[Read on](#) for COSSA's full analysis of both bills and more details on the funding prospects for these and other agencies important to social and behavioral science.

COSSA IN ACTION

COSSA Endorses *Innovation Imperative*

COSSA has joined more than 250 industry, science, and higher education organizations on "[Innovation: An American Imperative](#)," which is a call to action urging Congress to double down on

its investments in the U.S. innovation enterprise. According to the statement, "Our leadership is now at risk because of years of under-prioritizing federal scientific research investments and policies that promote innovation." In response to these concerns, the statement calls for Congress to take a number of steps, including ending cuts to discretionary spending, providing increases of at least four percent to basic research agencies, improving student achievement in STEM disciplines, and reaffirming the merit-based peer review system as the best mechanism for allocating federal research dollars. #InnovationImperative

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

House Agriculture Appropriations Bill Would Cut USDA Research and Statistics

The House Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee advanced its [draft bill](#) to the full committee on June 18. A full committee markup originally scheduled for June 25 was postponed. Among the agencies funded in the bill are the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) research and statistical agencies, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Economic Research Service (ERS), and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The Committee Report is available [here](#). COSSA has joined the [Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis](#) (FASA), a new coalition of stakeholders who care about timely, accurate, and objective food and agricultural statistics, on several letters to House staff to request stronger appropriations for ERS and NASS.

[Read on](#) for more details.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

OBSSR Marks 20th Anniversary at NIH, on Capitol Hill

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) marked its 20th anniversary with a three-day celebration on June 23-25 on the NIH Bethesda campus and Capitol Hill.

[Read on](#) for more details.



ACS Launches New Website

The American Community Survey (ACS) has a [new website](#). The new site, according to the ACS office, "has a look and feel consistent with census.gov," and should allow for easy user navigation.

EVENTS CALENDAR

[American Psychological Association Annual Convention](#), Toronto, Canada, August 6-9, 2015

[Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), Madison, WI, August 6-9, 2015

[American Statistical Association Joint Statistical Meetings](#), Seattle, WA, August 8-13, 2015

[American Sociological Association Annual Meeting](#), Chicago, IL, August 22-25, 2015

[National Conference on Health Statistics](#), Bethesda, MD, August 24-26, 2015

[American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition](#), San Francisco, CA, September 3-5, 2015

[Economic History Association Annual Meeting](#), Nashville, TN, September 11-13, 2015

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [webpage](#).

COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to jmilton@coassa.org.

Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

Governing Members

American Anthropological Association
American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Economic Association
American Educational Research Association
American Historical Association
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Criminology
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
Association of American Geographers
Association of American Law Schools
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Political Science Association
National Communication Association
Population Association of America
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Research in Child Development

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American Evaluation Association
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American Psychosomatic Society
Association for Asian Studies
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations
Association of Research Libraries
Council on Social Work Education
Economic History Association
History of Science Society
Justice Research and Statistics Association
Midwest Sociological Society
National Association of Social Workers
North American Regional Science Council
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Southern Political Science Association

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Clark University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fielding Graduate University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
New York University
Northwestern University
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Stony Brook University, SUNY
Texas A&M University
The George Washington University
The Ohio State University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania

Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

University of South Carolina
University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, San Antonio
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
West Virginia University
Yale University

Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Political and Social Science
American Council of Learned Societies
American Institutes for Research
The Brookings Institution
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Institute for Social Science Research,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Institute for Women's Policy Research
NORC at the University of Chicago
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia
Population Reference Bureau
RTI International
Social Science Research Council
Vera Institute of Justice

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The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research.

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