

Legislative Update 2019

Michael Beer

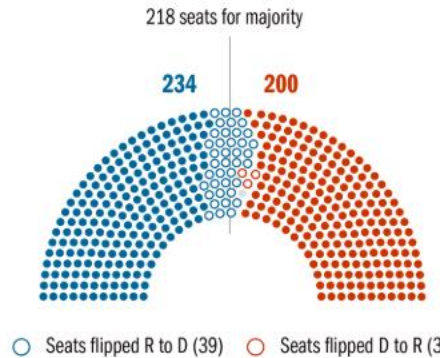


Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging



The 116th Congress and the President

116TH CONGRESS 2019-2020



116th Congress 2019-2020

U.S. House of Representatives

235 Democratic members

197 Republican members

United States Senate

45 Democratic members

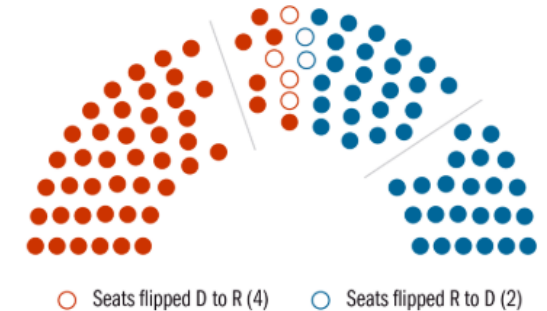
2 Independent members

53 Republican members

116TH CONGRESS: SENATE

- Republicans hold a 53/47 floor majority

*TWO SEATS HELD BY INDEPENDENTS WHO CAUCUS WITH DEMOCRATS



Obviously the leadership of the House changed in January. Obviously, Ohio's Democratic House Members became more influential – none of whom changed from the previous Congress. More generally in the state, the delegation stayed relatively unchanged with the exception of Rep. Anthony Gonzalez (Republican) replacing Rep. Jim Renacci.



Congress & the Budget

After the 2018 elections, 2019 has been a year of divided government. While a Republican President, Republican Senate, and Democratic House of Representatives has made for an interesting year, most seniors issues are part of the budget process and have not been an issue for debate in 2019.

Congress operates on a Fiscal Year that begins October 1st. Usual budget process is

- State of the Union – late January

- President submits budget February

- Budget framework approved in April/May time frame

- 12 separate appropriations bills approved by October 1st.

Last year's bill (Fiscal Year 2019) wasn't approved until February 15, 2019 after a lengthy partial shutdown. It largely resembled FY 2018 bill and was completely a product of Congress.

Congress was facing the prospect of “Sequester” automatic cuts if they didn't agree to a budget agreement before year-end. Congress approved a budget agreement right before August recess.



2019 Budget

Despite the fits and starts of last year's budget process (including significant cuts proposed by the President, the FY2018 and FY2019 budget process was very stable for seniors programs).

Of the 28 line items tracked by the National Council on Aging:

17 received stable funding in FY18 and FY19



9 received increased funding

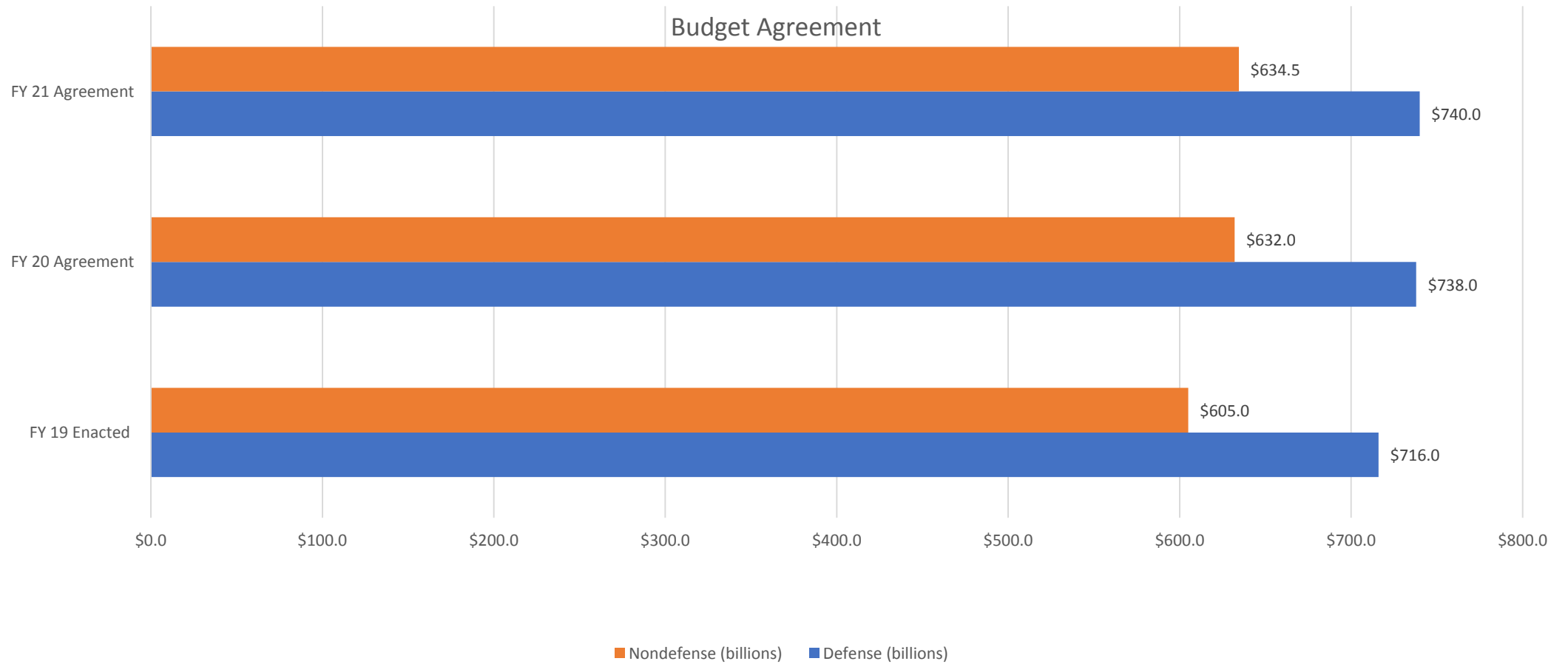


2 received small decreases

Budget Agreement

	Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021
Defense Base	647.000	666.500	671.500
Defense OCO	69.0	71.500	69.000
Defense subtotal	716.000	738.000	740.500
Nondefense Base	597.000	621.500	626.500
Census Adj.	--	2.500	0
Nondefense base plus adjustments	597.000	624.000	626.500
Nondefense OCO	8.0	8.000	8.000
Nondefense subtotal	605.000	632.000	634.500
Total	1,321.000	1,370.000	1,375.000

