



## The Consortium of State School Boards Associations Weekly Education Report

**JULY 21, 2025**

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*The COSSBA Education Report*, a weekly publication, provides an executive summary of public policy issues affecting American K-12 education and employment. **Please use the bookmarks below to navigate to your area of interest:**

### 1. **News, Publications, & Updates on COSSBA Policy Priorities**

#### • **Funding**

##### • **States Sue Trump Admin Over \$6 Billion Education Funding Freeze:**

On Tuesday, about two dozen state attorneys general and Democratic governors filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration in the U.S. District Court of Rhode Island for withholding more than \$6 billion in federal education funds.

##### • **GOP Senators Demand Immediate Release of Withheld Education Funds:**

On Wednesday, Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) joined nine of her Republican colleagues to strongly urge the immediate release of critical federal education formula funding.

##### • **Deep Cuts to NSF, STEM Programs, NASA Spark Concerns:**

On Tuesday, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) marked up the FY 2026 CJS Appropriations bill.

##### • **Federal Education Policy Shift Sparks Funding Fears:**

On Tuesday, the Brennan Center for Justice hosted a panel discussion that warned of a major reshaping of the educational landscape, with states and courts potentially serving as critical safeguards.

2. **Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up**

- **Impact on State School Board Associations**

3. **In Brief – Last Week in Washington**

- **Supreme Court Temporarily Allows ED Layoffs, Restructuring**: On Monday, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision on the application for a stay in *McMahon v. New York*, allowing the Department of Education to proceed with mass layoffs and a major restructuring effort that shifts core responsibilities to other agencies.
- **Expert Panel Examines Intersection Between AI, Civic Education**: On Tuesday, The Youth Power Project hosted a panel of experts to explore the impact of AI on civic education and the future of civic life, emphasizing the need for thoughtful adaptation rather than resistance.
- **ED, DOL Launch Workforce Partnership Following SCOTUS Stay**: On Tuesday, the Departments of Education and Labor announced a new workforce development partnership aimed at creating an integrated federal education and workforce system.
- **ED Announces Key Appointments to Advance Administration Priorities**: On Wednesday, the Department of Education announced new appointments to advance the Trump Administration’s priorities of state-led education, higher education reform, and the “America First” agenda.
- **Briefing Highlights Urgent Need to Release Afterschool Funds**: On Thursday, the Afterschool Alliance and National Summer Learning Association co-hosted a congressional staff briefing with Every Hour Counts, YMCA of the USA, and Save the Children to emphasize the need to protect afterschool and summer programs.
- **Sen. Blackburn’s Tech Policy Priorities Highlighted at Hudson Institute**: On Thursday, the Hudson Institute’s Center for the Economics of the Internet held an event with Connor Glisson, Senator Marsha Blackburn’s (R-TN) Tech Policy Counsel, where he highlighted the Senator’s positions on critical digital safety issues.
- **ED Pre-Approves Project SERV Grant for Texas Flood Recovery**: On Friday, the Department of Education announced a \$250,000 Project SERV grant pre-approval for Texas to support communities recovering from severe flooding in Kerr County.

4. **New Publications**

- **Aligning Youth Apprenticeship and Career and Technical Education**

*Urban Institute (July 2025)*

This report examines the available, although limited, data from emerging high-school-based registered apprenticeship programs to see how they align with and could better serve CTE programming and goals.

5. **In the News**

- **What The ‘One Big Beautiful Bill’ Will Change for Students, Schools and Colleges**

*NPR (July 18, 2025)*

- **Tuberville Expects Frozen Education Funds to Be Released In ‘Near Future’**  
*Alabama Daily News (July 19, 2025)*
- **Fears Big Beautiful Bill Will Leave Both Cupboards and School Lunch Trays Empty**  
*The 74 Million (July 14, 2025)*
- **Districts And States Could Lose Invaluable Education Data, Former NCES Leader Says**  
*K-12 Dive (July 14, 2025)*

6. **Weekly Calendar - What’s coming up this week?**

- **Kids Online Safety**: Punchbowl News will hold a discussion on the news of the day and online safety for kids.  
*Tuesday at 9:30am ET*
- **House Oversight Subcommittee Bipartisan AI Roundtable**: The House Oversight and Government Reform Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation Subcommittee will hold a hearing on "Bipartisan Roundtable: Artificial Intelligence in the Real World."  
*Tuesday at 10am ET*
- **Senate HELP Committee on Educational Choice**: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Education and the American Family Subcommittee will hold a hearing on "Choice and Literacy: Empowering Families for Better Educational Results."  
*Wednesday at 2pm ET*
- **Senate HELP Committee Nominations**: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee will hold a markup to vote on the nominations of Mary Christina Riley, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education; David Barker, of Iowa, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education; and others.  
*Thursday, TBD*
- **House Appropriations Committee on FY26 Commerce, Justice, Science Bill**: The House Appropriations Committee will hold a markup of the FY2026 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies bill.  
*Thursday at 10am ET*
- **State Approaches to Youth Apprenticeship: Part Two**: The New American Foundation will hold its second series on how three states are harnessing their state's definition of youth apprenticeship (or lack of one) to run effective apprenticeship programs for high-school aged youth.  
*Thursday at 1:30pm Et*

7. **On The Floor of Congress This Week**

- **Senate floor:**
  - Possible consideration of FY26 3-4 Bill Minibus
  - Consideration of nominations
- **House floor:**

- **H.J. Res. 104** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to ‘‘Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment’.’
- **H.J. Res. 105** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to ‘‘North Dakota Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan’.’
- **H.J. Res. 106** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to ‘‘Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan’.’
- **H.R. 3486** – Stop Illegal Entry Act
- **H.R. 3898** – PERMIT Act

## 8. [Important U.S. House and Senate Links](#)

## 9. [About BPAG](#)

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### 1. COSSBA Policy Priorities

#### **FUNDING**

#### **STATES SUE TRUMP ADMIN OVER \$6 BILLION EDUCATION FUNDING FREEZE**

On Tuesday, about two dozen state attorneys general and Democratic governors [filed a lawsuit](#) against the Trump administration in the U.S. District Court of Rhode Island for [withholding more than \\$6 billion in federal education funds](#). North Carolina Attorney General Jeff Jackson called the move unconstitutional and a violation of the Impoundment Control Act, which requires the executive branch to notify Congress of any funding withholdings. The Department of Education (ED) paused funds for multiple programs authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act on June 30 for what they call a programmatic review, affecting programs like Title I-C Migrant Education, Title II-A teacher training, Title III-A English Language Acquisition, Title IV-A student support, Title IV-B afterschool programming, and adult education grants. The administration claims the programs misuse funds to promote a ‘‘radical leftwing agenda,’’ while Jackson and education leaders warn the delay could cause severe harm, including teacher layoffs, canceled afterschool programs, and cuts to services for vulnerable students. States such as Alabama, California, and Washington report that hundreds of millions in expected funding remain frozen, threatening rural and high-poverty districts. Education officials fear the uncertainty could force program eliminations well into the 2026–2027 school year if the review continues. Additional lawsuits from parents and advocacy groups are anticipated as the legal battle unfolds.

#### **GOP SENATORS DEMAND IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF WITHHELD EDUCATION FUNDS**

On Wednesday, Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) joined nine of her Republican colleagues to [strongly urge](#) the immediate release of critical federal education formula funding. In a letter to OMB Director Russell Vought, the senators underscored the urgency of disbursing funds mandated by the Fiscal Year 2025 Full-Year Continuing Resolution Act, signed by President Trump earlier this year. States anticipated receiving these funds, totaling \$7 billion, on July 1, 2025, and the delay is causing widespread concern among education stakeholders. The senators warned that

freezing these funds directly harms students, families, and local economies. Programs such as after-school initiatives serving 1.4 million children, teacher training, English language learner and migrant student support, academic enrichment, and adult literacy programs for 1.3 million learners face severe disruptions or closure. The impact is particularly severe in high-need districts, many represented by Republicans. Capito and her colleagues argued that withholding these funds contradicts the President's stated goal of restoring K-12 education control to the states. They rejected the administration's claim that the funds support a "radical left-wing agenda," noting these programs have long enjoyed bipartisan support. These initiatives provide essential learning opportunities and enable parents to work, contributing to local economies, they argue. The senators urged Vought to reverse the decision and release the congressionally approved funding to prevent widespread negative consequences for the nation's education system. On Friday afternoon, \$1.3 billion in funds for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program were released. The other programmatic funds are still being withheld.

### **DEEP CUTS TO NSF, STEM PROGRAMS, NASA SPARK CONCERNS**

On Tuesday, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) marked up the FY 2026 CJS Appropriations bill. The bill was advanced to the full committee by a 9-6 vote along party lines. Republican members highlighted provisions to support law enforcement, combat fentanyl, reform the Bureau of Prisons, and maintain funding for NASA's Artemis program to ensure U.S. leadership in space exploration. Democratic members strongly opposed the bill, citing deep cuts to federal law enforcement, legal aid, economic development programs, and science agencies, warning of consequences for public safety, economic competitiveness, and innovation. The bill proposes more than \$2 billion in cuts to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and completely eliminates STEM education programs there, which opponents argue will abandon the next generation of scientists and engineers. While overall funding for NASA's Artemis program is maintained, the legislation slashes NASA's science account by over \$1.3 billion, jeopardizing progress in space exploration and climate research. It also makes significant reductions to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), limiting work on advanced technologies such as quantum computing and artificial intelligence. Several members warned that these cuts undermine the educational pipeline and weaken U.S. competitiveness in the global race for innovation, particularly against China.

### **FEDERAL ED POLICY SHIFT SPARKS FUNDING FEARS**

On Tuesday, the Brennan Center for Justice hosted a panel discussion that warned of a major reshaping of the educational landscape, with states and courts potentially serving as critical safeguards. John King Jr., former U.S. Secretary of Education, underscored the importance of federal financial aid programs such as Pell Grants, warning that disruptions could deny "thousands of students" access to higher education. He also expressed concern about staffing reductions at the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and the potential loss of vital data on educational progress. Aaron Saiger, Professor of Law at Fordham University, noted that public education is primarily a state responsibility. If federal funding declines, states will bear the burden and may face legal obligations to cover shortfalls. Journalist Martha Dalton of *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* highlighted widespread confusion in K-12 education regarding the elimination of DEI programs, which has caused "panic" among administrators. She cited examples of canceled national grant programs and research initiatives, negating prior investments. In addition, the introduction of a national school voucher program offering a tax refund for scholarship donations is expected to fuel state-level disputes. Proponents claim this does not divert funds from public schools, while

critics contend it still channels public money into private education. King pointed to historically “pretty poor” outcomes from similar voucher programs. Lastly, the administration’s explicit efforts to influence curriculum mark a significant shift. King described this as the “weaponization of the federal government at education,” posing a threat to academic freedom, particularly in higher education. Dalton added that differing state curricula could result in citizens learning “different facts,” exacerbating misunderstanding across the country. Ultimately, schools now face uncertainty about future funding, while parents may have fewer civil rights protections, the panel asserted.

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## **2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up**

House and Senate leadership delivered a win for the White House last week with approval of a \$9 billion rescission package. The measure, which was opposed by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) before being sent back to House for approval, rescinds roughly \$8 billion from foreign aid programs, including USAID, and \$1.1 billion in funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the full amount it was due to receive during the next two budget years. Advocates for every cause watched the debate closely as its approval raises the specter of similar rescissions packages being pursued by the White House.

As of Friday afternoon, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a portion of the education funds they have been withholding all month. OMB continues to sit on billions of dollars in K-12 education funding, but over \$1 billion for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program (Title IV, Part B) was sent to states Friday afternoon.

In the meantime, the House **did advance a number of spending bills** last week, **including the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Commerce, Justice and Science bill**. The bill proposes more than \$2 billion in cuts to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and completely eliminates STEM education programs there, which opponents argue will abandon the next generation of scientists and engineers.

This week is the last week the House is in session before their scheduled five-week recess. The Senate will likely go on recess the following week.

### **How does this impact State School Board Associations?**

On the release of certain withheld education funds, the win was celebrated by afterschool and summer learning advocates, but it raises concerns about the fate of the other programmatic funds. The approval of the rescissions package last week could embolden White House leadership to not only continue withholding education program dollars, but to ultimately attempt to rescind those funds as well. Many observers think the fate of the programmatic funds will be decided via the courts, as **a lawsuit filed by 24 states** is considered.

These circumstances also set the stage for a difficult and dramatic debate of FY 2026 funding. Last week, House Appropriations Committee Chair Tom Cole (R-OK) confirmed that consideration of the FY 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education spending bill will be delayed until September. Chair Cole did **release allocations** for all 12 FY 2026 bills, which he says reflect a \$45 billion cut below current FY 2025 spending. The Labor, Health and Human Services and Education spending bill would be subject to over \$13 billion in cuts. While education stakeholders



are troubled by that reduction, it is above what the President asked for in his FY 2026 budget request for the agencies and programs funded by the bill.

The delay to September gives education advocates more time to win support for the programs they consider important.

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### **3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington**

#### **SUPREME COURT TEMPORARILY ALLOWS ED LAYOFFS, RESTRUCTURING**

On Monday, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision on the application for a stay in McMahon v. New York, allowing the Department of Education (ED) to proceed with mass layoffs and a major restructuring effort that shifts core responsibilities to other agencies. The unsigned order lifts lower court injunctions that had temporarily blocked the termination of more than 1,300 employees and halted program transfers. However, the ruling is temporary and remains in effect while courts continue reviewing the legality of the President’s plan. The Court’s order did not provide reasoning or a vote count, but Justice Sonia Sotomayor filed a 19-page dissent, joined by Justices Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson. The dissent argued that the President’s efforts to dismantle ED exceed presidential authority, asserting that only Congress can abolish a cabinet-level agency. The decision clears the way for the administration to resume layoffs initially delayed in May, when U.S. District Judge Myong Joun issued a preliminary injunction. In a statement following the ruling, Secretary McMahon said, “The U.S. Department of Education will now deliver on its mandate to restore excellence in American education. We will carry out the reduction in force to promote efficiency and accountability and ensure resources are directed where they matter most – to students, parents, and teachers.”

#### **EXPERT PANEL EXAMINES INTERSECTION BETWEEN AI, CIVIC EDUCATION**

On Tuesday, The Youth Power Project hosted a panel of experts to explore the impact of AI on civic education and the future of civic life, emphasizing the need for thoughtful adaptation rather than resistance. The panel agreed that civic learning goes beyond memorizing facts, focusing instead on developing intellectual and interpersonal skills essential for navigating a complex, tech-driven world. A major concern highlighted was the pervasive threat of misinformation and the potential for AI algorithms to shape opinions, eroding critical thinking. Dan Zibel of the National Student Legal Defense Network noted that AI amplifies existing challenges in higher education, particularly in college recruitment, where big data can enable “reverse redlining” or predatory exclusion, undermining equitable access. He also stressed that privacy laws like the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) are outdated for today’s technological realities. Despite these challenges, panelists viewed AI as a tool that can enhance equity by providing personalized learning experiences and fostering interdisciplinary thinking. Misconceptions – such as the belief that all students will cheat – were addressed, with Nick Plante of Design It for Us advocating for teaching students how to use AI responsibly. The discussion underscored the urgent need for policy frameworks that incentivize ethical AI development and ensure accountability. Paul Lekas of the Software Information Industry Association emphasized that companies have a vested interest in creating effective and ethical AI tools. Federal policy, largely silent on AI issues, must be updated, including robust privacy protections and funding for states and districts to develop AI-civics guidelines. Ultimately, the experts agreed that equipping young people with critical thinking and media literacy skills is essential for civic resilience in an AI-driven information environment.

