

# NCI Legislative Update

National Cancer Advisory Board  
Board of Scientific Advisors

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# Discussion Topics

- Recent Congressional Activity
  - Authorizing Bills – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures, Innovation bill
  - Appropriations Hearings – April and October
  - Budget Deal as of November 1<sup>st</sup> – more \$ for FY16 and FY17
  - House GOP Leadership Changes
  - Appropriations – still pending for FY16
  - Currently on a “CR” - 10 more days of funding
  - Key Issues in play



# Authorizing bills

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act (H.R. 6, passed in the House on July 10, 2015)

*Mandatory funding increase (for 5 years – not added to the base)*

*Offset for increase “taken” by the budget deal*

- Innovation for Healthier Americans (Senate)

*Draft pending*



**Where we were ...**

## **Appropriations FY 2016**

**“We need a better budget deal”**

### **House LHHS Committee Approved FY 2016 bill on June 24, 2015**

- Provides NIH \$31.2 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion above FY2015
- Includes \$200 million for Precision Medicine Initiative, \$70 million to NCI
- Provides NCI \$5.081 billion

### **Senate LHHS Committee Approved FY 2016 bill on June 25, 2015**

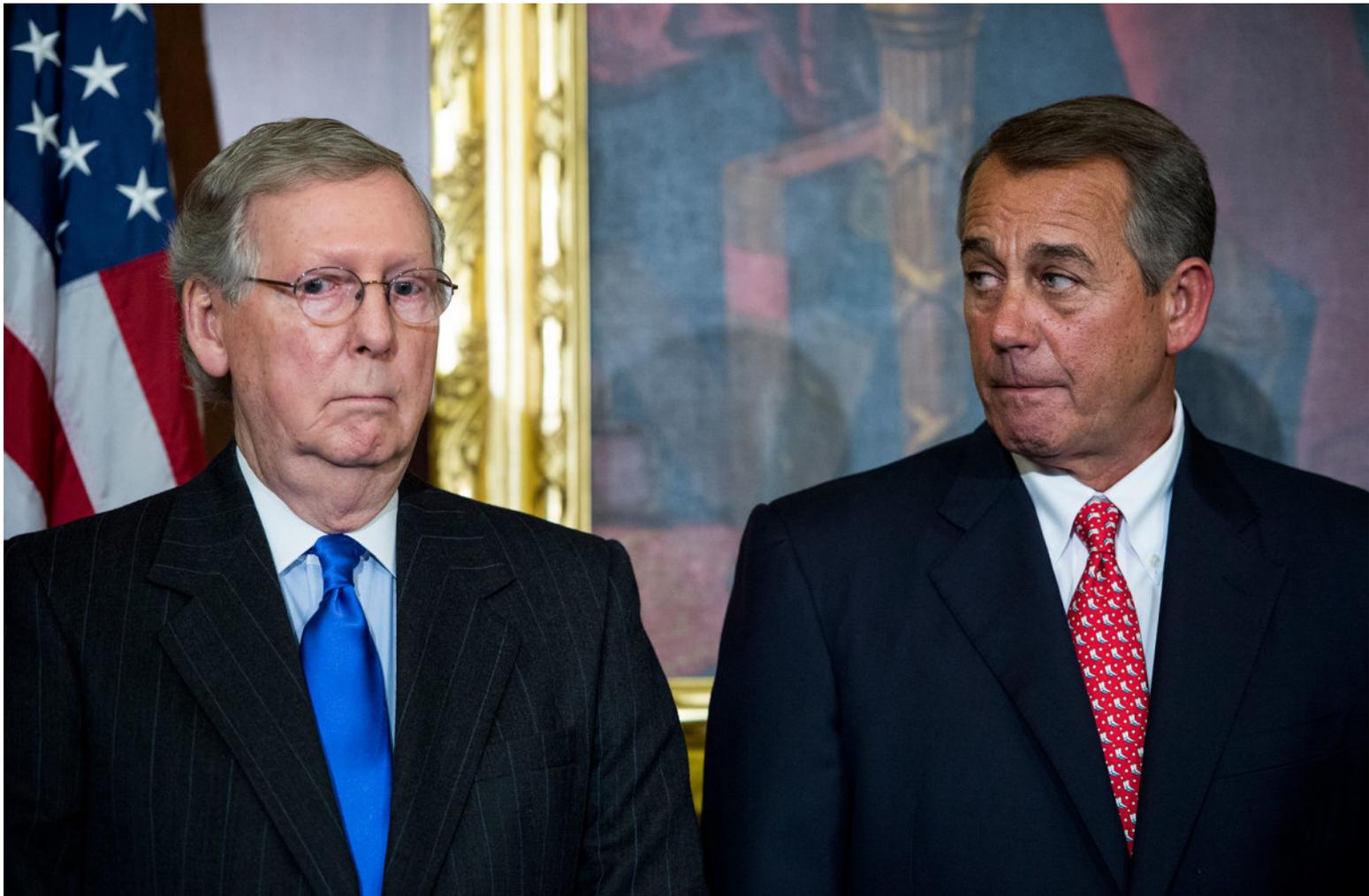
- Provides NIH \$32 billion, an increase of \$2 billion above FY2015
- Includes \$200 million for Precision Medicine Initiative, \$70 million to NCI
- Provides NCI \$5.204 billion

# Senate Appropriations Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee

NIH Hearings - October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015



## Fall 2015 ... Tense Times



- Short Term CR – Dec 11
- Speaker of the House Boehner resigns Sept 25
- Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy – short-lived heir apparent – drops out of race October 8<sup>th</sup>
- 20 day leadership vacuum



- Congress passes Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015
- House Oct 28 (266-167), Senate Oct 30 (64-35)
- Paul Ryan becomes Speaker of the House Oct 28



- The President signed the bill into law on November 2.



