The Consortium of State School Boards Associations
Weekly Education Report

April 20, 2026

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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**
   - **COSSBA Legislative Advocacy Actions**
     - **COSSBA Submits Testimony on FY27 Federal Education Budget**: COSSBA submitted testimony to the Houe Appropriations Committee urging Congress to provide strong and sustained FY2027 funding for key federal education programs, including significant increases for Title I, IDEA Part B, Title II, and Title IV, along with full funding for Impact Aid and McKinney-Vento.
   - **Funding**
     - **ED, DoL Announce First Grant Competitions Under New Partnership**: The Departments of Education and Labor announced the Fiscal Year 2026 grant competitions for the Teacher and School Leader Incentive (TSL) and Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) programs, marking the start of the Department of Education's K–12 grant cycle.
     - **House Budget Panel Examines FY27 Trump Budget Request:** On Wednesday, the House Budget Committee held a hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request. Discussion during the hearing highlighted several education-related topics centered on proposed federal funding levels, agency restructuring, and program impacts.
     - **Senate Budget Committee Hears From Vought on FY27 Budget Request:** The Senate Budget Committee held a hearing on Thursday to examine the President's Fiscal Year 2027 budget proposal. As it relates to

education dollars, discussion focused primarily on proposed funding levels and broader budget tradeoffs.

- **E-Rate**
  - **FCC Chair Pushes Vote to Establish E-Rate Competitive Bidding Portal:** At the end of April, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will vote on a Report and Order that would establish a new competitive bidding portal for the E-rate program.
- **School Nutrition**
  - **Debate Over Nutrition Cuts, Food Access Dominates Ag Budget Hearing:** On Thursday, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration held a hearing on the Department of Agriculture's Fiscal Year 2027 budget request. Discussion of child and school nutrition in the hearing centered on sharp disagreements over proposed funding cuts and their potential impact on vulnerable populations.

2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up

- **Impact on State School Board Associations**

3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington

- **Education & Workforce Committee Unveils WIOA Reauthorization**: Education and Workforce Committee Chairman Tim Walberg (R-MI) introduced on April 6 the "A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026," a bill to update the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in response to evolving workforce needs.
- **ED Publishes Final Priority, Definitions on Advancing AI in Education:** On Tuesday, the Department of Education issued a final supplemental priority in the Federal Register focused on advancing artificial intelligence (AI) in education, which will guide how the Department awards discretionary grants across existing and future programs.
- **Federalist Society Looks at Instruments of Executive Power:** On Tuesday, the Federalist Society hosted a webinar titled "The Presidential Toolbox: Instruments of Executive Power," examining the legal tools presidents use to direct federal agencies and implement policy.
- **Expert Panel Examines Policy Shifts Under OBBBA, FY27 Budget:** On Wednesday, the Center for American Progress (CAP) hosted a panel on the evolving federal and state policy landscape for community colleges, focusing on the implications of the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (OBBBA) for student access, workforce development, and institutional funding.

4. New Publications

- **Voices of Gen Z: The AI Paradox**
  GSV Ventures | Walton Family Foundation | Gallup (April 2026
  In partnership with GSV Ventures and the Walton Family Foundation, Gallup surveyed Generation Z to track the evolving way in which young people are engaging with artificial intelligence.

5. In the News

- **How the Education Department will Prioritize AI in Awarding Grants**
  K-12 Dive (April 14, 2026)
- **Inside Trump's 3.5% Budget Boost for Special Education**
  K-12 Dive (April 15, 2026)
- **Education Department Scraps Some Civil Rights Agreements**
  Inside Higher Ed (April 7, 2026)
- **A Year After Deep Cuts, Can The Institute for Education Sciences Remake Itself?**
  The 74 Million (March 27, 2026)

