

Legislative Update

NCI Council of Research Advocates

Holly Aprea Gibbons, MPP

Maureen Clark Szemborski, MPH

Office of Government and Congressional Relations

Legislative Update

- **New Administration**
- **117th Congress**
- **COVID Relief Package**
- **FY 2022 Appropriations**

Secretary of Health and Human Services Nominee Xavier Becerra – nominated Dec. 7



- Former member of the House (12 terms, 1993-2017) Ways & Means
- Chaired both the House Democratic Caucus and the Hispanic Caucus
- **Became California's Attorney General in 2017**
 - Joined consortium of AGs who expressed concerns over contact tracing apps on Google and Apple's platforms
 - Opposed federal preemption of state privacy laws re: data
 - Active on youth tobacco control issues – lawsuit against JUUL

Senate HELP and Senate Finance Committee Hearings Held February 23 -24,
*Finance Committee split along party lines in **14-14 vote** on March 3*

The Senate has confirmed **13 out of 23** of President Joe Biden's Cabinet members so far.

Thomas-Greenfield UN
McDonough VA
Fudge HUD
Vilsack Agriculture
Yellen Treasury
Harris VP
Garland AG
Walsh Labor
Granholm Energy
Tanden OMB
Guzman SBA
Lander OSTP

Klain Chief of Staff

Rouse CEA

Tai Trade
Mayorkas DHS
Buttigieg DOT
Raimondo Commerce
Austin Defense
Biden President
Blinken State
Haaland Interior
Becerra HHS
Cardona Education
Regan EPA
Haines Intelligence

2020 Election Results: Topline

Chamber/Office	Control before election	Control in 2021
House of Representatives	Democrats	Democrats (221-211, 3 vacant)
Senate	Republicans	Democrats (50-50)
President	Republicans (Trump)	Democrats (Biden)

SOURCE: Associated Press
AP DATA AS OF 1/20/2021 9:00 AM

117th Congress Breaks Records

Most racially and ethnically diverse Congress in history – close to a quarter of voting members (23%) are racial/ethnic minorities

- 6th Congress in a row to break record set by the one prior

Record Number of Women in Congress

- 144 of 539 seats – or 27% – are held by women (50% increase in 10 years)



House Leadership



Speaker of the House:
Nancy Pelosi
(D-CA)



Majority Leader:
Steny Hoyer
(D-MD)



Majority Whip:
Jim Clyburn
(D-SC)



Minority Leader:
Kevin McCarthy
(R-CA)



Minority Whip:
Steve Scalise
(R-LA)

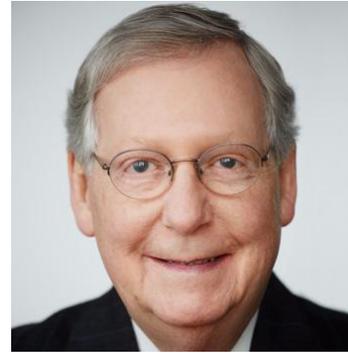


Conference Chair:
Liz Cheney
(R-WY)

Senate Leadership



Majority
Leader:
Chuck Schumer
(D-NY)



Minority
Leader:
Mitch
McConnell
(R-KY)



Majority
Whip:
Dick Durbin
(D-IL)



Minority
Whip:
John Thune
(R-DS)

House Energy and Commerce Committee



Full Committee
Chair:
Frank Pallone (D-NJ)



Full Committee Ranking
Member:
Cathy McMorris Rodgers
(R-WA)

~~Retired: Rep. Greg
Walden (R-OR)~~



Health Subcommittee
Chair:
Anna Eshoo (D-CA)



Health Subcommittee
Ranking Member:
Brett Guthrie (R-KY)

~~Michael Burgess (R-TX)~~

Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee



Chair
Patty Murray
(D-WA)



Ranking Member
Richard Burr (R-NC)
~~Retired: Lamar Alexander~~
~~(R-TN)~~

Appropriations Committees

House



Full Committee Chair &
Labor-HHS SC Chair
Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)