Budget Agreement



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Budget Agreement

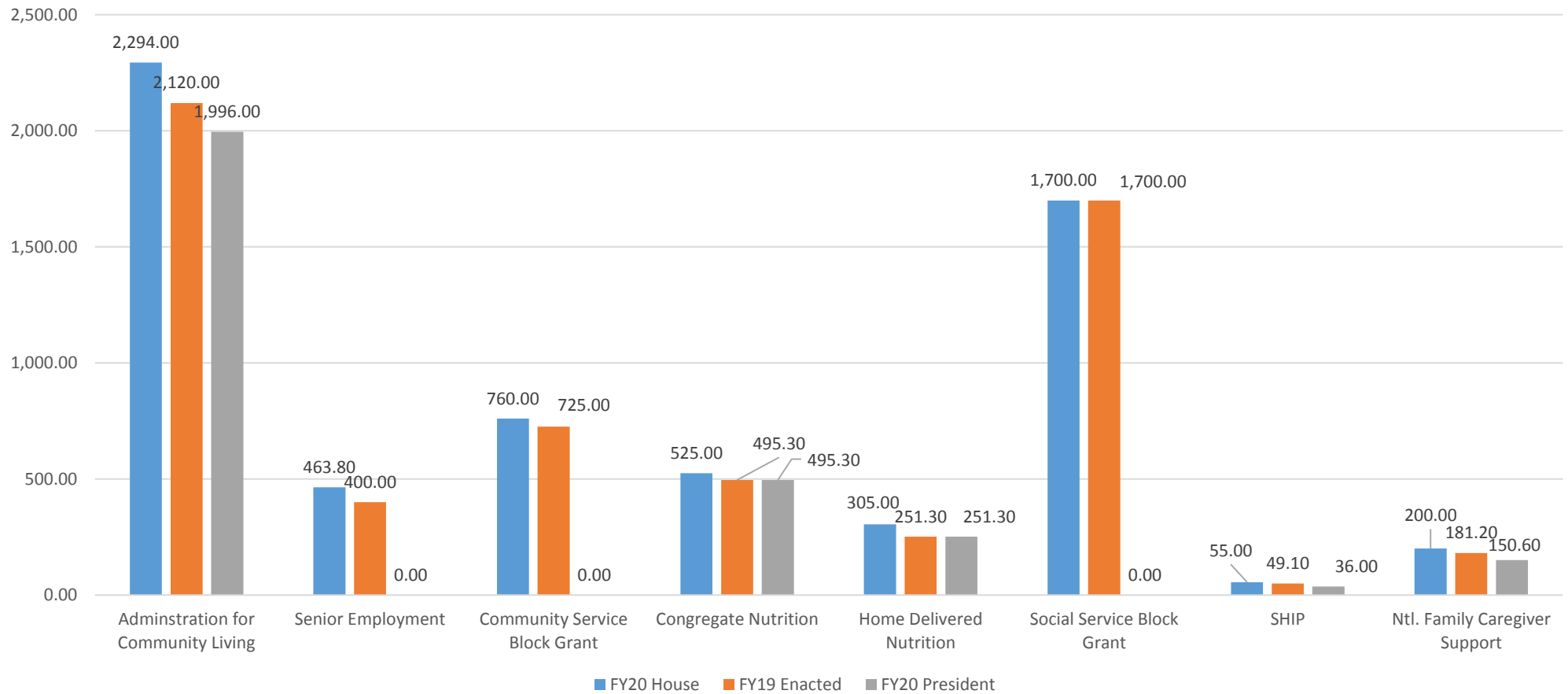
The budget deal provides significant stability to the annual budget/appropriations process and provides enough top-line funding to be able to adequately fund senior programs.

Importantly it removes the possibility of sequester and significantly de-risks the likelihood of an extended budget shutdown or the possibility of a credit default or downgrade.

Non-defense funding will grow \$27B this year (and stay roughly steady in FY21).

FY 20 Budget

Selected Seniors Programs



A vertical graphic on the left side of the slide featuring the stars and stripes of the United States flag.

Congress

Despite media focus on the President – Congress is key – you can have an impact with individual Members

Despite focus on President's budget, seniors funding has been stable in recent years.

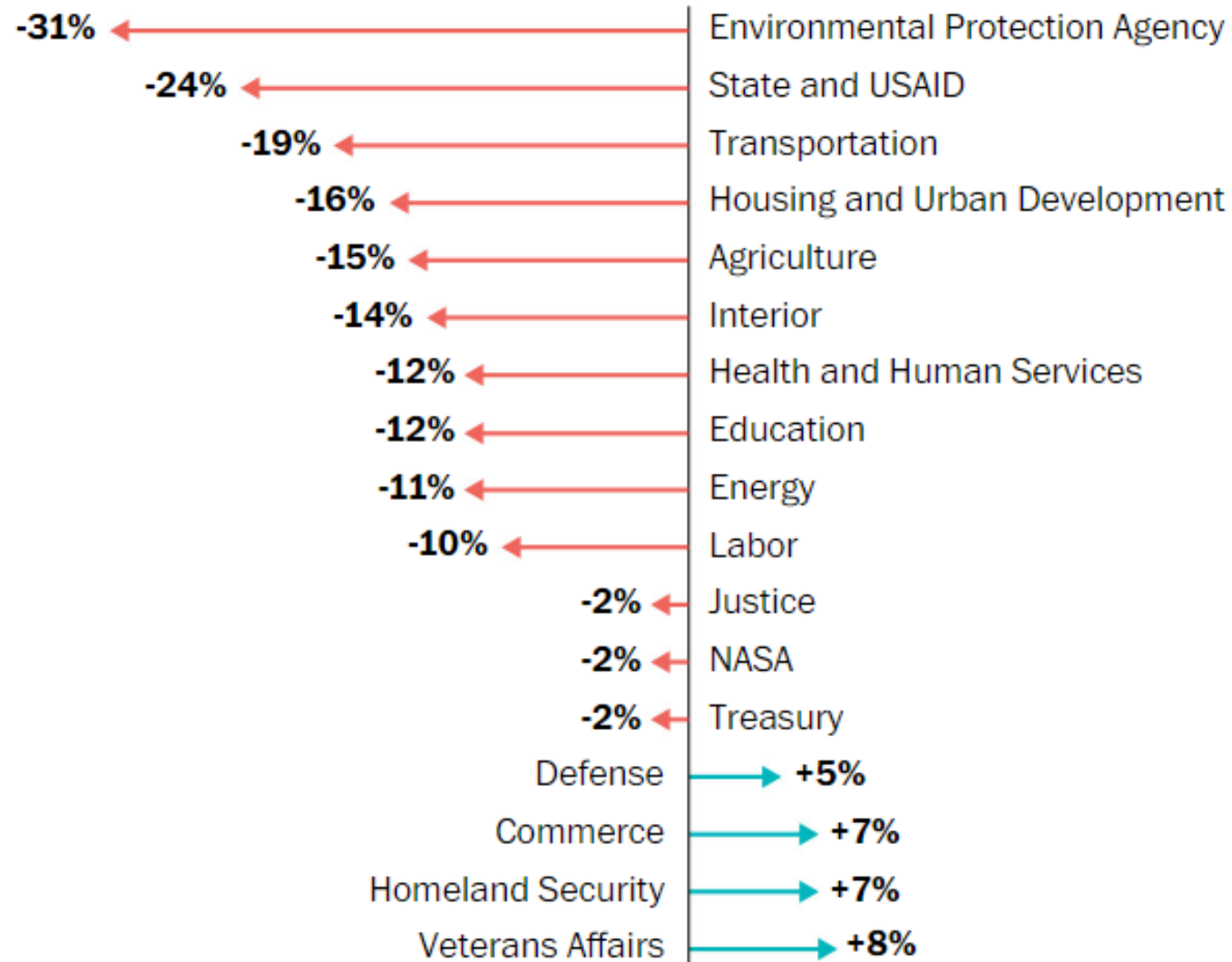
The budget process is surprisingly bipartisan!

