

CCD Fiscal Policy Task Force Statement on FY 2017 Omnibus

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Washington DC, May 5, 2017 - The Fiscal Policy Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), a national coalition of more than 100 national disability organizations, is pleased with the 2017 Omnibus package signed into law by President Trump today. While the vast majority of disability-related programs receive level funding, this acceptable package for the remaining five months of Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 includes a few gains for programs for persons with disabilities over FY 2016 enacted levels.

CCD's Fiscal Policy Task Force appreciates the following program increases over enacted 2016 levels:

- \$90 million for Special Education state grants (IDEA), a less than 1% increase
- \$1.5 million for the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, a 1.4% increase
- \$2 billion for National Institutes of Health (NIH), a 6% increase

"Though funding levels for almost all other disability-related programs are failing to keep pace with inflation, we welcome a return to regular order in the appropriations process and clear rejection of the Administration's proposed cuts," stated Kim Musheno, CCD Chair. "The absence of over a hundred ideologically divisive policy riders is a hopeful sign for a needed return to bipartisan cooperation. We hope that this bill sets the stage for a considered and reasonable funding plan for FY 2018 that begins in just a few months. People with disabilities, their families, and service providers require certainty of program funding to adequately plan for and meet their needs for community living."

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities is a broad coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for national public policy that ensures the education, self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. For more information visit www.c-c-d.org.