



COMMITTEE FOR
EDUCATION FUNDING

Monday, November 16, 2020

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **This week in Congress** – Both the House and Senate are back in session this week, with plenty of appropriations-related items on their agenda but a shaky outlook for quick success on negotiations for final fiscal year (FY) 2021 government funding bills or a COVID-relief package. Senate Appropriations Committee chair Richard Shelby (R-AL) seems optimistic about reaching agreement with the House on the annual spending bills, saying the Senate and House are “probably 90% together.” Reportedly Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell will replace Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin as the lead negotiator with House Democrats on a COVID-relief package. This week the House will hold leadership elections for the 117th Congress: Republican elections are tomorrow and Democratic leadership elections are on Wednesday and Thursday. On Thursday or Friday, the House will vote on H.R. 8294, the National Apprenticeship Act of 2020. There are no education-related hearings scheduled.
- **Video and slides from CEF’s Thursday briefing on “State Education Budgets and the Impact of COVID-19”** – Thursday’s CEF briefing on “State Education Budgets and the Impact of COVID-19” was a success – very informative and well-attended (more than 100 people joined the Zoom webinar, include 31 congressional education staffers). Thanks to CEF’s Research Committee for their great work in arrange this briefing and the four others CEF has held this year. If you missed it, you can watch the video on CEF’s event page, and the panelist slides are posted there. The briefing offered helpful data about what happened in the last recession to state education budgets, with education layoffs, and state support for public higher education and tuition increases. It also provided concerning information about what’s already happened this year with education layoffs and what’s likely ahead for education budget cuts unless there’s increased federal support for education.

III. Advocacy

- **This week is #HearOurEdStories week on social media** – Today through Friday is #HearOurEdStories week on social media, and we urge your organization and grassroots members to share their education experience responding to the coronavirus pandemic and to urge Congress to provide more education funding for both the response and for the regular education funding bill (see full details in the CEF Update 11.10.20 #3). CEF’s #HearOurEdStories social media toolkit makes it easy for the public to tell their Members of Congress about their education priorities, with instructions for how to find their Members of Congress and their Twitter address, sample messages, and

instructions for posting. ([CEF is @edfunding on Twitter and Instagram and @Cmte4edfunding on Facebook](#); please follow us if you haven't already.)

- **Tuesday! Please join in CEF's Twitter chat (@edfunding) from 4-5pm ET** – CEF will be holding a Twitter chat tomorrow, Nov. 17, from 4-5pm ET to highlight the importance of education funding for the incoming Biden Administration (the CEF Update on 11.13.20 has sample promotional tweets, the 6 questions we'll be asking, charts that can be used, and instructions on how to participate). We hope you and your organization will participate, even just retweeting the questions, as [the Twitter chat is a great way to highlight the importance of education funding and grow followers for CEF and participants, which helps more people learn about CEF's and your group's advocacy.](#)
- **CEF letter urging Congress to increase education funding** – On Friday, CEF letter sent a [letter to all Members of Congress](#) urging them to significantly increase education funding in both an emergency relief bill to address COVID-related costs and in the final fiscal year (FY) 2021 Labor-HHS-Education funding bill. [We will continue to push this broad message on the importance of increased education investments through all our advocacy – in meetings with Hill offices, through the social media push this week \(described above\), through our briefings \(like the one on Thursday\), among other efforts.](#)

III . Events

- **AERA forum on Measuring Teaching at a Global Scale on Nov. 24** – CEF member the American Educational Research Association (AERA) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development are holding an interactive policy forum to discuss new results from the Global Teaching InSights Video Study on November 24, 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET. After a presentation of findings, an international panel of policymakers, experts, and representatives from the teaching profession will consider the results and discuss implications for further improving teaching and learning. Information and registration are available [here](#).
- **CEF's schedule for November and December -**
 - **This week: Nov. 16-20** – #HearOurEdStories week on social media. The [updated toolkit](#) and full information is in [CEF Update 11.10.20 #3](#).
 - **Tomorrow: Tuesday, Nov. 17** – Twitterchat on priorities for education funding next year. See full information in the CEF Update on 11.13.20..
 - **Friday, Nov. 20** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Gabriele Elul, House Budget Committee.
 - **Tuesday, Nov 24** - 2021 CEF Board nominations and recommended slate shared in advance of annual meeting on Dec. 11.
 - **Friday, Nov. 27** – No Friday meeting the day after Thanksgiving.
 - **Friday, Dec. 4** - 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Leslie Zelenko, Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI).
 - **Friday, Dec. 11** - 9:30-11:30 a.m. ET, Zoom Annual Meeting (link to come). Keynote speaker: 2020 National Teacher of the Year Tabatha Rosproy!

Attendance is important for elections and preview of CEF's 2021 plans.