Federal Education Update

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Department of Education

- \$5.2 billion in K12 funds for FY25 a month late (Review by OMB)
- ESSER Late Liquidation Policy Change Pending litigation
- Grant cancellations and discontinuations including mental health and teacher preparation grants
- Supplemental Grant Priorities:
 - Evidence-based literacy,
 - Expanding education choice, and
 - Returning education to the states: will enable the Department to prioritize state applicants in competitions where they qualify as eligible entities or can endorse other types of entities.

Fiscal Year 2026

President's Budget Proposal

- Cuts \$12.4 billion from ED, about \$6 billion from K12
- Level funds Title I
- Block grants (most of) IDEA
- Block grants 18 other competitive and formula programs
- (\$6.5 billion ≠ \$2 billion)
- Eliminates Title I-C, Title III, Fullservice Community Schools, Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants, GEAR UP, TRIO

Senate Bipartisan Proposal

- Increases Title I (+50 million), IDEA (+50 million) and REAP (+5 million)
- Level funds most other K12 programs
- Reduced funding for school safety national activities, Full-service Community Schools, Arts in Education, TQP, and Education Innovation and Research, among others
- Adds language to require funding goes out by July 1 and prevents transfer of programs to another Departments

Appropriations - Next Steps

Nothing substantial until September.

- Will the Senate bill pass the full Senate?
- House plans to schedule markup upon return will it try to pass the President's proposal?
- All signs read: Possible shutdown.
 - Reminder: during a shutdown Head Start and Impact Aid are immediately impacted.

H.R. 1 – The One Big, Beautiful Bill Act

- Establishes the first ever national school voucher program
- Dollar-for-dollar tax credit for donations made to "scholarship granting organizations"
 - \$1700 individual donation/\$3400 married couples
- States must opt-in
- Treasury can issue regulations as can States
- Credit is available as of Jan 1, 2027
 - States have the next 18 months to determine how they want to run their programs

Next: More information/regulation from Treasury

H.R. 1 – The One Big, Beautiful Bill Act

Established "workforce" or "short-term" Pell Grants

- Expand Pell Grant eligibility to learners and workers who want to pursue a short-term job training program
- States will have a significant role in the eligibility, creation, and maintenance of eligible programs

Makes changes to SNAP and Medicaid that shifts some cost share to States

What else? Secure Rural Schools still outstanding • \$1.5 million for Kentucky

- Student Privacy remains a bipartisan priority
- Workforce and CTE