



Government Affairs Update

June 25, 2025

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Outline

- APLU's Overall Approach
- Reconciliation
- Appropriations
- Immigration
- Discussion





APLU's Overall Approach





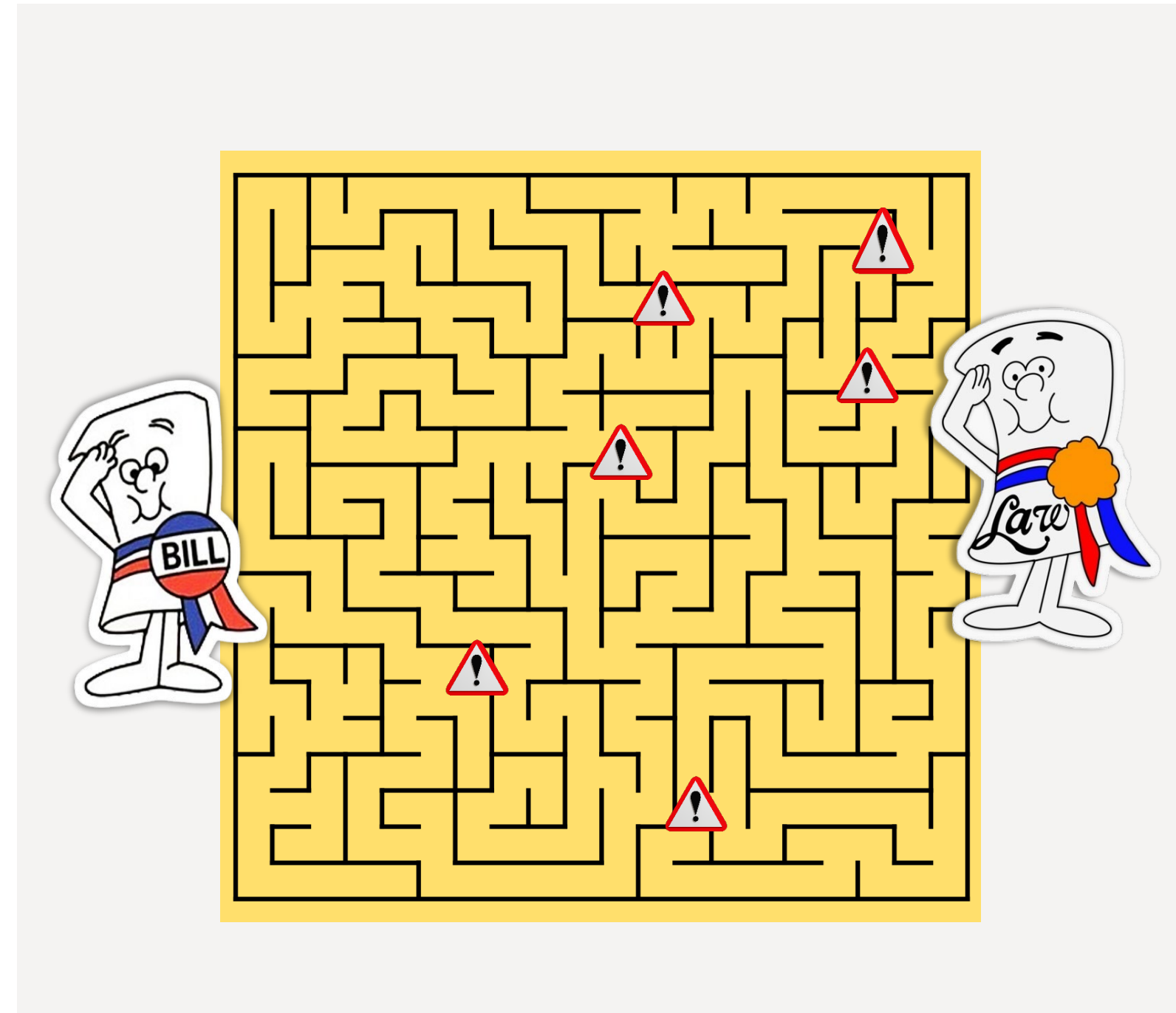
Reconciliation



Scan or visit the URL below to access
APLU's advocacy resources

<https://linktr.ee/aplugovaffairs2025>

Where it Stands



Senate Process



“BYRD BATH”



Illustration by Luis Mazon for The New York Times

- GOP Caucus Competing Factions



Byrd Rule/Role of
Parliamentarian

Education & Workforce/HELP Committee

Provisions of Greatest Direct Impact on Public Research Universities

A dark green square with a yellow horizontal bar at the bottom. The background features faint icons of a graduation cap, a dollar sign, and a gear. The text "Pell Grants" is centered in white.

**Pell
Grants**

A dark green square with a yellow horizontal bar at the bottom. The background features faint icons of a graduation cap, a dollar sign, and a gear. The text "Student Loans" is centered in white.

**Student
Loans**

A dark green square with a yellow horizontal bar at the bottom. The background features faint icons of a graduation cap, a dollar sign, a gear, and a building. The text "Accountability 'Risk Sharing'" is centered in white.

**Accountability
"Risk Sharing"**



Sections

Los Angeles Times

USC peddled inferior online social work grad program to use as 'cash cow,' lawsuit alleges

SUBSCRIBE LOG IN

WSJ Barron's MarketWatch IBD GET WSJ+

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Buy Side from WSJ

SIGN IN SUBSCRIBE

STUDENT LOANS

The Real Student Loan Crisis Isn't From Undergraduate Degrees

Misled by a bad law, graduate students are drowning in debt.

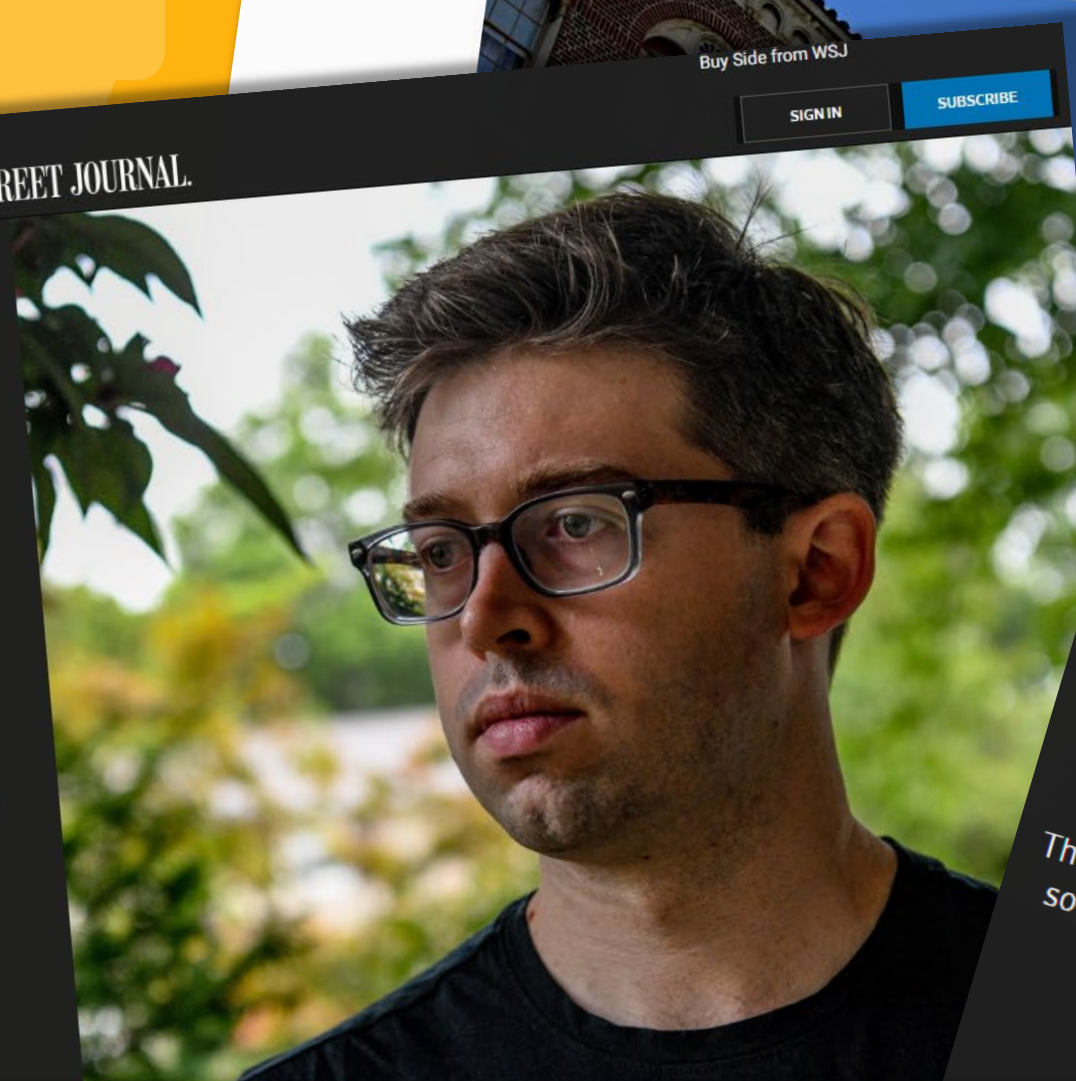
EMMA CAMP | FROM THE MARCH 2024 ISSUE

Facebook X Email Print Link

U.S. | U.S. EDUCATION NEWS

'Financially Hobbled for Life': The Elite Master's Degrees That Don't Pay Off

Columbia and other top universities push master's programs that fail to generate enough income for graduates to keep up with six-figure federal loans



U.S. | U.S. EDUCATION NEWS

USC Pushed a \$115,000 Online Degree. Graduates Got Low Salaries, Huge Debts.

The prestigious private university hired a for-profit firm to recruit students to its social-work master's program; 'You don't feel like you're part of an elite school'

Subscribers are Reading

- Why they protest: Voices from the downtown L.A. ICE demonstrations
- What to do if you see a shark in the ocean
- Hancock Park homicide leads police to arrest couple in Palmdale
- In a test, one home burns, the other is unscathed. A lesson for fire-proofing L.A.?

Voices


Letters to the Editor: As deportations continue, long, edgy summer'

Slate Magazine

Master's Degrees Are the Second Biggest Scam in Higher Education

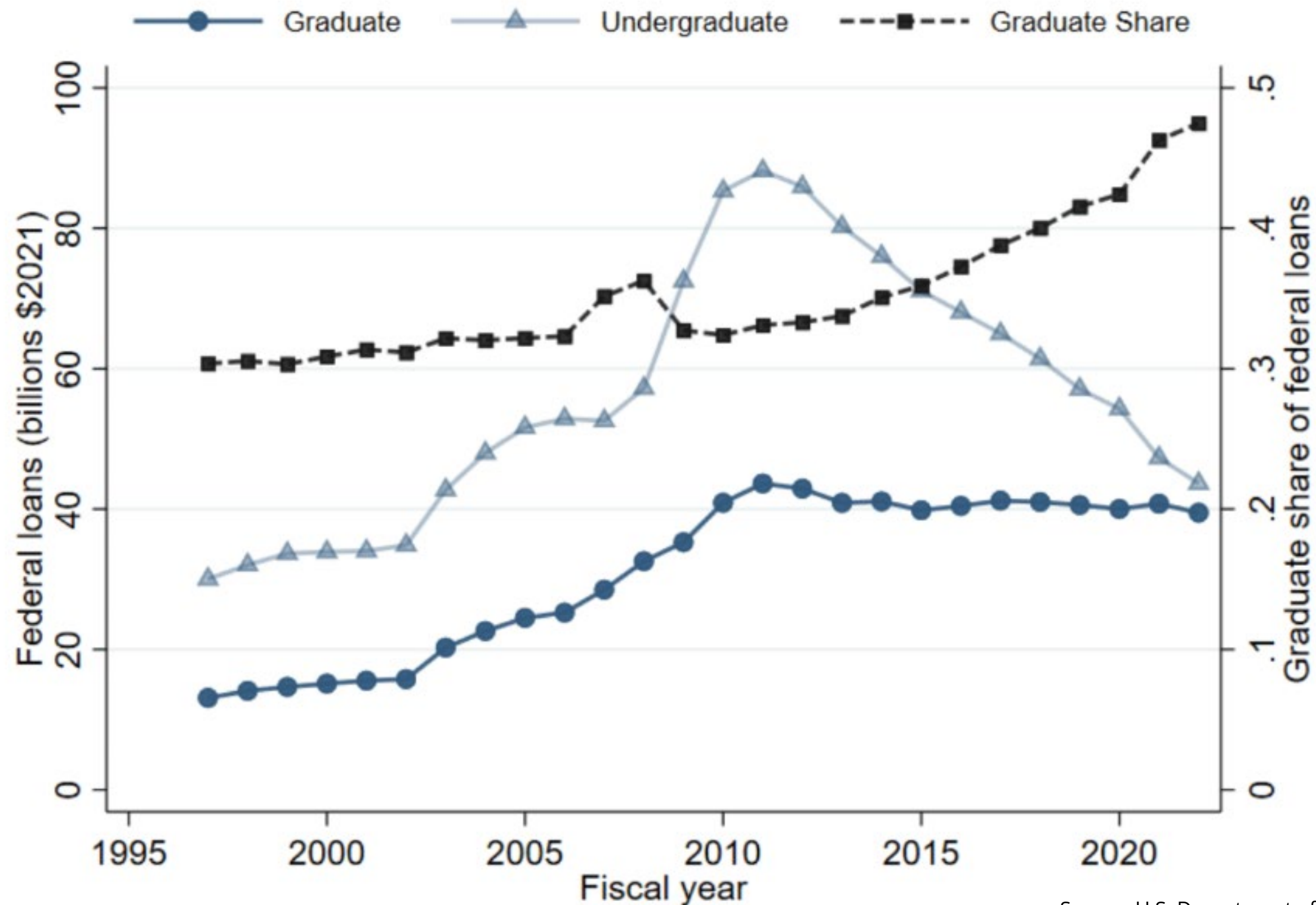
Master's degrees are basically the biggest scam in higher education, and it seems like prestigious nonprofit universities are in on the gift along with for-...

Jul 16, 2021



Just 20% of Borrowers Are Graduate Students—Yet They Borrow Nearly 50% of Federal Loan Dollars

Total Federal Student Loan Volume, by Academic Level: 1996 to 2022





End Grad PLUS—New Annual Grad Loan Caps

Comparing Annual Stafford Unsubsidized Loan Limits in Current Law, House & Senate Bills

	Current Law	House <i>The House bill sets limits at median cost of each program, and Senate has fixed numeric limits</i>	Senate
Master's Degree	\$20,500 Stafford Limit before Grad PLUS (up to COA)	↑ \$39,742	↓ Stafford Limit (NO Grad PLUS)
Doctoral Degree	\$40,500* Stafford Limit before Grad PLUS (up to COA)	↑ \$64,722	↓ Stafford Limit (NO Grad PLUS)
Professional (M.D., J.D., D.D.S.,			

Notes: APLU aggregated available prog
 • Under current law, students may l
 • Current law's annual limits for Sta
 Doctor of Podiatric Medicine, Doc
 • The House and Senate bills would
 • The House bill would adjust annu
 • The Senate bill would adjust annu
 of professional skill beyond that n
 Optometry (O.D.), Osteopathic M

Medicine, Doctor of Optometry,
 Administration).

ctice in a given profession and a level
 (L.L.B. or J.D.), Medicine (M.D.),



End Grad PLUS—Aggregate Grad Loan Caps

Comparing Aggregate Stafford Unsubsidized Loan Limits in Current Law, House & Senate Bills

Existing Categories

Proposed Categories

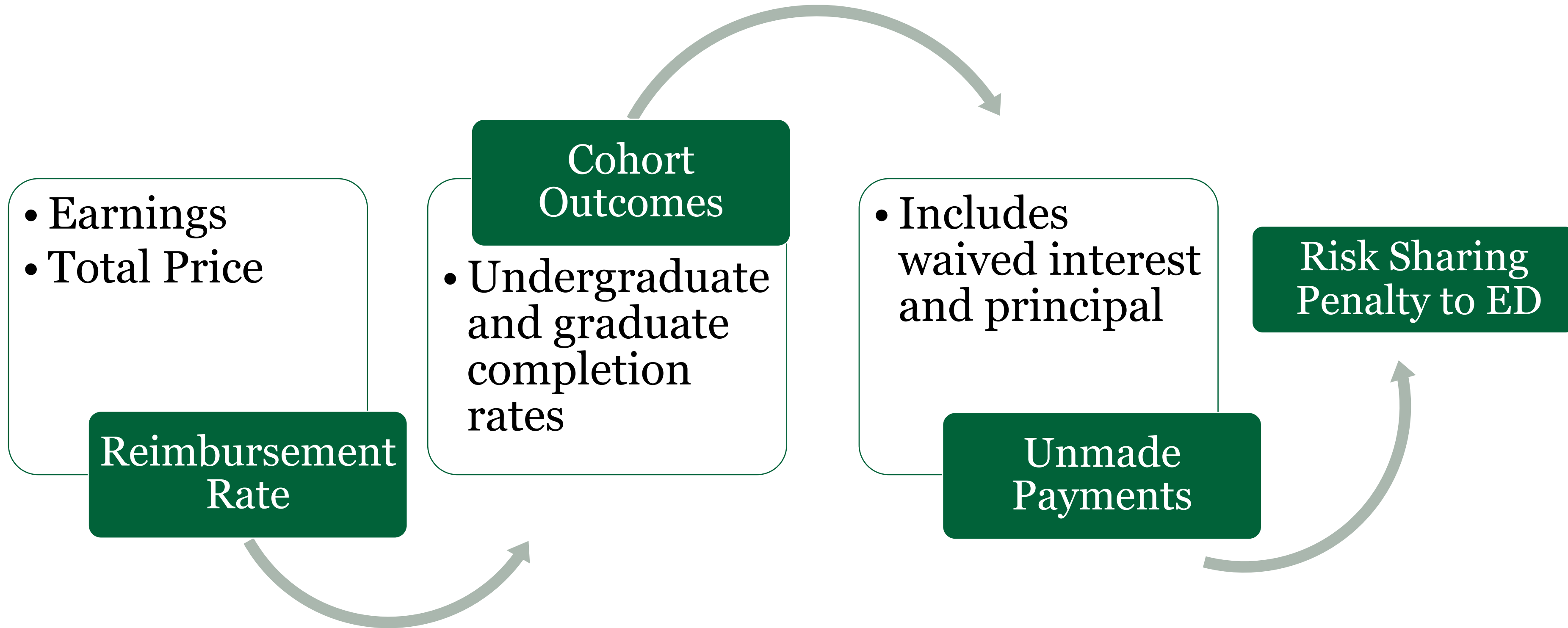
	Current Law		House	Senate
Graduate (e.g. M.A., Ph.D., etc.)	<p>\$129,500</p> <p> Combined aggregate undergraduate and graduate Stafford limits</p>		<p>\$100,000</p> <p> New, separate limit for graduate loans only</p>	<p>\$100,000</p>
Professional – Non-Health (e.g., JD, M.Div., etc.)	<p>\$150,500</p> <p> Combined aggregate undergraduate and graduate Stafford limits</p>		<p></p>	<p> New, separate limit for graduate loans only</p>
Professional – Health	<p>\$224,000</p>	<p></p>	<p>\$150,000</p>	<p>\$200,000</p>

Not
:
:
:
:

(practice) | S
rd Unsubs
Profession
not shown

00 for Doctoral professional degrees, defined in regulation as "A degree that signifies both completion of the academic requirements for beginning practice in a given profession and a degree include but are not limited to Pharmacy (Pharm.D.), Dentistry (D.D.S. or D.M.D.), Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.), Chiropractic (D.C. or D.C.M.), Law (L.L.B. or J.D.), Medicine

Risk Sharing



Performance-Based Funding Calculation



PROMISE Grant Allocation





Senate Approach to Accountability

One of several thresholds:

Graduate Degree Program Earnings

Undergraduate Degree Program Earnings



Bachelor's degree earnings

High School diploma earnings

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

Projected Impacts of the Senate HELP Committee Earnings Accountability Proposal

Download Data

Select Your Institution: All

State: All Clear Filter

11K # Programs w/ Earnings Data

How many programs at my institution will have earnings below the threshold? **383** # Programs w/ Earnings Below Threshold

How many credentials are awarded annually in programs with earnings below the threshold? **14K** # Completions in 2020-21

Which programs have earnings below the threshold?

Institution	CredentialLevel	CIP Description	Median Earnings	Median_HS_earnings_threshold	Median_BA_earnings_threshold
Wright State University-Main Campus	Bachelor's Degree	Drama/Theatre Arts and Stagecraft.	\$29,058	\$30,793	\$52,000
Wright State University-Main Campus	Master's Degree	Education, Other.	\$45,180	\$30,793	\$52,000
Wright State University-Main Campus	Master's Degree	History.	\$42,528	\$30,793	\$52,000
Wright State University-Main Campus	Associate's Degree	Management Information Systems and Services.	\$30,477	\$30,793	\$52,000

Go deeper with this APLU resource: Explore how your institutions' degree programs fare using the association's data dashboard

<https://linktr.ee/aplugovaffairs2025>



Other Issues

Tax Issues



Agriculture



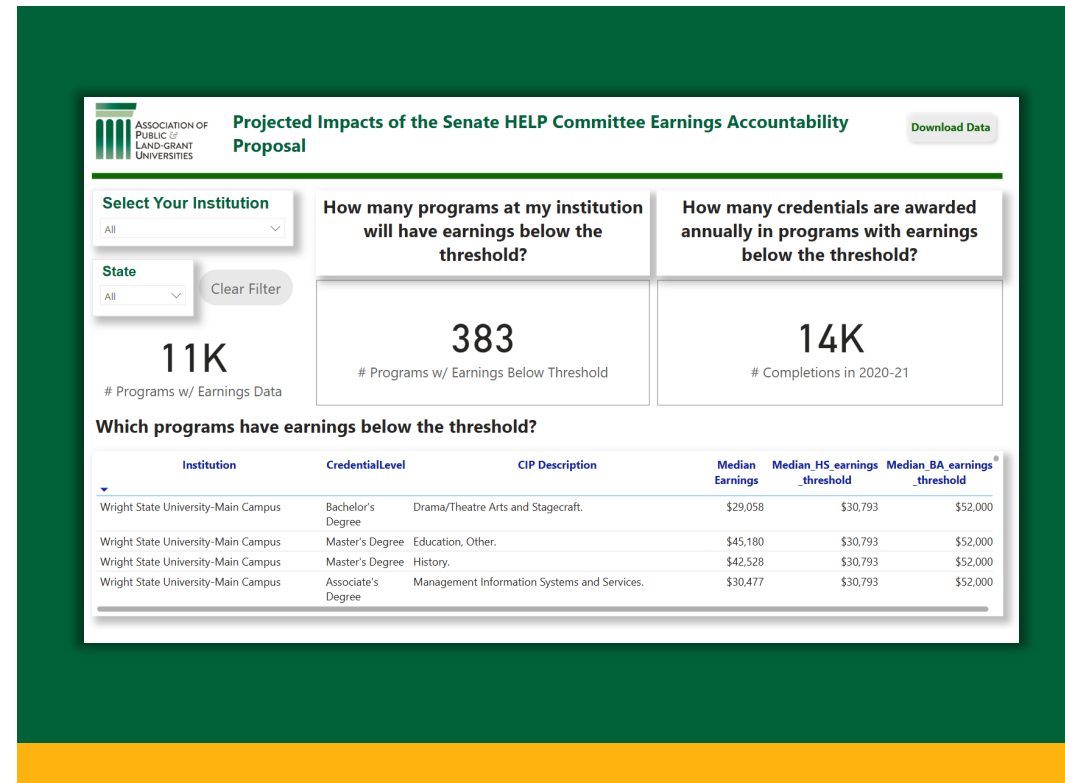
Impacts to State Budgets



Advocacy Resources



Side by Side Comparison of House/Senate Bill Text
Provisions of Greatest Direct Impact to Public Research Universities



Interactive Dashboard:
Projected Impacts of the Senate HELP Committee Earnings Accountability Proposal



APLU's Letters to the House and Senate on Reconciliation



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Appropriations



Federal Budget Categories

Subject to annual appropriations process



Mandatory Spending



Interest on Debt



Discretionary Spending

Defense



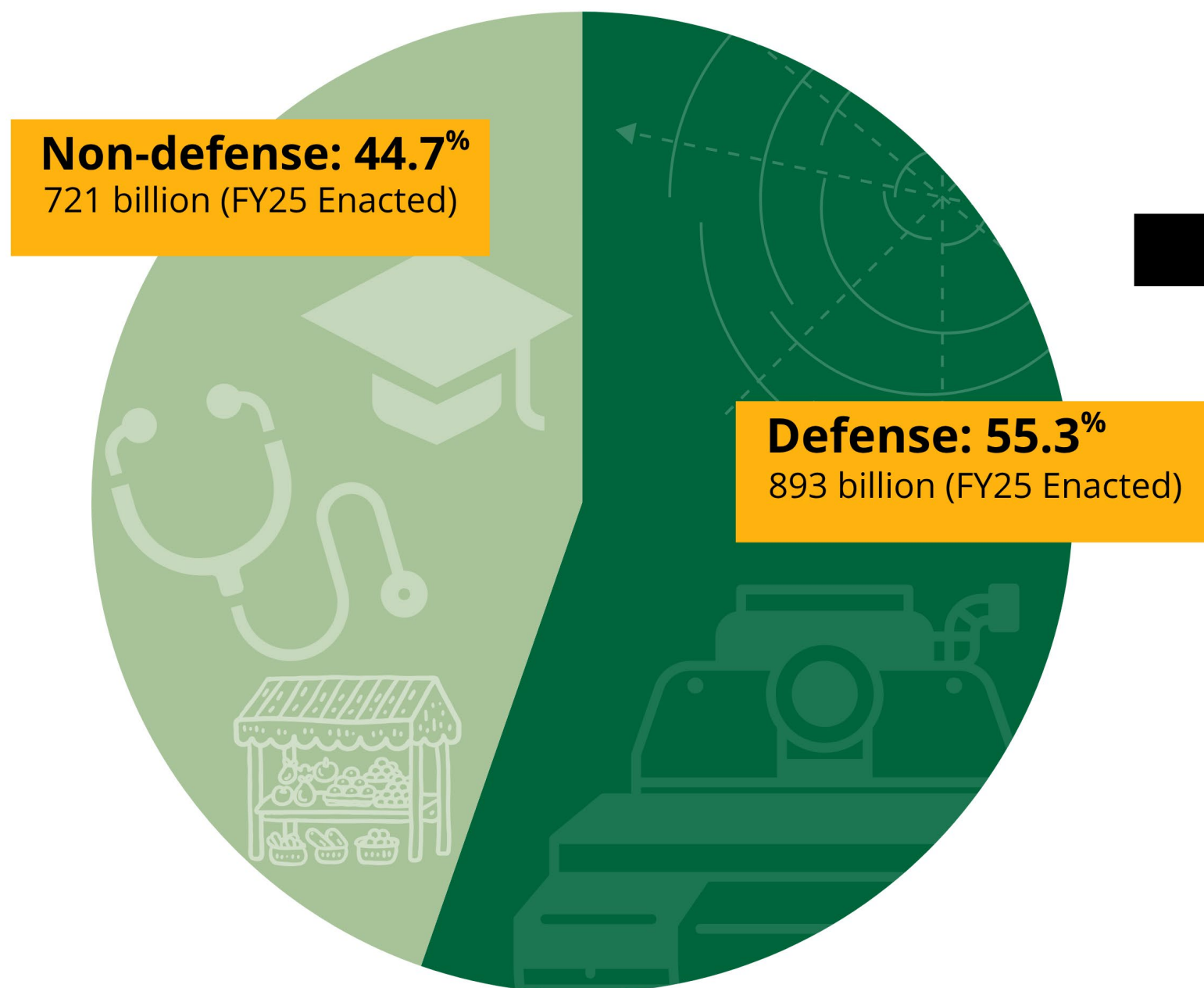
Non-defense discretionary (NDD)



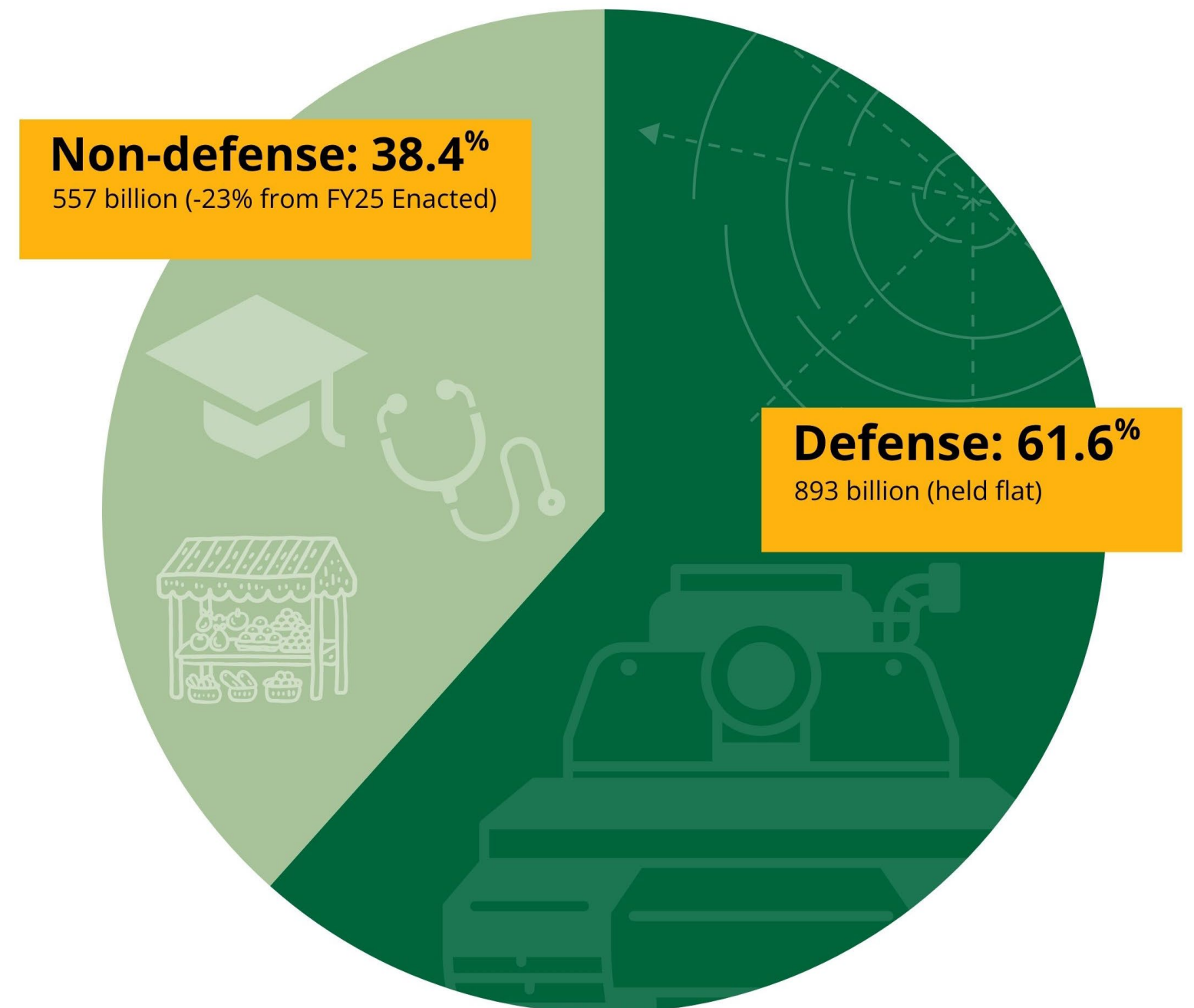
Discretionary Topline Spending

President's Budget Request (PBR) proposes 22.6% reduction in discretionary spending

FY25 Enacted



FY26 PBR



Source Data for APLU Charts: House Committee on the Budget, Minority, Figures include amounts for previously enacted "emergency base" spending in 2025. Excludes amounts for disaster relief, program integrity, Cures, Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, and other emergency funding. Totals may not add due to rounding.



Understanding Proposed Cuts

Comparison of PBR to FY25 Enacted Levels for Select APLU Priority Accounts

Student Aid

-23%

Max Pell



Proposed Max. Award \$5,710

-80%

**Federal
Work Study**

ELIMINATION

\$0

**Other
Student Aid**

SEOG, TRIO,
GEAR UP, GAANN,
CCAMPIS, PSSG

Federally-Funded Research Ecosystem

-55%

**NSF
Topline**

-9% **USDA
AFRI**

\$0 **NOAA**

Oceanic and
Atmospheric
Research

-4% **DOD**
Defense-wide
RDT&E

ELIMINATION

NEH



-47%
NASA

Science Mission
Directorate

-40%

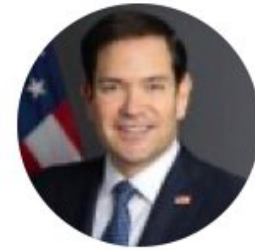
NIH

Topline





Immigration



Secretary Marco Rubio  

@SecRubio

The U.S. will begin revoking visas of Chinese students, including those with connections to the Chinese Communist Party or studying in critical fields.



Donald J. Trump 

@realDonaldTrump · 2h

OUR DEAL WITH CHINA IS DONE, SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL WITH PRESIDENT XI AND ME. FULL MAGNETS, AND ANY NECESSARY RARE EARTHS, WILL BE SUPPLIED, UP FRONT, BY CHINA. LIKewise, WE WILL PROVIDE TO CHINA WHAT WAS AGREED TO, INCLUDING CHINESE STUDENTS USING OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOOD WITH ME!). WE ARE GETTING A TOTAL OF 55% TARIFFS, CHINA IS GETTING 10%. RELATIONSHIP IS EXCELLENT! THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER!

 2.68k

 5.97k

 29.1k





U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

USCIS Director Nominee on Ending OPT:

“What I want to see would be essentially a regulatory and sub-regulatory program that would allow us to remove the ability for employment authorizations for F-1 students beyond the time that they are in school.”

