



ASHT VIRTUAL CAPITOL HILL DAY 2019

Thursday, October 3rd
SOCIAL MEDIA DAY  



Issue Brief **Action Alert #2**

Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Process

While Congress recently took action to avoid a government shutdown, Congressional Democrats and Republicans have until November 21st to reach agreement on a long-term spending plan for fiscal year 2020 before the current continuing resolution expires.

Appropriators in the House and Senate have been busy working throughout the year on their respective Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education funding bills. Both the House-passed bill and the Senate-released report offers reason for optimism. Together, the bills support key areas of interest for ASHT members, including critical investments in rehabilitation research, assistive technology and alternative treatments to opioids for pain management. More specifically, the bills include:

- 🔗 Recommendations to bolster research and increase funding of up to \$21.6 million for the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) over FY19 levels.
- 🔗 Important research prioritization authorities that would allow the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director to transfer funds for activities related to pain management.
- 🔗 Directives to explore the full range of non-opioid alternatives for pain management, including chronic pain therapies like rehabilitation.
- 🔗 As negotiations continue, ASHT is calling on Congress to complete its work and support the investments advanced in the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (L-HHS) funding bills in its final package for FY 2020.

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Step 1 Starting Your Tweet

For help finding your congressperson's Twitter handle, use these helpful links!

- 🔗 To **find who your congressperson is**, go to: www.govtrack.us/congress/members
- 🔗 Handles for all **U.S. Senators**: twitter.com/cspan/lists/senators/members
- 🔗 Handles for all **U.S. Representatives**: twitter.com/cspan/lists/u-s-representatives

Step 2 Constructing Your Tweet

Make your tweet is personal. Share a story and let Congress know why these issues are important to you.

Facebook:

Funding rehabilitation research is critical to developing breakthroughs in therapy that can help maximize function for individuals with injuries and disabilities. Hand therapists harness the power of research to prevent and treat hand and upper extremity impairments. Support increased funding for the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) today by reaching out to your Senators and Representative.

Twitter:

Hand therapists rely on research to help prevent and treat hand and upper extremity impairments. Please support increased funding for National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) for FY2020. **#HandTherapists** [[@LegislatorHandle](#)]

Step 3 Choosing Another Platform

The more the merrier! Share with Congress on Facebook why these issues matter to you!

Hashtags to Use:

- 🔗 **#ASHTVirtualHillDay2019**
- 🔗 **#HandTherapists**