## **ED, DOL LAUNCH WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP FOLLOWING SCOTUS STAY**

On Tuesday, the Departments of Education (ED) and Labor (DOL) announced a new workforce development partnership aimed at creating an integrated federal education and workforce system. The partnership stems from an Interagency Agreement (IAA) signed with DOL in May. However, a Massachusetts District Judge issued a preliminary injunction in *McMahon v. New York* the following day, requiring ED to pause implementation. The U.S. Supreme Court has since granted a stay, allowing ED to move forward with restructuring. Under the agreement, DOL will assume a greater role in administering adult education and family literacy programs funded under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and career and technical education (CTE) programs funded by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins V). While DOL will oversee day-to-day operations, ED staff will continue to manage these programs collaboratively. This consolidation aligns with Executive Order No. 14278. Secretary McMahon praised the initiative, stating, “The current structure, with various federal agencies each managing pieces of the federal workforce portfolio, is inefficient and duplicative. Support from the Department of Labor in administering the Department of Education’s workforce programs is a commonsense step in streamlining these programs to better serve students, families, and educators.” A fact sheet accompanying the announcement can be found here.

## **ED ANNOUNCES KEY APPOINTMENTS TO ADVANCE ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES**

On Wednesday, the Department of Education announced new appointments to advance the Trump Administration’s priorities of state-led education, higher education reform, and the “America First” agenda. **John Huston** was named Deputy General Counsel for Postsecondary Education and Competition, bringing experience from the first Trump Administration and expertise in antitrust law. **Diana Díaz-Harrison** will serve as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; she is widely recognized for founding Arizona Autism Charter Schools. **Pamela Davidson** has been appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education in the Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs, drawing on an extensive background in education policy and advocacy, including prior roles on Capitol Hill. **Meg Kilgannon** returns as Director of Strategic Partnerships, having previously served as Director of the Office of Faith and Opportunity Initiatives. **Dr. Anna Miller** joins as Senior Advisor in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, following her work as a Postdoctoral Scholar at Vanderbilt University. **Ellia Rosado** has been named Digital Director, with previous experience at the America First Policy Institute. Lastly, **Constantine Stanovich** joins as Deputy Speechwriter, transitioning from a legislative aide role.

## **BRIEFING HIGHLIGHTS URGENT NEED TO RELEASE AFTERSCHOOL FUNDS**

On Thursday, the Afterschool Alliance and National Summer Learning Association co-hosted a congressional staff briefing with Every Hour Counts, YMCA of the USA, and Save the Children to emphasize the need to protect afterschool and summer programs. Staff from the offices of Senators Tina Smith (D-MN) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), co-chairs of the Senate Afterschool Caucus, opened the session by stressing the importance of releasing withheld 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) funds to support student enrichment, academic improvement, and parental workforce stability. Panelists included Lindsey Blevins, an extended learning coach at Tuscaloosa City Schools, and Madelyn Hinkleman, a South Dakota Afterschool Youth Ambassador, who shared personal stories about how these programs provide life skills and individualized support. Christian Russell of Policy Studies Associates and Kendall Smith of the



Vermont Department of Labor provided research-based context, citing studies that link afterschool participation to improved school attendance, stronger STEM skills, higher future earnings, lower substance abuse rates, and reduced juvenile arrests. D.J. Hilson, Muskegon County Prosecuting Attorney in Michigan, highlighted the role of afterschool and summer program funding in keeping youth safe and out of the juvenile justice system. Panelists also underscored the critical support these programs provide for working parents, enabling them to maintain steady employment. They warned that without immediate action to release 21st CCLC grant funding, up to 10,000 programs serving nearly 1.4 million youth could face staff losses and potential closures. On Friday afternoon, the funds were released, to the relief of afterschool supporters. (Other K-12 program funds continue to be withheld.) A recording of the event is available [here](#).

