



National Policy Update

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National Association of Area Agencies
on Aging (n4a)

AIRS Conference

June 2, 2014



n4a 2014 Policy Priorities

- Reauthorize Older Americans Act
- Enhancing the Health of Older Adults
- FY 2015 Appropriations
- Promoting Community Living & Mobility



Highlights

- Budget & Approps Update and Advocacy for FY 2015
- State of the Sequester
- Older Americans Act Reauthorization
- MAP-21 Reauthorization



Budget & Approps Update

- **FY 2014-2015 Funding**

- Bipartisan Budget Agreement (BBA) (Dec. 2013)
- Established top-line spending number for 2 years
- Ryan Budget (non-binding, non-starter) cut NDD programs 22% below sequester
- FY 2015 Appropriations process underway

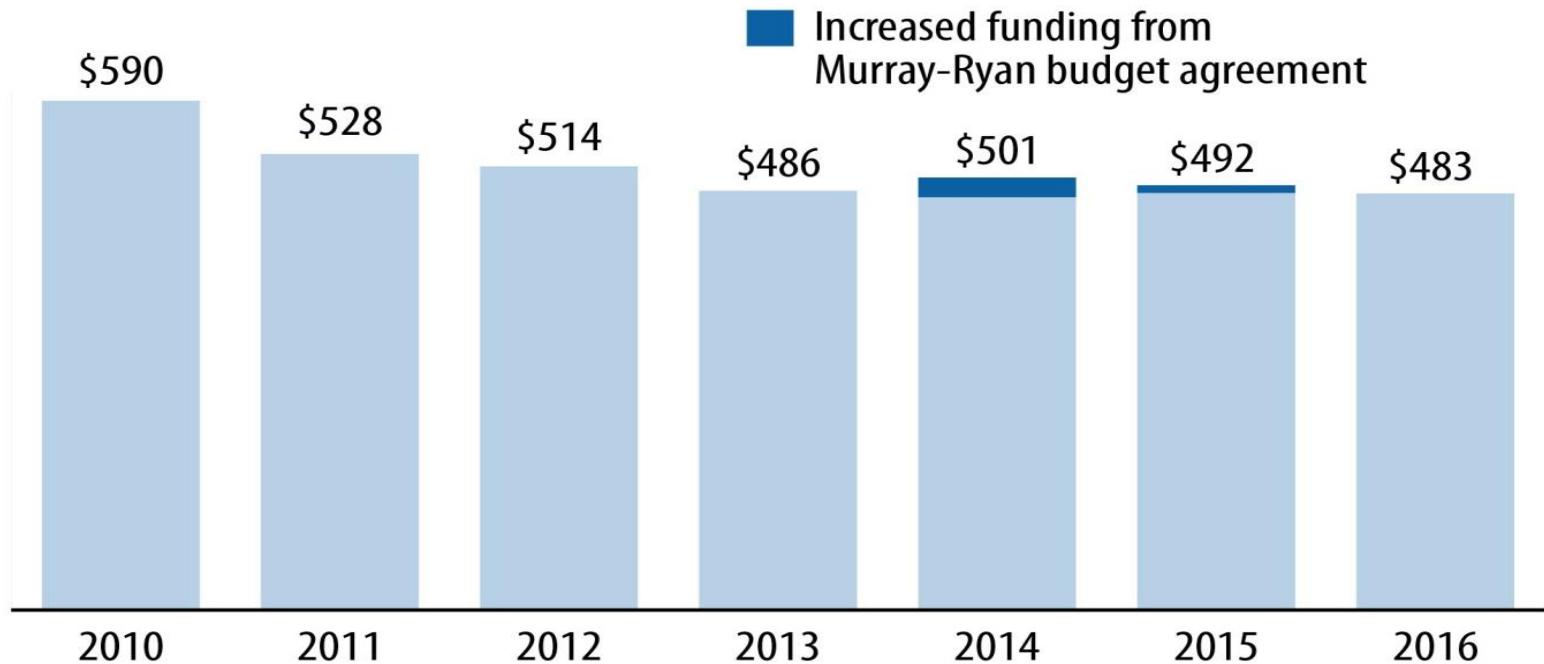
- **Sequestration Not Gone**

- Some restoration in FY '14-15
- Cuts restored in FY 2016



Non-Defense Discretionary Funding Still Constrained Even After Budget Agreement

Non-defense discretionary funding in 2015 dollars (billions)

