



Friday, August 9, 2019

**Thanks to those who have already sponsored CEF's 2019 Gala!**

**Straight "A"s:** American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

**Star Student:** American Continental Group; American Council on Education (ACE); National Education Association.

**Dean's List:** American Library Association (ALA); Council for Opportunity in Education (COE); MRM Associates/CASE; National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU); National PTA/NACAC; Title IV-A Coalition.

**Honor Roll:** American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU); Bose Public Affairs Group; National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS); National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA); National Association of Secondary School Principals/National Association of Elementary School Principals/American Federation of School Administrators; National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP); Women in Government Relations.

## I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Rumors about Senate Labor-HHS-Education allocation for fiscal year (FY) 2020** – We're hearing that Senate Appropriations Committee chair Richard Shelby (R-AL) has already divided the discretionary total approved for FY 2020 among the 12 government funding bills – the "302(b) allocations" – and that staff are working to draft bills. On Wednesday afternoon, CQ reported that "According to several people familiar with the process, Senate Appropriations Chairman Richard C. Shelby wrote an allocation for the fiscal 2020 Labor-HHS-Education bill that is about \$5 billion lower than it would have been to provide funding for the wall." There is no detail on what that vague statement means in terms of funding, so let's break down what we can guess.
  - **NDD cap is about \$10 billion below the House level** – The budget agreement signed into law provides a \$25 billion increase for non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding above the FY 2019 level, which is about \$10 billion (1/3) below the level the House approved when it passed its appropriations bills earlier this year. That would translate into a 1/3 cut to the increase the House provided for the Labor-HHS-Education bill if the money were spread proportionately (which there's no reason to think it will be). So instead of the House bill's \$11.8 billion increase over FY 2019, the Senate Labor-HHS-Education bill would provide an increase of about \$7.5 billion. But I think the Senate increase will be much smaller for several reasons, including the following ones.
  - **Need to fund more of the census under the cap** – The House had provided up to \$7.5 billion for the decennial census with money outside the cap, but the budget deal allows only \$2.5

billion of uncapped census funding. That creates a need to use more money under the cap for the census, which will cut the NDD funding available for other programs and bills, including education.

- **Different Senate Republican priorities** – The Republican-led Senate will have different priorities than the Democratic-led House, so one would expect different bills might get bigger boosts than what the House provided. For example, I'd expect a larger increase for the Homeland Security bill, which is where you'd see funding for a border wall. I'd also expect more law enforcement and NASA funding in the Commerce, Justice, Science bill, and possibly more funding for the Energy and Water bill, among others. That will reduce the funding available for the Labor-HHS-Education bill, as well.
- The items above make it likely that the House's \$11.8 billion increase for the Labor-HHS-Education bill might be closer to a \$3 billion increase in the Senate. Within the bill, I'd expect the Senate to increase funding for the National Institutes of Health but about \$2 billion – what they have been doing each year – and to designate additional funding to fight the opioid crisis. That would leave very little to increase funding for the education and other programs in the Labor-HHS-Education bill.
- **What to expect in September** – Above are my speculations about what we might see in the Senate Labor-HHS-Education allocation, but keep in mind that I tend to set my expectations low! If the allocation is indeed very low, I do not think the bill will have a fast and smooth bipartisan markup the week of September 9, which is what Chairman Shelby wants. If that's the case, we might see more amendments that contain Democratic policy riders that would make the bill more contentious. Ultimately, it will have to be conferenced with the House-passed version to produce a compromise that a majority will support. In summary, we are not expecting anything near an \$11.8 billion increase for the Senate Labor-HHS-Education bill, but there is still plenty of time for more advocacy on behalf of education investments.
- **Slides from this week's summer research briefing on early childhood education** – On Wednesday CEF had the first of two August research briefings, this one on early childhood education. The three panelists provided a great background on the level of unmet need for high-quality each childhood services, including child care, educational, and other services. Per request, I've attached a compilation of the slides from all three panelists:
  - Barbara Willer, Senior Advisor, National Association for the Education of Young Children
  - Cody Kornack, Senior Manager of Congressional Affairs, National Head Start Association
  - Catherine White, Director of Child Care and Early Learning, National Women's Law Center

## II. CEF Gala and Legislative Conference on September 18

- **Reminder: Gala sponsorships, tickets, and program ads are for sale now** – Thanks to the organizations listed above that have already purchased sponsorships to CEF's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala and legislative conference on September 18! As you likely know by now, this year our annual gala will be at an exciting new location and will feature a seated dinner and awards ceremony following a reception, all at the InterContinental-The Wharf in DC's southwest waterfront neighborhood. CEF's gala is the once-a-year opportunity for the education community to come together for an enjoyable evening that honors champions of education; tickets also include attendance at the legislative conference in the afternoon. The gala is also a fundraiser for CEF – the only one we hold all year.

(Please see the CEF Update from July 29 for the events details – the speakers, nominated honorees, and the legislative conference.)

- **How to become a sponsor or purchase individual tickets** - We encourage you to sign up now to be a sponsor or to buy individual tickets – the venue has a maximum seating capacity and we don't want anyone to miss out because they waited to get a ticket at the last minute. You can purchase sponsorships or tickets by contacting the CEF staff, or you can purchase them directly on CEF's website [here](#). Information about the benefits of each sponsorship category is shared [here](#) – we are happy to answer any questions.
- **Hill/Administration staff guests** – As in the past, you may buy tickets for Hill or Administration staff whom you'd like CEF to invite to join you at the gala; those staffers will be seated with you for the dinner and awards ceremony. To comply with ethics rules, as the sponsor of the event CEF must issue the invitation to Hill and Administration staff on your behalf. Once you let us know who you'd like us to invite we'll keep you informed of all responses, and we encourage you to follow up after the initial invitation from CEF.

### III. Events

- **CEF's upcoming schedule –**
  - **Wednesday, August 21, 10-11:30 a.m.**, CEF summer research briefing on Special Education Funding at AACTE, 1307 New York Ave, NW.  
Panelists:
    - Myrna Mandlawitz, Council of Administrators of Special Education
    - Angela Neely, Executive Director of Special Education, Culpeper County Public Schools, Culpeper, VA
    - Sharon Walsh, Government Relations Consultant, Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC) and the IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators AssociationModerator: Valerie C. Williams, CEF Vice President and Director of Government Relations, National Association of State Directors of Special Education
  - **Friday, September 6, 9-11 a.m.**, at AACTE (1307 New York Ave, NW). Guest speaker: TBD.
  - **Friday, September 13, 9-11 a.m.**, at AACTE (1307 New York Ave, NW). Guest speaker: Abbas Alawieh, Rep. Andy Levin (D-MI).
  - **Wednesday, September 18**, legislative conference and gala – see details above.
  - **Friday, September 20** – No CEF meeting.
  - **Friday, September 27, 9-11 a.m.** Quarterly Committee meetings, location TBD.