



July 15, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2413 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1026 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), which represents 133,500 family physicians and medical students across the country, I write to express support for the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill (Labor-HHS) for Fiscal Year 2022.

The Labor-HHS bill calls for \$119.8 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, an increase of \$22 billion above FY 2021 enacted level. This legislation provides critical funding for agencies and programs that our members and their patients rely on for access to care, research to improve the efficacy and safety of health care and medical treatments, essential primary care workforce programs, and disease prevention and health promotion efforts.

Specifically, the AAFP supports the following provisions within the FY 2022 package:

- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Program Management** – The legislation provides \$4.3 billion to CMS for program management, an increase of \$646 million above the FY 2021 enacted level. Funding will help meet the current and future needs of the millions of Americans enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and private insurance coverage through the Marketplace. Increased funding for program management is consistent with the AAFP’s [position](#) to ensure health care coverage is accessible for all Americans.
- **Agency For Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)** – The legislation provides \$380 million for AHRQ, an increase of \$42 million above the FY2021 enacted level. AHRQ provides the critical evidence reviews needed to answer questions on the common acute, chronic, and comorbid conditions that family physicians see on a daily basis. The Academy views AHRQ research as crucial to the science of primary care and to patient-centered outcomes and has long advocated for robustly funding the agency.
- **Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA)** – The legislation includes \$7.5 billion for HRSA, an increase of \$1.6 billion above FY 2021 enacted level. In addition, new funding is included to support health profession programming, such as Title VII, which is critical to recruiting and retaining medical students and residents into primary care to help address the projected workforce shortages. In addition, funds will help support programming that is essential to promoting healthy families and children and advancing health equity.

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- **Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)** – The legislation includes \$10.6 billion for the CDC, an increase of \$2.7 billion above the FY2021 enacted level. Family physicians provide preventive care, including routine checkups, health risk assessments, immunization and screening tests, and personalized counseling on maintaining a healthy lifestyle and as such are integral to achieving public health objectives. The COVID-19 public health emergency has highlighted significant disparities in our nation’s health care system and underscored the need to better [integrate](#) primary care and public health. The AAFP [joined](#) over 100 organizations in support of increasing overall funding for the CDC as well as improving maternal health outcomes.

The AAFP applauds the work of the Committee to get this critical legislation advanced before the end of the fiscal year. For more information, please contact David Tully, Vice President of Government Relations, at [dtully@aafp.org](mailto:dtully@aafp.org).

Sincerely,



Gary L. LeRoy, MD, FAAFP  
Board Chair  
American Academy of Family Physicians

Cc: The Honorable Tom Cole - Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Members of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee