

# USAging

## Federal Policy Updates

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1.13.25

# 2025: A Pivotal Year

- New Administration
- New Congress
- OAA Regulation Implementation
- Anniversaries of Major Pieces of Legislation
- Reauthorization to the Finish Line
- National Plan on Aging
- White House Conference on Aging?



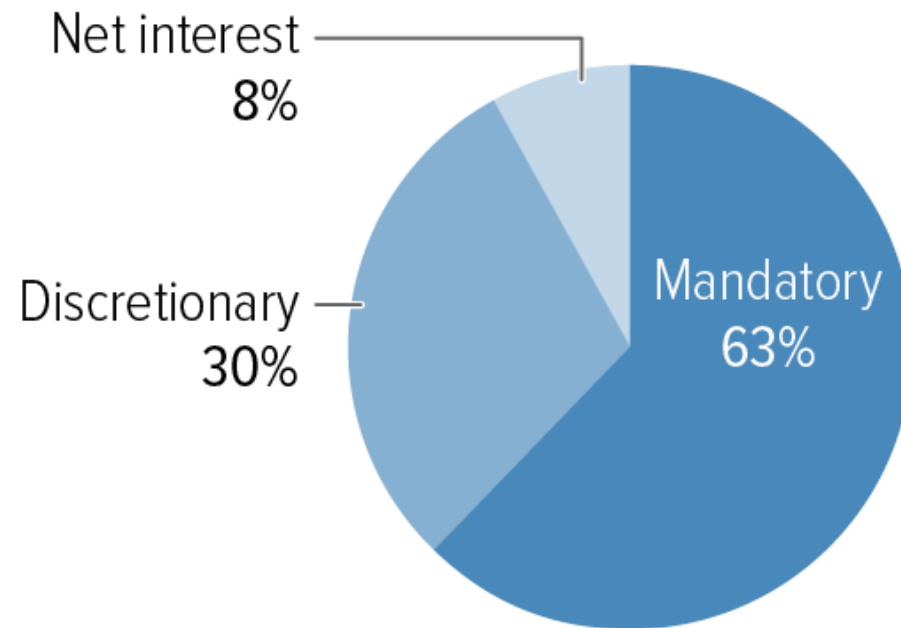


# **Federal Discretionary Funding**

# Most of the Federal Budget = Social Security and Major Health Programs (Mandatory Spending)

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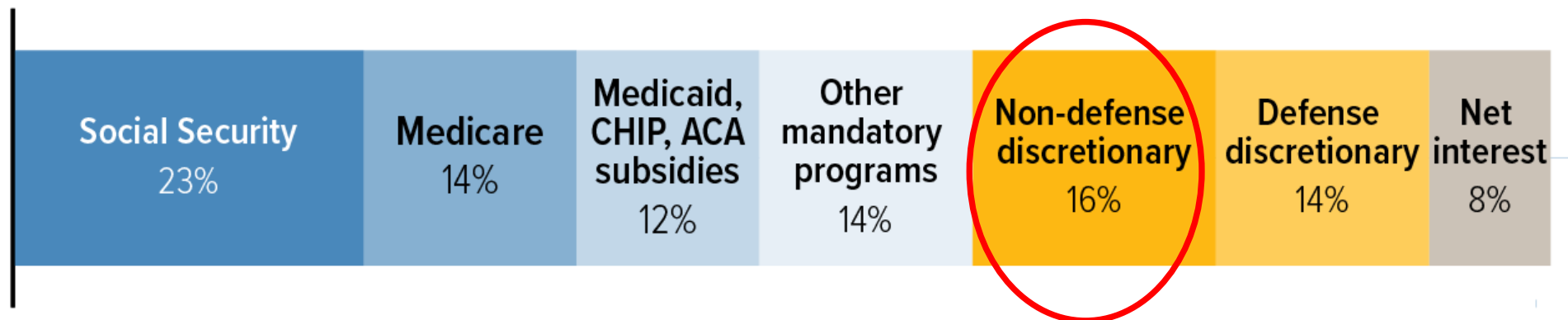
## Types of Federal Spending, Fiscal Year 2023



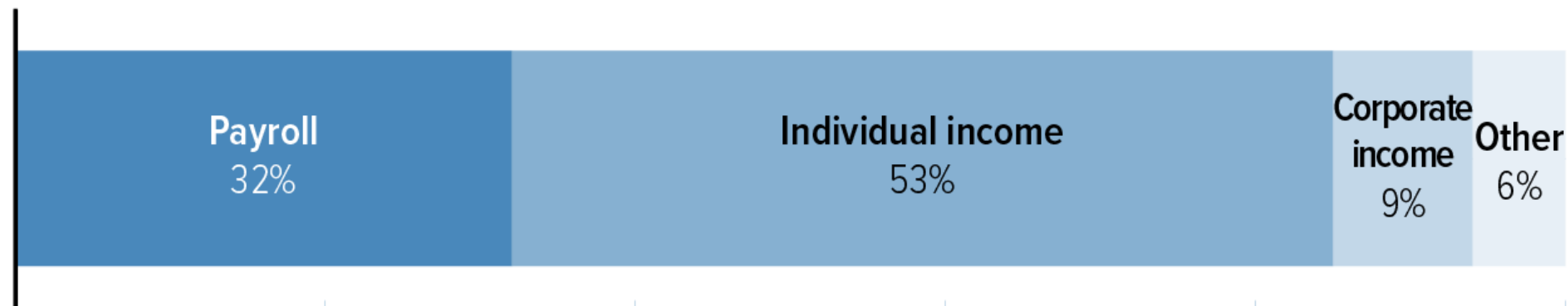
Note: Does not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Congressional Budget Office

## Components of Federal Spending



## Components of Federal Tax Revenue



Note: "CHIP" = Children's Health Insurance Plan. "ACA" = Affordable Care Act. "Other" includes excise, customs duties, and more. Data are for fiscal year 2023 and do not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Congressional Budget Office



# **2024 Unfinished Business**

# FY 2025 Appropriations

- Continuing resolution (CR) expires March 14
- House bill increases OAA III B, Title VI, NSIP but cuts Title III C and eliminates Title V and APS funding
- Senate bill is level funding
- REALITY: Some Republicans want to make cuts, but they don't have 60 votes in the Senate, so most likely outcome is a rest-of-the-year CR

# MIPPA Funding

- Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) low-income outreach and assistance program
- \$50 million annually in funding is made up of \$15 mil SHIPs, \$15 AAAs, \$5 ADRCs and \$15 Million to NCOA for national center (and funding local efforts)
- Current funding and authorization expires March 31, 2025
- We want Congress to reauthorize this for two years!



# OAA Reauthorization

- Expired at the end of FY 2024, Sept. 30, 2024
- Senate HELP Committee passed a bipartisan bill on 7/31 (S. 4776)
- House and Senate quietly negotiated all fall
- Revised S. 4776 was passed Dec. 10
- Included in bipartisan end-of-year package
- Dropped from final bill (thanks, Elon!)

# OAA Reauthorization

- Possible Scenario 1 (USAging Preference):
  - House passes the same bill
    - If it can go under suspension of the rules, then it could move quickly and without fuss
    - If it can't, it will have to move on a larger vehicle
  - Senate would then need to pass the bill all over again (under its speedy process) before sending to the President for signature

# OAA Reauthorization

- Possible Scenario 2:
  - House or Senate decide they want to start over
  - Could start with the existing bill or from scratch
  - Would mean we go back to committee action (e.g., public comment, hearings, markups)
- Possible Scenario 3:
  - Some combination of above given Senate change to Republicans

# OAA Resources Available Act Now!

## Our Positions Policy Priorities 2024

**USAgging**  
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

**Policy Priorities 2024**  
Promote the Health, Security and Well-Being of Older Adults

## OAA Reauthorization Recommendations

**USAgging POLICY BRIEF**  
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

**Recommendations for the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act**

**Introduction**  
The Older Americans Act (OAA) was first signed into law in 1965 as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society program. Over the years, the Act has been amended to address the changing needs of the aging population. This policy brief provides recommendations for the reauthorization of the OAA, focusing on the following areas:

- Introduction:** The OAA was the first federal law to provide services to older Americans. It has since become a model for other social service legislation.
- Programs:** The OAA covers a wide range of services, including nutrition, transportation, caregiver support, and health and wellness programs.
- Challenges:** The aging population is growing rapidly, and the needs of older Americans are becoming more diverse. The OAA must be updated to reflect these changes.
- Recommendations:** We recommend that the OAA be reauthorized with several key provisions, including expanded funding, improved coordination with other federal programs, and enhanced oversight and evaluation.

# Advocacy Toolkit

Get the Facts about the Older Americans Act

**USAgging OLDER AMERICANS ACT**  
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

**GET THE FACTS**

For more than 60 years, the Older Americans Act (OAA) has been the cornerstone of federal support for older Americans. The OAA provides funding for a wide range of programs and services that help older Americans live safely, securely, and with dignity. This toolkit provides the facts about the OAA, including its history, purpose, and the programs it funds.

**Why is the OAA Important? The OAA...**

- Keeps older Americans safe and secure:** The OAA funds programs that help older Americans live safely and securely at home.
- Keeps older Americans healthy and happy:** The OAA funds programs that help older Americans stay healthy and active.
- Keeps older Americans financially secure:** The OAA funds programs that help older Americans manage their finances and avoid financial hardship.
- Keeps older Americans socially connected:** The OAA funds programs that help older Americans stay connected to their communities.
- Keeps older Americans independent:** The OAA funds programs that help older Americans live independently at home.

**Take www.usagging.org/OAA to learn more about the Older Americans Act reauthorization.**

Key Milestones: OAA From 1965 to the Present

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**REAUTHORIZATION TOOLKIT**

**Key Milestones: OAA from 1965 to the Present**  
**Building the Foundation for Aging in Place**

**1965:** The Older Americans Act is signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. It provides funding for a wide range of programs and services that help older Americans live safely, securely, and with dignity.

**1972:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for caregiver support programs.

**1973:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for health and wellness programs.

**1974:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for transportation programs.

**1975:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for nutrition programs.

**1976:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for social and recreational programs.

**1977:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for housing and home care programs.

**1978:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for legal assistance programs.

**1979:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for volunteer programs.

**1980:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for mental health and substance abuse programs.

**1981:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for elder abuse programs.

**1982:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for caregiver support programs.

**1983:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for health and wellness programs.

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**2002:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for caregiver support programs.

**2003:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for health and wellness programs.

**2004:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for transportation programs.

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**2009:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for volunteer programs.

**2010:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for mental health and substance abuse programs.

**2011:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for elder abuse programs.

**2012:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for caregiver support programs.

**2013:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for health and wellness programs.

**2014:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for transportation programs.

**2015:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for nutrition programs.

**2016:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for social and recreational programs.

**2017:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for housing and home care programs.

**2018:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for legal assistance programs.

**2019:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for volunteer programs.

**2020:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for mental health and substance abuse programs.

**2021:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for elder abuse programs.

**2022:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for caregiver support programs.

**2023:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for health and wellness programs.

**2024:** The OAA is amended to provide funding for transportation programs.

Key Authorizing Committees for the 118th Congress

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Leaders in Aging Well at Home

**REAUTHORIZATION TOOLKIT**

**Key Authorizing Committees for the 118th Congress**  
**Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HLEP) Full Committee**

