

January 2017 Federal Update

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Questions will be taken at the end of the presentation.

Establishing the Trump Administration

Priorities for President Trump

The President has announced 3 broad priorities for his first 100 days, but expect action outside of these categories as well:

- Deregulation
- Repeal Obamacare
- Tax reform

DeVos Confirmation Process

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is the committee of jurisdiction for the DeVos confirmation.

The Confirmation Process

Official Nomination Friday, January 20, 2017 immediately after the inauguration.

- Paperwork (Committee questionnaire; ethics conflict and recusals; financial disclosure - IN)
- Hearing: January 17, 2017 (watch recording: <http://bit.ly/DeVosHrg>)
 - Questions in writing submitted to nominee to answer for committee members
- Markup of the Nomination: January 31, 2017
- Floor Consideration & Vote (currently not scheduled)

115th Congress

U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives reconvened on January 3, 2017.

House Leadership

Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI)

Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)

Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA)

Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD)

Senate Leadership

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

Assistant Republican Leader John Cornyn (R-TX)

Democratic Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY)

Democratic Whip Richard Durbin (D-IL)

U.S House of Representatives

Committee on Education and the Workforce

Republicans

[Rep. Virginia Foxx](#), North Carolina (Chair)

[Rep. Joe Wilson](#), South Carolina (Vice Chair)

[Rep. Duncan Hunter](#), California

[Rep. David P. Roe](#), Tennessee

[Rep. Glenn Thompson](#), Pennsylvania

[Rep. Tim Walberg](#), Michigan

[Rep. Brett Guthrie](#), Kentucky

[Rep. Todd Rokita](#), Indiana

[Rep. Lou Barletta](#), Pennsylvania

[Rep. Luke Messer](#), Indiana

[Rep. Bradley Byrne](#), Alabama

[Rep. Dave Brat](#), Virginia

[Rep. Mike D. Bishop](#), Michigan

[Rep. Glenn Grothman](#), Wisconsin

[Rep. Elise Stefanik](#), New York

[Rep. Rick Allen](#), Georgia

[Rep. Jason Lewis](#), Minnesota

[Rep. Francis Rooney](#), Florida

[Rep. Paul Mitchell](#), Michigan

[Rep. Tom Garrett](#), Virginia

[Rep. Lloyd Smucker](#), Pennsylvania

[Rep. Drew Ferguson](#), Georgia

Vacancy

Democrats

[Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott](#) (*Ranking Member*),
Virginia

[Rep. Susan Davis](#), California

[Rep. Raul M. Grijalva](#), Arizona

[Rep. Joe Courtney](#), Connecticut

[Rep. Marcia Fudge](#), Ohio

[Rep. Jared Polis](#), Colorado

[Rep. Gregorio Sablan](#), Northern Mariana Islands

[Rep. Frederica S. Wilson](#), Florida

[Rep. Suzanne Bonamici](#), Oregon

[Rep. Mark Takano](#), California

[Rep. Alma S. Adams](#), North Carolina

[Rep. Mark DeSaulnier](#), California

[Rep. Donald Norcross](#), New Jersey

[Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester](#), Delaware

[Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi](#), Illinois

Vacancy

Vacancy

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Republicans

[Lamar Alexander \(TN\)](#) **Chairman**

[Michael B. Enzi \(WY\)](#)

[Richard Burr \(NC\)](#)

[Johnny Isakson \(GA\)](#)

[Rand Paul \(KY\)](#)

[Susan Collins \(ME\)](#)

[Bill Cassidy, M.D. \(LA\)](#)

[Todd Young \(IN\)](#)

[Orrin Hatch \(UT\)](#)

[Pat Roberts \(KS\)](#)

[Lisa Murkowski \(AK\)](#)

[Tim Scott \(SC\)](#)

Democrats

[Patty Murray \(WA\)](#) **Ranking Member**

[Bernie Sanders \(VT\)](#)

[Robert P. Casey, Jr \(PA\)](#)

[Al Franken \(MN\)](#)

[Michael F. Bennet \(CO\)](#)

[Sheldon Whitehouse \(RI\)](#)

[Tammy Baldwin \(WI\)](#)

[Christopher S. Murphy \(CT\)](#)

[Elizabeth Warren \(MA\)](#)

[Tim Kaine \(VA\)](#)

[Maggie Hassan \(NH\)](#)

Appropriations for FY17

Appropriations Process Update

A Continuing Resolution (CR) for FY17 was passed through April 28, 2017.

