

## President's Budget Proposal FFY23

### SSA Updated Summary

The White House's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released the President's Budget Proposal for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 on March 28, 2022. The Budget includes \$1.58T in discretionary spending, including a 4 percent increase for defense spending and a 5 percent increase in nondefense spending. Because the FFY22 budget was only recently passed, the President's Budget Proposal compares policy proposals to the FFY21 enacted levels. The proposed overall increase from the newly passed FFY22 budget is 7.4%. The Budget focuses on enhancing investments made in the American Rescue Plan, and focuses funding on health care, education, and housing. The summary request is light on details and does not include mandatory programs, such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The FFY is October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. The summary that follows highlights agency funding priorities that could impact Alameda County Social Services Agency or the populations served directly.

### POTENTIAL SSA IMPACTS

**Adult and Aging Services (AAS):** The Budget proposal includes increased funding for improved services at the Social Security Administrations' field offices, expands behavioral health benefits in Medicare and Medicaid, and adds coverage of services for community health workers.

**Children and Family Services (CFS):** The Budget includes funding to incentive the use of evidence-based foster care prevention services to keep families safely together and reduce the number of children entering foster care, and provides grants to advance reforms that would reduce the overrepresentation of children and families in the child welfare system and address the disparate experiences and outcomes of these families.

**Workforce and Benefits Administration (WBA):** As most programs managed through WBA are mandatory programs, there is little information in this Budget proposal. The Budget does include a reduction in spending for SNAP. Support for refugees and asylees, increased funding for mental health providers for Medicaid beneficiaries, support for individuals experiencing homelessness, and assistance to survivors of domestic violence and trafficking would enhance existing programs. The Budget proposal makes a policy statement in regard to the 2023 Farm Bill, which would reauthorize the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/CalFresh), to "reconsider barriers to food assistance for vulnerable groups that are likely undermining their chances of success."

**Workforce Development Board (WDB):** The Budget highlights various workforce investments, including funds to better connect community colleges with public workforce development systems, expanded access to registered apprenticeships, and training for employment pathways for youth and reentry populations.

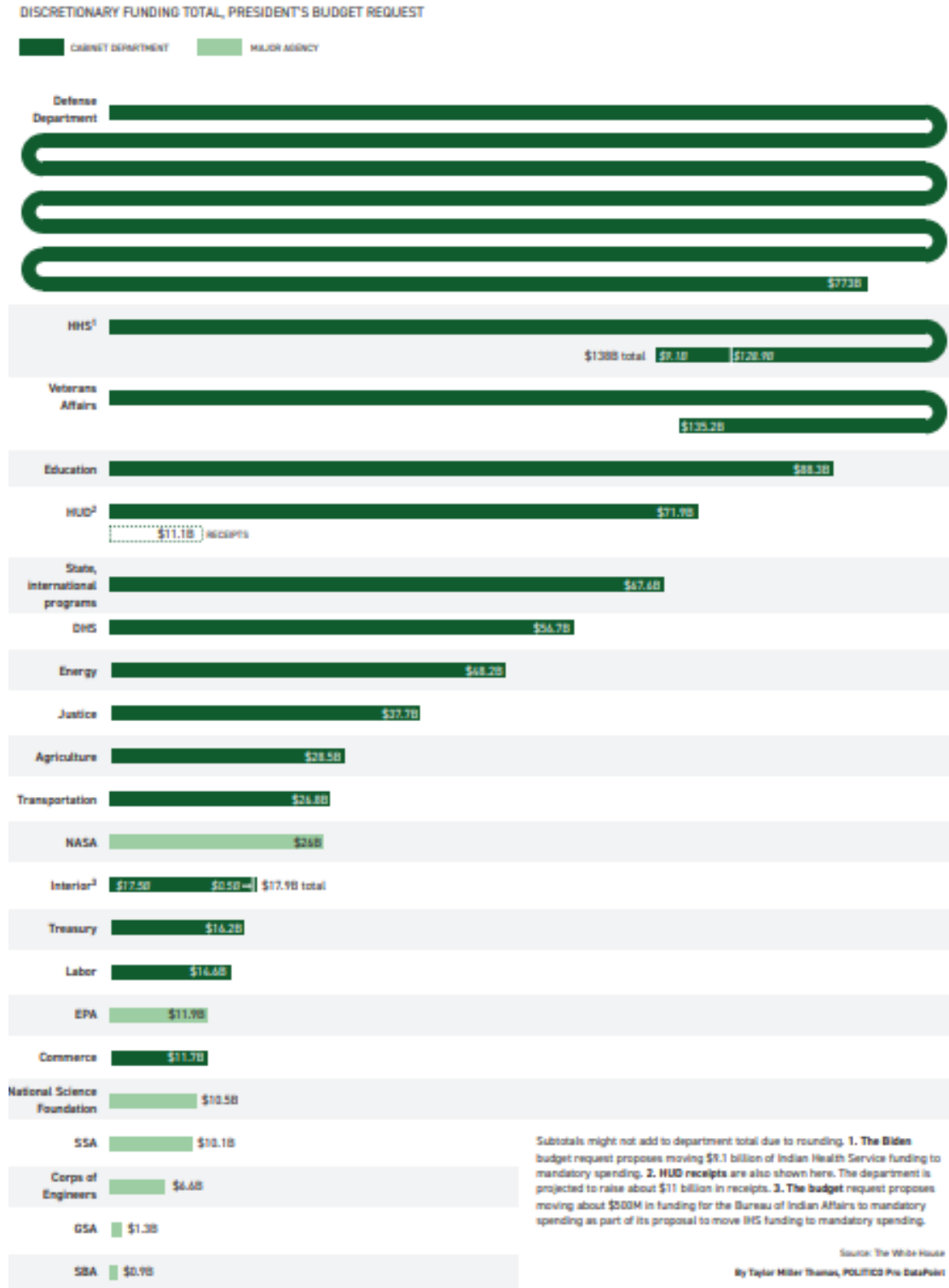
### OVERVIEW

The Budget Proposal is largely symbolic, as Congress is under no obligation to use the President's recommendations as they prepare the federal budget. However, the positions and priorities expressed in the Budget are indicative of how the President may work to support, oppose, or veto potential Congressional actions in the coming year.

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The Biden Administration highlights the following issue areas in the summary of the Budget Proposal: Confronting Urgent Crises and Delivering Historic Progress; Building a Better America; and, Ensuring an Equitable, Effective, and Accountable Government that Delivers Results for All.



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The President's 2022 discretionary request includes \$127.3 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), a \$26.9 billion or 26.8 percent increase from the 2021 enacted level. The President's 2023 Budget for HHS invests in: mental healthcare and suicide prevention; healthcare access and outcomes for vulnerable populations; health research and innovation; public health systems and pandemic preparedness; ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic; social service equity; access to child care and early learning programs; and support services for survivors of domestic violence.

- *Advances Child and Family Well-Being in the Child Welfare System:* The Budget proposes to expand and incentivize the use of evidence-based foster care prevention services to keep families safely together and to reduce the number of children entering foster care. For children who do need to be placed into foster care, the Budget provides States with support and incentives to place more children with relatives or other adults who have an existing emotional bond with the children and fewer children in group homes and institutions, while also providing additional funding to support youth who age out of care without a permanent caregiver. The Budget proposes to nearly double flexible funding for States through the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program, and proposes new provisions to expand access to legal representation for children and families in the child welfare system. The Budget also provides \$100 million in competitive grants for States and localities to advance reforms that would reduce the overrepresentation of children and families of color in the child welfare system, address the disparate experiences and outcomes of these families, and provide more families with the support they need to remain safely together.
- *Expands Access to Affordable, High-Quality Early Child Care and Learning:* The Budget provides \$20.2 billion for HHS's early care and education programs, an increase of \$3.3 billion, or 19 percent, from the 2021 enacted level. This includes \$7.6 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, \$12.2 billion for Head Start, and \$450 million for the Preschool Development Grants program.
- *Expands Access to Healthcare Services for Low-Income Women:* The Budget provides \$400 million, an increase of nearly 40 percent from the 2021 enacted level, to the Title X Family Planning program, which provides family planning and other healthcare to low-income communities.
- *Supports America's Promise to Refugees:* The Budget provides \$6.3 billion to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). This funding would help rebuild the Nation's refugee resettlement infrastructure and support the resettling of up to 125,000 refugees in 2023. The Budget would also help ensure that unaccompanied immigrant children are unified with relatives and sponsors as safely and quickly as possible and receive appropriate care and services while they are in ORR's custody. The Budget also includes mandatory investments in the Unaccompanied Children (UC) program, including a multiyear contingency fund that would automatically provide additional resources when there are large increases in UC referrals, and a proposal to scale up to universal UC legal representation. The Budget redresses past wrongs by providing resources for critical reunification services—including trauma-related and mental health services—to children and families unduly separated from each other through policies of the previous administration.
- *Transforms Mental Health Care:* Increases the number of mental health providers serving Medicaid beneficiaries, provides sustained and increased funding for community-based centers and clinics,

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including a State option to receive enhanced Medicaid reimbursement on a permanent basis. In addition, the Budget makes historic investments in youth mental health and suicide prevention programs and in training, educational loan repayment, and scholarships that help address the shortage of behavioral health providers, especially in underserved communities.

- *Builds Advanced Public Health Systems and Capacity:* The Budget includes \$9.9 billion in discretionary funding to build capacity at CDC and at the State and local levels, an increase of \$2.8 billion over the 2021 enacted level. These resources would: improve the core immunization program; expand public health infrastructure and strengthen the public health workforce; support efforts to modernize public health data collection; and conduct studies on long COVID conditions to inform diagnosis and treatment options. In addition, to advance health equity, the Budget invests in CDC programs related to viral hepatitis, youth mental health, and sickle cell disease. To address gun violence as a public health epidemic, the Budget invests in community violence intervention and firearm safety research.
- *Supports Families Struggling with Home Energy and Water Bills:* The Budget provides \$4 billion, a \$225 million increase from the 2021 enacted level, for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). As part of the Justice40 pilot, HHS plans to increase efforts to prevent energy shutoffs and increase support for households with young children and older people, and high energy burdens. The Budget increases LIHEAP funding and gives States the option to use a portion of their LIHEAP funds to provide water bill assistance to low-income households.
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG): \$754.2M, a slight cut of \$800,000 from FFY22 levels
- *Advances Maternal Health and Health Equity*
- *Supports Survivors of Domestic Violence and Other Forms of Gender Based-Violence*
- *Expands Access to Vaccines*
- *Commits to Ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic*
- *Guarantees Adequate and Stable Funding for the Indian Health Service*
- *Prepares for Future Pandemics and Advances Health Security for Other Biological Threats*
- *Accelerates Innovation through the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)*
- *Advances the Cancer Moonshot Initiative*

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The President's 2023 discretionary request includes \$28.5 billion for USDA, a \$4.2 billion, or 17.1 percent increase from the 2021 enacted level. Nutrition assistance makes up to 70 percent of USDA's spending. The President's 2023 Budget for USDA: invests in tackling the climate crisis while mitigating its ongoing impacts on communities; strengthens the food supply chain and nutrition safety net; advances environmental justice; creates new jobs and opportunities in rural communities; supports underserved farmers and producers; and restores America's advantage in agriculture.

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Mandatory funding of \$111.2B, a decrease of approximately \$29.2B from FFY22, to serve an estimated 43.5 million Americans per month
- Child Nutrition Programs: \$28.6B, an increase of \$1.8B over FFY22 levels

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- Commodity Supplemental Food Program: \$338.6M, a slight increase over FFY22 levels. This program was slated for elimination in the former President Trump's budget requests.
- Emergency Food Assistance Program: \$100M in FFY23, an increase of 23.5 percent over FFY22 levels
- *Supports a Strong Nutrition Safety Net:* The Budget provides \$6.8 billion for critical nutrition programs, including \$6 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, to help vulnerable families put healthy food on the table and address racial disparities in maternal and child health outcomes.
- *The 2023 Farm Bill:* The Budget makes the policy statement that: "USDA's nutrition programs are among the most far-reaching tools available to improve health and well-being and to ensure that all Americans have access to healthy, affordable food. This is an important moment to reconsider barriers to food assistance for vulnerable groups that are likely undermining their chances of success, including low-income college students, individuals reentering society and seeking a second chance, youth who have aged out of foster care, kinship families, and low-income individuals in the U.S. Territories."

### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The President's FFY23 discretionary request provides \$56.7B for DHS, a \$2.9 billion or 5.4 percent increase from the enacted 2021 level.

- *Ensures a Safe, Humane and Efficient Immigration System:* \$756 million to USCIS to:
  - Efficiently process increasing asylum caseloads
  - Address the backlog of applications for work authorization, naturalization, adjustment of status and other immigration benefits
  - Improve refugee processing

### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The President's FFY23 discretionary request includes \$14.6B for DOL, a \$2.2B or 18 percent increase from the FFY21 enacted level. The President's 2023 Budget for DOL invests in: building the skills of America's workers; protecting workers' rights, health and safety, and wages; strengthening the integrity and accessibility of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program; and creating good, middle-class jobs that are safe, equitable, pay fair wages and benefits, empower workers, and offer opportunities for advancement.

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Employment and Training Services: \$900M, a \$29.4M increase over FFY22 levels
- *Equips Works with Skills They Need to Obtain High-Quality Jobs:* Provides \$100M for community colleges to build their capacity to work with public workforce development systems and employers to design and deliver high-quality workforce programs. The Budget also provides \$100 million for a new Sectoral Employment through Career Training for Occupational Readiness program, which would support training programs focused on growing industries, enabling underserved and

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underrepresented workers to access good jobs and creating the skilled workforce the economy needs to thrive

- *Expands Access to Registered Apprenticeships (RA):* The Budget invests \$303 million, a \$118 million increase above the 2021 enacted level, to expand RA opportunities in high-growth fields, such as technology, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, and transportation, while increasing access for historically underrepresented groups, including people of color and women, and diversifying the industry sectors involved. To improve access to RAs for women, the Budget doubles DOL's investment in its Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations grants, which provide pre-apprenticeship opportunities to boost women's participation in RA.
- *Provides Training and Employment Pathways for Youth.* The Budget invests \$75 million for a new National Youth Employment Program, which would create high-quality summer and year-round job opportunities for underserved youth. The Budget also provides \$145 million for YouthBuild, \$48 million above the 2021 enacted level, to enable more at-risk youth to gain both the education and occupational skills they need to obtain good jobs. To further advance equity and inclusion, the Budget provides \$15 million to test new ways to enable low-income youth with disabilities, including youth who are in foster care, involved in the justice system, or who are experiencing homelessness, to successfully transition to employment.
- *Reentry Employment Opportunities:* \$150M, an increase of \$47.9M (47 percent) over FFY22 levels
- *Community Service Employment for Older Adults Program:* \$405M
- *Office of Disability Employment Policy:* \$58.6M, an increase of \$18.1M (45 percent) over FFY22 levels

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The President's FFY22 discretionary request includes \$135B in discretionary funding for VA, a \$31B or 29 percent increase from the FFY21 enacted level. The President's 2023 Budget for VA honors the Nation's sacred obligation to veterans by investing in: world-class healthcare, including mental health, and enhancing veterans' general well-being; benefits delivery, including disability claims processing; education; employment training; and insurance, burial, and other benefits to enhance veterans' prosperity. The Budget ensures that all veterans, including women veterans, veterans of color, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex veterans receive the care they have earned, and prioritizes addressing veteran homelessness, suicide prevention, and caregiver support.

- *Bolsters Efforts to End Veteran Homelessness:* The Budget increases resources for veterans' homelessness programs to \$2.7 billion, with the goal of ensuring every veteran has permanent, sustainable housing with access to healthcare and other supportive services to prevent and end veteran homelessness.
- *Invests in Caregivers Support Program:* The Budget recognizes the important role of family caregivers in supporting the health and wellness of veterans. The Budget provides funding for the Program of General Caregivers Support Services. The Budget also provides \$1.8 billion for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, which includes stipend payments and support services to help empower family caregivers of eligible veterans.
- *Prioritizes VA Medical Care:* Provides \$119B, a historic 32 percent increase over FFY21 enacted level.

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- *Supports Women Veterans' Healthcare*
- *Prioritizes Veteran Suicide Prevention*
- *Improves Veteran's Mental Healthcare Services*

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The President's FFY23 discretionary request includes \$14.8B for SSA, a \$1.8B or 14 percent increase from the FFY21 enacted level. The President's 2023 Budget for SSA invests in improving service delivery, advancing equity, and promoting program integrity.

- *Improves Service Delivery:* Each year, SSA processes more than six million retirement, survivors, and Medicare claims, as well as more than two million disability and Supplemental Security Income claims. The Budget provides an increase of \$1.6 billion, or 14 percent over the 2021 enacted level, to improve services at SSA's field offices, State disability determination services, and teleservice centers for retirees, individuals with disabilities, and their families who rely on the Agency. The Budget also improves access to SSA's services by adding staff to speed disability claims processing and reduce wait times.
- *Advances Equity and Accessibility:* SSA remains committed to breaking down barriers to access experienced by people who rely on its services, including individuals experiencing homelessness, children with disabilities, and people with mental and intellectual disabilities. The Budget makes investments to decrease customer wait times, simplify application processes, and increase outreach to people who are difficult to reach. SSA will also continue to modernize its information technology systems to make more services available online and improve 800 Number access.
- *Promotes Program Integrity*

### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The President's FFY22 discretionary request includes \$71.9B for HUD, a \$12.3B or 21 percent increase from the FFY21 enacted level. The 2022 discretionary request: significantly expands rental assistance to low-income households; advances efforts to end homelessness; increases affordable housing supply; expands homeownership opportunities for underserved borrowers; improves affordable housing by increasing climate resilience and energy efficiency; strengthens communities facing underinvestment; and prevents and redresses housing-related discrimination.

- *Expands Housing Choice Voucher Program and Enhances Household Mobility:* The Housing Choice Voucher program currently provides 2.3 million low-income families with rental assistance to obtain housing in the private market. The Budget provides \$32.1 billion, an increase of \$6.4 billion (including emergency funding) over the 2021 enacted level, to maintain services for all currently assisted families and to expand assistance to an additional 200,000 households, particularly for those who are experiencing homelessness or fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence or other forms of gender-based violence. The Budget also funds mobility-related supportive services to provide low-income families with greater options to move to higher-opportunity neighborhoods.

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- *Increases Affordable Housing Supply:* To address the critical shortage of affordable housing in communities throughout the Nation, the Budget provides nearly \$2 billion for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), an increase of \$600 million over the 2021 enacted level, to construct and rehabilitate affordable rental housing and provide homeownership opportunities. If enacted, this would be the highest funding level for HOME in nearly 15 years. In addition, the Budget provides \$180 million to support 2,000 units of new permanently affordable housing specifically for the elderly and persons with disabilities, supporting the Administration's priority to maximize independent living for people with disabilities. To complement these investments, the Budget contains a total of \$50 billion in mandatory funding and additional Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to increase affordable housing development. Specifically, the Budget provides \$35 billion in HUD funding for State and local housing finance agencies and their partners to provide grants, revolving loan funds, and other streamlined financing tools that reduce transactional costs and increase housing supply, as well as grants to advance State and local jurisdictions' efforts to remove barriers to affordable housing development.
- *Advances Efforts to End Homelessness:* To prevent and reduce homelessness, the Budget provides \$3.6 billion, an increase of \$580 million over the 2021 enacted level, for Homeless Assistance Grants to meet renewal needs and expand assistance to nearly 25,000 additional households, including survivors of domestic violence and homeless youth.
- *Supports Economic Development and Invests in Underserved Communities:* The Budget provides \$3.8 billion for the Community Development Block Grant program to help communities modernize infrastructure, invest in economic development, create parks and other public amenities, and provide social services. The Budget includes a targeted increase of \$195 million to spur equitable development and the removal of barriers to revitalization in 100 of the most underserved neighborhoods in the United States.
- *Promotes Equity by Preventing and Redressing Housing Discrimination*
- *Reduces Lead and Other Home Health Hazards for Vulnerable Families*