



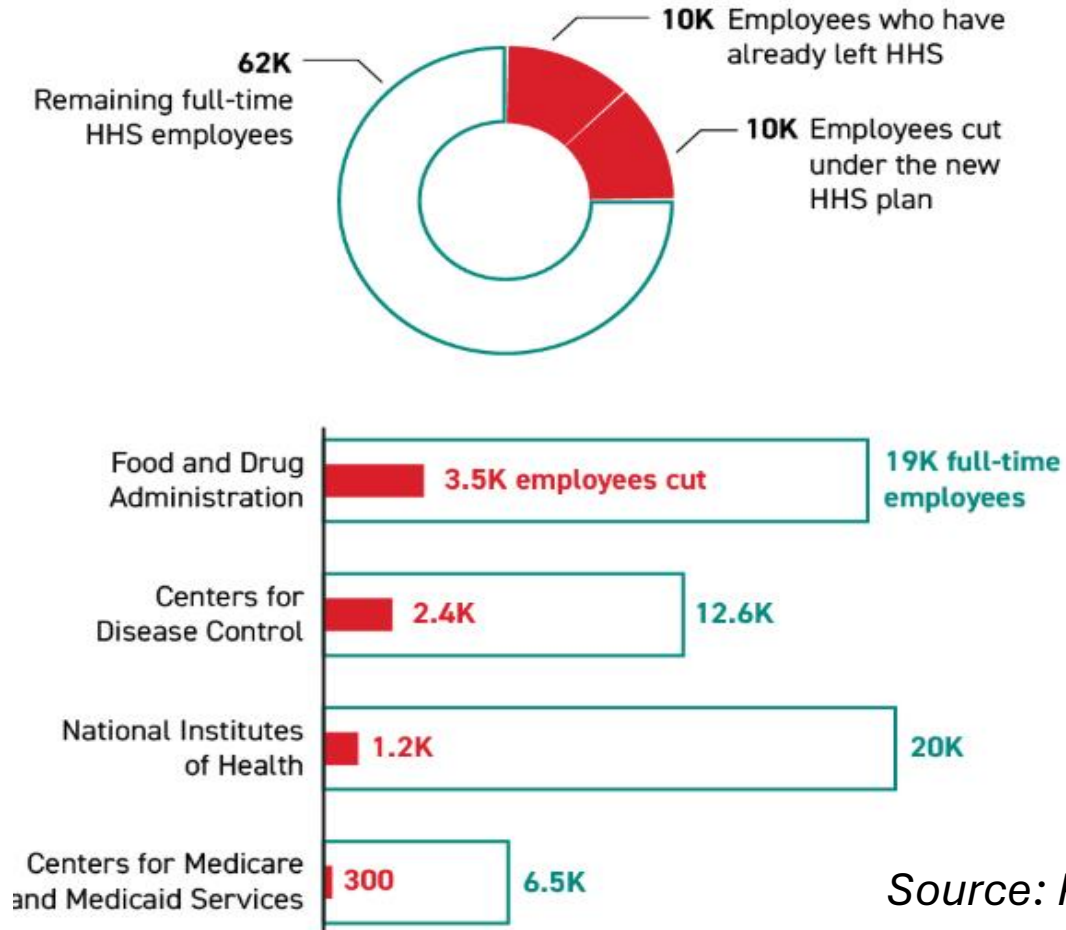
FIRST 100 DAYS

NACo Webinar Series | Week 10

April 3, 2025

First 100 Days

Recent Executive Action: HHS Job Cuts and Restructuring



HHS plans to reduce its overall size to about 62,000 full-time workers, down from 82,000. The FDA will lose 3,500 employees. The Agency also plans to cut 5 of 10 regional offices around the country.

Source: Politico

Recent Executive Action: COVID Funds to Local Health Departments

- **CDC and HHS** announced that it was rescinding \$11.4 billion in funds to states, cities and organizations receiving grants for COVID-19 efforts.
- **County Behavioral Health** – The Mental Health and Substance Use and Prevention Block Grants allocated \$1.5 billion in ARPA grants with the deadline to expend funds of September 30, 2025.
 - Counties may use block grant dollars to provide a range of services for adults and children with serious mental illnesses
- **Pandemic Research** - More than two dozen COVID-related research grants funded by the National Institutes of Health have been canceled

Recent Executive Action: HHS revokes the public comment period

- HHS has rescinded a longstanding policy that required public comment periods for certain rulemakings
- HHS agencies are no longer obligated to provide public notice and seek comments before finalizing regulations in these areas, unless otherwise required by law.
- The department argues that the previous policy imposed unnecessary procedural burdens and hindered efficient operations.
- Provides HHS with greater flexibility to implement policies without the delays associated with public comment periods.

This may impact federal programs, like Medicaid, at the federal and state levels, impacting counties

Recent Executive Action: Election Executive Order

- **Proof of Citizenship Requirement:** The order seeks to mandate that individuals provide documentary proof of citizenship when registering to vote in federal elections
- **Ballot Submission Deadline:** Proposes that all ballots must now be received by Election Day to be counted. This change seeks to standardize the ballot submission timeline across all states.
- **Conditional Federal Election Funding:** The EO wants states to take "reasonable steps" to secure their election processes. Failure to comply may result in a reduction of federal election funding, incentivizing states to adhere to the new federal standards.
- **Utilization of Homeland Security Data:** DHS is directed to use its data to identify and remove non-citizens from State voter rolls, aiming to enhance the accuracy and integrity of voter registration lists. Other federal databases, such as the Social Security Number Verification System, would be made available to state and local election officials
- **Voting System Guidelines:** The EO requires the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to update voluntary voting system guidelines to require voter-verifiable paper records for each ballot. A majority of states require adherence to these guidelines, although most states already use voting systems with paper audit trails.

