

# Understanding the New Federal Landscape (Update)



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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
  - Cabinet officials and senior staff aren't DC insiders
  - Greater reliance on Congress for policy
- Lean federal workforce—hiring freeze, slow transition, budget cuts
- Trump's tools: Exec Orders; Twitter; 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

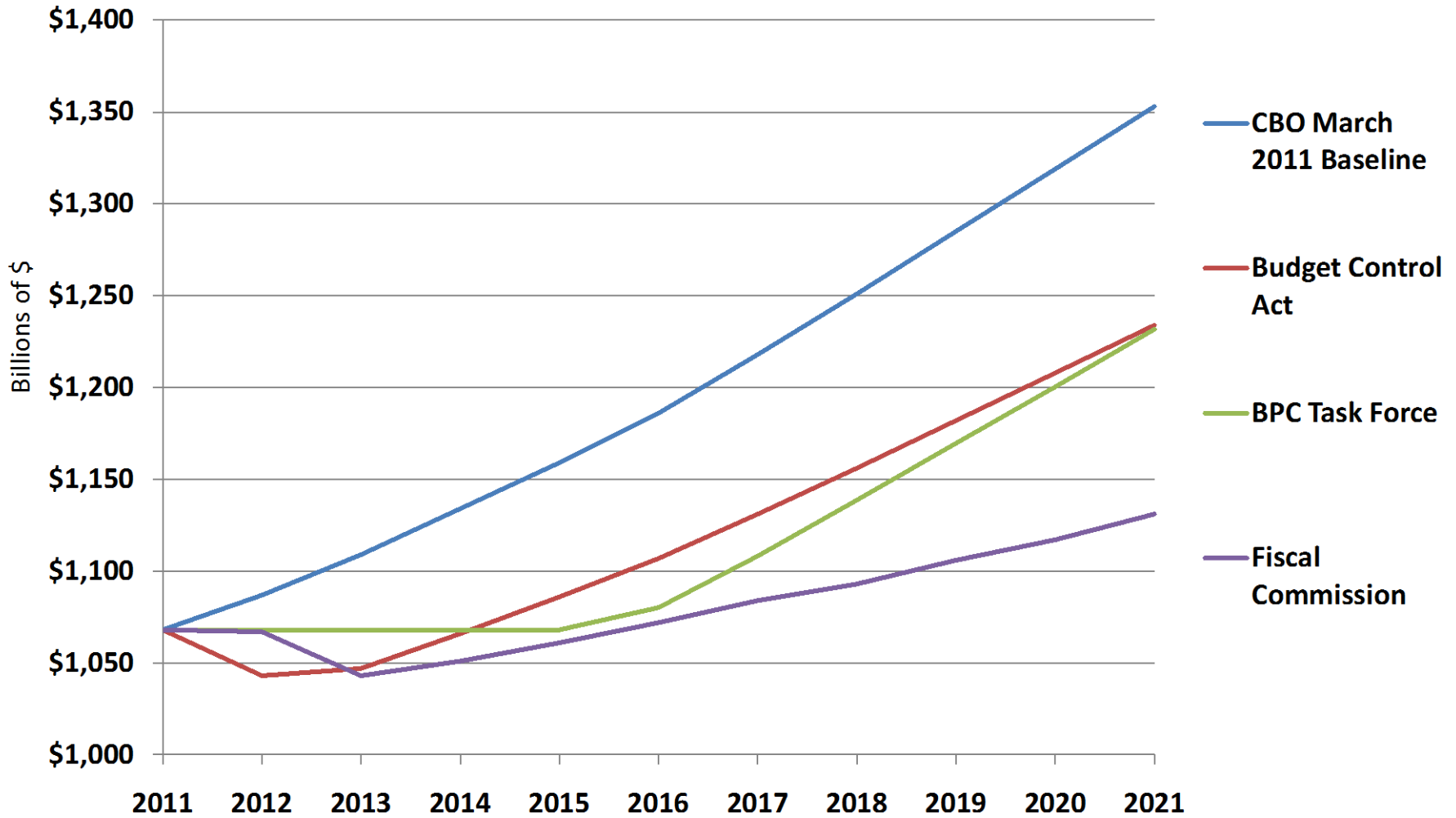
# Federal Issues

- Funding
- Immigration
- Free speech
- Tax reform
- Sexual Violence Sexual Harassment

# Funding

- President Trump's budget would have cut \$54B from non-defense discretionary programs
- House passed FY2018 omnibus in September
- Senate continuing work on FY2018 appropriations
- CR/debt ceiling/FEMA funding through December 8th
- Budget deal needed to prevent sequestration

# DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY (NON-WAR)

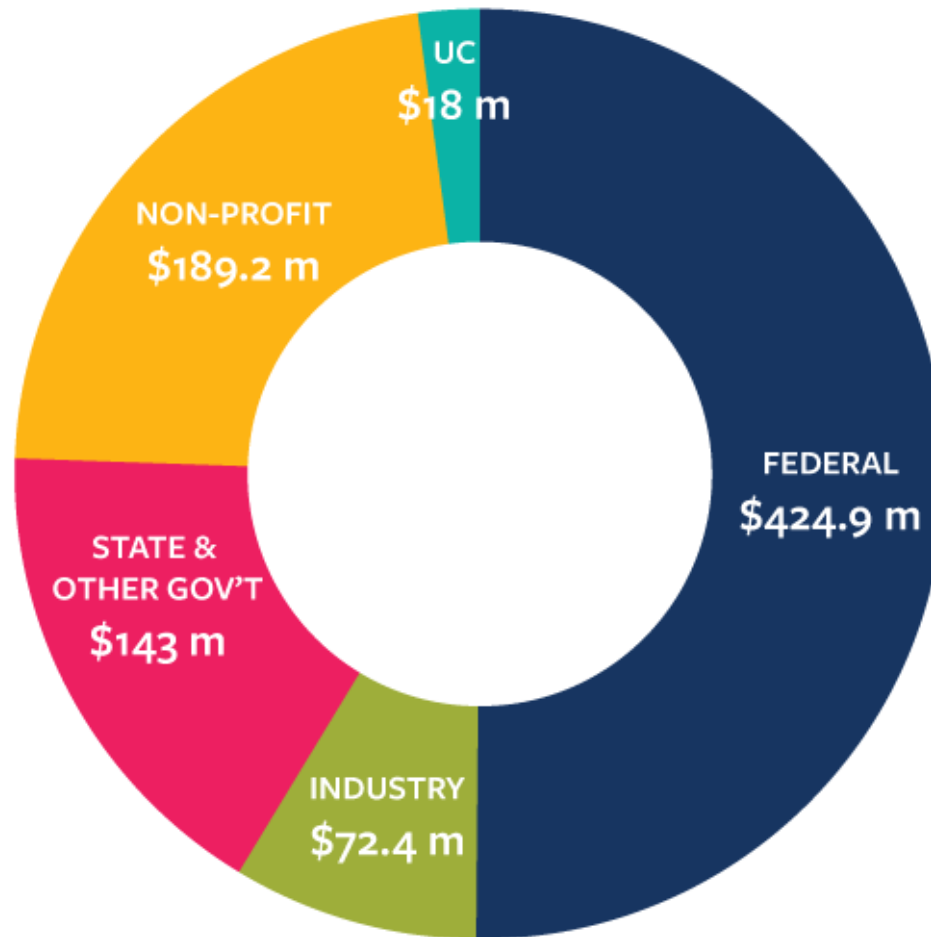


# Budget Control Act of 2011

- The BCA created spending caps for FY2012-FY2021 and sequestration equally divided between Defense and Non-defense programs.
- In 2013, the Murray-Ryan deal in 2013 raised discretionary spending caps for FY2014 and FY2015 by **\$64 billion**
- In 2015, President Obama and Republican leaders brokered a deal for **\$80 billion** above BCA caps for FY2015-2016
- In FY2018, Congress must do another budget deal to raise the caps.
- House passed omnibus is \$72 billion over BCA caps for FY2018.
- Violating the BCA caps would trigger sequestration to put defense funding below the caps.



