Summary of Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017
May 5, 2017

Overview
Today, President Trump signed into law the bipartisan omnibus spending bill that will fund the federal government through the remainder of FY 2017. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (H.R. 244) funds 11 of the 12 regular spending bills, providing line-by-line guidance to agencies through September 30. Deep cuts to domestic programs proposed by the Trump administration for FY17 were not included, and the spending package adheres to the topline levels agreed to in a 2015 budget law (P.L. 114-74). Earlier in the week, both the House and Senate overwhelmingly passed the bill on a bipartisan basis.

Following are the highlights for federal agencies of interest to CU Boulder. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Government Relations.

Department of Education
• Federal Student Aid Programs:
  o Pell Grants: Funds Pell Grants at $22.5 billion, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level. Increases the maximum award to $5,920 in the 2017-18 school year, an increase of $105. Rescinds $1.3 billion from the Pell surplus and allows a $6.2 billion surplus to carry over into FY18.
  o Federal Work Study (FWS): Funds FWS at $989 million, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level.
  o Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG): Funds SEOG at $733 million, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level.
  o TRIO: Funds TRIO at $950 million, a $50 million increase over the FY16 enacted level.
  o GEAR UP: Funds GEAR Up at $340 million, a $17 million increase over the FY16 enacted level.
  o Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN): Funds GAANN at $29.2 million, a decrease of $1.1 million from the FY16 enacted level.

• Other:
  o Title VI International Education and Fulbright-Hayes: Funds Title VI at $65.103 million and Fulbright-Hayes at $7.061 million, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level.
  o Teacher Quality Partnerships (TQP): Funds TQP at $43 million, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level.
  o Institute of Education Sciences (IES): Funds IES at $605 million, a decrease of $12.7 million from the FY16 enacted level.

Department of Health and Human Services
• National Institutes of Health (NIH): Funds NIH at $34.084 billion, a $2 billion increase including $352 million provided through the 21st Century Cures Act in FY 2017. The bill includes specific increases for research related to Alzheimer’s disease, the brain, antibiotic resistance, and the Precision Medicine Initiative.

Department of Commerce
• National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): $5.7 billion, a $90 million decrease from FY16 levels, including $478 million for the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), which is an increase of $15.8 million over FY16 levels.
• Economic Development Administration (EDA): $237 million, an increase of $15 million over FY16 levels.
• National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST): $954 million, a $10 million reduction from FY16 levels.
Department of Defense
- DOD Research Development Test and Evaluation (RDT&E): Funds DOD RDT&E at $72.3 billion, a $2.5 billion increase from the FY16 enacted level. This includes $2.3 billion for 6.1 Basic Research; $5.3 billion for 6.2 Applied Research; and $6.4 billion for 6.3 Advanced Technology Development.
- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA): Funds DARPA at $2.39 billion, a slight increase over the FY16 enacted level.

Department of Energy
- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE): Funds EERE at $2.1 billion, a $17 million increase over the FY16 enacted level.
- DOE Office of Science: Funds the Office of Science at $5.39 billion, a $41.8 million increase over the FY16 enacted level.
- Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy (ARPA-E): Funds ARPA-E at $306 million, a $15 million increase over the FY16 enacted level.
- The omnibus also provides $230 million for activities to modernize the electricity grid, a $24 million increase over the FY16 enacted level.

Independent Agencies
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA): Funds NASA at $19.653 billion, an increase of $368 million above the FY16 enacted amount.
  - Funds the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) at $5.764 billion, roughly an increase of $175 million above the FY16 enacted amount.
    - Planetary Science is funded at nearly $1.85 billion;
    - Earth Science at $1.921 billion;
    - Astrophysics at $750 million (including $105 million for WFIRST);
    - Heliophysics at $678.5 million; and
    - James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is funded at $569.4 million
  - Funding for Aeronautics Mission Directorate is set at $660 million, an increase of $20 million over FY16.
  - Funding for Space Technology Mission Directorate is $686.5 million, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level.
  - Funds NASA education programs at $100 million, including $40 million for Space Grant.

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Funds EPA at $8.058 billion, an $81 million decrease from the FY16 enacted level.

- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): Funds NEH at $149.8 million for NEH, a $1.9 million increase above the FY16 enacted level.

- National Science Foundation (NSF): Funds NSF at $7.47 billion, an $8.7 million increase above the FY16 enacted level. In addition, the bill includes:
  - $6.033 billion for Research and Related Activities, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level;
  - $209 million for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction, an increase of $9 million above the FY16 enacted level;
  - $880 million for the Education and Human Resources Directorate, which is the same as the FY16 enacted level;
  - $30 million for the I-Corps program;
  - $330 million for Agency Operations and Award Management;
  - $4.37 billion for the National Science Board; and
What's next?
It is widely reported that President Trump will release his full FY18 budget request to Congress the week of May 22. We do not expect the topline budget numbers to change, but the budget will provide additional details about the administration's fiscal and policy priorities for FY18. We are cautiously optimistic that appropriators will again see the value of critical research and education budgets in FY18 and reject proposed cuts in these areas.