

Understanding the New Federal Landscape



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Government and Community Relations

- Within the Office of the Chancellor
- The Government and Community Relations (GCR) office builds relationships with community leaders, elected officials, government agencies and third party advocates to further the mission of UC Berkeley in the public sector.
- The issues of primary focus for the GCR team include student financial aid, admissions, scientific research and other policies at the forefront of higher education and government.
- You can sign up for our weekly newsletter at <http://chancellor.berkeley.edu/gcr>

Trump Administration

- New approach and new priorities
 - Decentralized decision-making, greater reliance on Congress for policy
 - Cabinet officials and senior staff aren't DC insiders
- "Destabilized" federal workforce—hiring freeze, slow transition, budget cuts
- Trump's tools: Exec Orders; Twitter; shadow cabinet; regulatory freeze
- Opposition: Democrats; State Attorneys General; Governors

Congress

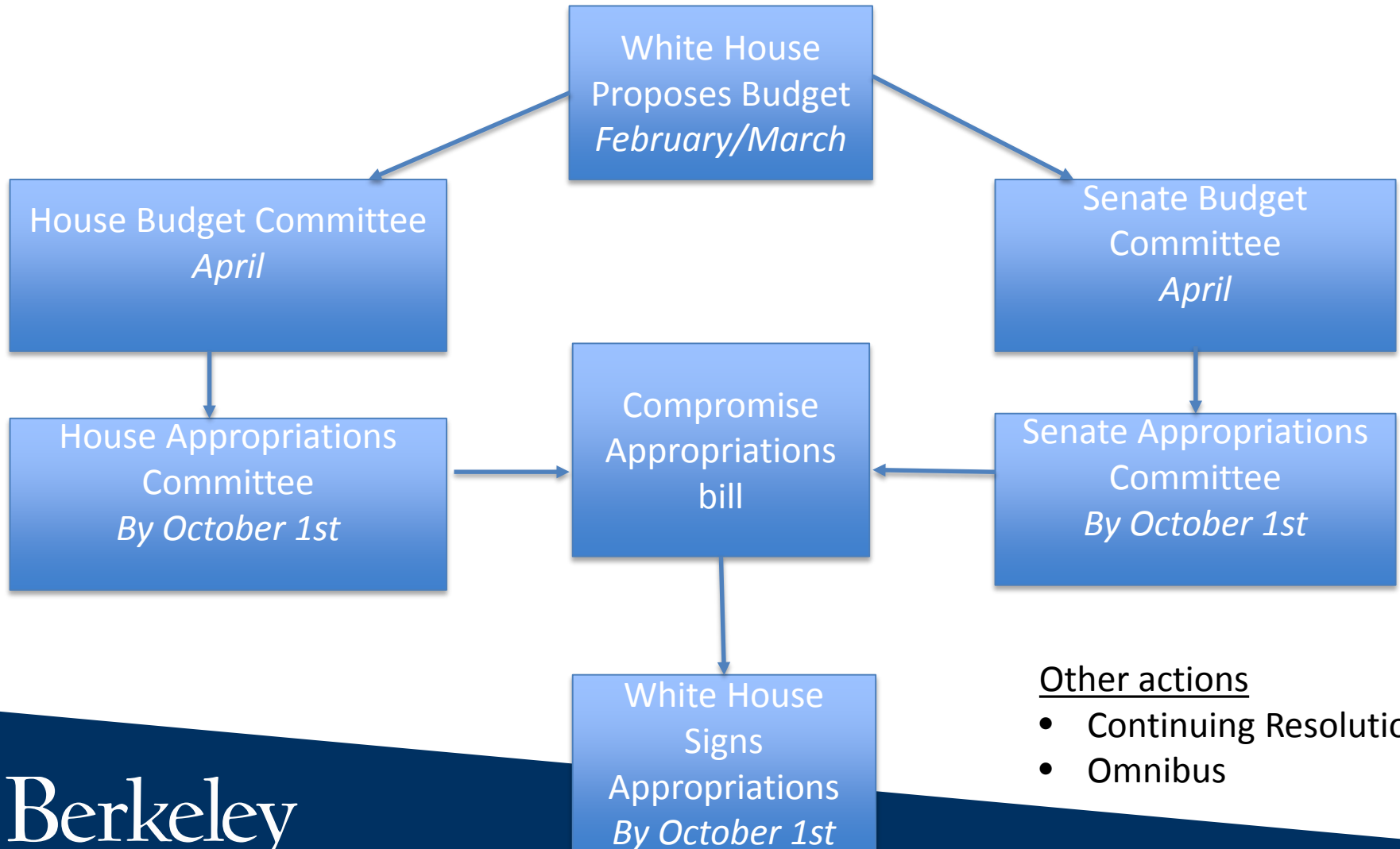
- United Party Control
 - House: 241 Republicans; 194 Democrats
 - Senate: 52 Republicans; 48 Democrats
- Different factions of each party
 - Freedom Caucus
 - Progressive Democrats
- Many new(ish) Republicans
 - Less than half of House of Representatives voted on Affordable Care Act

