



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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DONATE TODAY

New from COSSA

ACT NOW!

Interested in taking action in support of social and behavioral science research? Below is a list of ways you can stay informed and lend your support to COSSA's advocacy efforts.

READ:

- **NEW:** Nature: [Trust in science: How to build and maintain public support in an era of polarization](#)

ACT:

- ★ [Save SBE Toolkit](#)
- COSSA Action Alert: [Tell Congress to Save NSF's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate!](#)
- COSSA Action Alert: [Urge Congress to Prioritize Robust Science Funding!](#)

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

- SCIMaP: [Science & Community Impacts Mapping Project](#)
- [COSSA At-Home Advocacy Guide](#)
- [COSSA 101: A Crash Course on the Federal Government](#)

- [The Nation's Data at Risk: Ongoing Monitoring](#)
- [Grant Watch](#): Website for tracking terminated federal grants
 - [National Science Foundation](#)
 - [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [NSF Updates on Priorities and FAQs](#)
- [NIH Grants and Funding Information Status](#)
- [HHS Terminated Grants](#) (managed by HHS)

Please send any additional opportunities to ebailey@coffa.org to include in future Washington Updates.

"Why Social Science?" Organization Update



Our *Why Social Science?* posts are now sortable by topic. You can find the menus on the [COSSA website](#) or on the [Why Social Science? archive](#).

Use the categories to find real world examples of how the social and behavioral sciences improve our lives. We hope this can help you in your advocacy efforts.

Congressional News

Congress Returns from July Recess

As previously [reported](#), consideration of the fiscal year (FY) 2027 appropriations bills slowed as Congress left Washington for a two-week July 4th recess. While the House managed to advance all twelve of its bills through committee, the Senate has repeatedly delayed their consideration of several bills, including the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) appropriations bill that funds the National Science Foundation. Complicating things further, Senate Republicans' dwindling majority worsened following the unexpected death of Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and the continued hospitalization of Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY). While the Senate Republicans had reportedly drafted their bills without the input or support of the Senate Democrats, it is unclear if they have the support they need to advance their more controversial appropriations bills out of committee—including the CJS and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) bills. With only a few weeks left until August recess and the end of the fiscal year quickly approaching on September 30, Congress will soon need to turn to a continuing resolution (CR) to fund the federal government if they're unable to pass any final legislation in the upcoming weeks.

Stay tuned for [COSSA's continued coverage](#) of the FY 2027 appropriations process.

House Appropriations Committee holds OMB Oversight Hearing

On June 30, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an [oversight hearing](#) on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) with testimony from Director Russell Vought.

During the hearing, several House Republicans, including Chairman David Joyce (R-OH), questioned Vought on OMB's budget; and Vought praised the Administration's efforts to end "fiscal futility." Ranking Member Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and Representative Glenn Ivey (D-MD) expressed disappointment that the Committee did not hold a budget hearing before voting on the appropriations bills ([see previous coverage](#)).

The line of questioning quickly turned to unreleased fiscal year (FY) 2026 appropriated funds and OMB's proposed rule on federal grant making ([see previous coverage](#)). Several House Democrats, including Ranking Member Hoyer and Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), claimed

that OMB is withholding appropriated funds from researchers and scientists. When pressed on the release of appropriated funds, Vought evaded answering and claimed that OMB was working “expeditiously” to ensure grants were fully funded before the end of the fiscal year.

Appropriations Committee Ranking Member, Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) raised concerns about OMB’s “unprecedented” control over taxpayer dollars and disregard of Congressional directives. Further, Ranking Member DeLauro lamented the recently proposed rule from OMB on federal grants ([see previous coverage](#)), expressing concern that the proposed rule would “subject virtually all federal funding to the whims of the president’s policy priorities.”

Notably, Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA) asked Vought if he was directing agencies, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), to pre-comply with OMB’s proposed rule to “overhaul grants procedure.” Vought denied that agencies were pre-complying and argued that they were lawfully following an Executive Order from last August, [Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#) ([see previous coverage](#)).

Rep. DeLauro also asked about the proposed rule, requesting to extend the comment period by 45 days; however, Vought said OMB would not be extending the comment period. Rep. DeLauro then shifted her line of questions to how the rule may negatively impact the grant review process. She also requested that Vought release a list of criteria that will be used to judge and determine whether grants are awarded or canceled.

Later, Rep. Gluesenkamp Perez raised concerns about OMB’s development of an artificial intelligence (AI) tool to “flag grants that are misaligned with the administration’s agenda.” Vought confirmed that such a tool is being developed during the hearing. When questioned further about the potential negative impacts and ethicality of an AI tool reviewing grants, Vought stated that it would not “take the place of agency officials.” He also claimed that the tool had not yet flagged any grants as inconsistent with the Administration’s priorities, stating that “agency officials that would be making these determinations based on the instructions given to them in the executive order,” not AI tools alone.

A recording of the hearing can be found [here](#). Stay tuned for [COSSA’s continued coverage](#) on the federal grant making process.

This article was contributed by COSSA Intern Caroline Seo.

Executive Branch News

Scientific Community Responds in Force to OMB Proposed Rule

More than 340,000 [public comments](#) have been submitted in response to the proposed rule, [Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance](#), that seeks to make major changes to the [Uniform Guidance](#) governing federal financial assistance, including federal research grants. The deadline for comments was July 13. Organizations and individuals used their comments to register deep concerns about the proposed changes and their potential impacts on the U.S. research enterprise and our diminishing global competitiveness. COSSA’s comments, which have not yet been posted officially to regulations.gov, is available [here](#).

According to the proposed rule, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) set an implementation date of October 1, 2026, leaving just a few months for staff to review all submitted public comment and issue a final rule. However, Democrats in both the [House](#) and [Senate](#) have come out in strong opposition to the rule, calling on OMB to withdraw it in its entirety. Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Susan Collins (R-ME) has also recently [expressed](#) concern with the rule and asked OMB to extend the comment period by 90 days.

The “DOGE” Era Ends

The so-called “Department of Government Efficiency” or DOGE, which was created by [executive order](#) on President Trump’s first day in office, was officially dismantled on July 4 in accordance with the termination date set in the executive order. [DOGE](#), previously led by Elon Musk, is responsible for much of the upheaval felt by federal agencies and the research community over the last year and half, including mass federal worker layoffs and grant terminations. The entity, which was originally tasked with finding \$2 trillion in government savings, most recently claimed to have reduced federal spending by \$215 billion. However, in a recent [hearing](#) before a House Appropriations Subcommittee, White House Office of Management and Budget Director Russell Vought stated that the Administration has no plans to compile a final report or assessment of DOGE’s activities. Further, the [doge.gov](#) website has been effectively shut down, no longer posting information on achieved savings.

Department of Education Proposes Rule to Eliminate Title VI and Fulbright-Hays Regulations

On July 1, the Department of Education issued a proposed rule, [International Education Programs and Fulbright-Hays Program; Recission of Regulations](#), that would rescind federal regulations related to the administration of these programs. The proposal states that rescinding the regulations would grant the Department “greater flexibility” in their implementation and execution of the programs and allow them to “align such programs with current and evolving priorities and needs.” Notably, the Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs have been repeatedly proposed for elimination by the Trump Administration and the House in recent budget requests and appropriations bills.

Public comments are due July 31.

Stay tuned for [COSSA's continued coverage](#) of the Department of Education.

Science Community News

NAS and NAM Name Neil Shubin and Monica Bertagnolli as New Presidents

On July 1, [Neil Shubin](#) began his tenure as president of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and [Monica Bertagnolli](#) as president of National Academy of Medicine (NAM). Prior to his appointment, Shubin led a molecular biology and paleontology research laboratory at the University of Chicago.

Bertagnolli previously served as the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Director of the National Cancer Institute under the Biden Administration. Notably, Bertagnolli is the first woman to serve as President of NAM.

This article was contributed by COSSA Intern Caroline Seo.

