



Thursday, March 8, 2018

Dear CEF Members:

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Rumors about possibility of a full-year continuing resolution (CR) for FY 2018 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill** – Our goal is always to inform you about what’s happening with education funding, and to report what we’re hearing -- but only when we’ve confirmed it. Today we are hearing talk about the possibility that disagreements about policy riders that are holding up negotiations on the Labor-HHS-Education FY 2018 appropriations bill could lead to enacting a year-long CR for that one bill. Our sources continue to tell us this is unlikely, and that the discussion today is mostly posturing. Keep in mind that a CR for the bill would cost the bill Democratic votes that it will need to pass (some Republicans will not support a spending package at the higher discretionary levels allowed under the recently enacted budget deal).
- **CEF continues to oppose a CR and to support a FY 2018 funding bill that increases education investments** – CEF is on the record opposing a CR and urging Congress to invest more of the non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding into education programs. A CR does not allow Congress to update priorities or take advantage of an increased allocation for the bill, even if it includes numerous exceptions to straight funding at last year’s levels (known as “anomalies”) for items with strong bipartisan support. Those items include increased funding for opioid abuse prevention and treatment, and for the National Institutes of Health that were cited in an agreement that went along with the budget deal that also included increases for college affordability and the Child Care Development Block Grant program in this bill.
- **Secretary DeVos to testify before the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee on March 20** – Secretary DeVos is scheduled to testify on the President’s FY 2019 education budget request at 10am on March 20. The hearing has not yet been officially announced, so the schedule may yet change.

My best,

Sheryl

Sheryl V. Cohen, Executive Director



1800 M Street, NW
Suite 500 South
Washington, DC 20036
T: 202-327-8125
cohen@cef.org
www.cef.org