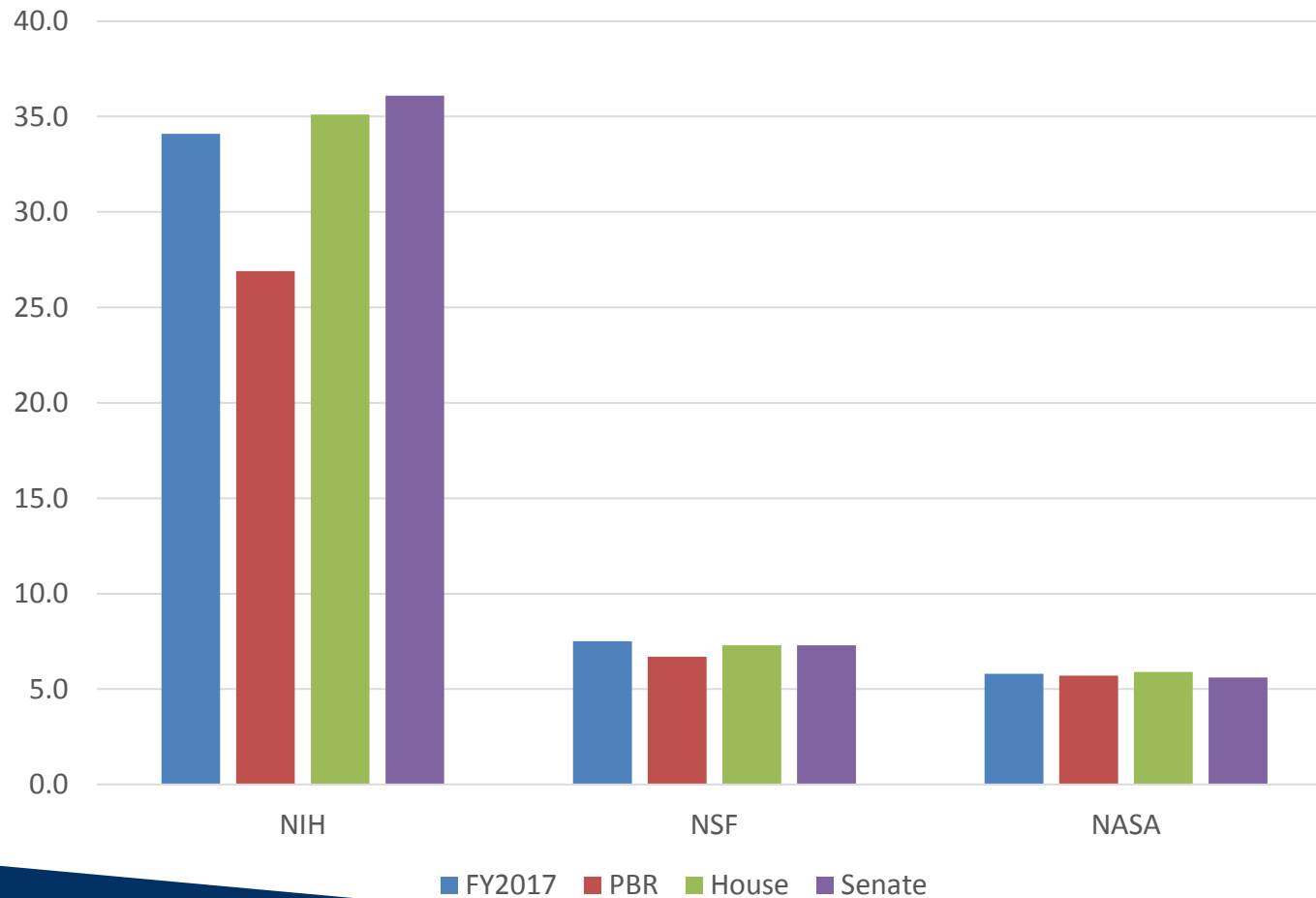
# Funding for Research



**Total Awards = \$847.5 million**

Calculated on the basis of project period.

