

## NAEVR SCORECARD LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

	FY2019 FINAL	FY2020 FINAL	FY2021 FINAL ^	FY2022 FINAL
NIH	\$39.08 B +5.4%	\$41.68 B +6.7%	\$42.93 B +3%	\$44.96 B +4.72%
NEI	APPROP: \$796.5 M +3.1% OPERATIONAL NET \$793.8M	APPROP: \$824.09 M +3.5% OPERATIONAL NET \$823.3M	APPROP: \$835.71 M +1.4% OPERATIONAL NET \$833.012M	\$863.9 M +3.4%

\* NEI Operational Net reflects \$7.9 M transferred back to NIH Central of Soca funding  
 ^ Does not include research relief funding for NIH grantees.

### FY23 APPROPRIATIONS

The FY23 budget process has already begun. The Administration released the FY23 budget request on March 28, including \$853.4 million for NEI. Due to late passage of the FY22 budget, agencies based requests on the FY21 enacted level. The administration intended to include an increase for NEI, however, the amount is less than the FY22 enacted level due to their starting point. Congress will work off the final FY22 enacted level for FY23. With the President's request being less than anticipated, and with 2022 being an election year, there are unique challenges and opportunities ahead.

Appropriations Committee Chair Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member Richard Shelby, and Labor, Health and Human Services Subcommittee Ranking Member Roy Blunt have announced their retirements this year after supporting seven consecutive years of growth for NIH. NAEVR looks forward to working with them, and Subcommittee Chair Patty Murray in the Senate, along with Appropriations Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), and LHHS Subcommittee Ranking Member Tom Cole (R-OK) in the House to continue to support increases for NIH, and NEI specifically. NAEVR

has already met with appropriators for the Labor, Health, and Human Services subcommittee and the Defense subcommittee to discuss increases for vision research.

NAEVR is requesting an increase from \$863.9 million included in the FY22 budget to \$950 million in the FY23 budget to account for inflation plus growth and to recognize and build on the success of vision researchers. While this is a substantial request, we also recognize that without this needed investment in vision research, the expected doubling of Americans living with eye and vision conditions by 2050 will continue unabated. Research provides the tools to improve diagnosis, interventions, therapies, and ultimately patient outcomes and may help us reach NEI's audacious goal to restore vision.

NAEVR has also developed coordinated talking points for our members and strategic partners to support increasing investments at NEI and the DOD. Congress anticipates moving through the budget process in normal order and we expect to be able to share more in our Summer Contributor Report.

### FY2022 APPROPRIATIONS

On March 11, President Biden signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, a \$1.5 trillion Omnibus Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Appropriations bill, which combines all the FY22 spending bills into one package. The signing comes after Congress finalized the bill earlier in the week, with the House passing the package on March 9 and the Senate following suit on March 10 with bipartisan support.

The omnibus delivers on priorities for both parties and includes a compromise between earlier House and Senate bills for NIH and NEI funding. The omnibus includes \$44.959 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an increase of \$2.025 billion or 4.72 percent over FY21. For the National Eye Institute (NEI), the bill provides \$863.918 million, an increase of \$28.204 million or 3.26 percent over FY21.

President Biden's action came just before the expiration of a Continuing Resolution (CR), set to expire at midnight on March 11, the third CR that Congress had been forced to pass due to the delay in finalizing the FY22 spending bills before the start of the fiscal year on October 1 of last year.