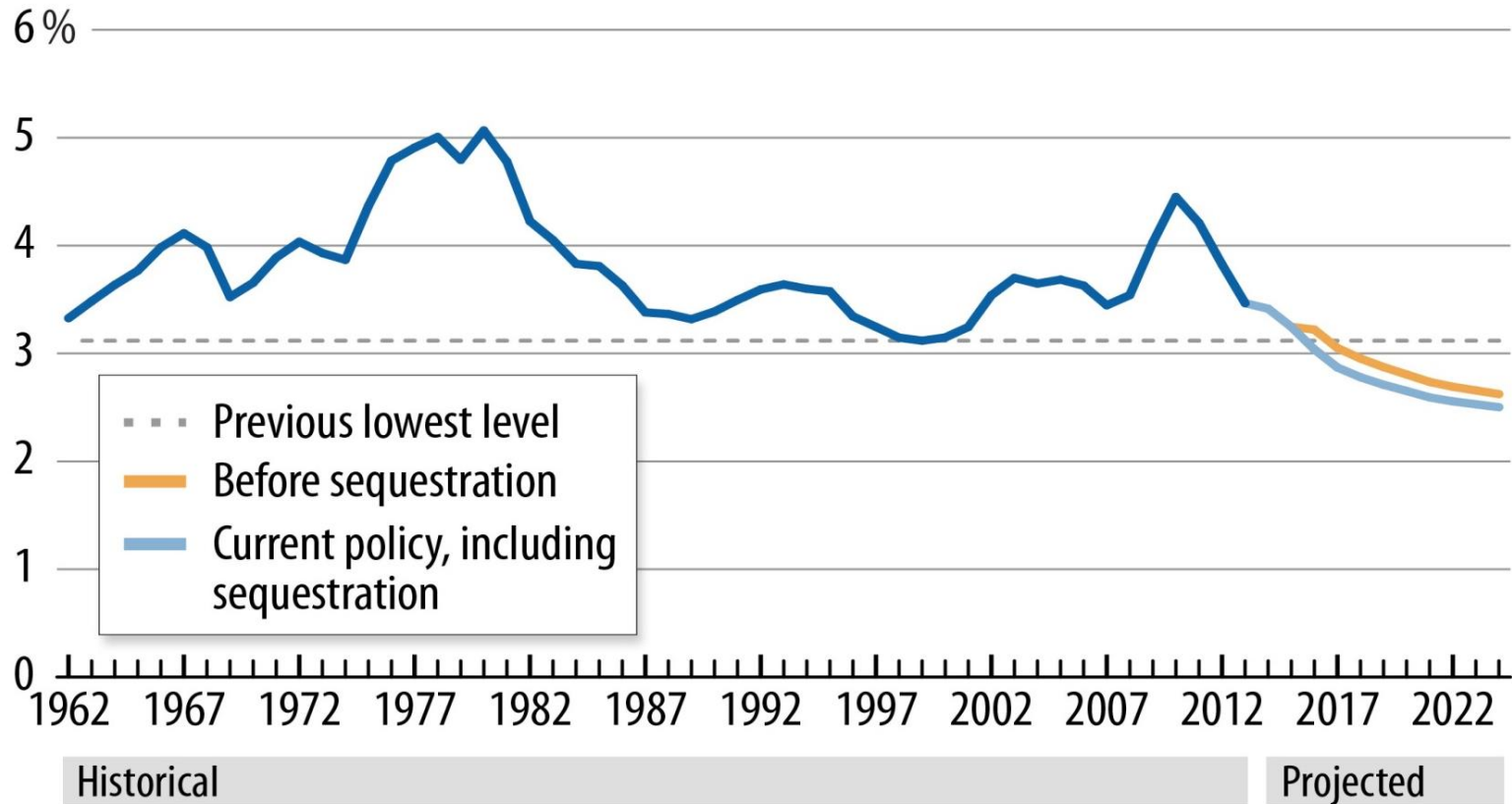


Notes: 2013 figure represents Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate of actual funding after sequestration. All amounts exclude funding for disasters, emergencies, program integrity, and Overseas Contingency Operations. The 2010 level does not include any Recovery Act funds.

Source: Congressional Budget Office

Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Set to Fall Below Historical Low

Non-defense discretionary spending as a percent of GDP



Source: CBPP based on Office of Management and Budget and Congressional Budget Office data.

- **FY 2015 appropriations season moving quickly**
 - House and Senate have SAME top-line budget number
 - FY 2014: 1.012 trillion
 - FY 2015: 1.014 trillion
 - Approps chairs have committed to regular order
 - Subcommittee allocations for Labor-H
 - House – \$155.7 billion
 - Senate – \$156.8 billion
 - Difference: \$1.1 billion

- **n4a Appropriations Priorities**

- Restore all OAA Titles to pre-sequester levels of *at least* FY 2012 with special attention to Titles III B, III E, VI and VII Ombudsman
- ADRCs (*at least* \$16 million)
- Elder Justice Initiative (\$25 million)
- SHIPs (*at least* \$52 million)
- Chronic Disease Self-Management and Falls Prevention Programs (*at least* \$8 million)
- Senior Transportation Programs (*at least* \$1 million)
- Elder Falls Prevention (ACL, *at least* \$5 mil)



