



**December 2021**

## **BUILD BACK BETTER ACT PASSES HOUSE, NOW UNDER SENATE CONSIDERATION**

On November 19, the House passed its version of the Build Back Better Act, which includes over \$1.2 billion in new spending for critical programs and services under the Older Americans Act (OAA).

The OAA funding section is broken down as follows:

- \$655 million for OAA Title III-B supportive services, to be used for workforce development, services, and senior center infrastructure
- \$140 million for OAA Title III-C for nutrition infrastructure such as delivery vehicles, kitchen modernization, etc.
- \$35 million for the OAA Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)
- \$75 million for the Research, Demonstration and Evaluation Center, which is a new program included in the 2020 OAA reauthorization but has not yet been funded
- \$150 million for OAA Title III-E family caregiver programs
- \$50 million for OAA Title VI Native American programs
- \$50 million for the OAA Title VII long-term care ombudsman program
- \$59 million for ACL's technical assistance and resource centers in general
- \$15 million for ACL's LGBTQ resource center
- \$1 million for the engAGED resource center
- \$5 million for intergenerational demonstration projects

Other important provisions for older adults and aging services providers include:

- A retroactive waiver of the American Rescue Plan Act's Older Americans Act funding match requirement
- \$4.2 billion in funding to reauthorize and modernize the Elder Justice Act to address the critical need to combat elder abuse, neglect and exploitation
- \$150 billion in new funding for home and community-based services under Medicaid
- Out-of-pocket cap for Medicare Part D enrollees
- Full payment coverage for all vaccines under Medicare

## Contact Us

We welcome your feedback!

Please share questions, suggestions or concerns.

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The legislation is now being considered by the Senate. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has stated that the Senate will join the House in passing the Build Back Better bill before Christmas. Current expectations are that the Senate will pass a bill, but it will be different than the House version. This would mean differences will have to be worked out between the two, as only one bill goes to the President for signature.

## FEDERAL FY 2022 FUNDING UPDATE

Last week, both the House and Senate passed and the President signed into law an extension of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuing Resolution, ensuring no government shutdown for now. The extension will fund the government through February 18, 2022.

This means funding levels from FY 2021 will continue through February 18 with no increases and no cuts from that level. Specific funding levels for Older Americans Act programs from FY 2021 include:

Title III-B Home and Community-Based Services	\$392.5 million
Title III-C Nutrition Total	\$951.7 million
<i>III-C-1 Congregate Meals</i>	<i>\$515 million</i>
<i>III-C-2 Home-Delivered Meals</i>	<i>\$276 million</i>
<i>III-C Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)</i>	<i>\$160 million</i>
Title III-D Preventive Health	\$24.8 million
Title III-E Family Caregiver Support Program	\$188.9 million
Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)	\$405 million
Title VI Native Americans Nutrition/Supportive Services	\$35.2 million
Title VI Native Americans Caregiver Program	\$10.8 million
Title VII Long-Term Care Ombudsman	\$18.8 million
Title VII Elder Rights Support Activities Total	\$17.9 million
<i>Elder Justice Initiative</i>	<i>\$14 million</i>
<i>Other Elder Rights Activities</i>	<i>\$3.9 million</i>

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