

# Legislative Update

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## Congressional Leadership Updates

- Election for House Speaker – contentious first week of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress set the stage for another historic moment for the Speakership in October.
- Change in the House Speaker
  - On October 3, 2023, then Speaker McCarthy was voted out of his position.
  - The first time in history the House has removed its leader.
  - On October 25, 2023, Congressman Mike Johnson (LA-04) was elected as Speaker of the House.



**Speaker of the House Mike Johnson**



## A New NIH Director

### Senate Confirmation Process

- HELP Committee hearing on October 18, 2023, and vote on October 25, 2023.
  - Final Vote 15-6
  - Highlighted topics included prescription drug pricing and improving clinical trials.
- Full Senate Vote on November 7, 2023.
  - Final Vote 62-36
- On November 9, 2023, Dr. Bertagnolli took the helm as NIH Director, the second woman to hold the position.

**NIH**  
**Office of Legislative**  
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**Snapshot of Activities**

**Activities during the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress**

- 4 Hearings
- 15 Campus Visits
- 8 Roundtables
- 132 Briefings
- 550 Requests for Information

## Looking Forward – Upcoming Deadlines

- **December 31<sup>st</sup>** Expirations
  - Annual National Defense Reauthorization Act (\*moving through Congress this week).
- **January 19<sup>th</sup>** Expirations
  - Funding for Agriculture-FDA, Energy and Water, Military Construction-VA, and Transportation-HUD bills.
  - Health programs, including community health centers and pandemic preparedness authorities (including the Special Diabetes Program).
- **February 2<sup>nd</sup>** Expirations
  - Funding for Commerce-Justice-Science, Defense, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Interior-Environment, Labor-HHS-Education, Legislative Branch, and State-Foreign Operations bills.

## FY 2024 Appropriations

- On June 3, 2023, President Biden signed the **Fiscal Responsibility Act**.
  - For FY24, caps non-defense discretionary spending at \$703.65 billion.
  - Includes a mandate that if on April 30, 2024, any part of the government is funded by a CR, a mandated cut is applied to all government discretionary funding.
- On November 16, 2023, President Biden signed the second FY24 CR (**H.R. 6363**) into law.
  1. Provides funding for NIH through February 2, 2024.
- Congress must now negotiate a final FY24 package. Possible options include:
  1. A year-long CR
  2. Omnibus
  3. Minibus – this could either be multiple minibuses or a combination of minibuses and a CR
- The January 19, 2024, deadline will provide more insight into what might happen with NIH funding.

# Thank you