



Thursday, March 7, 2019

## I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **President's 2020 budget on Monday; what it might mean for education** – The Administration is releasing its fiscal year (FY) 2020 budget request on Monday, March 11, although only the main summary volume and the summary tables will be published next week. The more detailed backup material is expected the following week. Agencies' program-level budget material will be released over time.

As we've described earlier, the President's budget will cut non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding by at least 9% to get down to the statutory NDD cap. However, the budget may cut an additional 5% below that level, according to what the acting director of the Office of Management and Budget wrote last week. The NDD funding cut may not be applied across the board, and some agencies are likely to be cut more deeply to offset increases elsewhere. To provide some perspective on how deep the cut could be, it would require greater cuts than the President's FY 2019 request for the Department of Education, which was about 11% below what Congress ultimately provided (it was 11.6% below the FY 2019 enacted level counting the rescission of \$600 million of previously appropriated funding for Pell Grants, and was 10.8% below the level not including that rescission). But we have a sense of where additional cuts might be made because the Administration was planning to cut education funding by an additional \$3.3 billion until Congress enacted a deal that raised the FY 2018 and FY 2019 NDD caps just before the President's budget was released. That original request for FY 2019 is about 16% (\$11 billion) below the FY 2019 enacted level, and provides a sense of how much could be cut from the Department of Education if there is a 14% cut. The extra cuts the Administration had planned to make before the spending caps were raised were:

- \$1.6 billion rescission of Pell Grant funding,
  - \$525 million cut to Impact Aid,
  - \$400 million cut to TRIO programs,
  - \$500 million less for a new opportunity grant, and
  - an extra \$300 million cut for Federal Work Study on top of the cut it did include.
- **Member requests for House Labor-HHS-Education funding due March 28** – The window for House members to submit their requests to the various Appropriations subcommittees opens on Monday, March 11. Members of the House must submit their requests for funding in the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee bill by Thursday, March 28. Subcommittee chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) outlined the process in a [letter here](#). (Other subcommittees have different deadlines.)

- **House Labor-HHS-Education Public Witness hearing on April 9 at 2pm** – The deadline for applying to testify at the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee’s annual “public witness” hearing is Tuesday, March 19. Not everyone who requests to testify at the April 9 hearing will get a chance, but everyone can submit written testimony for the record; the deadline for written testimony is Monday, April 8. You can find instructions on the process [here](#).

## II. Advocacy

- **CEF officer meeting with Ranking Member Cole’s education staffer** – Yesterday CEF officers, Sheryl, and I met with Kathryn Salmon, who is covering education funding for House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Tom Cole (R-OK) – she previously handled much of his HHS portfolio. She noted that the President’s budget should include comparisons to the 2019 enacted levels for education programs, but likely will not have the enacted 2019 levels for programs in the seven appropriations bills enacted after the shutdown ended. Instead, the budget will compare the FY 2020 request to a continuation of the 2018 level for those programs.
- **Reminder: sign-on letter with other coalitions** – CEF, in conjunction with the Coalition for Health Funding, Coalition on Human Needs, and Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce, is circulating our annual [sign-on letter](#) to secure a strong funding allocation for the House and Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittees. We urge all CEF members to sign the letter and to share it with your networks. This letter about the Subcommittee’s 302(b) allocation is an excellent opportunity to show lawmakers the strength of support for “The People’s Bill,” which provides virtually all federal education funding. (For more background information, see the CEF Update from Friday, March 1). The deadline for signing is March 15. To sign, click [here](#).

## III. Events

- **CEF’s upcoming schedule** –
  - **Friday, Mar. 8** – 9-11am, at NEA (1201 16<sup>th</sup> ST, NW, News Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor). Guest speaker: Jonathan Antista, House Budget Committee Democratic staff.
  - **Friday, Mar. 15** – 9-11am, at Georgetown Law School (600 New Jersey Ave, NW, Room 200 McDonough Hall). Guest speaker: Conor Sheehey, Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC).
  - **Friday, Mar. 22** – 9-11am, Quarterly Committee meeting at University of California (1608 Rhode Island Ave, NW, auditorium).
  - **Friday, Mar. 29** – No CEF meeting.
  - **Friday, April 5** – 9-11am, at NEA (1201 16<sup>th</sup> ST, NW, News Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor). Guest speaker: TBD

- Sarah