Before midnight on April 28:

There is an expectation of the creation and passage of an omnibus for FY17 reflecting key items from President Trump's Budget Request. However, this could also turn into another CR.

President Trump's budget request will be late this year, as it is with all incoming new administrations.

The Fiscal Year 2018 process will be unfolding concurrently.

Budget Resolutions

A Budget Resolution sets the fiscal policy for the Congress as agreed upon by the House and Senate. This is not signed into law and not legally binding.

There was no Budget Resolution completed on time for the FY17 budget (the House did pass one, but the Senate did not in 2016). However, a FY17 Budget Resolution was completed on Jan.13, 2017, with reconciliation instructions to enact savings and/or changes in revenue through the repeal of Obamacare.

The intention is to initiate reconciliation in the FY18 Budget Resolution as well, focusing on other programs and opportunities.

Budget Process

The Congress will engage in the standard budget process for Fiscal Year 2018, beginning early in February. The first step is to complete a Budget Resolution for FY18 by April 15 (can be earlier).

The expected FY18 budget resolution will also contain reconciliation instructions on various ways to enact savings or change revenue structures.

The Budget Resolution sets the topline number to the appropriations committee as well as the numbers for the individual appropriations subcommittees.

Then the appropriations process starts.

Challenges

Budget Control Act of 2011 caps on spending for FY18 – deep cuts since a budget deal was crafted for FY16 & FY17.

Battle on keep defense discretionary and non-defense discretionary (includes education funding) at parity. GOP has talked of raising cap for defense, but not for non-defense discretionary funds.

Rules of the House: new rules as committees to look at & execute transitioning mandatory programs to discretionary programs – augments the pressure on cutting programs or severely cutting funding to programs.

Congressional Review Act: Teacher Preparation Program Regulations

Only 3 Ways to Stop a Final Rule

Congressional Action

Legal Action

Re-opening the ENTIRE regulatory process.
(Takes years; remember, these regulations took
5 years from start to finish.)

Congressional Review Act

- The law gives Congress the power to overturn certain final rules within a certain time frame with the approval of the president.
- The Republican Congress is determined to overturn Obama regulations via the CRA.
- The Senate has repeatedly mentioned the teacher prep regulations as one that they will consider overturning via the CRA.
- The Freedom Caucus in the House has included the teacher prep regulations in their CRA list
- There are many organizations beginning the work to stop the use of the CRA to repeal regulations.
- In 20 years this procedure has only been used successfully ONCE.

Constituent Voices

Remember, Members of Congress and other elected officials are beholden to their constituents.

You vote them in, you can vote them out.

Elected officials need to hear from YOU on the regs & the CRA.

Do not doubt that someone else, perhaps not of the same perspective as you, IS contacting your elected officials and making her or his voice heard on these issues.

Don't let party affiliation stop you.

You want your elected officials to make informed decisions about the future of educator preparation. *Be that voice!*

YOUR Advocacy

It is important to keep **your** Senators and your Representative up to date on regulations. They may not know the regulations are final and in effect now. In addition, you can include that you support the use of the Congressional Review Act to rescind the teacher preparation program regulations.

You can send a quick email to staff with whom you have a relationship sharing the AACTE resources on the regs, the statement by AACTE, as well as the statement signed on to by AACTE by a coalition of PK-12, higher education and state-level organizations to just put this on their radar (links are on our [regs](#) website). You can mention the CRA as well – and your support for its use.

Coalition Statement Signatories

- AASA, The School Superintendents Association
- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- American Association of State Colleges and Universities
- American Council on Education
- American Council on Rural Special Education*
- American Federation of Teachers
- American Indian Higher Education Consortium
- ASBO International
- Association of Education Service Agencies
- Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
- Association of Teacher Educators
- Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations
- Council of Academic Deans from Research Education Institutions*
- Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
- Council for Exceptional Children*
- Higher Education Consortium for Special Education
- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
- Learning Disabilities Association of America
- National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
- National Association for the Education of Young Children*
- National Association of Elementary School Principals*
- National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
- National Association of School Psychologists
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Association of State Directors of Special Education
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Education Association
- National Governors Association
- Public Advocacy for Kids
- Rural School and Community Trust
- STEM Education Coalition
- Teacher Education Council of State Colleges and Universities*
- Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children
- UNCF

** Denotes signatory after the statement's initial release on October 20, 2016*

AACTE ACTION ALERTS

AACTE's inaugural Action Alert was on the use of the Congressional Review Act to rescind the teacher preparation program regulations.

As CRA resolutions to rescind the teacher prep regs are introduced in the House and Senate we will do another alert.

Regardless of party or committee assignments or leadership position your Members of Congress need to hear from you.

The process is easy and takes at most 5 minutes, but there is follow-up.

Why Participate in the Action Alerts?

Constituent communications are logged and Members of Congress are required to answer.

The more communication on an issue causes the issue to be flagged by staff, alerting those up the ranks in the office.

Members of Congress act and take positions based on communication from constituents.

Staff have to research the issue to respond to constituents or prep the boss.

Why Engage and Advocate? Members of Congress

From Members of Congress:

“If it is not important enough for constituents to communicate to me about it, it’s not important enough for me to take action on it.”

“I need to hear from constituents to support my leadership on this issue.”

“Happy to help, except my constituents are silent on this issue. It’s not yet important enough for me to expend political capital on this. When I hear enough from them, we’ll move.”

“I cannot buck the party without being able to say that my constituents are beating on my door about this issue.”

Why Engage and Advocate? Congressional Staff

“I would be happy to take this up the flagpole for you, but I checked – we’ve not heard from constituents on this.”

“Thanks for updating me & for the resources. We’ve still not heard from constituents that this is a problem for them. Given other priorities, we will hold on action for now. ”

“I am sure this will be a real problem for us, but our schools of education are silent on this right now. Any idea why?”

What Happens When You Do Reach Out:

2016:

“We wrote a letter to the Department of Education in June based on a meeting the Senator had with constituents. What else can we do to help?”

Only one meeting in 2017 has responded like this:

“Yes, I have heard about the regs – our constituents are concerned. I have been following it. I assume you are looking for support for a CRA?”

Implementation of ESSA

The process continues despite the threat of Congress rescinding certain regulations which are part of the implementation of ESSA.

Department's ESSA Webpage

To stay updated on the latest that is released from the U.S. Department of Education, it is recommended to monitor the Department's [resources webpage](#), which contains a vast amount of information on rulemaking and implementation.

Consolidated State Plan

States will submit their Consolidated State Plans **by either April 3 or September 18, 2017**. Included in the CSP:

How it will spend Title II-A money

The state will need to define various terms in their state plan including:

- Effective teacher
- Inexperienced teacher
- Out-of-field teacher

The state will need to describe in its consolidated plan aspects related to educator prep, including the state's system to ensure adequate preparation of new educators, as well as how the state plans to ensure equitable distribution of teachers.

GET AT THE TABLE!

Stakeholder engagement is required by law for developing state and local plans.

- Check in with your state chapter to see what they are doing.
- Find out the process in your state & how far along it is.
- Create partnerships and plans on what you would like to implement.

If you are not at the table then most likely you are on the menu.

Your Actions and Engagement

January 2017 Key Advocacy Actions

Teacher Prep Regs – Update your Members of Congress on the regs and use the resources on AACTE's [regs webpage](#)

ESSA – Stakeholder and Title II engagement with K-12 and higher education colleagues – what opportunities are you creating across the state or with your LEA?

[**Sign-up for AACTE Action Alerts!**](#) Send off the latest on the CRA and be ready for the next opportunity!

[**Explore the AACTE Advocacy Center**](#) to learn how to follow up on your CRA email from the Action Alerts and stay engaged.

Resources

- **NEW** [Advocacy Center](#)
- **NEW** Advocacy Guides – more to come!
- **NEW** AACTE Action Alerts
- Blogs – Ed Prep Matters
- Tweets - @AACTE, @Koolbeck
- Websites on state and federal policy
- Documents posted in resource library
- Monthly Federal update webinars
 - 2 days of the week
 - 2 different times to accommodate time zones
- Webinars on advocacy campaigns & immediate action needs



Questions?

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