Federal Funding Increases for FY 2020

In late December 2019, President Trump signed into law final federal funding levels for FY 2020, which started in October. Many aging programs received a much-needed increase, including:

- A $5-million increase for Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III-B Home and Community-Based Supportive Services
- A $30-million increase for OAA nutrition programs: $15 million for congregate nutrition and $15 million for home-delivered meals
- A $5-million increase for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), its first increase in several years
- A $115-million increase for the federal Housing for the Elderly Program
- An almost $20-million increase for Senior Corps programs

It was announced earlier in January that the President will release his FY 2021 budget proposal on February 10. That will mark the start of the process to determine funding levels for the federal fiscal year that will begin on October 1, 2020.

Older Americans Act Reauthorization Still Pending

Advocates are still waiting for the Senate to determine its schedule for completing its work on a reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, but some movement has occurred: in late December, Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Bob Casey (D-PA) introduced a Senate reauthorization bill. This bill differs from the House bill in that it would reauthorize the Act for seven years as opposed to five. The Senate bill also lacks some of the new programs that the House bill creates, including new funding for research and demonstrations. Both the Senate and House bills significantly increase funding for the Act over the life of their bills. More information on the Senate bill is available at collins.senate.gov/newsroom.

Upcoming Webinars from Benjamin Rose

Aging Policy Priorities
January 29, 2020 ~ 1:00 PM EST
Join us for an exploration of current issues in public policy that impact older adults and their caregivers at the federal level and in Ohio.
Register at benrose.org.

Finding the Right Dementia Caregiving Program: A Guided Tour of Best Practice Caregiving
February 5, 2020 ~ 1:00 PM EST
Join us for a guided tour of the new online resource, Best Practice Caregiving. Register at benrose.org.