



COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FUNDING

Monday, July 6, 2020

I. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill

- **FY 2021 House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill released** – This afternoon House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) released the legislative text of the FY 2021 funding bill. The Subcommittee will meet to mark up the bill tomorrow at 5pm ET. Below are some highlights, a brief overview of the education funding provisions, and links to the bill and tomorrow’s webcast. Attached is CEF’s preliminary funding table, which has blanks for the programs where we don’t yet know the funding level. We will fill in all the blanks after we get more information, which may not happen until after the full Appropriations Committee markup next week.
- **Links and attachments** –
 - **CEF’s preliminary funding table** – attached. If there is a blank for the Subcommittee level it is because I can’t yet tell the funding level based on the legislative text or the press release.
 - **Legislative Text** - [here](#). The Department of Education starts on page 126.
 - **Subcommittee press release** - [here](#). This includes the main points that the Chairwoman is highlighting. It describes funding for some thematic areas like social, emotional learning and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) where there are multiple pots of money within several programs. However, it doesn’t always say the total funding for the individual programs.
 - **Webcast** of tomorrow’s Subcommittee [markup at 5pm ET](#)
- **Key takeaways** – The bill has a very modest increase for the Department of Education (ED) and for education-related programs in other agencies – increases of about 1%. That is not surprising given that the statutory cap on non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding is about frozen at the FY 2020 level. While the bill provides \$24.4 million in emergency spending (i.e., spending not limited by the statutory cap), there is no emergency education funding. Only four of the largest programs – Title I, special education, Head Start, and the Child Care and Development Block Grant – get increases of \$100 million or more but they still amount to increases of about 1 percent because the programs are so big. A few small programs get greater percentage increases (Full-Service Community Schools, Special Olympics, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education are among the largest). The bill includes policy language dealing with student loan programs and the eligibility of for-profit institutions to participate in the loan programs, among others.

- **Overview of education funding in the bill –**

- **Total ED increase of \$1.2 billion (or \$716 million if you don't count the FY 2020 Pell grant rescission)** – The bill provides \$73.5 billion for ED, an increase of \$1.2 billion (1.7%) over the net funding level for FY 2020 that accounts for the \$500 million rescission of Pell grant funding in the FY 2020 bill; the FY 2021 funding represents an increase of \$716 million (1.0%) over the FY 2020 enacted funding level that doesn't reflect the rescission.
- **Focus on early education and child care** – The bill scatters some of its larger increases on Head Start (up \$150 million, or 1.4%), the Child Care and Development Block Grant (up \$100 million, or 1.7%), Preschool Development Grants (up \$25 million, of 9.1%), and Child Care Means Parents in School (up \$2 million, or 3.8%).
- **Increases maximum Pell grant by \$150** – The maximum level specified in the bill is just for the part of the grant paid for by appropriations. The total maximum grant, including discretionary and mandatory funding, will increase by \$150 to \$6,495. My guess is that the bill does not increase the amount of funding for the Pell grant program because it currently has a surplus of about \$10 billion from prior years.
- **Funding cuts or funding below the President's request** – The one funding cut I see so far is the \$40 million (9.1%) cut for charter schools. The bill increases funding for career and technical education state grants by \$18 million (1.4%) but that is significantly below the President's requested increase of \$680 million. The bill freezes funding for two departmental management accounts – Program Administration and Student Aid Administration – for which the President's budget included increases.
- **Museum and Library Services** – The bill provides a total increase of \$5 million, but I can't tell how that is allocated between libraries and museums.