~~Retired: Nita Lowey (D-NY)~~



Full Committee Ranking
Member:
Kay Granger (R-TX)



L-HHS Subcommittee
Ranking Member:
Tom Cole (R-OK)

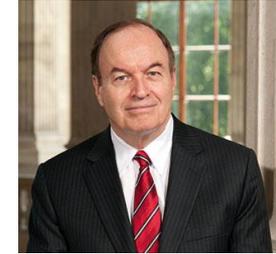


L-HHS Subcommittee Chair:
Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)

Senate



Full Committee Chairman
Patrick Leahy (D-VT)



Full Committee Ranking Member:
Richard Shelby (R-AL)



L-HHS Subcommittee Ranking
Member:
Roy Blunt (R-MO)

President Biden Announces American Rescue Plan

JANUARY 20, 2021 • LEGISLATION

- \$1.9 Trillion package, including extending unemployment benefits, housing and food assistance programs, and individual stimulus checks
- Legislation drafted in 9 **authorizing** committees
- Released on Day 1 with a March 14th deadline in mind, as current unemployment benefits are set to expire



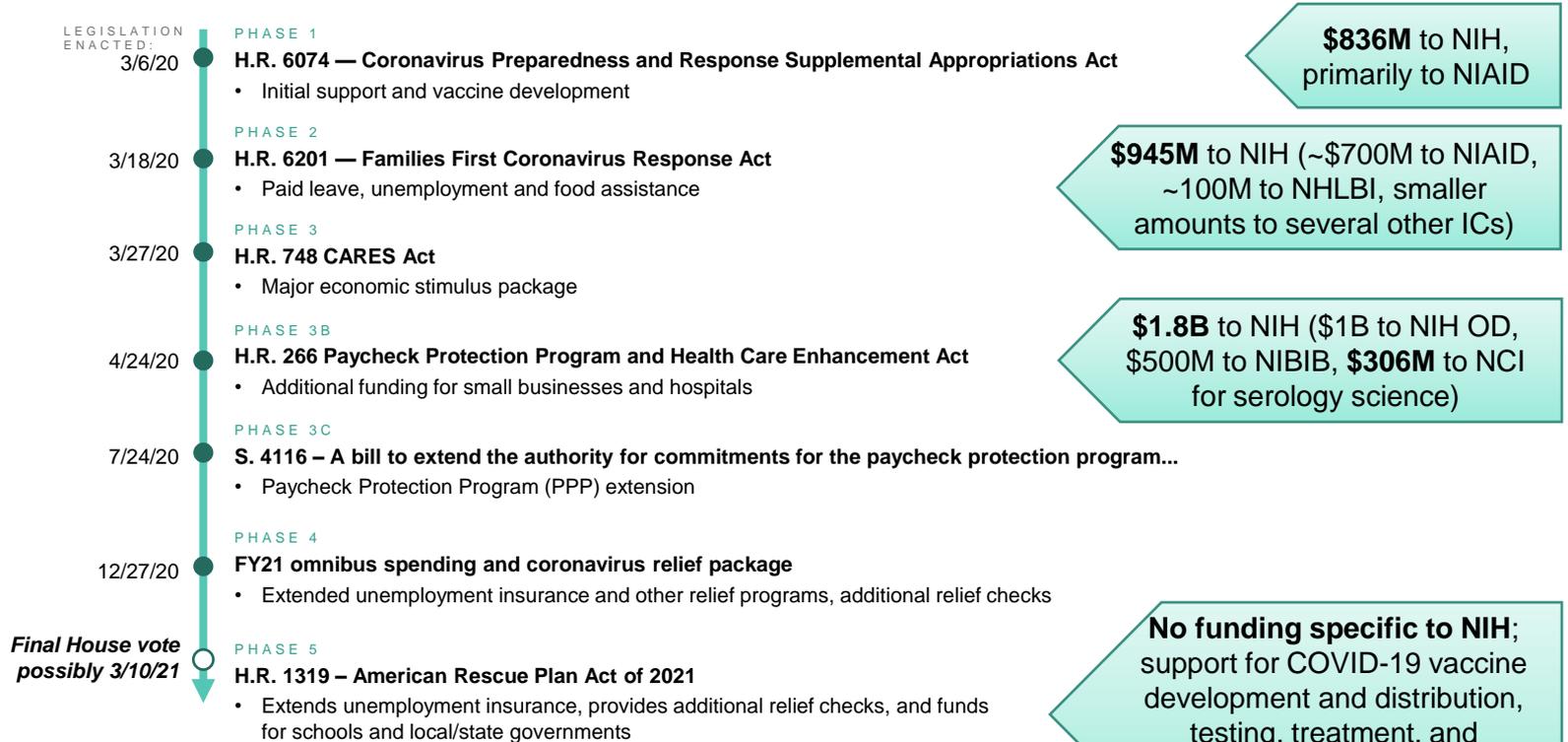
15-hour 'vote-a-rama'

5:30 AM on February 5th

Vice President Kamala Harris casts two tie-breaking votes to advance the budget resolution

“On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 50,” she said. “The Senate being equally divided, the vice president votes in the affirmative and the concurrent resolution as amended is adopted.”

Timeline of major coronavirus relief packages



Covid-19 Aid Bill Heads Back to House After Tense Senate Vote

Pelosi can afford few defections as House lawmakers prime for a second vote; progressives have signaled support

Roll Call

CONGRESS

Senate sets new mark for longest recorded vote thanks to vote-a-rama 2021



- Record-setting 'vote-a-rama'
- 12-hour delay for final negotiations with Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia over unemployment payments
- Final Senate passage shortly after noon on March 6th
- Vote of 50-49 along party lines (with Sen. Dan Sullivan of Alaska home for a family funeral)

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

- \$92B in funding directed toward HHS to fight COVID-19 through an increase in testing, support for vaccine production and distribution, treatment, and prevention
 - Activities span HHS, including specific efforts at CDC and FDA – no new funding directed to NIH
 - \$150M to NIST and \$600M to NSF to support COVID-related research
- Economic relief to Americans through:
 - Stimulus payments and increased unemployment insurance benefits
 - Aid to local, state, territorial, and tribal governments
 - Small business assistance, among other provisions
- Prioritizes return to in-person learning, provides additional funds to help schools reopen safely

Lost Productivity/Restart Costs

Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act - authorizes nearly \$25 billion in support to U.S. researchers who have been impacted by the pandemic; \$10B authorization for NIH

- Sens. Edward Markey (D-MA), Tom Tillis (R-NC), Gary Peters (D-MI), Susan Collins (R-ME)
- Reps. Diane DeGette (D-CO), Fred Upton (R-MI), Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Anna Eshoo (D-CA), and Anthony Gonzales (R-OH), 118 co-sponsors

- **Efforts in the 116th Congress**
 - **HEROES Act (\$3B for NIH)** – *did not become law*
 - **FY21 House Appropriations bill - \$5B for NIH** “for offsetting the costs related to reductions in lab productivity resulting from the coronavirus pandemic or public health measures related to the coronavirus pandemic” – *not in final appropriation*

FY 2022 Appropriations

Complications for Appropriations Process

- TBD timing for FY22 President's Budget Request
- Expiration of debt limit suspension on July 31

Transition Years & Timing to Completion of NIH Appropriations

Election (CR in effect)	Immediate FY Appropriation Enacted	President's Budget Release	Next FY Appropriation Enacted
November 2020	FY2021 December 27, 2020	FY2022 TBD	FY2022 TBD
November 2016	FY2017 May 5, 2017	FY2018 May 23, 2017	FY2018 March 23, 2018
November 2012	FY2013 March 26, 2013	FY2014 April 10, 2013	FY2014 January 17, 2014

Questions?

holly.gibbons@nih.gov
maureen.clark@nih.gov
240-781-3302