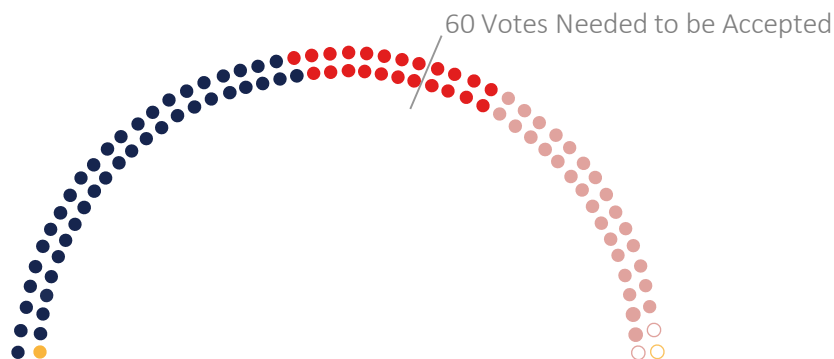


Senate Advances \$1.1 Billion Compromise in Zika Funding

How the Senate Voted to Invoke Cloture on Blunt Amdt. No. 3900 (Which Would Provide \$1.1 Billion to Combat the Zika Virus)



	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Republicans	23	29	2
Democrats	44	0	0
Independents	1	0	1
Total	68	29	3

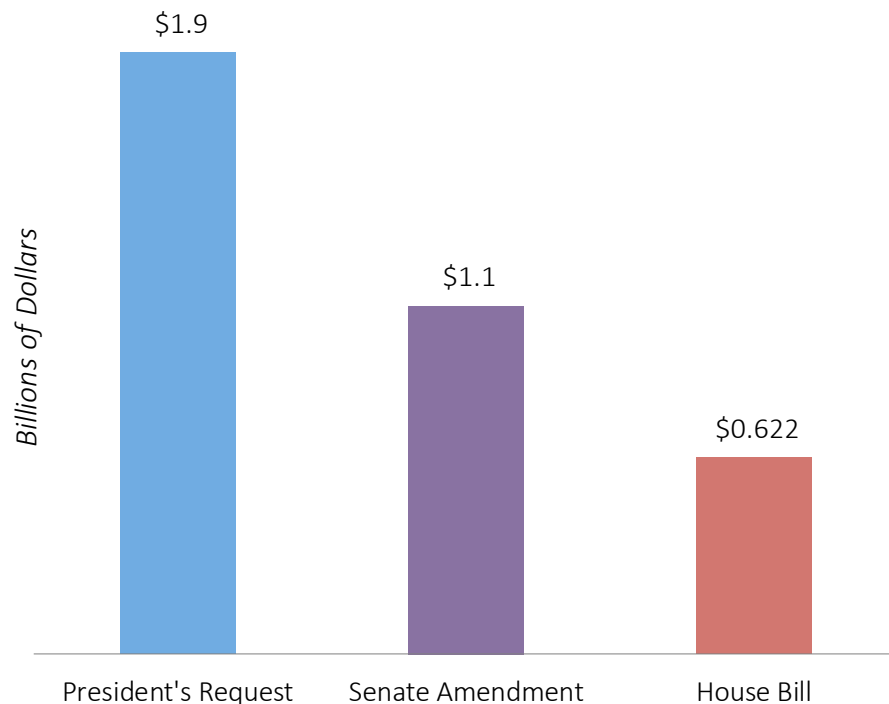
Analysis

- The Senate voted on a \$1.1 billion bipartisan measure to combat the Zika virus, representing a decrease from the president's request of \$1.9 billion, but an increase from the \$622 million the House GOP is considering.
- A number of Senate Republicans, particularly from Southern states that face the most immediate threat from Zika virus, strongly supported government action.
- The cloture vote propelled the Blunt Amendment over a filibuster, setting the stage for the measure to be attached to an unrelated spending bill.
- The Senate amendment is classified as emergency funding and includes about \$850 million for HHS to fight Zika domestically, and \$250 million for efforts abroad
- Even with this action, it is unclear whether the funding will go through, because House Republicans are proposing far less money and demanding it be fully paid for by budget offsets; the WH has threatened to veto the House's proposal if it reaches his desk

Sources: Shefali Luthra, "A Primer: How the Fight Against Zika Might Be Funded," Kaiser Health News, May 17, 2106; David M. Herszenhorn, "Senate Votes to Advance Emergency Funding to Fight Zika Virus," New York Times, May 17, 2106; Senate Roll Call Votes, Senate.gov, May 2016.

White House Asked for \$1.9 Billion to Combat Zika, Senate Compromises at \$1.1 Billion, House Puts forth \$622 Million

Amount to Combat the Zika Virus Proposed by the President's Office, Senate and House of Representatives, in Billions of Dollars



Analysis

- In February, the Obama administration requested \$1.9 billion to battle the Zika virus.
- The Senate settled on a \$1.1 billion amendment, to be added to an unrelated spending bill, as a compromise to the administration's request.
- House Republicans are expected to vote on a stand-alone bill that would give \$622 million, reallocated from other programs, to fight the Zika virus.
- The White House threatened to veto the House measure, deeming it "woefully insufficient given the significant risk that is posed by Zika," according to White House press secretary Josh Earnest.
- The Senate measure would finance the battle against Zika through September 30, 2017, while the House measure was designed to run only until September 30 of this year.

Sources: Shefali Luthra, "A Primer: How the Fight Against Zika Might Be Funded," Kaiser Health News, May 17, 2106; David M. Herszenhorn, "Senate Votes to Advance Emergency Funding to Fight Zika Virus," New York Times, May 17, 2106.