

**JUNE 20, 2007**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: MLA/AAHSL LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**

**FR: DALE DIRKS AND DANE CHRISTIANSEN**

**RE: FY 2008 HOUSE LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

On Thursday, June 7, the House Appropriations Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Subcommittee approved its fiscal year (FY) 2008 appropriations bill.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL INCLUDE:**

- \$151.5 billion in discretionary spending, an increase of 6.9 billion (4.8%) over FY 2007, and \$10.6 billion (7.5%) more than the President's request.
- \$68.2 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, an increase of \$4.1 billion (6.5%) from FY 2007, and \$5 billion (7.9%) more than the President's request.
- \$6.95 billion for the Health Resources and Services Administration, an increase of \$537.1 million (8.4%) over FY 2007, and \$1.1 billion (19.4%) more than the President's request.
- \$6.45 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an increase of \$245 million (4.0%) from FY 2007, and \$466 million (7.8%) more than the President's request.
- \$29.65 billion for the National Institutes of Health, an increase of \$750 million (2.6%) from FY 2007, and \$1.03 billion (3.6%) more than the President's request.
- \$329.6 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, an increase of \$10.6 million (3.3%) from FY 2007, and the same amount as the President's request.
- \$61.7 billion for the Department of Education, an increase of \$4.2 billion (7.4%) from FY 2007, and \$5.5 billion (9.8%) more than the President's request.

The full Appropriations Committee was scheduled to consider the bill on June 14th. However, the markup was postponed until next month, so the committee could add funding for member projects prior to the full committee markup. We have seen the legislation and the following recommendations of importance to MLA/AAHSL have been included:

#### HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

- \$7 million for Telehealth, an increase of \$181 thousand above fiscal year 2007 and the budget request.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- \$333.6 million for the National Library of Medicine (NLM), an increase of \$4.46 million (1.4%) above fiscal year 2007, and \$412.9 million above the budget request. This level of funding anticipates a transfer of \$8 million to NLM from evaluation taps.
  - o Specific committee recommendations on the importance of NLM's outreach activities.
  - o Specific committee recommendations on PubMed Central.
- Within the Office of the NIH Director, specific advisory from the committee that it has included bill language instructing NIH to implement a public access policy requiring NIH-funded authors to deposit final, peer-reviewed manuscripts in the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central database within twelve months of the official date of publication.

#### AGENCY FOR HEALTH RESEARCH AND QUALITY

- \$329.5 million for the Agency for Health Research and Quality, an increase of \$10.5 million above fiscal year 2007, and the same as the budget request.
  - o Specific committee recommendations on Health Information Technology.

#### OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- \$61.3 million for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, the same level of funding as the fiscal year 2007 level, and \$56.7 million below the budget request.
  - o The committee raised concerns about the lack of a detailed and integrated implementation plan for achieving the health information technology program's strategic goals.

#### INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

- \$253 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services, an increase of \$6.3 million above fiscal year 2007, and \$17.7 million less than the budget request.

We will continue to keep you informed as the process moves forward.