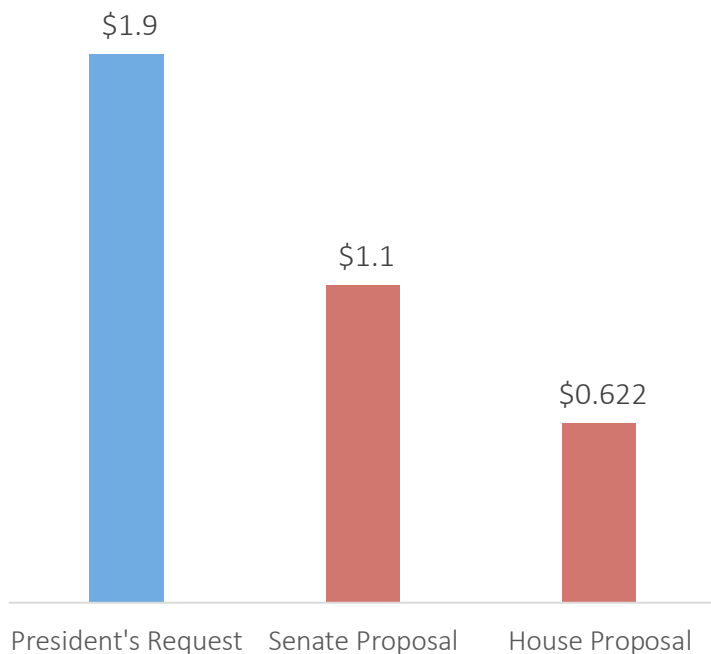


Zika Conference Begins; Lawmakers Divided Over Funding Levels and Offsets for Federal Zika Response

Funding Levels for Zika Response Proposals

Billions of Dollars



Debate over Funding Levels and Spending Offsets

- House Republicans, a group that includes some of the most fiscally hawkish members on the Hill, stand by offsetting the money they plan to allocate for the Zika response
- Their \$622 million proposal siphons money from leftover Ebola funds and other programs to fund Zika through the end of FY16, and plan to offer more money in next year's appropriations package
- The Senate's \$1.1 billion proposal is not offset
- Meanwhile, some Democrats in both chambers still want to honor the full White House request of \$1.9 billion

First Conference Committee Meeting

- The first meeting of the Zika conference committee took place on Wednesday, June 15 and lasted roughly 15 minutes
- This initial meeting was intended to kick start negotiations; the theme of timeliness and rapid-response was a focus of the meeting as the summer mosquito season approaches

What's Next

- Congress's nearly two-month-long Summer recess looms over the Conference, as lawmakers look to reach a decision on the Zika response by the end of June
- It is unclear how much either side will be willing to compromise, however lawmakers were reportedly optimistic about striking a deal

Source: Nora Kelly, "Will Congress Reach an Agreement on Zika?" *The Atlantic*, June 16, 2016.

Zika Conference Begins; Conferees Have Major Appropriations Experience

House and Senate Conferees on Zika Virus

House Conferees



Chairman, Appropriations
Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY)



Ranking Member, Appropriations
Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)

Republicans:

- Rep. Hal Rogers (R-KY)
- Rep. Cole
- Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)
- Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA)
- Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)
- Rep. Tom Rooney (R-FL)
- Rep. David Valadao (R-CA)
- Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL)

**among others*

Democrats:

- Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)
- Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY)
- Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
- Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)
- Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)

Senate Conferees



Sen. Maj. Leader Mitch
McConnell (R-KY)



Sen. Min. Leader
Harry Reid (D-NV)

Republicans :

- Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
- Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)
- Sen. Mark Kirk (R-IL)
- Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
- Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND)
- Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
- Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
- Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)
- Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO)
- Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)

Democrats:

- Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV)
- Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT)
- Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)
- Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)
- Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI)
- Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
- Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT)
- Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)
- Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

Sources: National Journal Almanac, 2016; Mary Ellen McIntire, "Senate Appropriators Named to Zika Conference," Morning Consult, June 9, 2016; Mary Ellen McIntire, "House Votes to Conference With Senate on Zika Funding," Morning Consult, May 26, 2016;