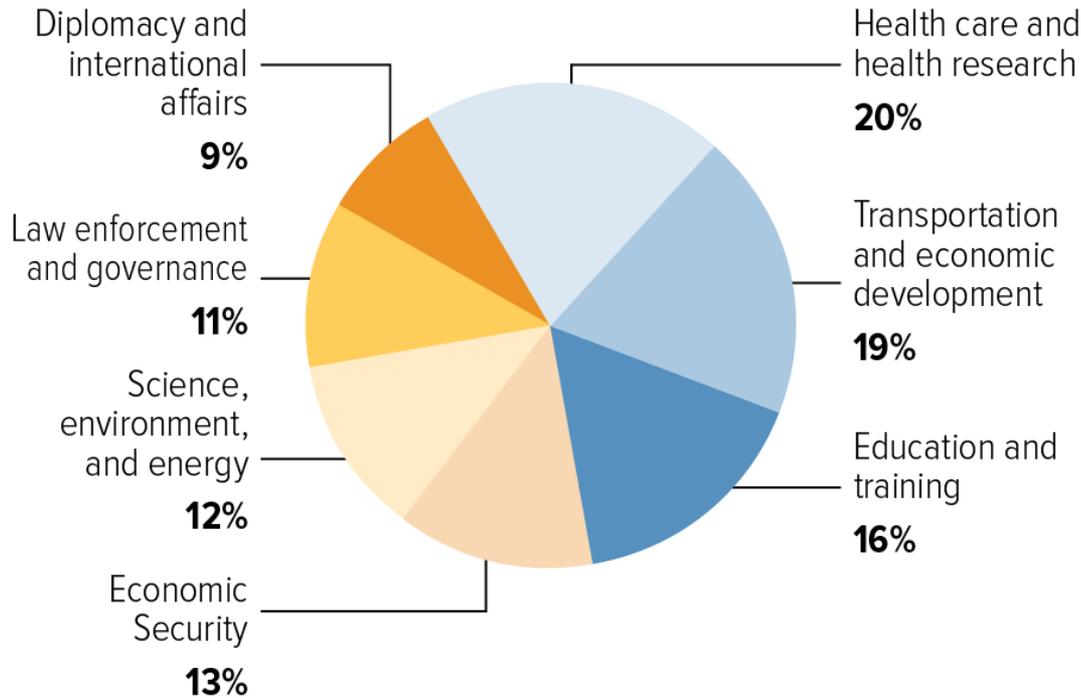
## What the budget deal does:

- Suspends the U.S. debt limit until March 15, 2017, after the next presidential election
- Partially rolls back the sequester and increases discretionary spending caps for FY 2016 and FY 2017
- Caps will increase by \$50 billion in FY 2016 and \$30 billion in FY 2017, split equally between defense and nondefense spending
- Great possibility for increase for NIH – but many competing priorities for the White House and Congress

## What the budget deal does NOT do:

- Make appropriations for FY16 – Dec 11 deadline stands
- **10 days of funding remaining**

## Non-Defense Discretionary Spending, FY 2014



Source: CBPP based on Office of Management and Budget.

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

Health care and health research constituted 20 percent (\$118 billion) of NDD spending in 2014.

Nearly half of NDD health spending provides hospital and medical care for veterans. Another 25 percent finances research ranging from cancer treatments to vaccine development, primarily through NIH.

The rest funds other health programs such as the Indian Health Service, the CDC, and FDA.

# Appropriations: Where we are

- Congress is just back from recess (left on 11/18)
- Nov 18 - House passed a bill requiring strict background checks for Syrian & Iraqi refugees - 289-137 vote included 47 Dem yes votes despite strong WH lobbying against/veto threat

***“Late lobbying against refugee bill backfires on the White House”***

***November 18***



# Why does this matter to appropriations for NIH?

- Refugee issues will need to be rolled into \$1.1 trillion omnibus spending bill
- Already a heavy lift that will come with controversial policy riders and partisan battles
  - Financial regulation, Labor issues, Environment, Planned Parenthood
  - New: Syrian and Iraqi refugees –security, housing assistance, campaign finance

***“Syria refugee fight emerges as government shutdown threat”***

***November 23***



# December

M	T	W	T	F
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>7</b> Hanukkah begins (12/6)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>14</b> Hanukkah ends	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Christmas Day
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	



November 30

- **“NIH FLIES ABOVE THE APPROPS FRAY”**
- “Research advocates are feeling mighty optimistic about how NIH will fare in a year-end budget deal. Several tell Prescription PULSE that they are expecting the agency to get at least a \$2 billion boost from a wave of bipartisan enthusiasm this year that hasn't lost steam. Last week, more than 100 Republicans in the House, including some of its most conservative members, asked for a \$3 billion increase”

November 30

## *“Second Short-Term Continuing Resolution Acceptable to White House”*

“I’m hopeful to get it all done and voted on by the 11th. If not, we’re here until the 18th and it won’t make any difference that we will get that done”

- Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy

White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest signaled it would not block such a short-term CR while lawmakers finalize the appropriations deal

CQ

## Bottom Line:

Will there be a government shutdown?



No one wins. Risky election year coming. 2013 shutdown costs estimated at over \$20 billion.

Will NCI get a funding increase for FY16?

***Looks Good – But Many Competing Priorities***

QUESTIONS?

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