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## This Week in Washington

**FEBRUARY 18 – 22, 2008**

Ellen Fern, Editor

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*This Week in Washington*, a weekly publication of WPLL, provides an overview of upcoming events in Washington D.C. affecting American Education. **Please use the bookmarks below to navigate to your area of interest.**

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## Weekly Calendar

**Key:** **E&S** – Elementary & Secondary; **H** – Higher Education; **D** – Disability Policy

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2008**

Federal Holiday – President’s Day.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

### **Making Algebra Work (E&S)**

**Subject:** The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement will host a Webcast, “Making Algebra Work: Instructional Strategies That Deepen Student Understanding.”

**Participant:** Jon R. Star, Assistant Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Education.

**Time and Location:** 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Register for this event online at

<http://www.newmediamill.com/webcasts/ccsri/register/>.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

### **The Federal Role in Education (E&S, H)**

**Subject:** The Knowledge Alliance and the Center for Knowledge Use will host a policy forum, “The Federal Role in Education: Innovator or Regulator?”

**Participants:** Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ); Todd Brekhus, PLATO Learning, Inc.; Bill Evers, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, U.S. Department of Education; Jay Diskey,

[www.wpllc.net](http://www.wpllc.net)

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Association of American Publishers; Scott Joftus, Cross & Joftus, LLC; Glenn Kleiman, Friday Institute for Educational Innovation, North Carolina State University; Jim Kohlmoos, Knowledge Alliance; Doris Redfield, Edvantia; Nina Rees, Knowledge Universe; and Mark Schneiderman, Software & Information Industry Association.

**Time and Location:** 8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; B-339 Rayburn HOB.

**Contact:** Register online at: <https://www.siiia.net/events/prereg.asp?eventid=801>.

### **High School Reform (E&S)**

**Subject:** Achieve, Inc. will release its third annual report on the progress of high school reform in all 50 states. The report tracks efforts by States to set expectations for graduates that are in line with the demands of college and the workforce by increasing the rigor and relevance of their high school standards, tests, and curricula.

**Participants:** Michael Cohen, President, Achieve, Inc.; Matthew Gandal, Executive Vice President, Achieve, Inc.; Sandra Boyd, Vice President, Advocacy and Outreach, Achieve, Inc.; Margaret Horn, Tennessee Office of State Planning and Policy; and Dr. Karen Nicodemus, Member and Past President, Arizona State Board of Education; President, Cochise College.

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.; Capitol View Conference Center, Chamber Room (Directly across from U.S. Capitol Building at 101 Constitution Avenue NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor).

**Contact:** RSVP to Stefanie Wong at [swong@communicationworks.com](mailto:swong@communicationworks.com), or call 202.955.9450 ext 317.

### **The Rising Cost of Higher Education (H)**

**Subject:** Public Agenda and the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education will host a forum, “Does It Really Have to Cost So Much? A Forum on the Soaring Costs of Higher Education,” on how rapidly rising costs of higher education are forcing millions of young Americans and their families to either forgo a college education or accumulate six-figure debt.

**Participants:** Frank Sesno, Correspondent, CNN and Professor of Media and Public Affairs, George Washington University; Steven Knapp, President, The George Washington University; William E. Kirwan, Chancellor, University System of Maryland; Jared Bernstein, Director, Living Standards Program, Economic Policy Institute; Patrick Callan, Founding President, National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education; John Immerwahr, Senior Research Fellow, Public Agenda and Professor, Villanova University; and James Boyle, President, College Parents of America.

**Time and Location:** 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Jack Morton Auditorium, George Washington University, 805 21st Street, NW, Washington D.C..

**Contact:** Register online at: <http://www.publicagenda.org/higheredcostforum/>, or call Shaheen Hasan at 212.686.6610 ext. 50, or email [shasan@publicagenda.org](mailto:shasan@publicagenda.org).

### **Teacher Labor Negotiations (E&S)**

**Subject:** The Thomas Fordham Institute will hold a discussion on its upcoming report, *The Leadership Limbo: Teacher Labor Agreements in America's Fifty Largest School Districts*.

**Participants:** Frederick Hess, Resident Scholar and Director of Education Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute; Terry Grier, Superintendent, Guilford County Schools; Gail Littlejohn, Senior Vice President and CEO, Center for Reform of School Systems; Bill Raabe, Director of Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy, National Education Association; and Chester Finn Jr., President, Fordham Institute.

**Time and Location:** 4:00 p.m.; 1016 16th Street, NW, 7th Floor, Washington, D.C..

**Contact:** RSVP to [rsvp@edexcellence.net](mailto:rsvp@edexcellence.net), or call Christina Hentges at 202.223.5452.

## **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008**

None.

