

ASSOCIATION OF EARLY LEARNING COALITIONS

Summary of Federal Legislation of Interest

CCDBG Reauthorization

The Child Care Development Block Grant is up for reauthorization. In the House, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education included the following in their recommendations:

- A total appropriation of approximately \$2.827 billion, an increase of \$700 million over 2010 spending levels, a significant increase and will help states maintain some of the investments that they have made through ARRA funds
- An appropriation for Head Start at \$8.1 billion for fiscal year 2011, an increase of \$866 million over 2010 spending levels to help ensure that classrooms serving infants, toddlers and preschool age children with ARRA funds can stay open
- Increased appropriations for several programs in the Department of Education, including a four percent increase for IDEA; Race to the Top grants are funded at \$800 million for Race to the Top grants; and \$400 million for the Investing in Innovation grant program received \$400 million
- Discretionary funding of \$23.162 billion for Pell Grants, an increase of more than \$5.5 billion over 2010 funding

Next step in the House is consideration before the Full Appropriations Committee and then the Full House.

On the Senate side, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education met this week to work on their version of the funding bill, and **it includes a \$1 billion increase for CCDBG, an increase of \$990.3 for Head Start, as well as a \$300 million investment to move the Early Learning Challenge Fund forward.** The Challenge Fund, thought to be 'dead' when proposed as a separate bill, has been revived in appropriations.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization

There are a number of early learning opportunities included in the proposal for reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including:

- Continuation of Title 1 funding support for preschool
- Increased Promise Neighborhood funding with a birth to college to career agenda
- Race to the Top Program, including a focus on young children

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- Investing in Innovation Program supports promising and proven educational strategies, including early learning programs that improve outcomes for young children
- Joint Professional Development for school staff and early learning educators and support for professional development systems for early learning teachers
- Effective Teachers and Leaders Program to support activities to expand elementary school principals' knowledge of effective early learning environments and instruction

Child Nutrition Act

Both the Senate Agriculture Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee have passed versions of a bill to reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act. The proposals call for an increase of \$8 billion over ten years for crucial child nutrition programs to improve the quality of meals for children in child care and school settings and to increase the numbers of children served by these programs. The legislation includes a pilot to offer an additional meal or snack to CACFP in five states, to be selected by USDA.

Medicaid FMAP

As part of the economic recovery efforts, higher-than-usual reimbursement rates for Medicaid were established through FMAP, Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentages. These reimbursement rates will soon expire unless extended, resulting in deeper budget woes in many states, including Florida.

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- [Buchanan, Vern](#), Florida, 13th
- [Crenshaw, Ander](#), Florida, 4th
- [Castor, Kathy](#), Florida, 11th
- [Deutch, Ted](#), Florida, 19th
- [Diaz-Balart, Lincoln](#), Florida, 21st
- [Diaz-Balart, Mario](#), Florida, 25th
- [Grayson, Alan](#), Florida, 8th
- [Hastings, Alcee L.](#), Florida, 23rd
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- [Mack, Connie](#), Florida, 14th
- [Meek, Kendrick](#), Florida, 17th
- [Mica, John](#), Florida, 7th
- [Miller, Jeff](#), Florida, 1st
- [Posey, Bill](#), Florida, 15th
- [Putnam, Adam](#), Florida, 12th
- [Rooney, Tom](#), Florida, 16th
- [Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana](#), Florida, 18th
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