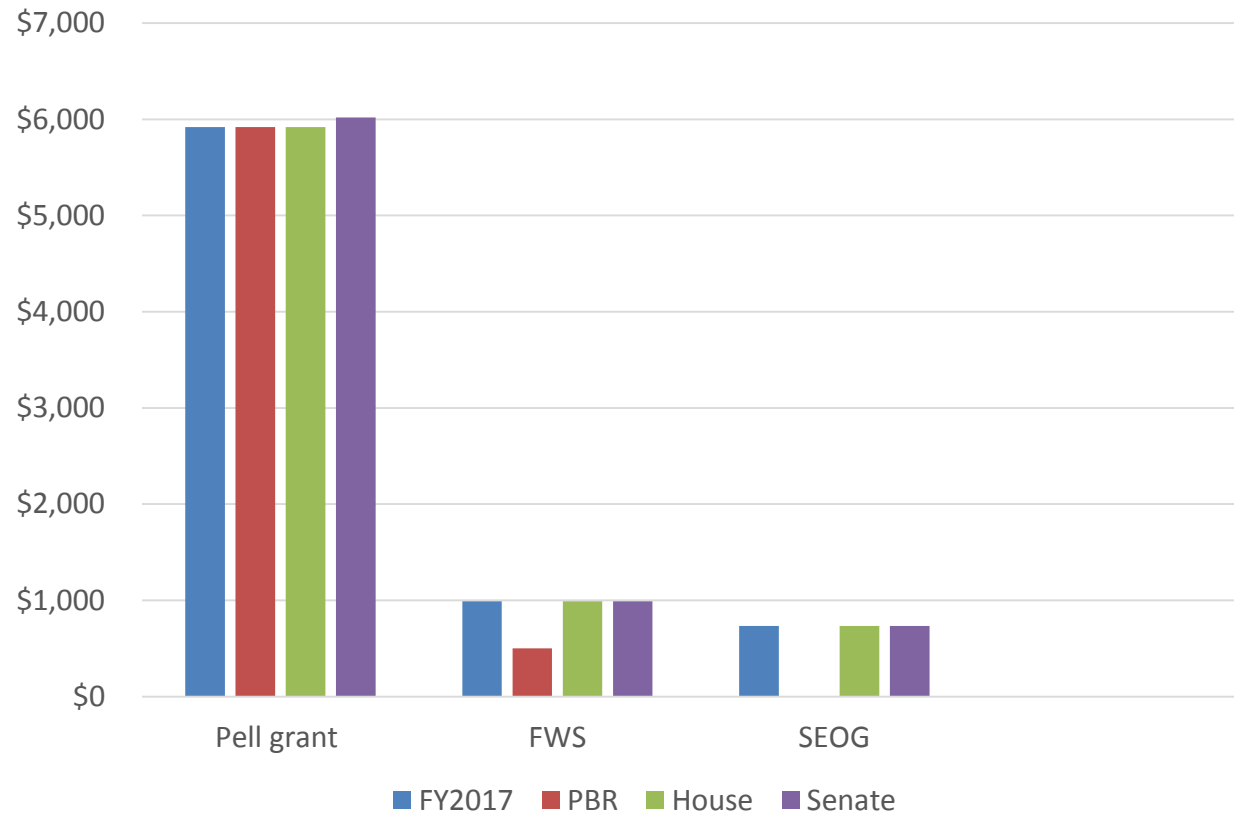
# Funding for Research



# Funding for Student Financial Aid

- 66% of UC Berkeley students receive financial aid
- 63% of undergraduates students graduated with no debt in the 2015-2016 school year
- Average cumulative debt for graduating seniors was \$18,789 (national average is \$37,172)
- 32% are eligible for Pell grants

# Funding for Student Financial Aid



# Immigration

- DACA and undocumented students
- Travel Ban 3.0
- H-1B visa additional scrutiny
- Changes to non-immigrant visas (H-1B, TN, F)
- STEM-OPT

# Immigration

Bill	# Cosponsors	Eligibility	Path to Citizenship?
DREAM Act	200 in House; 9 in Senate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All DACA, TPS</li><li>• In US 4 yrs</li></ul>	Yes (13 years)
RAC Act	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enter US before age 16</li><li>• In US before Jan 2012</li></ul>	Yes (10 years)
SUCCEED ACT	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enter US before age 16</li><li>• In US before June 15, 2012</li></ul>	Yes (15 yrs)

# Free Speech



# Free Speech

**“If U.C. Berkeley does not allow free speech and practices violence on innocent people with a different point of view – NO FEDERAL FUNDS?” -@realDonaldTrump on 2/2/2017**



# Free Speech

- Hearings
- Media
- Events

# Tax Reform

## Unified Framework for Fixing our Broken Tax Code

- Reduce corporate tax rate to 20%
- Consolidate individual tax rates into three brackets: 12%, 25% and 35%
- Double standard deduction to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples
- Eliminate most itemized deductions except for charitable giving and mortgage interest
- Will keep tax subsidies that “encourage work, higher education, and retirement security”

# Tax Reform

- Both chambers must approve a budget resolution to allow for party-line passage of tax reform
- In July, House Budget Committee passed a FY2018 budget resolution that provides deficit-neutral tax reform
- Senate Budget Committee is marking up a budget resolution this week, which will allow a net tax cut of **\$1.5 trillion** over a 10-year period
- Experts estimate that the tax reform outline would cost **\$2.2 trillion** over a 10-year period

# SVSH

- On September 22, Secretary DeVos announced that the Department of Education was rescinding the 2011 Obama Administration guidance on how campuses should respond to sexual harassment and violence
- Schools can choose standard of proof and appeals process
  - “Preponderance of evidence” vs. “clear and convincing”
  - Appeals offered to both parties vs. only respondent
- UC Berkeley will still use preponderance (as it has for decades) and provide both parties with right to appeal
- Trump Administration will formulate new guidance through rulemaking

# 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?**