Fiscal Year 2023 Omnibus Summary

Federal Funding for Healthcare and Research:

- National Institutes of Health (NIH) - $47.5 billion ($2.5 billion increase over FY22).
  - Includes a minimum 3.8% increase for each institute and center.
- $680 million for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative at NIH ($60 million increase over FY 2022).
- MS Research Program at the Department of Defense (MSRP) - $20 million (level funding from FY 2022)
- $5 million for the National Neurological Conditions Surveillance System (level funding from FY 2022).
- $2 million to establish the Neurology Drug Program at the Food and Drug Administration to develop policies and guidance that keep pace with scientific discovery in neurology. (New program and funding stream)
- Nearly $119 billion for veterans’ health care and research ($21 billion increase over FY 2022).
  - Requires a report on all the VA Neurology Centers of Excellence within 90 days of the bill being signed into law on the feasibility, advisability and costs of expanding the neurology centers of excellence to enhance their ability to serve veterans.
  - Supports an additional $4 million for the Parkinson’s Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers at the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) MS Centers of Excellence pending the submission and recommendations of a VA Neurology Centers of Excellence report.
  - $916 million for the VA Medical and Prosthetics Research Program ($34 million increase over FY 2022).
- $1.5 billion for the Advanced Research Agency for Health (ARPA-H)

Economic Security and Quality of Life

- $5 billion for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help families address the rising cost of energy (increase of $1 billion from FY22).
- $1.435 billion for the Housing for the Elderly and Housing for Persons with Disabilities program
- Establish a permanent summer electronic benefits transfer (EBT) program, beginning in summer 2024, that would provide families whose children are eligible for free or reduced-price school meal with a $40 grocery benefit per child per month, indexed to inflation.
- $8 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant ($2.4 billion over FY22). The grant gives financial assistance to low-income families to afford child-care.
- Nearly $12 billion for Head Start ($1.03 billion increase over FY22) to help young children from low-income families prepare for school.
- $205 million for the National Family Caregiver Support Program, an increase of $11 million above FY22.
- $5,500,000 for the Care Corps grant program, with $1.5 million for subgrants to programs that can build a network of screened and trained volunteer chaperones to accompany older adults and adults with disabilities in need to and from non-emergency medical appointments and outpatient procedures.
- $400,000 for the Family Caregiving Advisory Council working on monitoring the National Family Caregiver Strategy.
- Expands breastfeeding time and space protections for more nursing workers.
- Requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations for medical conditions arising from pregnancy and childbirth.

**Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act**

- Clarifies the Vice-President’s role in counting electoral college votes is ceremonial.
- Raises threshold for objecting to proceedings that govern the electoral process.

**Healthcare Workforce Development**

- $2 million for a Direct Care Workforce Demonstration to identify and reduce barriers to entry for a diverse and high-quality direct care workforce, and to explore new strategies for the recruitment, retention, and advancement opportunities needed to attract or retain direct care workers.
- Provides federal funding for 200 new Graduate Medical Education (GME) slots, half of which are devoted to psychiatry-focused specialties.
- Reauthorizes the Conrad 30 Waiver Program for the remainder of FY23.

**Legacy Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA)/ Individual Giving**

- Allows for one time contribution from IRA to fund a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, for max of $50,000.

**Medicaid**

- Additional funding to U.S. territories.
  - 76% match to Puerto Rico and higher limit on money to island’s safety net program,
  - Permanently extends fed match rate at 83% for other U.S. territories.
- States can begin reevaluating eligibility for Medicaid in April with some guardrails (the states must attempt to contact beneficiaries before disenrollment).
- Gradually phase out 6.2% funding increase that states received for not removing beneficiaries from Medicaid during COVID-19 pandemic.
- Allows states to permanently extend Medicaid coverage for new mothers for 12 months and prohibits children from getting kicked off Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for a continuous 12 months even if family income changes.
- Five-year extension of Medicaid Money Follows the Person Program at $450 million/year through September 30, 2027
- Five-year extension of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spousal impoverishment protections through Sept 30, 2027

**Medicare**
• Provides payment stability for physicians through a 2.5% increase in the physician fee schedule conversion factor for 2023 and a 1.25% increase for 2024.
• Extend telehealth flexibilities through 2024.

Mental Health/ Substance Abuse Disorders

• Includes provisions to improve mental health services, including grants for eligible states to enforce and ensure compliance with mental health parity requirements.
• Reauthorizes the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Program, the Community Mental Health Service Block Grants, Substance Use and Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Block Grants.
• Grants funding to support maternal mental health programs.
• Establishes a maternal mental health hotline and task force.
• Provides Medicare Part B coverage of mental health counselor and therapist services.

Nonprofit Workforce Data

• Encourages the Department of Labor (DOL) to examine the value in including nonprofit organizations as a distinct category of employer in quarterly reports from its Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Public Health/Pandemic Preparedness

• Encourages investments in the next generation of community health workers and public health workers by providing grants and student loan forgiveness.
• Provides new authorities for improving Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to ensure critical pandemic supplies are operational, resilient and ready to deploy in times of need.