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

- **Learning Through Play: STEM Education in Action**: LEGO Education and the STEM Education Coalition will host an event to highlight a hands-on learning experience exploring how playful, engaging solutions can enable science, computer science, and AI.
  Tuesday at 10am ET
- **House Education and Workforce Committee Markup of WIOA Reauthorization**: The House Education and the Workforce Committee will hold a markup of H.R. 8210, the "A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026."
  Tuesday at 10:15am ET
- **Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing on FY27 HHS Budget**: The Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a hearing "to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of Health and Human Services."
  Tuesday at 10:15am ET
- **How Should Educators Teach America's Story**? The Progressive Policy Institute will hold a virtual discussion on "How Should Educators Teach America's Story?"
  Wednesday at 1pm ET
- **House Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing on FY27 Ag-FDA Budget:** The House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a markup of the FY2027 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.
  Thursday at 8am ET
- **Senate Judiciary Committee Markup of Chatbot Bill:** The Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a markup of S. 3062, the "Guidelines for User Age-Verification and Responsible Dialogue Act of 2025;"and others.
  Thursday at 10:15am ET
- **NSF AI-Ready America Program:** The National Science Foundation will hold a webinar to highlight a new funding opportunity, NSF TechAccess: AI-Ready America. During this webinar, speakers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA), the U.S. Department of

Labor (DOL) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will introduce their involvement and collaboration on the program.
Thursday at 1pm ET

7. **Weekly Calendar – Future Events**
   - **Raising Young Children in an AI World**: Brookings will hold a webinar on "Raising Young Children in an AI World."
     April 27 at 2pm ET
   - **Lessons from the Mississippi Marathon**: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research will hold a webinar on "What Can We Learn from the 'Mississippi Marathon'?"
     April 27 at 4pm ET
   - **House Appropriations Committee Markup of FY27 Ag-FDA Budget**: The House Appropriations Committee will hold a markup of the FY2027 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.
     April 28 at 11am ET

8. **On The Floor of Congress This Week**
   - **Senate floor:** Consideration of nominations
   - **House floor**
     - **H.R. 6387** – FIRE Act
     - **H.R. 2289** – American Broadband Deployment Act of 2026
     - **H.R. 4690** – Reliable Federal Infrastructure Act
     - **H.R. 5587** – HEATS Act of 2026
     - **H.R. 1897** – ESA Amendments Act of 2025
     - **H. Res. 1182** – Expressing support for rural communities across the United States as stewards of the environment, major suppliers of United States energy resources, critical providers of food production and manufacturing capacity, and drivers of national economic stability, and recognizing the work of the House of Representatives in the 119th Congress in support of those vital communities.
     - *Additional legislative items are possible.*

9. **Important U.S. House and Senate Links**

10. **About BPAG**

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1. COSSBA Policy Priorities

COSSBA LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIONS

COSSBA SUBMITS TESTIMONY ON FY27 FEDERAL EDUCATION BUDGET

COSSBA submitted testimony to the House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies urging Congress to provide strong and sustained FY2027 funding for key federal education programs, including significant increases for Title I, IDEA Part B, Title II, and Title IV, along with full funding for Impact Aid and McKinney-Vento. COSSBA's testimony emphasizes that federal education policy should reinforce local control, support state school board associations, and provide flexible, formula-

driven funding that allows districts to tailor solutions to community needs. COSSBA highlights the importance of evidence-based investments, data transparency, and national assessment systems to improve student outcomes. The testimony also identifies key barriers to student success—such as mental health challenges, school safety, broadband access, learning recovery, and teacher shortages—and calls for federal support to address these issues. It stresses that chronic underfunding of IDEA shifts financial burdens onto local districts and advocates for increased federal contributions to meet the long-promised 40% funding level. Additionally, COSSBA underscores the need to invest in educator recruitment, retention, and professional development, while raising concern about a proposed $100,000 H-1B visa fee that could worsen teacher shortages. The testimony concludes by reaffirming the federal role in promoting educational equity, particularly for students in poverty, those experiencing homelessness, and those connected to federal lands, and calls for continued partnership to strengthen public education nationwide. The testimony can be viewed here.

FUNDING

ED, DOL ANNOUNCE FIRST GRANT COMPETITIONS UNDER NEW PARTNERSHIP

The Departments of Education and Labor announced the Fiscal Year 2026 grant competitions for the Teacher and School Leader Incentive (TSL) and Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) programs, marking the start of the Department of Education's K–12 grant cycle. The competitions aim to support educator development, performance-based compensation systems, and literacy programs in high-need schools, while reflecting a broader effort to better align education and workforce systems. As part of an expanded interagency partnership, awards will be administered through the Department of Labor's GrantSolutions platform, with DOL providing grant management support, technical assistance, and coordination with workforce programs. The announcement also reflects updated federal priorities that emphasize educator effectiveness, workforce alignment, and flexibility for states and local entities, with additional guidance expected as implementation moves forward.

HOUSE BUDGET PANEL EXAMINES FY27 TRUMP BUDGET REQUEST

On Wednesday, the House Budget Committee held a hearing on the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Budget Request. Discussion during the hearing highlighted several education-related topics centered on proposed federal funding levels, agency restructuring, and program impacts. Office of Management and Budget Director Russell Vought indicated that the FY 2027 budget seeks to reduce the role of the Department of Education (ED), including efforts to shift responsibilities and potentially close ED, while maintaining most funding with only a modest overall reduction. "In this budget… we reflect the fact that we were trying to close the Department of Education, but that substantial resources will continue to flow to communities for education." Vought stated. Democratic members raised concerns about reported delays or withholding of congressionally appropriated funds for K–12 schools and Head Start, as well as broader impacts on education access and services. The hearing also addressed proposed cuts to research and education-related programs, including significant reductions to the National Science Foundation and questions about how those cuts could affect innovation, STEM education, and long-term economic competitiveness. Additionally, members discussed flat funding for childcare and debated the broader implications of federal versus state responsibility for education and related social

programs, highlighting ongoing disagreements over federal investment priorities in education and workforce development.

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARS FROM VOUGHT ON FY27 BUDGET REQUEST

The Senate Budget Committee held a hearing on Thursday to examine the President's FY 2027 budget proposal. As it relates to education dollars, discussion focused primarily on proposed funding levels and broader budget tradeoffs. Several Democratic senators raised concerns about reductions in non-defense discretionary spending, noting that the FY 2027 budget proposes cuts that would affect education alongside healthcare and housing, and warning that these reductions could limit federal investment in schools and long-term workforce development. In contrast, OMB Director Vought emphasized a policy approach that shifts control of education away from the federal government and toward states and local communities, framing this as part of a broader effort to reduce federal spending and restructure agencies. Education matters were also discussed in the context of overall fiscal priorities, with lawmakers debating whether increased defense spending and other budget choices come at the expense of domestic programs, including education, and how those tradeoffs could impact economic competitiveness and support for families.

E-RATE

FCC CHAIR PUSHES VOTE TO ESTABLISH E-RATE COMPETITIVE BIDDING PORTAL

At the end of April, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will vote on a Report and Order that would establish a new competitive bidding portal for the E-rate program. The E-rate program, also known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, helps connect schools to affordable broadband and provides deep discounts for telecommunications, Internet access, and internal connections. If the FCC's proposed order is adopted, applicants and service providers could be required to use the new portal for the procurement process beginning in funding year 2028. COSSBA and our coalition partners at the Education and Libraries Networks Coalition (EdLiNC) are closely monitoring the proposal, which could add onerous and complex new requirements to the application process and possibly conflict with state and local procurement regulations. In late 2025, the Government Accountability Office published a report noting that the E-Rate/Universal Service Fund already had in place appropriate anti-fraud measures.

SCHOOL NUTRITION

DEBATE OVER NUTRITION CUTS, FOOD ACCESS DOMINATES AG BUDGET HEARING

On Thursday, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration held a hearing on the Department of Agriculture's FY 2027 budget request. Discussion of child and school nutrition in the hearing centered on sharp disagreements over proposed funding cuts and their potential impact on vulnerable populations. Democratic members repeatedly warned that the FY 2027 budget would significantly reduce support for key nutrition programs, including major cuts to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), as well as eliminations or reductions affecting school meals, food banks, and senior nutrition programs, arguing these changes would increase child hunger, limit access to healthy food, and strain families already facing high food costs. Lawmakers also highlighted concerns that cuts to farm-to-school and local food purchasing programs would reduce the availability of fresh, nutritious foods in schools while simultaneously harming farmers who supply those programs. In contrast, the administration emphasized efforts to reshape nutrition policy through initiatives like SNAP waivers targeting less nutritious foods and a broader "food as medicine" approach, though critics argued these policies were not paired with sufficient

investment in access to healthy foods. Overall, the debate reflected a fundamental tension between cost-cutting and restructuring federal nutrition programs versus maintaining or expanding support to address food insecurity among children and families.

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2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up

Congress returned to Washington, DC, last week and took on efforts to fund the Department of Homeland Security, a second reconciliation package, and debate over the United States' conflict with Iran. In addition, lawmakers were together for the first time since the White House released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget request on April 3rd. That plan proposes significant changes to federal education funding and the role of the U.S. Department of Education, setting up a familiar clash with Congress as the appropriations process begins. "The Budget puts the Department of Education, which has failed the Nation's children, teachers, and families, on a path to elimination," the budget proposal said.

At a high level, the administration's budget seeks a 10 percent reduction in non-defense discretionary spending, with education among the areas targeted for cuts. Within the Department of Education (ED), the proposal requests about $76.5 billion in discretionary funding—a roughly $2.3 billion (2.9 percent) decrease from FY 2026 levels.

Lawmakers have responded along familiar partisan lines. House Education and Workforce Committee Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA) said the proposal "fails to deliver for students, teachers, or families" and warned it would harm underserved populations. Republicans have framed the budget as an effort to improve efficiency and reduce federal overreach.

Last week on Capitol Hill, the FY 2027 budget process moved forward. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Russell Vought appeared before the House and Senate Budget Committees to defend the administration's proposal. In his testimony, Vought emphasized the administration's overarching priorities, particularly the shift toward defense spending and reductions in domestic programs. He defended the proposed $73 billion in non-defense cuts and argued the budget reflects the president's commitment to national security and fiscal restraint. Over the two hearings much of the questioning focused on defense and global health cuts, although Democrats repeatedly raised concerns that education programs would be squeezed by the broader reduction in domestic spending.

At the same time, congressional appropriators are beginning to map out the path forward for FY 2027 spending bills. House Appropriations Committee Chair Tom Cole (R-OK) announced his proposed schedule for bill mark ups. Once again, his goal is to advance all 12 appropriations bills before the start of the fiscal year on October 1. Mark ups began last week and the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) bill, arguably the largest and most complex bill, is scheduled for action in June.

As the FY 2027 process unfolds, the administration's proposals for education are likely to face substantial scrutiny. With Congress holding the power of the purse, the final outcome will depend on how lawmakers reconcile competing visions for federal education policy and spending in the months ahead.

How does this impact State School Board Associations?

For K–12 education, the President's budget request maintains funding for large formula programs, including Title I grants for disadvantaged students and IDEA. The administration again proposes consolidating or eliminating numerous programs, including teacher training and literacy initiatives, while creating new block grant programs. The administration is reviving its proposal to consolidate K-12 programs into a $2 billion education block grant—called "Make Education Great Again," or MEGA—for states to spend largely how they please. States would be required, however, to put a quarter of their allocations toward literacy instruction and another quarter toward math. The $2 billion fund would be $4.6 billion short of the total value of the programs it proposes to merge. Overall, K–12 funding would decline by an estimated $6.5 billion compared to current levels.

Beyond individual programs, the budget reflects the White House's broader policy goal of eliminating the Department of Education.

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3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE COMMITTEE UNVEILS WIOA REAUTHORIZATION

Education and Workforce Committee Chairman Tim Walberg (R-MI) introduced on April 6 the "A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026," a bill to update the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in response to evolving workforce needs. The legislation proposes shifting adult education programs to the Department of Labor (DoL) to better align them with apprenticeships, sector partnerships, and employer-driven training, particularly as technological changes such as artificial intelligence reshape skill demands. It also emphasizes expanding access to upskilling opportunities through individual training accounts, on-the-job learning, and other industry-relevant initiatives, including support for incumbent workers seeking to advance or avoid displacement. Additionally, the bill seeks to strengthen accountability measures by placing greater responsibility on states and local workforce boards to demonstrate positive outcomes. The proposal builds on WIOA's original 2014 framework, which aimed to streamline federal workforce programs and improve performance metrics, but acknowledges ongoing challenges in delivering high-quality services to workers and employers. During the 118th Congress, lawmakers made significant but ultimately incomplete progress toward reauthorizing WIOA. The House passed a bipartisan bill in April 2024. At the same time, the Senate HELP Committee advanced its own discussion draft and held hearings, working toward a bipartisan framework. By late 2024, House and Senate leaders reached a bicameral agreement on reauthorization language, reflecting broad bipartisan support. However, despite this momentum, the legislation did not pass before the end of the Congress, and the latest version faces new political headwinds. While earlier efforts were bipartisan, provisions to shift certain adult education programs from the Department of Education to DoL have drawn opposition from Democrats. Despite the opposition, Chair Walberg stated that "the bill modernizes a struggling and underutilized workforce development system, delivering reforms that strengthen participant outcomes and ensure greater accountability for taxpayer dollars." Read more here.

