

July 2016 Federal Update

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Questions will be taken at the end of the presentation.

Appropriations for FY17

Appropriations

HOUSE:

All 12 appropriations bills have moved through full committee

SENATE :

All 12 appropriations bills have moved through full committee

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs has passed both the House and Senate and is the likely vehicle for an omnibus or CRomnibus.

In September the Congress will pass a Continuing Resolution (CR).
The real question is until when:

December 2016

March 2017

September 2017

Appropriations Moving Forward

It is expected that the Congress will pass a CR in September to return to the campaign trail sooner rather than later.

The timeline of the CR is dependent on how the election is looking.

- Who is ahead in the presidential campaign?

- Can the Senate flip to Democratic control?

- Key Members of Congress in trouble or exceling.

- TPP trade deal, a real bone of contention.

- Other unpredicted events

- Other factors

Current CR Options

December 2016

Action happens during the lame duck session post-election. Departing Members of Congress have one last time to make an impact, particularly if control of the body changes.

March 2017

If it is looking good for the GOP to take the White House and hold the Congress this would allow for GOP priorities to dominate FY17 spending and beyond.

September 2017

Congress is actually tying the hands of the next President if it CR's through the entire Fiscal Year by stunting various processes, including the budget process.

Labor-H Bill

Both the House and the Senate moved the Labor-H bill through full committee.

Neither bill saw Floor action before the congressional recess.

The House approved a \$66.8b budget for ED; vote 31-19
Zeroed out Teacher Quality Partnerships
Amendment to restore TQP by Rep. Price failed
Policy Rider prohibiting the teacher prep regs survived

The Senate approved a \$67.8b budget for ED; vote 29-1
Funded TQP at \$43.1m (flat funded)
No policy riders in this bipartisan measure

Hope for the Policy Rider?

Having language in the appropriations bill – the omnibus or CRomnibus is currently the best chance at stopping the promulgation and implementation of the proposed regulations on teacher preparation programs.

CHALLENGES:

“Poison Pill Policy Riders” will kill the omnibus/CRomnibus. We must make the case in support of the policy rider to **both sides of the aisle** so that neither side sees the language as a poison pill, but an effort that constituents support.

Legislation

It's an Election Year

Not much is going to happen
legislatively until December
at the earliest.

Higher Education Act Reauthorization

A full reauthorization of HEA will not happen this year, especially given it's an presidential election year.

Groundwork will be laid for action in the next Congress.

Title II of HEA is the Teacher Preparation title containing:

- TQP
- Title II data collection
- State responsibility of identifying low performing programs
- Myriad of other programs that have never been funded

Conversations span from eliminating Title II to making some changes to it. In addition, the Administration may offer its own ideas on Title II.

Educator Preparation Reform Act (EPRA)

Introduced in Senate (S. 2419) and the House (H.R. 4471)

www.congress.gov

Supported by Higher Education and K-12

Amends Title II of HEA:

- Opens up TQP for principals
- Streamlines Title II data collection
- Deepens the incentives for states to hold teacher prep accountable by including ESSA Title II funds
- Amends TEACH grants

*Watch the **webinar** offered on March 21, 2016 on how to ask your Senators & Representative to cosponsor these bills.*

Proposed Regulations on Teacher Preparation Programs

Supplemental NPRM

THANK YOU for advocating on behalf of the profession!

If you have not shared your comments on this supplemental NPRM with both of your Senators and your Representative, please do so!

If you need guidance or assistance, please reach out via the email regs@aaacte.org!

Yes, the Regs are Still Coming

The Department still intends to release the final regulation in September.

We do not know what the final regulation will ultimately look like. For example, it is unclear if the Department has resolved the conflict between the regulation as proposed and ESSA (waivers, testing).

Our energy and attention is focused on crafting a congressional solution – it is not clear that the pending change in the presidency will have any effect on these regulations.

ADVOCACY

It is **vital** that you re-connect with your Members of Congress about the regulations, especially if you have not done so recently (out of sight, out of mind almost – their plates are very full and you have to stay in touch & keep them informed).

Given the latest action of the Department – the Supplemental NPRM, the references to the regs throughout the budget request, AND the pending release, it is an excellent time to remind your elected officials about the regulations.

If you advocated with others – the governor, your K-12 partners, your state elected officials – now is the time to also reconnect with them on this issue.

Implementation of ESSA

The Continuing Mad Scramble

The U.S. Department of Education and the states are scrambling to implement this new law.

The Department's [resources webpage](#) contains a vast amount of information on rulemaking and implementation.

Regs, Regs Regs

The Department has released its regulation on accountability and the State Plan, with a deadline of August 1 for comments.

AACTE is reviewing and will comment on provisions critical for teacher prep.

Also out are regulations on testing. And more are expected.

The Congress

Both the House and the Senate have held multiple hearings on the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

There are MANY aspects of the Departments actions, including through regulation, gaining the attention and the ire of the Congress.

Sadly, in an election year, often where one might expect bipartisanship there are some divisions along party lines. Many things get nuanced in an election year that at other times would have a more of Congress vs the Administration scenario.

Key Items to be Aware of in ESSA

- Definition of Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) is gone
- NCLB waivers gone as of August 1, 2016
- Be sure to know how your state defines 'alternative routes to licensure/certification'
- Title II focuses on teacher recruitment, preparation and training
 - State allotments
 - State allowable uses of funds (5%) of which there are 21
 - LEA allowable uses of funds (95%) of which there are 16
 - National programs

Title II Guidance

Currently we expect the Department to issue guidance and technical assistance on Title II.

We do not know when the Department will release Title II guidance.

STAY TUNED!

Timing on Implementing Title II

Some states have started to gather stakeholders to begin to select options for the State Activities of Title II. Some states have not even considered starting work on that part of ESSA at this time.

State plans are due in the spring – no hard and fast deadline yet.

There is no timeline on Title II implementation from the Department.

AACTE advises reaching out early and engaging early so that teacher preparation and higher education are at the table.

Stakeholder Engagement: REQUIRED

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

RESEARCH what is happening in YOUR state & the districts with whom you work to guide YOUR engagement.

GET AT THE TABLE

Partnering: My Colleague Needs To Be Here

There is a saying:

*If you are not at the table,
chances are you are on the menu.*

While it may not be obvious throughout Title II of ESSA that teacher preparation needs to be at the table, building partnerships and collaborations to engage on opportunities in Title II will help you get to the table.

Stakeholder Engagement: Resources

- [Guiding Principles on Stakeholder Engagement as Required in ESSA, Learning First Alliance](#)
- [Let's Get This Conversation Started: Strategies, Tools, Examples and Resources to Help States Engage with Stakeholders to Develop and Implement their ESSA Plans \(CCSSO\)](#)
- [Guidance for Stakeholder Engagement in ESSA, U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [Stakeholder Engagement Provisions in ESSA, National PTA](#)

Suggested Areas of Engagement

The state will need to define various things, 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.

Actions and Engagement

Advocacy Actions

Teacher Prep Regs – Engage with your Members of Congress back home – it is recess in an election year – they are looking to meet with constituents.

ESSA – Stakeholder and Title II engagement with K-12 and higher education colleagues – what opportunities are you creating?

Appropriations – actions in September, stay tuned!

Cosponsors on EPRA – Review **webinar** and reach out to your Members of Congress.

Relationships – build and maintain relationships with elected officials for your advocacy.

Continue to tell your story – you are doing fantastic work and it needs to be shared!

Resources

We have resources to support you in your advocacy work and to keep you up to date on important issues and activities happening at the federal level.

- Blogs
- Tweets
- Website
- 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
- Webinars on immediate action needs



Questions?

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