Senator Sanders OAA Appropriations Request and “Dear Colleague” Letter:

- 12% increase above FY 2014 funding
- \$225 million total above FY 2014
- Additional funding to offset the “hold harmless” provision – reach equity in most states:
 - \$74 million for III B Supportive Services
 - \$64 million for III C1 Congregate Meals
 - \$4 million for III D Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- 27 Senators signed on

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

April 3, 2014

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Moran,

As you consider the Subcommittee’s funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2015, we urge you to increase funding by at least 12 percent above FY 2014 levels for programs authorized under the Older Americans Act (OAA). Your past support for OAA programs has been strong and has resulted in vital assistance for millions of older Americans. With the historic aging of our nation’s population, increased funding for OAA programs is particularly critical in the coming years.

As you know, OAA is the major federal vehicle for the delivery of social and nutrition services for 11 million older Americans. These programs include congregate nutrition services, home-delivered nutrition services (i.e., “Meals on Wheels”), supportive services such as transportation services, employment and community service through the Senior Community Service Employment Program, vulnerable elder rights protection, and family caregiver support.

The demand for these programs is great, and in many areas of the country, vulnerable seniors are on waiting lists for services that they desperately need. Meanwhile, the cost of living continues to increase for seniors, particularly for food, medicine, fuel, and housing. Moreover, the demand is only expected to increase. Today, there are more than 60 million Americans over the age of 60, with 10,000 Baby Boomers turning 65 every day. The U.S. Census projects that these trends will continue for the next few decades, and by 2030, the number of Americans age 60 and over will increase to 92 million.

Regretfully, federal funding levels for OAA programs have failed to keep pace with inflation or the growing need, despite the cost-effectiveness of these critical programs. There are few better investments than the OAA programs that millions of older adults rely on for a healthy and dignified life. Investing in OAA services saves taxpayer dollars by reducing premature and costly Medicare and Medicaid expenditures resulting from unnecessary nursing home placement or hospitalizations due to poor nutrition and chronic health conditions.

At a minimum, a 12 percent increase – \$225 million – over FY 2014 spending levels would recognize the growth in the senior population and the increased costs of services over the past decade. A 12 percent increase, though still insufficient, would be an important step toward meeting existing demand.



n4a Meeting with Appropriators

Senate Labor-HHS Subcommittee Members	
Member	State
Tom Harkin, Chair	IA
Patty Murray	WA
Mary L. Landrieu	LA
Richard J. Durbin	IL
Jack Reed	RI
Mark Pryor	AR
Barbara A. Mikulski	MD
Jon Tester	MT
Jeanne Shaheen	NH
Jeff Merkley	OR
Jerry Moran, Ranking Member	KS
Thad Cochran	MS
Richard Shelby	AL
Lamar Alexander	TN
Lindsey Graham	SC
Mark Kirk	IL
Mike Johanns	NE
John Boozman	AR

House Labor-HHS Subcommittee Members	
Member	State-Dist
Jack Kingston, Chair	GA-1
Steve Womack	AR-3
Chuck Fleischmann	TN-3
David Joyce	OH-14
Andy Harris, MD	MD-1
Martha Roby	AL-2
Chris Stewart	UT-2
Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member	CT-3
Lucille Roybal-Allard	CA-40
Barbara Lee	CA-13
Mike Honda	CA-17



n4a Appropriations Resources

n4a Approps Campaign Paige

<http://www.n4a.org/advocacy/campaigns/?fa=tools>

n4a Letter(s) to Congress

State of the Sequester:

***Continues until Congress
turns it off, or it stops in 2021!***



Sequestration's Impact on OAA Programs

- FY 2013 sequestration made double-digit cuts to III B programs in 11 states
- "Squeezing Seniors" - n4a survey of nine states re: sequester impacts:
 - **75.8%** - cuts reduce ability to meet demand
 - **84.6%** - if cuts continue they won't meeting demand
 - **96.7%** - worry about seniors ability to stay in the community if funding doesn't increase with demand
 - **60%** - offset sequester for 1 year; can't continue
 - **73.3%**↓ nutrition; **50%**↓ transportation; **36.7%**↓ caregiver support
- Current "relief" is only temporary!



Appropriations & Sequestration Advocacy

- Moving quickly! Time to act is NOW!
- House and Senate conducting hearings and mark-ups through mid-June
- Labor-H may not see floor consideration
- Anticipated “mini-bus” for more controversial bills (e.g. Labor-H)
- Election-year complications/considerations
- Do you have members on the Approps Cmtes? Reach out in support of OAA programs.
- Keep pushing to get rid of sequestration!



