



I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **What to expect next on education funding** – Happy 2020! There’s a lull in action on appropriations now, since Congress last month enacted funding for the rest of fiscal year (FY) 2020 – CEF’s funding table is on the “Charts” part of our website [here](#) – and the President’s FY 2021 budget isn’t due to be submitted to Congress until February 3. There’s a chance that the Administration’s budget might be delayed a bit while the Administration updates all the FY 2020 levels that were just finalized before Christmas. The statutory cap on nondefense discretionary (NDD) funding increases by only \$5 billion (0.8%) from FY 2020 to FY 2021, setting the stage for yet another squeeze on funding for education and all other NDD programs. (The cap on defense discretionary spending also increases by the same amount.) Now is the time to lay the advocacy groundwork with Congress: thank them for the FY 2020 education increases, explain why these education investments are so important, and make the case for why education funding should be increased for FY 2021.
 - **CEF will start a new round of Hill visits in the coming weeks** – We will reach out to last year’s Advocacy and Hill Teams Committee members to invite participation once meetings are scheduled.
- **What’s happening now** – The Senate is waiting for the House to transmit the articles of impeachment that were passed last month and would turn to a trial shortly after receiving them – something that will take most of the Senate’s time once it starts. Committee hearings and consideration of legislation will resume, but there isn’t much yet on the calendar. On the education front, next week the House will consider [H.J.Res.76](#), a Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval of the Department of Education’s Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule. The House Education and Labor Committee held a hearing on the rule in December, with Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA) [objecting](#) to the Department’s decision to not provide full debt relief to students defrauded by their college.

II. CEF Planning Items

- **CEF 2020 membership renewal** – Thank you to those who have already sent in your membership renewal for 2020. CEF membership runs from January to January, and we sent out renewal notices last month – I’ve attached the form in case it is helpful. We are excited about our plans for this year, and look forward to working with you to further increase the federal investment in education. Details:
 - Dues have not changed for years, and are staying at the current rates.
 - The renewal forms are due by February 14. We will send an invoice for the dues once we receive your updated membership form.

- **CEF's upcoming schedule –**
 - **Friday, January 10** - 9-11 a.m. at AFT (555 New Jersey Ave, NW, 9th floor): Guest speaker TBD.
 - **Friday, January 17** - 9-11 a.m. at AFSCME (1625 L Street, NW, Board Room. Guest Speaker TBD.
 - **Friday, January 24** – no CEF meeting during Congressional recess.
 - **Friday, January 31** - 9-11 a.m. Location TBD. This is our Membership Retreat, and the first quarterly Committee planning meeting. We encourage everyone to attend, and to sign up for the committees that you'd like to be a part of next year. We'll send information about this in advance.