

# FY2017 Budget Process: What happened?

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# The budget process

## Budget Resolution

- House and Senate pass separate budget bills
- Sets top level spending number for next fiscal year
- Does not go to the president and is not a law
- Guides Appropriators

## Appropriations

- 12 bills that set individual spending levels for individual agencies
- Includes specific instructions to agencies, called “directives”
- The 12 bills are passed individually in the House and Senate

# The budget process

## Timeline: How its Supposed to Work

- February: President's Budget Request submitted to Congress
- March: "Views & Estimates" from all Committees
- March: Budget committees draft Resolutions
- April 15: Budget Resolutions deadline
- May/June: Appropriations bills drafted
- July/September: Floor consideration
- September: House and Senate negotiate differences
- October 1: New Fiscal Year

# The budget process

**Outside of the regular budget process, Congress can fund the federal government in three ways:**

- **Continuing Appropriations:** Commonly known as a Continuing Resolution, or CR:
  - Continues funding at the previous fiscal year levels
  - Typically used as a short-term stopgap to allow Appropriators to finish their work.
- **Omnibus Appropriations:** Simply referred to as “Omnibus”:
  - A collection of the 12 appropriation subcommittee bills that make up the larger budget pulled into a one bill requiring a single vote in each chamber of Congress.
  - This often follows a short-term CR as a result of the CR’s deadline.
- **Supplemental Appropriations:**
  - Typically reserved for emergencies
  - Adds additional funding to individual agencies or priorities above and beyond what has already been appropriated for that fiscal year.

# The budget process

## How it Worked in FY2016

- 10-week Continuing Resolution (CR) beginning Sept. 30 2015
- Nov 2015: Democrats and Republicans agree to two-year Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015:
  - FY2016 – \$1.067 trillion (\$548B defense, \$518B non-defense)
  - FY2017 – \$1.07 trillion (\$551B defense, \$518B non-defense)
- Dec 21, 2015: President Obama signed FY2016 Omnibus
  - Included multiple directives affecting agency spending

# The budget process

## How it is Working in FY2017

- Congress did not pass a budget in FY2017 and has been operating under a series of CRs
  - CR at the beginning of the fiscal year ending Dec. 9, 2016
  - CR expiring April 28, 2017
  - CR expiring May 5, 2017
- On Thursday May 4, Congress passed a \$1.1 trillion omnibus to fund the government for the rest of FY2017

# What's in the FY2017 Omnibus

Program	FY2016	FY2017 Omnibus	Difference
WBCs	\$17M	\$18M	Increase of \$1M
Microloan - TA	\$25M	\$31M	Increase of \$6M
Microloan - Lending	\$35M	\$44M	Increase \$9M
PRIME	\$5M	\$5M	Unchanged
SBDCs	\$117M	\$125M	Increase of \$8M
CDFI BGP	\$750M	\$500M	Decrease of \$250M
CDFI Fund	\$233.5M	\$248M	Increase of \$14.5M

# What happens next?

## FY2018 Process:

- White House budget request due the Week of May 22
- House and Senate Budget Committees pass budget resolutions
- House and Senate Appropriations Committees complete action by end of July
- House and Senate must complete appropriations conferences by September 30
- President signs FY18 appropriations into law