



# National Title I Association

a National Association of State Title I Directors

The **Government Relations Committee** met via conference call on November 14, 2017 at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST.

## ATTENDING

### Committee Members

Bernell Cook (LA); Rebecca Donaldson (UT); Pat Kaiser (MO); Gayle Pauley (WA); Roy Stehle, Co-chair (SC); Jocelyn Strand (MO); Jonas Zuckerman, Co-chair (WI)

### Association Management

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

## Meeting Agenda:

### 1. Association Sign-On Letters (Jonas Zuckerman and Roy Stehle, Co-chairs)

[Children's Budget Coalition FY2018 letters \(Senate & House\)](#), [LEARN funding for FY2018 letter](#)

- The Association receives requests from a number of entities requesting the Association sign on to joint letters. The *Guiding Principles* set the frame and context for signing on to joint letters, as there is often not enough time to go to the Board of Directors or Government Relations Committee for approval. The committee is consulted for approval when ample decision making time is provided.

### 2. Rescinded Guidance call with ED and OSS Leaders (Bob Harmon, CEO)

[Regulatory Reform Progress Report](#)

- Bob Harmon participated in a phone call about the upcoming press release regarding rescinded guidance. The rescinded guidance fits into the categories of: one time funds, ESEA flex, no longer authorized or effective, or superseded by ESSA.
- Committee members commented on the lack of communication from ED about the rescinded guidance. Some communication was sent out by Adam Honeysett through state executive leadership.
- Special Education Groups have expressed concern about some of the regulations rescinded.

### 3. Government Relations Update (Steve Spillan or Kelly Christiansen, Brustein & Manasevit)

#### I. Congressional updates

##### a. Appropriations and budget updates

##### i. Budget

##### 1. Final version passed by House late October

- a. Main purpose of this budget is to serve as a vehicle to push through tax reform

##### ii. Appropriations/debt ceiling

##### 1. Following budget passage, discussions turning to December appropriations and debt ceiling

- a. Potential actions after CR expires on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> include another one- or two-week long CR; a short-term deal that would expire early next year; or package for rest of FY 2018.
- b. DACA, budget caps, hurricane relief could impact negotiations

##### b. Other items on agenda for remainder of year

##### i. Tax reform

##### 1. Several education-related provisions

- a. Eliminates State and local income tax deduction; preserves local property tax deduction up to \$10,000
- b. Removes \$250 deduction for teachers for school supplies

- c. Allows up to \$10,000 of 529 college savings to be used for K-12 school tuition
    - 2. Passage by end of the year?
  - ii. DACA
    - 1. Lawmakers still hoping to provide Congressional authorization but disagreement over timing
    - 2. Some Democrats threatening “no” vote on December spending deal without DACA included
- II. Administration Updates
- a. Rescission of outdated guidance
    - i. Nearly 600 documents withdrawn for being outdated; no major policy implications
  - b. ED staffing
    - i. Momentum in filling top positions continuing
      - 1. Kenneth Marcus nominated for Office for Civil Rights
      - 2. Frank Brogan for Office of Elementary and Secondary Education?
    - ii. Carlos Muniz for General Counsel approved by Senate HELP Committee
  - c. Downsizing/Reorganization
    - i. ED offered 255 employees buyouts or early retirement
    - ii. Just the beginning?
- I. Questions?
4. Other
- An in-person meeting during the February 2018 Conference in Philadelphia will be scheduled and joined by Julia Martin. The meeting will be scheduled during a time that does not conflict with sessions or keynote speakers. Any Association member is welcome to sit-in on meeting and join the committee.

Notes from the October 10, 2017 meeting are [available here](#).

**Next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2018 at 1:00PM EST, 12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST.**