



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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CONGRESSIONAL FOCUS FOR HEA REAUTHORIZATION

Congress is actively producing Higher Education Act reauthorization proposals. Current drafts are meant to serve as baseline proposals to gauge levels of interest, support and resistance internal and external to Capitol Hill.

General Focus:

- Cost of college
- Financial literacy; FAFSA Reform
- Debt – how much, ability to repay, and PLUS loans
- Alternative education pathways
- Post-graduation – employment? Graduate school?
- Graduation rates – more inclusive, more disaggregated cohorts
- Adjunct Faculty
- Campus crime/safety

SENATE VS. HOUSE APPROACH

Senate Education Committee:

One big comprehensive HEA as in years past

House Education Committee:

Multiple smaller bills

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATE-FEDERAL COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY PARTNERSHIP

- Provides a block grant to each state equal to half the maximum Pell Grant per public college or university total enrollment (FTE)
 - The amount of federal money awarded to public colleges increases as state expenditures for public college FTEs increase
- 100% of the federal grant money would go to public institutions to reduce in-state tuition and to support low-income student enrollment
- Any state aid given to students enrolling in private colleges does not count toward federal grant match

STATE-FEDERAL COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY PARTNERSHIP

NAICU:

- *Demonstrates federal favoritism of a particular postsecondary sector*
- *Runs afoul of historic federal aid policy (i.e., funding to students to spend where they choose to enroll vs. direct-to-institution aid)*
- *Will likely cost taxpayers more and be a less efficient use of resources (time-to-degree)*

Congress:

- *could see this as a public college bailout*
- *could see this as an infringement on states' rights*
- *are much more interested in eliminating Perkins Loans and CBA programs*

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OTHER IDEAS BEING “SHOPPED”:

- Eliminate LEAP, SEOG, and Perkins Programs
- Lower loan limits for independent undergraduate and graduate students
- Make all accreditation materials public
- Simplify FAFSA (2 questions)
- Teacher Prep*

CONGRESSIONAL FOCUS FOR HEA REAUTHORIZATION

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

What has been approved by the House:

- **Competency-based education experimentation**
- **New College Dashboard to replace College Navigator**
- **Eliminate the “College Affordability and Transparency Lists”**
- **Boost annual counseling for student loan borrowers, including those receiving Parent PLUS loans**

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

What was **rejected** by the House/Committee:

- Student ability to refinance existing loan debt at lower interest rates
- Change to 90/10 rule to include Veterans/DoD benefits
- Require US Dept. of Education to post on their website how well an institution's former students are doing on repaying their loans



SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVITIES

SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS

Colleges and universities can expect to see an increased and sustained focus on their handling of sexual assaults on campus.

NAICU:

- *supports positive policies to ensure the safety and fair treatment of all students*
- *campus disciplinary proceedings are not the appropriate venue for the adjudication of serious crimes*

Congress:

- *At last, an issue that is bipartisan and popular!*
- *Bipartisan group of Senators working on more legislation (McCaskill Survey) to be introduced by late August/Early September*

THE WHITE HOUSE

- Congress is not passing legislation
- Executive Branch – *FRUSTRATED!*

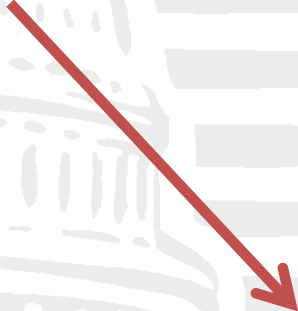
Options?

Bypass traditional legislative processes:

- 1. Write proposals and introduce to Congress;
hope they will pass**
- 2. Legislate de facto vis-à-vis the regulatory process**

GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT

A federal metric for rating and comparing the quality of **gainful employment programs** and to tie federal aid eligibility of a **program** to the program's outcomes



TEACHER PREP

A federal metric for rating and comparing the quality of **teacher prep programs** and tie federal aid eligibility of the **program** to that rating.

PIRS

A federal metric for rating and comparing the quality of **institutions** and tie federal aid eligibility of the **institution** to that rating.

QUESTIONS & THANK YOU!

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