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House Appropriations Committee Passes 2019 Labor, Health, Education Spending Bill

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The House Appropriations Committee late Wednesday approved its 2019 spending bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.

The vote marked a critical step forward as lawmakers race to get all 12 appropriations bills through the full Congress before the next government funding deadline at the end of September.

"This bill funds critical programs that will protect and save lives both now and in the future, and help prepare the next generation to be part of a productive workforce to grow our economy and provide for their families," said Committee Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen, New Jersey Republican.

The committee approved the bill on a 30-22 vote.

The bill's overall spending level of about \$177 billion is essentially the same as the current year, though it does include a \$1.25 billion boost for the National Institutes of Health, to about \$38 billion.

House and Senate appropriators are pressing forward on their 2019 spending bills in hopes of avoiding a repeat of this past year, when they kept the government running on a series of short-term bills before passing a massive \$1.3 trillion "omnibus" bill in March that funds the government through September.

Source: <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jul/11/house-appropriations-committee-passes-spending-bill/>

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