Older Americans Act Reauthorization



Original Top Goals for OAA:

- Preserve the Act's flexibility and person-centered approach
- Strengthen the Aging Network's role and capacity in the coordination and provision of home and community-based services
- Expand evidence-based health promotion and disease prevention
- Improve community preparedness for an aging population
- Set adequate authorization levels



NEW REALITY:

- GET IT DONE....
 - Without adding unfunded mandates or other burdensome requirements AND
 - Without reducing the capacity of the Act by locking in appropriations levels as authorization levels.



OAA Timeline:

2010–Sept 2011:

- Listening sessions
- Stakeholder surveys
- Advocate recommendations
- Senate HELP hearings

2011–Fall 2013:

- OAA expired 9/30/11
- AoA shares TA for Hill
- 2 Sanders bills introduced
- Compromise (S. 1562) moves forward to HELP cmte

Fall 2013–Present:

- S. 1562 passes HELP cmte – funding formula outstanding
- Bipartisan, confidential working group meetings
- Working group stalemate

**Back to
Advocacy
Drawing
Board in
Senate –
How Do We
Move
Forward
Now? ...**

OAA House Timeline:

January 2014–Present:

- OAA **House** movement
- **2 reauthorization bills introduced**
 - H.R. 3850 – bipartisan, “straight reauthorization”
 - H.R. 4122 – Democratic bill, introduced by Rep. Bonamici for the Cmte Democrats
- Education & Workforce Cmte held hearing on OAA reauthorization in Feb.
 - n4a member testified
- **Still waiting on Senate to act**



Funding Formula Facts

- Current Law
 - III B, C and D use same formula
 - III E uses population 70 and older
 - 3 factors:
 - Share of population 60 and older
 - Minimum grant (1/2 of 1% total approp)
 - Hold Harmless (HH), set at FY 2006 levels
- Source: www.lcao.org (OAA Title III Funding Formula Fact Sheet)



Funding Formula Tension

- Sequester Re-Opened the Conversation
- 11 States had double-digit sequester cuts to OAA III B, others higher than the ~5% average
- AoA could not override the HH provision



Funding Formula Challenges

- If the HH provision is changed to benefit faster growing states, given the current appropriations environment, slower growing states will see reduction in appropriations
- Senators are split b/c none want to see their state lose *any* money, now or in future!



Funding Formula Impasse

- Senators from all but neutral states are in a tough spot
- Without momentum or sense of urgency on OAA reauthorization, impasse likely to remain
- n4a will not weigh in on the merits of specific formula changes
- But we do want to see OAA move this Congress!



OAA Crystal Ball

- If Senate doesn't find solution, House won't bother to act this year
- 2015: Senate starts from scratch with possible change in leadership
- 2015: House bill more ambitious
- Near certainty of losing "such sums" language to appropriations
- Defense vs. Offense



n4a's OAA Advocacy

- Has endorsed HELP-passed S. 1562
- Cannot weigh-in on funding formula issue
- Coordinating and communicating with key committee staff in Senate and House
- OAA Reauthorization panel of Hill staff at APB
- Leading coalition discussions on reauthorization next-steps
- Participated in OAA call-in week generating over 1,000 calls to lawmakers
- **OVERALL FOCUSED ON GETTING A BILL PASSED**



OAA Reauthorization Advocacy (cont.)

- Limited time to get OAA passed this year
- Potentially “next in line” from HELP Committee
- Need additional Republican co-sponsors for S. 1562
 - **Ask your Republican Senators to co-sponsor S. 1562**



MAP-21 Reauthorization



Senior Transportation Priorities and Programs:

- Make major investments in public transportation to increase mobility options for older adults
- Boost funding for FTA's Section 5310 Program
- Study and better understand unmet mobility needs of older adults
- Increase funding for National Center on Senior Transportation
- Transfer NCST and other TA funding to Highway Trust Fund
- Incentivize better coordination of transportation planning to incorporate needs of older adults
- Ensure needs of all users considered when planning/building federally funded roads



Major Deadlines Looming

- MAP-21 expires
September 30, 2014
- Highway Trust Fund
facing insolvency by
August

Current Reauthorization Status:

- President introduced administration proposal
 - 4-years; \$302 billion
- Senate EPW committee passed a highway bill
 - One of 3 Senate bills that will need to be packaged
 - Banking, Commerce have yet to unveil their bills
- No movement in House T&I committee
- Reluctance to address HTF insolvency in this political climate
- Short-term fixes likely



Senior Transportation Priorities and Programs:

- n4a lead coordinator of Senior Transportation Task Force (STTF)
- Focused on FY 2015 appropriations
 - Letter to appropriators signed by 23 national organizations
- Reauthorization priorities to House T&I and Senate Banking Committee
- Meetings with House and Senate authorizers



Questions?

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