



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ESEA

STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

Ensuring Student Equity & Access

The Government Relations Committee met via conference call on **January 8, 2019** at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST

## ATTENDING

### Committee Members

Margo DeLaune (BIE); Dean Zajic (KS); Pat Kaiser (MO); Jack O'Connor, Co-Chair (MT); Kathryn Nichol (NH); Jeremy Marks (OH); Eve Carney (TN); Jonas Zuckerman (WI)

### Association Management

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

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

- I. Congressional updates
  - a. Appropriations, continued
    - i. Government shutdown!
      1. Partial shutdown
        - a. Only impacting 9 of 15 major agencies
        - b. Not impacting ED
        - c. Health/safety functions, self-funded agencies excepted
      2. Staggered impact
        - a. Some museums, zoos closed January 1<sup>st</sup>
        - b. USDA reportedly has appropriations to reimburse meals through January
          - i. But little guidance there
      - ii. Resolution?
        1. Still hinges on border wall funding
        2. Debt ceiling compromise?
    - b. 116<sup>th</sup> Congress Begins!
      - i. Rules changes in the House
        1. Procedural rules changes
          - a. Discharge
          - b. "member days"
          - c. Length of time for consideration
          - d. Elimination of Holman Rule
        2. Administrative changes
          - a. "Education and the Workforce" → "Education and Labor"
          - b. "Oversight and Government Reform" → "Committee on Oversight and Reform"
          - c. Headwear
      - ii. Oversight and investigations will be focus

1. Split Congress doesn't make for good legislating
  2. Passage of only key must-pass bills
  - iii. Lamar Alexander to retire after 2020 election
- II. Administration Updates
- a. Federal Commission on School Safety Issues Report
    - i. No new requirements
      1. Also no new funding!
      2. Focus on advice/best practices (highlighting various States)
      3. Encourages schools to consider arming certain staff members and recommends hiring military veterans and retired law enforcement officers
        - a. Does not call on schools to arm staff.
    - ii. Recommends that schools prepare teachers, staff, and students for active shooter situations through trauma-informed training
    - iii. Endorses "No Notoriety" campaign urging news outlets to minimize use of shooters' names and photographs in order to discourage copycat incidents.
  - b. Rescission of 2014 disciplinary guidance
    - i. Recommended by school safety commission
      1. Concerns over balancing safety of teachers/other students with concerns about disproportionate impact
    - ii. Will be replaced by ED/DOJ at later date
    - iii. ED has issued interim guidance (4-question FAQ) and dear colleague
  - c. Continued reorganization efforts?
  - d. SNAP rules change
    - i. Likely won't impact Direct Certification numbers/ school enrollment
    - ii. Focus on ABAWD
    - iii. Limit on States' ability to waive 36-month timeframe

Next committee call is scheduled for **February 12, 2019** at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST.