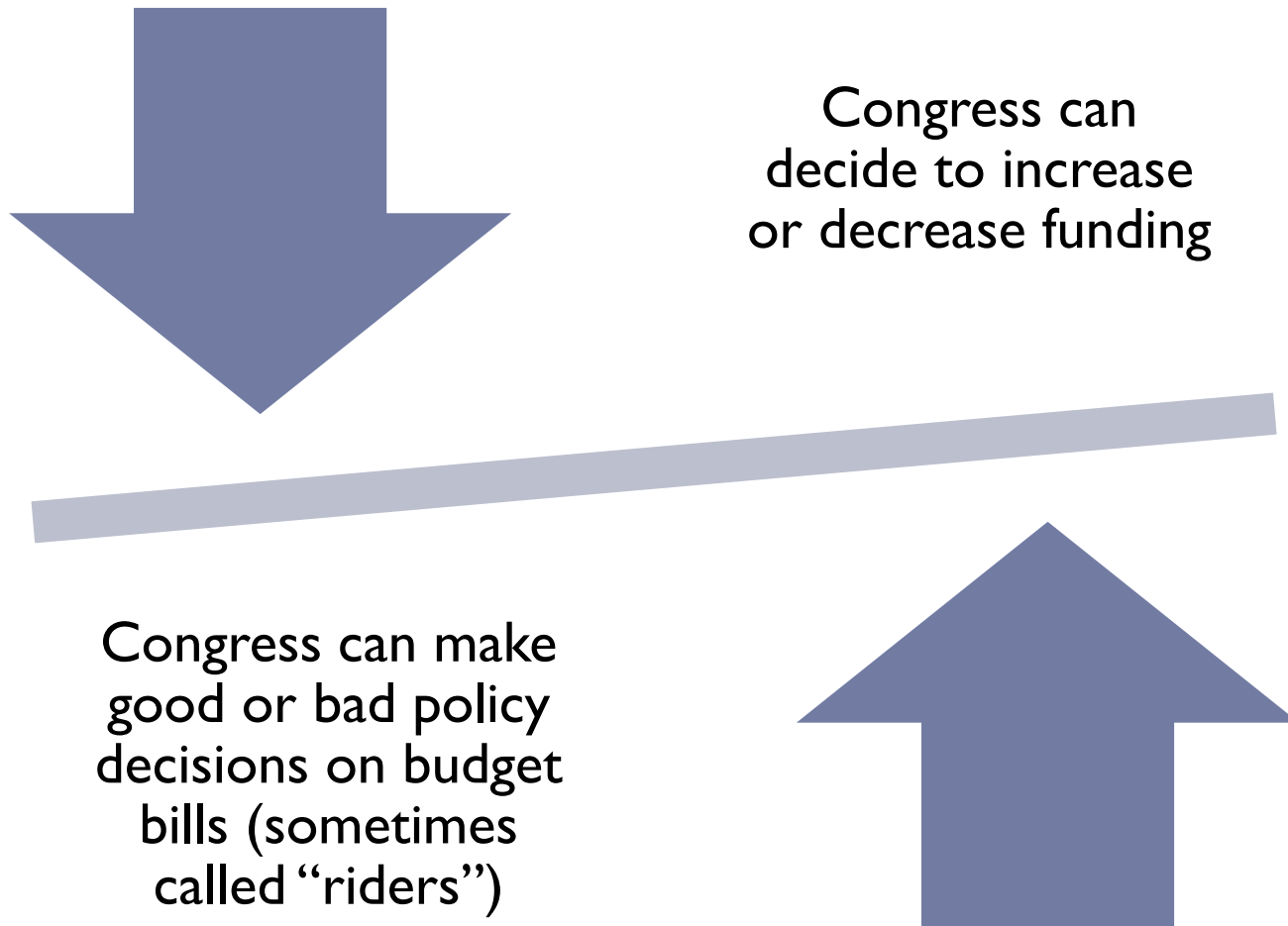


# An Advocate's Guide to Talking about the Fiscal Year 2011 (FY'11) Budget

Prepared by the HIV Health Care Access Working Group  
& the AIDS Budget and Appropriations Coalition (3.21.11)

# In every budget vote, there are opportunities & risks for HIV/AIDS programs

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# Background: Continuing Budget Resolutions

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Congress never completed the budget process for the current fiscal year (FY'11), which began in Oct. 2010 and runs through Sept. 2011

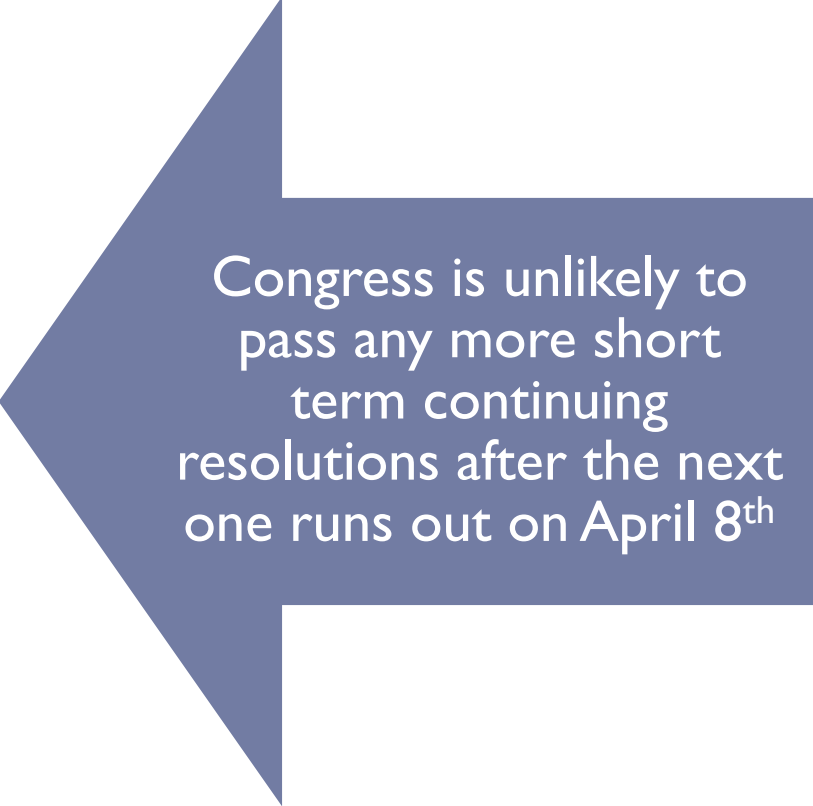
Without a budget in place, federal programs cannot operate

To keep the federal government and the programs it funds running, Congress has passed a series of continuations of last year's budget, often with significant funding cuts

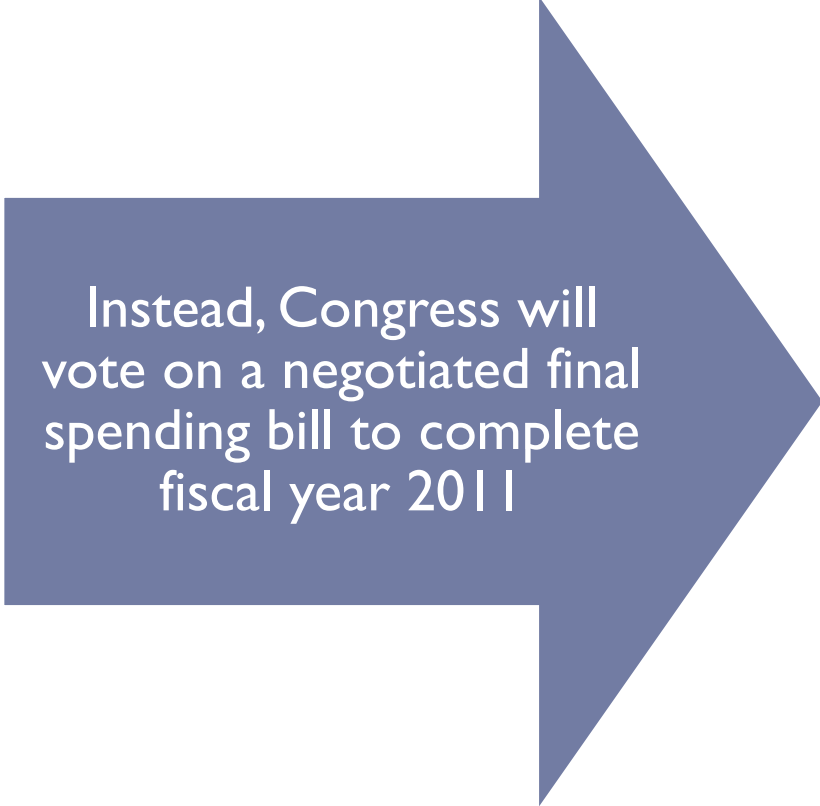


# The Current Situation: Congress will vote on a final FY'11 budget

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Congress is unlikely to pass any more short term continuing resolutions after the next one runs out on April 8<sup>th</sup>



Instead, Congress will vote on a negotiated final spending bill to complete fiscal year 2011



What you can do:

Contact your Representative & 2 Senators

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Tell them that you support increased funding for:

- HIV prevention & testing (CDC)
  - Ryan White programs (HRSA), including ADAP
  - HIV/AIDS research (NIH)
  - Housing for persons living with AIDS (HOPWA)
  - Substance abuse & mental health programs (SAMHSA)
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What you can do:

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Tell your  
Members that you  
support full  
funding for  
implementation of  
the health care  
reform law



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Tell your members that  
you **oppose** “social  
riders” and budget  
provisions that would:

Reinstate funding  
bans on syringe  
exchange programs

Eliminate federal  
funding for Title X  
(ten) and Planned  
Parenthood, which  
would affect funding  
and places for HIV  
testing

Eliminate funding  
for the Teen  
Pregnancy  
Prevention Initiative,  
which would affect  
funding for  
HIV/STD prevention



# Acronym Quick-Reference

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CDC

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—funds infectious disease prevention and surveillance programs including HIV

HRSA

Health Resources and Services Administration—funds and runs the Ryan White programs

ADAP

AIDS Drug Assistance Programs

NIH

National Institutes of Health—sponsors AIDS research


HOPWA

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS—a program that provides housing assistance and related and supportive services

SAMHSA

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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# Tips for an effective conversation with your Congressional members

Telling your story  
and getting your point across

# Tips for an effective Congressional visit about any issue

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## Tell your story

Get your Member's attention by making it personal

Describe why the issues are important to you as a person

## "The Ask"

Tell your Member in simple terms what action you want her to take (support this, oppose that)

End with "Can I count on your support on these issues?"

## Keep it short

Stick to the topic

Acknowledge that your Members and their staff are busy, and thank them for their time



# Practical tip: How to contact your members

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Find contact information and individual websites for your two US Senators here:

[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm)



Find your US Representative's contact information and individual website here:

[http://clerk.house.gov/member\\_info/index.html](http://clerk.house.gov/member_info/index.html)



*Tip:*

*Find contact information for your members' local offices on their individual websites*

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