



Tuesday, June 27, 2017

**Thanks to those who have already sponsored CEF's 2017 Gala!**

**Straight "A"'s sponsor:** American Federation of Teachers

**Star Student sponsor:** National Education Association

**Honor Roll sponsors:** AASA/Consortium for School Networking/National School Boards Association; ACT;

American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities;

Coalition on Adult Basic Education; Discovery Education; International Society for Technology in Education;

MRM Associates; National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; National Association of Secondary School Principals/National Association of Elementary School Principals/American Federation of School Administrators;

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships; and National PTA/National Association for College Admission Counseling

Dear CEF Members:

## **I. Policy Intelligence and Education News**

- **Budget and appropriations news** – Today it became clear that the House Budget Committee will not mark up a fiscal year (FY) 2018 budget resolution this week, which had been the Committee leadership's goal. That said, House leadership is proceeding with a topline for nondefense discretionary (NDD) that is \$5 billion below the FY 2018 sequester cap, which is about \$8 billion below the FY 2017 enacted level. It's not clear the leadership has settled on how much it wants to raise the defense cap.
- **Labor-HHS-Education markup in House Subcommittee** – It appears likely that the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee will mark up its FY 2018 bill the week of July 10, but a date has not been set and there is no official announcement. If the markup occurs at the same time as our budget book event – Thursday, July 13, from 10am-noon – we'll be prepared to provide information on the markup at the same time.
- We're told that rumors that the bill's allocation will be cut by \$5 billion below last year's level "sound about right," but again, we won't see an official allocation – the

bill's "302(b) allocation" – until the markup. A \$5 billion cut to this bill would mean that it is absorbing about 60% of the net \$8 billion cut to the FY 2017 NDD level even though the bill comprises only about 30% of all NDD spending. It is by far the largest NDD bill, and the second largest bill – Military Construction/VA – has already been marked up in Subcommittee with a \$4 billion increase in NDD for FY2018, meaning that the remaining other NDD programs face a total cut of more than \$8 billion.

- **Other Appropriations markups** – There are now more House Appropriations Committee and subcommittee markups of FY 2018 bills scheduled for this week. Recall that the subcommittee markups tend to be quick and not involve the offering of many or even any amendments.

**Subcommittee markup:**

- Agriculture – Wednesday, June 28, 10am in 2362-A Rayburn HOB
- Energy and Water - Wednesday, June 28, 11am in 2362-B Rayburn HOB
- Commerce, Justice, Science - Thursday, June 29, 2pm in H-140 The Capitol
- Financial Services and General Government – Thursday, June 29, 3pm in 2358-A Rayburn HOB

**Full Committee markup:**

- Legislative Branch – Thursday, June 29, 10:30am in 2359 Rayburn HOB
- Defense – Friday, June 30, 10am in 2359 Rayburn

- **Senate Democratic Leadership asks for new agreement on FY 2018 spending levels** - Yesterday Senators Schumer, Durbin, Murray, Stabenow, and Leahy wrote to Senate Majority Leader McConnell and Senate Appropriations Chair Cochran yesterday asking for bipartisan, bicameral negotiations to raise the NDD and defense spending caps for FY 2018. In the attached letter they expressed continued support for the principle of parity in providing “equal relief for both defense and non-defense programs that power our local economies.”

## II. Events

- **Reminder - NDD United Town Hall this Friday, June 30** – NDD United is holding a town hall Friday morning from 9-10:30am (CEF is not holding a Friday morning meeting) at the Association of American Medical Colleges, 655 K ST, NW. It will feature Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), chair of the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, who is also a member of the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee. RSVP [here](#) if you'd like to attend.
- **RSVP for release of CEF budget book on July 13** – Mark your calendars for July 13, 10am-noon, for the release of CEF's annual budget response book. We're putting together a great panel of practitioners representing the education continuum from our target states who will describe what federal funding means to learning in classrooms and elsewhere. The attached flyer has the specifics of the event – note that we'll also distribute CEF's 2017 directory then. Please RSVP to Janet Nice at [Nice@cef.org](mailto:Nice@cef.org).

- **CEF's upcoming schedule –**

- **Friday, July 7** – No CEF meeting while Congress is in recess.
- **Thursday, July 13, 10am-noon:** Release of CEF's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis book, "Education Matters: Investing in America's Future." Room G11 Dirksen Senate Office Building (see attached flyer for info and to RSVP).
- **Friday, July 21, 9-11 am:** CEF meeting (AFSCME, 1625 L ST, NW, 1<sup>st</sup> floor auditorium). Guest speaker: TBD
- **Friday, July 28, 9-11 am:** last CEF Friday meeting before the summer congressional recess (AASCU, 1307 NY Ave, NW). Guest speaker: TBD

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](mailto:cohen@cef.org)  
[www.cef.org](http://www.cef.org)

C

E

F

---

COMMITTEE FOR  
EDUCATION FUNDING

---

## You're Invited!

The Release of CEF's

**"EDUCATION MATTERS: Investing in America's Future"**

Featuring a Panel Discussion with Education Practitioners

Thursday, July 13, 2017

10 am - noon

Room G11 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Please RSVP to Janet Nice

[nice@cef.org](mailto:nice@cef.org)

The Committee for Education Funding (CEF), a coalition of more than 110 education associations and institutions from preschool to postgraduate education, invites you to the release of our annual analysis of the President's budget and federal funding for education.

Education Matters provides useful information on the need to invest in education, details on federal education programs, and how these vital programs improve the lives of millions of Americans and benefit the economy.

Please join us to find out more about how the President's fiscal year 2018 budget would affect education programs and the lives of the students and educators they benefit.

Attendees will receive the Budget Response and CEF's 2017 Membership Directory

COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FUNDING

C E F

### EDUCATION MATTERS:

*Investing in America's Future*

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 26, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran, Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Chairman Cochran:

With the expiration of the 2015 Bipartisan Budget Act on September 30, 2017, we believe that a bipartisan and bicameral agreement is needed to replace the irresponsible post-sequestration limits on defense and non-defense discretionary spending that remain in law. Democrats and Republicans demonstrated just recently that we can successfully pass spending bills when we put partisan ideology aside and work together on legislation that helps the middle class by growing the economy. Therefore, we want to reaffirm our principles for the budget and appropriations process and convey our expectations for a Fiscal Year 2018 agreement.

First, we must provide significant relief from sequestration. The sequestration budget cuts required by the Budget Control Act Of 2011 will have long-lasting consequences for America's hard-working families. Discretionary programs are critical for our national security, for creating infrastructure jobs across the nation, caring for our veterans, cleaning up our environment, and advancing scientific knowledge. We should not return to the post-sequestration limits on spending.

Second, we are committed to continuing the parity principle that has guided each of our recent bipartisan budget agreements. In the same way sequestration has undermined military readiness, sequestration has inhibited economic growth and job creation by failing to adequately invest in the infrastructure that makes our communities thrive: roads, bridges, transit and railroad systems, broadband, ports, airports, waterways, schools, and safe and clean water systems. It has eroded our investments in education, worker training, public health and community development that strengthen the middle class and working families. These shortfalls hurt the American people, our economy and make us less secure as a nation. On top of all this, it is now clear we face a shortfall when it comes to adequately funding veterans' health care. For these reasons, we must provide equal relief for both defense and non-defense programs that power our local economies.

Third, as we process the annual appropriations bills, it is essential that they not include poison pill riders, such as those that roll back protections for our veterans, the environment, consumers, and workers; or prohibit funds for critical healthcare services for women through Planned Parenthood. We strongly oppose the inclusion of such riders in any of the must-pass appropriations bills that fund the government.

Finally, we are once again concerned with the President's Fiscal Year 2018 request for a very expensive, ineffective new wall along the southern border with Mexico and new funding for the Department of Homeland Security to hire a "deportation force" and increase detention beds. In addition to the concerns about the border wall we outlined in our March 13, 2017, letter, we are troubled by a new funding request for the Department of Justice to hire an eminent domain strike team, which we understand to be litigators whose sole job will be to assert eminent domain and take private lands from American taxpayers to build a border wall.

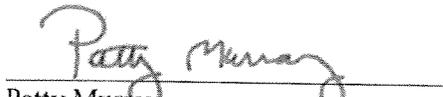
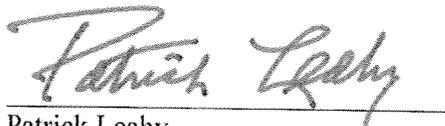
Funding for the government will expire on September 30 unless Congress acts. We are confident that the two parties can resolve our differences before then if we oppose the cuts proposed in the President's Fiscal Year 2018 budget and instead adhere to the principles laid out above – just like we did in April of this year for Fiscal Year 2017. However, we want to reiterate our position that we must complete *all* of the 12 appropriations bills, not just a select few. It is our responsibility to fund the government fully and on time and we are committed to working toward that goal.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. We look forward to working with you in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator

  
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator  
Patty Murray  
United States Senator  
Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator  
Patrick Leahy  
United States Senator