Seniors are important constituents

You're in their backyard; You vote – the seniors you serve vote!

Budget 2020

Proposed changes to funding in Trump's budget



A vertical graphic of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, positioned on the left side of the slide.

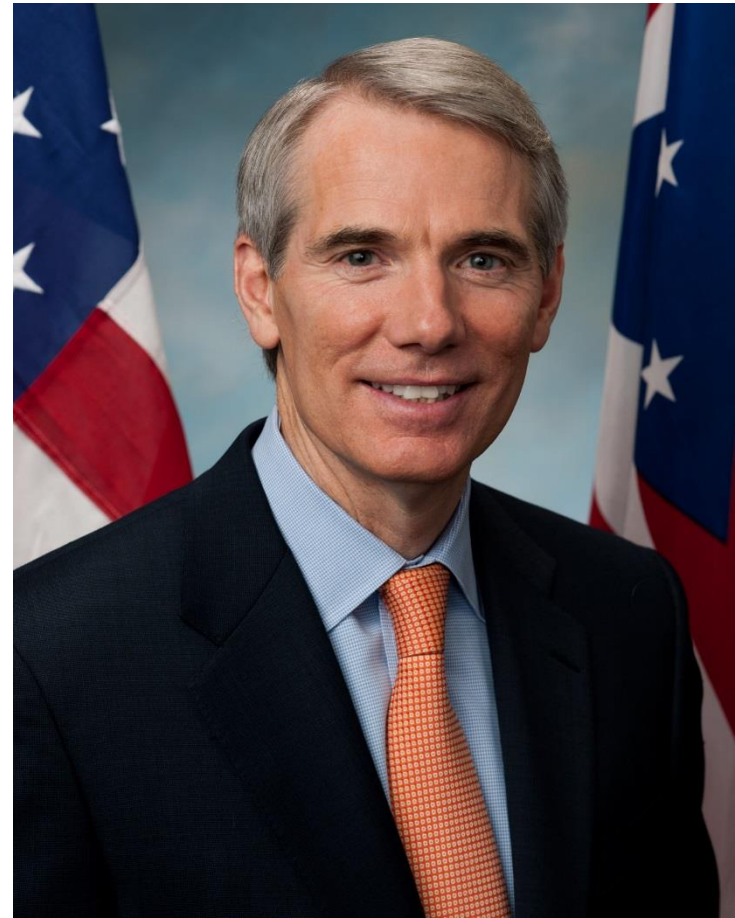
Lobbying in 2019 and beyond

- Ohio is important to both Republicans and Democrats
- Presidential budgets are less important than Congress
- Assume starting position is uninformed – don't take for granted. Use examples!
- FY20 will set the stage for FY21
- DEMONSTRATE goodness and importance
- Don't get off-message or angry (they get plenty of that)
- INVITE
- Isolate senior opportunities – your job is not to save the Republic, it is to save, strengthen, improve the things you care about
- Older Americans Act reauthorization TBD

Ohio Delegation



Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH)

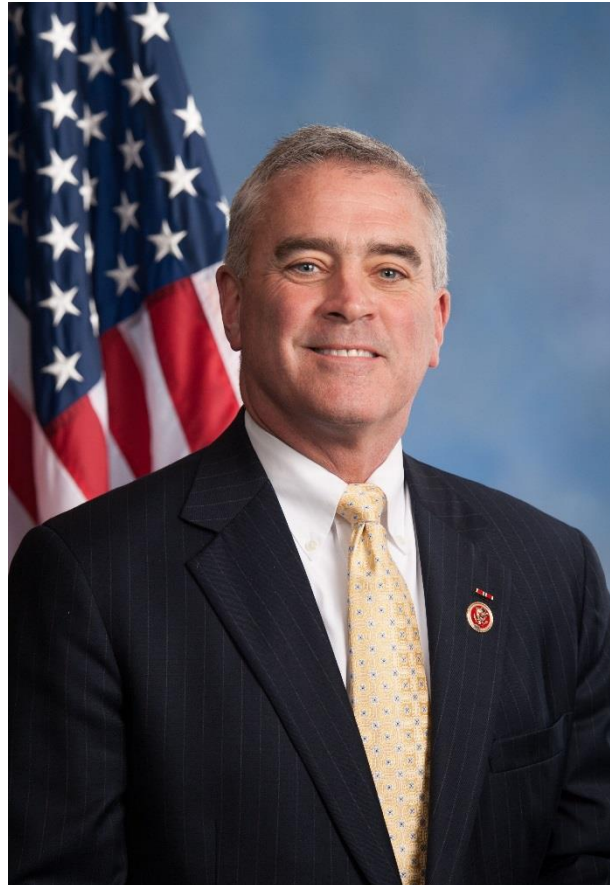


Senator Rob Portman (R-OH)

Ohio Delegation



Rep. Steve Chabot (R)



Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R)

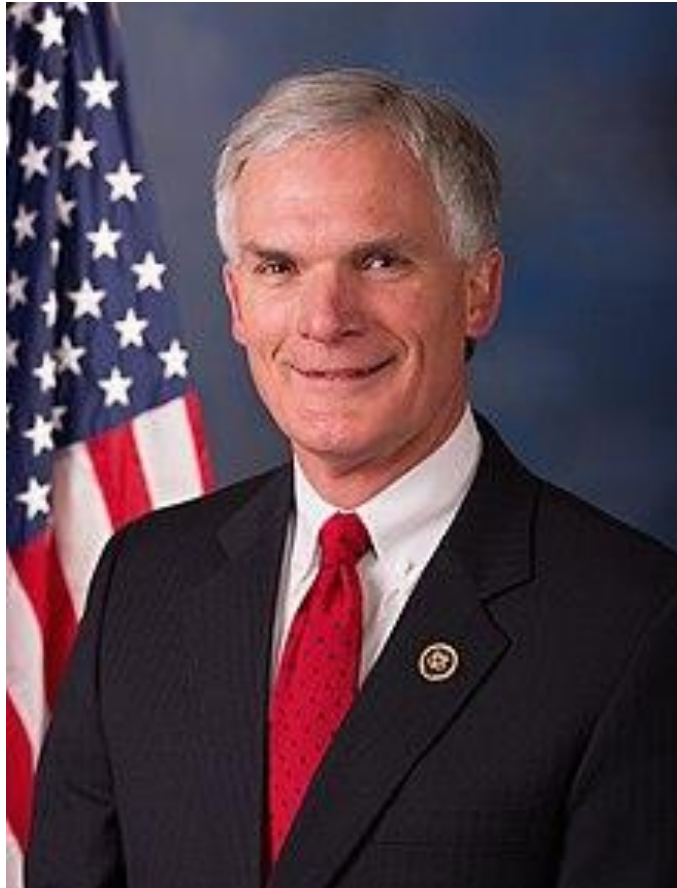


Rep. Joyce Beatty (D)