ED PUBLISHES FINAL PRIORITY, DEFINITIONS ON ADVANCING AI IN EDUCATION

On Tuesday, the Department of Education (ED) issued a final supplemental priority in the Federal Register focused on advancing artificial intelligence (AI) in education, which will guide how ED

awards discretionary grants across existing and future programs. The priority encourages projects that integrate AI into teaching, learning, and workforce preparation, including promoting AI literacy, supporting educator training, and leveraging technology to improve educational outcomes and administrative efficiency. It builds on a broader set of previously issued supplemental priorities and is intended to help prepare students for an increasingly technology-driven economy while positioning the U.S. to remain competitive. The rule also establishes definitions to standardize how AI-related activities are incorporated into grant programs and reflects strong stakeholder interest in expanding responsible AI use in education, while remaining flexible so ED can apply all or part of the priority across different funding competitions.

FEDERALIST SOCIETY LOOKS AT INSTRUMENTS OF EXECUTIVE POWER

On Tuesday, the Federalist Society hosted a webinar titled "The Presidential Toolbox: Instruments of Executive Power," examining the legal tools presidents use to direct federal agencies and implement policy. Moderated by Paul Noe, the panel featured Paul Ray, Sally Katzen, and Josh Blackman, and focused on executive orders, directives, proclamations, and signing statements, as well as their use by modern presidents. Ray explained that executive orders and directives function as instructions to agencies, helping presidents enforce compliance and translate action into political capital. He noted that President Trump has used these tools at an unusually rapid pace during his second term. Katzen agreed that executive actions can be issued and revoked quickly but cautioned that their expanded use raises concerns about the centralization of power, the erosion of congressional authority, and the weakening of agency expertise. Blackman characterized Trump's approach as a "just do it" model that tests the limits of existing law and precedent, particularly in relation to agency control. Throughout the discussion, panelists debated whether aggressive executive action reflects necessary presidential oversight of agencies or signals a broader erosion of Congress's lawmaking role. Overall, the webinar highlighted the central role of executive power in regulatory policymaking, while underscoring ongoing separation-of-powers tensions involving agency independence and congressional authority.

EXPERT PANEL EXAMINES POLICY SHIFTS UNDER OBBA, FY27 BUDGET

On Wednesday, the Center for American Progress (CAP) hosted a panel on the evolving federal and state policy landscape for community colleges, focusing on the implications of the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (OBBBA) for student access, workforce development, and institutional funding. Jonathan Elkin of the Association of Community College Trustees opened with a federal overview. He noted that OBBBA's creation of Workforce Pell Grants is a long-awaited win but warned that the President's FY 2027 budget proposal poses significant risks, including deep cuts to TRIO, GEAR UP, adult education, and a 90% reduction in work-study funding. He emphasized that Pell Grants continue to enjoy strong bipartisan support in Congress. Kathryn Gimborys of the American Association of Community Colleges described OBBBA as the closest effort to Higher Education Act reauthorization in years. She flagged the July 1 implementation deadline as a major challenge, noting that Workforce Pell programs may not be approved in time and could effectively launch as a pilot. She also raised concerns about the "Do No Harm" standard, which compares degree value to a high school diploma when determining loan caps, warning it could unintentionally disadvantage essential but lower-paid fields. Veronica Goodman of CAP highlighted state trends, including Maine's move to cover community college costs for high school graduates. She cautioned that potential Medicaid and SNAP cuts could strain state budgets and reduce education funding. Morgan Polk of New America emphasized community colleges' role as

the nation's largest apprenticeship providers but warned that cuts to CTE and NSF STEM programs could weaken these partnerships. Panelists agreed that while OBBBA creates new opportunities—especially through Workforce Pell—successful implementation will require time, employer engagement, and sustained federal investment. At the same time, proposed FY27 cuts threaten the institutions expected to deliver these gains, underscoring the need for a balanced policy approach. You can watch the full event here.

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4. New Publications

Voices of Gen Z: The AI Paradox

GSV Ventures | Walton Family Foundation | Gallup (April 2026)

In partnership with GSV Ventures and the Walton Family Foundation, Gallup surveyed Generation Z to track the evolving way in which young people are engaging with artificial intelligence. Explore the full report to learn more about how Gen Z is using AI and how their attitudes toward its role in education and the workplace are evolving.