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- 6/18/2026: [Analysis of the FY 2027 House LHHS Appropriations Bill for Federal Science Agencies](#)

Nomination Opportunities

- Research!America: [2027 Advocacy Awards](#) (Closes: July 17, 2026)

Funding Opportunities

- NIH: [Ethical, Legal and Social Implications \(ELSI\) Small Research Grant \(R03 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: November 17, 2026)
- NIH: [Ethical, Legal and Social Implications \(ELSI\) Research \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: November 19, 2026)
- NIH: [Ethical, Legal and Social Implications \(ELSI\) Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant \(R21 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: November 19, 2026)
- NSF: [Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity \(GRANTED\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)
- NSF: [The Research on Research Security Program \(RoRS\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)
- SSRC: [Economic Research Rescue Fund](#) (Rolling Deadline)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- NSF: [Request for Comment for the Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation Program](#) (Closes: July 17, 2026)
- **NEW:** DOE: [Request for Comment on International Education Programs and Fulbright-Hays Program; Recission of Regulations](#) (Closes: July 31, 2026)
- NIH: [Request for Information: Proposal to Cap the Number of Simultaneous Research Project Grants per Principal Investigator](#) (Closes: August 3, 2026)
- NIH: [Request for Input on Effective Approaches for Measuring and Rewarding Scientific Impact](#) (Closes: August 19, 2026)
- NSF: [Request for Comment on NSF Proposal/Award Information Guidance on Financial Assistance](#) (Closes: August 24, 2026)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- IES: [Report on the Condition of Education 2026](#)
- Brennan Center for Justice: [The Cost of the Trump Administration's Attacks on Research Funding](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- NIST: [Submit a Letter of Interest to join the NIST AI Consortium](#) (Closes July 31, 2026)
- **NEW:** AIP: [Social Science Research, Director](#) (Ongoing)
- National Academies: [Senior Program Officer, Science and Technology Policy and Law](#) (Ongoing)
- APSA: [Pracademic Fellowship](#) (Ongoing)

Upcoming Events

- **NEW:** NIH: [Emerging Findings in Digital Health and Technologies Webinar](#), July 20, 2026, Virtual
- **NEW:** SRCD: [Navigating Unprecedented Change: Federal Science Policy, Funding, and the Future of Developmental Science Webinar \(Part 2\)](#), July 21, 2026, Virtual
- **NEW:** AAEA: [2026 AAEA Annual Meeting](#), July 26-28, 2026, Kansas City, MO
- **NEW:** [2026 Joint Statistical Meetings](#), August 1-6, 2026, Boston, MA
- **NEW:** ASA: [121st Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association](#), August 7-11, 2026, New York, NY
- **NEW:** APSA: [2026 APSA Annual Meeting and Exhibition](#), September 3-6, 2026, Boston, MA
- **NEW:** EHA: [2026 EHA Annual Meeting](#), September 18-20, 2026, St. Louis, MO

- APPAM: [Fall Research Conference](#), November 5-7, 2026, Boston, MA
- **NEW:** ASC: [2026 ASC Annual Meeting](#), November 18-21, 2026, Chicago, IL
- **NEW:** AAA: [2026 AAA Annual Meeting](#), November 18-22, St. Louis, MO
- **NEW:** NCA: [112th NCA Annual Convention](#), November 19-22, 2026, New Orleans, LA

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [events page](#). 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 ebailey@cosssa.org.

COSSA Members

Governing Associations

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

Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
 African Studies Association
 Agricultural & Applied Economics Association
 American Anthropological Association
 American Association of Geographers
 American Council of Learned Societies
 American Evaluation Association
 American Historical Association
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
 Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations
 Association of American Law Schools
 Association of Research Libraries
 Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
 Economic History Association
 Linguistic Society of America
 Midwest Sociological Society
 National Council on Family Relations
 Rural Sociological Society
 Social Science History Association
 Society for Prevention Research
 Society for Social Work and Research
 Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
 Southern Political Science Association

Colleges and Universities

Boston University
 Brown University
 California State University, San Bernardino
 College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Columbia University
 Cornell University
 George Mason University
 Georgetown University
 Harvard University
 Indiana University
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Michigan State University
 North Carolina State University
 Northwestern University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Princeton University
 Stanford University
 University of Arizona
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, Riverside
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of Colorado, Boulder
 University of Georgia
 University of Illinois
 University of Maryland
 University of Michigan
 University of Nebraska, Lincoln
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
 University of Oregon
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Texas, Austin
 University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Virginia Tech
 Yale University

Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Political and Social Science
 American Institutes for Research
 Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
 Child Trends

Southwestern Social Science Association

Affiliates

SAGE Publishing

Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Institute for Social Science Research,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NORC at the University of Chicago
RTI International
Social Science Research Council

About COSSA

The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for and widespread use of social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.

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