



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ESEA

STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

Ensuring Student Equity & Access

The Government Relations Committee met via conference call on **November 13, 2018** at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST

ATTENDING

Committee Members

Dean Zajic (KS); Jason Harmon (NY); Rebecca Donaldson (UT); Jason Miller (WA); Shelly Babler (WI); Jonas Zuckerman, Co-Chair (WI)

Association Management

Bob Harmon – CEO; Jeri Erickson – Membership Director; Julia Martin – Brustein & Manasevit

Meeting Agenda:

1. Children's Budget Coalition [Sign-on Letter](#)

NAESPA has joined more than 70 other organizations as signatories on the letter. The finalized letter will be posted on the Government Relations Committee webpages.

2. Government Relations Update (Julia Martin - Brustein & Manasevit)

I. Congressional updates

a. Election outcome!

- i. Agenda for House in 2019
- ii. Agenda for Senate in 2019
- iii. Potential shift in administration?
 1. May be time for senior officials to leave/move around

a. Could change dynamics in ED

b. Lame duck session

- i. Runs from mid-November through sometime in December
 1. Depends on how much they want to get done
 2. Can go as late as beginning of January
- ii. Appropriations completion
 1. Partial CR to December 7th for 3 accounts
 - a. Includes USDA, FDA
 2. Remaining agencies are non-controversial – just a matter of agreeing on all programs
 - a. Legwork should be done by the time Congress returns
- iii. Farm Bill movement
 1. Recent discussions reveal additional divisions
 - a. SNAP work requirements
 - b. Budget v. policy as starting point
 - c. Crop insurance structure

2. Waiting until after the election to make decisions and take tough votes

II. Administration Updates

- a. Perkins transition guidance
 - i.will not exist.
 1. OCTAE has said it does not want to “hamper state flexibility” by creating new guidance documents
- b. Title IX definitions changes?
 - i. Sexual assault
 1. Higher standard for what is assault/harassment
 2. New standard of evidence for schools
 - ii. Sex/gender
 1. HHS rumored definition of sex as solely biological
- c. Continued reorganization efforts
 - i. Easy, independent means of promoting small-government priorities
 - ii. Office of Non-Public education to Office of the Secretary
 1. Elimination office of Innovation and Improvement
 - iii. Coming turnover
 1. Lots of staff already leaving ED, some new folks coming in
 2. Related to federal job satisfaction numbers?
 - a. OESE saw decline of 60% to 43% last year, similar in other offices
- d. Budgeting instructions
 - i. President instructed agencies to cut 5% or more
 1. Congress will probably ignore this
 - ii. Other factors:
 1. Sequestration
 2. 2-year budget deal?

Next committee call is scheduled for **December 11, 2018** at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST.