

Preview of FY 2025 House Spending Bills

This week, House appropriations subcommittees are considering their respective fiscal year (FY) 2025 bills. Earlier today, the House Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) Subcommittee marked up and reported out their bill that funds the National Science Foundation (NSF), U.S. Census Bureau, National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), and other agencies. Tomorrow, June 27, the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) Subcommittee will consider its bill, which is responsible for funding the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other HHS agencies, the Department of Education, and the Department of Labor.

At this time, only preliminary details are known about how the House, under Republican leadership, plans to approach FY 2025 science funding. Additional details are expected to be released next week prior to the bills' consideration before the full Appropriations Committee the week of July 8. COSSA will report back on the full details of the House FY 2025 CJS and LHHS bills then.

For now, below are some early details of what is included in the bills as considered by the CJS and LHHS Subcommittees this week.

House CJS Bill, FY 2025 (as of June 26, 2024)

The total funding allocation for the CJS bill is \$78.288 billion, which if appropriated would represent a 2 percent cut below the FY 2024 appropriation. According to a [press release](#), "The bill reins in the Washington bureaucracy by rightsizing agencies and programs and directs funding to support the fight against fentanyl, state and local law enforcement, and efforts to counter the People's Republic of China."

A large focus of the proposed cuts aligns with ongoing Republican attacks on the Department of Justice and the FBI, especially following the felony conviction of former President Trump. The bill also prioritizes national security, especially with respect to scientific competition with China and securing the U.S. research enterprise from undue influence. Additional information on the CJS bill is available [here](#).

- **National Science Foundation** – The House bill includes a total of **\$9.258 billion** for NSF, which would represent a \$198.6 million or 2.2 percent increase over the FY 2024 enacted level. However, the House mark would still fall below the FY 2023 appropriation by 6.2 percent, failing to restore the large and unexpected cut taken to NSF last year. Notably, the House bill would cut the STEM Education Directorate (EDU) by nearly 15 percent while providing a 5.2 percent increase to the directorates within the Research and Related Activities account.
- **Census Bureau** – The House proposal would provide the Census Bureau with a total of **\$1.35 billion** for FY 2025, a decrease of \$28.5 million or 2 percent below the FY 2024 enacted level and 14.2 percent below the Administration's request. Notably, the bill includes directives excluding "aliens who are unlawfully present in the United States in rendering apportionment determinations in subsequent decennial censuses," and restricting funds for enforcement of "involuntary compliance, or to inquire more than twice for voluntary compliance with any survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census."
- **Bureau of Economic Analysis** – The bill includes a total of **\$116 million** for the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), a decrease of \$9 million or 7 percent below the FY 2024 enacted and 16.2 percent below the Administration's request.

- **National Institute of Justice & Bureau of Justice Statistics** – As part of the reductions proposed to the Department of Justice, NIJ and BJS would see cuts in FY 2025. The bill includes **\$22 million for NIJ**, a devastating cut of nearly 27 percent, and **\$33 million for BJS**, a cut of 5.7 percent. Both agencies were unexpectedly slashed in FY 2024; the House bill would further decimate the agencies. In addition, the bill would maintain the Research, Evaluation, and Statistics Set-Aide at 2 percent. The set-aside is used to supplement the base budgets of NIJ and BJS and allows additional flexibility to invest in new areas.
- **Office of Science and Technology Policy** – The House is seeking a 30 percent cut to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), which would reduce the budget from \$8 million to **\$5.5 million**.

House LHHS Bill, FY 2025 (as of June 26, 2024)

The total allocation for the House LHHS bill is \$185.8 billion, 4 percent below the enacted FY 2024 level. Here too the bill would prioritize national security with respect to competition with China as well as block funding for abortion and the use of embryos or fetal tissue for research. Additional information on the LHHS bill is available [here](#).

- **National Institutes of Health** – Probably most surprising is the House’s approach to FY 2025 NIH funding. The bill appears to follow the lead of the House Energy and Commerce Committee which has released a proposal to majorly restructure the agency, consolidating its 27 institutes and centers into just 15 (see COSSA’s coverage [here](#)). Full details are not yet available on how exactly the bill would reorganize the NIH; however, on its surface it appears to track with the [Energy and Commerce proposal](#). The bill includes a total of **\$48.581 billion** for NIH in FY 2025, which is flat with the FY 2024 appropriation under NIH’s current structure.
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** – The House bill includes **\$7.4 billion** CDC, a cut of \$1.8 billion or nearly 20 percent below the FY 2024 enacted level and 24 percent below the President’s request. Notable directives in the bill include zeroing out funding Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research and the Climate and Health program and cutting Global Health funding by \$129 million. Details are not yet available for the National Center for Health Statistics.
- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration** – The House bill includes **\$7.5 billion** for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which would represent a 0.7 percent increase over the FY 2024 appropriated level of \$7.45 billion, but about one percent below the Administration’s request.
- **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality** – The House bill seeks to **eliminate** AHRQ as a stand-alone agency within HHS; as with past efforts, AHRQ functions would be consolidated under the proposed new NIH structure noted above.

- **Institute of Education Sciences** – The House bill includes **\$740.4 million** for the IES, the flagship research, evaluation, and statistical agency of the Department of Education, which would be a 6.6 percent decrease below FY 2024 and 9.2 percent below the Administration’s request.
- **Bureau of Labor Statistics** – The bill would provide **\$698 million** to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), flat funding with the FY 2024 enacted level and 2.1 percent, below the Administration’s request.

In addition to the provisions noted above, the House Republican’s summary includes other notable directives [COSSA emphasis added]:

- “Focusing the CDC on communicable diseases rather than **social engineering**.”
- “Prohibiting funding for Biden Administration executive orders and regulations that promote **divisive ideologies, like Critical Race Theory**, or infringe on American due process rights and religious liberties.”
- “Maintaining the longstanding **Dickey Amendment**, which ensures that federal funds cannot be used to advocate or promote **gun control**.”
- “Prohibiting funding for medical procedures that attempt to **change an individual’s biological sex**.”
- “Prohibiting the Biden Administration’s **student loan bailout**.”

[Stay tuned](#) to COSSA’s coverage of the FY 2025 appropriations bills, including our full analysis of the House bills in the coming weeks.