

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

GENERAL PROVISION

Evaluation Set-Aside. – The bill continues to use a set-aside funding mechanism to support the evaluation of employment and training programs. Instead of directly providing funds for evaluation, the Committee recommendation supports evaluation activities, and has increased the set aside from 0.75 percent to 1.0 percent for all training and employment programs. These funds ensure that sufficient funding is available to carry out comprehensive evaluation and applied research activities in consultation with the Department’s chief evaluation officer, who oversees the evaluation program. Results will inform policy, advance the Department’s mission, and improve its performance-based management initiatives.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Evidence-Based Grant Making. – The Committee directs the Secretary to ensure that evidence of effectiveness is part of the selection criteria for all competitive grant programs and to provide enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities for applicants. Noncompetitive formula grant funds have a range of evidence requirements and preferences which the Department is directed to support through enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities.

Strengthening Data Capacity and Infrastructure. – The Committee directs the Secretary to clarify for eligible grantees that improving data capacity, including integrated data infrastructure, analysis activities, and human capacity, is a permissible use of grant funds in accordance with the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act and OMB’s implementing guidance. Further, the Secretary should provide technical assistance, highlight best practices, and take other steps to encourage state and local grantees to build this capacity, which is essential to understanding student and worker needs, improving coordination across programs, measuring results, and evaluating which strategies and interventions are most effective while maintaining the privacy of individuals’ data.

Foundation for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act. – The Committee continues to believe that the execution of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act will enhance the evidence-building capacity of Federal agencies, strengthen privacy protections, improve secure access to data, and provide more and higher quality evidence to policymakers. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to continue to include in the Fiscal Year 2024 and future Congressional Justifications an update on the implementation of such Act for the current and future budget years.

Strengthening Data Privacy. – The Committee directs the Secretary of Labor in conjunction with the Secretary of Education to provide guidance and technical assistance on integrated data systems and student and worker privacy. This guidance should build on and expand the guidance issued by the Privacy Technical Assistance Center in January 2017 (PTAC-IB-4).

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Reintegration of Ex-Offenders. – The Committee has included \$150,000,000, including \$25,000,000 for intermediaries, for the Reintegration of Ex-Offenders program which helps prepare and assist adult ex-offenders in returning to their communities through pre-release services, mentoring, job training, and case management. This competitive grant program provides funding opportunities to build projects built on evidence-based interventions or promising practices that will lead to improved employment outcomes for young adults between the ages of 18 to 24 who have been involved in either the juvenile or adult justice system or adults ages 25 or older who have been incarcerated in the adult criminal justice system.

Workforce Data Quality Initiative. – The Committee has included \$40,000,000 for the Workforce Data Quality Initiative to support competitive grants to develop and enhance longitudinal data systems that integrate education and workforce data. This initiative will help build State and local capacity and coordinate with organizations to track employment and educational outcomes of Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) program participants, including those with disabilities, and provide information about job success rates and training programs.

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA). – The Committee includes \$375,000,000 for the RESEA program, \$117,000,000 in base funding and an additional \$258,000,000 made available pursuant to the Bipartisan

Budget Act of 2018 (PL 115– 123). The Committee continues to support the RESEA program and urges the Department to focus its efforts on requiring States to submit a plan with a description of evidence-based interventions and policies to help the unemployed find work and reduce the rate of improper payments in the unemployment insurance system.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION - PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

Bureau of Primary Health Care. – The Committee supports HRSA’s continued promotion of expanded partnerships between Health Centers and evidence-based home visiting programs to improve maternal and child health outcomes in high-need communities. The Committee urges the Bureau of Primary Health Care to identify how these partnerships may fit within Health Centers’ scope of practice, ways home visiting programs can provide cost effective benefits, care coordination and service referral to help Health Centers achieve community health goals.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV). – The Committee also supports voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services during pregnancy for parents and youth. The MIECHV program builds upon scientific research showing that home visits by a nurse, social worker, early childhood educator, or other trained professional during pregnancy and in the first years of life improves health outcomes. The Committee encourages HRSA to explore opportunities to coordinate with other health agencies to improve the lives of vulnerable children and families.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION MENTAL HEALTH

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant. – The Committee recommends setting aside at least 10 percent of the funds for the MHBG program for evidence-based programs to address the needs of individuals with early serious mental illness, including psychotic disorders. The Committee commends SAMHSA for their collaboration with NIMH on the implementation of this set-aside and directs SAMHSA to continue to ensure that funds from this set-aside are only used for programs showing strong evidence of effectiveness and that target the first episode of psychosis.

Mental Health Block Grant Crisis Care Set-Aside. – The Committee recommendation includes a five percent set-aside for evidence-based crisis care programs that address the needs of individuals with serious mental illnesses, children with serious emotional disturbances, or individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

Targeted Capacity Expansion Grants. – The Committee has included \$147,900,000 for targeted capacity expansion grants to provide rapid, comprehensive, and integrated community-based responses to substance abuse treatment and recovery services.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). – The Committee recommends \$385,000,000 for CCBHCs that improve health for citizens that provide community-based mental, and substance use disorder services; advance integration of behavioral health with physical healthcare; assimilate and utilize evidence-based practices more consistently; and promote improved access to high-quality care.

State Opioid Response Grants. – The Committee has included \$1,575,000,000 for grant to address the public health crisis caused by opioid misuse and substance use disorder in the U.S. Grantees are required to use epidemiological data to demonstrate the critical gaps in availability of treatment and utilize evidence-based implementation strategies to identify which system design models will most rapidly and adequately address the gaps in their systems.

Children’s Mental Health Services. – The Committee has included \$130,000,000 to help prepare children and youth for successful transition to adulthood and assumption of adult roles and responsibilities by delivering services in the least restrictive environment with evidence-supported treatments and interventions. The funding increase will allow SAMHSA to support the continuation of grants and award a new grant cohort.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP). – The Committee support the PREP program that provide and replicate evidence-based, effective programs and strategies and programs that have been proven on the basis of rigorous scientific research to change behavior, to delay sexual activity, increase condom or contraceptive use for sexually active youth, to reduce teen pregnancy and prevent sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS.

Nutrition Services. – The Committee has included \$1,066,753,000 for nutrition services for older Americans, including funding for the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging which helps build the capacity of senior nutrition programs in 56 states and territories to provide high quality, person-centered services and assists to enhance the availability of evidence-based approaches.

Alzheimer’s Disease Program. – The Committee has included \$30,000,000 for the development and implementation of person-centered services to support partnerships with public and private entities to identify and address the unique needs of persons with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers. Funds are also included to continue and expand The National Alzheimer’s and Dementia Resource Center that supports grants to implement evidence-based interventions and innovative practices designed to empower and assist caregivers of persons with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders.

University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. – The Committee has included \$43,119,000 to expand, research, and services for those with disabilities, reduce disparities in outcomes experienced by people with disabilities and new evidence-based practices and interventions -- to promote both improved outcomes for people with spinal cord injury (SCI), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and burn injury, and practices and interventions for implementation by employers, to promote improved employment outcomes among people with disabilities.

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

Kinship Navigator. – The Committee recommendation includes \$20,000,000 for the Kinship Navigator Programs to help build the evidence base in order for programs to become eligible for mandatory funding available under the Family First Prevention and Services Act (FFPSA).

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. – The Committee includes \$150,000,000 for making competitive contracts and grants to public and private entities to fund medically accurate and age- appropriate programs that reduce teen pregnancy and for the Federal costs associated with administering and evaluating such contracts and grants, of which not

more than 10 percent of the available funds shall be for training and technical assistance, evaluation, outreach, and additional program support activities, and of the remaining amount 75 percent shall be for replicating programs that have been proven effective through rigorous evaluation to reduce teenage pregnancy, behavioral risk factors underlying teenage pregnancy, or other associated risk factors, and 25 percent shall be available for research and demonstration grants to develop, replicate, refine, and test additional models and innovative strategies for preventing teenage pregnancy.

Evaluation of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Approaches. – The Committee includes \$6,800,000 under the Public Health Services Act for the evaluation of teenage pregnancy prevention approaches. In addition, \$600,000 is included for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation to support the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review. The Evidence Review is an independent, systematic, rigorous review of evaluation studies that informs grant making and provides a clearinghouse of evidence-based programs for other Federal, State, and community initiatives.

Sexual Risk Avoidance. – The Committee has included \$35,000,000 for sexual risk avoidance education for adolescents. Grantees use an evidence-based approach and strategies through medically accurate information to educate youth on risk avoidance strategies, to help participants build healthy life and empower youth to make healthy decisions.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GENERAL PROVISION

Evaluation Set-Aside. – The Committee recommendation includes bill language that provides the Department with authority to use 1 percent of all discretionary appropriations provided in this Act for the Department of Education agencies, with the exception of Pell Grants, for evaluation purposes consistent with the terms and conditions of the Act applicable to such office. The funds are in addition to other dollars that are specifically designated for evaluation purposes. The Committee also includes language that permits funds to be pooled across all education agencies to conduct evaluations without respect to the source of funds for those activities. The Committee directs that the Department provide an evaluation plan to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees no later than 15 days prior to any transfer of funds.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Evidence-Based Grant Making. – The Committee directs the Secretary to use demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as part of the selection criteria through its Education Department General Administrative Regulations, consistent with authorizations, for all competitive grant programs and to provide enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities for applicants. Non-competitive formula grant funds have a range of evidence requirements and preferences which the Department is directed to support through enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities.

Strengthening Data Capacity and Infrastructure. – The Committee directs the Secretary to clarify for eligible grantees that improving data capacity, including integrated data infrastructure, analysis activities, and human capacity, is a permissible use of grant funds in accordance with the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act and OMB's implementing guidance. Further, the Secretary should provide technical assistance, highlight best practices, and take other steps to encourage state and local grantees to build this capacity, which is essential to understanding student needs, improving coordination across programs, measuring results, and evaluating which strategies and interventions are most effective while maintaining the privacy of individuals' data.

Foundation for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act. – The Committee continues to believe that the execution of the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act will enhance the evidence-building capacity of Federal agencies, strengthen privacy protections, improve secure access to data, and provide more and higher quality evidence to policymakers. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to continue to include in the Fiscal Year 2023 and future Congressional Justifications an update on the implementation of such Act for the current and future budget years.

Strengthening Data Privacy. – The Committee directs the Secretary in conjunction with the Secretary of Labor to provide guidance and technical assistance on integrated data systems and student and worker privacy. This guidance should build on and expand the guidance issued by the Privacy Technical Assistance Center in January 2017 (PTAC-IB-4).

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

Grants to Local Education Agencies. – The Committee has included language, as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), that requires States to set aside 7% of the funds for Title I, Part A, for activities to help school districts improve low-performing schools and develop and implement improvement plans that must include evidence-based interventions that are supported by strong, moderate, or promising levels of evidence. Further, the Committee directs the Department to provide technical assistance and support to States and school districts to help them carry out this requirement.

STATE AGENCY PROGRAMS

Comprehensive Literacy Development Grants. – The Committee has included \$194,000,000 to support literacy grants for disadvantaged and low-income children, English learners, and those with disabilities with intensive instruction in evidence-based literacy methods.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

Magnet Schools Assistance. – The Committee has included \$139,000,000 to assist eligible local educational agencies in the desegregation of schools by supporting the elimination, reduction, and prevention of racial isolation in elementary and secondary schools with substantial proportions of students of color. Projects support the development and design of innovative education methods and practices that promote diversity and increase choices in public education programs. Grantees establish and operate magnet schools that are part of court or agency-ordered desegregation plans and that offer special curricula or instructional programs that appeal to parents and students from diverse backgrounds.

INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Education Innovation and Research (EIR). – The Committee recommends \$514,000,000 for EIR grants to support field-initiated State and local efforts to develop and implement innovative evidence-based projects. Funds will support new and ongoing projects that will refine innovative new practices with the potential for future scaling-up as well as expansion grants that will require more rigorous levels of evidence in order to justify further replication and scaling.

Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants. – The Committee recommends \$200,000,000 for the Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants program to provide grants to States, school districts, and partnerships to develop, implement, improve, or expand human capital management systems or performance-based compensation systems in schools.

Supporting Effective Educator Development Grant (SEED). – The Committee has included \$94,000,000 for SEED to expand support for grants to national nonprofit organizations that provide evidence-based professional development activities for teachers, principals, and school leaders.

Javits Gifted and Talented Education Program. – The Committee has included \$16,500,000 to coordinated program of research, demonstration projects, innovative strategies, and other activities to build and enhance the capacity of elementary and secondary schools to identify gifted and talented students and meet their special educational needs and provide resources to increase educational opportunity for underserved student groups, including students of color, English learners, and students with disabilities.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZEN EDUCATION

School Safety and National Activities. – The Committee has included \$216,000,000 for activities to improve students' safety and well-being. Funding is also included to continue and expand Mental Health Services Professional Demonstration Grants that support innovative partnerships that address the shortage of school-based mental health providers by training such providers for employment in high-need schools and LEAs.

Full-Service Community Schools. – The Committee has included \$443,000,000 for Full-Service Community Schools for competitive grants to support school-based comprehensive services for students, families, and communities and evidence-based models to meet the holistic needs of children and families.

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

Institute of Education Sciences. – The Committee includes \$900,000,000 to support research, statistics and evaluation to study and provide policymakers, educators, teachers, and students with the necessary tools to meet the problems and challenges faced by today's schools.

Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems. – The Committee includes \$100,000,000 for Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) for competitive grants to support the development, maintenance, and expansions of State longitudinal data systems. Increased support for the SLDS program will further strengthen State data infrastructure and linkages, contribute to improved data access and use for evidence-based policymaking, and build capacity in States to secure and protect data.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Federal TRIO Programs. – The Committee recommends \$1,282,761,000 to support programs to encourage low-income, first-generation college students to enter and complete college. The Committee continues to urge the Department to include an evidence-based priority during grant competitions.

Gaining Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP). – The Committee recommends \$408,000,000 to support State grants and partnerships with low-income schools and community organizations to provide students with skills and scholarships to pursue postsecondary education. The program includes an evaluation set-aside for data collection. The Committee continues to urge the Department to include an evidence-based priority during grant competitions.

Postsecondary Student Success Grants. – The Committee has included \$200,000,000 for grants to support individuals, who have started but not completed postsecondary education, provide essential wrap-around services, increase postsecondary degree attainment, and career success for high-need students. The Committee further directs the Department to carry out this program as a tiered-evidence competition, in the same structure as EIR, and require rigorous independent evaluations of grantee projects.

GENERAL PROVISION

Higher Education Evaluation Set Aside. – The Committee continues a provision allowing up to 0.5 percent of funds appropriated in this Act for programs authorized under the HEA, except for the Pell Grant program, to be used for evaluation of any HEA program.

RELATED AGENCY

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

Evaluation. – The Committee has included \$6,250,000 for the Corporation to continue its research and evaluation agenda and to implement the most effective policies, practices, and program initiatives to build strong evidence and improve outcomes.

AmeriCorps State and National Grants. – The Committee recommends \$601,100,000 to support grants to community-based organizations and agencies to address local needs in education, public safety, health and the environment. These funds will also continue to support and invest in evidence-informed and evidence-based community solutions, providing a critical source of human capital to meet pressing needs across the country and a pathway to economic and educational opportunities for AmeriCorps members. The Committee also supports the use of evidence in the making of grant awards. Further, the Committee supports efforts to increase the number of AmeriCorps to 100,000 members each year.

