



MEMORANDUM

May 7, 2021

To: Subcommittee on Health Members and Staff

Fr: Committee on Energy and Commerce Staff

Re: Hearing on “The Fiscal Year 2022 HHS Budget”

On **Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. (EDT) via Cisco Webex online video conferencing**, the Subcommittee on Health will hold a hearing entitled, “The Fiscal Year 2022 HHS Budget.”

I. THE PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

On April 9, 2021, the Biden Administration (the Administration) released its fiscal year (FY) 2022 discretionary funding request.¹ Overall, the FY 2022 discretionary funding request proposes \$131.7 billion for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its adjoining agencies, which is a \$25 billion, or 23.5 percent, increase from the FY 2021 enacted level. Below is an overview of key highlights of the funding request for agencies within the Subcommittee’s jurisdiction.

A. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The funding request proposes to strengthen the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) through a \$905 million investment to the Office for the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR). The Administration also requests \$4.3 billion for the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), as well as an increase of \$340 million for the Title X Family Planning program. The budget funds several cross-agency investments, including allocations for targeted HIV/AIDS prevention programs, treatment, and expanding the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP); bolstering public health prevention efforts related to the impacts of gun violence through firearm prevention research and the creation of a Community-Based Violence Intervention initiative; support and protection for survivors of domestic and gender based-violence; focus on rural healthcare workforce and access barriers; and resources for caregivers and community disability programs. The funding request also proposes a new Office of Climate Change and Health Equity at HHS aimed at addressing the effects of climate change on vulnerable populations.

¹ The White House, *Office of Management and Budget Releases the President’s Fiscal Year 2022 Discretionary Funding Request* (Apr. 9, 2021) (www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FY2022-Discretionary-Request-Press-Release.pdf) (press release).

B. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The FY 2022 funding request includes \$8.7 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an increase of \$1.6 billion over the 2021 enacted level. If enacted, it would be the largest budgetary increase for the agency in almost 20 years. This funding would build on investments in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 by supporting public health capacity improvements in States, Tribes, and Territories, modernizing public health data collection, and training and deploying a strong epidemiological and public health workforce, and would position CDC to build upon existing programs to enhance detection and assistance for emerging global public health threats.

The funding request includes \$153 million for CDC's Social Determinants of Health program, an increase of \$150 million from the FY 2021 enacted level, to support States and Territories in improving health equity and data collection across racial and ethnic populations. It also includes \$200 million to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity through, among other actions, strengthening Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs).

The budget also requests \$110 million, a \$100 million increase over the 2021 enacted level, for the CDC's Climate and Health Program. This funding would be used to identify potential public health impacts resulting from climate change.

C. INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

The FY 2022 funding request includes \$8.5 billion for the Indian Health Service (IHS), an increase of \$2.2 billion, as well as an advance appropriation for IHS in FY 2023 in order to provide predictable, stable stream of funding for the agency.

D. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The FY 2022 funding request includes \$51 billion for NIH, a \$9 billion increase over the FY 2021 enacted level. This increase would include a \$6.5 billion set aside for establishing the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Health, or ARPA-H, a research agency that would initially focus on diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's.

The budget also requests \$110 million, a \$100 million increase from the FY 2021 enacted level, for NIH's Climate Change and Human Health program.

E. SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The funding request proposes investments in programs to improve mental health which builds on resources included in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. For example, the request proposes \$1.6 billion for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant, more than double the FY 2021 enacted level. The request also makes investments to support the needs of those involved in the criminal justice system, fund partnerships between mental health providers and law enforcement, and expand suicide prevention activities.

The funding request also includes \$10.7 billion, a \$3.9 billion increase over the FY 2021 enacted level, to fight the opioid crisis. These funds would support States and Tribes, medication-assisted treatment, research, and expanding the behavioral health provider workforce.

II. WITNESS

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services