

# September 2017 Federal Update

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**Questions will be taken at the end of the presentation.**

# FY18 Budget Resolution

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# FY18 Budget Resolution: In Process

Neither the House or the Senate has completed its work on a Budget Resolution.

The intention is to use reconciliation as the process to engage in tax reform.

*House:* The House Budget Committee passed a Budget Resolution out of committee, but the measure is so contentious that its path to the Floor is fraught with hurdles.

*Senate:* The Senate Budget Committee is expected to move a measure forward by the end of the month.

# House FY18 Budget Reconciliation Instructions

The Budget Committee included reconciliation instructions to 11 committees to cut mandatory spending by \$203b over 10 years as well as tax reform instructions in its [Budget Resolution](#).

The Education and the Workforce committee received instructions to cut \$20b.

## Which Means:

The Education and the Workforce Committee must make changes to mandatory spending programs under its jurisdiction, such as student federal financial aid (including TEACH grants), the public service loan forgiveness program, pensions, and parts of child nutrition program.

*There is an expectation that the committee will create changes in student federal financial aid through these instructions.*

# Timeline on FY18 Budget Resolution

## HOUSE:

The next step is to take the Budget Resolution as passed out of committee to the Floor of the House of Representatives for consideration.

There is a hope that negotiations can be concluded in time to move the resolution to the Floor at the end of September.

## SENATE:

The [Senate Budget Committee](#) is expected to move a Budget Resolution forward by the end of the month.

# Appropriations

**Do Not Forget: Your VOICE Matters!**

# KEEP IN MIND – Action Alerts & Response Times

While we'd like to be able to have a lot of advance notice, especially with appropriations, we don't have much advance notice.

This fall, be ready for actions that require a quick turnaround to take place on federal funding for programs that support your work to prepare profession-ready teachers.

**Action Alerts** could ask you to act that day or the next day – we will make sure the subject line reflects as best as we can the timeline for acting. While not ideal, we do want and need you to **engage**.

# IMPORTANT BACKGROUND WORK FOR YOUR ADVOCACY

**Please** be sure to do the following as you engage in advocacy:

- Check your **faculty/staff handbooks** to be clear on the guidelines to advocating using your title and institutional affiliation.
- Connect with your **institution's government relations staff** to coordinate and collaborate in your efforts. You don't want to inadvertently cause problems with your institution's efforts and agenda.

***Remember, you can always advocate as a private citizen, not using your title & affiliation.***

# U.S. House of Representatives

You might have forgotten that 4 approps bills moved as a “security package” before August recess:

Department of Defense; Military Construction and Veterans Affairs; Energy and Water; and Legislative Branch

Over the course of the first 2 weeks of September the House moved the **remaining 8 bills** as a single package, including the Labor, Health & Human Services, Education and Related Agencies bill.

Members of Congress submitted **903** amendments to this package; **342** were accepted and of that **59** were for Labor-H, with **10** of those related to education.

Four amendments to education programs were accepted increasing Title I Part B and Title IV of ESSA, as well as after school programs.

# House Funding Levels : Program Specifics

## Program

*ESSA Title II-A State Grants*

*Teacher Quality Partnership Grants*

*School Leader Recruitment and Support*

*Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program*

*Federal Work-Study*

*Supporting Effective Educator Development*

*Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants*

*TEACH grants*

*Pell Grants*

*Institute for Education Sciences*

*Rural Education Achievement Program*

*Special Education Personnel Preparation*

## Labor-H Bill, House Appropriations Committee

Zeroed out

Zeroed out

Zeroed out

Flat funded

Flat Funded

Cut by \$23 million

Flat Funded

Flat funded (in essence; the accounting is complicated)

Flat funded (in essence; rescinds Pell surplus)

Flat funded

Flat funded

Flat funded

# The Senate

The Senate hit the ground running as well right after August recess.

The Labor-H subcommittee marked up its bill on September 6 and the full committee moved the bill forward without amendment on September 7 – both with bipartisan support.

As with the House, there was much conversation on the necessity of having a **budget deal** to raise both the defense and non-defense discretionary spending caps in order to fully fund the programs in the Labor-H bill (and elsewhere).

# Senate Labor-H Bill Program Specifics

## Program

*ESSA Title II-A State Grants*

*Teacher Quality Partnership Grants*

*School Leader Recruitment and Support*

*Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program*

*Federal Work-Study*

*Supporting Effective Educator Development*

*Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants*

*TEACH grants*

*Pell Grants*

*Institute for Education Sciences*

*Rural Education Achievement Program*

*Special Education Personnel Preparation*

## Labor-H Bill, Senate Appropriations Committee

Flat funded

Cut by \$5 million

Eliminated

Flat funded

Flat Funded

Level funded

Cut by \$13 million

Flat funded (in essence; the accounting is complicated)

Flat funded (in essence; rescinds Pell surplus)

Cut by \$5 million

Flat funded

Flat funded

# Next Steps

The House and Senate will begin their negotiations to work out the differences between their bills.

The Senate sits in a stronger position as it moved its Labor-H bill bipartisanly, even though the House moved its bill completely through the process, but it was a partisan bill.

Their deadline to complete this work is **December 8, 2017**.

# Continuing Resolution

On September 9, the President signed into law [a package](#) containing the following items:

- **Debt limit – suspended through December 8**
- **Continuing resolution through December 8** – *maintains current FY 2017 funding levels without “poison pill” policy riders or funding for any new activities, including a border wall*
- **\$15.25 billion for disaster relief, extends National Flood Insurance Program** – *The final bill includes \$15.25 billion for relief from several major disasters, including \$7.4 billion for the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund, \$7.4 billion for Community Development Block Grants, and \$450 million for Small Business Administration disaster loans. It also extends through December 8 the authority for the National Flood Insurance Program, which expires on September 30. Finally it allows the Forest Service to use transferred funds to repay FY 2017 shortfalls in wildland firefighting operations.*

# Budget Control Act of 2011

The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) sets caps for each year, including separate caps for defense (which includes national security programs) and non-defense discretionary dollars. The BCA drops the caps each year.

The bills moving through the House exceed the caps on defense and thus would kick in a second form of sequestration – mandatory across the board cuts (with some protected programs) – unless the BCA is amended.

Can they amend the BCA? **YES**

# A Budget Deal to Give Sequestration Relief?

**IF** there is a budget deal (raising the caps), the main state of play is expected to be around whether or not there is **parity** between raising the caps for the defense/national security discretionary and the caps for the non-defense discretionary funds – meaning whatever you do for one (say, raise the defense cap by \$50b), you do for the other (then raising the non-defense cap by \$50b).

The House-passed appropriations bill exceeds the defense caps by nearly \$78b, but drops the non-defense discretionary funding to \$5b below the FY18 cap. The Senate bills exceed both the defense and non-defense FY18 caps.

# Many Things Have Impacted both You and Washington, D.C.

# Natural Disasters

## *Resources for You*

# For Humor's Sake



RINE  
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COLUMBIANA, MISSISSIPPI

"...AND NOW, WE'RE KEEPING A CLOSE WATCH ON HURRICANE DONALD,  
BUT WE DON'T KNOW IF HE'S MOVING TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT!"

# Resources

- During Hurricane Harvey, the Department activated their emergency response contact center to provide resources to schools, IHEs and students affected by the storm.
  - Please see [this blog](#) from EdPrepMatters, and visit the Department's [Hurricane Help](#) website for more information.
- Following Hurricane Harvey and before Hurricane Irma, the Department held a webinar featuring state education and FEMA officials to highlight federal and state resources available to them as they begin the recovery process.
  - More information on these resources are [featured in a blog](#) on EdPrepMatters (different than the aforementioned blog).

# Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

**On September 5, the President announced his intention to end the DACA program in March 2018**

# Resources For You and Your Partners

United We Dream, National Immigration Law Center and the American Federal of Teachers jointly released [resources](#) for higher education and K-12 educators.

The National Educators Association [immigration website](#) has many resources listed on the right hand side for you to use.

You are encouraged to also explore other national organizations to which you or your K-12 partners belong to learn more on the actions to take and the impact of the DACA rescission in March 2018.

# Legislative Solution?

There are multiple solutions in the House and Senate to the DACA challenge.

[AACTE supports](#) 2 of the bills being considered as this unfolds on Capitol Hill: the DREAM Act and the BRIDGE Act. The momentum is around the more comprehensive DREAM Act which has been introduced each congress since 2001.

This issue is definitely in the political **and** legislative mix for the fall, but the timing & the path forward remain unclear at this point in time.

# Higher Education Reauthorization

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# On the Horizon



# The 115th Congress: HEA Reauthorization (?)

**Both Chairman Alexander (Senate HELP) and Chairwoman Foxx (House Ed & the Workforce) remain committed to reauthorizing the Higher Education Act this Congress.**

- Timeline – *rumors* include this fall – which in DC terms means before the end of the year we could see a bill...
- Could run into 2018, an election year, adding a different variety of political calculations into the mix – especially in the Senate.
- No draft bill(s) at this time.
- Could depend on reconciliation instructions for FY18.

**STAY TUNED**

# Title II of the Higher Education Act : EPRA

The [Educator Preparation Reform Act](#) is a bill that has been re-introduced in multiple congresses and reauthorizes Title II of the Higher Education Act.

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) introduced [S.1694](#) in the Senate and Representative Ruben Kihuen (D-NV) introduced [H.R. 3636](#) in the House just before August recess.

Currently we are doing targeted outreach to get Republican cosponsors on these measures.

**Be sure to sign up for the [AACTE Action Alerts](#) to engage on this & other matters!**

# Implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act

# Department's ESSA Webpage

To stay updated on the latest that is released from the U.S. Department of Education in ESSA implementation, you can monitor the Department's [resources webpage](#).

There is a vast amount of information on the steps being undertaken by the Department, as well as what is being shared with the states.

# Educator Preparation & the Consolidated State Plan

By now, each state should have submitted its Consolidated State Plan sharing key pieces for educator preparation, including:

How it will [spend](#) Title II-A money (see our [ESEA Policy Page](#))

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](#).

# State Plan Resources

- Overall resource page for the state plans – one can review the plans submitted thus far by states:  
<https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/index.html>
- Consolidated State Plan FAQ:  
<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essastateplansfaq.pdf>
- State's notice of intent to submit (which date):  
<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essastplannotice.html>

# GET AT THE TABLE

Otherwise, **you** are on the menu.

Explore your state plan – even if you were not at the table, can you **now** join in and engage on the implementation of ESSA?

This is just one step of a lot of work, and of **much** opportunity!

# Key Funding Issue!

As we discussed earlier, the House defunded Title II-A of ESSA.

Through the advocacy work of AACTE, NGA, and our K-12 partners, the Senate did not follow suit and flat-funded Title II-A.

*However, the battle is not over.*

If you or your partner uses Title II-A funds, be sure to be telling your story and sharing your successes.

# Your Actions and Engagement

# September Key Advocacy Actions

**STAY TUNED** for Action Alerts on federal funding for key programs that support your work in educator preparation and for cosponsorship requests.

Sign up for [AACTE Action Alerts](#) if you have not and explore the [AACTE Advocacy Center!](#)

# Resources

- [Advocacy Center](#)
- Advocacy Guides - **SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED**
- AACTE Action Alerts
- Blogs – [Ed Prep Matters](#)
- Tweets - @AACTE, @Koolbeck
- Websites on [state](#) and [federal](#) policy
- 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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