



# A Commitment to End Woke and Weaponized Government

2023 Budget Proposal



CENTER FOR  
RENEWING  
AMERICA

## Table of Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction by Center for Renewing America President, Russ Vought.....	3
A Foundation of Economic Growth.....	7
Department of Justice.....	10
Department of Homeland Security.....	15
Department of Health and Human Services.....	21
Department of Housing and Urban Development.....	31
Department of Defense.....	36
Department of State and Foreign Aid.....	41
Department of Education.....	50
Department of the Treasury.....	56
Department of Labor.....	60
National Science Foundation.....	64
Environmental Protection Agency.....	66
Department of Transportation.....	69
Department of Energy.....	71
Department of Agriculture.....	74
Department of the Interior.....	79
Department of Commerce.....	80
Department of Veterans Affairs.....	81
National Aeronautics and Space Administration.....	85
US Army Corps of Engineers.....	87
Miscellaneous Reforms.....	89
Summary Tables.....	91-103

# INTRODUCTION

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*“He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to the officers and to his servants...He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day, you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves.”*

*1 Samuel 8:10-18*

The evidence of America’s fiscal brokenness is everywhere. Inflation—an economic phenomenon the experts promised was permanently relegated to history—is now running at forty-year highs, making all of life more expensive but worse, making fools out of all those taught to save their money for the deferred gain of building and investing. The nation owes \$31 trillion and counting, and the interest the Treasury Department must pay is steadily marching higher and higher. The annual cost of interest payments will exceed the Pentagon’s budget within the next ten years.

The notion of “fiscal discipline” itself might as well be in a time capsule. Congress considers no budgets, legislation never hits against cost limitations, and every partisan disagreement is “solved” simply by spending more on the pet programs of the opposing party. The Federal Reserve creates trillions of dollars with a few keyboard clicks payable to big banks who will be paid interest for not lending, in exchange for subsuming the nation’s debt, which alleviates policymakers from experiencing the hangover of their financial mismanagement—all while clamoring about the importance of its “independence” to escape government by the people.

So yes, the need for a budget—a fiscal plan—could not be more immediate. But there are some serious challenges facing any renewed effort to deal with this fiscal nightmare, and any budget intended for results must consider these.

FIRST, as bad as the fiscal situation is in the US, another immediate threat facing the American people cannot be ignored. The global COVID pandemic made it painfully obvious that a small scientific elite could shut down the economy, keep people from running their businesses, mandate an experimental drug be jabbed into another’s body to participate in society, and denigrate health treatments that could have saved millions. On the heels of this wrenching national experience is the growing awareness that the national security apparatus itself is arrayed against that half of the country not willing to bend the knee to the people, institutions, and elite worldview that make up the current governing regime. Instead of fulfilling their intended purpose of keeping the American people safe, they are hard-wired now to keep the regime in power. And that includes the emergence

of political prisoners, a weaponized, SWAT-swaggering FBI, the charges of “domestic terrorism” and “disinformation” in relation to adversaries’ exercise of free speech, and the reality that the NSA is running a surveillance state behind the protective curtain of “national security.” The immediate threat facing the nation is the fact that the people no longer govern the country; instead, the government itself is increasingly weaponized against the people it is meant to serve.

Furthermore, the nation is just beginning to wake up to and meet the threat of a century-long cultural revolution that divides the country on the basis of race and “identity,” disintegrates the institutions of western civilizations from within, teaches rising generations to hate their country and each other, and encourages the destruction of neighborhoods and cities which by extension are not worth saving. This revolution started in left-wing universities but has long since become the central worldview of the regime’s governing elites. As the rioting and destruction in the aftermath of George Floyd’s death revealed, “woke” went mainstream, and a multitude sought to tear down its own society. It is not just in the streets but also in schools, workplaces, corporate boardrooms, and churches in the form of Critical Race Theory. Instead of being a haven from such toxicity, a place for citizens to come together to serve the betterment of the public, the government is now a main distribution channel. The federal bureaucracy is the movement’s funding source, and through lucrative grants and contracts, the bit steering private businesses to — coercively regulate the narrative. Its open borders beget multiculturalism aimed at cultural incoherence. The US is even exporting it to other countries by funding gay pride events and LGBT activists in other countries under the guise of foreign aid.

In short, America cannot be saved unless the current grip of woke and weaponized government is broken. That is the central and immediate threat facing the country—the one that all our statesmen must rise tall to vanquish. The battle cannot wait. However, this woke and weaponized regime requires the resources of taxpayers to flourish and can be starved in order to dismantle it. Of course, these spending cuts will result in significant savings for the taxpayers. Thus, the main priority of this first Budget from the Center for Renewing America is to consciously and indelibly link the efforts of getting our nation’s finances in order with removing the scourge of woke and weaponized bureaucracy aimed at the American people.

SECOND, over the last two decades, the debates about fiscal responsibility have been (intentionally and unintentionally) mired in the quicksands of strategic incompetence and lacking any common sense. There has been a conviction by reformers that because so-called mandatory spending—“entitlements” or the spending that is on auto-pilot without annual decisions by Congress—is the largest portion of the federal budget and growing in the very near future, then it and only it must be the necessary target of fiscal reformers to the exclusion of discretionary spending. Not content there, because Social Security and Medicare, in particular, are large, mathematical drivers of this spending growth, fiscal seriousness demanded that they be the lead ox to be gored. Never mind the public’s perception that they had paid into dedicated trust funds and knew lawmakers had been dipping into these surpluses for decades to fund their pet programs.

As this conviction took hold, fiscal reformers lost their bearings. They forgot that while they had very little leverage each year to tackle mandatory spending, they had ample annual opportunities to tackle the discretionary spending that funded the federal government bureaucracies. As a result, nothing has occurred. The pain caucus beat their heads against a brick wall of political reality shouting about “entitlements!” Meanwhile, the political cartel comprised of the spending committees, the defense industrial complex, and the Left kept the finger pointed toward the shiny object. Many knowingly play both sides.

The second priority of this Budget is to end this charade and to focus the debate on the spending that is the easiest to cut practically and morally because it is funding the bureaucracies arrayed against the public. It is a nod to common sense. When families decide to get on a budget, they do not target the largest and immovable items of their spending, like their mortgage, first. They aim to restrain discretionary spending—they eat out less, shop less, and find cheaper ways of entertaining themselves. Then they look at what makes sense for the immovables—how to refinance their debt or make major life changes. Politically, a similar approach is the only way the American people will ever accept major changes to mandatory spending. They are simply not going to buy the notion that their earned entitlements must be tweaked while the federal government is funding Bob Dylan statues in Mozambique or gay pride parades in Prague. This Budget mathematically must include substantial reforms to mandatory spending to achieve balance—although importantly, there are no benefit reductions to Social Security or Medicare beneficiaries—strategically, it will emphasize the discretionary cuts needed to save the country from tyranny and prove to the country that the road to balance can really be walked again.

THIRD, budgeting is too often an exercise in accounting and austerity, where every program takes a hit, rather than an opportunity to examine what in fact the country is spending money on. Nor is budgeting typically aimed at maintaining a political coalition necessary to vote for the plan. It should be. The Left has no interest in ever regaining fiscal rationality. Why should their spending priorities be protected? Particularly when such programs are damaging the very communities supporting the government with their taxes. Why should billions be spent on thousands of interwoven nonprofits, all with a vested interest in furthering multiculturalism through an open border strategy and engaging in lawfare against any effort to control the border? Why should billions be spent on Section 8 vouchers that spread crime and disfunction into safe neighborhoods as part of “affordable housing” activism hostile towards single-family homes? This Budget is an effort to separate the spending the nation desperately needs (a massive Navy, a completed border wall, infrastructure, etc.) from spending that is not just simply unaffordable but ruining communities and funding organizations that hate the country.

With all that being said, this Budget approach is fairly straightforward. It establishes the fiscal goal of getting to balance within ten years, believing both that a goal is necessary and that balance continues to be the only one relatable to the American people’s experience. It then meets that fiscal goal by emphasizing robust economic growth and sizable spending reductions. Both are vital. You cannot cut your way to balance—the target will keep getting bigger as revenues dry up while the public experiences the pain of

unemployment and austerity at the same time. Nor can you balance the budget through growth alone. This Budget assumes economic policies that will generate growth of 3 percent, and it includes nearly \$9 trillion in savings over ten years from spending cuts and reforms. Of that amount nearly \$3 trillion comes from discretionary spending, primarily dismantling the woke and weaponized bureaucracy, and \$6 trillion originates from reforms to mandatory spending that increase participation in the labor force, reduce welfare, end the inflationary drivers of subsidizing student loans, inject common sense into health spending, etc. Again, it makes no reductions to Social Security retirement or Medicare benefits. The Budget should serve as a template for the next Congress to combat inflation and deal with the country's fiscal recklessness and align that effort towards addressing the immediate threats facing the country. It is also proof to policymakers that balance is indeed possible.

One last disclaimer. This first Budget does not attempt to offer solutions to some of the most pressing long-term problems facing the country that should preoccupy conservative policymakers in the near future. For instance, the families of the West are not having enough babies for their societies to endure. Raising a family in America with only one parent working outside the home is often unaffordable, and public policy often incentivizes that trend. Much can be learned and adopted from a country like Hungary that has arrested such decline. However, this Budget is a start to an ongoing discussion that should include such policy innovations.

The Center for Renewing America hopes that it furthers a new commitment to deal with the nation's finances—one oriented towards the most immediate threats facing the country and informed by a realistic strategy of getting the American people on board with the project.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Vought". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Russ Vought  
President, Center for Renewing America

# A FOUNDATION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

The nation's fiscal outlook is in such a serious predicament because of both reckless spending and destructive policies that are anti-growth and must be overturned. Policies based on climate extremism have pinned down the energy industry, inflicting great harm to tens of millions of American families and workers. Burdensome regulations and mandates have squeezed working-class households even further, while vast new programs touted under the dubiously-titled Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) demand yet more revenue from an overtaxed and burdened citizenry.

Balancing the budget requires significant spending cuts and dynamic economic growth. The policies contained in this Budget are designed to unleash an explosion of such growth. It assumes the restoration of the Trump-era regulatory reform agenda, a full unleashing of the American energy industry with zero concern for the proclivities of climate extremists, full repeal of the non-infrastructure portions of the inflation-driving IIJA, and preservation of the Trump-era tax cuts along with full expensing for all capital investments to ensure that working-class Americans and small businesses remain on a growth trajectory well into the future.

**Real GDP:** The Budget projects the pace of growth to increase by 3.1 percent in 2023 before declining slightly to 2.8 percent at the end of the Budget's forecast window. These growth projections steadily accelerate over existing Congressional Budget Office (CBO) baseline numbers. The Budget leans heavily into regulatory reform, revitalization of the American energy industry, and extending lower tax rates from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). These policies are married to a 14 percent immediate cut in discretionary spending and nearly \$6 trillion in mandatory program savings through the forecast window to generate a robust and sustained growth outlook for the next decade. In sum, the proposal assumes that these economic policies will ensure productivity grows at an annual rate of 0.5 percent with projected growth-generated deficit reductions of \$3.8 trillion through 2032.

**Interest Rates:** The current 10-year Treasury note is over 4 percent and will finish 2022 at 3 percent for the entirety of the year. The Budget assumes a steady increase in the yield above projected CBO estimates with elevated levels of 3.9 percent beginning in 2023 before a significant decline to 3.2 percent starting in 2025 and lasting through the end of the Budget window. The Budget's deficit reduction proposals and mandatory spending reforms allow a substantial reduction in the money supply with the U.S. Treasury able to step back from floating an elevated number of bonds.

**Labor Force Growth:** The Budget assumes substantial growth in the labor force over its lifetime. Specifically, the proposal forecasts a 7.8 percent increase over CBO baseline projections with regard to growth in the labor force for a total of 185.7 million Americans participating in the workforce by 2032. This is an increase of 14.5 million

workers above the current projected baseline numbers.

**General Inflation:** Expectations for inflation assume continued elevated rates through 2023 and are generally above the CBO baseline projections throughout the lifetime of the Budget. The proposal assumes, however, that the Budget’s sustained deficit reduction actions, mandatory policy reforms, and pro-growth policies will coincide with a substantial reduction in the money supply and overall spending, resulting in a steadily declining Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) rate that levels off at 2.2 percent by 2026 and remains flat through 2032. Inflation is projected to increase the deficit relative to the CBO baseline by \$262 billion over the course of the budgetary window.

**Regulatory Reform:** The Budget proposes a return to the Trump-era regulatory reform policies that spurred strong economic growth prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Biden administration’s intentional re-implementation of onerous bureaucratic red tape. This includes the readoption of policies implemented under Executive Orders 13771 and 13777, which required agencies to put together a task force to recommend regulations for repeal, implemented a 2-for-1 protocol for major regulations, and curbed significant rules to reduce impacts on working households and families. In the first four years of the Trump administration, 73 percent fewer significant rules were released than during the eight years of the Obama administration. By comparison, the number of regulations issued in 2017 was only one-third of those issued in the first years of both the Bush and Obama administrations.

These reforms—alongside the reinstatement of the 2020 regulatory caps proposed by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA)—would provide more than \$200 billion per year in regulatory savings through FY32.

**Unleash American Energy:** The Budget proposes to fully open America’s energy capabilities in recognition that higher energy prices act as a tax on consumers and producers since nearly all consumption and production processes require energy input. Under the Trump administration, the United States became a net exporter of natural gas for the first time in American history. The proposal assumes a reinstatement of prior policies that would necessitate the immediate unshackling of the reliable energy industry from the zealous hold of climate extremists within the federal bureaucracy. This includes expedited approval for oil and gas leases and permitting on public lands, lifting of the prohibition to drill and develop energy in the Outer Continental Shelf, resumed energy exploration and pipeline development in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR), and full repeal of Executive Orders 13990, 13992, and 14008.

Weaponized regulations within the EPA and Department of Energy promoting elements of the Green New Deal, the Paris Climate Accord, and the war on oil and natural gas are assumed to be repealed. This includes a repeal of the destructive “social cost of carbon” regulatory scheme, termination of efforts to weaponize air quality regulation to inhibit energy production, loosened development guidelines under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), accelerated LNG exports and application approvals, and rescission of misguided pipeline construction restrictions from the Federal Energy



Regulatory Commission (FERC) among others.

**Preserve the Trump Tax Cuts:** The Budget proposes an extension of the Trump tax cuts from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) through FY32. Some of the business provisions in the TCJA are set to expire starting January 1, 2023, with the totality of the law’s changes for individuals sunsetting in 2026. The proposal assumes that the provisions within the TCJA are extended into FY32 to maximize growth potential for working families and small businesses throughout the lifetime of the Budget. This means maintaining the 20 percent deduction for non-salary pass-through businesses, preserving the increased standard deduction for both single and married filers, keeping the State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction cap in place, and continuing a lowered corporate tax rate of 21 percent. However, all energy-related tax distortions are assumed to be repealed with the exception of the black lung excise tax and the five-year cost recovery rate.

Additionally, the proposal assumes the enactment of full expensing for all capital investments and assets. This provision protects businesses from the erosion of real value with regard to their investments that naturally occur over time due to inflation and depreciation. Such a change is estimated to increase economic output by 2.3 percent and add over 440,000 new jobs.

**Spending Restraint:** The Budget proposes \$10 trillion in savings over the next ten years relative to CBO’s baseline. Reductions in government spending—particularly reductions to the weaponized branches of government—will free up resources for core federal priorities and create the right conditions for sustained economic growth.

The combined elements of the proposal’s spending reforms—which include reforms to means-tested welfare programs and entitlements—will ensure that Americans are empowered and encouraged to manage their way through job transitions and ultimately return to the workforce to provide for their families and households. These policies amplify labor force participation growth by embracing sophisticated work-oriented policy reforms in programs like SNAP and Medicaid that put the long-term health of individuals and households ahead of the bloated largesse of federal bureaucrats. Furthermore, deficit spending has a tendency to diminish economic opportunity in the future through a shift toward debt-saddled spending in the present. This approach not only sacrifices long-term growth and opportunity for the dubious benefit of strengthening a hostile bureaucracy at odds with the well-being of workers, but also exacerbates the risk of a debt crisis—as evidenced by America’s \$31 trillion and counting national debt.

The Budget recognizes the historical and economic reality that sustained long-term growth in the years ahead requires funding reductions now. Progressive policies that have poured gasoline on the inflationary fire while deepening the fiscal hole that the Budget aims to climb out of have only exacerbated the need for such immediate and transformative solutions.



## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Justice	33.5	37.7	31.2

The Budget proposes \$31.2 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Justice (DOJ) in FY23, a decrease of 6.9 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These funding reductions are targeted against a department that has gone rogue regarding the rule of law and served as the tip of the spear in the federal government’s ongoing war against the American people.

The Budget proposes numerous policy changes that include significant cuts to the department’s general legal activities, specifically the highly politicized Civil Rights Division and Environment and Natural Resources Division, full elimination of the “equity” obsessed Community Relations Service, an immediate zeroing out of the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), and a downpayment on a transformative restructuring of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to disarm and defang its weaponized posture toward Americans who do not share the political bent of the bureaucratic elite. The Budget also eliminates taxpayer-funded grants to radical left-wing organizations such as the Soros-linked Acacia Center, which was recently awarded \$41 million by the DOJ to help illegal immigrants avoid deportation.

In concert, the Budget provides for a 7.5 percent increase in funding above FY21 levels for the US Marshals Service and a small increase for the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) in recognition of rapidly-escalating crime rates due to dangerous progressive policies at the state and local levels that have prioritized criminals over victims.

The rule of law has not only been politicized, it has been weaponized against the American people in service to a radical progressive ideology that defines justice solely as the advancement of the woke religion.

## **Discretionary Savings**

### **Federal Bureau of Investigation**

The Budget proposes to fundamentally restructure and reform the Federal Bureau of Investigation beginning with substantial changes to the agency's intelligence and counterintelligence apparatus. The longtime leadership at the FBI has lost the confidence of significant portions of the American public due to a seemingly endless spate of corrupt and weaponized activity against law-abiding Americans, conservative citizens, and politicians disfavored by the governing elite. In many respects, the Bureau has become the praetorian guard of a corrupt bureaucracy determined to preserve its power through intimidation and persecution instead of faithfully serving the people from whom its legitimacy derives.

The FBI would receive \$8.6 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$1.3 billion or 13 percent relative to FY21 (\$9.9 billion). Significant portions of the spending reductions come from changes to the intelligence and counterintelligence divisions including an overhaul of processes and procedures to dismantle the agency's weaponization.

The list of abuses within the FBI is long and growing: targeting concerned parents at school board meetings as "domestic terrorists," raiding the homes of pro-life activists at gunpoint, misleading federal judges to confiscate millions of dollars in private property from safe-deposit boxes, leaking private health and personal information of agency whistleblowers to intimidate and discredit patriotic agents, refusing to investigate the over 100 firebombings and acts of vandalism against pro-life pregnancy centers, and of course, the unprecedented political raid at Mar-a-Lago of a former president utilizing a suspiciously broad search warrant under dubious legal reasoning.

The Budget includes funding reductions within specific subdivisions of the Bureau that are not salvageable due to a willful and repeated pattern of partisan lawfare waged against Americans who do not share the bureaucracy's increasingly woke and progressive worldview. Some components of the Bureau's mission remain intact, including the agency's vital counterterrorism responsibilities. However, the Budget necessitates an end to the politicized targeting of Americans with non-progressive or conservative views. This includes any such activities within the counterterrorism division.

The Budget does increase funding for one key area within the Bureau: the Criminal Investigative Division. The Budget calls for \$4 billion, an increase of \$618 million or 18.3 percent over FY21 levels, to thwart the increasing societal destruction caused by progressive policies at the state and local levels that have defunded police, refused to prosecute criminals, and released violent felons into communities. These changes aim to lay the foundation to restore the American people's trust in the Bureau's commitment to the Constitution and the rule of law absent a more drastic fallback option to abolish the agency and reconstitute a new one.

**Reprioritizing Funding in the Intelligence Branch:** The Budget advocates for a fundamental overhaul of the Bureau's intelligence branch in lieu of the agency's openly hostile posture toward citizens, officials, and entities that are politically unaligned with the ruling elite's radically woke worldview. *Save \$840 million compared to FY21.*

**Reprioritizing Funding in Counterintelligence and Counterterrorism:** The proposal advocates for a fundamental overhaul of the Bureau's counterintelligence division in lieu of the agency's openly hostile posture toward citizens, officials, and entities that are politically unaligned with the ruling elite's radically woke worldview. Additionally, the Budget realigns funding resources to ensure the Bureau's critical counterterrorism mission remains a core mission unobstructed by a woke agenda. *Saves \$957 million in FY21.*

### **General Legal Activities**

The Budget proposes significant funding reductions within the DOJ's general legal activities, especially the highly-politicized Civil Rights Division (CRD), and the Environment and Natural Resources Division. The corruption and weaponized culture within DOJ's Civil Rights Division has been evident for years. An IG report released in 2013 revealed that the Voting Section within the CRD had engaged in a practice of only communicating with far-left activist organizations such as the ACLU and NAACP Legal Defense Fund to fill prospective job openings within the civil service. Kristen Clarke, current head of the CRD, recently authorized DOJ agents to engage in armed raids on the homes of pro-life activists while turning a blind eye to over 100 acts of far-left extremists vandalizing and firebombing churches and women's pregnancy centers in the wake of the Dobbs decision.

The Environment and Natural Resources Division is typically tasked with prosecuting violations of the Clean Air Act and other environmental statutes, but has been weaponized as part of the Biden administration's war on American energy to target natural gas facilities and the coal industry in a zealous bid to advance a destructive green energy agenda.

**Disarm Weaponized Bureaucrats:** The Budget proposes a substantial reduction for the Civil Rights Division and Environment and Natural Resources Division. Specifically, the funding reductions include a 50 percent immediate cut to both the Civil Rights Division and the Environment and Natural Resources Division. These two offices have been at the forefront of extreme partisan weaponization within the DOJ, utilizing federal law enforcement agencies and resources to target and persecute political opponents who do not align with the extreme progressive worldview of the Washington elite. Both offices receive an immediate funding reduction of 50 percent with commensurate loss of personnel. *Saves \$136 million in FY21.*

**Eliminate Office of Environmental Justice:** The Budget proposes to terminate the recently-created Office of Environmental Justice, a subdivision of the Environment and Natural Resources Division. The office is designed to serve as a central hub for radical climate extremism and in particular, the criminal enforcement arm of the Department of Justice with regard to the intersection of climate change and criminality. The office is the beginning of a weaponized effort to target American citizens who refuse to adhere to a destructive green energy agenda.

### **Community Relations Service**

The Budget proposes a total defunding of the DOJ's woke and weaponized Community Relations Service (CRS) as part of its effort to disarm an ideologically-militant department. This subdivision was originally created in Title X of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as an agency tasked with maintaining dialogue and ensuring a smooth transition out of the era of segregation. It has since transformed into an agency driven by race essentialism and radical gender theory—hunting for “hate crimes” defined through the prism of critical race theory and intersectional progressivism. The existence of CRS serves only to perpetuate the continuing efforts of Washington to label citizens as “oppressors” or “oppressed.” This weaponization pits citizens against one another, tearing apart the civil fabric necessary for a constitutional republic to survive. *Saves \$18 million compared to FY21.*

### **Office of Justice**

The Budget proposes significant funding changes to Office of Justice programs. These funding reductions are intended to eliminate harmful programs and exorbitant grants to organizations that feed off taxpayer money to perpetuate a woke agenda throughout civil society. Specifically, the proposal moves to immediately terminate the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) as part of an effort to achieve both balance and eliminate federal efforts that undermine the rule of law in service to a radical left-wing ideology fundamentally at odds with the interests of the American people. Furthermore, the Budget eliminates myriad grant programs from the Office of Justice, which in the past have included \$2.2 million for the Vera Institute of Justice, which advocates for an end to cash bail and reducing the incarceration of violent criminals, \$600,000 to Legal Services NYC, which advocates for sanctuary city policies and race-based economic development, and \$521,000 to the Center for Children's Law and Policy, which seeks to impose race essentialism into the juvenile justice system without regard for the victims of violent juvenile crime.

The Office of Justice would receive \$1.8 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$485 million or 21.6 percent relative to FY21. Accordingly, with these reductions, the Budget begins the process of defanging federal law enforcement's adherence to a radical progressive agenda that seeks to undermine equal justice under the law.

**Eliminate the SCAAP Program:** The Budget proposes the immediate termination of the SCAAP program which reimburses state, local, and tribal governments for prior year costs associated with incarcerating criminal illegal aliens. The program provides funding to state and local governments that are self-declared sanctuary jurisdictions and refuse to follow federal immigration law. SCAAP detracts from resources and efforts that should instead be spent on border security and interior enforcement—chief responsibilities of the federal government under the US Constitution’s Article IV, Section 4 guarantee clause. *Saves \$244 million compared to FY21.*

**Reform Grant Programs:** The Budget proposes significant reforms to the Office of Justice with regard to taxpayer-funded grants through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program as well as smaller competitive and formula grants. Specifically, the proposal ensures that any prospective recipient with a focus or emphasis on equity, race essentialism, or radical gender theory is disqualified from receiving taxpayer funding. *Saves \$241 million compared to FY21.*



## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Homeland Security	53.8	56.7	57.1

The Budget proposes \$57.1 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in FY23, an increase of 6 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These increased resources are designed to bolster the resources of the federal government to regain operational control of the southern border, finish the completion of the border security wall, and protect the American people from the devastation wrought by willfully reckless policies enacted by the Biden administration.

However, this Budget assumes a significant cultural transformation within DHS, through both leadership changes and reforms. Leadership at DHS has intentionally defanged the department's core mission and shown that they are more interested in virtue signaling punishment for agents performing their duty than protecting the American people from border-driven chaos. Since January 2021, border agents have apprehended over 3.7 million illegal immigrants at the southern border. This does not include nearly 1 million "got-aways" in which border-crossers evaded apprehension and disappeared into the interior of the United States. Over 71,000 Americans died from fentanyl poisonings in 2021, a 23 percent increase in just one year. The Budget proposes numerous policy changes to address these catastrophic consequences. This includes expenditures necessary to complete the border wall, significant funding and personnel increases for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) designed to surge security to the southern border, refocusing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) toward expedited processing and deportation, an increase in resources for the US Coast Guard to boost vessel capacity and enhance interdiction capabilities in response to increased cartel sophistication with regard to drug smuggling and human trafficking, and a significant reduction in the cumbersome and ineffective bureaucracy of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Simultaneously, the Budget addresses the reality that DHS has been a central part of the federal government's targeting of conservatives and critics of favored regime narratives. The Budget proposes the full elimination of the weaponized Office of Intelligence and Analysis, which took the lead in labeling conservatives as "far-right" domestic extremists.

Similarly, the University of Nebraska’s partnership with DHS—which is designed to monitor and target conservatives and non-progressives as enemies of the state—has also been cut. In addition to these targeted cuts, the proposal reduces funding for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in lieu of that agency’s censorship campaign during the 2020 election. Specifically, the Budget eliminates CISA’s activities within the so-called Election Integrity Partnership, in which the agency colluded with a handful of private tech firms and left-wing organizations to censor stories and social media activity deemed “disinformation.”

Americans should not have to fear that the federal government will target their political commentary on the Internet in a bid to silence dissent and infringe on their First Amendment rights.

The proposed funding enhancements to key agencies and policy changes are designed to force a total reprioritization of DHS subdivisions back to the fundamental mission of protecting the homeland, citizens, and communities from the ongoing invasion of deadly drugs, human trafficking, and criminals stemming from a wide-open border.

### **Discretionary Savings**

#### **Customs and Border Protection**

The Budget proposes to significantly improve the capabilities of CBP to address the ongoing invasion occurring along the southern border. It assumes a restoration of common-sense policies that the Biden administration has abandoned such as an end to catch-and-release, a renewed declaration of emergency, and a resumption of construction of the border wall system to better deter illegal immigration and trafficking of dangerous narcotics like fentanyl.

CBP would receive \$18.6 billion in FY23, an increase of \$3.7 billion or 25.6 percent relative to FY2021 (\$14.8 billion), including \$5 billion for completing the border wall system along the US-Mexico border. The increased funding levels account for a significant boost in personnel as well as a commensurate surge of infrastructure to defend the US border from cartels and their operatives. Reflected in CBP’s increased funding are also policy changes that assume Title 42 removal authority is maintained, Remain-in-Mexico protocols are restored, and integration of efforts to clear hazards and Carrizo cane along the Rio Grande in Texas are implemented.

**Increased Border Patrol Agents:** CBP’s current mission profile has transformed from security to babysitting with personnel mired in processing record numbers of illegal immigrants crossing into the United States instead of turning them away. There are currently fewer than 20,000 border patrol agents. The Budget proposes a near-doubling of this number with funding allocated to hire an additional 18,000 men and women to better safeguard the territorial integrity of the United States. Catch-and-release is ended and agents are once again empowered to do their job.



Such a large increase in the force cannot be handled by Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) alone. Therefore, new hires who are already law enforcement trained will be trained within CBP on existing Title 8 authority as well as the limited elements of the CBP law enforcement environment that differ from traditional law enforcement. In recognition of these officers' lower overall training cost to CBP, signing bonuses for these particular officers are included as part of the recruitment effort.

**Completing the Border Wall System:** The Budget proposes significant resources to get the border wall construction back on track toward completion. While significant portions of the security barrier were completed before January 2021, the remaining construction has since been frozen with material lying dormant.

### **Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

The Budget integrates a series of funding enhancements and policy changes to better equip ICE for a sustained campaign of interior enforcement in tandem with a bolstered CBP mission. ICE's reach would be significantly expanded with the addition of 5,000 new agents for increased deportation measures, detainment infrastructure, and enforcement capacity. Assumed within the Budget is an increase in worksite enforcement penalties for employers who willfully violate provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act regarding the unlawful employment of illegal aliens.

ICE would receive \$9.9 billion in FY23, an increase of \$2.0 billion or 24.6 percent relative to FY2021 (\$8.0 billion) to align the enforcement and detainment capabilities of ICE with the enhanced border security mission of CBP. Far-left activists have demonized the men and women of ICE, who are tasked, without adequate resources, to sort through the human chaos and misery caused by unsecured borders and unenforced immigration policies. The mission of ICE is essential to the safety and well-being of the American people. The Budget begins a long and continuous process to recognize that reality with the funding and policies necessary to meet the moment.

In recognition of the severe challenge presented by the number of illegal aliens needing to be deported, the Budget also accomplishes major savings and streamlines adjudication by requiring every alien who is ruled to be in the United States unlawfully to return to his/her home country as a precondition for any appeal of such ruling. This would be applied on a going-forward basis to any then-current rulings, with no federal court review, all with a phase-in of six months for already-existing rulings. Within one year, this would dramatically reduce the immigration caseload, thereby allowing those non-citizens who try to "play by the rules" to have their cases heard faster and more efficiently, which in turn will result in a significant reduction in case backlogs. Such an approach will positively impact both ICE and USCIS within DHS, as well as EOIR in DOJ.

**Increased ICE Agents and Detainment Infrastructure:** There are currently 20,000 law enforcement and support personnel employed within ICE in comparison to an estimated 15 million illegal aliens residing in the United States. The Budget proposes a 25 percent increase in total agency personnel with funding allocated to hire an additional 5,000 men and women to enhance interior enforcement and deportation capabilities. The same law enforcement signing bonus referenced for new CBP officers with law enforcement experience will also be offered to new ICE (ERO) agents with law enforcement experience. Additionally, the Budget provides new resources for detainment facilities, anti-human trafficking measures, and multi-agency task forces to deter cartel and illicit criminal activity.

### **US Coast Guard**

The Budget proposes a significant boost to the United States Coast Guard in order to begin to catch the Coast Guard up in its aging capital assets and to align resources with the broader effort to deter cartel-driven drugs, human trafficking, and criminal activity before it reaches the families and communities inside the United States. In addition, the Coast Guard has an important part to play in achieving the national security priority of maritime supremacy. Specifically, the proposal calls for accelerating force development through the procurement and building of additional ships, addressing aging infrastructure, increasing personnel capacity, and enhancing multi-agency integration for operations in the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific, and Atlantic coastlines.

The Coast Guard would receive \$12.1 billion in FY23, an increase of \$1.2 billion or 10.7 percent relative to FY2021 (\$11.0 billion). The proposal assumes a heightened role in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic to intercept and thwart cartel-sponsored drug subs as well as an enhanced profile along the Pacific to safeguard against fentanyl and opioid distribution lines from China to the cartels in Mexico and their criminal illegal gangs in West Coast cities.

### **Transportation Security Administration**

The Budget proposes a sweeping series of reforms to improve efficiency and diminish the cumbersome bureaucracy of the Transportation Security Administration. Among the many reforms to the TSA proposed is the elimination of exit lane staffing within secure areas of airports and the transfer of that responsibility to individual airport operators. Additionally, the proposal eliminates the TSA's Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response (VIPR) teams as such forces are duplicative of state and local law enforcement assets and have not proven effective. Critically, the Budget institutes a gradual replacement of TSA screeners with private security screeners.

The proposal calls for a funding reduction of \$3 billion compared to FY2021 enacted levels (\$7.13 billion) for a total of \$4.1 billion in proposed FY2023 spending. Numerous empirical studies have shown that private security is just as capable—and in many cases more so—than TSA-employed screeners at detecting and thwarting security threats.

Additionally, the Screening Partnership Program, which integrates private security agencies in the airport security process, is currently being modeled at more than 20 airports across the United States. The SPP has shown lower overall costs, improved efficiency, and commensurate or better security protocols in comparison to TSA metrics. The Budget builds on that program's success.

### **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency**

The Budget proposes numerous changes to the operations of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Among the key changes to CISA's funding stream is the complete elimination of the agency's public-private cooperation with the so-called "Election Integrity Partnership" and the curbing of the agency's engagement in domestic political activity. CISA's collusion with far-left organizations to silence thousands of stories and social media posts during the 2020 election under the guise of fighting "misinformation" was performed on behalf of left-wing political activists. Such weaponization by a federal agency not only undermines the rule of law, but assails the fundamental constitutional rights of American citizens.

The proposal calls for a funding reduction of \$265 million compared to FY21 enacted levels (\$2.02 billion) for a total of \$1.76 billion in proposed FY23 spending. The core mission of CISA is one that is vital to the security of the United States, especially in an age where cyberattacks are increasingly the preferred method of attack by hostile foreign actors. However, the politicization of this critical agency jeopardizes the entire mission of CISA and puts the American people at risk. The Budget ensures that CISA's core mission returns to thwarting cyberattacks and protecting America's critical infrastructure as opposed to engaging in domestic political activity.

### **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget incorporates a series of proposed changes to department fees designed to offset the resource drain that the Biden administration's open border policies have inflicted on the department's operational capabilities. In total, the Budget proposes mandatory policy changes that are expected to save \$12.65 billion over ten years.

**Adjust Collection and Use of User Fees:** The Budget modifies existing user fees to ensure that those fees reflect the full cost of services provided to entities interacting with the Department with adjustments for inflation. *Saves \$8.2 billion over ten years.*

**Establish an Immigration Services Surcharge:** Given the way that an influx of illegal immigrants has taxed the resources of the Department in recent years, the Budget proposes a 10 percent increased processing fee for immigration services to offset growing expenses. *Saves \$4.3 billion over ten years.*

**Increased Worksite Enforcement Measures:** The Budget proposes a 35 percent increase to all penalty amounts charged against employers who violate existing Immigration and Nationality Act provisions regarding the unlawful employment of illegal aliens. Saves \$147 million over ten years.



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Health & Human Services	108.6	138.0	86.4

The Budget proposes \$86.4 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in FY23, a decrease of 20.4 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These spending reductions are designed to mitigate and thwart the harm imposed on the American people by woke public health policies and weaponized agencies that have lost the trust of the country.

The Budget proposes numerous policy reforms that include reprioritizing the core mission of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ending destructive gain-of-function research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), eliminating ineffective programs at the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), eliminating the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), defunding unscientific and medically-dubious policies promoting gender transition procedures, and cultivating a culture within HHS that respects the sanctity of life and returns to the first principle of health: do no harm.

## **Discretionary Savings**

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

The Budget proposes to refocus spending within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to recommit the CDC to its core mission and work to restore the public’s faith in the agency’s expertise. The current director of the CDC, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, admitted that the agency had largely failed in its mission to inform the public during the onset and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, calling her agency’s actions “confusing and overwhelming.” This failure stems in large part due to guidance put out by the CDC that too often served a political agenda instead of public health interests, evidenced by the CDC’s collaboration with teachers’ unions to keep schools closed and children in remote learning environments wholly inadequate for educational advancement and protection

from the virus. In many respects, the CDC is simply doing too much that is not focused on fighting infectious diseases.

The CDC would receive \$4.4 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$2.6 billion or 37.3 percent relative to FY21 (\$7.0 billion). Policy changes within the CDC reflected by reduced funding levels include a narrower focus set on merely monitoring sexually transmitted diseases as opposed to spending over a billion dollars on easily preventable diseases or depleting agency resources on expansive efforts rooted in “health equity” to combat diseases largely confined to population groups that engage in risky behavior. Additionally, the Budget repurposes the agency’s Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion center toward basic healthy lifestyle habits and cancer prevention initiatives. The agency’s emphasis on utilizing a “health equity” lens with regard to its public health messaging is revoked in its entirety along with subdivisions that exist solely to advance a woke agenda behind the pretext of public health data and science.

The work that the CDC is designed to do is important and therefore requires the implementation of policies that repair the damage wrought by flawed and politicized masking, vaccine, virus mitigation, and school closure guidance.

**Narrower Focus on Sexually Transmitted Diseases:** The Budget proposes a drastically diminished approach toward sexually transmitted diseases that limits the CDC’s mission to monitor and issue basic guidance with regard to myriad infectious diseases transmitted through sexual activity. The agency’s current “health equity” agenda siphons substantial resources in the name of a woke political agenda for niche and small population groups at the expense of broader public health. However, the Budget ensures \$100 million to continue monitoring HIV/AIDS rates. *Saves \$864 million compared to FY21.*

**Repurposed Chronic Disease Mission:** The CDC’s infrastructure for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion is bloated, inefficient, and redundant. The Budget proposes a repurposed emphasis on cancer screening and prevention along with the incorporation of activities that promote basic wellness. The vast majority of chronic diseases can be prevented by maintaining a healthy diet, frequent exercise, and healthy weight while avoiding common risk factors such as tobacco use and poor nutrition. *Saves \$619 million compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate National Center for Environmental Health:** The Budget proposes moving the existing public health guidance currently found within the National Center for Environmental Health to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, which already exists to inform the public about environmental health hazards. The existing funding stream for the National Center for Environmental Health is zeroed out. *Saves \$205 million compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Global Health Center:** The Budget proposes zeroing out the Center for Global Health due to the center’s redundant mission profile within the broader context of the CDC as well as its infusion of critical race theory in its “global health equity”

initiatives. The inclusion of radical ideologies that view the world through the prism of race and oppressor versus oppressed populations undermines the credibility of public health experts. *Saves \$591 million compared to FY21.*

### **National Institutes of Health**

The Budget proposes a series of significant reforms and spending cuts to the National Institutes of Health in an effort to curb the agency's increasingly weaponized posture toward the American public. Nearly three years after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, questions remain about the full extent of NIH's known involvement in advancing gain-of-function research, which intentionally enhances the virulence of diseases to ostensibly improve the efficacy of future treatments. This is compounded by initiatives such as UNITE, an NIH effort designed to purportedly end "structural racism" in medical research, widespread institutional support for morally and medically dubious gender transition procedures on minors and adults, and grantmaking that supports the harvesting of fetal tissue from aborted and unborn children.

The NIH would receive \$32.5 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$9.0 billion or 21.5 percent relative to FY21 (\$41.5 billion). Accordingly, with these reductions, the Budget begins the process of steering the agency back to health services research away from its woke agenda.

**Eliminate Woke Bureaucracy:** The Budget proposes an across-the-board reduction evenly-distributed among all institutes within NIH to eliminate and remove offices that are infused with critical race theory and gender theory—in particular the UNITE initiative. Among the subdivisions that are defunded are the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and equity grants issued by the agency for the purpose of promulgating propagandized research from activists like Jack Turban on destructive gender transition experiments. Radical identity politics have no place in government, especially in agencies that deal with public health, as such emphasis poses a serious risk to both health research and patient outcomes. *Save \$100 million compared to FY21.*

**Reprioritize NIAID's Mission:** The Budget proposes a 50 percent funding reduction at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) from FY201 in lieu of ongoing concerns surrounding the institute's role in propelling risky and potentially destructive gain-of-function research: particularly at the Wuhan Institute of Virology where the COVID-19 virus is suspected to have originated. The very fact that NIAID went so far as to restart funding to the Wuhan Institute even after the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting public outcry over taxpayer funding of its research shows this institute's bureaucratic arrogance and the resulting need for it be restructured. This reduction will force a reprioritization of resources at the institute to focus on basic research to treat and prevent infectious diseases. *Saves \$3.1 billion compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Critical Race Hub:** The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities is zeroed out in lieu of that institute's promulgation of critical race

theory into the public health research sphere. Infectious diseases which predominantly impact minority communities will be folded back under the fundamental immunology research division or other existing divisions as appropriate. *Saves \$660 million compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Foreign Influence in Public Health:** The Fogarty International Center embeds America’s public health research efforts with the designs of corrupt foreign regimes such as the Communist Party of China and compromised entities like the World Health Organization, jeopardizing both the broader research mission and overall legitimacy of the agency. The Fogarty Center’s increasing emphasis on “global health equity” intends to export woke identity politics into the medical research fields of poorer and developing nations. *Saves \$960 million compared to FY21.*

**Reduce the Indirect Cost Rate:** The Budget proposes a significant reduction in the indirect cost rate that the NIH makes to universities, research hospitals, and other research institutions down to a flat 10 percent. This change will bring the rate in line with private foundations, such as the Gates Foundation, and dramatically reduce the cost of overhead at the agency while also encouraging agency administrators to implement more judicious decisions during the grantmaking process. *Saves \$5 billion compared to FY21.*

### **Administration for Children and Families**

The Budget proposes substantial changes to the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) with an emphasis on reducing and eliminating ineffective and questionable programs along with curbing agency subdivisions that reward the political left at the expense of the national interest.

ACF would receive \$14.7 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$10.0 billion or 40.6 percent relative to FY21 (\$24.7 billion). Among the many changes proposed is a significant reduction to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) with a reallocation of funds designed to maintain existing program integrity with regard to anti-human trafficking efforts while shutting down government subsidies to the nonprofit network that enables open border policies. The Budget also proposes a reduction for Head Start, which serves as little more than a federal daycare program, with major indoctrination potential, and a subsidy for dual-income parents. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is zeroed out in order to both refocus ACF’s existing resources and in lieu of the vast majority of states implementing state-level “disconnection policies” that prevent utility companies from sudden disconnection of energy needs in many circumstances.

The stated purpose of ACF is to promote the economic and social well-being of families and communities. However, the agency’s recent release of its Equity Action Plan supercharged a prioritization toward implementing a far-left agenda committed to ideas rooted in both critical race theory and radical gender theory. The well-being of families and communities cannot be achieved without substantial resource realignment



that eliminates woke prioritization and reduced involvement in activities that have a demonstrated record of failure with questionable benefit to the very populations they are intended to help.

**Repurposing the Office of Refugee Resettlement:** The Budget proposes significant policy changes within the ORR that fundamentally refocus the agency on protecting unaccompanied minors and bolstering anti-human trafficking efforts. The remaining programs are significantly reduced or in some cases eliminated—including Afghan refugee assistance resources—in order to realign the agency’s priorities to protect American citizens as the first principle in service to its broader mission. *Saves \$430 million compared to FY21.*

**Reduced Funding for Head Start:** The Budget proposes a 50 percent funding reduction for the Head Start program. Empirical studies released by both HHS and private organizations over the last decade have only underscored Head Start’s ineffectiveness for the children enrolled in the program. Some metrics have even shown that Head Start participants have worse behavior and academic outcomes than children who do not enroll in the program. Among the reforms proposed is the elimination of the Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center, which prioritizes “anti-racism” indoctrination for pre-Kindergartener participants. *Saves \$5.4 billion compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate the Wasteful LIHEAP Program:** The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program has a history rife with fraud and abuse. Over a decade ago, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) determined that the program lacks basic oversight and has the propensity to provide funding to individuals with fake addresses and fake energy bills. Furthermore, state-level policies in at least 42 states prevent utility companies from sudden energy disconnections in many circumstances, emphasizing that LIHEAP is no longer necessary at a programmatic level. *Saves \$3.7 billion compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Redundant Block Grants:** The Budget proposes the elimination of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), which remains unauthorized and duplicates the services provided by existing programs such as the Emergency Food Assistance Program within the Department of Agriculture. Grantee organizations that receive CSBG money also receive funding from a variety of sources—including other federal programs. As such, CSBG represents only 5 percent of total grantee funding. *Saves \$745 million compared to FY21.*

### **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget proposes a series of significant policy reforms to mandatory programs administered through the Department of Health and Human Services. This includes structural policy changes to improve the integrity of the Medicaid program and separate Medicaid from the regulatory nightmare of Obamacare, while providing states with the flexibility to reprioritize Medicaid spending for the most vulnerable population groups. Importantly, the Budget ensures that the Medicaid program's spending trajectory remains flatlined. Along similar lines, the Budget proposes changes to Medicare that include modifications to uncompensated care payments as well as the elimination of bad debt reimbursements for non-rural hospitals. The proposal also equalizes payments for outpatient hospital services so they fall in line with physician rates and implements changes to Medicare Part D to ensure the program runs more efficiently. Importantly, the Budget maintains the current benefit structure for Medicare beneficiaries.

Medicare would grow, on average, at 6 percent year-over-year, while Medicaid would flat line compared to their current trajectories of 7 percent and 3 percent respectively. These changes will ensure improved long-term sustainability for those who rely upon the benefits conferred by mandatory programs while enhancing the overall fiscal trajectory of federal spending.

## Medicaid

**Eliminate FMAP Floor:** Current law calculates states' Medicaid matching rates based on a state's income relative to the national average. The Medicaid statute also establishes a minimum Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) of 50 percent, meaning the federal government pays for at least half of a state's Medicaid costs. This minimum FMAP rate encourages wealthy, liberal states, who otherwise would receive a match far lower than 50 percent, to keep expanding their Medicaid programs—one reason why wealthier states have some of the largest programs. The Budget would help to reduce the distortionary effects of the current Medicaid formula by eliminating the 50 percent floor on a state's match. *Saves \$653 billion over ten years.*

**Strengthen Program Integrity:** Recent estimates suggest that as much as one-quarter of all Medicaid spending falls into the category of improper payments, in large part because states do not properly ensure all individuals enrolled in Medicaid are eligible for benefits. The Budget would allow the federal government to recoup payments from states that spend Medicaid dollars on ineligible or misclassified beneficiaries. *Saves \$6.7 billion over ten years.*

**Continue DSH Reductions:** The Budget extends current law reductions to Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments, reflecting the fact that hospitals can use these payments to offset care provided to illegal immigrants. *Saves \$45.2 billion over ten years*

**Re-Prioritize Medicaid:** The Budget repeals the authorizations created by Obamacare that permit states to expand their Medicaid programs to able-bodied, working-

age adults. This proposal would allow states to refocus their efforts on the most vulnerable populations—including the aged, blind, and disabled—for whom Medicaid was originally designed to assist. This policy helps disentangle Medicaid from the regulatory mess that is Obamacare.

At the same time, the Budget requires that able-bodied adults of working age work, or look for work, to receive benefits. Current law imposes work requirements for participants in programs like Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), but does not extend those requirements to recipients of Medicaid benefits. By providing incentives for individuals to engage with their communities, this proposal will improve the physical and mental health and well-being of Medicaid beneficiaries. *Saves \$1.1 trillion over ten years.*

**Repeal Provider Taxes:** Current law permits state Medicaid programs to assess taxes of up to six percent on providers (e.g., hospitals, doctors, etc.). States use those taxes paid by providers to draw down federal Medicaid matching funds, which they end up returning back to providers. Multiple bipartisan fiscal commissions have criticized this strategy, which amounts to legalized money laundering by states; as Vice President in 2011, Joe Biden himself reportedly called provider taxes a “scam.” The proposal would prohibit provider taxes, eliminating one of the main ways that states “game the system” to receive more Medicaid dollars from Washington. *Saves \$502.6 billion over ten years.*

## Medicare

**Reform Graduate Medical Education:** Current law provides Graduate Medical Education (GME) payments to hospitals through the Medicare program, to help finance the costs associated with teaching hospitals that train the next generation of medical students. The federal government also funds a share of GME costs paid by state Medicaid programs. Instead of using indirect subsidies through Medicare and Medicaid, the Budget would create an explicit new grant program to fund medical education programs at teaching hospitals, while growing that program at a slightly lower rate than current projections for GME through Medicare and Medicaid. *Saves a net of \$52.4 billion over ten years.*

**Modify Uncompensated Care Payments:** The Budget would make several changes to payments to hospitals for uncompensated care. This proposal would move uncompensated care payments from the Medicare Trust Fund to the Treasury General Fund, while growing these payments every year according to increases in the Consumer Price Index. In addition, the Budget would allocate uncompensated care payments based on a hospital’s share of charity care and non-Medicare bad debt, as reported to the federal government. *Saves \$114.7 billion over ten years.*

**Eliminate Payments to Hospitals for Bad Debt:** Under current law, Medicare reimburses hospitals and other providers for 65 percent of their allowable bad debt. The Budget would eliminate these bad debt payments for non-rural facilities, aligning

Medicare with the practice of most private insurers. This change would encourage hospitals to recoup payments they are owed while extending the life of the Medicare Trust Fund. *Saves \$44.3 billion over ten years.*

**Site-Neutral Payments for Post-Acute Care:** Right now, payment levels and reimbursement criteria vary widely for four separate types of facilities that provide post-acute care after hospital stays—skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and long-term care hospitals. For instance, medical providers can receive higher fees by providing the same service in a different location, in which case seniors also pay higher co-pays and cost-sharing. The Budget would pay providers based on the type of care given and the patient’s underlying medical conditions, rather than the location of the services provided. *Saves \$133.5 billion over ten years.*

**Modify Hospice Payments in Nursing Facilities:** Currently, Medicare pays hospice programs the same amount for services provided in nursing homes and skilled nursing facilities as those provided in private homes. This proposal reduces payments for hospice services provided in nursing homes and skilled nursing facilities, recognizing the fact that Medicare and Medicaid payments to these facilities already account for the cost of providing personal care services. *Saves \$4.5 billion over ten years.*

**Site-Neutral Payments for Physician Office Visits:** In recent years, many hospital systems have acquired physician practices, in part because they have financial incentives to do so. Hospitals have attempted to reclassify physician offices they have purchased as extensions of the hospital, allowing providers to bill for services at a higher rate under the hospital outpatient fee schedule—even though the patient is receiving the same service in the same office. The Budget would eliminate this abusive practice, lowering payments to providers and reducing beneficiary cost-sharing levels. *Saves \$57.9 billion over ten years.*

**Pay Certain Outpatient Hospital Services at the Physician Fee Schedule Rate:** Under current law, Medicare reimburses services provided in hospital outpatient departments at much higher levels than those provided in physician offices. The Budget would equalize payments for services like clinic visits, regardless of the location of the service provided, while exempting rural hospitals from the potential for payment reductions. *Saves \$145.8 billion over ten years.*

**Medicare Advantage Risk Scores:** For seniors who choose to have their Medicare benefits delivered through private Medicare Advantage plans, the program provides monthly payments to plans for each enrollee, with the payments adjusted based on beneficiaries’ risk—i.e., expected health expenses given their age, chronic conditions, etc. The Budget would make two changes to the risk adjustment formula, first by basing risk scores on two years of a beneficiary’s diagnostic data, and second by eliminating the use of health risk assessments in calculating risk scores. These changes could reduce any potential disparity in risk between enrollees in Medicare Advantage plans and those in traditional Medicare. *Saves \$90.8 billion over ten years.*

**Medicare Advantage Bonus Payments:** The Medicare Advantage payment formula gives supplemental payments to plans with high-quality ratings. However, certain counties with low spending and high historical enrollment in Medicare Advantage qualify for double payments, with potential bonuses twice as large as in other counties. The Budget would eliminate this “double-bonus” structure. High-quality plans would still receive bonuses, but the maximum bonus would total 5 percent (the same maximum nationwide), rather than allowing 10 percent bonuses in certain areas. *Saves \$24.1 billion over ten years.*

**Automatic Enrollment:** When seniors currently apply for Social Security, the federal government automatically enrolls them not in the “best” Medicare plan for them, the plan with the lowest out-of-pocket costs, or the one with the highest quality. Instead, the federal government enrolls seniors in government-run Medicare by default. This proposal would change the default enrollment option to the lowest-cost plan in a given region, whether a Medicare Advantage plan or traditional Medicare. Seniors could decide to change plans without penalty, but this change would encourage competition among Medicare plans in the marketplace, potentially lowering premiums for seniors, while reducing federal Medicare spending. *Saves \$97.8 billion over ten years.*

### Other Reforms

**Drug Pricing Reform:** The Budget proposes several reforms that will help to bring down drug prices, while also saving taxpayers money. For instance, the Budget would create the first catastrophic cap on beneficiaries’ out-of-pocket spending in the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit. The Budget would also institute reforms, like a ban on “pay-for-delay” arrangements, that would hasten cheaper generic drugs to the market. *Saves \$178 billion over ten years.*

**Medical Liability Reform:** Our nation’s \$4 trillion spending on health care stems in part from defensive medicine—doctors and hospitals performing unnecessary tests and procedures for fear of a lawsuit. Enacting common-sense medical liability reform will lower healthcare costs in general, while also reducing spending for federal healthcare programs. Moreover, because Medicare takes liability insurance premiums into account when calculating payments to physicians—and because beneficiaries pay a 20 percent co-insurance on the cost of any physician visit—reforms that reduce liability insurance premiums will ultimately save beneficiaries money via lower cost-sharing. *Saves \$40.3 billion over ten years.*

**Reduce TANF Block Grant and Eliminate Contingency Fund:** In a growing economy with low unemployment, states should focus their efforts on moving recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) off of welfare and into work. As such, the Budget includes a 10 percent reduction to the TANF block grant and eliminates the TANF Contingency Fund. *Saves \$21.3 billion over ten years.*

**Discontinue Social Services Block Grant:** The Government Accountability Office has previously criticized the Social Services Block Grant program to states and territories as fragmented, overlapping with similar government programs, and lacking in accountability. As such, the Budget would eliminate this duplicative program. *Saves \$16.6 billion over ten years.*



## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

*Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Housing	59.6	71.9	33.8

The Budget proposes \$33.8 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in FY23, a decrease of 43.3 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These spending reductions are designed to maintain the highest impact programs that provide housing and support for vulnerable Americans most in need, eliminating wasteful programs which undermine this access and mitigating the harms imposed on the American people by woke bureaucracies that infuse federal spending with far-left identity politics. HUD will no longer be focused on expanding the number of Americans on a government program, but rather on how many it can help achieve financial independence.

The Budget proposes numerous policy reforms that include reprioritizations to focus on the core mission of HUD, providing access to safe, decent, and affordable housing and moving Americans from assistance to self-sufficiency. The Budget proposes to end the Community Development Fund program which is ineffective and loaded with waste, fraud, and general abuse of taxpayer resources. The Budget proposes to eliminate specific programs which purport to assist at-risk populations but end up being merely a source of funding for third-party peddlers of identity politics and their promotion of harmful gender ideology. The Budget proposes to significantly scale back the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity program which is overly committed to breaking up single-family homes in favor of low-income housing which destroys our beautiful suburbs.

The Budget proposes to significantly reduce Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (formerly Sec. 8) grants with a 50 percent reduction from FY21 and phases to a complete elimination after three years. These grants are a magnet for crime, significantly reduce property values, and act as a beacon for implementing the Left's so-called fair housing agenda wherein progressives in DC centrally plan the composition of American neighborhoods.

HUD's Management and Administration bureaucracy is dramatically reduced in the Budget proposal. The Office of Fair Housing is cut by fifty percent, the Office of

Community Planning and Development is eliminated, as well as the Office of Equity Advancement, which pushes divisive racial concepts. In all, the Budget refocuses resources and cultivates a culture within HUD that respects its core purpose of building self-sufficiency.

The Budget proposes to defund this woke bureaucracy's actions and policies that do not serve the best interests of the citizens but instead fully embrace leftwing identity politics. The work that HUD is designed to do is to help Americans become self-sufficient and therefore requires the implementation of policies that repair the damage wrought by flawed and politicized ideology.

### **Discretionary Savings**

**Eliminate Community Development Fund:** The Budget proposes to completely eliminate funding for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The Budget proposes devolving community and economic development activities to the state and local levels and redirects federal resources to higher-priority activities. CDBG provides grants to cities and counties to develop their communities. CDBG emerged in its current state in 1974 with allocations based on a formula determined by income distribution and housing measures. Among approved projects include a range of activities from municipal infrastructure projects, to housing rehabilitation, to tree planting, and improvements to parks and recreational facilities, youth centers, sidewalks, and child care centers.

Nevertheless, the program is not well-targeted and leads to wasteful spending that does not serve a national purpose. Indeed, towns like Greenwich, Connecticut – the wealthy enclave on the East Coast, wherein the median household income is \$167,000, more than twice the national median, yet has received millions of CDBG over the years. Greenwich continually ranks as one of the wealthiest towns in America and can surely fund its own tree planting, and sidewalk improvements. It is wasteful to keep sending millions of dollars to help with the local needs of one of the wealthiest communities in America. This is true across the board. Decidedly local needs should be met by those who will benefit most. Self-sufficiency develops resilient communities, not federal subsidies. *Saves \$3.4 billion compared to FY21.*

**Defund Woke Identity Politics:** The Budget proposes to defund programs that deplete agency resources on expansive efforts rooted in “equity” that go well beyond combating housing disparities largely confined to population groups that engage in risky behavior, and instead function merely to direct resources to left-leaning advocacy groups. For example, through its Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program, HUD funds Vivent Health a nonprofit advocacy group that champions “health equity” and “social justice” and declares there is an ongoing “war against the LGBTQIA+ community.” Federal programs should respect taxpayers’ desires not to see their resources flowing to private groups that advocate for unscientific gender policies and divisive



issues that they do not agree with. Such compelled financial support for partisan political positions does nothing to provide safe and affordable housing to vulnerable populations. Rather it serves a political agenda and a collaboration with left-wing ideologues instead of serving the public interest. This is a prime example of HUD simply doing too much and not focusing on actual housing. *Saves \$410 million compared to FY21.*

**Reprioritize Fair Housing:** The Budget proposes a series of significant reforms and spending cuts to better accomplish HUD's fair housing and equal opportunity mission. A spending reduction of \$47 million relative to FY21 (\$73 million) is proposed to accomplish these objectives for a total of \$26 million in proposed FY23 spending. Policy changes within HUD reflected by adjusted funding levels include a narrower focus set in an effort to curb the agency's increasingly weaponized posture toward American suburbs. Currently, there are 77 fair housing agencies, in 34 States and 43 localities, and some 94 private organizations. These groups conduct investigations, interview witnesses, collect evidence, and render judgments. These agencies see the suburbs with their single-family zoning laws as ripe for discrimination complaints.

One group that receives fair housing grants, the National Fair Housing Alliance, (nearly \$2 million since FY17) is markedly partisan. For example, it worked with a coalition of six other left-leaning groups to declare that "The Trump Administration is attacking civil rights protections . . . [and] this is just the beginning if we don't stop this."

Now, the Biden Administration is reinstating two Obama-era regulations – one on disparate impact and the other on fair housing – designed purportedly "to address systemic racism" and to increase "racial equity across the nation." Both are solutions in search of a problem and will increase regulatory attacks on suburbia. The regulations would restrict so-called "exclusionary zoning," that is, single-family zoning, which allows only single-family homes to be built in certain areas. While single-family homes are sometimes more expensive than multi-family units such as apartments, townhomes, or duplexes, there is nothing inherently discriminatory in them. Indeed, as Biden himself noted, the "Suburbs are by and large integrated...There's many people today driving their kids to soccer practice and black and white and Hispanic in the same car as there have been any time in the past." Harvard's Edward Glaeser notes the same thing, the suburbs are integrated and "all-white neighborhoods are effectively extinct." This is also true of many affluent suburban neighborhoods.

Stable racial integration is achieved through similar household income levels, not by social engineering. There is no indication that suburbanites, no matter their ethnic background, want low-income housing forced upon them. President Trump echoed this point explaining, "our suburbs are diverse and thriving communities where the majority of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans now live. . . . You know the suburbs, people fight all of their lives to get into the suburbs and have a beautiful home." Indeed, they do not deserve to have the HUD fair housing police banging down their door to find the systemic racist.

The agency's emphasis on utilizing an "equity" lens is revoked in its entirety along with subdivisions that exist solely to advance a woke agenda behind the pretext of radical identity politics which have no place in government. The Budget proposes to dramatically reduce funding which will require a significantly narrowed focus on ending true discrimination while preserving our beautiful suburbs. *Saves \$47 million compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Tenant-Based Rental Assistance:** Formerly called Section 8, HUD's Tenant-Based Rental Assistance vouchers are a hook for implementing the Left's fair housing agenda. The department views this program as reversing "the effects of residential segregation in the pursuit of racial equity," which is a far cry from what was originally conceived as a market-based alternative to the failed housing projects.

The theory was to eliminate housing projects and instill the responsible behavior required for participation in the private market. For example, in the private market renters must have a good credit history, save for a security deposit, prove employment, pay rent on time, and follow the rules to avoid eviction. The Section 8 reality is nothing like the private market and does not bear the same fruit. Instead, the program brings with it crime, decreased property values, and results in dependency, and subsidized irresponsibility. *Saves \$12.5 billion compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Woke Bureaucracy:** The Budget proposes a refocus of HUD's Management and Administration divisions with an overall reduction totaling 8.7 percent. The Department through its Education and Outreach grants funds to left-leaning groups including the New Jersey Citizen Action, whose mission is to "combine on the ground organizing, legislative advocacy, and electoral campaigns to win progressive policy and political victories," and the Mississippi Center for Justice, which recently described federal immigration enforcement as "morally reprehensible," and Asian Americans for Equality, a left-leaning activist group sometimes associated with the Communist Workers' Party.

Through its Homeless Assistance Grants and its Continuum of Care Program (\$2.5 billion) HUD funds groups that push radical gender ideology. Including the Virginia LGBT Life Center which has been granted millions of dollars over the last five years. Its activities include providing "Trans+ Affirming Resources and Referrals, Community Health Clinic (Primary Care), Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy, PrEP Services, counseling for gender transitioning (gender exploration, referrals for hormones and surgeries, gender marker changes, etc.), and relationship issues (including family or social rejection)."

Through its Mortgage Counseling program, HUD funds UnidosUS with 300 affiliates across the country, its key issues include addressing the "racism embedded in our systems," "broadening ways for people to enter the country" and "accessible paths to citizenship," supporting "Latinx individuals in their journey," and election activities.

The Budget proposes an across-the-board 8.7 percent reduction from Management and Administration to eliminate and remove offices that are infused with critical race theory and gender theory—in particular, the Fair Housing Office is reduced by 50 percent (-\$40 million), the Office of Community Planning and Development is eliminated (-\$122 million). The Office of Diversity, Equity Inclusion and Accessibility is eliminated. Among the subdivisions that are defunded are the grants issued by the agency for the purpose of promulgating propagandized research for these activists. *Saves \$159 million compared to FY21.*



## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Defense	703.7	773.0	787.1

The Budget provides \$787.1 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Defense (DOD) in FY23, an increase of 11.9 percent over FY21 enacted levels. The Budget proposal is designed to re-prioritize and refocus defense expenditures on addressing the long-term, enduring, and growing threats to US interests by funding capabilities to compete with and deter a rising, ambitious, and aggressive China. The Budget would provide increased resources annually for the next five years (FYDP) and then freeze spending in the last five years of the budget window to account for a reduction in US commitments.

The Budget prioritizes critical strategic military capabilities required to deter and deny Chinese aggression. Shortcomings with regard to thwarting China are visible and include the embarrassment of the poorly planned and executed 2021 withdrawal from Afghanistan, the provocations and mismanagement that led to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the policies that have driven Russia into the arms of China which intends aggression against the US and our interests, low morale among active-duty servicemembers, and failures to achieve recruitment goals at home.

The Budget also remedies the self-inflicted harm imposed by political and military leaders that emphasizes social justice, progressive dogma, and climate issues against the dedicated men and women of our armed forces who joined to defend our country. Instead, they must now defend themselves against intimidation, anti-American indoctrination, and attack from manufactured investigations into false and exaggerated allegations of extremism, the promotion of the divisive and Marxist-derived ideology of critical theory, and the exploitation of the military and its resources to fund experimentation of unmarketable and unwanted climate change initiatives in service to a secular, woke religion. All of which diverts precious resources and attention from the mission of addressing real and imminent threats to US national security. More importantly, woke indoctrination serves as one of those very threats—breeding hostility among the ranks of the enlisted with its focus on identity-driven grievances as well as rewarding failed leadership in the name of an ideology that permeates the very essence of the communist Chinese regime.

**Expands US Maritime Superiority:** The Budget renews the nation's commitment that began with the Trump Administration's release of the FY22 Shipbuilding Plan to invest in restoring maritime superiority and prioritizing military capabilities necessary to protect American interests around the world, defend America's homeland, and sustain enduring peace through strength to deter Chinese aggression. The Budget builds on Congressional support to match the Trump Shipbuilding Plan in FY22 and proposes \$31.3 billion in FY23 for 15 battle force ships. It then continues to accelerate procurement to reach a fleet of 355 ships in 2031, including increasing annual procurement of Virginia Class submarines to 3 per year by FY2025 and expanding the industrial base to include a second shipyard to increase production of the Constellation Class Frigates. In addition, this Budget protects the current fleet of Littoral Combat Ships from early decommissioning, maintaining fleet readiness and extending the value of the taxpayers' investment in these recently commissioned ships.

**Expands the Shipbuilding Industrial Base:** Expansion of the US Navy Fleet requires an industrial base capacity that can support an increase in shipbuilding and greater capacity for ship maintenance and repair, requiring investments in the shipbuilding industry, ship repair capabilities, and the resources needed to operate, train, and equip the fleet. The Budget proposes robust industrial base investments, including \$3.0 billion for the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Plan to ensure the Navy's nuclear aircraft carriers and submarines are available to meet the Nation's needs.

**Enhances Deterrence By Funding Strategic Forces Modernization for the Nuclear Triad, Missile Defense, and Space:** The Budget continues support for the US policy of strategic deterrence through the modernization of the nuclear triad, including \$5.0 billion for the B-21 bomber, \$6.3 billion for the Columbia-class submarine, \$3.6 billion for the Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent, and \$199 million in seed funding to develop the nuclear-capable Sea-Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM). The Budget also prioritizes Missile Defense, continuing development of the NGI All-Up Round (AUR) to increase current fleet size for homeland defense intercept to 64 interceptors (44 GBIs and 20 NGIs), pursues Space Development Agency's (SDA) investments to develop and demonstrate a hypersonic tracking layer by supporting development and fielding of hypersonic missile defense capabilities, and funds THAAD, Patriot, and SM-6. The Budget continues support for Israeli Cooperative BMD Programs, including the Iron Dome system, David's Sling Weapon System and Arrow-3 System. Space Force investments in the Budget upgrade and sustain strategic and tactical missile warning and tracking systems, including the Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared to track ballistic and hypersonic threats, Upgraded Early Warning Radars and service life extension of legacy early warning systems.

**Prioritizes Long-Term Affordability and Fiscally Responsible National Security:** The Budget pays for increases in long-term capital investments in shipbuilding, strategic forces, modernization, industrial base capacity, and other national defense priorities while reducing over-extended commitments of the men and women of our Armed Forces, incentivizing allies to fund their self-defense, divesting of legacy systems, and

balancing management of ballooning personnel costs while preserving pay and benefits for our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines. The Budget restores the national commitment to fiscal responsibility within national security by bringing focus to mission fundamentals, downsizing bloated overhead of the Pentagon, the general officer corps, the civilian workforce, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. As such, the Budget has identified more than \$5.3 billion to be redirected to Navy shipbuilding and other national security priorities and transitioning to a flat topline.

**Refocusing US Dollars on American Defense and Incentivizing European Allies to Pay for Their Own Self-Defense:** The Budget transitions the responsibility and burden of defense of Ukraine from US-led to a European-led effort, eliminating further funding for the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI) and Ukraine's defense and redevelopment. EDI was initiated in June 2014 in response to the Russian Federation annexation of Crimea, and has invested \$30B over those past 8 years only to fail in its attempts to deter aggression, and only succeeded in disincentivizing European allies from increasing funding for their own self-defense. The US has already provided over \$20 billion in security assistance and billions more in development funding to Ukraine, paving the way for European allies to shoulder the burden of Ukrainian defense and redevelopment. By eliminating the EDI program, the Budget identifies savings to transition to the Indo-Pacific theater.

**Ensures Readiness:** The Budget invests \$125 billion in force readiness across the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force to maintain the best trained and equipped fighting force in the world. The Budget funds Army core readiness and readiness enablers accounts, emphasizing the high-priority Pacific Deterrence Initiative, ground maneuver forces, and aviation readiness. The Budget funds Navy aviation, ship, and combat support readiness activities, including the Optimized Fleet Response Plan, ship depot maintenance, and aviation readiness to improve mission-capable rates across the fleet. The Marine Corps readiness funding increased over FY2022 levels to maximize ground combat and aviation readiness accounts to sustain critical operational, maintenance and training programs. The Budget also prioritizes investment in Air Force core readiness and readiness enabler accounts for increased flying hours and weapon system sustainment, and maintaining the inventory of aircraft, space systems, and other weapon systems.

**Reduces Army End Strength:** The Budget reduces authorized Army active duty end strength to 465,000 from 485,000 authorized in FY22, resulting in a savings of over \$2.8 billion in FY23 and \$15.5 billion over the FYDP. Given the Army's continued recruitment challenges and the Department's pivot to a maritime and aviation-focused Indo-Pacific strategy to deter the advance of China, the Budget begins a strategic and long-term effort to redirect savings away from ground forces and Army end strength resources to accelerate modernization of maritime, space, airpower, and strategic capabilities and enhance the nation's ability to compete, deter, and win against our near-peer adversaries. Military compensation costs, which include pay and a wide range of healthcare, retirement, and other benefits, constitute roughly one-third of DOD's total budget. These costs per person have grown at a much higher rate than the overall DOD

budget. Constraining end strength is one means of protecting the rest of the DOD's budget to ensure America's service members have the modernized equipment and weapon systems to defend the Nation and prevail on the battlefield.

**Divests Legacy Force Structure Ill-Suited to the Future Fight:** The Budget supports DOD's effort to divest \$2.2 billion of legacy systems in FY23 by discontinuing the use of older and less capable systems so that DOD can more effectively focus resources on modernized platforms that support both high-intensity conflict and operations in highly contested environments.

### **Savings from Reforms, Efficiencies, and Headquarter Personnel**

**Reductions:** DOD continues to pursue management reforms, including the reduction of management and overhead costs, to redirect savings toward higher priorities in readiness, lethality and modernization with the goal to fund "more teeth with less tail." The Budget proposes a multi-year effort to reform business processes, downsize headquarters personnel, reduce the civilian workforce, and shrink the bloated and over-funded general and flag officer corps as critical initiatives to streamline the Department and maximize the taxpayers' investment in national security.

**Removing Woke Mandates:** Since assuming leadership of the Pentagon, the Biden administration has prioritized distracting the Pentagon workforce and, more importantly, the men and women who have volunteered to risk their life and limb to protect our nation from their core mission by imposing progressive policies such as radical gender theory, critical race theory, and climate change policies that distract precious attention and resources from the unifying mission to defend the republic. They have attempted to disguise their intimidation with buzz words masking manufactured constructs such as extremism in the military and imposing vaccination requirements, only to intimidate and coerce the DoD workforce into compliance. This Budget prohibits the spending of appropriated dollars on training, screening, or other indoctrination efforts with respect to critical theory, vaccine mandates, and climate change initiatives.

**Elimination of Diversity Officers:** The imposition of woke dogma throughout the highest ranks of the Pentagon and the officer corps of the U.S. Armed Forces poses a direct threat to unit cohesion, fighting effectiveness, and unity of purpose. The Budget eliminates the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, all of its personnel, and defunds unit-level diversity officers, whose sole purpose is to invoke and promote Marxist-derived ideologies of critical theory into the minds and hearts of men and women whose mission is to defend their nation and fight for their fellow brothers and sisters against America's enemies.

**Service Academy Course Correction:** The service academies have begun indoctrinating officers into divisive concepts such as Critical Race Theory, radical gender theory, and climate extremism. This includes the Naval Academy recommending midshipmen read Ibram X. Kendi's *How to Be an Antiracist*, West Point incorporating courses that instruct cadets on how to "address whiteness" as a means of dismantling

“systemic racism,” and professors at the Air Force Academy teaching young officers that racism in America is “endemic.” The Budget eliminates all funding for programs, courses, reading assignments, activities, or events in the service academies that incorporate such destructive falsehoods in service to Marxist-derived ideology.