### **SEN. BLACKBURN'S TECH POLICY PRIORITIES HIGHLIGHTED AT HUDSON INSTITUTE**

On Thursday, the Hudson Institute's Center for the Economics of the Internet [held an event](#) with Connor Glisson, Senator Marsha Blackburn's (R-TN) Tech Policy Counsel, where he highlighted the Senator's positions on critical digital safety issues. The discussion covered artificial intelligence (AI), online child safety, app market competition, and comprehensive data privacy. Glisson reviewed recent legislative developments, highlighting the Senate's [near-unanimous rejection of an AI moratorium](#) (99–1 vote), which he said empowers states to establish their own AI protections. He emphasized AI's dual nature – its transformative potential, particularly in agriculture, and its significant risks, especially to children. He cited state-level efforts such as [Tennessee's ELVIS Act](#) to protect musicians, [Utah's AI Use Protection Act](#), and Arkansas's child pornography laws. At the federal level, initiatives like the bipartisan [NO FAKES Act](#) aim to hold individuals accountable for unauthorized voice use, while the [Kids Online Safety Act \(KOSA\)](#) seeks broad protections for children. [The Open App Markets Act](#) is also advancing to promote competition against dominant tech platforms and ensure fair rules for third-party applications. Regarding the legislative process, Glisson noted that the NO FAKES Act is prioritized in the Judiciary Committee, followed by the Open App Markets Act. He previewed an upcoming series on "Protecting the Virtual You," which will lead into discussions on comprehensive privacy legislation. Acknowledging the European Union's greater influence in privacy regulation due to the fragmented U.S. landscape, he stressed the importance of managing geolocation data. Glisson emphasized that Tennessee constituents prioritize protecting creativity and fair compensation for artists, consistent with intellectual property laws. He explained KOSA's broad approach to online child safety and underscored the balance between fostering fair markets and regulating dominant tech companies, asserting that those causing harm should face regulation. While clear disclosures are important, he said enforcement largely falls under the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Finally, Glisson confirmed Senator Blackburn's support for a federal privacy framework, though Congress remains divided on implementation. A recording is available [here](#).

### **ED PRE-APPROVES PROJECT SERV GRANT FOR TEXAS FLOOD RECOVERY**

On Friday, the Department of Education (ED) [announced](#) a \$250,000 [Project SERV](#) (School Emergency Response to Violence) grant pre-approval for Texas to support communities recovering from severe flooding in Kerr County. Available as of July 18, 2025, the funding will enable the Texas Education Agency to allocate critical resources to eligible school districts based on their specific needs. The grant's primary goals are to provide essential mental health support for students and families affected by the disaster and to help schools in impacted areas resume operations on schedule in August. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon expressed sympathy to

Kerr County residents and reaffirmed ED's commitment to assisting administrators, teachers, and students in recovery and preparation for the upcoming school year. Texas Governor Greg Abbott (R) **praised** the swift federal response, noting that Project SERV funding is vital for student support as communities rebuild. Texas Education Agency Commissioner Mike Morath also expressed gratitude for the assistance, offering continued prayers for those affected. Project SERV is a federal program that provides short-term education-related services to local educational agencies and institutions of higher education. It is designed to help these entities recover from violent or traumatic events that disrupt the learning environment. The program has a history of aiding districts impacted by severe weather events, including Hurricane Harvey, underscoring its established role in disaster recovery for schools

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#### **4. New Publications**

##### **Aligning Youth Apprenticeship and Career and Technical Education**

*Urban Institute (July 2025)*

This report examines the available, although limited, data from emerging high-school-based (HS-based) registered apprenticeship programs to see how they align with and could better serve CTE programming and goals.

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#### **5. In the News**

##### **What The 'One Big Beautiful Bill' Will Change for Students, Schools And Colleges**

*NPR (July 18, 2025)*

##### **Tuberville Expects Frozen Education Funds to Be Released In 'Near Future'**

*Alabama Daily News (July 19, 2025)*

##### **Fears Big Beautiful Bill Will Leave Both Cupboards and School Lunch Trays Empty**

*The 74 Million (July 14, 2025)*

##### **Districts And States Could Lose Invaluable Education Data, Former NCES Leader Says**

*K-12 Dive (July 14, 2025)*

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### **THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON**

#### **6. Weekly Calendar**

##### **Tuesday, July 22, 2025**

##### **Webinar: Kids Online Safety**

**Subject:** Punchbowl News will hold a discussion on the news of the day and online safety for kids.

**Participants:** Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA); Anna Palmer, founder, Punchbowl News; Kate Charlet, global director of privacy safety and security policy, Google; and Ben Brody, technology reporter, Punchbowl News.