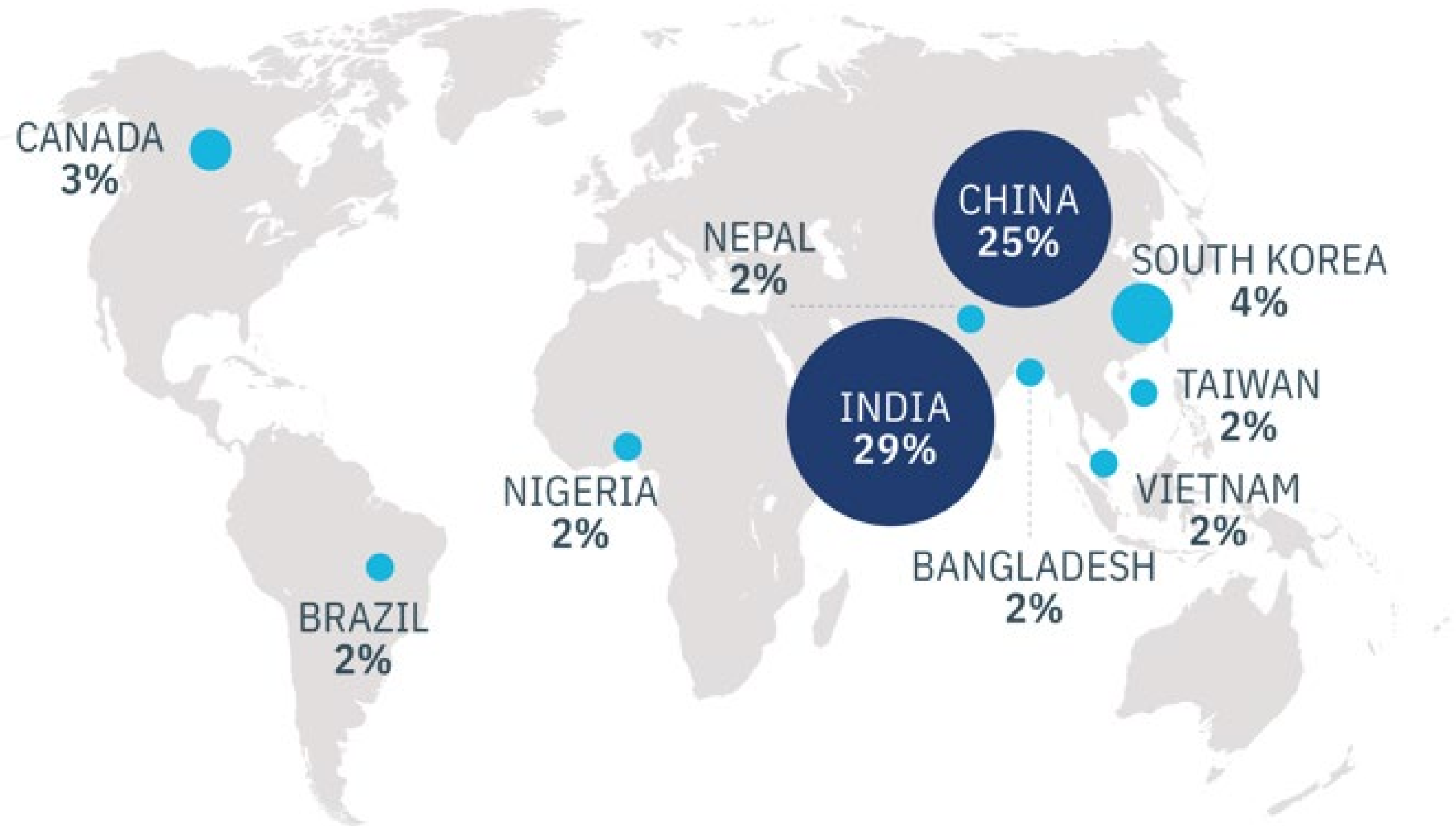


International Talent Pipeline: A Chilling Environment



- Perception of US: Politics and Safety
- F-1 & J-1 Duration of Status → Fixed Period
- New vetting processes for student visas
- Travel Bans
- Optional Practical Training (OPT) under threat
- Global Research Collaboration & Funding

LEADING PLACES OF ORIGIN OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, 2023/24



Students from India and China accounted for **54%** of international students.



With proposed travel bans

TOP SENDERS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WITH LARGEST INCREASES, 2023/24





SELECTED FIELDS OF STUDY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, 2023/24



Math and
computer science

25%



Engineering

19%



Business and
management

14%



Physical and
life science

8%

56% of international students in the U.S. studied in STEM fields.

Wrap Up

Summary of Key Action Items

Engage House/Senate
Republicans on
Reconciliation

Be Prepared to
Advocate on F&A Soon

Defend Funding for
Research and Student Aid
in Appropriations Process



Scan or visit the URL below to access APLU's advocacy resources

[*https://linktr.ee/aplugovaffairs2025*](https://linktr.ee/aplugovaffairs2025)