Recent Executive Action: Election Executive Order

- **Implementation of New Requirements:** Legal challenges are a certainty.
- **County Registration Process:** Counties will need to adjust their voter registration processes to comply with the proof of citizenship mandate, necessitating updates to training programs for election staff and volunteers.
- **Resource Allocation:** The mandate to maintain accurate voter rolls and enhance election security may require additional funding and resources. Counties will need to assess their budgets and seek potential federal assistance to meet these new demands.
- **Standardization Efforts:** Aligning with standardized voting procedures will require counties to review and possibly revise their current practices to ensure consistency with federal guidelines.
- **Collaboration with Federal Agencies:** Increased federal oversight means counties will need to work closely with federal entities to implement these changes, ensuring compliance and leveraging available support.

Recent Executive Action: Treasury Announces Next Steps for ARPA

- Treasury announced it will begin enhanced compliance checks on obligation data
- Treasury intends to recoup funds obligated or expend impermissibly and recapture funds that were not obligated by the Dec. 31, 2024 deadline
- Notes of “Financial Instructions to Return Unobligated Funds” will be sent to counties that did not award funds by Dec. 31, 2024 deadline:
 - Inform county how much it owes
 - Provide a deadline to pay back Treasury
 - Requires the county to use Pay.gov to process repayments
- **If your county has received a notice of noncompliance for your Project and Expenditure Report, notify NACo immediately.**



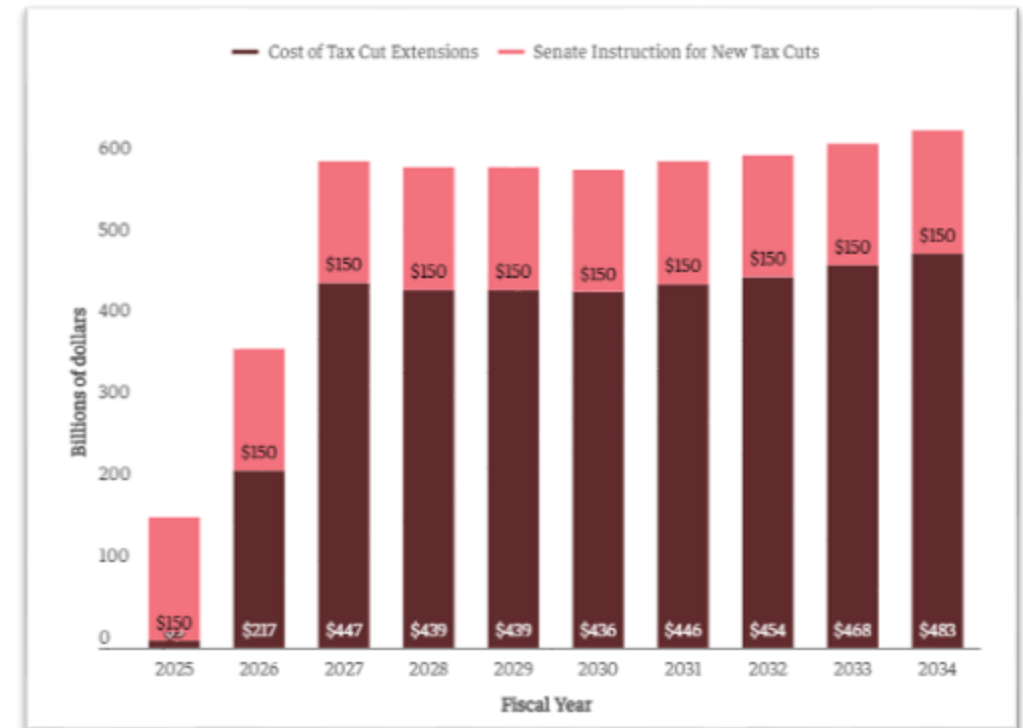
Click here for Treasury's self-service resources

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Congress: Reconciliation Update From the Senate

- April 2 – Senate introduced amended budget resolution
- Allows for up to \$2 trillion in deficit increase over 10 years **BUT** uses “current policy” baseline, so real deficit is up to \$5.7 trillion deficit increase – *Tax cuts amount to \$5.3 trillion*
 - \$1.5 trillion is for Senate Finance Committee for **NEW** tax cuts
- “Current policy” baseline assumes that expiring 2017 TCJA are extended in perpetuity and therefore is \$0
 - HOWEVER, permanent extension costs \$3.7 trillion without “current policy: baseline
- Increase borrowing limit to \$5 trillion

Extending Tax Cuts and Expanding On Them Costs \$5 Trillion-Plus



First 100 Days



Congress: Reconciliation Update From the Senate

Other Provisions

- \$150 billion in new defense funding
- \$175 for border security and immigration enforcement
- \$20 billion for Coast Guard

What's Next?

- Majority Leader Thuen offers a motion to proceed
- 50 hours of debate
- Vote-a-rama – any amendment can be offered
- House takes up budget next week before 2 week April recess
- *President Trump released a statement declaring his support for the Senate budget resolution*

The House needs to approve any Senate alterations to finally unlock the process of budget reconciliation and allow lawmakers to start drafting the actual legislation.

First 100 Days



Recapping 10 Weeks of High-Impact Executive and Congressional Policy Shifts

- FEMA Elimination
- NFIP – Flood Insurance
- PILT Program
- SRS Program
- "Sanctuary Jurisdictions"
- IRA Funding
- COVID-19 Grants
- Medicaid Cuts
- TANF Block Grant
- Social Services BG
- Federal Workforce Reductions
- Deregulation Initiatives
- DOGE
- Municipal Bonds
- SLFRF Compliance
- SNAP Cuts
- Farm Bill Uncertainty
- Highway Reauthorization



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