



Wednesday, January 30, 2019

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Administration budget items** – The President’s State of the Union speech has been rescheduled for Tuesday evening (February 5), and it will likely include some broad budget themes, if not details. We know that non-defense agencies were instructed to submit fiscal year (FY) 2020 budgets that were cut by at least 5% (of course, many agencies don’t yet know their FY 2019 budget). As a reminder, the Administration’s previous two budget requests cut the Department of Education funding by about 11%. The Administration has not yet announced a new date to release its budget, which had been expected on February 4 but will be delayed due to the 35-day shutdown that included the Office of Management and Budget and the budget offices of the shuttered agencies. We expect the budget to be released no sooner than mid-March, and expect deep cuts for education programs.
- **House Education and Labor Committee open for action** – The House Education and Labor Committee officially started its work yesterday, including announcing subcommittee chairs and ranking members.
 - **Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education** – Chair: Del. Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Northern Mariana Islands), Ranking Member: Rep. Rick Allen (GA)
 - **Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment** – Chair: Rep. Susan Davis (CA), Ranking Member: Rep. Lloyd Smucker (PA)
 - **Subcommittee on Workforce Protections** – Chair: Rep. Alma Adams (NC), Ranking Member: Rep. Bradley Byrne (AL)
 - **Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions** – Chair: Rep. Frederica Wilson (FL), Ranking Member: Rep. Tim Walberg (MI)
 - **Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services** – Chair: Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (OR), Ranking Member: Rep. James Comer (KY)

The committee also announced the topics for its first four hearings, one of which is investing in America’s public schools.

- **School infrastructure bill** – Politico reports that today Rep. Donald Norcross (D-NJ) and Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) will announce a new iteration of last Congress’s “Rebuild America’s Schools Act.” The legislation would support investing \$100 billion over ten years in school infrastructure, including digital access. With a few exceptions, the federal government currently does not fund school construction and modernization. In addition to improving school infrastructure, this proposal also would create 1.9 million jobs.

II. Advocacy

- **CEF Hill visits start this week** – Yesterday CEF Hill Teams met with education staffers for two of the three new Democrats on the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee. Yujin Lee said Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ) will focus on first-generation college students, among other education areas. (Yujin is leaving the office to become the legislative director for Rep. Andy Kim (D-NJ), and invited suggestions for a replacement to handle education.) Brad Solyan with Rep. Lois Frankel (D-FL) said she is working on a proposal for veterans education, and will continue her ongoing efforts on behalf of early education.
- **Reminder: Deadline tomorrow for 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 tomorrow, January 31. Information on the letter and how your organization can sign on is here.

III. Events

- **Tomorrow - NASSP briefing on “Student Voice and Youth Engagement in the 2018 Midterm Elections and Beyond”**– CEF member the National Association of Secondary School Principals is hosting a briefing featuring members of its Student Leadership Advisory Committee to learn more about the issues motivating voter turnout and civic engagement among youth. The breakfast briefing is tomorrow, January 31, 9-10am in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building. Please RSVP here.
- **Congressional CTE Caucus briefing on “Career and Technical Education 101” on Feb. 8** – The Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus is hosting a briefing on how CTE benefits students and businesses, featuring panelists from CEF members AdvanceCTE and Association for Career and Technical Education. The briefing is on February 8 at 11am in 2103 Rayburn House Office Building. Please RSVP to Kerry.Mckittrick@mail.house.gov in Rep. Jim Langevin’s office.
- **CEF’s upcoming schedule** –
 - **Friday, Feb. 1** – No CEF meeting.
 - **Friday, Feb. 8** – 9-11am, at AACTE (1307 New York Ave, NW, auditorium). Guest speaker: (tentative) James Redstone, Domestic Policy Council.
 - **February date TBD** – CEF Hill reception for the 116th Congress. Stay tuned for details.
 - **Friday, Feb. 15** – 9-11am, at AFT (555 New Jersey Ave, NW). Guest speaker: TBD.
 - **Friday, Feb. 22** – No CEF meeting during scheduled congressional recess.

- Sarah

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