



Wednesday, November 28, 2018

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Congressional leadership elections** – The House Democratic caucus is holding its closed-door leadership elections today. So far, Democrats voted in a new Caucus chair, selecting Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) over Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), who is a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education. The caucus has yet to make its choice for Speaker, Majority Leader, Majority whip, and a number of other conference positions.
- **Negotiations continue on remaining FY 2019 funding bills** – Reportedly negotiations are near final on most of the remaining seven government funding bills, with the exception of the Homeland Security bill, where the amount to provide for a southern border wall is a huge sticking point. The President is insisting on \$5 billion as a down-payment for FY 2019, which is the level in the House version of the bill; the bipartisan Senate bill provides \$1.6 billion. Senate Appropriations Chairman Richard Shelby (R-AL) reported that the President had vowed to veto any bill that provides only \$1.6 billion, raising the possibility of a partial government shutdown if Congress and the President can't reach agreement. Programs funded by those seven bills are operating on a short-term funding extension that expires on December 7. The 7 outstanding bills are Homeland Security, Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Financial Services, Interior and Environment, State-Foreign Operations, and Transportation-HUD.
- **Special budget and appropriations reform committee still hasn't voted** – The Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform will try a third time to report out recommendations, postponing their vote until tomorrow at 9am. Two previous meetings were suspended because Democrats are concerned that the bill, which gets expedited consideration in the Senate, could become the vehicle for unrelated policy provisions or other “poison pills.” The Committee’s main recommendation is to move to a biennial budget resolution rather than an annual one, although it will preserve the ability to have budget reconciliation instructions each year (for more details on the Committee and its recommendations, see the [Update](#) on November 15). The mark-up will be livestreamed [here](#).

II. Events

- **CEF Annual Meeting moved to Thursday, December 13, 9-noon** – We strongly encourage everyone to attend – in person or on the phone if that's not possible, as those present will elect new additions to CEF Board and vote on CEF's budget for next year. We'll also discuss CEF's 2019 strategic plan, and provide some CEF swag and our thanks to those who have participated on CEF committees this year. Also... the legendary hot breakfast! Importantly, we always try to get a special keynote speaker and are trying to secure a Member of Congress to talk about education funding. To make that more likely we are shifting the annual meeting from its originally scheduled timeslot on Friday, December 14, and will hold it instead on Thursday, December 13 at the Hall of States (444 North

[Capitol Street, NW, Room 383](#)). Tomorrow we will circulate the slate of candidates for the Board and the process for voting, including how to register in advance to vote electronically if you can only participate by conference call on December 13. Those planning to attend in person, please [RSVP here](#).

- **CEF's upcoming schedule –**
 - **Friday, Nov. 30, 9-11am, at AASCU, 1307 New York Ave, NW, auditorium.** Guest speaker: TBD.
 - **Friday, Dec. 7, 9-11am, at AFSCME, 1625 L St, NW, 1st floor conference room.** Guest speakers: (tentative) Democratic staff of the House Education and the Workforce Committee.
 - **Thursday, Dec. 13, 9-noon, CEF annual meeting, at Hall of States (444 North Capitol St, NW, Room 383).** Please [RSVP here](#). (See details above.) This is the last **CEF** meeting of the year.

My best,

Sheryl

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