



Thursday, January 13, 2022

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Appropriations update** – The chairs and ranking members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees are scheduled to meet today to try again to negotiate how to move forward on fiscal year (FY) 2022 appropriations bills; the fiscal year began on October 1 but the government has been operating on an extension of funding at FY 2021 levels that expires on February 18. Democrats and Republicans haven't been able to agree on how much to increase defense and non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding or on the inclusion of policy riders (sometimes called “poison pill provisions” by those who oppose them) that would change several policies that are controversial. Republicans want equal increases for defense and NDD funding, while Democrats have passed bills in the House and proposed bills in the Senate Appropriations Committee that have larger NDD increases – increases that include recording increases for education programs. Republicans also want an agreement on policy riders before they negotiate on funding levels, which House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) states is the opposite order that in past negotiations. It's a good sign that the leaders are meeting but there hasn't been much public movement. We're hearing that all 12 government funding bills may not be complete by February 18, requiring another short-term extension of government funding into March, and that some FY 2022 bills – not the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill – may not be enacted, meaning their programs would be extended at FY 2021 funding levels for this entire fiscal year.
- **Administration giving 10 million more rapid tests to schools each month** - Yesterday the White House announced that it will give 10 million more COVID-19 tests per month to K-12 schools, half rapid tests and half PCR tests. The rapid tests are provided through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity and the PCR tests provided through the Department of Health and Human Service and funded by the American Rescue Plan. The White House [fact sheet here](#) has more details.
- **House extends GI bill education benefits** – Yesterday the House passed H.R. 1836, the Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act, which extends GI bill education benefits by counting time served in the reserves and National Guard. There had been controversy about the long-term costs of the expansion; the bill is deficit-neutral over the first ten years but some of the offsetting fees expired after 10 years.

II. Advocacy

- **Hill Meetings start tomorrow** – Members of CEF’s Advocacy and Hill Teams Committee are meeting tomorrow with the new education staffer for Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA), who is a member of the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee. CEF has meeting requests pending with others on that Subcommittee as well as the House Education and Labor Committee as part of our advocacy push for quick enactment of the education funding increases in FY 2022 appropriations and for the education investments in the various iterations of the Build Back Better Act.

III. CEF coalition action items

- **CEF Job Board** – There are many opportunities for great positions with CEF members! Check out the newest postings on the Job Board on the member-only page of the CEF website:
 - **National Association of State Directors of Special Education** - [Senior Director of Government Relations and External Affairs](#)
 - **National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators** - [Government Relations & Policy Associate](#)
 - **National College Attainment Network** - [Director of Policy and Advocacy](#)
 - **Georgetown University** – [Manager of Federal Government Relations](#)
 - **Advance CTE** – [Senior Policy Associate](#) and [Policy Associate](#)
 - **National Association of Federally Impact Schools** – [Executive Director](#)
- **Joining any of CEF’s committees** – This week I sent emails to the members of each of CEF’s five standing committees: Advocacy and Hill Teams, Social Media, Research, Gala, and Membership and Bylaws. CEF members can belong to as many or few committees as they wish – we’ll be talking about each committee’s agenda and then working on them at the quarterly planning meeting on Friday, January 21. If you already know you’d like to be part of a committee for which you didn’t receive an email, let me know and I will add you. We’ll set up monthly calls for each committee after next Friday’s quarterly meeting during which you have the chance to attend some committee meetings.
- **Reminder: it’s time to renew your CEF membership for 2022** – Thank you to those who have already renewed your CEF membership for 2022! The stronger the coalition is, the more impact CEF can have towards the goal of increasing the federal investment in education. The 2022 membership renewal form is on CEF’s website [here](#) and is due by February 11. The renewal form is also an opportunity to tell us who you in your organization should receive the CEF Updates and to revise your description for CEF’s 2022 membership directory.

IV. Events

- **National Educator Shortage Summit** – Several CEF member organizations are among those sponsoring a two-day National Educator Shortage Summit in Florida on February 7-8. See the agenda and registration details [here](#).
- **CEF’s upcoming schedule** -

- **Tomorrow - Friday, January 14** - 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Philip Tizzani, House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee Democratic staff.
- **Friday, January 21** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom quarterly committee meeting](#). This is a chance for each committee to work on its agenda for the year, and for CEF members to learn more about which committee(s) they might like to join.
- **Friday, January 28** – no CEF meeting.
- **Friday, February 4** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
- **Friday, February 11** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Rashage Green, House Education and Labor Committee Democratic staff.