

## **Talking Points: Appropriations**

Timing: April through enactment of the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill

Target: House and Senate Appropriations Committee Members

### **Core Message:**

***Congress must significantly increase federal funding for programs that benefit cancer patients and families. Specifically, in Fiscal Year 2005, Congress should provide:***

- ★ **\$30.25 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH)** (*\$2.37 billion increase*). We appreciate the Congressional and Presidential commitment to prioritizing research on health matters, demonstrated by the five year commitment to double the NIH budget. While appreciative of the hard work that went into achieving last year's 3% increase at NIH, OVAC is concerned that dramatic drops in investment at NIH may halt promising research. Therefore, OVAC is requesting an 8.5% increase for NIH in FY2005.
- ★ **\$6.2 billion for the National Cancer Institute (NCI)** (*\$1.5 billion increase*), in order to fully fund the NCI Director's Bypass Budget. The Bypass Budget is presented annually to Congress by the NCI Director and details the resources necessary to accelerate our progress against cancer. Cancer research needs to be a top priority, as it remains a leading cause of death in the U.S. We believe that Congress should fully fund the critical programs in the NCI Director's Bypass Budget, which offers the best chance for those diagnosed with cancer and our best chance to win the war on cancer.
- ★ **\$207.88 million for the National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD)** (*\$16.28 million increase*) to enable the Center to fulfill its important mission, particularly as it concerns the disproportionate incidence, morbidity, and mortality that cancer has in many racial and ethnic minority populations.
- ★ **\$205 million for the Nurse Reinvestment Act/Nursing Workforce Programs at Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA)** (*\$62.2 million increase*). These programs are designed to attract and retain qualified nurses to address the current and projected shortages in the profession.
- ★ **\$409 million for eight specific program areas at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**. These programs have proven particularly effective in providing education, prevention and screening to populations that otherwise may not have access to cancer detection and treatment:
  - ★ \$25 million for National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program
  - ★ \$65 million for National Program of Cancer Registries
  - ★ \$25 million for Colorectal Cancer Control Initiative
  - ★ \$20 million for Prostate Cancer Control Initiative
  - ★ \$250 million for National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
  - ★ \$9 million for Ovarian Cancer Initiative
  - ★ \$10 million for Skin Cancer Primary Prevention and Education Initiatives
  - ★ \$5 million for Geraldine Ferraro Blood Cancer Program