Discussion



Key Messages



**U.S. / China
Competitiveness**



**Tell the story of direct
impacts** to grantees, states,
and institutions based on
research agency budget cuts



**Concrete success stories
and societal benefits** from
federally funded research

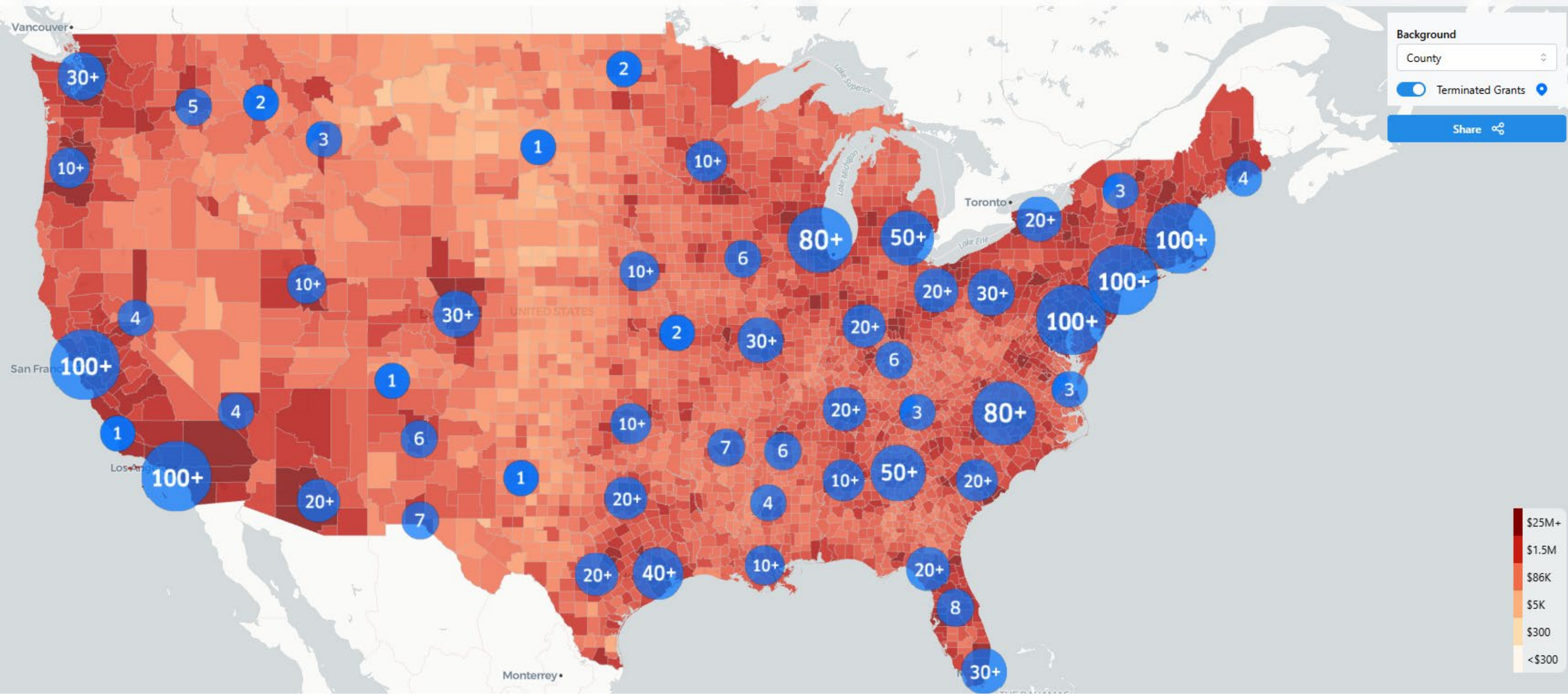


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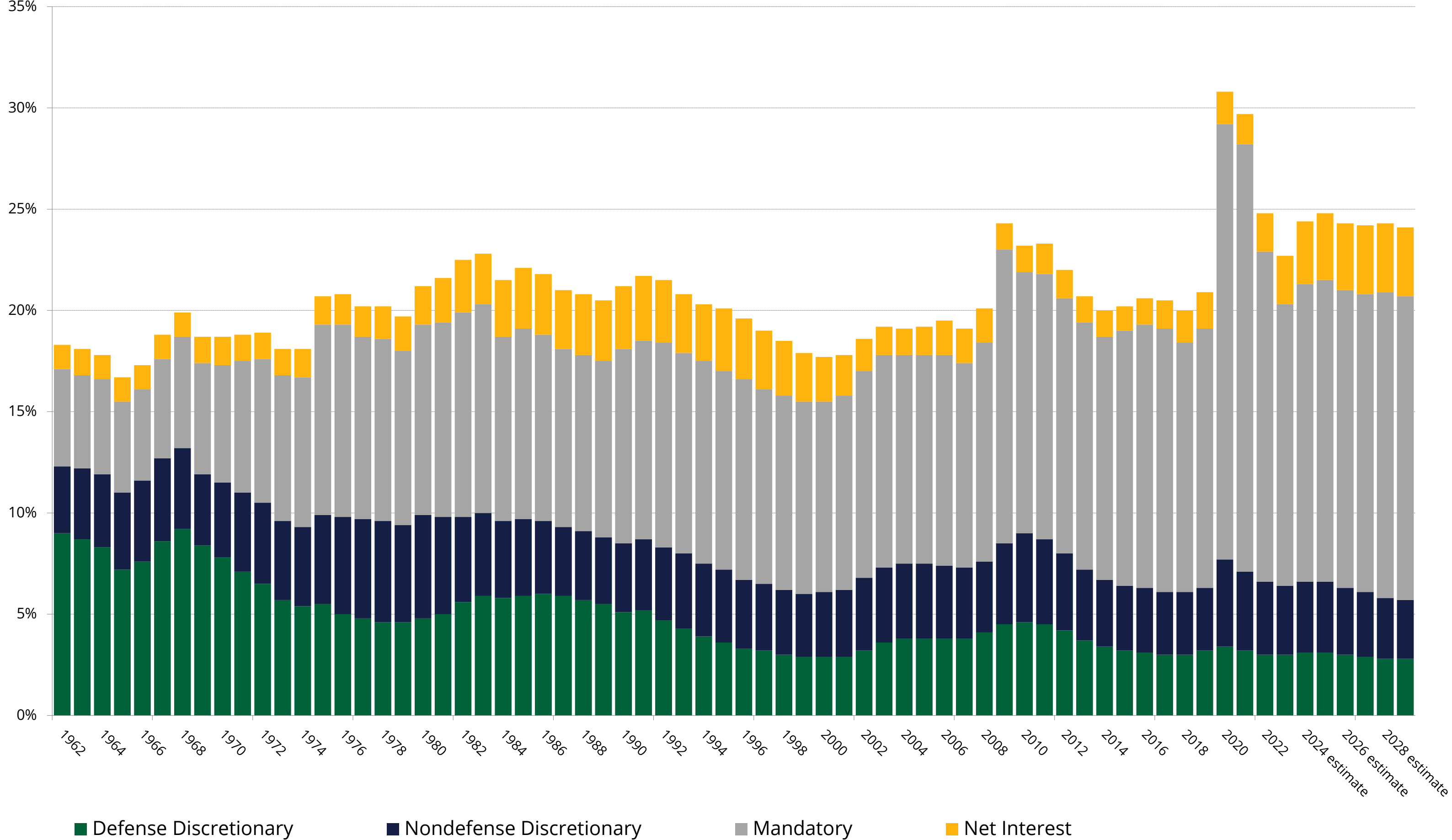
<https://linktr.ee/aplugovaffairs2025>

SCIMaP: View Impact of Federal Health Research Cuts i

Current Economic Loss: \$8.2B and 35K jobs
Future Economic Loss: \$16B and 68K jobs per year



Federal Spending as a Percent of GDP, 1962 - 2029



Source: AAAS, Alessandra Zimmermann



House Appropriations Markup Schedule

Bills with APLU Priority Accounts	Subcommittee Markup Date	Full Committee Markup Date
Agriculture	June 5, 2025	June 11, 2025 (postponed)
Commerce-Justice-Science	July 14, 2025	July 17, 2025
Labor-HHS-Education	July 21, 2025	July 24, 2025
Defense	June 10, 2025	June 13, 2025
Energy and Water	July 7, 2025	July 10, 2025
Interior	June 23, 2025	June 26, 2025
State-Foreign Ops	June 24, 2025	June 27, 2025