



Tuesday, January 15, 2019

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **House Democrats make more committee assignments** – Last night [the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee](#) announced the new members recommended to join the [Education and Labor Committee](#). The full Democratic caucus still needs to ratify the recommendations, but that should be just a formality. Until all committee assignments are complete we won't know if some of the past members will choose to leave to join other committees, and Republicans haven't announced all their appointments yet. We will share the full roster of members on the education funding-related committees once they are finalized, and will start asking for Hill meetings with the new members. The 14 new Democratic members of the Education and Labor Committee are:
 - Congressman Josh Harder of California
 - Congresswoman Jahana Hayes of Connecticut
 - Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal of Washington
 - Congresswoman Susie Lee of Nevada
 - Congressman Andy Levin of Michigan
 - Congresswoman Lucy McBath of Georgia
 - Congressman Joe Morelle of New York
 - Congresswoman Ilhan Omar of Minnesota
 - Congresswoman Kim Schrier of Washington
 - Congresswoman Donna Shalala of Florida
 - Congresswoman Haley Stevens of Michigan
 - Congressman David Trone of Maryland
 - Congresswoman Lauren Underwood of Illinois
 - Congresswoman Susan Wild of Pennsylvania
- **Shutdown of part of the government continues** – My optimistic prediction from Friday that the government would be funded by today was, sadly, too optimistic. After more than 24 days, there is still no clear path towards a solution that will provide funding for the seven fiscal year 2019 government funding bills that have yet to be passed. Current options include the following:
 - **Agree to last year's bipartisan Senate funding bills** - House Democrats have passed a number of individual funding bills as well as an omnibus comprising 6 of the 7 bills, with a short-term extension for the Homeland Security bill, which is the bill that would fund a border wall. However, Senate Majority Leader has not called for a Senate vote on any of them because he said there is no point to passing bills the President has said he will not sign.

- **Pass short-term funding extensions and continue negotiating** - House Democrats today plan to consider a bill to temporarily extend last year's funding until February 1, and then later this week to bring up another bill that would extend funding until February 28. These proposals appear to be non-starters for the President, who said "I'm not interested" in approving a short-term extension because he wants Congress to provide \$5.7 billion for a border wall before he will agree to reopen the government.
- **Bipartisan Senate negotiations for a solution** – A group of Senators are trying to find compromise options, which might include a range of immigration policies and border security funding.
- **President declares a national emergency to use existing funding for a border wall** – The President has floated the possibility that he would declare a national emergency that could allow him to repurpose existing appropriations to start building a wall. Presumably, he would then sign the funding bills to reopen the government.
- **Reminder - NDD United sign-on letter to increase non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending caps** – [NDD United](#) is circulating a sign-on [letter](#) urging Congress to quickly negotiate a new budget agreement to avert the deep cut to non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending that would occur under the existing discretionary spending caps in fiscal year (FY) 2020. The deadline for signing on is January 31. Information on the letter and how your organization can sign on is [here](#).

II. Events

- **ASCA briefing on “The Role of the School Counselor in Creating a Safe and Supportive School Environment” on Jan. 31** – CEF member the American School Counselor Association is hosting a lunch briefing featuring a panel of school counselors from across the country. The briefing is on Thursday, January 31, 12:30-2:30pm in room SVC 201 in the Capitol Visitor Center. Please RSVP [here](#) by January 25.
- **CEF's upcoming schedule** –
 - **Friday, Jan. 18**, 9-11am, at AFT (555 New Jersey Ave, NW, 4th floor). Guest speakers are the staff of the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee: Robin Juliano, Clerk for Education and Labor programs; Philip Tizzani; and Jared Bass.
 - **Friday, Jan. 25**, 9-11:30am, [Membership retreat/first quarterly committee meeting, at University of California \(1608 Rhode Island Ave, NW, auditorium\).](#) Please try to attend – this is your opportunity to help shape CEF's plans for 2019 and join committees.
 - **Friday, Feb. 1** – No CEF meeting.
 - (tentative new date) **Wed. or Thur., Feb. 6 or Feb. 7** – CEF Hill reception for the 116th Congress. Stay tuned for details.
 - **Friday, Feb. 8**, 9-11am, at AACTE (1307 New York Ave, NW, auditorium). Guest speaker: TBD.
- Sarah

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