US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES GENERAL PROVISION

Improving Data Reporting. – The Committee directs the Departments of Labor and Education to submit a report to Congress within 180 days of enactment on how to improve data reporting systems across the Departments including required data collections under IDEA, WIOA, and other variables. The Committee seeks to understand the barriers and opportunities to improving data systems, including those that have been or could be supported through programs in this act, that can be used to inform transition outcomes for students with disabilities, and that improve program outcomes for participants served under such programs and the overall customer experience of State grantees and substate subgrantees.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL PROVISION

Evaluation Set-Aside. – The Committee has included bill language to set-aside funding to support the evaluation of programs within the Department of Justice. Instead of directly providing funds for evaluation, the Committee recommendation supports evaluation activities, and has included a set-aside of 1.0 percent of programs within the Department. These funds will ensure that sufficient funding is available to carry out comprehensive evaluation and Department programs. The results would inform policy, advance the Department’s mission, and improve its performance-based management initiatives.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Evidence-Based Grant Making. – The Committee directs the Attorney General to ensure that evidence of effectiveness is part of the selection criteria for all competitive grant programs and to provide enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities for applicants.

Strengthening Data Capacity and Infrastructure. – The Committee directs the Attorney General to clarify for eligible grantees that improving data capacity, including integrated data infrastructure, analysis activities, and human capacity, is a permissible use of grant funds in accordance with the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act and OMB’s implementing guidance. Further, the Attorney General should provide technical assistance, highlight best practices, and take other steps to encourage state and local grantees to build this capacity, which is essential to understanding individual needs, improving coordination across programs, measuring results, and evaluating which strategies and interventions are most effective while maintaining the privacy of individuals’ data.

Foundation for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act. – The Committee continues to believe that the execution of the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act will enhance the evidence-building capacity of Federal agencies, strengthen privacy protections, improve secure access to data, and provide more and higher quality evidence to policymakers. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to continue to include in the fiscal year 2023 and future Congressional Justifications an update on the implementation of such Act for the current and future budget years.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grants (Title II). – The Committee has included \$80,000,000, for grants to implement comprehensive State juvenile justice plans, including community-based prevention and intervention programs and activities for juvenile offenders. Funds are used to establish effective education, training, and research and evaluation, including an emphasis on the use of data and evidence in policy making and program development.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL PROVISION

Evaluation Set-Aside. – The Committee has included bill language to set-aside funding to support the evaluation of programs within the Department. Instead of directly providing funds for evaluation, the Committee recommendation supports evaluation activities, and has included a set aside of 1.0 percent for programs within the Department. These funds will ensure that sufficient funding is available to carry out comprehensive evaluations of Department programs. The results will be used to inform policy, advance the Department’s mission, and improve its performance-based management initiatives.

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PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

Choice Neighborhood Initiative. – The Committee includes \$450,000,000 for competitive grants to address community and economic development needs through evidence-based approaches to public safety, early learning, and after-school education to transform neighborhoods of concentrated poverty. Grants are provided to local governments, assisted housing owners, community development corporations, non- and for-profit entities as well as public housing and tribally designated housing entities.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Continuum of Care (COC). – The Committee recommends not less than \$3,154,000,000 for the COC program to address homelessness, with a particular emphasis on chronic homelessness, vulnerable individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. Grants are awarded to provide permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing services with a preference for grantees demonstrating positive performance and outcomes.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

GENERAL PROVISION

Evaluation Set-Aside. – The Committee has included bill language to set-aside funding to support the evaluation of programs within USAID. Instead of directly providing funds for evaluation, the Committee recommendation supports evaluation activities, and has included a set aside of 1.0 percent for programs within the agency. These funds will ensure that sufficient funding is available to carry out comprehensive evaluations of agency programs. The results will be used to inform policy, advance the agency’s mission, and improve its performance-based management initiatives.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Evidence-Based Grant Making. – The Committee directs the Administrator to ensure that evidence of effectiveness is part of the selection criteria for all competitive grant programs and to provide enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities for applicants. Noncompetitive formula grant funds have a range of evidence requirements and preferences which the Department is directed to support through enhancements to its technical assistance and support activities.

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U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Development Innovation Ventures (DIV). – The Committee includes \$40,000,000 for DIV to invest in Innovative programs and support a tiered-evidence approach to testing, developing, implementing, scaling-up and evaluating global development solutions that have the potential to change millions of lives in developing countries.

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