

## FY2018 FEDERAL BUDGET UPDATE OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT

With the FY2018 continuing resolution set to expire on March 23, Congress this week reached a deal to fund the federal government through September 30, 2018.

Overall, YWCA is pleased that the Omnibus Appropriations Act invests robustly in critical priorities like child care, housing, nutrition, domestic and sexual violence programs, healthcare prevention and treatment, and much more. In addition, while the bill rejects the Administration's request for billions for a border wall, does not fund the requested deportation force, and requires Immigrations and Customs Enforcement to reduce the number of detention beds currently in use to FY17 levels, YWCA is concerned that the bill includes funding to increase border security through the building of fences and the hiring of border agents at points of entry. YWCA also remains concerned that Congress has not provided a solution for DREAMers and continues to urge Congress and the Administration to pass a clean DREAM Act immediately.

The Omnibus Appropriations Act is currently being voted on by the Senate and House, to be signed by President Trump once passed.

***Spending levels included in the Omnibus Appropriations Act for programs of relevance and interest to YWCA include the following. Any notations regarding increases or decreases in funding are in comparison to FY2017 spending levels.***

### Health Care

- Does not include language restricting HHS' ability to administer or enforce the ACA
- Provides \$286.5 million for the Title X program and \$108 million for the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, both level with fiscal year 2017.
- Preserves funding for Planned Parenthood
- The Alexander/Murray market stabilization language was not included, raising concerns that plans on health care exchanges could see up to 40% increases in premiums

### Gender-Based Violence

- VOCA: More than \$4.6 billion (minus set aside for VAWA) for the VOCA funding cap, **\$1.8 billion increase**. There is a 3% set aside for tribes.
- VAWA: \$492 million for VAWA funding (the highest funding level ever for VAWA), with increases of \$5 million allocated for each of the **rural grant program**, and the **transitional housing grant program**.

- FVPSA: \$154 million, with a \$5 million increase for FVPSA tribal set aside. (FVPSA is in the bill with \$160M that includes two set-asides. \$5M for tribal as NNEDV mentions and \$1M for Alaska Native Center). This is still **\$3M increase** for the general field over FY17.
- Legal Services Corporation: **increase of \$25M**
- First-time **funding of \$50M** for the Department of Housing and Urban Development to support rapid rehousing projects to serve victims and survivors of domestic violence.
- Level funding for Social Services Block Grant

## Nutrition Assistance

- SNAP is fully funded
- WIC program is funded at \$6.175B which will meet expected participation

## Affordable Housing

- Increases HUD spending by \$4.6B
- Renews all Housing Choice Vouchers and provides new vouchers to veterans and people with disabilities
- Allocates nearly \$1B in additional funding to repair and operate public housing
- Boosts funding for the HOME Investment Partnerships program (HOME)
- CDBG is funded at \$3.3B

## Child Care

- Increases CCDBG funding by \$2.37B (83% increase), Head Start by \$610M, and Early Head Start by 115M

## Education

- Increases funding for work-study grants
- Increases maximum Pell Grant by \$175
- Increases campus-based student aid programs by \$247M (14% increase)

## Workforce Development

- Increases WIOA funding by \$80M
- Increases funding for JobCorps by \$15M
- Increases CNCS funding by \$34M, to expand support for AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members

## Other

- Increases the Low-Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) by \$250M
- Did not include not include provisions that would have gutted the Johnson Amendment, which prevents churches and other nonprofits from directly engaging in electoral activity.