



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

DAVE OBEY (D-WI), CHAIRMAN

Contact: Kirstin Brost, 202-225-2771

SUMMARY: 2009 LABOR, HEALTH & EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Bill Total	
2008 Enacted:	\$145.1 billion
Bush Request:	\$145.4 billion
2009 Bill:	\$151.8 billion

KEY INVESTMENTS

HEALTHCARE

National Institutes of Health: \$30.3 billion for lifesaving research into diseases such as Alzheimer's, cancer and diabetes, \$938 million above last year, so that NIH can capitalize on unprecedented scientific opportunities with almost 10,600 new research grants.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: \$6.6 billion for the public health programs administered by CDC, \$239 million above last year. These funds support core public health functions at the Federal, State, and local levels, including responding to urgent public health threats.

Community Health Centers: Provides an additional 470,000 uninsured Americans with access to community health centers with \$125 million above last year for a total of \$2.2 billion.

State Health Access Grants: \$75 million for a new initiative to provide start up grants to states that are ready with plans to expand health care coverage to targeted groups.

State High Risk Insurance Pools: Provides affordable health insurance to almost 200,000 people who cannot obtain health insurance in the commercial market because they are medically high risk with \$26 million above last year for a total of \$75 million.

Helping Seniors Understand Medicare Benefits: Helps seniors understand what Medicare benefits are available to them with \$6 million above 2008 for a total of \$45 million.

Health Professions Training: Supports nurse education programs at a time when our country faces a nursing shortage, with \$15 million above 2008 for a total of \$171 million and supports Health Professions Training to train doctors and other professionals so that more people have access to quality health care with \$28 million above 2008 for a total of \$222 million.

Childhood Immunizations: Provides approximately 15,000 additional children with the vaccinations they need to protect them against disease with \$30 million above last year for a total of \$496 million.

Reducing Hospital Infections: Includes a new initiative to reduce hospital and clinic infections that cause nearly 100,000 deaths each year, and requires national and state plans to combat infections with \$22 million.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: Addresses mental illness and substance abuse disorders with \$110 million above 2008 for a total of \$3.5 billion.

Rural Health: Provides \$27 million above 2008 to support more than 1,200 small, rural hospitals, creating health care networks for more than 775,000 rural residents in underserved communities, and supporting rural health research centers and state rural health offices with total funding of \$289 million.

IMPROVING EDUCATION

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B State Grants: Increases the share of special education costs met by the federal government to 17.4 percent with \$558 million above 2008 for a total of \$11.5 billion.

Pell Grants: To help 6.9 million families pay for college, this bill increases the maximum Pell Grant by \$119 to \$4,360, \$3 billion above 2008 for a total of \$17.3 billion. With additional mandatory funding under the College Cost Reduction Act the maximum Pell Grant is \$4,850, increased \$800 since 2006.

Student Financial Aid: Helps 1.4 million students go to school with programs including federal supplemental educational opportunity grants, Perkins Loans, and the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships programs, with total funding of \$1.9 billion.

Title I Grants for Low-Income Children: \$648 million above 2008 to help disadvantaged students at more than 50,000 schools improve academic achievement with total funding of \$15.0 billion.

Head Start: \$235 million above 2008 to ensure that 900,000 low-income children have access to high quality preschool services, with total funding of \$7.1 billion.

Child Care Assistance: \$65 million above 2008 to support quality child care for 11,000 more children than last year with \$2.1 billion in total funding.

After-School Programs: Provides roughly 1.7 million children with quality afterschool services that help them learn while their parents work with \$50 million above 2008 for a total of \$1.1 billion.

Reading First: Ends funding for the program which has been plagued with mismanagement, conflicts of interest, and cronyism as documented by the Department of Education Inspector General. A May 2008 Department of Education study found the program has had no discernable impact on student reading.

HELPING WORKERS WITH A TOUGH ECONOMY

Dislocated Workers: Helps train and place 360,000 workers who have lost their jobs during the economic crisis with \$2 million above 2008 for a total of \$1.5 billion.

Job Corps: Provide at-risk youth occupational and employment skills with \$73 million above 2008 for a total of \$1.7 billion.

State Unemployment Insurance Operations: Helps states to process record numbers of unemployment claims with \$260 million above 2008 for a total of \$2.8 billion.

Employment Service: \$704 million to help 13 million people find jobs during this tough economy.

OTHER PROGRAMS FOR THE VERY VULNERABLE

Social Services Block Grant: Helps states assist their most vulnerable with child care, protective services, help for the disabled, adoption, counseling, transportation, foster care, substance abuse, and congregate meals with \$1.7 billion

Community Services Block Grant: Supports safety net services at the community level for 16 million individuals with \$46 million above 2008 for a total of \$700 million.

Senior Nutrition: Provides seniors with decent meals during the economic crunch with \$52 million above 2008 so that over 14 million additional meals can be served. Total funding is \$810 million.

Social Security Administration: To address the unacceptable backlog of disability claims at the Social Security Administration, improve claims processing times, and support field offices the bill provides \$709 million above 2008 for a total of \$10.5 billion.

REDUCING ABORTIONS

Programs that may help reduce the number of abortions in America by alleviating the economic pressures and other real life conditions that can sometimes cause women to decide not to carry their pregnancies to term are increased by \$317 million. These programs include community health centers, Healthy Start and other health services for at-risk mothers, family planning, domestic violence prevention, and after-school services for at risk high school students.