**Democratic (Majority)**  
Mark Warner (VA)  
Chris Murphy (CT)  
Cory Booker (NJ)  
Maggie Hironaka (VT)  
Tim Wirth (CO)  
Sherrod Brown (OH)  
Al Franken (MN)  
Tom Carper (DE)  
Tim Kaine (VA)  
Cotton Corcoran (NY)  
Cory Gardner (CO)  
Chris Coons (RI)  
Maggie Hironaka (VT)  
Tim Wirth (CO)  
Sherrod Brown (OH)  
Al Franken (MN)  
Tom Carper (DE)  
Tim Kaine (VA)  
Cotton Corcoran (NY)  
Cory Gardner (CO)

**Republican (Minority)**  
Liz Cheney (WY)  
Tim Scott (SC)  
Lamar Alexander (TN)  
Cotton Corcoran (NY)  
Maggie Hironaka (VT)  
Tim Wirth (CO)  
Sherrod Brown (OH)  
Al Franken (MN)  
Tom Carper (DE)  
Tim Kaine (VA)  
Cotton Corcoran (NY)  
Cory Gardner (CO)

**House HLEP Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security**

**Democratic (Majority)**  
Patrick Leahy (VT)  
Tom Carper (DE)  
Tim Wirth (CO)  
Sherrod Brown (OH)  
Al Franken (MN)  
Tom Carper (DE)  
Tim Kaine (VA)  
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Talking Points for Congressional Meetings

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**REAUTHORIZATION TOOLKIT**

**Talking Points for Congressional Meetings**

**Make sure your legislator understands who you are and what your organization is in a pending services for older adults.**

- Introduce yourself:** Tell your legislator your name, your address, and your phone number. Let them know you are a constituent.
- Make sure your legislator understands who you are and what your organization is in a pending services for older adults.**
- Share your story:** Tell your legislator how the OAA has helped you or someone you know. Share your story in a way that is personal and compelling.
- Share your organization's story:** Tell your legislator how your organization is working to improve the lives of older Americans. Share your organization's story in a way that is personal and compelling.
- Share your organization's vision:** Tell your legislator how you see the future of the OAA. Share your organization's vision in a way that is personal and compelling.
- Share your organization's needs:** Tell your legislator what your organization needs to continue its work. Share your organization's needs in a way that is personal and compelling.
- Share your organization's gratitude:** Tell your legislator how grateful you are for their support. Share your organization's gratitude in a way that is personal and compelling.

**Once you establish a rapport, it's the importance of supporting the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.**

- The OAA is the only federal law that provides services to older Americans.**
- The OAA is the only federal law that provides services to older Americans who are living at home.**
- The OAA is the only federal law that provides services to older Americans who are living independently.**
- The OAA is the only federal law that provides services to older Americans who are living with dignity.**

**Make sure your legislator understands who you are and what your organization is in a pending services for older adults.**

Template Letter to Congress for Aging Network Organizations

**USAgging OLDER AMERICANS ACT**  
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

**REAUTHORIZATION TOOLKIT**

**Template Letter to Congress**  
Areas with **yellow highlighting** require customization.

**Dear [Congressional Representative/Member of Congress]:**

I am writing to you today to express my support for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA). The OAA is a vital piece of legislation that provides funding for a wide range of programs and services that help older Americans live safely, securely, and with dignity. I believe that the OAA should be reauthorized with several key provisions, including expanded funding, improved coordination with other federal programs, and enhanced oversight and evaluation.

**Key provisions that I believe should be included in the reauthorized OAA include:**

- Expanded funding:** I believe that the OAA should be funded at a level that is sufficient to meet the needs of the aging population. I believe that the OAA should be funded at a level that is sufficient to meet the needs of the aging population.
- Improved coordination:** I believe that the OAA should be better coordinated with other federal programs, such as the Older Americans Resource Survey (OARS) and the Older Americans Benefits Survey (OABS). I believe that the OAA should be better coordinated with other federal programs, such as the Older Americans Resource Survey (OARS) and the Older Americans Benefits Survey (OABS).
- Enhanced oversight and evaluation:** I believe that the OAA should be subject to enhanced oversight and evaluation. I believe that the OAA should be subject to enhanced oversight and evaluation.

