



Thursday, May 24, 2018

Dear CEF Members:

## I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **House Appropriations Committee freezes allocation for education funding bill** – As we had heard would be the case, yesterday the House Appropriations Committee approved [suballocations](#) for its 12 government funding bills – known as the 302(b) allocations – that freeze fiscal year (FY) 2019 funding for the Labor-HHS-Education bill at last year’s level. The \$18 billion increase in non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending for FY 2019 is allocated primarily to the Homeland Security, Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, State-Foreign Operations, and Commerce-Justice-Science bills. The table below includes both defense and NDD funding – some bills have some of both types of funding. We’ll know the NDD levels once we see the Congressional Budget Office scores for the bill. Note that the Appropriations press release describes the Military Construction/VA bill as a \$4.2 billion increase.
- **Congressional Democrats unveil their education plan** – On Tuesday, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) released an economic plan for the future that includes a large investment in education. The education plan, called “[A Better Deal for Teachers and Students](#),” includes five main pledges for elementary and secondary education, to be paid for by rolling back the just-enacted tax cuts for the top 1 percent. If enacted, four of the five components of the plan would mean big investments special education, Title I, teacher pay, and school infrastructure. The plan includes:
  1. **Teachers:** Dedicate \$50 billion to states and school districts to increase teacher compensation and recruit and retain a strong, diverse workforce over the next 10 years.
  2. **School infrastructure:** Establish a new \$50 billion fund for school infrastructure and resources.
  3. **Title I schools:** Provide additional support to initiatives that increase capacity in Title I schools and ensure all students have access to academic opportunities like computer science, music, and civics.
  4. **Collective bargaining rights:** Protect teachers’ freedom to negotiate for better pay and conditions by safeguarding the right of public employees to join unions, collectively bargain, and engage in collective action to support each other.

5. **Special education:** Meet our federal commitment to fund special education.

- **Review of the President’s rescission package** – The Government Accountability Office (GAO) on Tuesday released its [report](#) reviewing the \$15.4 billion proposed for rescission by the Administration (now introduced in the House as H.R. 3). As you may recall, agencies freeze any funding included in a rescission package while Congress has 45 days to consider the proposal. GAO found that agencies did not withhold from obligation any amounts greater than what was proposed. GAO reported that two of the 28 rescission – a total of \$144 million of transportation cuts – cannot be withheld from obligation or included in this type of package. House Republicans have been gauging support for the proposal, which appears questions at this point. They had wanted GAO’s report before moving forward, in case there were items like these two – or possibly the rescissions of mandatory spending for the Children’s Health Insurance Program – that did not meet the requirements of what could be in the rescission package.

## II. Events

- **CEF’s Education Funding Fair on June 5** – Come network with the education community at CEF’s first Education Funding Fair on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, June 5, 5-7pm, in 902 Hart Senate Office Building. We have also invited all Hill education staffers to this reception, which provides a chance to network and display what CEF and its members do. In addition to CEF posters and information, we’ll have tables for CEF member materials representing the education continuum if you’d like to display handouts/materials that describe your organization or institution and its work. If you’d like to provide materials for the Fair, please contact CEF Advocacy and Research Committee co-chair Corey Williams at NEA at [CWilliams@nea.org](mailto:CWilliams@nea.org) so we can plan. Also, if you are planning to attend please RSVP [here](#) to give us a head count for catering and set-up.
- **CEF’s research briefing on June 15 on “Paying for College: What the Federal Investment means for Students and Universities”**– Save the date for CEF’s first summer research briefing on “Paying for College: What the Federal Investment means for Students and Universities” on Friday, June 15, from 9-11am at the NEA (1201 16<sup>th</sup> ST NW, Chanin Auditorium). This is in the time we hold Friday meetings so we hope you will be able to attend – we’ll have our customary half hour for breakfast and networking with the briefing beginning at 9:30. Speakers include Justin Humphrey from the Congressional Budget Office’s Budget Analysis Division; other speakers are still to be confirmed.
- **CEF’s upcoming schedule** –
  - **Tomorrow - Friday, May 25:** No CEF meeting (this is a change from the original schedule).
  - **Friday, June 1:** No CEF meeting (Congress is in recess).
  - **Tuesday, June 5, 5-7pm:** CEF Education Funding Fair, 902 Hart Senate Office Building. See above and attached flyer.
  - **Friday, June 8, 9-11am:** at AASCU, 1307 NY Ave, NW. Guest speaker: Brad Middleton, Education LA, Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL).

- **Friday, June 15, 9-11am:** CEF Research briefing on “Paying for College: What the Federal Investment means for Students and Universities,” at NEA, 1201 16<sup>th</sup> ST NW, Chanin Auditorium (B3). See above for details.
- **Friday, June 22, 9-11am:** Quarterly Committee meetings at University of California, 1608 Rhode Island Ave, NW.
- **Friday, June 29, 9-11am:** at AASCU, 1307 NY Ave, NW. Guest speaker: Robin Juliano, House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee Democratic staff.

My best,

Sheryl

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