



The Today's Students Coalition Statement on the Fiscal Year 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) Funding Bill

(Washington) July 7th, 2022 – The Today's Students Coalition (TSC) – a collective of 34 higher education policy, advocacy, and membership organizations – applauds the many proposed increases in the recently introduced House Appropriations Committee Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) Funding Bill. The investments that the Committee has put forward will provide robust funding to programs dedicated to serving the needs of today's post-secondary learners.

The TSC is thankful for the proposed increases in the FY 23 LHHS bill to several key childcare, financial aid, and mental health support programs including:

- Raising the maximum Pell Grant amount by \$500;
- Dedicating \$15 million to competitive Basic Needs grants;
- Allocating \$920 million for the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG); and
- Increasing funds by \$30 million for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program.

Most notably, the Labor HHS bill provides \$5 million in competitive Emergency Aid grants and an increase to the Garrett Lee Smith (GLS) Youth Suicide Prevention campus grants to almost \$11.5 million - two policy priorities TSC has actively advocated for. These funds ensure direct financial assistance to students who sometimes face unexpected expenses that impede their ability to stay in school while also addressing the growing mental health crisis affecting college campuses nationwide.

The TSC commends the House Appropriations Committee for their commitment to today's students. Our coalition looks forward to seeing the inclusion of the Emergency Aid Grants and a similar increase in funding to the GLS Campus Based grant program in the forthcoming Senate FY 23 LHHS Funding Bill.