



NAPE Hosts an Energized Public Policy Day During the NSEE



NAPE's annual Public Policy Day on Capitol Hill.

Congressional and Administrative presenters for the morning session included **Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA)**, **Chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor**, **Congresswoman Jahana Hayes (D-CT)** and **U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary of the Office for Career and Technical Education (OCTAE) Scott Stump**.

NAPE also honored **Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN)**, **Chair of the Senate HELP Committee** and **Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-CA)** with the **NAPE Public Policy Leadership Award**.

Special appreciation to Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer for their support and assistance in making Public Policy Day a success!



(Photos courtesy of Patricia McDougall Photography)

If you expressed an interest in joining NAPE's Public Policy Committee during the NSEE, please contact Lisa R. Ransom at lransom@napequity.org



65th Anniversary of Brown vs. Board (Courtesy of the Alliance for Excellent Education – May 10, 2019)

This month marks the 65th anniversary of the landmark *Brown vs. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision. Last week, the House Committee on Education and Labor held a hearing on the state of education since *Brown*. Committee Chairman Bobby Scott said: “After four decades without federal support for desegregation, we are right back where we started.” He cited data from the Government Accountability Office showing that the number of schools where at least three-quarters of students are both low-income and African American or Latino increased from 9 percent of public schools in 2000, to 16 percent in 2013.

To commemorate the anniversary, we are launching a year-long campaign to ensure the nation pays attention to the unfulfilled promise of the *Brown* decision. In announcing the campaign, All4Ed President Deb Delisle said: “On May 17, public officials will issue statements and organizations will hold events to recognize *Brown*’s 65th anniversary. But one-day events are not enough for the students who attend schools with leaky roofs, no heat, and not enough desks for every child.”

House Appropriations Committee Majority Approved the FY 20 Labor-HHS Bill. (Courtesy of the Coalition on Adult Education and ACTE – May 9, 2019)

On Wednesday, May 1, 2019 the House Appropriations held a six-hour markup, approving its FY 20 Labor-HHS bill by a party line vote of 30 to 23.

The next step of the process will be consideration on the House floor next month. Appropriations insiders indicate that the Labor-HHS will be brought to the floor in tandem with the Defense Appropriations bill, which will help secure additional votes in support of the overall package, as the Defense bill is viewed as a “must pass” piece of legislation by both parties.

The Senate is expected to hold its markup of the Labor-HHS bill the first week of June, but with no timetable for floor consideration.

Funding for the Perkins Basic State Grant program was given an additional \$10 million, on top of the \$37.4 million increase that



passed the subcommittee last week. This brings the total proposed appropriation level for the Perkins Basic State Grant program in FY20 to just over 1.3 billion, which is \$47.4 million above the FY19 enacted level and FY20 President's budget request.

The FY 20 House Labor-HHS Committee has also included a \$23 million increase to provide the "authorized" funding total for Adult Education of \$678 million (\$665 million for Adult State grants and \$13.7 million for National Leadership Activities) plus an additional \$7 million. The total for adult education is \$685,000,000 in the House. The breakdown is below.

Adult Basic and Literacy Education State Grants

The Committee recommends \$678,000,000 for Adult Basic and Literacy Education State Grants, which is \$30,045,000 more than the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$192,151,000 above the fiscal year 2020 budget request. State formula-grants authorized under the AEFLA, support programs to enable all adults to acquire basic literacy skills, to enable those who so desire to complete secondary education, and to make available to adults the means to become more employable, productive, and responsible citizens.

Adult Education National Leadership Activities

The Committee recommends \$13,712,000 for National Leadership Activities, which is the same as the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$60,000,000 below the fiscal year 2020 budget request. This program supports applied research, development, dissemination, evaluation, and program improvement efforts to strengthen the quality of adult education services. The Committee recommendation does not include language or funding, as requested in the budget request, to support a new pre-apprenticeship grants initiative. It is unclear whether these programs would articulate to registered apprenticeship programs or another untested, low-quality apprenticeship model.

It should also be noted that after last week's House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee markup of its FY 20 funding bill, Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) still had \$103 million available for allocation out of her Subcommittee's \$188 billion in total funding.

As a result, she offered an amendment to Wednesday's full Appropriations Committee markup of the Labor-HHS bill allotting the remaining \$103 million across a number of priority programs. We are pleased to report after consulting with the Committee that Adult Education State Grants received an additional \$7 million of this funding! This \$7 million is in addition to the \$665 million DeLauro had previously provided for Adult Education State Grants and \$13 million for National Leadership Activities, resulting in \$678 million, the "authorized" funding level for Adult Education for the first time. The total for Adult Education has now reached \$685 million in the House. A vote on the House floor on the entire Labor-HHS bill is expected next month.

While this is only the first step of the funding process, with the Senate appropriations process still to come.

A Mark up of H.R. 5 the Equality Act Sends the Legislation to the House Floor This Month (*photo courtesy of The Recorder*)

On May 1, 2019, the House Judiciary Committee marked up H.R. 5, the Equality Act. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer has indicated that he will bring the bill to the House Floor for a vote this month.

This historic civil rights legislation that would amend existing civil rights law—including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fair Housing Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Jury Selection and Services Act, and several laws regarding employment with the federal government by explicitly prohibiting discrimination against the LGBTQ community in housing, employment, education, jury service, credit and financing, and public accommodations and strengthen non-discrimination protections for women and others.

During the hearing, Chairman Jerry Nadler also spoke directly to the LGBT community, saying:

"Before I end, I want to take a moment to directly address many of those watching today's hearing, who are undoubtedly about to hear their humanity and their right to exist questioned. To the transgender and gender non-conforming youth, teens, and adults who are about to have their right to participate in sports and be themselves in school, work and in their daily lives challenged; to the same-sex couples who are about to hear suggestions that they just take their business elsewhere, that they adopt children elsewhere, that they exist—elsewhere:

"We see you. We support you. And we believe in you. If you are feeling unsafe, afraid, or at risk, please reach out for help. You are worth fighting for, and we are here to fight alongside you, which is why we will be passing this bill."



Decades of civil rights history show that civil rights laws are effective in decreasing discrimination because they provide strong federal remedies targeted to specific vulnerable groups. Equal educational rights are a key area where protections are needed. Nearly 2.1 million students ages 15 and older, and countless more under the age of 15, live in states without statutory protections against sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination at school. The Equality Act would make clear that discrimination on the basis of gender identity

or sexual orientation are forms of sex discrimination and unlawful. In addition, the Equality Act would close loopholes in existing federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in public spaces and federally funded activities, providing new protections for women. Finally, the Equality Act would update the spaces considered public accommodations, thus extending current civil rights protections against discrimination based on race, religion, and national origin (in addition to gender) to more places important in our everyday lives.

After the committee mark up, House Majority Leader Hoyer stated, *"Now that it has secured Committee approval, I will bring it to the Floor for a vote this month. LGBT Americans and their families deserve to be protected against all forms of discrimination, no matter where they live. This legislation, which I am proud to cosponsor, would ban discrimination against LGBT people in housing, employment, education, jury service, credit and financing, and public accommodations. It is shameful that such discrimination is still*

legal in many parts of our country, and House Democrats are committed to securing full equality for LGBT Americans. I thank Rep. Cicilline for sponsoring this bill and for his leadership on this important issue.”

The Supreme Court is also expected to hear 3 cases in the fall that deals with sex discrimination protections for LGBTQ people and its impact on the need for the Equality Act.

House Democrats rejected President Trump’s cuts to education funding, instead passing legislation to increase \$\$ for the Department of Education (*Courtesy of the Alliance for Excellent Education – May 10, 2019*)

Last week, the House Appropriations Committee passed legislation to boost funding for the U.S. Department of Education. So, why does Betsy DeVos want to cut literacy programs that work? This question was [posed by Representative Josh Harder this week in Newsweek](#). And while we couldn’t tell you why Secretary DeVos would propose this cut, we can tell you that the House of Representatives rejected it.

Last week, the House Appropriations Committee passed legislation to fund the US Department of Education for the next fiscal year on a party-line vote. Overall, it would provide \$75.9 billion for the Department – nearly \$14 billion more than requested by President Trump, who had proposed to cut its budget by 12 percent. Instead, House Democrats *increased* the Department’s budget by 6.2 percent, \$4.4 billion more than it received last year.

Instead of the flat funding proposed in the President’s budget, Title I, the largest source of federal funding for K-12 students from low-income families, and special education would each get a \$1 billion increase in the House bill, for a total of \$16.9 billion and \$14.3 billion, respectively.

President Trump had also proposed to eliminate Title II grants supporting professional development for educators and Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants. House Democrats, however, rejected those cuts, with Title II funded at \$2.6 billion, an increase of \$500 million, and Title IV at \$1.3 billion, an increase of \$150 million.

As for the literacy program Representative Harder asked about...rather than cutting Comprehensive Literacy Development grants, the House provided the program with a \$5 million increase, for a total of \$195 million.

But there was one noteworthy cut in the House Democrats’ bill. Funding for charter schools was reduced by \$40 million, a 10 percent cut – which many see as a signal of growing opposition to charter schools among Democrats.

In addition to funding, the legislation also includes several policy directives. Notably it directs Secretary DeVos to issue guidance clarifying that Title IV funds cannot be used to purchase guns or for gun training. And it directs the Department to use \$170 million for social-emotional learning grants.

It's important to remember that these dollar figures and directives are proposed by the House appropriations committee. They'll need to pass the full House and be reconciled with the Senate, which has not yet released a spending bill. Reaching consensus will be difficult as there is no agreement between the House and Senate, or between Democrats and Republicans, on how much should be spent this year by the federal government. So, we're at the beginning of what is sure to be a long and contentious process.

President Trump Issues Executive Order on Cybersecurity Workforce (Courtesy of ACTE – May 3, 2019)

On May 2, President Trump issued an [executive order](#) on America's cybersecurity workforce. The order is wide-ranging but includes several workforce-related components. Parts of the order closely mirror legislation from the co-chairs of the House CTE Caucus, Reps. Jim Langevin (D-RI) and Glenn Thompson (R-PA). Their bill, [H.R. 1592](#), the Cybersecurity Skills Integration Act, establishes a pilot program through which grants are provided to incorporate cybersecurity education into postsecondary CTE programs to meet workforce needs in critical infrastructure fields. The executive order, among other things, does the following:

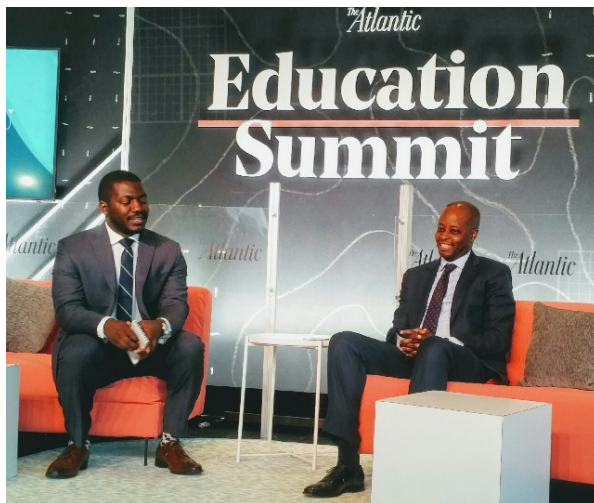
- Notes that America's cybersecurity workforce is a "strategic asset" that "promote[s] American prosperity and preserve[s] peace."
- States the government "must support the development of cybersecurity skills."
- Acknowledges the "shortage of cybersecurity talent and capability," and says that "training opportunities, such as work-based learning, apprenticeships, and blended learning approaches" are needed.
- Orders the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of Homeland Security to "identify a list of cybersecurity aptitude assessments" for federal agencies to use.
- Requires the Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Homeland Security and Secretary of Education to execute recommendations from the Report to the President on Supporting the Growth and Sustainment of the Nation's Cybersecurity Workforce from a 2017 [Executive Order](#). As part of this, consultation with various stakeholders is required, and consideration will be given to, among other things, "align[ing] education and training with employers' cybersecurity workforce needs."
- Directs the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Transportation, Secretary of Energy, Secretary of Homeland Security, Secretary of Labor and Director of the Office of Personnel Management to report on, among other things, recommended "curricula for closing the identified skills gap for Federal personnel and steps the [U.S.] government can take to close such gaps for non-Federal personnel by, for example, supporting the development of similar curricula by education or training providers."
- Mandates the Secretary of Education develop and implement an annual "Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award" to "one elementary and one secondary school educator per year who best instill skills, knowledge, and passion with respect to cybersecurity."
- Asks the Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Education and Secretary of Homeland Security to encourage the voluntary integration of the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Cybersecurity Workforce Framework (NICE Framework) "into existing education, training, and workforce development efforts undertaken by State, territorial, local, tribal, academic, non-profit and private-sector entities."

The Equity & Access Vision of The Atlantic's Education Summit *(Photos courtesy of Lisa R. Ransom)*

The American education system is, by some measures, the envy of the world. Yet in every state, there is profound inequality, with too many students locked out of the opportunities a quality school provides.

The Atlantic's fifth annual Education Summit convened teachers, principals, policymakers, higher education officials, parents and students to consider how American schools can move closer to that elusive ideal: giving every child an equal chance to succeed. Led by **Margaret Low**, President of AtlanticLIVE and **Ron Brownstein**, Senior Editor at The Atlantic, speakers for the day included:

Dr. Wayne Frederick, President of Howard University; **Jo Ann Allen Boyce**, Author of *This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality*; **Laura Guzman-DuVernois**, Assistant Director of Student Retention & Truancy Prevention for El Paso Independent School District; **David Simas**, CEO of the Obama Foundation; **Lewis Ferebee**, Chancellor of DC Public Schools; **Scott Heimlich**, Vice President of the Amgen Foundation; **Anthony Jack**, Assistant Professor of Education of Harvard Graduate School of Education; **Myra Jones-Taylor**, Chief Policy Officer of ZERO TO THREE; **Rodolfo Dueñas**, Teacher at Woodrow Wilson High School in Los Angeles, CA; **Marla Dean**, Executive Director of Bright Beginnings; **Shaun McAlmont**, Executive Vice President with Career Readiness Education, K12; **D'Angelo McDade**, Executive Director for Peace Warriors; **Stefanie Sanford**, Chief of Global Policy & External Relations for the College Board; **Ryan Stowers**, Executive Vice President for the Charles Koch Foundation; **Corshai Williams**, Doctoral Student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; **Enrique Garcia-Rivera**, Head of Oncology Research at nference; and **Congresswoman Donna Shalala**.



Dr. Wayne Frederick, President Howard Univ.



Ron Brownstein & Congresswoman Donna Shalala