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Contact:** Livestream available [here](#).

**Committee Roundtable: House Oversight Subcommittee Bipartisan AI Roundtable**

**Subject:** The House Oversight and Government Reform Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation Subcommittee will hold a hearing on "Bipartisan Roundtable: Artificial Intelligence in the Real World."

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Contact:** Live stream available [here](#).

**Wednesday, July 23, 2025**

**Hearing: Senate HELP Subcommittee on Educational Choice**

**Subject:** The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Education and the American Family Subcommittee will hold a hearing on "Choice and Literacy: Empowering Families for Better Educational Results."

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Live stream available [here](#).

**Thursday, July 24, 2025**

**Markup: Senate HELP Committee on Nominations**

**Subject:** The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee will hold a markup to vote on the nominations of Mary Christina Riley, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education; David Barker, of Iowa, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education; and others.

**Time:** TBA

**Contact:** Live stream available [here](#).

**Markup: House Appropriations Committee on FY26 Commerce, Justice, Science Bill**

**Subject:** The House Appropriations Committee will hold a markup of the FY2026 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies bill.

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Contact:** Live stream available [here](#).

**Event: State Approaches to Youth Apprenticeship: Part Two**

**Subject:** The New American Foundation will hold its second series on how three states are harnessing their state's definition of youth apprenticeship (or lack of one) to run effective apprenticeship programs for high-school aged youth.

**Panelists:** Denise Miller, Ed.D., state director, Apprenticeship Colorado; Laz Lopez, associate superintendent, Teaching and Learning at High School District 214, Chair of the Illinois Community College Board; Lancy Downs, senior policy analyst, New America

**Time:** 1:30-2:30 p.m.

**Contact:** Register [here](#).

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## 7. On The Floor of Congress This Week

### Senate Floor:

Possible consideration of FY26 3-4 Bill Minibus

Consideration of nominations

### House Floor:

**H.J. Res. 104** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment”. *(Sponsored by Rep. Downing / Natural Resources Committee)*

**H.J. Res. 105** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to “North Dakota Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan”. *(Sponsored by Rep. Fedorchak / Natural Resources Committee)*

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**H.R. 3486** – Stop Illegal Entry Act *(Sponsored by Rep. Bice / Judiciary Committee)*

**H.R. 3898** – PERMIT Act *(Sponsored by Rep. Collins / Transportation and Infrastructure Committee)*

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## 8. Links for Up-to-Date Information on Hearings, Legislation, and Events

[U.S. House and Senate 2025 Schedule](#)

[U.S. Department of Education](#)

[U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions](#)

[U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor](#)

[U.S. Senate Budget Committee](#)

[U.S. House Budget Committee](#)

[Congressional Budget Office](#)

[Federal legislative information](#)

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## 10. About BPAG

**Bose Public Affairs Group** is a full-service government affairs and public relations consulting firm that has built a reputation for producing results. We partner with clients committed to excellence in education and other social services to achieve policy and advocacy success by:

- leveraging our expertise and passion;
- strategizing intelligent solutions; and,
- Creating meaningful impact.

Our team includes long-term insiders in education policy from Pre-K through higher education, innovative thinkers and savvy strategists that provide a comprehensive array of customized client services. We have the knowledge, skills, and relationships that are necessary for successful advocacy at all levels. From grassroots to grass tops and everything in between, our broad-based legislative practice approaches every project with the same degree of determination and professionalism. BPAG provides expertise in a variety of services:

- Government Relations
- Research and Analysis
- Advocacy Training
- Association Management
- Strategic Communications
- Policy Events

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