



Appropriations Update: FY 2014 June 17, 2013

Dear AJFCA Members:

This Thursday, Appropriations Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) will set federal spending limits for the coming fiscal year at a level that would assume the Sequester* will not take place and instead would expand regular discretionary spending to \$1.058 trillion. That figure is the same as requested in the President's fiscal 2014 budget proposal and would mark an increase from the \$984 billion for the government's operating expenses in fiscal 2013 after the impact of sequester. (*See Senator Mikulski's op-ed on Sequestration at: <http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/news.cfm?method=news.view&id=1c2685de-e252-4739-a376-1b0e1a768ee9>)

Once Senator Mikulski releases the fiscal 2014 spending allocations for each Appropriations subcommittee, the subcommittees will begin consideration of their respective spending bills. According to a draft schedule that is circulating, Appropriators plan to consider 8 of 12 bills by July 18. We understand that the Agriculture spending bill may be marked up by subcommittee this week, the all-important Labor-Health and Human Services-Education bill is scheduled for subcommittee markup on July 9 and the Homeland Security bill is expected to be marked up by the subcommittee on July 16.

By comparison, the House set overall spending at \$967 billion and began moving bills in June. Thus far, the House has passed the Homeland Security and Military Construction –Veterans Affairs spending bills and the House Appropriations Committee has approved the Agriculture and Defense spending bills. Of note:

- The House-passed Homeland Security Appropriations bill contains \$1.5 billion for the State and local grant program. This is \$550 million below the FY 2013 enacted level of \$2 billion and \$600 million below the President's budget request of \$2.1 billion for FY 2014. Under this allocation, the bill does not provide a specific set-aside for the **Nonprofit Security Grant Program**, leaving to the Secretary of Homeland Security the discretion to determine allocations between the State and local grant programs. The bill would essentially flat-fund FEMA's **Emergency Food at Shelter Program** at \$120 million, \$20 million above the President's budget request of \$100 million for FY 2014.
- The Committee-approved Agriculture Appropriations bill contains \$76.3 billion for the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**, which is \$958 million below last year's level and \$2 billion below the President's budget request. The bill also provides \$6.7 billion in discretionary funding for the **Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition services program**, which is \$214 million below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$487 million below the President's request.

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