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**Thank you for your support of the OAA.**

Template Advocacy Alert

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**REAUTHORIZATION TOOLKIT**

**Advocacy Alert Template**  
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**31 Your District Of/Is Home/Important OAA to You!**

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**Thank you for your support of the OAA.**

FY 2021-2025 Labor/HHS Appropriations Chart

**USAgging**

FY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Older Americans Act	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000
...	...	...	...	...	...

FY 2025 Appropriations Template Letter for AAAs

**TEMPLATE LANGUAGE FOR REP/SENATE OUTREACH RE: FY 2025 APPROPRIATIONS**  
**AAA or Congressional District**

**Dear [Congressional Representative/Member of Congress]:**

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**Thank you for your support of the OAA.**

# FY 2025 Appropriations

**USAgging OLDER AMERICANS ACT**  
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

**REAUTHORIZATION TOOLKIT**

**Social Media Toolkit**

Engage with Congress to advance the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA), we've created this social media toolkit containing sample Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) posts and images that you can use as is, customize for your agency, or use as inspiration to create your own.

**Note:** Areas with **yellow highlighting** require customization. We strongly recommend you customize our Advocacy Alert template for YOUR local networks, post it online and then share that link in all your social media outreach. You can also link to your letter on reauthorization when tagging your members of Congress!

**Facebook and LinkedIn**

**Sample Facebook and LinkedIn Posts to Customize**

**For Organizations Reaching out to a Network:**

- Help us tell Congress to reauthorize the Older Americans Act because these valuable local programs provide older adults with in-home services, meals, transportation, caregiver support, health and wellness programs and other essential services that help them maintain their health and independence! [Link here to your advocacy alert.](#)

**For All Advocates:**

- [TAG YOUR SENATORS AND REP HERE]** Please preserve programs that help older adults maintain their health, well-being and independence by reauthorizing the Older Americans Act programs and services, meals, transportation, caregiver support, health and wellness programs and other essential services.

# 2025 Policy Positioning



# Positioning with the New Administration

- Transition Priorities and Messaging
  - Leadership Opps in Aging
  - OAA
  - Medicare SDOH Integration
  - Caregiving
  - Medicaid HCBS
  - Workforce Needs



# Federal Multi-Sector Plan on Aging?

- Interagency Coordinating Council on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities (ICC); made up of federal agencies who developed a....
  - Strategic Framework for Aging (released in May 2024), which is supposed to lead to the development of...
- National Plan on Aging—IF the next Administration takes up the effort! Which could lead to a....
  - White House Conference on Aging 2025

# Positioning with New Congress

- Educating and Developing Champions with New Members, Committee Chairs and Committee Members
- Tackling Unfinished Business: Appropriations, MIPPA, OAA
- RECONCILIATION





# What Is Reconciliation?

- A budget maneuver created in 1974
- Allows for expedited consideration of certain tax, spending and debt limit legislation
- In the Senate, reconciliation bills aren't subject to filibuster (so you only need 51 votes to pass it) and the scope of amendments is limited
- Now this process is used for enacting controversial budget and tax measures that don't have 60 votes in the Senate



# Threats in Reconciliation

- Medicaid cuts can take many forms:
  - Per capita caps
  - Work requirements
  - Reduce the federal share (FMAP)
  - Reduce or eliminate provider taxes
  - Allow states to cut eligibility and benefits
  - Kill the 90% expansion FMAP
- Other entitlement programs on the block:
  - SNAP
  - Social Services Block Grant
  - Other sources of federal funding for community work (Prevention and Public Health Fund which has funding for falls prevention)
- TAX CUTS (and impact on non-defense discretionary funding)

The logo for US Aging, featuring the letters 'US' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, followed by 'Aging' in a blue, script font where the 'A' is stylized with a swoosh.

# US Aging

## **Aging Policy Briefing & Capitol Hill Day**

*Save the date!*

**March 31–April 1, 2025**

**WASHINGTON, DC**



Leaders in Aging Well at Home

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