



## HIV and Viral Hepatitis Policy Watch

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The *Policy Watch* provides timely updates and resources on Hill and Administration activities impacting HIV and viral hepatitis programs. Please go to NASTAD's website at [www.NASTAD.org](http://www.NASTAD.org) for more information.

### FY2013 President's Budget

The President released his budget on Monday, February 13, 2012. Overall, the domestic HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis portfolios fare well. AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) receive an increase of \$67 million, on top of an inclusion in the base of the \$35 million ADAP funding announced on World AIDS Day. Ryan White Part C receives an increase of \$20.5 million and Ryan White Minority AIDS Initiative activities see an increase of \$9 million. Part D is cut by \$7.6 million. The remaining parts of Ryan White are flat funded.

At the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the budget provides a \$40 million increase for domestic HIV/AIDS prevention programs for a total of \$826 million. Within the total provided, state and local health department HIV prevention cooperative agreements are funded at \$402 million, an increase of \$9.8 million. The budget also provides an increase of \$20 million for programs to Identify and Reach High Risk Populations for a total of \$384 million. HIV school health in the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) is funded at \$40 million; a restoration of the \$10 million cut in FY2012.

The Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) receives a net increase of \$35.7 million; the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination is cut by \$4.6 million. The President also proposes giving both CDC and states authority to transfer up to 10 percent of funds across HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, STD, and TB budget lines to improve coordination and integration.

The Division of Viral Hepatitis (DVH) is flat funded at \$29.7 million. This is good news because the \$10 million increase received in FY2012 from the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) is added to DVH's base funding.

Additionally, the budget includes a proposal to allow funding to be used for syringe exchange programs. Also, language providing the HHS Secretary discretion to tap up to one percent (1%) from cross-agency domestic HIV programs to fund the National HIV/AIDS Strategy is once again included, but no additional guidance is provided.

For further details on the budget please see the [memo](#) and [chart](#) that were sent out. The Department of Health and Human Services' FY2013 [Budget in Brief](#) is the source of many of the details in the memo. Each agency at HHS also issues a [Justification of Estimates for Appropriation Committees](#), also known as a Congressional Justification (CJ) that provides greater detail on the programs and past funding awards.

In global HIV/AIDS, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) receives a \$540 million cut. However, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria includes \$350 million in new funding. The result is a net decrease in United States funding for global HIV and TB programs.

### Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF)

In an agreement reached by the Payroll Tax Conference Committee, PPHF has been proposed to offset costs for the extension of the Payroll Tax Cuts and Medicare physician's reimbursement ("Doc Fix"). The Conference Committee's proposal would cut approximately \$6 billion from PPHF from FY2012 through the next ten years. With a \$250 million cut to FY2013's PPHF funding level, this is a drastic change in appropriations from the President's Budget proposed earlier this week. However, these cuts will not affect funding levels for the PPHF in FY2012. Senator Harkin (D- IA) shared his discontent of taking money from the PPHF on the [floor](#) (page 36 of 74 of the Congressional Record) on Thursday, and mentioned NASTAD's letter of support of PPHF.

It is important to note that the PPHF provides support for various CDC public health programs. The overall CDC budget was reduced by 11 percent, but with these cuts to the PPHF, the overall CDC budget will be reduced even further (upwards of 24 percent not including PPHF funds). NASTAD will continue to monitor PPHF developments.

### Other Items of Interest

NASTAD submitted [comments](#) at the end of January in response to the Department of Health and Human Services Bulletin regarding Essential Health Benefits.

NASTAD sent a [letter](#) to Congressional leadership in support of the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

NASTAD submitted [recommendations](#) regarding the Division of Viral Hepatitis' plans for implementing a national viral hepatitis testing initiative with the \$10 million increase in FY2012 appropriations that Congress recommended be allocated from the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF).

Here is an updated [legislation of interest grid](#) for the most recent HIV, STD and viral hepatitis legislation that we are tracking.

The CDC has decided to postpone the HIV Prevention Leadership Summit until 2013, here is some more [information](#).



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