



Wednesday, October 27, 2021

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **No final agreement yet on reconciliation bill parameters** – Democrats continue to negotiate the size and content of a reconciliation bill, with apparent agreement that the size will be closer to \$2 trillion over ten years than the \$3.5 trillion ceiling set in the fiscal year (FY) 2022 budget resolution. House committees this fall reported provisions that together reach that higher total, so the final bill will either not include some of the provisions or include smaller versions of them, either in scope or duration. The President’s agenda and the House reconciliation proposals contain many education proposals. (The CEF Updates of 9.8.21 and 9.13.21 described the education provisions and included CEF tables detailing the education funding and comparing the President’s proposals with the House bills. You can access previous CEF Updates on the password-protected Member Area of the [CEF website](#).) In the last week, it has been widely reported that the proposal for free community college will not be included in the reconciliation bill, and that the early childhood proposals for universal pre-K and child care will remain in some format. In a Dear Colleague letter today noting that she has asked the House Rules Committee to meet tomorrow on the Democratic agenda, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) wrote: “In the “Care Can’t Wait” category, there is broad agreement on the child tax credit, universal pre-K and child care, home health care, housing and workforce development.”
- **Video and slides from yesterday’s CEF Hill briefing on Historic Underfunding of Education and Long-Term Needs** – Thanks to all the CEF members who helped plan and invite speakers for yesterday’s informative Hill briefing. The 28 congressional education staffers who attended the Zoom webinar along with 40 CEF members heard great presentations from panelists from the Department of Education, CEF member First Focus for Children, the Superintendent of Public Education for Michigan, and the enrollment and financial aid director for an HBCU in New Orleans. We will use excerpts from their presentations as part of our ongoing #HearOurEdStories social media campaign that illustrates the many ways federal education funding matters to the public. If you missed the briefing, you can see the video and download the panelists’ slides on [CEF’s event page here](#).
- **Reminder: nominations for CEF’s 2022 Board of Directors are due Nov. 5** – The CEF Update of [10.5.21](#) included the full details about nominations to serve on CEF’s Board of Directors next year and the election in December, when CEF members will elect 8 people to CEF’s Board. I encourage those interested in playing an active role in CEF to consider submitting a nomination for a position on next year’s Board. Nominations are due by November 5 (the Candidate Profile form is attached).

II. Advocacy

- **Sample tweet in support of education investments** – CEF is continuing to advocate for greater education investments for both fiscal year 2022 appropriations and in the Build Back Better reconciliation bill. We have updated our #HearOurEdStories social media toolkit to discuss the historic education investments currently under discussion. Each week we are providing sample tweets each week that our members can use or adapt to focus on funding for specific education programs. The following sample tweets could be sent with the attached chart (“#HearOurEdStories - education is 3.7% of the President’s 2022 budget”):
 - Education builds a stronger economy. Education strengthens minds. Education helps the community. Urge Congress to pass the transformative investments in education that the President proposed this year. Find out how with the @edfunding toolkit at <https://cef.org/advocacy/5%c2%a2-makes-sense-updated/>

III. Events

- **First-Generation College Celebration Day on November 8** – CEF member the Council for Opportunity in Education, together with others, is sponsoring a national panel discussion to highlight first-generation college students on the anniversary of President Johnson signing the Higher Education Act. The webinar is on November 8 from 3-4pm ET. Registration and information are [here](#).
- **CEF’s upcoming schedule -**
 - **Friday, Oct. 29** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Peter Mills, Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT).
 - **Friday, Nov. 5** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Rich Williams, Office of the Under Secretary at US Department of Education.
 - **Friday, Nov. 12** – no CEF Friday meeting while Congress is in recess.
 - **Friday, Nov. 19** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
 - **Friday, Nov. 26** – no CEF Friday meeting – enjoy the Thanksgiving break.