



National Title I Association

a National Association of State Title I Directors

The Government Relations Committee met via conference call on October 10, 2017 at 1:00PM EDT, 12:00PM CDT, 11:00AM MDT, 10:00AM MST & PDT.

ATTENDING

Committee Members

Margo DeLaune (BIE); Jason Harmon (NY); Jeremy Marks (OH); Rebecca Donaldson (UT); Jonas Zuckerman (WI – Co-chair)

Association Management

Bob Harmon – CEO; Jeri Erickson – Members Services Director; Kelly Christainsen – Brustein & Manasevit

Meeting Agenda:

1. Association's support of Title II funding [Letter to Congress](#) (Jonas Zuckerman Co-chair)

- The letter was approved by the board, signed by the Association President and sent to staff members of Congressional leaders on September 18.

2. Government Relations Update (Kelly Christiansen, Brustein & Manasevit)

- I. Congressional updates
 - a. Appropriations/debt ceiling updates
 - i. House budget
 1. Passed out of Committee in July
 2. Debate and vote on House floor last week
 3. Calls for significant cuts to mandatory spending over the next 10 years, but language is not binding
 1. Main purpose of this budget is to serve as a vehicle to push through tax reform
 - ii. Senate budget
 1. Senate Budget Committee to mark up its budget resolution on 10/5
 - iii. After House and Senate have passed their own budgets, lawmakers will go to conference to hammer out differences
 - b. Agenda for remainder of the year
 - i. Disaster relief
 1. Legislation expected next week for areas affected by Hurricane Maria
 - ii. Tax proposal?
 1. GOP focus on passing tax reform after failed attempts to repeal Affordable Care Act
 2. So far, tax proposals silent on tax-credit for school choice (i.e. "florida model" of tax-deductible voucher fund)
 3. Potential for changes to State/local tax revenues if federal tax credit is eliminated (would put downward pressure on States/municipalities to lower rates to keep overall tax burden down)
 - iii. DACA?
 1. Both Democrats and Republicans hoping to extend the program



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1. Potential areas of debate: border security, President's border wall request
- iv. Appropriations/debt ceiling
 1. Continuing resolution/debt ceiling deal expire on Dec. 8th setting up for "cliffmas"
- II. Administration Updates
 - a. ESSA State plan approval process
 - i. Most of remaining States submitted plans on 9/18
 1. Handful received extensions due to Hurricanes
 2. 14 States and D.C. have been approved; only Colorado and Michigan awaiting approval from first batch
 - b. Title IX interim guidance
 - i. ED issued Dear Colleague letter and Q&A document on 9/22
 1. Rescinds the 2011 Dear Colleague letter on Title IX
 2. Offers interim guidance – most significant change is allowing use of higher evidence standard
 - ii. ED plans to engage in rulemaking process to rewrite guidelines, which will include public comment period
 - c. New ED staff
 - i. Some momentum recently with filling positions at ED
 - ii. Nominations for Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretaries for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Analysis; and Career, Technical, and Adult Education
 1. Subject to Senate approval
 - iii. Hiring of Deputy Assistant Secretary for OCTAE and a Senior Adviser to the Secretary
3. Other
 - None

Notes from the September 12, 2017 meeting are [available here](#).

Next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2017 at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST.