

Introduction to AUCD Advocacy

Cornerstone Government Affairs

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Role of Appropriations Committee

- Approve or modify the President's Budget request for annual discretionary spending on a program-by-program basis.
- There are 12 subcommittees, each with jurisdiction over certain Federal agencies, that enact 12 separate appropriations bills each year.
- Typically, 1- 3 supplemental appropriations each year and continuing resolutions for days, weeks, or months.

Labor HHS Appropriations Subcommittees

House

David Obey, Wisconsin, Chairman

Nita Lowey, New York

Rosa DeLauro, Connecticut

Jesse L. Jackson, Illinois

Patrick J. Kennedy, Rhode Island

Lucille Roybal-Allard, California

Barbara Lee, California

Tom Udall, New Mexico

Michael Honda, California

Betty McCollum, Minnesota

Tim Ryan, Ohio

Jim Walsh, New York, Ranking

Ralph Regula, Ohio

John E. Peterson, Pennsylvania

Dave Weldon, Florida

Mike Simpson, Idaho

Dennis Rehberg, Montana

Senate

Tom Harkin, Iowa, Chairman

Daniel Inouye, Hawaii

Harry Reid, Nevada

Herb Kohl, Wisconsin

Patty Murray, Washington

Mary Landrieu, Louisiana

Richard Durbin, Illinois

Jack Reed, Rhode Island

Arlen Specter, Pennsylvania, Ranking

Thad Cochran, Mississippi

Judd Gregg, New Hampshire

Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texas

Larry Craig, Idaho

Ted Stevens, Alaska

Richard Shelby, Alabama

Frank Lautenberg, New Jersey

Typical Appropriations schedule

- 1st wk. Feb. President submits budget to Congress
- Feb - May Hearings
- **March 16** **Wish lists due to Subcommittees**
- May - June Sub & Full Committee markups
- June - July Floor action
- August Recess
- Sept- Dec Conference Committee
Send bill to President
- October 1 Fiscal year begins (bill completed or begin continuing resolutions)

LENDs Funding History

	Total funding	# Lends	Ave. award
2002	\$18,748,097	35	\$535,000
2003	18,831,420	35	538,000
2004	18,639,095	36	517,000
2005	18,767,233	35	536,000
2006	18,667,644	35	533,000
2007	18,667,644	35	533,000
2008	24,067,644	TBD	TBD

FY 2007 Labor-HHS House Report Language for LENDs

- “The Committee has included bill language identifying \$117,428,000 for the SPRANS set-aside. Within the total, the Committee urges HRSA to provide the highest possible funding level to continue and enhance the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LENDs) programs. These programs are designed to improve the health status on infants, children and adolescents with or at risk for neurodevelopmental and related disabilities and their families. This is accomplished through the interdisciplinary training of professionals for leadership roles in the provision of health and related care, continuing education, technical assistance, research and consultation. The programs focus on the special health care needs of children with a wide range of neurodevelopmental, metabolic and genetic disorders. Additional funding would help these programs initiate or expand their work in the area of Down Syndrome, autism, and genetics counseling.”

FY 2008 LENDs Proposal

MCH Block Grant

- AUCD supports an overall increase of \$36,000,000 for the MCH Block Grant to bring it up to a total of \$729,000,000 in FY 2008.
- “The Committee has also provided \$24,067,644 within the Special Projects of Regional and National Significance set-aside to enhance the capacity of existing LEND programs and expand the number of sites and professionals trained to diagnose, treat, and provide interventions to individuals with autism spectrum disorder authorized by the Combating Autism Act. This increase will help these programs initiate or expand their work in the area of interdisciplinary leadership training to meet the needs of children with autism spectrum disorder and related neurodevelopmental disabilities.”

Office Visit Basics

- Goal is to establish a relationship
 - Importance of LEND to the state
 - Additional funding will be used to begin capacity building to provide interventions to individuals with autism spectrum disorder as authorized by the Combating Autism Act.
 - LEND as a resource to the Congressional office
- Convey specific request for Congressional action, such as appropriations – recruiting a champion.
 - We want them to sign on to the AUCD dear colleague letter to the Labor-HHS appropriations subcommittee with the LEND request as soon as possible.

Top Line Talking Points

-- *the elevator pitch*

- Develop the main pitch than can be delivered in 60 seconds:
 - What you want
 - Why you need it
 - Who supports it
 - Impact on the State/Congressional District

Office Visit Basics - Timeline

- Self introduction. Explain past contacts with the office, staff connections to state, etc. Offer business card.
- 1 minute overview of the school: location, enrollment, programs.
- 2 minute overview of local accomplishments.
- 10 minute presentation of issue papers
 - Hand them each paper as you present it.
- 3 minutes for questions.

Office Visit Basics - Departure

- Thank them for the time.
- Offer to provide additional information, invite them for a tour of the program or do an event.
- Thank you note within a week (with follow-up information if requested)
- Report to AUCD staff on how it went and follow-up needed.
- Proactively send them articles, studies, information relating to their interests.