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# WASHINGTON UPDATE

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## FEATURED NEWS

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### Senate Presses Forward on 2017 Spending Bills

The Senate Appropriations Committee has been making progress over the last several weeks on its fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriations bills in an effort to pass as many of the bills as possible before heading home in mid-July for the party conventions and August recess (follow all of the developments on the [COSSA website](#)). The FY 2017 [Commerce, Justice, Science \(CJS\) Appropriations Bill](#), which made it out of Committee on April 21, is expected to be on the Senate floor later this week. Stay tuned-- COSSA will be closely monitoring the floor debate as this is when we could see amendments that could harm social science research accounts.

In addition, on June 9, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported out the FY 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Appropriations Bill. This bill serves as the vehicle for annual appropriations for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Education (ED), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as well as many other federal departments and agencies. Committee members noted that this bill represents the first bipartisan Senate Labor-HHS bill in seven years; this tends to be one of the more controversial and divisive of the 12 appropriations bills given that it provides funding for the Department of Health and Human Services and sections of the *Affordable Care Act*. The House has yet to release its version of the bill, but is rumored to have something ready by the end of the month.

Check out [COSSA's in-depth analysis](#) for full details.

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## CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

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## Lawmakers Call for CDC Gun Research

On May 31, 146 Members of Congress signed a [letter](#) in support of eliminating appropriations riders that have prevented the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from conducting research on gun violence prevention since 1996 (the "Dickey amendment"). The bipartisan letter, led by Rep. David Price (D-NC) states, "Although Members of Congress may disagree about how best to respond to the high incidence of gun violence, we should all be able to agree that our response should be informed by sound scientific evidence," and argues that Congress should "allow the research community to investigate evidence-based solutions that could help prevent gun violence while still protecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners." A [letter in the Senate](#) circulated in March by Sen. Edward Markey (D-MA) also called for the CDC to conduct gun violence prevention research. In April, COSSA [joined](#) more than 100 other societies and organizations in calling for an end to the ban.

The gun control debate has been renewed with greater urgency after this weekend's tragic mass shooting in Orlando. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid promised to force votes on loopholes allowing individuals on the terrorist watch list to purchase guns as part of the debate on the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations Bill this week (for more on CJS, see above story).

## Senate Committee Approves Librarian of Congress Nominee

On June 9, the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration approved [Carla D. Hayden](#)'s nomination for Librarian of Congress. If approved by a vote of the full Senate, Hayden will be the first African-American and the first woman to lead the Library of Congress. Hayden currently heads the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore and has previously worked at the Chicago Public Library. Rules Committee Chairman Roy Blunt (R-MO) said he expects her nomination to move to the Senate floor later this month. If her nomination is approved, Hayden will also be the first term-limited Librarian of Congress, limited to a term of ten years according to a [new law](#) passed last fall.

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## FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

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### NIJ to Host Seminar on Violence Against Indigenous Adults

On June 23, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) will host a *Research for the Real World* seminar on violence against indigenous adults to help improve awareness and understanding of American Indian and Alaska Native victims of crime. André Rosay, University of Alaska Anchorage, will present on a large-scale survey that examined violence and victimization experienced by American Indian and Alaska Native women and men. The seminar will be moderated by NIJ Director Nancy Rodriguez and a panel on policy and practice implications will include Carrie Bettinger-Lopez, Advisor on Violence Against Women in the Office of the Vice President; Joye Frost, the Director of the Office for Victims of Crime at the Department of Justice; and Bea Hanson, the Principal Deputy Director in the Office on Violence Against Women at the Department of Justice. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

### NIGMS Seeks Input on "Strategies for Modernizing Biomedical Graduate Education"

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has issued a Request for Information (RFI): Strategies for Modernizing Biomedical Graduate Education ([NOT-GM-16-109](#)) seeking the input of the scientific community and the general public "on how to catalyze the modernization of biomedical graduate education through NIGMS's institutional predoctoral training grants program." The Institute would like to receive input on such

topics addressing changes that assure that future researchers have the knowledge, skills and abilities to navigate biomedical research; major barriers to pursuing this training through NIGMS training programs; and the key skills needed by individuals to "become outstanding biomedical scientists," along with any topic individuals feel are important for the institute to consider. Responses to the RFI are due August 5, 2016.

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NIH Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network: Advancing Basic Behavioral and Social Research on Resilience -- An Integrative Science Approach (UG3/UH3) ([PAR-16-326](#)) [NCI, NCCIH, NIA, NIAAA, NIAMS, NIDA, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, OBSSR]
- NICHD: Characterization of the Adolescent Reproductive Transition (R01) ([PA-16-314](#)), (R21) ([PA-16-315](#)), (R03) ([PA-16-316](#))
- NCI: Intervening with Cancer Caregivers to Improve Patient Health Outcomes and Optimize Health Care Utilization (R01) ([PAR-16-317](#)), (R21) ([PAR-16-318](#))
- NIDCD: Mentored Career Development Award for Postdoctorate Au.D./Ph.D. Audiologists (K01) ([PAR-16-320](#))
- NIDCR: Mentored Career Development Award to Promote Diversity in the Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research Workforce (K01) ([PAR-16-321](#))

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

- [9th Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Day: Real Life, Labs, Research](#), Washington, DC, June 20, 2016
- [Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Meeting](#), Minneapolis, MN, June 24-26, 2016
- [Joint Statistical Meetings](#), Chicago, IL, July 30-August 4, 2016
- [American Psychological Association Annual Convention](#), Denver, CO, August 4-7, 2016
- [Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), Toronto, Canada, August 16-19, 2016
- [American Sociological Association Annual Meeting](#), Seattle, WA, August 20-23, 2016

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@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org).

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## Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

### Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Public Opinion Research  
American Economic Association  
American Educational Research Association  
American Political Science Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society of Criminology  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
Association of American Law Schools  
Law and Society Association  
Linguistic Society of America  
Midwest Political Science Association  
National Communication 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  
Howard University

Population Association of America  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
Society for Research in Child Development

### Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
American Association of Geographers  
American Evaluation Association  
American Historical Association  
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 of Colleges of Arts and Sciences  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
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  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

### 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  
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  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council

Indiana University  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
New York University  
North Carolina State University  
Northwestern University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
Stanford University  
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, 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  
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Yale University

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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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