**Prohibition on Progressive Symbolism:** The Budget prohibits the various branches of the military, forward operating bases, individual units, and all chains of command from virtue signaling support on social media, on bases, and as part of official duties for progressive causes that intentionally seek to divide the nation in the name of woke extremism. This includes symbols and events associated with Pride month, LGBTQ initiatives, Black Lives Matter, and climate change advocacy. Approved symbols for use are limited to the flag of the United States of America, various state flags, branch flags, unit flags, and historic military flags of the United States.





## DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND FOREIGN AID

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
State & Foreign Aid	57.5	67.6	31.6

The Budget proposes \$31.6 billion in discretionary funding in FY23 for the Department of State, the US Agency for Internal Development (USAID), and other federal entities engaged in foreign aid, a decrease of 45.1 percent over FY21 enacted levels.

The Budget provides the required resources to strategically promote and defend America's diplomatic, economic, and national security interests in an era of global unrest, upheaval, and renewed great power competition. It does this by streamlining funding and realigning international engagement to promote American interests, and ensuring that every dollar spent at home and abroad advances the values and priorities of the American people and not the global elites.

These cuts are designed to drastically reduce taxpayer resources wasted abroad on diplomatic programs that do little to nothing to advance our American interests, often undermining them instead. The proposed budget also seeks to minimize the harm imposed by an increasingly woke American foreign policy on our international allies and partners. Every year, the State Department and USAID spend billions on frivolous legacy programs that serve the special interests of a very few, elite American cosmopolitans at best, or actively embarrass the United States and expose vulnerabilities to our enemies at worst.

The Budget proposes numerous policy reforms. These include: reducing Diplomatic Program spending with new cuts to public diplomacy, significantly reducing contributions to International Organizations by defunding dues for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), ending contributions to International Peacekeeping, reducing Foreign Military Financing (while maintaining support for Israel), eliminating the ineffective International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau, and eliminating the Global Media Fund. At USAID, the Budget reduces operating expenses, provides targeted cuts to Global Health Programs including eliminating the pro-abortion Family Planning programs, zeros out the Economic Support and Development Fund, and almost entirely eliminates funding for Migration and Refugee Assistance, leaving a small

portion to continue operating the Humanitarian Migrants to Israel (HMI) Program. The Budget also proposes the complete elimination of funding for the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Finally, for international programs run through the Treasury and other international contributions made by the United States, the Budget eliminates a host of these unnecessary and wasteful multilateral assistance programs.

As stated, the Budget serves to protect the American people from woke foreign aid spending, and waste, fraud, and abuse both at home and overseas. It helps end the American progressive export of radical gender ideology, and largely meaningless support for democracy programs that are often veiled fronts for liberal cultural colonialism. Americans deserve to be represented by a diplomatic core that puts American interests first both in Foggy Bottom and on foreign soil. This Budget delivers on that mandate.

## **Discretionary Savings**

### **Department of State**

The Budget proposes to significantly reduce and refocus the overall expenditures at the Department of State while still providing all of the necessary resources to defend and advance American diplomatic, economic, and security interests abroad. The US faces an age of renewed Great Power competition, with an increasingly aggressive China in the Indo-Pacific, while rogue states such as Iran and North Korea continue to demand our attention and the renewal of a State-led maximum pressure campaign. That said, in the aftermath of the Biden Administration's disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal, it is evident that the age of US-funded nation-building is over. The path forward must begin with a renewed commitment to our homeland. It is critical that our allies in both the Indo-Pacific and European theaters begin to bear a larger share of defense and diplomatic spending. This allocation should be more than enough for the Department of State to execute its core mission of advancing "the national security and economic prosperity of the United States through diplomacy, enhanced security, and fair economic competition" but without continuing frivolous adventurism and ideological colonialism.

To encourage this return to core priorities that place America first, the Budget accelerates US departure from failed and sovereignty-stealing international bodies by defunding dues for NATO, WHO, the PAHO, and other International Organizations, saving taxpayers over \$2 billion in the process. Furthermore, it reduces spending on Diplomatic Programs by over 8 percent, eliminating some of the worst cases of waste, fraud, and abuse at State, including a variety of programs that do nothing more than promote LGBTQIA+ ideology overseas—often forcing it on countries who reject such commitments.

The Budget also eliminates funding for the United Nations International Peacekeeping treaty commitments, saving almost \$1.5 billion. Finally, the Budget eliminates the US Agency for Global Media, including the Voice of America, a US-funded international news outlet that was chartered to promote American values, but regularly

undermines America's interests, promotes, radical leftist ideology, and amplifies the propaganda of our enemies instead.

If adopted, this Budget represents a spending reduction of \$26 billion relative to FY202. These reductions will not only promote fiscal responsibility, diplomatic realism, and ideological sanity in US foreign policy, but it will also drive the State Department to address its perennial mismanagement, bureaucratic bloat, and mission drift.

**Eliminate Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in Diplomatic Programs:** The Diplomatic Programs (DP) account is one of the largest line items in the State Department's budget, with \$8.8 billion provided in FY21. Funding passes through this account to 41 bureaus and offices, 195 countries, and 276 diplomatic posts. One of the three major programmatic allocations under DP is Public Diplomacy (PD), which is largely executed by the Office of the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs (R). The unfortunate reality is that hundreds of millions of PD dollars go to woke and wasteful programs that celebrate degenerate vices, promote climate nonsense, push the LGBTQIA+ agenda, and undermine American standing with international partners who do not approve of the sexual and cultural revolution being exported by America and Western Europe.

A few examples of taxpayer dollars going towards such programs, particularly in nations that do not welcome the LGBTQIA+ agenda, include:

- Funding to Centro Ecuatoriano Norteamericano (CENA) in Ecuador, a non-profit organization supported by the US Embassy and Consulate in Ecuador, to “promote diversity and inclusion” through “12 drag theater performances.”
- Funding to Valodu Muzejs to support poetry collection and online poetry reading that highlights the LGBT community.
- Funding to YAAJ Transformando Tu Vida A.C. to develop digital platforms to support LGBT+ youth, digital workshops, and training after the health emergency.
- Funding to ARA ART, O.S. to leverage the Prague pride events and march to highlight ongoing inequalities including overall invisibility of the Roma LGBT community, as part of a regional initiative.
- Funding to Cámara de Comerciantes LGBT de Colombia for LGBTI economic empowerment in Colombia in the context of the economic emergency caused by COVID-19.
- Funding to Associação Lambda to promote the positive visibility of the LGBT community through various activities, such as live webinar, production of audiovisual videos with the participation of human rights activists, radio & tv interviews, and testimonial videos.
- Funding to Association Aides Senegal to organize and hold three trainings for 24 LGBTI activists from Fatick, Kaffrine, and Tambacounda.
- Funding to Busselton Mardi Gras, Inc. to support the LGBTQIA+ community movie night and events.

These woke and wasteful expenditures do nothing to promote American interests abroad or deliver on advancing our core diplomatic, economic, and national security interests. *Saves \$800 million compared to FY21.*

**End Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs:** The Budget proposes to eliminate all funding (\$740 million) for the Department of State's Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs, administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). These programs began in the early 1960s as a means of introducing young Americans to foreign countries and cultures and bringing foreign students to the US as well. However, with the rise of the information age and increased options for study abroad programs at the collegiate, graduate, and doctoral levels, the necessity for such programs has been eclipsed. Furthermore, as part of the overall bureaucratic growth in the Department of State, ECA now administers over 70+ different programs, many of which provide no tangible return on investment toward critical international priorities or national security interests. In 2018 the Department of State Office of Inspector General (OIG) released an audit of approximately \$400 million worth of cooperative agreements across 12 programs between 2014-2016. Between just these 12 programs, OIG found that "ECA officials did not monitor the 12 cooperative agreements awarded...in accordance with Federal regulations and Department policy." Unsurprisingly, ECA funds have been a regular source of wasteful spending, including programs like the Community College Initiative (CCI) which used \$15.6 million to provide free community college to foreign students. In this era of fiscal insanity, and increased global unrest, the US must make hard choices and prioritize accordingly, and cultural exchange programs simply are not a priority. *Saves \$740 million compared to FY21.*

**Reduce Contributions to International Organizations:** The Budget recommends significant reductions to overall US contributions to International Organizations (IO) that do not advance US foreign policy interests including NATO, WHO, and PAHO. The reductions include completely defending treaty contributions for these three organizations. NATO was founded for the purposes of deterrence in Europe and collective defense in the event of an attack. Over the last few decades, European nations have increasingly coasted off of American largess. It is past time for NATO allies to begin paying their fair share for their European national security interests. The US contributes far more to NATO than any other partner, even as the majority of treaty allies fail to meet their required two percent of GDP contributions. With the war in Ukraine, it has become evident that it is no longer in US interests to continue funding NATO and risk being involved in a land war on the European continent. This reduction is not intended to be permanent, but rather to serve as an incentive for the remainder of allied partners to begin paying their portion and to prompt a conversation about the future structure, composition, and purpose of NATO. However, the WHO and PAHO have proven themselves to be irredeemably political organizations that advance globalist agendas and undermine American sovereignty. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the WHO repeatedly amplified Chinese propaganda about the origins of the virus. Unlike NATO, this Budget recommends eliminating WHO and PAHO dues in order to effect withdrawal from these organizations. *Saves \$670 million compared to FY21.*

**End Contributions to International Peacekeeping:** The Budget would end US contributions to UN peacekeeping operations. UN peacekeeping has been proven time and time again to have little ability to stabilize and manage areas of conflict, provide promised

services, and ensure quality control in protecting against waste, fraud, and abuse of its overall UN budget of approximately \$7 billion. Further, it came to light in 2017 that UN peacekeepers had committed acts of sexual abuse on women and children and faced little accountability. Since 2017, more allegations have been brought forward. This conduct further underscores the necessity to end all US monetary support for peacekeeping activities. *Saves \$1.5 billion compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Global Media Fund:** The US Agency for Global Media and its mouthpieces around the world via Voice of America disseminate US government-funded news. Such tools have been found to often use the weight of the US government to promote radical social and cultural policies abroad, including LGBTQ ideology and pro-abortion movements, in nations targeted as being socially or culturally conservative. Additionally, radical woke US propaganda does nothing to enhance or further core diplomatic activities abroad that further US security and economic interests. In that sense, such spending is wasteful and better channeled into other areas. *Saves \$803 million compared to FY21.*

**Reduces Foreign Military Financing (FMF) Grants:** The United States provides billions of dollars annually in security assistance to other countries in the form of grants and loans. The proposed budget introduces a 9.7% cut aimed at eliminating grants that go to wealthy NATO and major non-NATO allies capable of making arms purchases outright or at a minimum should only be eligible for loans under FMF. This cut incentivizes NATO and major non-NATO investment in self-sustaining defense capabilities, increasing burden sharing and decreasing the cost level shouldered almost entirely by the United States. Remaining funds preserve legal obligations to provide security assistance to Israel, as well as ensuring funds are available for security assistance to Taiwan. *Saves over \$600 million compared to FY21.*

**Ends Aimless and Ineffective International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau:** The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INCLE) within the Department of State is essentially a money pit for paying State Department bureaucrats to “train and build partner capacity” for combating illicit drugs. However, the “training” provided is almost entirely centered on building the recipient nation’s justice systems, law enforcement protocols, and the amorphous goal of “eliminating corruption” broadly within governments. Not only has this mission been abused by State Department bureaucrats to push elements of the woke agenda, but these activities also do little to combat the flow of illicit drugs and by extension illegal migration into the United States. The funds spent by INCLE would be better channeled toward border enforcement and Coast Guard missions to combat drug trafficking flows into the United States. The Budget would cut all funding to the INCLE. *Saves over \$1.4 billion compared to FY21.*

**USAID**

USAID was created to function as America's arm of generosity to people in circumstances of extreme need around the globe. USAID's current budget reflects a very different mission, one focused primarily on a social and cultural agenda that serves the radical and disturbed whims of woke global elites. The Budget realigns USAID to its original mission, eliminating its unsanctioned cultural change mission and directing remaining functions toward serving US interests abroad.

The Budget proposes a significant reduction and consolidation of duplicative aid programs, including the Democracy Fund, the Economic Support Fund, and specially dedicated assistance to Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia. USAID has a systemic problem of channeling funding through a multitude of different accounts with amorphous purposes like "democracy promotion" which overlap with other funding streams with similar goals. The Budget is intent on eliminating this duplication and aid that is not serving a direct strategic interest of US national security.

Finally, the Budget targets USAID programs that push a radical social and cultural agenda antithetical to American values. USAID programs focused on "global health" and "gender equality" often include abortion promotion and LGBTQIA+ agenda advocacy as core planks of their mission. The Budget would end support for pro-abortion family planning programs and promotion of abortion abroad as a legitimate plank of "reproductive health," while ensuring funding is preserved to support ongoing care to current HIV/AIDS patients. Further, the Budget would end the majority of overzealous contributions to migration and refugee assistance.

**Reduction in Bureaucratic Bloat:** In recent years, offices in USAID have been created or cemented for purposes that are both redundant and aimed specifically at serving radical agendas on gender and health. Examples include the hub for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and creating a permanent gender coordinator position. Further, established offices like the Office of Population and Reproductive Health and the inclusive development hub also make abortion promotion and radical gender ideology part of their core missions. None of these offices or hubs serve a vital role in the core mission of USAID which is to deliver life-saving aid and supplies to populations in need around the world. Aid should never be weaponized to entice acceptance abroad to a taboo and dangerous social and cultural agenda. *Saves \$66 million compared to FY21.*

**Ends Wasteful and Non-Strategic Aid:** USAID operates several initiatives that employ taxpayer resources for "capacity building" projects abroad. Such initiatives are designed to "help" other nations structure economies, governmental institutions, social programs, and societal norms and values. Two problems arise. First, the US typically foots the largest portion of the bill for this type of "aid" whereas other wealthy nations and international organizations like the UN contribute little but expect the programs to continue indefinitely. Second, these programs typically produce little return on investment. The US does not gain strategic or reliable allies, nor are these programs leveraged toward specific US foreign policy interests, making the levels of spending difficult to justify to the American people. As an example, the Economic Support Fund,

the Democracy Fund, and Assistance for Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia all separately fund largely duplicative “capacity-building” missions abroad. The Budget eliminates all Economic Development funding to ensure US aid abroad is channeled to directly further US security interests and does not incentivize dependency in particular regions by having region-specific funds. *Saving \$4.2 billion compared to FY21.*

### **Ends Funding for Pro-Abortion Family Planning in Global Health**

**Programs:** The Budget proposes \$5.8 billion for Global Health Programs, a 37 percent reduction in spending from FY21. These cuts maintain funding for programs that continue to provide care for those currently receiving care because of HIV, but otherwise reduces the Bush-era US President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The US has spent billions in helping control and reverse the HIV/AIDS epidemic. At this point in the effort, it is better for host countries and civil society to bear the ongoing burden of managing HIV/AIDS at the local level. The US will continue to provide targeted assistance that serves our national interest by focusing on countries with increased HIV/AIDS burdens. The Budget also proposes to eliminate Family Planning programs, a savings of approximately \$237 million. These programs are used to normalize and push access to abortion and promote the LGBTQIA+ agenda as part of “family planning” and under the euphemism of “reproductive health.” USAID even boasts that their Family Planning programs have led to a reduction in family sizes, and by inference, global population, writing that “when USAID launched its family planning program in 1965, fewer than 10 percent of women in the developing world (excluding China) were using a modern contraceptive method, and the average family size was over six. Today, in the 31 countries where USAID focuses its support, modern contraceptive prevalence has increased to 32 percent, and the average family size has dropped to 4.2.” *Saves \$3.4 billion compared to FY21.*

**Eliminates the Vast Majority of Migration and Refugee Assistance:** The US has historically offered over-generous support to those seeking to come to our homeland when fleeing international disasters, war, and unrest. Along with being too generous without any regard to a domestic and cultural benefit, many refugees fail to receive proper vetting. In September of 2022, two Afghan refugees were “accused of attempting to sexually assault children and physically abusing a woman in separate incidents while living at Fort McCoy in Tomah.” Many other examples of similar behavior exist. Furthermore, the best place for international refugees and displaced persons to be cared for is in the safest neighboring country closest to their own homeland, so that they can return as expeditiously as possible to begin the task of rebuilding and national restoration. The Budget proposes a \$3.4 billion reduction to the Migration and Refugee Assistance, while maintaining \$46 million to continue the operation of the Humanitarian Migrants to Israel (HMI) Program. This will enable the US to continue to support solutions for international displacement that put the interests of American citizens first. *Saves \$3.4 billion compared to FY21.*

### **Multilateral Assistance**

The Budget proposes to end most of the program focused on “financial diplomacy” abroad, given that the majority of these activities are primarily used as US-funded bailouts given to countries where capital investment is incredibly risky and the national debt is unsustainable with the goal of creating economic conditions that are more hospitable to economic investment. Unfortunately, these programs usually fail to substantially change the economic conditions and more often than not create a cycle of dependency.

The US is also the largest contributor to numerous international banks focused on “development.” These contributions are run through the Treasury Department to institutions like the World Bank and region-specific development banks. The Budget eliminates the majority of US contributions in this space, cutting waste to better route taxpayer resources to strategic interests.

**Eliminating Unnecessary and Wasteful Multilateral Assistance:** The United States makes contributions to two major World Bank programs, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association. Both programs provide loan guarantees, loans, and grants to primarily low-income countries. Similar to contributions made to debt restructuring, the US is the largest contributor to both programs. Large-scale programs designed to artificially distort the market by lending and subsidizing investments in countries with high-risk environments do not advance US strategic interests and in fact, create a perpetual cycle of dependency for capital without the necessary incentive of possible failure. *Saves \$1.2 billion compared to FY21*

**African Development Bank, African Development Fund, Asian Development Fund:** The African Development Bank (ADB) and African Development Fund (ADF) exist to generate and finance economic growth and development on the African continent for the purposes of poverty alleviation. The Asian Development Fund supports projects in developing member countries by seeking to generate economic growth through both public and private sector operations. With an operating budget that exceeds \$22 billion for FY21, ending the US annual contributions of approximately \$47 million will have no impact on their enduring mission or future success. The Asian Development Fund is more than capable of pursuing its key commitments without American contributions. *Saves \$273 million compared to FY21.*

**Eliminates Funding for the Millennium Challenge Corporation:** The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) was created to reshape how the US administered foreign aid by requiring certain standards in law, human rights, and economic freedom from beneficiary nations to incentivize long-term change in corrupt, underdeveloped nations traditionally inhospitable to facilitating economic growth. Unfortunately, this new model has not produced desired results which is why Congress has repeatedly kept funding at minimal levels rather than increasing to the originally conceived \$5 billion



annually. Further, the MCC produces no tangible gains for US strategic interests. In fact, at its inception, the Millennium Challenge Corporation was intentionally insulated from serving US foreign policy interests. The Budget would eliminate funding for the MCC. *Saves \$912 million compared to FY21.*



## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Education	73.0	88.3	54.1

The Budget proposes \$54.1 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Education (ED) in FY23, a decrease of 25.9 percent over FY21 enacted levels. To turn back the far-left tide that marched into public education classrooms, the Budget proposes a substantial funding reduction for FY2023. These reductions are designed to mitigate and thwart the weaponization of the public education system which is an existential threat to the American Republic. The Budget’s numerous proposals seek to end the left’s concerted and intentional efforts to make neo-racism and gender theory the core of elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education. This pervasive attempt by the left to create a generation of revolutionaries to literally overthrow the country is eliminated and responsibility for public education returned to the states enabling parents to better exercise their rights to educate their children.

Under the Biden Administration, ED embedded “equity” throughout the entirety of its operations. Its comprehensive strategy focuses funding, third-party contracts, and regulations pertaining to postsecondary and K-12 institutions not on equal access but on “equity” and addressing “systemic racism.” For example, ED is providing millions of dollars to establish new regional “Equity Assistance Centers,” to train teachers on racial inequities and “socially transition” a child without the parent’s knowledge. The Department has provided more than \$60 million to existing programs to train teachers and school boards in the how-tos of critical gender and race theories on inclusivity and equity. The Department also implemented a rule outlining “culturally responsive learning” for grants predicated on 1619 Project propaganda and Ibram Kendi’s radical CRT teachings.

ED is not just engaged in promoting and funding woke propaganda, but it is weaponized against parents. Emails obtained after public information requests indicated Biden Education Secretary Miguel Cardona collaborated with the National School Board Association teachers’ union and the White House to mobilize the Biden Justice Department against concerned parents by opening domestic terrorism investigations into them.

ED has adopted radical gender theory in its proposed Title IX rule that would gut protection for women and girls to advance biological untruths in the name of radical gender theory. The Department's direct support of COVID-style mandates, grooming minors for so-called gender transition, and labeling objecting parents as domestic terrorists requires a reckoning of how deeply flawed the federal education system has become.

The woke-rot is endemic, from funding "culturally responsive STEAM" to "Latinx DEI" in community colleges, and "anti-racism" in St. Louis charter schools, wherein schools "commit... to push for effective public policy and ... advocates at the state and local levels, and works with its neighbors to engage in anti-racist and anti-bias dialogue." The Department has embraced the left's agenda which is wholly antithetical to sustaining our strong, prosperous, and American nation and must accordingly be dismantled.

### **Discretionary Savings**

**Eliminate Woke Training and School Improvement Programs:** The Budget proposes the creation of a single block grant program to consolidate nearly 30 varying elementary and secondary education programs. The Department has embarked on a mission to embed critical theory in all of its programs and funding streams, this consolidation into a single block grant program significantly reduces staffing and administrative costs but also degrades the opportunity for woke bureaucrats to meddle in the education policies of local school districts. Aside from significantly reducing the Department's administrative costs and bureaucracy, this reform institutes greater oversight and accountability to monitor and halt the Department's increasing emphasis on critical theory and other radical ideologies used in grantmaking decisions.

The Budget also proposes to significantly eliminate several teacher training programs which function as consortiums for critical theory. For example, the Department recently awarded a \$1.9 million grant to an Illinois non-profit designed to train teachers to "center equity" and be "culturally responsive" in the classroom in order to "address the enduring and systemic inequities in school systems." In another instance, it awarded a \$2.7 million grant to a Rhode Island non-profit designed to train teachers and administrators to "address the root causes of educational inequities" and transform systems by dismantling systemic racism and a \$1.5 million grant to the University of Texas Arlington to instruct teachers on how to blend math with social-emotional learning (SEL) and other Critical Theory concepts.

These programs received \$24.8 billion in FY21 and would be replaced with a \$16.2 billion block grant in FY23. The block grant would not include funding for Impact Aid and special education and disabilities grants which would continue to receive high levels of funding elsewhere. *Saves \$8.2 billion compared to FY21.*

**Restore Value in Higher Education:** Costs of college tuition have skyrocketed 175 percent in the last 4 decades, far exceeding inflation rates. Meanwhile, the value of the degree has not kept pace. Indeed, colleges and universities are no longer institutions of academic rigor, freedom of inquiry, or speech. Instead, students and faculty are at the mercy of woke administrators. For example, administrators at Yale Law School threatened to obstruct the character and fitness portion required for a bar license of one of its students for little more than an uncouth email he sent. Faculty at the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University Law Center, and Princeton University have all faced threats of termination or demotion for expressing their opinions. ED is complicit in funding this degradation. These institutions receive hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars every year; in 2019 totals were \$98 billion in federal student aid, \$41 billion in grants, and \$10 billion in contracts.

Yet the American university is often now little more than an indoctrination camp. In order to realize the actual value in post-secondary credentialing, the Budget proposes to eliminate the federal student loan program, the largest subsidy to woke colleges and universities. Instead, the Budget proposes to refocus federal student aid in two specific ways. First, it is targeted to those with true financial needs, and second, it emphasizes and maintains robust funding on Career and Technical Education (\$2 billion) so that increasingly every high school in America can have a CTE program.

**Reorient Pell Eligibility:** While providing \$16.9 billion in FY23, the Budget proposes a series of discretionary policy changes to the Pell program, specifically reforming eligibility criteria through the implementation of tighter means-testing. This change ensures that Pell grants are only available to students with an expected family contribution of zero and restores the program to one that is truly needs-based. Furthermore, the Budget reforms halt the unchecked expansion of the Pell program, which has undergone a series of recent statutory changes broadening questionable eligibility criteria during the pandemic. *Saves \$7.6 billion compared to FY21.*

**Abolish Federal TRIO Programs:** The federal government spends a significant amount of funding preparing particular students for postsecondary education. The TRIO Programs are a collective of eight programs that are meant to train particular students for college. This reveals an ongoing bias towards subsidizing a college degree that may not be the best path to a career. In addition, these programs often simply do not work. For instance, only six percent of participants in the McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program from 1989 through 1998 had earned their doctoral degree by 2003. According to GAO, ED relies on self-reported data to determine program efficacy, which the Department has little means of verifying. In addition, ED has never studied the effectiveness of 3 of the eight programs.