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5. In the News

How The Education Department Will Prioritize AI In Awarding Grants

K-12 Dive (April 14, 2026)

Inside Trump's 3.5% budget boost for special education

K-12 Dive (April 15, 2026)

Education Dept. Scraps Some Civil Rights Agreements

Inside Higher Ed (April 7, 2026)

A Year After Deep Cuts, Can the Institute for Education Sciences Remake Itself?

The 74 Million (March 27, 2026)

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THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

6. Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Event: Learning through Play: STEM Education in Action

Subject: LEGO Education and the STEM Education Coalition will host an event to highlight a hands-on learning experience exploring how playful, engaging solutions can enable science, computer science, and AI literacy in today's classrooms.

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; Rayburn Foyer

Contact: RSVP **here.**

Markup: House Education and Workforce Committee on WIOA Reauthorization

Subject: The House Education and the Workforce Committee will hold a markup of H.R. 8210, the "A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026."

Time: 10:15 a.m.
Contact: Live stream **here.**

Hearing: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on FY27 HHS Budget

Subject: The Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a hearing "to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of Health and Human Services."
Witness: Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.
Time: 10:15 a.m.
Contact: Live stream **here.**

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Webinar: How Should Educators Teach America's Story

Subject: The Progressive Policy Institute will hold a virtual discussion on "How Should Educators Teach America's Story?"
Participants: Richard Kahlenberg, director, PPI's American Identity Project; Lief Lin, policy research fellow, Progressive Policy Institute K-12 Teacher; and Caroline Levander, professor in the humanities, Rice University.
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Contact: Register **here.**

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Markup: House Appropriations Subcommittee on FY27 Ag-FDA

Subject: The House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a markup of the FY2027 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Contact: Live stream **here.**

Markup: Senate Judiciary Committee Markup of Chatbot Bill

Subject: The Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a markup of S. 3062, the "Guidelines for User Age-Verification and Responsible Dialogue Act of 2025;"and others.
Time: 10:15 a.m.
Contact: Live stream **here.**

Webinar: NSF AI-Ready America Program

Subject: The National Science Foundation will hold a webinar to highlight a new funding opportunity, NSF TechAccess: AI-Ready America. During this webinar, speakers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will introduce their involvement and collaboration on the program.
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Contact: Register **here.**

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7. Future Hearings and Events

Monday, April 27, 2026

Webinar: Raising Young Children in an AI World
Subject: Brookings will hold a webinar on "Raising Young Childre in an AI World."
Participants: Isabelle Hau, executive director, Stanford Accelerator for Learning; Dana Suskind, founder and co-director, Center for Early Learning and Public Health, University of Chicago; and Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, senior fellow, Center for Universal Education, Brookings.
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Contact: Register **here.**

Webinar: Lessons from the Mississippi Marathon
Subject: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research will hold a webinar on "What Can We Learn from the 'Mississippi Marathon'?"
Participants: Kelly Butler, senior adviser, Reading Universe; Robert Pondiscio, senior fellow, AEI; Kymyona Burk, senior policy fellow, ExcelinEd; and Rachel Canter, director of education policy, Progressive Policy Institute.
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Contact: Register **here.**

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Markup: House Appropriations Committee on FY27 Ag-FDA
Subject: The House Appropriations Committee will hold a markup of the FY2027 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Contact: Live stream **here.**

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8. On The Floor of Congress This Week

Senate Floor:
Consideration of nominees

House Floor:
H.R. 6387 – FIRE Act *(Sponsored by Rep. Evans / Energy and Commerce Committee)*

H.R. 2289 – American Broadband Deployment Act of 2026 *(Sponsored by Rep. Carter (GA) / Energy and Commerce Committee)*

H.R. 4690 – Reliable Federal Infrastructure Act *(Sponsored by Rep. Langworthy / Energy and Commerce Committee)*

H.R. 5587 – HEATS Act of 2026 *(Sponsored by Rep. Kim / Natural Resources Committee)*

H.R. 1897 – ESA Amendments Act of 2025 *(Sponsored by Rep. Westerman / Natural Resources Committee)*

H. Res. 1182 – Expressing support for rural communities across the United States as stewards of

the environment, major suppliers of United States energy resources, critical providers of food production and manufacturing capacity, and drivers of national economic stability, and recognizing the work of the House of Representatives in the 119th Congress in support of those vital communities. *(Sponsored by Rep. Fuller / Energy and Commerce Committee)*

Additional legislative items are possible.

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

U.S. House and Senate 2026 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

For more information, please visit our **website**.

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