



NREA Update

National Rural
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The Voice of Rural Schools and Communities



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Executive Director Comments

Now that ESEA has been reauthorized, what is in the new law? Noelle Ellerson (NREAC/AASA) made a presentation at the Association for Educational Services Agencies in New Orleans. A recording of the slides with narration is available [here](#). Noelle's report focuses on the impact on elementary and secondary schools.

The text of the act is available [here](#) Our higher ed members should consider studying pages 300 – 307 to determine future opportunities and challenges.

I have received the following from Lucy Johnson and Dennis Bega (USDOE):

“..., in October the Department of Education announced [an experiment focused on dual enrollment](#). The experiment will enable high school students enrolled in dual enrollment programs to access federal Pell Grants at participating institutions. Students who have attended a dual enrollment program are more likely to apply to, enroll in, and succeed at college. These students not only benefit from the academic experience of learning at a college level, but often are also better able to picture themselves in college, pursuing a postsecondary degree. To help students succeed in these programs, we are seeking institutions offering structured programs that support students throughout the program.

On Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 1:30-3:00pm EST, the office of Federal Student Aid will host a webinar for postsecondary

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institutions interested in learning more about the goals, requirements, and process for participating in this experiment. To register for this webinar, please [click here](#).

To be considered for participation in the experiment, postsecondary institutions must submit a letter of interest to the Department of Education, following the procedures outlined in the [Federal Register notice](#), no later than [Monday, February 1, 2016](#) for priority consideration. We invite many postsecondary institutions to apply to expand access and provide support for students.”

Coming October 13-15, 2016, The National Rural Education Forum and the 108th NREA Convention and Research Symposium. Save the dates!

Report From Washington (Joel Packer, CEF)

The text of the omnibus was filed earlier this morning:
<https://rules.house.gov/bill/114/hr-2029-sa>.

The materials include the text of the bill plus an explanatory statement and the funding tables.

The Labor-HHS-Education bill is Division H.

See:

[Rogers: Omnibus Funding Bill Provides Responsible Funding for the Federal Government, Helps to Stop Waste and Administrative Overreach](#)

See: [Summary of FY2016 Omnibus Appropriations Act](#) (House Appropriations Democrats)

Here is a list of education increases and decreases. Anything not listed is frozen at FY 2015 (the list does not include voc rehab programs).

None of the higher education policy riders included in the House and Senate bills are included in the omnibus.

“The agreement includes a general provision clarifying that funds provided in this Act for ESEA formula grant programs for academic year 2016-2017 are to be administered under the provisions of the ESEA in effect prior to the reauthorization of the ESEA by the ESSA. The transition provisions in ESSA generally call for implementation of the new law starting with the

2017-2018 school year. The general provision and the funding levels and directives included in this agreement are consistent with that intent.”

Total ED discretionary increase = +\$1.171 billion

PROGRAMS INCREASED:

- o Title I = +\$500 million
- o Striving readers = +\$30 million
- o HEP/CAMP = +\$7.149 million
- o Impact Aid Basic support payments = +\$17 million
- o 21st century community learning centers = +\$15 million
- o Education for homeless children and youths = +\$4.958 million
- o Education for Native Hawaiians = +\$1 million
- o Alaska Native Education = +\$1 million
- o Rural education = +\$6 million
- o Comprehensive Centers = +\$3 million
- o Indian Education total = +\$20 million
- o Charter schools grants = +\$80 million
- o Magnet schools assistance = \$5 million
- o Innovative Approaches to Literacy = +\$2.214 million
- o Non-Cognitive Skills Initiative = +\$1 million
- o Arts in Education = +\$2 million
- o Javits Gifted and Talented = +\$2 million
- o Presidential and Congressional Teaching Academies = +\$2 million
- o Promise Neighborhoods = +\$16.5 million
- o Safe and drug-free schools and communities national programs = +\$5 million
- o IDEA State grants = +\$415 million
- o IDEA Preschool grants = +\$15 million
- o IDEA Grants for infants and families = +\$20 million

- o IDEA Technical assistance and dissemination = +\$2.5 million
- o IDEA Technology and media services = +\$2 million
- o Adult basic and literacy education State grants = +\$13 million
- o Student Aid Administration = +\$154.93 million

- o Aid for Institutional Development (Title III/Title V) total = +\$40 million

- o Minority science and engineering improvement = +\$0.677 million
- o Tribally controlled postsecondary career and technical institutions = +\$0.581 million
- o Federal TRIO programs = +\$60.248 million
- o GEAR UP = +\$21.115 million
- o Teacher quality partnerships = +\$2.5 million
- o Research, development, and dissemination = +\$15.140 million
- o Statistics = +\$8.940 million
- o National assessment (NAEP) = +\$20 million

PROGRAMS DECREASED:

- o School improvement State grants = -\$55.756 million
- o Title I Evaluation = -\$0.710 million
- o Transition to teaching = -\$13.7 million (eliminated)
- o First in the World = -\$60 million (eliminated)
- o Other FIPSE = -\$7.775 million

HHS Programs:

- o Head Start = +\$570 million
- o Child Care and Development Block Grant = +\$326 million

Institute of Museum and Library Services (total) = +\$2.14 million