Rather than expensive, yet pretended gestures, the Budget proposes to eliminate the Washington mentality that attempts to channel every person toward a four-year degree, regardless of desire, need, or aptitude. Especially as these institutions have not proved an overall adequate return on investment and instead force woke ideology into

every aspect of their degree programs. The Budget maintains appropriate support for various career paths, from apprenticeships to a four-year degree for students with demonstrated need. *Saves \$2.1 billion compared to FY21.*

### **Mandatory Savings**

**Phase-out the Federal Student Loan Program:** Over the past half-century, federal involvement in lending to students has failed to make college more affordable. According to the federal Department of Education, average college tuition, room and board, and fees have increased by more than 175 percent since 1980, even after adjusting for inflation. Instead, generous federal subsidies have encouraged universities to increase tuition, quite often to grow both bureaucracy and amenities not essential to their academic mission. Additionally, the prospect of large-scale student loan forgiveness of the kind the Biden Administration recently enacted, raises the specter of the federal government providing a mass subsidy to a small portion of the population, many of whom come from affluent backgrounds.

Moreover, the return on investment (ROI) for a quarter of bachelor's degrees is negative, i.e. the person would have been better off not getting the degree at all. More than half (68 percent) of visual arts and music degrees have negative ROI, as do most degrees in philosophy and religious studies (60 percent), and nearly 30 percent of psychology, English, liberal arts, or humanities degrees all have negative ROI. Even 31 percent of life sciences or biology degrees have a negative ROI. Beyond specific degree programs, post-secondary institutions have seen a marked decline in academic rigor. One study followed 2,300 students at 24 universities over the course of four years and found that 1/3 of them showed no improvement in critical thinking and writing skills. Setting aside the earnings potential, further declines in academic rigor are evidenced by the finding that 57 percent of college graduates failed a civic literacy exam. Finally, only 42 percent of alumni when surveyed strongly agreed that they were challenged academically in college, meaning more than half did not agree.

For these reasons, the budget proposes eliminating all elements of the Federal Student Loan Program— Stafford and PLUS loans. *Saves \$16.6 billion over ten years.*

**Limit Graduate Student Loans:** During the phase-out period, the Budget proposes to consolidate all graduate loans into a single program with one interest rate and a cap. Students could borrow amounts up to the cost of attendance minus other aid. This would put reasonable limits and requirements on graduate borrowers during the phase-out of the federal loan program. *Saves \$25.1 billion over ten years.*

**Eliminate Subsidized Student Loans:** During the phase-out period, and in order to simplify the program, the Budget proposes to eliminate subsidized loans. There is a logical failure in differentiating between loans based on income at the time of borrowing, when the entire point of the loan is to acquire a degree that affords a job and wage that

will enable paying off said loan no matter the income level before the degree was acquired. There is no merit to granting certain low-income individuals a subsidy at the time of loan issuance when there is no payment at all on the loan for a certain period of time. The Budget proposes to eliminate these subsidized loans. *Saves \$18.1 billion over ten years.*

Repealing these programs would eliminate a major driver of the rising cost of tuition, encouraging students and parents to make more budget-conscious choices about where and when they participate in higher education, and the degree and career paths they choose.

The Pell Grant program would remain, to serve low-income students most in need of tuition assistance. But blank check policies from Congress would cease, restoring accountability to university administrators who currently believe they can raise tuition at will, knowing that federal subsidies mean students will not have to pay for colleges' uncontrolled spending.

**Create Single Income-driven Student Loan Repayment Plan:** The Budget proposes to consolidate Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) into a single IDR plan. Existing IDR plans include five suboptions for repayment, Income Contingent Repayment (ICR), Income-Based Repayment (IBR), New IBR, Pay As You Earn (PAYE), and Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE), under the Budget proposal all of these would be simplified into a single IDR plan. Single IDR would set a borrower's monthly payment at a low but reasonable percentage of the individual's discretionary income. This Single IDR plan requires borrowers to make monthly repayments based on their income and therefore ability to repay. *Saves \$59.4 billion over ten years.*

**Eliminate Standard Repayment Cap:** The Budget's Single IDR plan also eliminates the standard repayment cap to ensure that high-income, high-balance borrowers make payments commensurate with their income. *Saves \$27.6 billion over ten years.*

Both reforms will ensure that gainfully employed individuals pay off their loans in a timely manner. Especially high-income, high-balance borrowers who can be legitimately expected to pay a greater share of their loans than they would have been required to under the other so-called income driven repayment plans.

**Combined AGI for Married Filing Separately:** Married borrowers who file separately would have their repayments determined based on both their and their spouse's income. *Saves \$4.9 billion over ten years.*

**Eliminate Public Service Loan Forgiveness:** The Budget proposes to eliminate the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program. The PSLF program has proved to be complicated to navigate, and inefficiently targeted to support only government and not-for-profit sector job seekers. This inappropriately offers taxpayer subsidies to grow the woke bureaucracy. *Saves \$52.2 billion over ten years.*

**Eliminate Mandatory Pell Grant Add-On:** While most funding for the federal Pell Grant program comes through the discretionary budget, another mandatory payment increases the maximum Pell Grant by \$1,060. The Budget eliminates these supplemental Pell Grant payments. This change would allow Congress to determine the proper amount to spend on the Pell Grant program annually, allowing for greater oversight at a time when universities continue to raise tuition at above-inflation rates. *Saves \$62.6 billion over ten years.*



## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Treasury	13.5	16.2	10.6

The Budget proposes \$10.6 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of the Treasury in FY23, a decrease of 21 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These funding reductions are primarily aimed at disarming a weaponized and newly-bolstered Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from targeting hardworking Americans and struggling families in a craven effort to sustain the broader bureaucracy's radical progressive agenda.

The Budget cuts off funding for the recent hiring of 87,000 new IRS agents, enacts significant funding reductions to the agency's enforcement division, and initiates modest decreases to operations within taxpayer services. The proposal eliminates the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI) in recognition that institutions within the low-income lending and financial services industry have matured since CDFI's creation in 1994 and discards the recent focus within the Office of Inspector General (IG) on progressive cultural initiatives while implementing massive funding reductions within Treasury's International Programs. The proposal also proposes a series of substantive policy reforms within the mandatory programs overseen by Treasury—including anti-fraud reforms for both the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the child tax credit, bailout protection provisions within the two major government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and elimination of wasteful energy tax credits provided to well-heeled corporations.

The insatiable appetite of the federal leviathan for ever more spending and revenue jeopardizes the economic health of the republic. It also heaps insult upon injury for the struggling working-class Americans who are asked to hand over more of their hard-earned money to a weaponized bureaucracy that seeks to destroy their values with their own resources. The Budget begins the process of restitution—through decisive reforms designed to take the target off the back of working Americans and their families.



### **Discretionary Savings**

The Budget proposes significant funding reductions for the Internal Revenue Service beginning with an immediate halt to the hiring of 87,000 new tax enforcement officers authorized under the dubiously-titled Inflation Reduction Act. The IRS has a well-known history of weaponization against groups and political organizations disfavored by the bureaucratic elite as evinced by the Tea Party targeting scandal under Lois Lerner. Recent examples include the denial of tax-exempt status to the nonprofit Christians Engaged due to a stated rationale that the Bible's teachings are apparently synonymous with the Republican Party. Meanwhile, the IRS turns a blind eye to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and other far-left organizations that engage in partisan voter registration and outreach—without any consequence to their tax-exempt status—so long as the organizations don't endorse specific candidates. Such duplicitous actions willingly flaunt existing guidelines and statutes, revealing a two-tiered system for the exclusive benefit of progressive ideologues.

The IRS would receive \$9.5 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$2.4 billion or 20.3 percent relative to FY21 (\$11.9 billion). The primary component of the spending reductions to the IRS comes from a 50 percent cut to the agency's taxpayer enforcement division.

Hardworking American citizens and their families should not be targeted for harassment amid state-sanctioned tax grabs designed to satiate the appetite of the federal bureaucracy and fund its destructive woke agenda. The Budget proposes an end to taxpayers funding their own harassment. *Saves \$2.4 billion compared to FY21.*

### **Community Development Financial Institutions Fund**

The Budget proposes to eliminate funding for the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI) and its commensurate grant programs. The CDFI industry has matured and these institutions should have access to substantial private capital for the purpose of extending credit and providing financial services to low-income communities. Since the program's establishment in 1994, over 1,100 Treasury-certified CDFIs have been created throughout the country. These include a wide array of credit unions, venture capital funds, and community development banks present in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia.

The proposal maintains funding for administrative expenses to support ongoing CDFI Fund program activities and extends the Bond Guarantee Program. However, in recognition of the success of this initiative and the maturation of the industry in which CDFI intended to help, the proposal zeroes out CDFI's discretionary and direct loan grant programs. *Saves \$256 million compared to FY21.*

### **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget proposes a series of significant policy reforms to mandatory programs administered through the Department of the Treasury. This includes structural policy changes to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to mitigate future risk of taxpayer bailouts, anti-fraud measures for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) welfare program, and programmatic changes regarding the eligibility criteria for the child tax credit to tighten the integrity of a program that was used as a political prop by the Biden administration during the passage of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan with the promulgation of the advanced child tax credit.

In total, the Budget proposes mandatory policy changes to programs administered through Treasury that are expected to save \$901.8 billion over a 10-year budget window ending in FY32. These changes will ensure improved long-term sustainability for those who rely upon the benefits conferred by mandatory programs while enhancing the overall fiscal trajectory of federal spending.

**Increase Fees Charged to Government-Sponsored Enterprises:** In 2008—due to the effects of a housing crash that lending giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac helped to create—the government had to take both government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) into conservatorship. Rather than leaving these two GSEs on the government books, and running the risk of another large taxpayer-funded bailout, a better reform would eliminate the federal government’s role in subsidizing mortgages, allowing private markets to provide liquidity. To start that process, the Budget would increase the guarantee fees the federal government charges the GSEs by 0.15 percent, while reducing the maximum mortgage loan the GSEs can underwrite by five percent per year. *Saves \$34.4 billion over ten years.*

**Improve Tax Administration and Program Integrity:** The Budget proposes changes to the program integrity cap, increasing anti-fraud enforcement efforts over programs like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) in ways that will save taxpayers money. *Saves \$81.6 billion over ten years.*

**Repeal Energy-Related Tax Credits:** The Budget proposes eliminating certain ineffective energy tax credit programs that provide subsidies to corporations while not delivering proper value for taxpayers’ money. Specifically, the proposal targets the Renewable Energy Investment Tax Credit (ITC) and the Carbon Oxide Sequestration credit as both elevate a radical green agenda specifically designed to increase consumer costs and the price of electricity in service to woke climate extremism. *Saves \$198 billion over ten years.*

**Program Integrity for Child Tax Credit and EITC:** Current law allows individuals without a Social Security number (SSN) to work in the United States to claim the EITC and dependent tax credit, provided that the child for whom they claim the credit has a valid SSN. This proposal would ensure that only those authorized to work in the United States could claim these credits, by requiring all filers who claim them to have a valid SSN. *Saves \$72.8 billion over ten years.*

**Repeal Obamacare Subsidies:** The regime of welfare subsidies for health insurance, administered through the federal tax code, has helped to increase insurance premiums. During the first four years of Obamacare’s implementation, premiums more than doubled, harming families who do not qualify for insurance subsidies. Rather than retaining Obamacare’s distortionary regime—which provides some subsidies to some people, only if they choose to purchase insurance the government defines in the way the government demands—the Budget repeals these inflationary subsidies that go to people with incomes as high as \$111,000, allowing individuals to purchase the coverage they most value. *Saves \$642.4 billion over ten years.*



## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Labor	12.5	14.6	7.5

The Budget proposes \$7.5 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Labor (DOL) in FY23, a decrease of 39.8 percent over FY21 enacted levels. DOL is meant to serve American workers by providing training opportunities to improve skills and enter the workforce, maintain appropriate working conditions, and secure retirement benefits. The Budget refocuses DOL on its highest priority functions and restores fiscal discipline by eliminating programs that are duplicative, ineffective, or outside DOL’s mission. For example, the Department’s Climate Action Plan purports to co-opt most DOL programs into training for “equitable, energy sector... jobs and industries critical to delivering a clean energy future.” Meanwhile, the Budget proposes two premium reforms that ensure the solvency of the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (PBGC).

The Budget puts American workers first by refocusing investments in training programs that are effective, enforcing worker safety laws, and eliminating woke bureaucracy that is weaponized against the American people. To that end, the Budget increases funding for apprenticeships by 8.1 percent compared to FY21. Apprenticeships are proven to help workers build skills and remain competitive in a dynamic economy. The Budget also provides funding to maintain DOL core functions with increases directed at those programs that protect working conditions for workers.

However, putting the American worker first also means putting the taxpayer first. The Budget eliminates those programs that do not serve the broader labor market or American workforce but instead push a partisan political agenda. For example, the Civilian Climate Corps and Veterans Clean Energy Training programs, which are wholly “focused on equitable, energy sector strategies” and preparing for “a clean energy future” are eliminated.

## **Discretionary Savings**

**International Labor Affairs:** The Bureau of International Labor Affairs' mission is primarily focused outside the United States. It is occupied with "global labor standards," enforcing trade agreements, and promoting "racial and gender equity." It also purports to "combat child labor and human trafficking." Yet, the Biden Administration's lack of immigration enforcement has served as a support to the cartels in their human trafficking at the US Southern Border. The preoccupation with radical race and gender theories abroad is wholly outside the scope of promoting and putting the American worker first. For those reasons, the Bureau of International Labor Affairs is significantly scaled back, by 80.6 percent compared to FY21. The remaining funds should be used to enforce labor standards in agreements with trading partners and halt the human trafficking going on at our Southern Border. *Saves \$77.5 million compared to FY21.*

**Eliminate Ineffective Programs:** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) study on Federal Employment Training Programs found there are some 43 programs serving similar populations and purposes across the federal government. DOL houses the majority with 19. The Budget seeks to refocus and eliminate programs where necessary to reduce inefficient duplication.

Job Corps centers are among the most expensive training programs but do not adequately prepare youth for the workforce. Of late, Job Corps centers have also been plagued with significant safety violations. According to a GAO study, from July 2016 to June 2017 Job Corps centers reported 13,673 safety and security incidents involving students, including 3,926 drug-related incidents and 2,593 assaults. In addition, the Department added the Job Corps programs to the Biden Administration's Justice40 initiative which directs that 40 percent of "certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution." The Budget, therefore, proposes to eliminate the ineffective Job Corps program while simultaneously funding apprenticeships, which have a strong track record of providing skilled employees and higher wages (\$200 million) and other youth training activities. *Saves \$1.8 billion compared to FY21.*

YouthBuild is meant to be a pre-apprenticeship program for those who have dropped out of high school. The program provides about \$90 million in grants per year and by its own estimation assists 5,000 individuals a year. That is a cost of \$18,000 per individual served. Under the Biden Administration, YouthBuild is also part of the Justice40 initiative and its funding priorities are to "provide training in green construction." While YouthBuild recognizes the harmful impacts of the lack of resilient community support and so tries to create artificial communities, the federal government is not a replacement for resilient local communities. This program is eliminated and responsibility for vibrant communities is returned to the states. *Saves \$96.4 million compared to FY21.*

Broadly, as with Job Corps and YouthBuild, the Department's Youth Activities are focused on providing employment and training opportunities for disadvantaged 16-24-year-olds, including connections to summer jobs. However, the program also provides millions in grants to woke third parties, including UnidosUS (\$3.8 million in 2017 for reentry employment), which hosts townhalls on "the Future of Policing in America," and is "committed to showing all Americans what structural racism is" and how to end it. Each of these youth-related activities is the primary responsibility of states and local communities. The federal government is no replacement for a community that values educating its young people and the accountability to become productive members of the community. The practice of sending taxpayer dollars to third parties with distinctively leftward policy priorities is eliminated. *Saves \$921.1 million compared to FY21.*

Adult Employment and Training Activities program is substantially reduced and returned to states and employers with the primary responsibility for educating the workforce. However, the Budget preserves funding for military spouse training. *Saves \$762.6 million compared to FY21.*

The US Employment Service System (Wagner-Peyser employment service) originated during the Great Depression and is outdated for connecting workers to employers in the internet age. Indeed, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) attempted to address some of this by requiring workforce development programs to co-locate into a one-stop delivery system. The Budget proposal eliminates the duplication and returns the entirety of the mission to connect workers with employers to states. *Saves \$670 million compared to FY21.*

**End Funding to Woke Third Parties:** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has doled out millions in grants to woke third parties via its Susan Harwood Grants. Ostensibly the funding is meant to provide training on worker safety and health hazards, however, these grants serve as a pipeline to woke third parties like California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc., whose programs include "community equity," to advance environmental justice, and "indigenous program," to promote "the original inhabitants of Latin America who lived and thrived for thousands of years before Spanish speaking Europeans arrived," and its "LGBTQ+," to fight such injustices like "unwelcoming education and health care systems." GRID Alternatives is also an OSHA grantee. Its focus is on "low-income solar policy" and bills itself as "the nation's largest nonprofit solar installer." Finally, Make the Road New York, "the largest progressive grassroots immigrant-led organization in New York state [that] helps deal with "deeply entrenched systems of oppression." The point is that such organizations have a very specific set of partisan policy ideas and preferences and the taxpayer should not be forced to subsidize the woke ideology of private third parties. The Budget proposes to eliminate funding to partisan entities that advocate for partisan policies. *Saves \$115.2 million compared to FY21.*

## **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget requires a renewed focus on protecting potential workers through improvements to the unemployment insurance program and the American worker upon retirement.

**Reform PBGC Premiums:** With respect to multi-employer pensions guaranteed by the federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (PBGC), the Budget proposes two reforms. First, the Budget creates a variable-rate premium, in which employers get assessed based on their level of pension under-funding, and thus the likelihood that the federal government would have to step in and take over the pension plan. Second, for employers looking to exit a multi-employer pension plan, the Budget proposes an exit premium equal to 10 times the maximum variable-rate premium, in an attempt to prevent firms from “dumping” their liabilities on the federal government. Enacting these two changes will preserve the PBGC multi-employer program’s solvency for approximately 20 years. *Saves \$27 billion over ten years.*

**Improve Unemployment Program Integrity:** To improve the efficiency of the unemployment compensation program, the Budget proposes grants to states to tackle improper payments. The proposal would require states to use existing tools to strengthen program integrity, while granting new authorities to spend UI funds on efforts to root out waste, fraud, and abuse. *Saves \$10.1 billion over ten years.*



## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
EPA	8.5	10.5	3.9

The Budget proposes \$3.9 billion in discretionary funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) in FY23, a decrease of 54.4 percent over FY21 enacted levels. NSF originated in 1950 primarily to “promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; [and] to secure the national defense.” The Budget’s spending decreases reflect a 50 percent cut to research to force a reprioritization of the core mission of NSF and eliminate the leftward march of the agency and its funding choices. NSF is a major source of funding for universities, which have depleted their efficacy as research institutions by adopting radical gender and race ideology and infusing it in every aspect of their activities.

With its 2,000-member staff and billion-dollar budget, the NSF is a massive funding enterprise. Every year, NSF issues thousands of grants. Most of its funding, 80 percent, goes to colleges and universities; 13 percent funds private industry, and the rest goes to federally funded research and development centers or other recipients. In addition to research grants, NSF provides funding for infrastructure, facilities, and equipment. Unfortunately, the NSF grants and contracts are not well targeted and instead become another forum for wasteful spending to prop up woke ideologues. A sampling of recent grants illuminates this reality.

NSF granted Allegheny College \$1.4 million to increase “diversity and inclusion in STEM” via mentorship. Allegheny College is a small (1,800 student body) private liberal arts college with an average class size of 11 and student to faculty ratio of 11:1 and annual tuition plus fees of \$69,656. There fails to be an actual need for additional taxpayer funding for this well-off private institution.

NSF granted the America Society of Engineering Education, “the only national convener of important influencers,” and with its own annual budget of \$17 million, \$473,325 for a “virtual community” to “promote LGBTQ inclusion in engineering.” NSF also granted the University of Illinois \$15,000 for the same purposes.



NSF granted Education Development Center Inc., which is a global non-profit with “programs to improve education, health, and economic opportunity worldwide,” \$2.2 million to “promote informal Latinx science learning” through a “culturally responsive Telenova series.”

Restore America’s Estuaries, a climate change advocacy organization, received \$49,634 to “enhance DEI” in “the coastal sector.” Finally, the Science Museum of Minnesota with about \$138 million in assets, was granted about \$200,000 for “museum-community conversations that intersect STEM and racial justice.”

The Budget’s 50 percent reduction to research funding requires NSF to make better decisions and target grants to actual research that will benefit the whole country, not just propagandize for woke ideology. This saves \$4.6 billion in FY23.



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

*Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
EPA	9.2	11.9	6.5

The Budget proposes \$6.5 billion in discretionary funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in FY23, a decrease of 29.5 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These funding reductions encompass a series of reforms that reorient the agency back to its core mission of ensuring Americans have breathable air, clean water, and unpolluted environments that are accessible to the public. Fundamentally, the EPA’s radical shift toward climate extremism and a destructive green energy regulatory agenda is little more than a declaration of war on hard-working Americans and their families. Programs that pour tax dollars into such extreme initiatives, such as the Information Exchange Outreach program, are eliminated while other areas, like criminal enforcement of bureaucratic whims, have been drastically reduced in a bid to alleviate the negative impacts such policies have on employers and working households. The Budget ensures that superfund sites remain prioritized and funding levels for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) remain in place. Overall, the reallocations emphasize the EPA’s core function in preserving clean air, clean water, and clean environments while ensuring the agency has the capacity to respond to environmental disasters and hazard clean-up.

As part of the Budget’s emphasis on halting a woke agenda leveraged by federal bureaucrats and agencies, the Equity Action Plan is fully eliminated and defunded. EPA has engaged in myriad actions that have weaponized government against the American people in a bid to force compliance with far-left ideological standards. This includes the elimination of competitive grants through the Office of General Counsel (OGC) to DEI-obsessed organizations like the Ivy Planning Group as well as an end to targeted enforcement policies that have sent Americans to prison in the name of climate extremism. No American should spend almost two of their last years of life in jail (as Navy veteran Joe Robertson did) simply because they dare to build retaining ponds on their property. As such the enforcement division within the Environmental Programs and Management subdivision is reduced. The Environmental Justice fund is completely zeroed out as that program is little more than a repository for funneling tax dollars to woke organizations seeking to advance costly and destructive green energy mandates on working Americans. The Budget eliminates the Environmental Information Exchange

Network, which issues millions in competitive grants on the basis of race essentialism while marrying environmental safety with radical critical race theory.

The Budget also includes significant spending cuts to State & Tribal Assistance Grants achieving nearly \$1.2 billion in FY23 savings and dislodges federal interference in state and local air quality through funding reductions to duplicative and inefficient categorical grant programs. The proposal ensures that states can request additional flexibility in how they carry out activities required under federal statute. Furthermore, the Budget completely eliminates the agency's Geographic Programs which fund ecosystem protection activities that are inherently state and local in nature. This reallocation ensures the EPA can refocus its resources on its core mission.

### **Discretionary Savings**

**Reduction in Categorical State and Tribal Assistance Grants:** The Budget significantly reduces funding for the EPA's categorical grant programs including state and tribal assistance grants. Many states have been delegated authority to implement and enforce federal statutes under the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and Safe Drinking Water Act. The proposal seeks to reduce these grants to ensure that state environmental activities do not exceed EPA's statutory requirements and to remove federal interference from state and local environmental protection efforts. *Saves \$1.7 billion compared to FY21.*

**Elimination of Geographic Programs:** The Budget completely eliminates the agency's Geographic Programs funding stream which engages in ecosystem protection activities. These activities, which include the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and Puget Sound, are inherently state and local in nature. Elimination of this program ensures the agency can remain focused on core national priorities while freeing up state and local entities to spearhead restoration activities and management. *Saves \$483 million compared to FY21.*

**Elimination of the Information Exchange Network:** The proposal zeroes out the agency's slush fund for "environmental education" and race-based competitive grants. The Environmental Information Exchange Network doles out taxpayer money to well-connected entities on the basis of race essentialism to advance a radical green energy regulatory agenda in the name of "equity." In reality, this program weaponizes federal resources against working families and small businesses through the promulgation of cost-driving mandates and coercing recipients to adopt harmful policies in the name of climate extremism. *Saves \$116 million compared to FY21.*

**Reallocation of Research Funding:** The Budget proposes to reconfigure and restructure the EPA's activities in research and development to focus on priorities that align with statutory obligations. Extramural funding in the form of grants to non-federal entities would cease, including to organizations like the National Resources Defense Council, which engages in "climate litigation" against coal workers and helped shut down

the Keystone XL pipeline. The EPA would continue to perform important environmental research to support basic and early-stage R&D in environmental and human health sciences. The proposal also ensures that EPA will continue to carry out lead exposure modeling to protect the health of vulnerable populations. *Saves \$240 million compared to FY21.*

**Elimination of Environmental Justice Fund:** The Budget completely eliminates funding for the agency's equity-based environmental justice initiatives. These programs serve as taxpayer-funded repositories to reward organizations and entities advancing a radical climate change agenda, including illegal immigration advocacy groups like CASA de Maryland, which serves as a front for promoting sanctuary city policies and open borders. *Saves \$11 million compared to FY21.*

**Defanging Extreme Enforcement:** The proposal takes significant measures to curb the agency's aggressive pivot toward climate extremism through its enforcement arm. The weaponization of an environmental agency toward working Americans in essential energy industries, agriculture, and small businesses cannot continue and the Budget ensures that such activities are brought to a swift end. *Saves \$52 million compared to FY21.*



## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Transportation	25.3	26.8	27.9

The Budget proposes \$27.9 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Transportation (DOT) in FY23, an increase of 10.0 percent over FY21 enacted levels. The spending increases reflect additional allocations for highways, railways, ports, and airports, and important reforms to provide critical investments in the Nation’s infrastructure. For example, the Budget proposes to increase funding for the nation’s airports by 50 percent compared to FY21 levels.

Beyond the annual appropriations and fully funding the current surface transportation program, the Budget maintains the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act’s (IIJA) 10-year reauthorization of the Highway Trust Fund and \$187 billion for additional infrastructure investments, across DOT modes. The Budget proposes to build a strong, modern, transportation infrastructure network that advances the Nation’s safety, economy, mobility, and global competitiveness.

The Budget proposes reforms to the rail sector that fund modernization and redirect resources to areas that are most valuable and provide the greatest return on investment. To that end, the Budget would reduce funding for restoration and enhancement activities, and deployment of magnetic trains, and simultaneously increase funding for the Consolidated Rail Safety and Improvements Program (CRISI) by \$625 million to \$1.0 billion. CRISI grants fund capital projects that will improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of passenger and freight rail transportation systems.

The Budget proposes increased funding for the nation’s ports, \$520 million over FY21 to \$750 million, a 226 percent increase. The Port Infrastructure Development program provides grants to fund projects that improve land-based transportation facilities within and around coastal seaports. US supply chains depend on efficient ports. The Budget prioritizes ports to better integrate American commerce across multiple modalities. The US economy and commerce operate in a dynamic, complex, and global system, the Budget’s prioritization of port infrastructure will enable us to better meet the demands of this system.

The Budget proposes to reorganize federal support for local transit. It reduces funding for the Inactive Transit Program, Technical Assistance & Training, Research, and Administrative Expenses and redirects funding to Capital Investment Grants which receive \$2.2 billion, an 11.6 percent increase over FY21. The Budget proposed increase will provide funding for local transit projects that can be targeted to the most impactful projects with a higher share of local and private funding. Spending should be directed to transit with the most regionally significant and focused on maintaining current transit assets.

Finally, the Budget proposes to reduce funding in other areas that are outside the Department's mission. For example, the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is eliminated (\$4.7 million). The DBE purports "to remedy ongoing discrimination and the continuing effects of past discrimination" in federal transportation contracts, but is little more than a moniker for woke bureaucrats inserting social justice into DOT programs.



## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Energy	41.9	48.2	37.2

The Budget proposes \$37.2 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) in FY23, a decrease of 11.1 percent from FY21 enacted levels. These reductions target wasteful and misguided “green energy” initiatives, ideologically driven and woke programs, and mission drift at DOE. The funding requested and prioritized puts America back on the path to energy independence, furthers scientific research, and fully funds critical national security priorities like continued nuclear modernization.

DOE’s clear mission is to “ensure America’s security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions.” Under the Biden Administration, the DOE has failed to deliver on the heart of that mandate—ensuring American energy security and prosperity. Soaring gas prices and rising electricity costs, combined with millions wasted on renewables and green energy programs that cannot compete without taxpayer subsidies, have left millions of Americans wondering if our national energy policies are intended to benefit everyday citizens or serve the interests of wealthy, well-connected elites who are peddling climate crisis narratives and renewable energy scams. The Budget proposal refocuses the DOE back to executing its main mission by fully funding the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), significantly reducing funding for the Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, eliminating the unnecessary Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), and ending the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity Climate Justice program.

**Full Funding for Nuclear Modernization:** The Budget fully funds the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). It requests a total of \$21.4 billion, an 8.5% increase from FY21 enacted levels. Updating America’s nuclear triad provides critical and strategic deterrence in an age of renewed Great Power competition. Ensuring that the US has modernized and reliable intercontinental ballistic missiles and delivery systems is the cornerstone of a safe, secure, and effective nuclear arsenal. Furthermore, this Budget prioritizes improvements to other aging NNSA infrastructure, funding for state-of-the-art physical security, cybersecurity, and information technology, funding for enhanced

nuclear counterterrorism and emergency operations, and funding for Naval Reactors.

**Stops the Sell Off the Strategic Petroleum Reserves:** The Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) is a critical piece of the US national security and energy infrastructure. It was created in 1975 as the world's largest supply of emergency crude oil. The purpose of the SPR is to insulate the US energy supply from volatility in international oil markets and to guarantee key energy supplies in times of emergency or crisis. Due to the reckless, anti-fossil fuel agenda of the Biden Administration, President Biden has tapped the SPR repeatedly to try and blunt the rising energy costs associated with his anti-energy independence policies. This is a gross misuse of the SPR, which was intended for true emergencies. This Budget zeroes out funding for executing any further sell-off of the SPR, saving taxpayer dollars and forcing the Biden Administration to pursue domestic energy production instead.

### **Discretionary Savings**

**Wasteful Climate Programs:** Under the Biden Administration, every agency of the federal government has been weaponized in the service of a woke agenda, and the DOE is no exception. The DOE's Office of Economic Impact and Diversity has taken the lead in implementing a wasteful agenda to promote "energy justice" by implementing the White House's Justice40 initiative. The DOE is also pursuing a misguided and reckless goal of an "equitable clean energy economy" and putting "America on a path to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050." Net-zero carbon emissions is an unattainable absurdity that will ensure the United States remains dependent on foreign oil and foreign energy, trapping us in an enduring national security crisis. The Budget eliminates all funding for the DOE's Office of Economic Impact and Diversity in FY23, saving \$10.1 million compared to FY21 enacted levels. The Budget also proposes a 20% reduction for the Office of Environmental Management, providing \$6 billion for FY23 as opposed to the \$7.58 billion from FY21 enacted. *Saves \$1.6 billion compared to FY21*

**Reduces Misspent Funds on Science and Renewables:** The Budget proposes \$719.5 million for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) programs. This represents a 74.8% reduction in FY21 levels of \$2.9 billion. Taxpayer funding for "Sustainable Transportation," "Renewable Power," and "Energy Efficiency" programs, grants, and research must be targeted toward the goal of energy independence and domestic job creation. The DOE has no business funding programs that spend taxpayer dollars on renewable energy development in Nepal, Mexico, and Nicaragua through grants to GRID Alternatives, for example. While the Budget assumes a significant reduction, it provides nearly \$720 million further America's leadership in the development of emerging energy technologies to power market-sustainable and serious renewable energy solutions. *Saves \$2.1 billion compared to FY21.*

**Ends Woke and Weaponized Grant Requirements:** The DOE's Office of Science is the lead Federal agency supporting scientific research for energy. True science is the pursuit of truth—and race, gender, and sexual orientation play no part in that noble



endeavor. Furthermore, taxpayer-funded research at DOE should be directed toward projects that directly support American energy and national security interests. In October of 2022, the Office of Science Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) and the DOE National Lab Announcements issued a notice that beginning in 2023, all applicants will be required to submit a Promoting Inclusive and Equitable Research (PIER) Plan along with their proposal. According to DOE, a PIER Plan “should describe the activities and strategies applicants will incorporate to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in their research projects.” As part of the 16.9 percent reduction in Science spending, the Budget proposes eliminating these PIER Plan requirements, which only undermine energy science and research, subverting it to a woke agenda.

### **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget proposes a series of long-term reforms to mandatory programs administered through DoE. These changes will ensure Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs) implement changes to their rate structures consistent with utilities operated by the private sector. Additionally, the reforms include efforts to develop interim storage capacity for spent nuclear fuel.

In total, the Budget proposes mandatory policy changes that are expected to save \$15.4 billion over ten years.

**Divest Power Marketing Administration Transmission Lines:** The Budget divests transmission assets held by the Bonneville Power Administration, which currently operates 15,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and 261 substations. Additionally, the proposal sells the electricity transmission assets of the Southwestern Power Administration and the Western Area Power Administration. Ownership of transmission assets is best carried out by the private sector where there are appropriate market and regulatory incentives. *Saves \$4.1 billion over ten years.*

**Reform Power Marketing Administrations:** The Budget would allow federal Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs) to implement a utility rate structure that considers rates charged by comparable utilities in the private sector. This change would allow the federal government to recoup its spending on PMA activities more quickly while removing regulatory language that holds PMAs’ rates to arbitrarily low levels, distorting the marketplace and discouraging private utilities from investing in generation and transmission. *Saves \$8.6 billion over ten years.*

**Restart Nuclear Waste Fund Fee:** The Budget restores a fee to finance the Nuclear Waste Fund, which finances efforts to develop an interim storage program and continue the safe and secure management of spent nuclear fuel. No funding is assumed for the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository. *Saves \$2.7 billion over ten years.*



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Agriculture*	24.4	28.5	21.7

\*Funding for Food for Peace is included in the State and International Programs total. Although the funds are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, the funds are administered by the US Agency for International Development (USAID). However, the discussion is contained in this chapter.

The Budget proposes \$21.7 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) in FY23, a decrease of 10.8 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These spending decreases reflect an across-the-board realignment within the USDA to ensure existing programs are better managed and more efficient in their execution. Targeted funding reductions include the elimination of increasingly radical grant approvals to far-left organizations driving an agenda of race essentialism within the food and agriculture industry as well as the zeroing out of the McGovern-Dole food program due to years of empirical data from the Governmental Accountability Office (GAO) showing high costs with dubious results. Additionally, the proposal completely eliminates the outdated Food for Peace program, wherein US exports crops and food to developing countries that purchase the goods with their currencies in exchange for economic development projects on the ground. The proposal also ensures that the Farm Safety Agency continues apace with its operations so that farmers receive the support they may need.

As part of the Budget’s overarching theme of halting the woke agenda propagated by federal agencies and bureaucrats, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) receives a \$605 million spending reduction from FY21 enacted levels. The agency has engaged in a deluge of radical grant approvals to organizations advancing Critical Race Theory within the food and agriculture industries. Examples include nearly \$1.4 million in grants to Planting Justice, an organization in Oakland, California that advances a “food justice” agenda to fight alleged systemic racism in the industrialized food system, \$200,000 to the University of Florida for a grant to “enhance diversity” in food economics, and over \$350,000 to the Soros-backed Tides Center for indigenous community food projects. Additionally, the Budget proposes nearly \$900 million in funding decreases for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), which has also doled out over \$900,000 in grants to the Soros-backed Tides Center as well as thousands to the Earth Island

Institute, an environmental activist organization dedicated to ending reliable energy in the name of “climate justice.”

The Budget also includes significant policy reforms on the mandatory side for USDA’s programs. This includes the implementation of work requirements and elimination of the minimum benefit in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), reform of child nutrition programs into a single block grant, and limiting payment acreage for both the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Programs (ARC) to prevent excess guarantee payments with regard to crop production shortfalls. These policy changes, combined with a restructuring of USDA’s discretionary funding priorities, not only pave a path toward fiscal sustainability, but also ensure that America’s food and agricultural agencies remain uncorrupted by the Left’s radical woke agenda.

### **Discretionary Savings**

**Food for Peace:** The Budget eliminates the McGovern-Dole foreign aid program (P.L. 480). This program is outdated and routinely empowers corrupt local officials and entities in developing nations. When delivered, US food assistance often has the unfortunate effect of cratering local food prices, which frequently hurts local markets and farmers despite well-intentioned efforts. As Americans increasingly face food problems at home amid record inflation and skyrocketing debt, it is critical to scale back wasteful and potentially harmful foreign aid initiatives. *Saves \$1.7 billion compared to FY21.*

**National Institute of Food and Agriculture:** The Budget incorporates a series of proposals to mitigate grant proposals from NIFA to far-left organizations and entities espousing race essentialism within the food and agriculture industry. This is designed to protect activities related to food and crop development from radical ideologies intending to pit citizens against one another in an oppressed versus oppressor mindset predicated on tenets of Critical Race Theory. Among the myriad grants issued by NIFA to organizations espousing such ideologies include nearly \$350,000 for the Tides Institute, a George Soros-backed entity engaged in indigenous community food development projects under the guise of “equity” as well as the Oakland-based organization Planting Justice, which aims to advance “food justice” by dismantling alleged systemic racism in the food industry. Other recipients include a \$200,000 grant to the University of Florida to “enhance diversity” in food economics and a \$300,000 grant to Northern Arizona University to promote “culturally responsive forestry” initiatives for native populations amid the “climate crisis.” NIFA would receive \$1 billion in FY23. Accordingly, the Budget begins the process of disarming this government agency from engaging in grantmaking activities designed to perpetuate societal division through the lens of wokeness and critical race theory. *Saves \$605 million compared to FY21.*

**Food and Nutrition Service:** The Budget mirrors proposals implemented for NIFA into FNS in an intentional effort to eliminate funding for far-Left organizations and entities touting race essentialism. The agency currently touts its efforts to promote health equity—meaning its focus is not on serving all Americans, but rather on identifying

government-favored groups of people deemed to be marginalized through the Marxist-derived prism of radical gender theory and CRT. The FNS has issued numerous grants to radical groups, including \$900,000 to the Soros-backed Tides Center and \$80,000 to the Earth Island Institute, an activist organization that is dedicated to ending reliable sources of energy for the cause of “climate justice.” *Saves \$898 million compared to FY21.*

**US Forest Service:** The Budget proposes significant funding reductions for the Forest Service as part of an effort to better allocate federal resources and combat excessive woke ideology within the federal bureaucracy. The Forest Service has engaged in a series of initiatives to advance race essentialism within its mission profile, including a \$250,000 grant to Federal Management Partners to implement a diversity, equity, and inclusion program through the agency’s Office of Civil Rights and grants to the radical Earth Island Institute. *Saves \$411 million compared to FY21 levels.*

### **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget proposes a series of significant policy reforms to mandatory programs administered through USDA. This includes structural reforms to the SNAP food stamp program to better target funding for people in need, while also restoring mechanisms designed to move people out of dependency and back toward the dignity of work. Along similar lines, the Budget consolidates various child nutrition services into a single block grant to provide greater oversight, reduce overhead, and eliminate duplicative funding streams. The proposal also implements reforms to crop insurance subsidies, a full phaseout of the Title I dairy and sugar programs which increase food prices and thereby compound the harm that working-class Americans are experiencing from record inflation, and restructures the guarantee payment formula in both the PLC and ARC crop programs to prevent excessive expenditures due to crop shortfalls.

In total, the Budget proposes mandatory policy changes that are expected to save \$632.9 billion over ten years. These changes will ensure improved long-term sustainability for those who rely upon the benefits conferred by mandatory programs while enhancing the overall fiscal trajectory of federal spending.

### **Crop Programs**

**Eliminate Title I Programs:** Title I of the 2018 farm bill authorized specialized programs for the dairy and sugar industries, along with programs for producers of other commodities. The subsidies provided to the dairy and sugar industries only serve to keep the domestic price of food higher, exacerbating inflation at a time of struggling family budgets. The Budget would allow Title I aid programs to lapse, saving taxpayer dollars and helping to counteract rising food prices. *Saves \$39.2 billion over ten years.*

**Tighten Farm Payment Eligibility Rules:** The Budget proposes significant funding reductions for the Forest Service as part of an effort to better allocate federal resources and combat excessive woke ideology within the federal bureaucracy. The Forest

Service has engaged in a series of initiatives to advance race essentialism within its mission profile, including a \$250,000 grant to Federal Management Partners to implement a diversity, equity, and inclusion program through the agency's Office of Civil Rights and grants to the radical Earth Island Institute. *Saves \$411 million compared to FY21 levels.*

**Reduce Crop Insurance Subsidies:** Currently, the federal government provides an average 60 percent subsidy to farmers for the cost of crop insurance, with farmers paying the remaining 40 percent of the insurance premium. This proposal would reduce the federal government's share of the crop insurance premium to an average of 40 percent while reducing federal reimbursements to insurance companies for administrative expenses. *Saves \$25.3 billion over ten years.*

**Limit Payment Acreage:** The Budget would lower the payment acreage for which commodity producers can receive guarantee payments from the federal government if their crops fall short. For the Price Loss Coverage program, payment would be based on 30 percent of base acres when the national market price falls short of pre-determined amounts set in law. For the Agricultural Risk Coverage program, payment would be based on 30 percent of base acres when revenue falls short of guaranteed amounts at the county level, or 23 percent of base acres when revenue falls short of guaranteed amounts at the individual farm level. *Saves \$20.6 billion over ten years.*

**Reform Commodity Purchases:** A 1935 law authorizes an appropriation equal to 30 percent of the prior year's customs fees to encourage domestic consumption of commodities. The Budget would remove the link between the appropriation and annual customs receipts, instead linking the appropriation to the 10-year historical spending average, adjusted for inflation. *Saves \$9.6 billion over ten years.*

### **Nutrition Programs**

**Reform the Child Nutrition Program:** The budget would convert a collection of child nutrition programs into a block grant, with the block grant amount increasing every year according to inflation. This change would provide states with significantly more flexibility to manage their programs while reducing the bureaucracy and red tape associated with running numerous federal nutrition programs. *Saves \$100 billion over ten years.*

**Reform the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program:** The Budget includes a series of substantial reforms to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP). Consistent with other sections of the Budget, it proposes work requirements for able-bodied adults to promote community engagement and a transition to self-sufficiency. These proposals would build on actions taken by the Trump administration to crack down on states' abuse of waivers for able-bodied adults that began under the Obama administration. Further reforms in this vein contained in the Budget include an elimination of the minimum benefit and a six-person maximum allotment per household.

In addition, the Budget converts a portion of the SNAP benefit to the USDA Harvest Box, which would see the federal government partnering with the private sector to deliver benefits while promoting American-grown foods provided directly to beneficiaries. The Budget also limits total SNAP spending to pre-pandemic levels, operating effectively as a cap. These and other changes would modernize and improve the program while providing an appropriate safety net for individuals in need. *Saves a total of \$412 billion over ten years.*

### **Other Reforms**

**Eliminate In-Kind International Food Aid:** Providing in-kind food aid overseas imposes high transportation costs with minimal benefits, making it less efficient than other types of government assistance. As such, the Budget proposes eliminating this program. *Saves \$1.7 billion over ten years.*

**Streamline Conservation Programs:** This proposal would prohibit new enrollment in the Conservation Stewardship Program while limiting new enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Program. Limiting enrollment to smaller land tracts would reduce the volume of federal subsidies being given away to wealthier farmers to explicitly not farm large tracts of land. *Saves \$9.1 billion over ten years.*

**Establish New User Fees:** Similar to the way the Food and Drug Administration funds inspections related to prescription drugs and medical devices, the Budget proposes a new user fee to cover the full costs of the USDA inspection regime for meat, poultry, and egg products. *Saves a total of \$6 billion over ten years.*



## DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Interior	14.9	17.9	12.8

The Budget proposes \$12.8 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Interior (DOI) in FY23, a decrease of 14.1 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These spending decreases reflect a diminished Department mission profile in light of significant operations burdens from maintenance backlogs, wasteful programs that frequently fail to meet basic criteria justifying their existence, and an increasingly woke agenda through the National Park Service (NPS) that funnels millions in taxpayer dollars to far-left organizations. The Budget maintains funding levels for national park maintenance and upkeep while resuming drilling permits for critical energy needs at a time of skyrocketing inflation and destructive green energy initiatives.

Within the proposal, the NPS receives an immediate \$320 million decrease in funding due to its role as a catalyst for showering far-left organizations with taxpayer money. Among some of the more recent recipients of NPS grants are the New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, which received \$50,000 for so-called LGBT “historic sites,” the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Philadelphia, which received \$30,000 for an LGBT “engagement initiative,” and the Hoonah City School District, which received \$22,000 for “culturally responsive school programs” that propagate radical Critical Race Theory on children in the classroom. Simultaneously, the Budget reduces funding for land acquisition given the nearly \$20 billion maintenance backlog on roughly 700 million acres of federal land, transitions the Heritage Partnership Program into the hands of state, local, and private entities, and significantly reduces funding for the US Geological Survey’s Ecosystems Research program.

Overall, the Budget takes immediate steps to free up resources within the Department to more effectively manage the federal lands backlog, curb mission creep into divisive woke policies, eliminate failed programs, and restore a sense of pride to the Department’s important roles in maintaining our national parks.



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Commerce	8.9	11.7	7.0

The Budget proposes \$7.0 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Commerce (DOC) in FY23, a decrease of 21.5 percent over FY21 enacted levels. These spending decreases are designed to curb excessive mission creep in key agencies, halt steadily increasing climate extremism within the department, and eliminate the prioritization of woke agendas within grantmaking subdivisions. Additionally, the Budget maintains funding levels for the Census Bureau as well as the Patent & Trademark Office.

As part of the Budget’s overarching theme of restoring mission focus to key agencies and departments, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) would receive \$4.3 billion in FY23, a decrease of \$1.1 billion or 20.4 percent relative to FY2021 (\$5.4 billion). This includes the elimination of the agency’s focus on climate extremism, an end to the pilot projects promoting “climate justice,” and the zeroing out of the Mission Support department which has become a major hub for Critical Race Theory within the agency. The Budget also eliminates funding for both the Sea Grant and Coastal Zone Management programs whose functions are better left to local authorities. Funding for the hyper-woke and crony Economic Development Administration (EDA) is zeroed out. This includes the full elimination of the agency’s Equity Impact Investment program, which prioritizes race-based preferences in grantmaking determinations for taxpayer funding of local projects. The management accounts within Commerce receive a 20 percent funding reduction compared to FY21 to abolish funding support for the diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

Overall, the proposed funding levels reorient the core mission of NOAA, eliminate the vast majority of wasteful and woke grants within the EDA, remove woke infrastructure within key department subdivisions, and ensure a consistent mission for both the Census Bureau and the Patent & Trademark Office.





## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Veterans Affairs	104.5	135.2	135.2

The Budget proposes \$135.2 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in FY23, an increase of 29.4 percent over FY21 enacted levels. The Budget proposes to fully fund the Department in the current fiscal year, while adopting reforms that are designed to eliminate woke weaponized policies that degrade the ability of the VA to care for those veterans most in need and to align taxpayer resources to veterans with service-connected disabilities. The Budget proposes to significantly scale back the opportunities for a woke bureaucracy to prey upon the veteran, who is reliant on provided care, as a means to assert a radicalized agenda. Inserting far-left identity politics into a non-partisan agency tasked with serving veterans must stop.

The Budget proposes sufficient taxpayer resources to meet the needs of veterans over the coming decades, knowing that the impact of two decades of war will have significant downstream effects. The explosive growth in VA spending is a tangible reminder of the human cost that generations of servicemembers have paid to defend our country. This alone is a strong argument in favor of scaling back foolish US overseas commitments. Amidst such exploding costs, it is vital to make sure that the VA is able to budget targeted quality care and services towards the highest priority veterans. Furthermore, the VA budget has more than quadrupled in the last two decades. Unfortunately, this expansion has had little effect on improving patient care, meanwhile, VA personnel hiring has significantly outpaced new patient enrollment. As is quite common within the federal bureaucracy, the VA chronically overpays for services and facilities that private sector counterparts pay less for while getting better results.

VA infrastructure is also a chronic weight around the neck of the VA budgeting process. At any given time in the recent past, the VA has had hundreds of vacant and underutilized properties. Cuts to waste, fraud, and abuse within the VA must occur while prioritizing long-term plans for veteran services that rely upon partnerships to utilize existing private sector infrastructure. Attempting to build an entirely separate veteran services ecosystem in the age of telemedicine and in a country with medical clinics seemingly on every other block throughout most of America no longer makes sense, if it ever did.

Although the VA is already replete with woke ideology, efforts to make the VA system more efficient must be paired with also ensuring these partnerships protect veterans from third-party abuse and ideological radicalism. Recently, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) issued a new regulation, effective immediately, that allows the VA to perform abortions, even in states that have established legal protections for the unborn. This is a stark departure from a decades-long bipartisan agreement that taxpayer funds should not be used to perform or facilitate abortions. Even on routine medical checkups, veterans are often asked if they own a gun, regardless of whether it is related to a concern over self-harm. While the VA does not currently perform gender transition operations, it does cover “medically necessary care, such as hormone therapy, mental health care, preoperative evaluation, and post-operative and long-term care following gender confirming surgery.” This is care unrelated to injuries sustained in the line of service, paid for by the American taxpayer. The VA has already started the rulemaking process seeking to expand services to cover gender transition surgeries directly as well. The VA has invested heavily in Critical Race Theory, Anti-Racism (to be read as pro-racism), and Equity trainings meant to lay the groundwork to prioritize care and services towards people based on skin color, regardless of actual life circumstances. All of these partisan agenda-driven activities divert taxpayer dollars from serving our veterans.

### **Discretionary Savings**

**VA Infrastructure Reforms:** Vacant and underutilized properties controlled by the VA number over 300 properties according to the 2022 Federal Real Property Profile (FRPP). These properties must be sold to streamline the efficacy of taxpayer dollars dispensed through the VA budget. The current model of spending billions of dollars on physical buildings and related infrastructure is outdated and fails to provide the ease of access that veterans deserve. Many veterans drive long distances even for simple routine checkups that their local private clinics would have been better suited to address. Long drive and wait times add to veterans’ reluctance to seek the care they may need, often exacerbating the problem and leading to more long-term healthcare costs that preventative care would have addressed. Veterans also notice considerably improved staff treatment and care from private clinics where employees are more answerable to their employers.

**End VA-Sponsored Abortion Services:** A new VA regulation permitting abortion services is seemingly narrowed to exclude most pregnancies except in cases of rape, incest, and the health of the mother, but the terms are ill-defined and could be so broadly interpreted so as to justify all abortions. This action by the Biden administration not only violates the long-standing spirit of the Hyde amendment, but it also violates the Veterans Healthcare Act of 1992, which clearly prohibits the VA from providing or even counseling veterans in favor of abortion.

**End VA-sponsored “gender affirming care”:** Though the current policy of the VA is that it will not perform “gender affirming care” it does provide a significant number of pre and post-operation supplementary procedures such as hormone therapy, mental health care, preoperative evaluation, and post-operative and long-term care following

“gender-confirming” surgery. These are all procedures unrelated to a service-connected injury or condition. Furthermore, the VA is seeking to codify a rule that would expand the scope of “gender affirming care” to include performing top and bottom surgeries.

**End Enrollment in VA Health for Low-Priority Groups:** The VA provides health care to veterans, who face little to no out-of-pocket spending, based on a priority group classification determined by income and disability status. The approximately 2 million veterans in priority groups 7 and 8 do not have a service-connected disability, and have financial means to fund their care, with a household income at least three times the federal poverty level. The Budget would end the eligibility of these healthier, financially secure groups for federally-funded health care provided by the VA. *Saves \$59.1 billion in discretionary spending over ten years.*

### **Mandatory Savings**

The Budget proposes a series of significant policy reforms to mandatory programs administered through Veteran Affairs. This includes structural policy changes that take into account the purpose of direct disability payments, which is to reflect lost wages during working-age years, while avoiding overpayment, and ensuring there is no double dipping into Social Security past the age of retirement. These reformed programs would still provide a substantial lifetime benefit to those who qualify and who need assistance. Proposed reforms would also end coverage of disabilities unrelated to military duties and training. As seen with recent burn pit legislation, many conditions are considered qualified disabilities as presumptively connected despite overwhelming evidence that many conditions have no scientifically established link to the presumptive cause. When the scientific community cannot establish a service connection to demonstrated symptoms and conditions, Congress should not ignore that fact. Presumptive connections must be based on scientific findings. Should science later establish a connection, submitted claims can be retroactively approved, and backpay to the date of the first claim awarded. These reforms would drastically reduce overpayment of benefits and ensure the VA is prioritizing the highest priority veterans. Lastly, there is a culture of low-priority veterans, fully capable of working, with minimal or no impact on the use of extremities and mental faculties, being assigned direct payments, and being granted access to healthcare services. This lowers the overall ability of the VA to ensure the highest priority veterans are getting the care they deserve. VA direct payments for effectively fully functioning and able-bodied adults must be ended. Ensuring that minimally rated veterans do not take up valuable resources spent better elsewhere in the VA.

In total, the Budget proposes mandatory policy changes to entitlement programs administered through VA that are expected to save \$136 billion over a 10-year Budget window ending in FY2032. VA would still grow 4 percent per year, compared to the current trajectory of 4.3 percent. These changes will ensure improved long-term sustainability for those who rely upon the benefits conferred by mandatory programs while enhancing the overall fiscal trajectory of federal spending.

**Reduce VA Disability Benefits at Social Security Retirement Age:** While VA disability benefits are intended to compensate former service members for the earnings they would be expected to lose due to their service-connected injuries, the payments currently have no link to whether veterans are working, or the earnings they receive from their work. The Budget would reduce these disability payments by 30 percent at age 67 for those who start receiving disability compensation after 2022, reflecting the fact that, upon reaching full retirement age, veterans should not continue to receive compensation based on an assumed loss of earnings from work. *Saves \$24.7 billion over ten years.*

**End Unemployability Benefits at Social Security Retirement Age:** In addition to compensation payments based on the level of a veteran's disability, the Department also provides supplemental individual unemployability benefits for those veterans with a disability rating between 60 percent and 90 percent whom the VA determines cannot maintain substantial gainful employment due to their service-connected disability. This proposal would eliminate those supplemental payments for all veterans over age 67, the full retirement age for Social Security for individuals born after 1959. *Saves \$40.4 billion over ten years.*

**Narrow Eligibility for Disability Compensation:** The VA makes disability compensation payments based on a scale that rates service members' injuries from zero (least severe) to 100 percent (most severe). The most common disability rating is 10 percent, suggesting that some applicants may file a disability claim primarily to receive VA benefits reserved for disabled veterans. The Budget would confine eligibility for disability payments to service members with a rating of 30 percent or higher. *Saves \$38.2 billion over ten years.*

**Exclude Disabilities Unrelated to Military Duties:** Although the VA disability system compensates former service members for injuries they suffered while on active duty, not all injuries have a direct connection to the performance of military duties. The Government Accountability Office believes that seven conditions are unlikely to be caused or exacerbated by military service: heart disease; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; Crohn's disease; hemorrhoids; multiple sclerosis; osteoarthritis; and uterine fibroids. Reflecting independent assessments that these conditions have little direct correlation to a service member's military duties, the Budget would eliminate consideration of these conditions as a factor when rating veterans' eligibility for VA disability compensation payments. *Saves \$33 billion over ten years.*



## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
NASA	23.3	26.0	22.6

The Budget proposes \$22.6 billion in discretionary funding in FY23 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), a decrease of 3.0 percent from FY21 enacted levels

Maintaining full funding for NASA, our nation’s only public civil space program, is a critical portion of government spending that generates an outsized return on the investment—one that is less than 0.5 percent of our total federal budget. The Budget prioritizes full funding for the Artemis Project, with the goal of returning American astronauts to the Moon and then looking onward to Mars. The Budget reduces duplicative and unnecessary NASA spending on STEM engagement and on wasteful Science programs (climate, carbon tracking, etc.) that are unrelated to deep space exploration. Overall, the Budget provides the resources needed to ensure America remains the world leader in space exploration during the twenty-first century.

**Fully Funds Artemis Project to Return to the Moon:** The last manned mission to the moon, Apollo 17, was 50 years ago (1972). In FY21, President Trump and NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine recognized the strategic importance of returning American astronauts to the lunar surface by launching the Artemis Project, the next stage in human space exploration. The purpose of Artemis is to ensure that the US is capable of sending American astronauts on American rockets from American soil to the Moon as soon as possible. Along with securing a sustainable lunar presence and establishing the first step in a bold Moon-to-Mars strategy, funding and work on the Artemis Project enables discovery, innovation, and economic developments that are critical to our national security and national interests. However, under the Biden Administration, NASA is not immune from the left’s woke onslaught. Indeed, the Artemis Project is now being advertised with promises that astronauts will be selected for the mission based on gender and race instead of competence and excellence.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> On the Artemis homepage, hosted by NASA, it promises that “With Artemis missions, NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon.” This preemptive selection based on characteristics such as race and gender precludes selecting the most capable astronauts based on qualifications and expertise alone. Accessed October 31, 2022. <https://www.nasa.gov/specials/artemis/>. 85

The Budget recognizes the importance of the Artemis Project, but funds are strictly limited to avoid such mission creep. The Budget allocates \$8.8 billion for Deep Space Exploration, fully funding the Artemis Project, an increase of 37 percent from FY21 enacted.

**Reduces Unnecessary Spending on Science & STEM:** In an age of necessary fiscal restraint, every executive branch agency must focus on its core mission. For NASA, that is Deep Space Exploration, putting Americans back on the Moon, and looking to Mars. American taxpayer dollars should not be spent on NASA-funded duplicative STEM programs, which exist across the federal government including via the Department of Education. The Budget redirects those funds, \$127 million, to NASA's core mission of space exploration. The Budget also proposes a 50 percent reduction in NASA Science programs and spending, reducing their misguided Carbon Reduction System spending and Global Climate Change programs. The Budget allocates \$3.6 billion for NASA Science. *Saves \$3.6 billion compared to FY21.*



## US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

### *Budget Authority in Billions*

	<b>FY21 Enacted</b>	<b>FY23 Biden</b>	<b>FY23 CRA</b>
Army Corps	7.8	6.6	7.8

The Budget proposes \$7.8 billion in discretionary spending for the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) in FY23. This proposal is identical to FY21 enacted levels, which was also \$7.8 billion. The level of spending reflects the importance of USACE in updating the nation’s crumbling national infrastructure, maintaining navigable waterways through routine dredging and harbor maintenance, and ensuring coordination with other federal agencies to support states and local communities in their response to, and recovery from, floods and other natural disasters.

USACE is our nation’s premier civil works agency, operating under the authority of the Secretary of the Army within the Department of Defense (DoD). USACE has over 37,000 civilians and soldiers working to deliver engineering services and solutions for critical infrastructure projects at home and abroad. The mission of USACE is to “deliver vital engineering solutions, in collaboration with our partners, to secure our Nation, energize our economy, and reduce disaster risk.” They pursue this mission primarily through their civil works programs, which has a threefold focus of 1) ensuring our nation has modern and serviceable commercial navigation, including serviceable dams; 2) providing aquatic ecosystem restoration; and 3) mitigating damage from floods and other natural disasters as well as supporting state and local recovery efforts.

The Budget maintains full funding for these civil works components, including all of USACE’s main accounts: Investigations, Construction, Operation and Maintenance, the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, and the Mississippi River and Tributaries programs. This spending enables the continued planning and construction of water resource projects, operation and maintenance of infrastructure and navigation improvements, such as harbor dredging, and the management of disaster relief.

However, with this funding, USACE must also make critical reforms. These include: 1) aggressively working to accelerate the reduction of their project backlog (estimated to be worth approximately \$109 billion); 2) continuing to reform the Harbor Trust Fund Maintenance funding structure to ensure fiscal responsibility and

sustainability; 3) continuing to increase state and local cost-sharing to reduce taxpayer exposure; 4) providing accurate benefit-cost analysis for new projects; 5) finally, end the meritless DEI-based hiring practices.

With these funding levels, the Budget aims to accelerate the completion of ongoing projects and modernize the approval process of future projects. Specifically, the Budget proposes reforms for water resource projects, prioritizing greater levels of local cooperation. Thus, while it provides full funding, the Budget focuses federal resources where they are most needed by empowering states and local communities to complete water resource development projects on an accelerated timeline.



## MISCELLANEOUS REFORMS

The Budget also proposes a series of policy reforms to improve fairness in and efficiency of federal retirement and insurance programs run by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and Social Security Administration (SSA). Finally, in order to increase operating capacity of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) the Budget adopts a series of reforms recommended by President Trump's White House Postal Task Force. Each are detailed further in the sections that follow.

**Create a Voucher Program for FEHB:** The Federal Employees Health Benefit Program (FEHB) generally pays 75 percent of the cost of a worker's premium, regardless of the cost of the plan that worker selects. To encourage more cost-conscious decisions by federal employees, the Budget proposes converting the FEHB into a fixed payment that workers could use to pay for the insurance option they prefer, with that payment rising every year based on the chained inflation rate. *Saves \$37.8 billion over ten years.*

**Reform Federal Retirement Plans:** The federal government continues to provide overly generous retirement benefits compared to organizations in the private sector. To ensure that federal compensation aligns with private sector benefits, the Budget makes several reforms to federal retirement plans, including 1) equalizing Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) contributions between workers and the federal government; 2) reducing the FERS cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and eliminating the Civil Service Retirement System COLA; 3) eliminating the Special Retirement Supplement; 4) changing the benefit calculation formula from the three years of highest salary to the five years of highest salary; and 5) reducing the interest rate on the G Fund in the Thrift Savings Plan. *Saves \$124.8 billion over ten years.*

**Reform the Postal Service:** The Budget proposes changes based on the recommendations of the White House Postal Task Force to modernize and strengthen the US Postal Service. Specifically, the Budget would make changes to non-essential postal rates outside the universal service obligation; change delivery options; create partnerships with the private sector; and pursue pay parity between postal workers and other federal employees. *Saves \$91.4 billion over ten years.*

**Disability Applicants' Work History:** Current law requires individuals over age 30 to have earned at least 20 quarters of coverage within the past decade—the equivalent of working for five out of the past ten years. To reduce the possibility that occasional workers receive disability benefits, the Budget would change the work history requirement to individuals who have earned 16 quarters of coverage within the past six years—the equivalent of working for four out of the past six years. *Saves \$46.6 billion over ten years.*

**Additional SSDI Reforms:** The Budget proposal includes disability reforms to promote greater labor force participation (LFP). The percentage of LFP of working age people with disabilities is about 33 percent, less than half of the rate of the working age population with no disability. However, there are many jobs available that are not physically demanding, especially in the service-sector. The Budget removes barriers to work and improves services to help in a return to work for people with disabilities. The Budget also makes reforms to address unfairness in the system, close loopholes that invite fraud, such as overlapping unemployment and disability benefits, and reduce unnecessary bureaucracy. In addition to efforts to increase labor force participation, the Budget reduces retroactive benefits from 12-months to 6-months and creates a sliding scale for families that receive multiple benefits. *Saves \$100.1 billion over ten years.*

**Modernizing Vocational Assessment:** Currently, the Social Security Administration assesses eligibility for disability benefits based on uniform guidelines that account for the person's medical, vocational, and functional ability to work. According to the Social Security Advisory Board (SSAB), between FY1980 and FY2010, the share of disability allowances based on medical condition alone declined from 57.9% to 37.9%, and conversely, the percentage of disability allowances based on vocational considerations increased from 25.9% to 54.3%. The vocational considerations are more subjective and include factors such as age, education, and work experience that are not specifically linked to any disabling medical condition. The result is that more and more people are added to the SSDI roles that are not truly disabled and unable to work in some capacity. The Budget would modify this rubric to focus more heavily on matching an applicant's mental and physical skills to the requirements of jobs, modernizing the disability system to meet a 21st century labor market. *Saves \$135.2 billion over ten years.*

**Extend the Joint Committee Sequester:** In recognition of the need for fiscal discipline, the Budget extends the mandatory sequestration regime originally created by the Budget Control Act of 2011. *Saves \$307.1 billion over ten years.*

**Defund National Public Radio:** The Budget proposes to eliminate the government funding stream to National Public Radio (NPR). While NPR is not directly funded by taxpayer dollars, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) often provides taxpayer-funded grants to local media stations which then backchannel dues to NPR. Taxpayers should not be involved in funding media outlets in any capacity—particularly woke entities that broadcast live abortions and embrace radical ideologies like Critical Race Theory and gender theory. *Saves \$1 billion over ten years.*

**FY 2023 Center for Renewing America Budget  
Summary Tables**

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Budget Totals (S-1)</b> .....	92
<b>Baseline by Category (S-2)</b> .....	93
<b>Proposed Budget by Category (S-3)</b> .....	94
<b>Mandatory and Receipt Proposals (S-4)</b> .....	95
<b>Funding Levels for Appropriate (“Discretionary”) Programs by Category (S-5)</b> .....	99
<b>2023 Discretionary Spending by Major Agency (S-6)</b> .....	100
<b>Economic Assumptions (S-7)</b> .....	103

*\*Note: All years referred to in this report are federal fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30 and are designated by the calendar year in which they end. Numbers in the text and tables may not add up to totals because of rounding.*

# Table S-1, Budget Totals

(In billions of dollars and as a percent of GDP)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	Totals	
													2023-2027	2023-2032
<b>Budget totals in billions of dollars:</b>														
Receipts.....	4,047	4,836	4,954	4,890	4,983	5,150	5,332	5,616	5,934	6,270	6,637	7,021	25,299	56,777
Outlays.....	6,822	5,872	5,520	5,391	5,556	5,803	5,967	6,198	6,195	6,535	6,786	6,993	28,236	60,925
Deficit.....	-2,775	-1,036	-566	-501	-573	-653	-645	-582	-261	-265	-131	28	-2,937	-4,148
Debt held by the public.....	22,284	24,173	24,711	25,299	25,872	26,533	27,231	27,817	28,148	28,445	28,631	28,614		
Gross domestic product (GDP).....	22,358	24,694	26,299	27,588	28,912	30,329	31,815	33,374	35,009	36,724	38,524	40,412		
<b>Budget totals as a percent of GDP:</b>														
Receipts.....	18.1%	19.6%	18.8%	17.7%	17.2%	17.0%	16.7%	16.8%	16.9%	17.1%	17.2%	17.4%	17.5%	17.3%
Outlays.....	30.5%	23.8%	21.0%	19.5%	19.2%	19.1%	18.8%	18.6%	17.7%	17.8%	17.6%	17.3%	19.5%	18.7%
Deficit.....	12.4%	-4.2%	-2.2%	-1.8%	-2.0%	-2.2%	-2.0%	-1.7%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.3%	-0.1%	-2.0%	-1.4%
Debt held by the public.....	99.60%	97.9%	94.0%	91.7%	89.5%	87.5%	85.6%	83.3%	80.4%	77.5%	74.3%	70.8%		
<b>Memorandum, real net interest:</b>														
Real net interest in billions of dollars.	352	421	506	598	640	670	692	714	731	744	762	781	3,106	6,838
Real net interest as a percent of GDP..	1.60%	1.7%	1.9%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%	2.1%	2.1%

# Table S-2, Baseline by Category <sup>1</sup>

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	Totals	
													2023 - 2027	2023 - 2032
<b>Outlays:</b>														
Discretionary programs <sup>2</sup>														
Defense.....	742	760	795	814	842	863	885	914	924	953	976	998	4,199	8,964
Non-defense.....	895	962	963	984	1,020	1,067	1,111	1,144	1,172	1,202	1,233	1,262	5,145	11,158
Subtotal, discretionary programs.....	1,636	1,722	1,758	1,798	1,862	1,930	1,996	2,058	2,096	2,155	2,209	2,260	9,344	20,122
Mandatory Programs														
Social Security Old-Age and Survivor.....	988	1,070	1,171	1,253	1,328	1,404	1,482	1,572	1,664	1,760	1,858	1,957	6,638	15,449
Disability and SSI.....	197	202	209	214	228	240	252	264	261	275	285	294	1,143	2,522
Medicare.....	868	983	1,019	1,034	1,165	1,282	1,360	1,541	1,480	1,672	1,782	1,929	5,840	14,244
Medicaid.....	521	589	601	545	547	578	608	639	672	708	749	789	2,879	6,436
Other mandatory programs.....	2,260	907	674	611	565	548	504	525	487	495	487	491	2,902	5,387
Subtotal, mandatory programs.....	4,834	3,751	3,674	3,657	3,833	4,032	4,206	4,541	4,564	4,910	5,161	5,460	19,402	44,038
Net Interest.....	352	399	442	525	604	681	756	842	925	1,007	1,099	1,194	3,008	8,075
Total outlays.....	6,823	5,872	5,874	5,980	6,299	6,643	6,958	7,441	7,585	8,072	8,469	8,914	31,754	72,235
<b>Receipts:</b>														
Individual income taxes.....	2,044	2,623	2,579	2,542	2,539	2,771	2,970	3,049	3,170	3,301	3,436	3,582	13,401	29,939
Corporation income taxes.....	372	395	456	478	483	473	457	461	470	480	491	505	2,347	4,754
Social insurance and retirement receipts.....	1,314	1,465	1,572	1,625	1,669	1,726	1,786	1,853	1,923	1,995	2,072	2,150	8,378	18,371
All other receipts.....	317	354	283	279	290	310	336	352	370	385	403	424	1,498	3,432
Total receipts.....	4,047	4,837	4,890	4,924	4,981	5,280	5,549	5,715	5,933	6,161	6,402	6,661	25,624	56,496
<b>Deficit.....</b>	<b>-2,776</b>	<b>-1,035</b>	<b>-984</b>	<b>-1,056</b>	<b>-1,318</b>	<b>-1,363</b>	<b>-1,409</b>	<b>-1,726</b>	<b>-1,652</b>	<b>-1,911</b>	<b>-2,067</b>	<b>-2,253</b>	<b>-6,130</b>	<b>-15,739</b>

<sup>1</sup> CBO's May Baseline  
<sup>2</sup> Includes Emergency Funds and IJUA

# Table S-3, Proposed Budget by Category

(In billions of dollars and as a percent of GDP)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	Totals	
													2023 - 2027	2023 - 2032
<b>Outlays:</b>														
Discretionary programs														
Defense.....	742	760	796	808	831	862	859	865	854	853	860	862	4,156	8,450
Non-defense.....	895	962	833	769	727	770	783	739	742	762	772	787	3,882	7,684
Subtotal, discretionary programs...	1,636	1,722	1,629	1,577	1,558	1,632	1,642	1,604	1,569	1,615	1,632	1,649	8,038	16,134
Mandatory Programs														
Social Security Old-Age and Survivor	988	1,070	1,171	1,253	1,328	1,404	1,482	1,572	1,664	1,760	1,858	1,957	6,638	15,449
Disability and SSI.....	197	202	207	207	217	222	229	233	221	230	233	231	1,082	2,230
Medicare.....	868	983	989	996	1,108	1,199	1,255	1,411	1,349	1,525	1,620	1,748	5,547	13,200
Medicaid.....	521	589	516	358	352	368	388	410	432	458	488	510	1,982	4,280
Other mandatory programs <sup>1</sup>	2,260	907	502	402	355	308	279	254	201	202	175	117	1,846	2,795
Subtotal, mandatory programs.....	4,834	3,751	3,385	3,216	3,360	3,501	3,633	3,880	3,867	4,175	4,374	4,563	17,095	37,954
Net Interest <sup>2</sup> .....	352	421	506	598	639	670	692	714	731	744	762	781	3,105	6,837
Total outlays.....	6,823	5,894	5,520	5,391	5,557	5,803	5,967	6,198	6,194	6,534	6,768	6,993	28,238	60,925
<b>Receipts:</b>														
Individual income taxes.....	2,044	2,623	2,579	2,542	2,539	2,604	2,668	2,754	2,863	2,984	3,107	3,240	12,932	27,880
Corporation income taxes.....	372	395	456	430	425	406	388	416	425	442	458	477	2,105	4,323
Social insurance and retirement receipts.....	1,314	1,465	1,572	1,625	1,669	1,726	1,786	1,853	1,923	1,995	2,072	2,150	8,378	18,371
Other miscellaneous receipts <sup>3</sup> ...	317	354	347	293	351	414	479	593	722	848	1,000	1,154	1,884	6,201
Total receipts.....	4,047	4,837	4,954	4,890	4,984	5,150	5,322	5,616	5,933	6,269	6,637	7,021	25,299	56,775
Deficit.....	-2,776	-1,057	-566	-501	-573	-653	-645	-582	-261	-265	-131	28	-2,939	-4,150

<sup>1</sup> Includes mandatory offsetting receipts

<sup>2</sup> Revised to reflect higher interest rates

<sup>3</sup> Includes excise taxes, Federal Reserve remittances, customs, estate & gift, and miscellaneous government receipts; also includes aggregate impact on revenue from economic effects.

# Table S-4, Mandatory and Receipt Proposals

(Deficit Increases (+) or Decreases (-) in Millions of Dollars)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	Totals	
												2023 - 2027	2023 - 2032
<b>Mandatory Initiatives and Savings:</b>													
<b>Department of Agriculture:</b>													
Eliminate Title 1 Specialty Programs.....	--	--	--	--	--	-700	-8,300	-7,800	-7,700	-7,400	-7,300	-700	-39,200
Tighten Farm Payment Eligibility Rules.....	--	-273	-261	-249	-258	-284	-276	-291	-290	-293	-297	-1,325	-2,772
Reduce Crop Insurance Subsidies.....	--	-12	-2,515	-2,177	-2,806	-2,853	-2,903	-2,953	-2,998	-3,047	-3,085	-10,363	-25,349
Eliminate Redundant Farm Programs.....	--	-583	-650	-665	-621	-632	-641	-648	-658	-660	-659	-3,151	-6,417
Limit Payment Acreage.....	--	0	0	0	0	0	-4,600	-4,200	-4,100	-3,900	-3,800	0	-20,600
Reform Commodity Purchases (Section 132).....	--	-415	-436	-457	-479	-5,502	-524	-546	-570	-94	-618	-7,289	-9,641
Reform Child Nutrition Programs.....	--	-6,000	-8,000	-8,000	-9,000	-10,000	-10,000	-11,000	-12,000	-13,000	-13,000	-41,000	-100,000
Add SNAP Work Requirement & Harvest Food Boxes.....	--	-11,818	-12,403	-13,408	-13,551	-13,870	-14,453	-14,542	-14,870	-15,498	-15,617	-65,050	-140,030
Limit SNAP Spending to Pandemic Levels.....	--	-28,904	-23,632	-24,441	-25,163	-25,921	-26,731	-27,636	-28,716	-29,872	-31,123	-128,061	-272,139
Eliminate International Food Aid.....	--	-166	-166	-166	-166	-166	-166	-166	-166	-166	-166	-830	-1,660
Streamline Conservation Programs.....	--	-215	-427	-672	-892	-1,094	-1,131	-1,171	-1,181	-1,181	-1,181	-3,300	-9,145
Establish New User Fees.....	--	-30	-675	-660	-660	-660	-660	-660	-660	-660	-660	-2,685	-5,985
Total, Agriculture	--	-48,416	-49,165	-50,895	-53,596	-61,682	-70,385	-71,613	-73,909	-75,771	-77,506	-263,754	-632,938
<b>Department of Education:</b>													
Create Single Income-Driven Loan Repayment Plan.....	--	-963	-3,647	-5,780	-6,845	-6,951	-6,956	-7,178	-7,151	-6,750	-7,216	-24,186	-59,437
Eliminate Standard Repayment Cap.....	--	-1,942	-2,533	-2,682	-2,728	-2,749	-2,851	-2,929	-3,003	-3,053	-3,088	-12,634	-27,558
Combine AGI to Calculate Loan Payments for Married Filing Separately.....	--	-194	-321	-437	-507	-541	-554	-581	-588	-570	-607	-2,000	-4,900
Eliminate Subsidized Student Loans.....	--	-377	-1,180	-1,663	-2,048	-2,216	-2,285	-2,229	-2,111	-2,029	-1,973	-7,484	-18,111
Eliminate Public Service Loan Forgiveness.....	--	-1,911	-3,348	-4,508	-5,265	-5,738	-5,945	-6,100	-6,198	-6,505	-6,651	-20,770	-52,169
Limit Graduate Student Loan Borrowing.....	--	-181	-895	-1,430	-1,894	-2,361	-2,919	-3,684	-4,284	-3,778	-3,648	-6,761	-25,074
Phase-out the Federal Student Loan Program.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-1,207	-5,858	-9,548	--	-16,613
Eliminate Mandatory Pell Grant Add-On.....	--	-5,400	-5,700	-6,000	-6,200	-6,400	-6,500	-6,600	-6,600	-6,600	-6,600	-29,700	-62,600
Total, Education	--	-10,968	-17,624	-22,500	-25,487	-29,956	-28,010	-29,301	-31,142	-35,143	-39,331	-103,535	-266,462

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2023 - 2027	2023 - 2032
<b>Totals</b>													
<b>Department of Energy:</b>													
Divest PMA Transmission Lines.....	--	--	-1,688	-364	-382	-349	-246	-254	-263	-271	-271	-2,783	-4,088
Restart Nuclear Fund Waste Fee.....	--	--	--	-346	-342	-334	-325	-325	-325	-325	-325	-1,022	-2,647
Reform Power Marketing Administrations..	--	-1,297	-1,201	-693	-875	-373	-749	-617	-784	-1,089	-989	-4,439	-8,667
Total, Energy	--	-1,297	-2,889	-1,403	-1,599	-1,056	-1,320	-1,196	-1,372	-1,685	-1,585	-8,244	-15,402
<b>Department of Health and Human Services:</b>													
Eliminate FMAP Floor.....	--	--	-60,000	-62,000	-65,000	-69,000	-71,000	-75,000	-79,000	-82,000	-90,000	-256,000	-653,000
Strengthen Medicaid Program Integrity....	--	-500	-530	-560	-590	-630	-670	-710	-750	-861	-920	-2,810	-6,721
Continue Medicaid DSH Reductions.....	--	--	--	--	-6,520	-6,490	-6,470	-6,450	-6,430	-6,406	-6,384	-13,010	-45,150
Repeat the Medicaid Expansion for Able-Bodied, Working-Age Adults & Institute Work Requirement	--	-84,600	-85,500	-90,000	-95,400	-102,600	-110,700	-119,700	-127,800	-137,700	-146,700	-458,100	-1,100,700
Repeal Medicaid Provider Taxes	--	--	42,000	46,000	49,000	52,000	55,000	58,000	62,000	65,000	73,555	189,000	502,555
Reform Graduate Medical Education (GME)	--	-253	-1,930	-2,860	-3,750	-4,720	-5,710	-6,730	-7,820	-8,990	-10,190	-13,513	-52,953
Modify Medicare Uncompensated Care Payments.....	--	-7,170	-7,990	-8,870	-9,750	-10,660	-11,590	-12,570	-13,750	-15,558	-16,785	-44,440	-114,693
Eliminate Medicare Payments for Bad Debt to Hospitals.....	--	-2,590	-3,440	-3,730	-3,950	-4,180	-4,430	-4,690	-4,950	-5,917	-6,382	-17,890	-44,259
Site-Neutral Payments for Post-Acute Care	--	-5,140	-7,710	-11,040	-12,520	-13,530	-15,070	-15,210	-16,830	-17,722	-18,752	-49,940	-133,524
Modify Hospice Payments in Nursing Facilities.....	--	-310	-330	-360	-390	-420	-450	-490	-540	-590	-640	-1,810	-4,520
Pay Certain Outpatient Facilities at Physician Fee Schedule Rates.....	--	-8,710	-9,770	-10,900	-12,160	-13,550	-15,050	-16,700	-18,420	-19,553	-20,978	-55,090	-145,791
Site-Neutral Payments for Physician Office Visits.....	--	-3,670	-4,060	-4,480	-4,940	-5,420	-5,940	-6,500	-7,140	-7,605	-8,128	-22,570	-57,883
Modify Medicare Advantage Risk Scores....	--	--	-7,430	-7,500	-7,400	-8,700	-9,400	-10,100	-11,900	-13,540	-14,780	-31,030	90,750
Modify Medicare Advantage Bonus Structure.....	--	--	-1,700	-2,000	-2,000	-2,400	-2,500	-2,700	-3,200	-3,640	-3,973	-8,100	-24,113
Automatic Enrollment in Medicare.....	--	-2,000	-4,000	-6,250	-8,000	-8,500	-10,000	-10,500	-12,000	-15,000	-21,500	-28,750	-97,750
Drug Pricing Reform.....	--	--	-12,000	-12,000	-18,000	-18,000	-21,000	-21,000	-23,000	-25,533	-27,448	-60,000	-177,981
Medical Liability Reform.....	--	-160	-593	-1,541	-2,511	-3,562	-4,844	-6,021	-6,799	-6,806	-7,421	-8,367	-40,298
Reduce TANF Block Grant & Eliminate Contingency Fund.....	--	-1,703	-2,050	-2,121	-2,155	-2,215	-2,211	-2,203	-2,223	-2,226	-2,202	-10,244	-21,309
Discontinue Social Services Block Grant....	--	-1,360	-1,632	-1,700	-1,700	-1,700	-1,700	-1,700	-1,700	-1,700	-1,700	-8,092	-16,592
Total, Health and Human Services.....	--	-118,166	-252,665	-273,912	-305,736	-328,277	-353,775	-376,974	-406,252	-436,347	-478,438	-1,278,756	-3,330,542



	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2023 - 2027	2023 - 2032
<b>Totals</b>													
<b>Department of Homeland Security:</b>													
Adjust Collection & Use of Customs and Immigration User Fees.....	--	-340	-203	-225	-227	-252	-256	-286	-288	-309	-5,800	-1,247	-8,186
Establish Immigration Surcharge.....	--	-389	-398	-407	-416	-426	-436	-446	-456	-466	-477	-2,036	-4,317
Increase Worksite Enforcement Penalties..	--	-13	-14	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-72	-147
Total, Homeland Security	--	-742	-615	-647	-658	-693	-707	-747	-759	-790	-6,292	-3,355	-12,650
<b>Department of Interior:</b>													
Cancel Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act.....	--	-83	-69	-78	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-230	-230
Repeal Geothermal Payments to Counties.....	--	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-40
Total, Interior.....	--	-87	-73	-82	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-250	-270
<b>Department of Labor:</b>													
Reform PBGC Premiums.....	--	+15	-4,109	-3,079	-2,749	+2,208	-7,971	-2,810	-2,792	-2,825	-2,894	-7,714	-27,006
Improve UI Program Integrity.....	--	-111	-234	-805	-1,213	-1,730	-1,092	-1,268	-1,452	-1,797	-376	-4,093	-10,078
Reform the Federal Employees Compensation Act.....	--	-31	-24	-28	-16	-17	-17	-19	-19	-21	-20	-116	-212
Reform Trade Adjustment Assistance.....	--	-55	-119	-133	6	55	23	-2	-28	-50	-75	-246	-378
Increase H-1B Filing Fee to Fund Training & Education.....	--	-328	-211	-112	-18	--	--	--	--	--	--	-669	-669
Total, Labor.....	--	-510	-4,697	-4,157	-3,990	516	-9,057	-4,099	-4,291	-4,693	-3,365	-12,838	-38,343
<b>Office of Personnel &amp; Management:</b>													
Reform FEHB Program with Vouchers.....	--	--	--	-734	-1,800	-2,935	-4,100	-5,300	-6,512	-7,641	-8,750	-5,469	-37,772
Reform Federal Retirement Plans.....	--	-4,272	-6,830	-8,775	-11,593	-12,571	-13,569	-14,683	-16,171	-17,498	-18,825	-44,041	-124,787
Total, Office of Personnel & Management.....	--	-4,272	-6,830	-9,509	-13,393	-15,506	-17,669	-19,983	-22,683	-25,139	-27,575	-49,510	-162,559
<b>SSA Disability:</b>													
Modernize Labor Vocational Factors to Encourage Labor Force Participation.....	--	-1,502	-4,493	-7,636	-10,391	-12,877	-15,262	-17,098	-18,893	-22,276	-24,777	-36,899	-135,205
Reform Disability Applicants' Work History	--	--	-700	-1,800	-3,000	-4,300	-5,400	-6,400	-7,400	-8,300	-9,300	-9,800	-46,600
Improve SSA Program Integrity.....	--	--	-406	-129	-671	-1,410	-2,021	-2,100	-2,047	-1,957	-1,812	-2,616	-12,553
Additional SSDI Reforms.....	--	-1,180	-1,483	-1,738	-3,842	-4,071	-8,476	-14,734	-17,487	-19,599	-27,449	-12,314	-100,059
Total, SSA Disability.....	--	-2,682	-7,082	-11,303	-17,904	-22,658	-31,159	-40,332	-45,827	-52,123	-63,338	-61,629	-294,417

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	Totals	
												2023 - 2027	2023 - 2032

<b>Department of Treasury:</b>													
Increase Guarantee Fee Charged by GSEs.....	--	-202	-1,053	-2,250	-3,588	-4,644	-5,291	-5,123	-4,587	-4,075	-3,625	-11,737	-34,438
Require SSN for Child Tax Credit & EITC.....	--	-1,927	-7,134	-7,250	-7,330	-7,488	-7,776	-8,027	-8,294	-8,631	-8,938	-31,129	-72,795
Repeal ACA Tax Credit Subsidies.....	--	-47,200	-48,000	-52,800	-62,400	-64,800	-68,000	-72,000	-73,600	-75,200	-78,400	-275,200	-642,400
Automate Tax Code for Easier Compliance.....	--	-2,000	-3,000	-4,500	-5,250	-6,500	-7,625	-8,750	-9,875	-11,000	-12,125	-21,250	-70,625
Improve Tax Administration and Program Integrity.....	--	-946	-1,359	-3,634	-5,399	-7,303	-9,550	-11,922	-12,956	-13,870	-14,643	-18,641	-81,582
Total, Treasury.....	--	-52,275	-60,546	-70,434	-83,967	-90,735	-98,242	-105,822	-109,312	-112,776	-117,731	-357,957	-901,840

<b>Department of Veterans Affairs:</b>													
Reduce Disability Benefits at Social Security Retirement Age.....	--	--	-900	-1,500	-1,900	-2,300	-2,700	-3,200	-3,600	-4,100	-4,500	-6,600	-24,700
End Unemployment Benefits at Social Security Retirement Age.....	--	--	-3,200	-4,200	-3,900	-4,500	-4,600	-4,800	-5,400	-4,600	-5,200	-15,800	-40,400
Narrow Eligibility for Disability Compensation.....	--	--	-2,600	-3,600	-3,900	-4,100	-4,400	-4,600	-4,800	-5,000	-5,200	-14,200	-38,200
Exclude Disabilities Unrelated to Military Duties.....	--	--	-2,400	-3,300	-3,500	-3,600	-3,700	-3,900	-4,000	-4,200	-4,400	-12,800	-33,000
Total, Veterans Affairs.....	--	--	-9,100	-12,600	-13,200	-14,500	-15,400	-16,500	-17,800	-17,900	-19,300	-49,400	-136,300

<b>Miscellaneous:</b>													
Extend the Joint Committee Sequester.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-54,845	-54,845
Reform the Postal Service.....	--	-7,007	-7,481	-7,801	-8,261	-8,760	-9,275	-9,892	-10,535	-11,208	-11,200	-39,310	-91,420
Total, Miscellaneous.....	--	-7,007	-7,481	-7,801	-8,261	-8,760	-9,275	-9,892	-10,535	-11,208	-11,200	-39,310	-146,265
Total, Mandatory Savings.....	--	-246,422	-418,767	-465,243	-527,795	-570,311	-635,003	-676,463	-723,886	-773,588	-900,510	-2,228,538	-5,937,988

<b>Tax Proposals:</b>													
Make the TCJA Permanent.....	--	--	48,383	59,031	236,029	382,775	355,894	368,128	371,572	379,347	390,753	726,218	2,591,912
Full Expensing of All Capital Assets.....	--	--	144,000	149,000	143,000	141,000	111,000	86,000	65,000	47,000	24,000	577,000	910,000
Repeal Energy Tax Credits.....	--	-6,090	-6,414	-10,299	-14,868	-20,047	-23,252	-25,584	-27,848	-30,399	-33,421	-57,718	-198,222
Total, Revenue Proposals.....	--	-6,090	185,969	197,732	364,161	503,728	443,642	428,544	408,724	395,948	381,332	1,245,500	3,303,690

<b>Memorandum:</b>													
Revenue Increase from Economic Assumptions <sup>1</sup> .....	--	-64,000	-158,000	-210,000	-249,000	-298,000	-367,000	-454,000	-545,000	-661,000	-774,000	-979,000	-3,780,000

<sup>1</sup> Assumes economic changes related to higher productivity, labor force growth, inflation, and real GDP

# Table S-5, Funding Levels for Appropriated (“Discretionary”) Programs by Category

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	Outyears												Totals																									
	Actual			Biden			CRA			2024			2025			2026			2027			2028			2029			2030			2031			2032			2023 - 2032	
	2021	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2024	2025	2025	2026	2026	2026	2027	2028	2028	2029	2029	2029	2030	2030	2030	2031	2031	2031	2032	2032	2032	2032	2032	2032	2032	2032	2032	2032				
<b>Defense:</b>																																						
Base Funding Levels.....	741	813	824	844	865	886	890	891	892	893	894	895	4,310	8,775																								
Proposed Changes from Baseline	--	-1	10	8	7	8	-10	-32	-53	-76	-98	-119	23	-355																								
<b>Non-Defense:</b>																																						
Base Funding Levels.....	634	769	542	585	595	607	620	633	647	661	676	690	2,949	6,256																								
Proposed Changes from Baseline	--	-6	-233	-211	-222	-231	-241	-249	-257	-265	-273	-283	-1,138	-2,465																								
Base Discretionary Funding Allocation.....	1,374	1,582	1,366	1,429	1,460	1,493	1,510	1,524	1,539	1,554	1,570	1,585	7,259	15,031																								
<b>Non-Base Discretionary Funding Allocation (not included above):</b>																																						
Infrastructure investments.....	--	--	37	37	37	37	40	--	--	--	--	--	187	187																								
Emergency and COVID-19 Supplemental Funding.....	198	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--																								
Program Integrity.....	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	13	29																								
Disaster Relief.....	17	20	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	85	170																								
Wildfire Suppression	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	13	26																								
21st Century Cures Appropriations....	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--																								
Total, Non-Base Funding.....	220	26	59	59	59	59	63	22	23	23	23	23	298	411																								
<b>Grand Total, Discretionary Budget Authority.....</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>1,577</b>	<b>1,593</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>7,557</b>	<b>15,442</b>																								

# Table S-6, 2023 Discretionary Spending by Major Agency

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	2023 CRA Less			
	2021	2023	2023	2021 Enacted
	Actual <sup>1</sup>	Biden	CRA	Dollar Percent
<b>Base Discretionary Funding:</b>				
<b>Cabinet Departments:</b>				
Agriculture <sup>2</sup> .....	24.4	28.5	21.7	-2.6 -10.8%
Commerce.....	8.9	11.7	7.0	-1.9 -21.5%
Defense.....	703.7	773.0	787.1	+83.4 +11.9%
Education.....	73.0	88.3	54.1	-18.9 -25.9%
Energy (DOE).....	41.9	48.2	37.2	-4.7 -11.1%
Health and Human Services (HHS) <sup>3</sup> .....	108.6	138.0	86.4	-22.2 -20.4%
Homeland Security.....	53.8	56.7	57.1	+3.2 +6.0%
Housing and Urban Development (HUD):				
HUD program level.....	59.6	71.9	33.8	-25.8 -43.3%
HUD receipts.....	-16.1	-11.1	-11.1	+5.0 -31.1%
Interior (DOI).....	14.9	17.9	12.8	-2.1 -14.1%
Justice.....	33.5	37.7	31.2	-2.3 -6.9%
Labor.....	12.5	14.6	7.5	-5.0 -39.8%
State and International Programs <sup>2,4</sup> .....	57.5	67.6	31.6	-25.9 -45.1%
Transportation (DOT).....	25.3	26.8	27.9	+2.5 +10.0%
Treasury <sup>4</sup> .....	13.5	16.2	10.6	-2.8 -21.0%
Veterans Affairs.....	104.5	135.2	135.2	+30.7 +29.4%
<b>Major Agencies:</b>				
Corps of Engineers (Corps).....	7.8	6.6	7.8	-- --
Environmental Protection Agency.....	9.2	11.9	6.5	-2.7 -29.5%
General Services Administration.....	-0.9	1.3	0.2	+1.1 -126.0%
National Aeronautics and Space Administration.....	23.3	26.0	22.6	-0.7 -3.0%
National Science Foundation.....	8.5	10.5	3.9	-4.6 -54.4%
Small Business Administration.....	0.8	0.9	0.5	-0.2 -33.0%
Social Security Administration <sup>3</sup> .....	9.0	10.1	9.0	-- --
Other Agencies.....	23.3	28.1	20.1	-3.2 -13.6%

	2021	2023	2023	2021 Enacted	2023 CRA Less
	Actual 1	Biden	CRA	Dollar	Percent
Changes in mandatory program offsets.....	-26.0	-34.7	-34.7	-8.7	0.3
<b>Subtotal Base Discretionary Budget Authority (BA)</b> .....	<b>1,374.2</b>	<b>1,582.0</b>	<b>1,365.9</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
Defense Base Subtotal.....	740.7	813.4	823.8	+83.1	+11.2%
Non-Defense Base Subtotal.....	633.5	768.6	542.1	-91.4	-14.4%
<b>Non-Base Discretionary Funding:</b>					
<b>Emergency Requirements and COVID-19 Supplemental Funding:</b>					
Agriculture.....	1.0	--	--	-1.0	N/A
Commerce.....	0.3	--	--	-0.3	N/A
Defense.....	1.0	--	--	-1.0	N/A
Education.....	81.6	--	--	-81.6	N/A
Energy (DOE).....	-2.3	--	--	+2.3	N/A
Health and Human Services.....	73.8	--	--	-73.8	N/A
Homeland Security.....	2.8	--	--	-2.8	N/A
Housing and Urban Development.....	0.7	--	--	-0.7	N/A
Interior.....	0.4	--	--	-0.4	N/A
Justice.....	0.6	--	--	-0.6	N/A
Labor.....	1.5	--	--	-1.5	N/A
State and International Programs.....	5.9	--	--	-5.9	N/A
Transportation.....	27.0	--	--	-27.0	N/A
Treasury.....	0.5	--	--	-0.5	N/A
Corps of Engineers (Corps).....	--	--	--	--	N/A
Small Business Administration.....	2.0	--	--	-2.0	N/A
Other Agencies.....	0.9	--	--	-0.9	N/A
Subtotal, Emergency Requirements.....	197.8	--	--	-197.8	N/A
<b>Program Integrity:</b>					
Health and Human Services.....	0.5	0.6	0.6	+0.1	+16.1%
Labor.....	0.1	0.3	0.3	+0.2	-210.8%
Social Security Administration.....	1.3	1.5	1.5	+0.2	+16.1%
Subtotal, Program Integrity.....	1.9	2.3	2.3	+0.5	+24.7

	2023 CRA Less			
	2021	2023	2023	2021 Enacted
	Actual 1	Biden	CRA	Dollar Percent
<b>Disaster Relief:</b>				
Homeland Security.....	17.1	19.7	17.1	-- --
Small Business Administration.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	-- --
Subtotal, Disaster Relief.....	17.3	19.9	17.3	-- --
<b>Wildfire Suppression:</b>				
Agriculture.....	2.0	2.2	2.2	+0.2 +8.3%
Interior.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	+0.0 +9.7%
Subtotal, Wildfire Suppression.....	2.4	2.6	2.6	+0.2 +8.5%
<b>21st Century Cures Appropriations:</b>				
Health and Human Services.....	0.5	1.1	--	-0.5 -100.0%
<b>Infrastructure Investments:</b>				
Transportation.....	--	--	36.6	+36.6 100.0%
Subtotal, Non-Base Discretionary Funding.....	219.8	25.9	58.8	-161.0 -73.2%
Total, Discretionary BA.....	1,594.0	1,607.9	1,424.7	-169.3 -11%

\* Less than \$50 million  
<sup>1</sup> The 2021 levels are adjusted to add back CHIMPs enacted in 2021 appropriations Acts for a better illustrative comparison with 2023 proposals.  
<sup>2</sup> Funding for Food for Peace Title II Grants is included in the State and International Programs total. Although the funds are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, the funds are administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).  
<sup>3</sup> Funding from the Hospital Insurance and Supplementary Medical Insurance trust funds for administrative expenses incurred by the Social Security Administration that support the Medicare program are included in the Health and Human Services total and not in the Social Security Administration total.  
<sup>4</sup> The State and International Programs total includes funding for the Department of State, USAID, Treasury International, and 11 international agencies while the Treasury total excludes Treasury's International Programs.

# Table S-7, Economic Assumptions

(Fiscal Years)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
								Projections				
<b>Gross Domestic Product (GDP):</b>												
Nominal level, billions of dollars.	22,363	24,694	26,299	27,588	28,912	30,329	31,815	33,374	35,009	36,724	38,524	40,412
Percent change, nominal GDP, year/Year.....	6.8	10.4	6.5	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
Real GDP, percent change, year/year.....	3.6	4.4	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
<b>Interest rates, percent:</b>												
10-year Treasury notes.....	1.5	3.0	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2