Big Picture Threats and Opportunities

Threats

- Funding
- Immigration and visas
- Attacks on specific scientific disciplines
- Free speech
- Tax reform

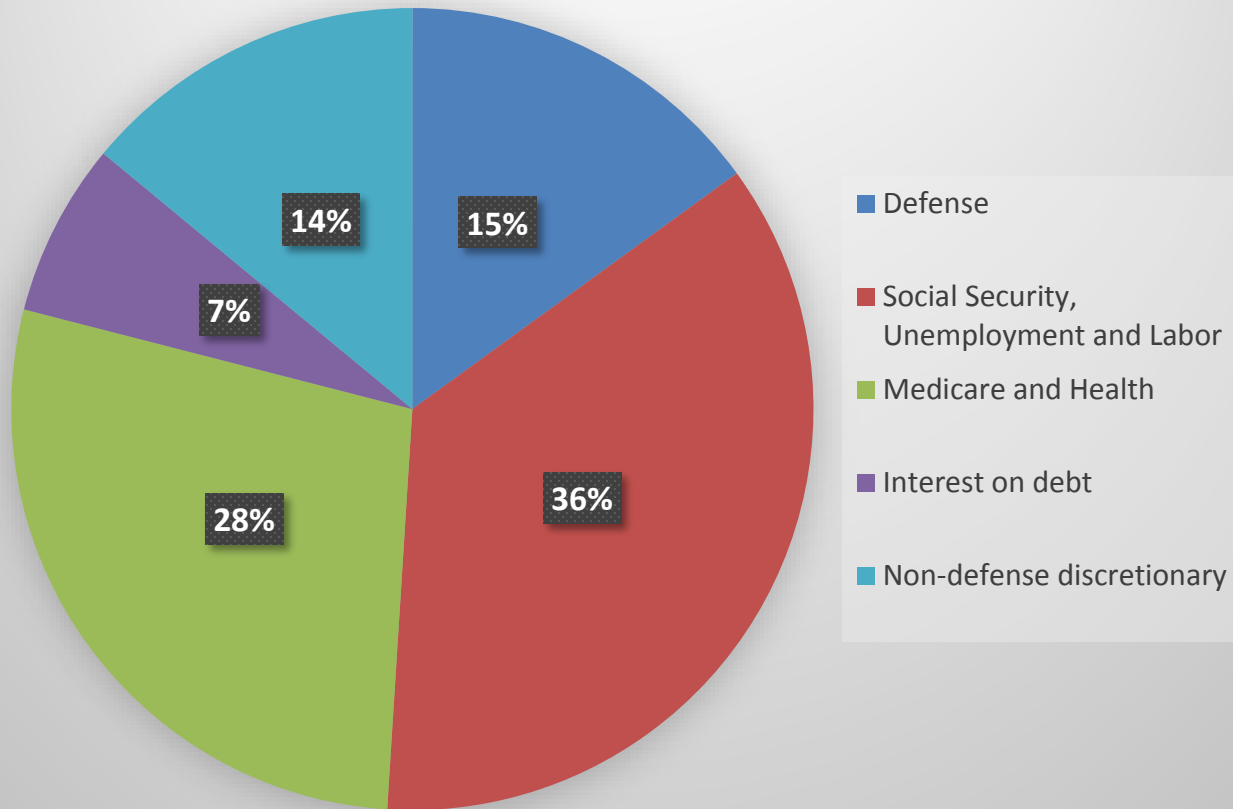
Federal Funding Process



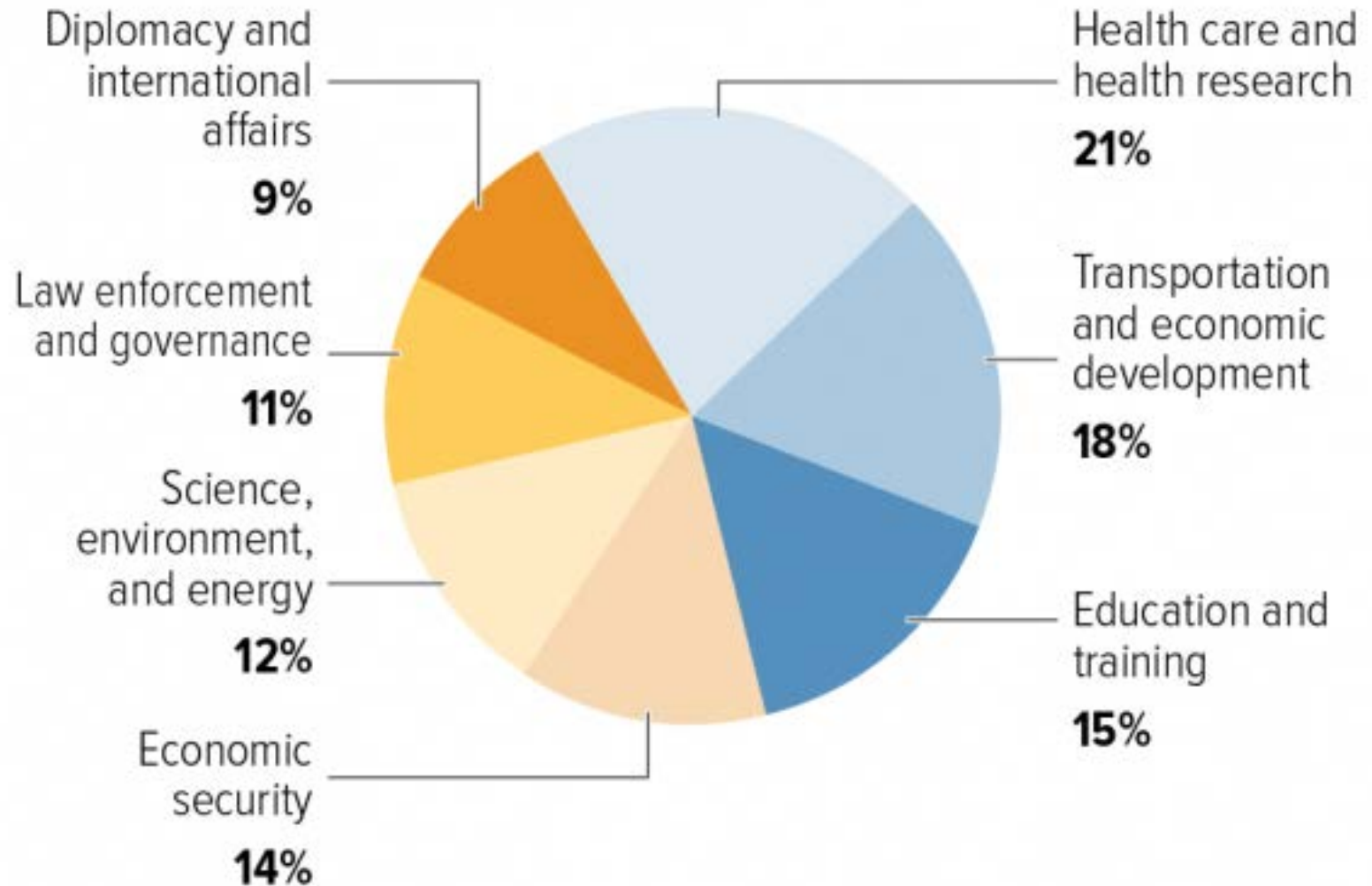
Other actions

- Continuing Resolution
- Omnibus

Federal Budget



Non-Defense Discretionary Spending, FY 2015



Source: CBPP calculations using Office of Management and Budget data

FY17 Funding

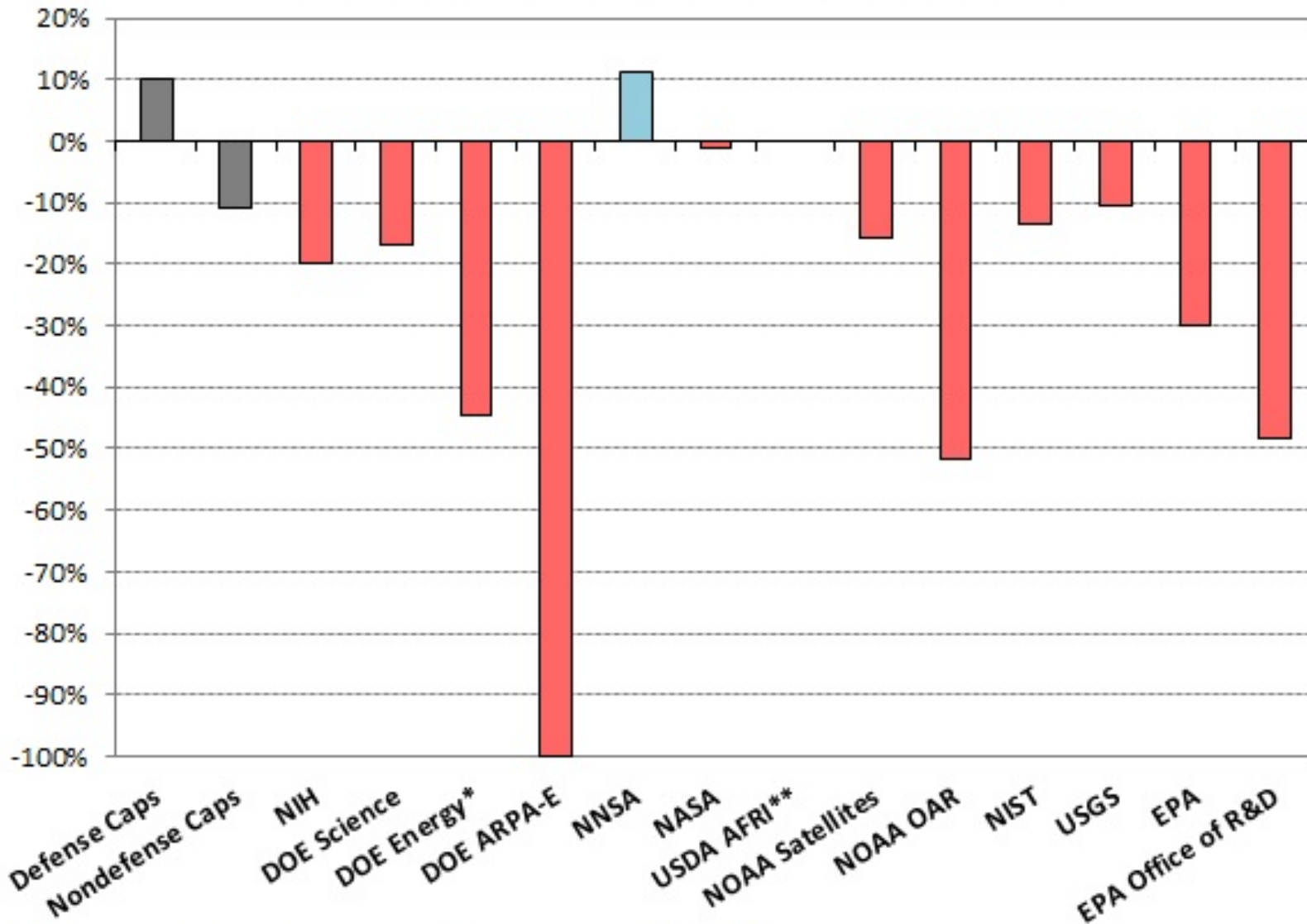
- FY17 funding expires on April 28th
- Three potential outcomes
 - Omnibus
 - CR through October 1st
 - Government shutdown

FY18 Funding

- President Trump's released "skinny budget" in March
 - Would cut \$54 B from non-defense discretionary programs
- House and Senate appropriators moving forward with regular order
- Budget deal to stop sequestration?

**Figure 1: Science & Tech Agencies and Offices:
Preliminary Estimates of the FY 2018 Request vs. FY 2016**

Estimated percentage change from FY 2016 levels, nominal dollars



*Includes renewables and efficiency, nuclear, fossil, grid research. **Flat-funded in FY18 request.

NOTE: FY 2016 is used as a baseline given lack of final FY 2017 appropriations.

Based on initial AAAS assessment of the FY 2018 budget summary and past agency budget data. March 16, 2017 | AAAS

Funding for Student Financial Aid

- Potential changes to Pell grants (year-round Pell, loss of mandatory funding)
- In-school interest subsidy
- Cuts to campus-based programs (SEOG, FWS)

Immigration

- Revised travel ban
- H-1B visa premium processing suspended
- DACA/DREAM students
- Changes to non-immigrant visas (H-1B, TN, F)
- H-1B and I-9 audits
- STEM-OPT

Attacks on Scientific Disciplines

- Out of favor
 - Climate change
 - Geosciences
 - Political science
 - SBE
- In favor
 - Defense research
 - Applied research
 - Nuclear research
 - Biomedical research

Free Speech



Tax Reform

- Rep. Reed's bill on endowments
- Changes to charitable giving
- Employer-provided education assistance
- American Opportunity Tax Credit
- Lifetime Learning Tax Credit
- Tuition deduction

Big Picture Threats and Opportunities

Opportunities

- Funding
 - Basic research
 - Defense research and national security (cybersecurity, materials, etc.)
 - Infrastructure
- Reduced regulatory environment
- Public-private partnerships

Looking ahead

- GOP legislative agenda
 - Tax reform
 - Infrastructure bill
- Mid-term election in 2018
 - In Senate, Ds defending 25 seats (10 states Trump won); Rs defending 8 seats (1 state Clinton won—NV)
 - Very few competitive districts in House
- Controversies and investigations

Questions?