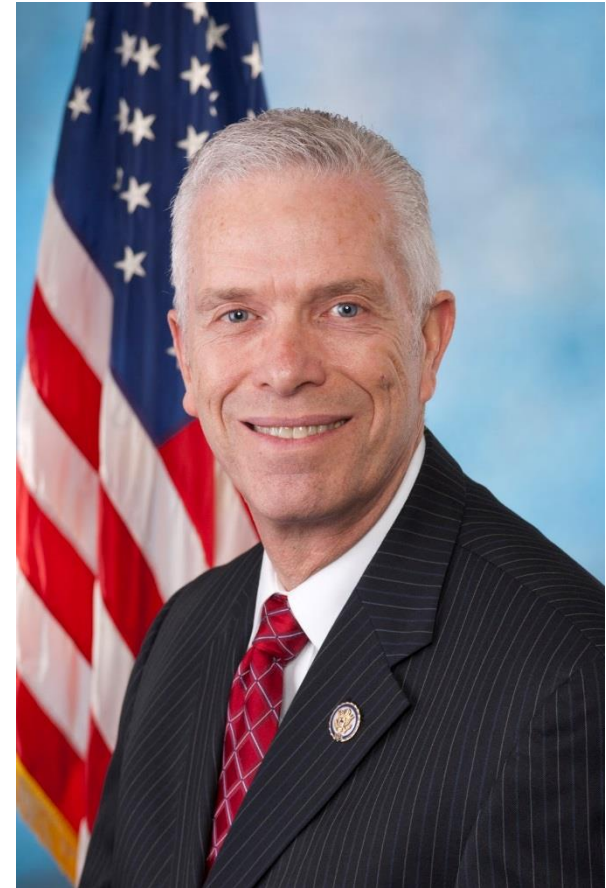
Ohio Delegation



Rep. Jim Jordan (R)

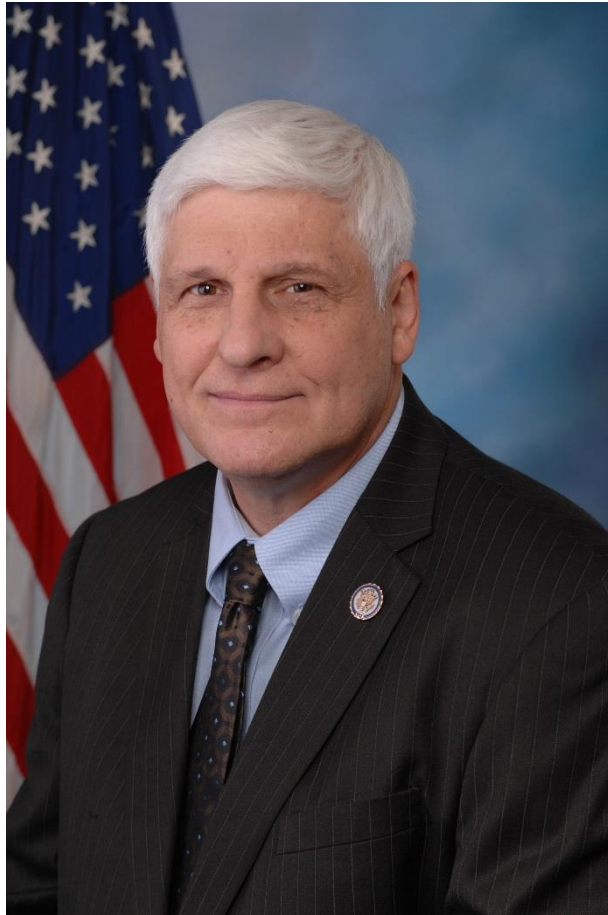


Rep. Bob Latta (R)



Rep. Bill Johnson (R)

Ohio Delegation



Rep. Bob Gibbs (R)



Rep. Warren Davidson (R)



Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D)

Ohio Delegation



Rep. Mike Turner (R)



Rep. Marcia Fudge (D)



Rep. Troy Balderson (R)

Ohio Delegation



Rep. Tim Ryan (D)



Rep. Dave Joyce (R)



Rep. Steve Stivers (R)



Rep. Anthony Gonzalez (R)

Questions?



Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging

