

National Indian Health Board



DECEMBER 8, 2011

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2012 APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

Although Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 officially began on October 1st, Congress has yet to pass nine of the twelve appropriations bills for this year. This includes the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, which contains funding for the Indian Health Service (IHS). Following the release of the President's budget request in February, both the House and Senate have released proposed funding levels for IHS in FY 2012 (see chart below). Conflict over a number of controversial policy riders attached to the House version of the bill (particularly those limiting the power of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have delayed further legislative action on the Interior bill.

The House and Senate are currently in conference to reconcile differences in each of the nine remaining spending bills for FY 2012, and ideally, move them all in a large (or "omnibus") spending package before recessing for the year. Newspapers are reporting that funding for the Pentagon, Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs is largely settled, and that there are tentative agreements on funding for the EPA and IHS. According to Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the policy riders have been pared back.

At this time, the federal government is operating under a continuing resolution (a mechanism that allows for government operations to continue at the current rate of funding) that will expire on December 16th. To meet this deadline, an omnibus package must be filed with the House Committee on Rules by Monday, December 12th. In the event that Congress is successful in passing an omnibus for FY 2012, the level of funding for IHS will likely be closer to the Senate proposal due to passage of the Budget Control Act of 2011. The Budget Control Act capped discretionary spending for FY 2012 at lower levels than were agreed to during the drafting of the House bill. If they are unsuccessful, there will likely be another continuing resolution until differences can be resolved.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Cooper, NIHB Legislative Director, at: jcooper@nihb.org or Liz Malerba, NIHB Legislative Assistant, at Lmalerba@nihb.org or visit www.nihb.org



Indian Health Service FY 2012 Budget Comparison
(Dollars in Thousands)

IHS Program	FY 2011 Enacted ⁱ	FY 2012 President's Request ⁱⁱ	% change FY11 Enacted & FY12 Request	FY 2012 House Proposal ⁱⁱⁱ	% change FY 11 Enacted & House	FY 2012 Senate Proposal ^{iv}	% change FY11 Enacted & Senate
Total Clinical Services	\$2,962,621	\$3,376,201	14.0%	\$3,141,735	6.0%	\$3,081,821	4.0%
<i>Contract Health Services</i>	\$779,927	\$948,646	21.6%	\$836,685	7.3%	\$829,927	6.4%
Preventive Health	\$144,027	\$156,613	8.7%	\$152,198	5.7%	\$147,258	2.2%
Total Other Services	\$558,625	\$633,325	13.4%	\$740,389	32.5%	\$607,029	8.7%
<i>Contract Support Costs</i>	\$397,693	\$461,837	16.1%	\$573,761	44.3%	\$442,693	11.3%
Total Services	\$3,665,273	\$4,166,139	13.7%	\$4,034,322	10.1%	\$3,836,108	4.7%
Facilities	\$403,947	\$457,699	13.3%	\$427,259	5.8%	\$446,342	10.5%
Total IHS	\$4,069,220	\$4,623,838	13.6%	\$4,461,581	9.6%	\$4,282,450	5.2%

ⁱ Final FY 2011 appropriations were enacted on April 15, 2011 in Public Law 112-10.

ⁱⁱ President Obama's Request for FY 2012 was released in February 2011.

ⁱⁱⁱ The House Committee on Appropriations was successful in reporting out an Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill for FY 2012 (House Report 112-151) in early July 2011, and the bill (H.R. 2584) was later debated on the House floor. Debate on the bill was never finished, however, due to both policy riders and passage of the Budget Control Act.

^{iv} The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies did not arrive at these numbers through regular committee order. Instead, the Subcommittee's Leadership (Chairman Jack Reed (D-RI) and Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)) released a draft bill meant to be the Chairman's mark and a "starting point for further discussion in mid-October. The draft has not been filed, but is reflective of the new discretionary spending caps set by the Budget Control Act. See the Subcommittee's [website](#) for more information.