

FY 2027 President's Budget Request vs. 2026 National Drug Control Strategy

What Hill offices need to know.

The 2026 strategy calls for stronger prevention, treatment, recovery and overdose response. The FY 2027 budget request proposes cuts, consolidations or eliminations across many of the programs that make those commitments operational.



TOP TAKEAWAY

15.1%
decline in provisional overdose deaths in 2025

68,632
reported provisional overdose deaths in 2025
Nearly 70,000 predicted

Progress is real, not self-sustaining.

WHERE THE STRATEGY AND BUDGET DIVERGE

	STRATEGY PROMISE	BUDGET PROPOSAL
A. Prevention	Expand prevention and community coalitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAMHSA prevention -92%; Drug-Free Communities -36%; CARA coalition grants eliminated
B. Treatment	Expand MOUD access and build the behavioral health workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment services -\$74M; HRSA BHWET -43.6%; major formula grants consolidated
C. Recovery	Support peer services, recovery infrastructure, housing and reentry care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HUD Continuum of Care and CDBG eliminated; DOJ overdose-related grants -\$1.34B
D. Overdose response	Expand naloxone, drug checking and timely surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health surveillance -\$135M; DAWN proposed for elimination; CDC portfolio relocated

MAJOR PROPOSED CHANGES AT A GLANCE

ONDCP
-95%

SAMHSA prevention
-92%

PRNS
-\$591M
25+ grants at risk

HRSA BHWET
-43.6%

DOJ overdose grants
-\$1.34B

NIDA/NIAAA
>\$160M
proposed reduction

WHY STRUCTURE MATTERS

BEFORE

SUPTRS

SOR

MHBG

MHBG

➔

AFTER

New consolidated block grant
Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant

Level total funding is not the same as protected SUD funding. Without carve-outs or accountability requirements, SUD programs could compete with mental health programs for the same dollars.

WHAT COMMUNITIES STAND TO LOSE

- Local prevention coalitions and community grants
- Workforce capacity, especially in rural areas
- Fast detection of new drug threats

- Reentry continuity and overdose protection
- Recovery housing and community supports

WHAT CONGRESS CAN DO NEXT

Preserve dedicated SUD funding streams.

Restore prevention, workforce, PRNS and surveillance funding.

Protect reentry supports and Medicaid continuity.

Maintain ONDCP capacity and federal accountability.