

## Calendar No. 428

112TH CONGRESS } SENATE { REPORT  
2d Session } 112-176

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### DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATION BILL, 2013

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JUNE 14, 2012.—Ordered to be printed  
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Mr. HARKIN, from the Committee on Appropriations,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 3295]

The Committee on Appropriations reports the bill (S. 3295) making appropriations for Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

#### *Amount of budget authority*

Total of bill as reported to the Senate .....	\$777,568,714,000
Amount of 2012 appropriations .....	741,495,738,000
Amount of 2013 budget estimate .....	777,624,610,000
Bill as recommended to Senate compared to—	
2012 appropriations .....	+ 36,072,976,000
2013 budget estimate .....	– 55,896,000

The Committee hopes that the meeting will lay out a clear and concrete set of recommendations for an aggressive trans-NIH research agenda. The Committee notes that the chronic pain conditions listed above are also ideal candidates for inclusion in the Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System, as many chronic pain patients use multiple individualized approaches to manage pain symptoms.

*Pain.*—The Committee commends NIH for its efforts so far to respond to the IOM report “Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education and Research.” For example, NIH has designated NINDS as the lead Institute for coordinating pain research efforts across the organization; selected a cadre of 11 Centers of Excellence for Pain Education; begun to develop new informational material for the public and medical professionals on pain conditions; and instituted more frequent meetings of the NIH Pain Consortium. The Committee strongly urges NIH to expand on such efforts while giving appropriate attention to overlapping chronic pain conditions that solely or disproportionately impact women. The Committee believes that pain research would be an appropriate subject for inclusion in the Common Fund, as advances in this area would benefit all Institutes. Finally, the Committee agrees with the IOM report recommendation that NIH increase financial resources and staffing support for the Pain Consortium.

*Pediatric Low Grade Astrocytoma [PLGA].*—The Committee is encouraged by advancements in research on slow-growing children’s brain tumors but remains concerned by the long-term physical and cognitive disabilities caused by surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation treatments for PLGA children. The Committee urges NIH to establish a special emphasis panel with a focus on identifying and validating new therapeutic targets in these tumors. Research should emphasize the development of novel preclinical models of pediatric brain tumors (both mouse and other nonmammalian models), novel drug development and testing, target identification and validation, and improved drug delivery modalities. The Committee requests an update on these topics in the fiscal year 2014 congressional budget justification.

*Pregnancy Health Status.*—Epidemiologic studies have shown that a woman’s health status during pregnancy is associated with her health after pregnancy, suggesting that findings in pregnancy may be a better indicator for determining a woman’s future health status than traditional risk factors. The Committee encourages NICHD, NHLBI, and NIDDK to work together to more closely study these epidemiologic findings in an effort to identify predictive markers during pregnancy for subsequent heart disease and diabetes; develop tests to evaluate health after pregnancy; and test interventions both during and after pregnancy that may mitigate risk.

*Rehabilitation Research.*—The Committee recognizes and supports efforts of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Medical Rehabilitation Research to identify gaps in rehabilitation research. The Committee believes that the panel’s findings warrant meaningful steps by the Director to enhance the stature of, and emphasis is on, medical rehabilitation and disability research at NIH.