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Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2004 10:32 AM  
To: Leadnet@mail-list.com; Healthyhomesnet@mail-list.com  
Subject: [Leadnet] **Senate Appropriations Committee Approves VA-HUD funding bill**

On Tuesday, Sept. 21, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved the FY 2005 VA-HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriations bill. Notably, the Committee set funding for HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control at \$175 million, which is level with FY 2004 and is \$8 million higher than the House version and \$36 million more than proposed by the Bush Administration.

Funding for healthy homes grants, Operation LEAP, technical assistance, and the base Lead Hazard Control grant program should remain at FY 2004 levels, but detailed numbers have not yet been released. The Senate Appropriations Committee's bill also restores the \$50 million Urban Lead Hazard Reduction program that targets areas with the worst lead hazards, which the Administration had proposed to eliminate.

The VA-HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriations bill now awaits consideration by the full Senate. Final funding decisions are unlikely until after the elections.

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Founded in 1990 as the Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning, we have expanded our work on lead poisoning prevention to address other housing-related health hazards.