



Legislative Update

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Political context





Key issues for this year

Protect:

- Funding for Disability Programs
- Affordable Care Act
- Medicaid & Medicare
- Social Security

Reauthorize and improve:

- Combating Autism Act
- Elementary & Secondary Education Act (NCLB) (include restraints protections)
- Workforce Investment Act and Rehab Act
- DD Act



FY 2011 Spending

- Current Continuing Resolution set to expire Friday, April 8
- House Republicans insist on cuts in excess of \$60 billion plus policy rider, repeal of ACA
- President and Senate Dems offer \$30 billion cuts
- Gov't shut down appears inevitable
- AUCD Network program level-funded so far...



FY 2012 Budget

- House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI) introduced 2012 Budget Resolution April 5
- Cuts \$6.2 Trillion over 10 years
- Cuts Medicaid by \$1 Trillion over 10
 - Convert to capped block grants with formula
- Turns Medicare into voucher program
- Repeals Affordable Care Act
- Does not touch Social Security
- Opposed by Democratic-controlled Senate and President Obama
- Outlook for 2012 appropriations? Difficult but not impossible



Combating Autism Act

- Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) will introduce
 - Looking for Republican co-sponsor
 - Sen. Dodd introduced end of last Congress
- Reps. Chris Smith (R-NJ) and Mike Doyle (D-PA) to introduce soon, possibly in next 2 weeks
- Push back on size and cost
- Sen. Dick Durbin, Majority Whip, to reintroduce the Acceleration Act but change the name to “Autism Services and Workforce Acceleration Act”
- Training provision in all three bills, so far



TEAM Act

- “Transitioning towards Excellence in Achievement and Mobility”
- Rep. Gregg Harper (R-MS)
- TEAM-Education Act (H.R. 602)
- TEAM-Empowerment Act (H.R. 603)
- TEAM-Employment Act (H.R. 604)



Employment - WIA

- Workforce Investment Act
 - Title IV is the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)
 - Draft bill to increase opportunities for competitive, integrated employment
 - Increase oversight on Sec. 14 (c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act allowing for subminimum wages
 - Focus on transitioning youth
 - “give them a kick in the pants”



ESEA reauthorization

- Controversy: how to measure educational progress for students with disabilities
- Bush Administration regulations:
 - Alternate assessments based on alternate standards – 1% of all students
 - Alternate Assessments based on modified achievement standards – 2%
- Dept. of Education “growth models”
 - Seek to measure a student’s progress w/in a certain timeframe
- Address shortage of highly qualified personnel
- Strategies for addressing challenging behaviors
- Senate: Sen. Harkin working feverishly. Bill ready soon.
- House: Rep. John Kline (R-MN) – holding hearings



Restraints and Seclusion

- Rep. George Miller (D-CA) to re-introduce Keeping All Students Safe Act today but not a priority for Chairman Kline
- Harkin will champion a bill in the Senate
- Could be rolled into ESEA
- Controversy around whether or not to allow R&S as planned intervention in IEP
- States rights issue



DD Act

- May not be reauthorized this year... again
- ADD listening sessions
- National Council on Disability report outlines minor recommendations
 - Follow up focus groups and smaller briefs for DD Act reauthorization



Family Support

- Wingspread Family Support Summit
- Recommendations and building national advocacy for:
 - Title II of DD Act
 - Lifespan Respite Care Act
 - National Family Caregivers Support Program in OAA
 - Medicaid support waivers



Other legislative activities

- Legislative Affairs Committee
 - Co-chairs Lu Zeph, Bob Bacon and Bill Kiernan
 - Legislative Goals with The Arc, UCP, AAIDD, NACDD
 - AUCD legislative goals to be published soon
- Work in Coalitions
 - Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
 - New Medicaid Adhoc working group
 - Coalition for Health Funding
 - Friends of NICHD
 - Friends of NCBDD
 - Friday Morning Collaborative (aging and disability)



Resources

- AUCD: <http://www.aucd.org>
 - Public policy
 - Legislative News *In Brief*
 - Action Center:
<http://www.aucd.org/template/capwiz.cfm>
 - Delegation: AUCD's Legislative Affairs Info. Center:
<http://capwiz.com/aucd/dbq/officials/>
- Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD):
<http://www.c-c-d.org>
- Policy Seminar home page for program, fact sheets, state list: disabilitypolicyseminar.org