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Congress Passes 2016 Omnibus

The United States Congress has passed a \$1.15 trillion omnibus appropriations measure (HR 2029) which includes a \$57.6 billion Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (T-HUD) package that would slightly increase spending levels for aviation, housing, and federal-aid highway and transit programs. While the bill provides \$3.83 billion more in funding than FY 2015, it remains \$7 billion below the initial Presidential budget request. The legislation provides an increase of approximately \$2 billion for highway programs, aligning them more closely with the recently passed surface transportation reauthorization measure (FAST Act). The T-HUD section contains a rider that would continue to block federal hours-of-service rules for commercial truck drivers until the U.S. Department of Transportation releases a study regarding the safety impacts of the rule.

Also of note for AAMVA members is Section 132 that provides that "no funds may be used to enforce any regulation prohibiting a state from issuing a commercial learner's permit to individuals under the age of 18 if a state had a law authorizing such issuance as of May 9, 2011." And, section 183 which provides that no recipient of funds in this Act shall disseminate personal information obtained by a state department of motor vehicles in connection with a motor vehicle record except as provided for through DPPA permitted use in [18 USC 2721](#).

The a full analysis of the bill can be found in the [Government Affairs](#) section of the AAMVA website.

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