

Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet secured funding for key Colorado priorities, such as the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado, the Arkansas Valley Conduit, the Regional Transportation District (RTD), and implementation of the 9-8-8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline in the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) funding bills.

# Complete list of Colorado priorities included in the FY22 Omnibus:

### Water

- \$10.05 million for the Arkansas Valley Conduit, a \$2 million increase from FY21.
- \$740,000 for ongoing work on the Colorado River Water Quality Improvement project.
- \$10.22 billion to improve the nation's water infrastructure including:
  - \$8.3 billion for the U.S Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Civil Works Program to support water infrastructure, an increase of \$548 million above FY21.
  - \$1.92 billion for the Department of Interior, a \$233 million increase from FY21, including \$1.9 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), \$231 million above FY21.

# **Energy and Climate**

- \$3.8 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help Coloradans cover energy costs, a \$50 million increase from Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21).
- \$3.2 billion for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) to support vehicle technologies, hydrogen research and development, marine, wind, and solar energy, and weatherization assistance programs. This is a \$338 million increase above FY21. EERE is also a vital funding source within the Department of Energy (DOE) for National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).
- \$148 million for NREL's facilities and infrastructure budget, a \$18 million increase from FY21.

- \$450 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), an increase of \$23 million above FY21, which provides support for research aimed at rapidly developing high potential energy technologies.
- \$825 million for DOE's carbon management programs focused on difficult to decarbonize sectors like industry with technologies such as carbon capture and storage, hydrogen, and direct air capture (DAC), a \$75 million increase from FY21.
- **\$277 million** for advancing technologies to increase the resiliency and efficiency of the nation's electricity delivery system to allow for more clean energy on the energy grid, an increase of \$65.3 million over FY21.
- \$41.5 million for Assistance to Coal Communities through the Economic Development Administration (EDA), an increase of \$8 million from FY21.

# **Agriculture**

- \$904 million to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for Conservation Operations.
- \$1.63 billion for the Agricultural Research Service.
- \$101 million for infrastructure for watershed and flood prevention and watershed rehabilitation projects.
- \$78.3 million across USDA to address the impacts of climate change. These
  investments are aimed to tackle the climate crisis in farming and rural communities
  and include research to monitor, measure, and mitigate climate change, accelerate
  climate smart agriculture practices, reduce greenhouse gasses, and advance clean
  energy technologies.
- \$6.5 billion for the electric loan program, a \$1 billion increase from FY21, to help rural electric cooperatives transition their power plants to a clean energy source.
- **\$1.87 billion** for farm programs, which is \$44 million above FY21 levels. This funding will continue support for various farm, conservation, and emergency loan programs, and help American farmers and ranchers.
- **\$12.9 million** in loans and grants for the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) to help farmers and small businesses purchase renewable energy systems, such as solar arrays and anaerobic digesters.

#### **Public Lands and Forests**

- \$3.26 billion for National Park Service, \$142 million above FY21 levels
- \$149 million the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fund, an increase of \$20 million from FY21.
- \$525 million for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) to offset lost property tax revenue to counties with significant federal lands.
- **\$5.7 billion**, a 5.5 percent increase, for the Forest Service to improve forest restoration and fire risk reduction efforts and to increase year-round staffing to carry out this work.
  - \$2.45 billion for the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund.

- \$900 million to the Land and Water Conservation Fund
- The inclusion of a Government Accountability Office study on veteran careers in the outdoor recreation industry. Bennet co-led an amendment on this.
- \$28 million for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund, double its funding from FY21.

# **Transportation**

 Bennet, Senator John Hickenlooper, and Representative Ed Perlmutter secured language that requires the Department of Transportation to return the Regional Transportation District's \$28.9 million deposit to secure a federal loan to develop Denver's Union Station.

#### **Environment and Science**

- \$1.23 billion for EPA's Superfund program, an increase of \$27 million for cleanup at sites on the National Priorities List.
- **\$2.77 billion** for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, as part of the State and Tribal Assistance Grants.

# Early Childhood, K-12, and College Education

- \$440 million for the Charter School Program.
- \$11 billion for Head Start programs, an increase of \$289 million above the last fiscal year
- Increases the maximum Pell Grant award by \$400 (6.2%) to \$6,895 for the 2022-23 school year. This is the largest increase in the maximum Pell grant award since the 2009-10 school year, which each year helps approximately 7 million students pursue a postsecondary education.
- \$6.2 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, an increase of \$254 million above FY21 to help ensure families have access to high-quality, affordable care for their children.
- \$290 million for Preschool Development Grants, an increase of \$15 million above FY21.
- \$26.8 billion for Child Nutrition Programs, an increase of \$1.8 billion above the last fiscal year, including \$45 million for the Summer Electronic Benefit program and \$30 million for school equipment grants. This funding will ensure schools can continue to serve healthy meals.

# **Judiciary**

- \$500 million for the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization, in grants to law enforcement, housing authorities and others to address domestic and sexual violence.
- \$575 million, a 12 percent increase above FY21, the highest funding level ever, for grants provided by the Office on Violence Against Women.

- \$246 million for COPS hiring grants, which will place approximately 1,700 more police officers on the streets.
- **\$674.5** million for the Byrne-JAG program with \$382 million to support state, local, Tribal and territorial criminal justice systems.
- \$40 million in dedicated funding, an increase of \$5 million above FY21, for the COPS Community Policing Development program, including funding for de-escalation, implicit bias, and duty to intervene training (\$15 million) and crisis intervention teams in order to embed mental and behavioral health services with law enforcement (\$10 million)

#### Health

- \$45 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an increase of \$2.25 billion above FY21, including \$6.9 billion of the National Cancer Institute, \$3.2 billion for Alzheimer's diseases and related dementias, \$12.5 million for firearm injury and mortality prevention research, and \$75 million for the INCLUDE Down syndrome research initiative
- \$6.5 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), including \$101.6 million for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, an increase of \$77.6 million from FY21 to support 9-8-8 implementation, \$38.8 for youth suicide prevention grants, and \$10 million to health create mobile behavioral health crisis response teams
- Extends telehealth flexibilities from COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) through 151 days after the end of the PHE.

#### Defense

- Supports a 2.7 percent pay raise for all 2.1 million uniformed U.S. service members and approximately 750,000 civilian Defense Department employees.
- Provides \$397 million above the President's request for basic allowances for housing and subsistence to address rising housing and food prices.
- \$167 million to ensure all DoD personnel earn at least \$15 per hour.
- \$516 million for school construction and \$24.2 million for child care fee assistance.

#### Space

- \$24 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which includes \$137 million for NASA's STEM Engagement education initiatives.
- \$10 million for university constoria space technology Research and Development.

#### **Veterans**

- \$97.5 billion, an 8.7 percent increase, for VA Medical Care to provide essential health services for 9.2 million veterans, including funds for rural health programs, veterans' homelessness prevention, and mental health.
- \$13.2 billion for mental health care, providing treatment and support for the nearly 2 million veterans who receive mental health services through VA, including \$598 million to fund suicide prevention outreach, and \$840.4 million specifically for women's health care and programs.

# **Immigration and New Americans**

- \$3.9 billion in new funding for the Unaccompanied Children program
- \$871 million, an increase of \$310 million from FY21, to provide financial, medical, and other support services to newly arrived refugees
- \$14.8 billion for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, including \$30 million for body cameras and video recording equipment, \$30 million for processing improvements, \$10 million for Port of Entry Technology
- New authority and direction for the Secretary of State to use the funding in this legislation to eliminate processing backlogs and expedite the adjudication of Afghan Special Immigrant (SIV) cases

# Housing

- \$280 million for 32,800 new housing vouchers, in addition to providing resources to preserve rental assistance to serve more than 5 million low-income households.
- \$1.5 billion for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program an increase of \$150 million from FY21 to support construction of more than 10,000 affordable homebuyer and rental units and rehabilitation of more than 4,000 owner-occupied homes.