

THE 112TH CONGRESS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO'S RESEARCH ENTERPRISE

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Mandatory and Discretionary Budget

- Total Federal Budget: \$3.8 trillion

- Mandatory Spending: \$2.5 trillion
 - Entitlement programs
 - (including Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid)

 - Interest (\$251 billion)

- Discretionary Spending: \$1.3 trillion
 - (DOD largest component—half of discretionary budget)

The 112th U.S. Congress

Senate

- Democratic majority, but smaller majority, so more compromise required: 54 – 46 in 112th Congress vs. 59 – 41 in 111th Congress
- Rob Portman (R) of Cincinnati elected to replace Senator Voinovich (R)
- Freshman Senator Brown (D) likely retains seat on Appropriations Committee
- Earmark moratorium a possibility, although the Senate rejected a moratorium

House of Representatives

- Swing from Democratic majority to Republican majority
- 193 – 242 in 112th Congress vs. 255 – 180 in the 111th Congress
- Earmark moratorium adopted by the incoming Republican conference, but they have not yet defined “earmark”
- Representative Kaptur maintains position on Defense, Agriculture, and Transportation/HUD. Will be #2 ranking Democratic member of House Appropriations Committee.

Cuts to Funding for Federal R&D Agencies

- R&D agencies funded from discretionary accounts (<18% of total budget for non-defense discretionary)
- The Obama administration directed non-security agencies to submit new FY 2012* budget proposals that
 1. totaled 5% less than their original FY 2012 budget estimates in last year's submissions and
 2. included a list of low-impact programs totaling an additional 5% of the agency's discretionary budget. (OMB)
- Expect discretionary budget cuts of between 5 - 10% from earlier FY 2012 proposals

**Federal Fiscal year runs Oct. 1st to Sept. 30th*

Republican *Pledge to America*

- Includes plan to cut government spending to pre-ARRA, pre-TARP levels for the FY 2011 budget to save at least \$100B in the first year
 - Result for R&D spending: would cut the federal R&D investment by \$8.1 billion (5.5%) from FY 2010 and \$8.5 billion (5.7%) from the President's FY 2011 request
 - Agencies to take hardest hit:
 - National Science Foundation (-11.1% in R&D from FY 2010)—could result in 1,400 fewer awards than in 2008
 - Department of Energy's Office of Science (-14.8% in R&D from FY 2010)
 - National Institute of Standards and Technology (-14.1% in R&D from FY 2010)

Definition of an Earmark

- Earmark moratorium unlikely to substantially reduce budget of federal agencies, but will place funds under more agency control
- The House Republican Conference has adopted a prohibition on earmarks in the 112th Congress but it has not yet adopted a definition of earmarks.
- On November 30 the Senate defeated (39 to 56 opposed) an amendment offered by Senator Coburn to ban earmarks.

The definition of an earmark in Senator Coburn's amendment is:

a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Senator or Member of the House of Representatives providing, authorizing, or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, locality or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive award process.

Office of Management and Budget definition:

funds provided by the Congress for projects, programs, or grants where the purported congressional direction circumvents otherwise applicable merit-based or competitive allocation processes, or specifies the location or recipient, or otherwise curtails the ability of the executive branch to manage its statutory and constitutional responsibilities pertaining to the funds allocation process.

Current House of Representatives definition of an earmark:

For the purpose of this clause, the term “congressional earmark” means a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Member, ... or Senator providing, authorizing or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, locality or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula driven or competitive award process.

The fiscal year 2011 budget and UT Congressional projects

- Senate Omnibus-withdrawn-included \$18.6M for UT and UT related projects
- CR (thru March 4th) includes no projects
 - Senate
 - House
- Unlikely to see projects listed in further FY11 CR or omnibus

The new Congress and fiscal year 2012

- Earmarks unlikely, but UT will present a briefing book
 - ▣ no new starts
- House Republicans have placed a moratorium on earmark requests: will not accept earmark requests
- Senate may accept earmarks
 - ▣ This gives UT a very limited opportunity to make requests
 - ▣ Senator Brown will likely be the only member of the Ohio delegation in a position to recommend requests

Earmarks and UT

- UT had approximately \$10 million in direct earmark projects in FY10 alone
- UT had other earmark projects lobbied by UT and received by partner entities
 - \$500,000 Coastal Wind Ohio (College of Engineering)
 - \$1.5 million for ARS Cooperative Research Agreement
 - \$3.5 million for ARS Research Complex
 - \$425,000 for PTSD with Case Western
- Some projects currently at risk
 - College of Engineering Coastal Ohio Wind Energy Project—Representative Latta led with support from Representative Kaptur—will not be submitted
 - ARS Research Building--\$14 million in ARS Account (w/ \$3.654 million in FY11)
 - \$5 million in FY11 for Center for Solar Electricity and Hydrogen (Air Force)
 - \$1.5 million FY11 College of Medicine project on dendritic cells (Defense-wide)
 - \$1.5 million FY11 College of Engineering/College of Medicine project on bone cements (Defense-wide)

Plans Forward

- Strengthen Relationship with Federal R&D Mission Agencies
 - Agricultural Research Service
 - National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - Department of Defense (DOD)
 - Department of Energy (DOE)
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Work to create programs through the authorization process (e.g., USDA specialty crop program with MSU)
- Readjust targets for research funding in Strategic Plan
- Requires aggressive Washington presence
- Maintain close contact with APLU to participate in national academic R&D initiatives
- Individual project meetings
- PI needs to evaluate budget and timeline with possible ending of projects
- PIs need to provide names and other contact information for Agency contacts
- Calzonetti and Miller will work with Van Scoyoc and Assoc and Congressional offices to advocate for continued support of projects