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008**

### **Building Afterschool Capacity at the Local Level (E&S)**

**Subject:** The American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) will hold a discussion, "Building Afterschool Capacity at the Local Level: Spotlight on the NYC City-Wide OST Initiative."

**Participants:** Richard Berlin, Executive Director, Harlem RBI; Jeanne B. Mullgrav, Commissioner, NYC Department of Youth & Community Development; and Elizabeth Reisner, Principal, Policy Studies Associates.

**Time and Location:** 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; B-339 Rayburn HOB.

**Contact:** RSVP to [aypf@aypf.org](mailto:aypf@aypf.org).

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## **Future Hearings and Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2008**

#### **College and Workforce Readiness (E&S, H)**

**Subject:** The Forum for Youth Investment and the Ready by 21™ Strategic Partners will hold the "Ready by 21™ National Launch."

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C..

**Contact:** To register, email [rsvp@forumfyi.org](mailto:rsvp@forumfyi.org) or call Andrea Felix at 202.207.3328, or email [andrea@forumfyi.org](mailto:andrea@forumfyi.org).

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2008**

#### **English Language Learners and NCLB (E&S)**

**Subject:** The Campaign for High School Equity will hold a briefing, "English Language Learners in NCLB: A Civil Rights Imperative."

**Participants:** Rep. Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX), Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA); Victor Goode, Assistant General Counsel, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Phitsamay Uy, Board Chair, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center and Research Associate, Education Development Center, Inc.; and Peter Zamora, Regional Counsel, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

**Time and Location:** 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; 2175 Rayburn HOB.

**Contact:** RSVP to [all4ed@all4ed.org](mailto:all4ed@all4ed.org), with "RSVP: February 28 Event" in the subject line.

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008**

#### **Research Supporting Practice with English Language Learners (E&S)**

**Subject:** The American Institutes of Research will hold a forum "Connecting Research and Practice: A Snapshot of Resources for English Language Learners." This forum will be the inaugural event of a new series "The Scientific Evidence in Education (SEE) Forums."

**Participants:** Nikola Filby, Senior Program Director, WestEd and Project Director, Doing What Works; Russell Gersten, Professor Emeritus of Educational Research, University of Oregon and Director of the Instructional Research Group and Panel Chair for the IES Practice Guide, Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in the Elementary Grades; Rebecca Herman, Managing Research Analyst, American Institutes for Research; Delia Pompa, Vice President, Education, National Council of La Raza; and Maria Santos, Senior Instructional Manager and Superintendent, New York City Department of Education's Office of English Language Learners.

**Time and Location:** 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; The National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW Washington, D.C..

**Contact:** RSVP online at <http://www.seeforums.org/registration.aspx>.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008**

### **Reforming the Nation's Worst Schools (E&S)**

**Subject:** The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) and the Mass Insight and Research Institute will hold a conference, "Turning Around the Nation's Worst Schools."

**Participants:** Andrew Calkins, Mass Insight Education & Research Institute; Kevin Johnson, St. Hope Public Schools; Kirk Kramer, Bridgespan Group; Frederick M. Hess, AEI; William Guenther, Mass Insight Education & Research Institute; Seth Reynolds, Parthenon Group; Michele Cahill, Carnegie Corporation of New York; Andy Rotherham, Education Sector; Doug Sears, Boston University; Anthony Cavanna, American Institutes for Research; Garth Harries, New York City Department of Education; Jim Peyser, New Schools Venture Fund; William Guenther, Mass Insight Education & Research Institute; Nancy Grasmick, Maryland State Superintendent of Schools; Beth Buehlmann, Minority Staff, U.S. Senate HELP Committee; and Carmel Martin, Majority Staff, U.S. Senate HELP Committee; and Doug Mesecar, U.S. Department of Education.

**Time and Location:** 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Wohlstetter Conference Center, Twelfth Floor, AEI, 1150 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C..

**Contact:** Register online at [http://www.aei.org/events/eventID.1646/event\\_detail.asp](http://www.aei.org/events/eventID.1646/event_detail.asp).

**THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008**

### **The Federal Role in Education (E&S)**

**Subject:** Education Sector will hold a forum, "The Evolving Federal Role in Education: Past, Present, and Future."

**Participants:** Christopher T. Cross, Education Consultant and a former Assistant Secretary with the U.S. Department of Education; Samuel Halperin, Founder and Senior Fellow, American Youth Policy Forum; Jack Jennings, President and CEO, Center on Education Policy; Kati Haycock, President, Education Trust; Fritz Edelstein, Principal, Public Private Action; and Andrew J. Rotherham, Co-director, Education Sector.

**Time and Location:** 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Root Room, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1779 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C..

**Contact:** Register online at

[http://www.educationsector.org/events/events\\_show.htm?doc\\_id=663259](http://www.educationsector.org/events/events_show.htm?doc_id=663259).

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## **On The Floor This Week**

### **SENATE**

Senate meets in pro forma session until February 25, 2008.

### **HOUSE**

House in recess until February 25, 2008 – President's Day District Work Period.

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## **Bills to Watch**

### **SENATE**

S. 2653

*Sponsor: Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN)*

The American Competitiveness Through International Openness Now (ACTION) Act of 2008 to further U.S. security by restoring and enhancing the

competitiveness of the U.S. for international students, scholars, scientists, and exchange visitors, and by facilitating business travel to the U.S.

- S. 2580**     *Sponsor: Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)*  
A bill to amend HEA to improve the participation in higher education of, and to increase opportunities in employment for, residents of rural areas.
- S. 2428**     *Sponsor: Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)*  
A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish and maintain a public website through which individuals may find a complete database of available scholarships, fellowships and other programs of financial assistance in the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- S. 2312**     *Sponsor: Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)*  
State Student Achievement Contracts Act, a bill to amend Title VI of ESEA of 1965 to provide 12 states with State student achievement contracts.
- S. 2227**     *Sponsor: Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)*  
Success in the Middle Act, a bill to provide states grants to ensure that all students in the middle grades are with effective supports, preparing students for success in high school and postsecondary choices.
- S. 2212**     *Sponsor: Sen. Joseph Lieberman (I-CT)*  
Teachers Professional Development Institutes, a bill to support the establishment and operations of Teachers Professional Development Institutes, which would partner institutions of higher education and local educational agencies with significant low-income populations.
- S. 2189**     *Sponsor: Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)*  
Student Bill of Rights, a bill to require states to ensure comparative quality of teachers and services at all school statewide.
- S. 2173**     *Sponsor: Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)*  
FITS KIDS Act, a bill to amend ESEA of 1965 to improve standards for physical education.
- S. 2157**     *Sponsor: Sen. Bernard Sanders (I-VT)*  
A bill to amend ESEA of 1965 to establish pilot programs to expand learning time schools and programs.
- S. 2143**     *Sponsor: Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI)*  
Student Breakfast and Education Improvement Act of 2007, a bill to amend ESEA of 1965 to establish a program to improve the health and education of children through grants to expand school breakfast programs.
- S. 2118**     *Sponsor: Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN)*  
Proven Programs for the Future of Education Act, a bill to encourage the use of research-proven programs in ESEA.
- S. 2117**     *Sponsor: Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN)*  
Education Research & Development to Improve Act, to encourage the development of research-proven programs funded under ESEA

- S. 2111**     *Sponsor: Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)*  
A bill to amend ESEA of 1965 to allow State Education Agencies, local education agencies, and schools to increase implementation of early intervention services, particularly school-wide positive behavior supports.
- S. 2053**     *Sponsor: Sen. Russell Feingold (D-WI)*  
Improving Student Testing Act, a bill to make annual testing optional and permit states to test only once in certain grade spans and waives the 2014 proficiency deadline of NCLB.
- S. 2014**     *Sponsor: Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)*  
A bill to provide for statewide longitudinal data systems to improve elementary and secondary education, and for other purposes.
- S. 2001**     *Sponsor: Sen. Joseph Lieberman (I-CT)*  
All Students Can Achieve Act, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.
- S. 1981**     *Sponsor: Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)*  
No Child Left Inside Act, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.
- S. 1979**     *Sponsor: Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for school improvement, comprehensive, high-quality multi-year induction and mentoring for new teachers, and professional development for experienced teachers, and for other purposes.
- S. 1978**     *Sponsor: Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to award grants to implement a co-teaching model for educating students with disabilities.
- S. 1942**     *Sponsor: Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)*  
A bill to amend part D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for the renovation of schools.
- S. 1920**     *Sponsor: Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV)*  
A bill to award competitive grants to eligible partnerships to enable the partnerships to implement innovative strategies at the secondary school level to improve student achievement and prepare at-risk students for postsecondary education and the workforce.
- S. 1893**     *Sponsor: Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT)*  
Reauthorization of State Children's Health Insurance Program.
- S. 1823**     *Sponsor: Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY)*  
The bill would set the U.S. on track to ensure that children are ready to learn when they begin Kindergarten.

- S. 1775**     *Sponsor: Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC)*  
No Child Left Behind Reauthorization Act of 2007.
- S. 1642**     *Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)*  
Higher Education Amendments Act which would reauthorize the Higher Education Act (7/24/07 passed by Senate; 6/20/07 passed by Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee).
- S. 1574**     *Sponsor: Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)*  
The bill would establish Teaching Residency Programs for preparation and induction of teachers.
- S. 1572**     *Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)*  
The bill would help increase the number of well-trained mental health service professionals, including those based in schools, who provide clinical mental health care to children and adolescents.
- S. 1557**     *Sponsor: Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT)*  
The bill would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to improve 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers.
- S. 1431**     *Sponsor: Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)*  
Early Childhood Professional Development Act, a bill to establish an unidentified amount for state grants to develop early childhood pre-service and in-service professional development and career systems.
- S. 1414**     *Sponsor: Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)*  
NAEP Civics, a bill to amend the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act to require State academic assessments of student achievement in U.S. history and civics.
- S. 1391**     *Sponsor: Sen. Benjamin Nelson (D-NE)*  
The Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2007, a bill to create schools which incorporate other community services such as health clinics or libraries, or which in other ways make the community more involved in the school.
- S. 1389**     *Sponsor: Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)*  
Climate Change Education Act, a bill to establish, under the National Science Foundation, a competitive grant for states, communities, schools and education foundations to develop educational materials and exhibits on climate change, as well as kindergarten-to-12th grade curriculums on the subject.
- S. 1339**     *Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)*  
Teacher Excellence for All Children Act, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Higher Education Act and the tax code to improve recruitment, preparation, distribution and retention of public elementary and secondary school teachers and principals.
- S. 1332**     *Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)*  
Mental Health in Schools Act, a bill to revise and extend projects relating to children and violence to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.

- S. 1302** *Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)*  
A bill to amend title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to encourage and support parent, family, and community involvement in schools, to provide needed integrated services and comprehensive supports to children, and to ensure that schools are centers of communities, for the ultimate goal of assisting students to stay in school, become successful learners, and improve academic achievement.
- S. 1231** *Sponsor: Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)*  
Preparing, Recruiting, and Retaining Education Professionals Act, a bill to expand the teacher preparation grant in Title II of the Higher Education Act by authorizing it to receive \$500 million per year.
- S. 1217** *Sponsor: Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA)*  
School Safety Act, a bill to support school safety measures in elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher learning.
- S. 1185** *Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)*  
Graduation Promises Act, a bill to provide grants to States to improve high schools and raise graduation rates while ensuring rigorous standards, to develop and implement effective school models for struggling students and dropouts, and to improve State policies to raise graduation rates, and for other purposes.
- S. 1015** *Sponsor: Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)*  
National Writing Project, a bill to reauthorize the National Writing Project.
- S. 958** *Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL)*  
Striving Readers Act, a bill to assist states, districts, and schools ensure that adolescents are able to read and write well enough to learn in school, graduate on time, and succeed in college and the workplace.
- S. 912** *Sponsor: Sen. John Rockefeller (D-WV)*  
America's Better Classroom Act of 2007, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the incentives for the construction and renovation of public schools.
- S. 893** *Sponsor: Sen. Jim DeMint (R-SC)*  
Academic Partnerships Lead Us to Success Act, a bill to allow states to notify the Education Department that they would assume full responsibility for education. As such, they would still receive federal funds but not be liable for meeting No Child Left Behind Act mandates. See H.R. 1539.
- S. 778** *Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)*  
A bill to amend title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in order to authorize the Secretary of Education to award competitive grants to eligible entities to recruit, select, train, and support Expanded Learning and After-School Fellows that will strengthen expanded learning initiatives, 21st century community learning center programs, and after-school programs, and for other purposes.
- S. 761** *Sponsor: Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV)*  
A bill to invest in innovation and education to improve the competitiveness of the United States in the global economy (4/26/07 passed by Senate).

- S. 757** *Sponsor: Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY)*  
A bill to create a national set of effective voluntary national expectations for mathematics and science education in kindergarten through grade 12, and for other purposes.
- S. 727** *Sponsor: Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)*  
A bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.
- S. 506** *Sponsor: Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)*  
High-Performance Green Buildings Act of 2007, a bill to improve efficiency in the Federal Government through the use of high-performance green buildings, and for other purposes. See S.489 and H.R.121.
- S. 489** *Sponsor: Sen. John Warner (R-VA)*  
Green Buildings Act of 2007, a bill to improve efficiency in the Federal Government through the use of green buildings, and for other purposes. See S.506 and H.R.121.
- S. 380** *Sponsor: Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR)*  
Secure Rural Schools Act, a bill to renew and extend the Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, to fund county schools and projects.
- S. 224** and **H.R. 325** *Sponsor: Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT)/Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)*  
Standards to Provide Educational Achievement for Kids Act (SPEAK Act), a bill to create a rigorous and voluntary national education content standards in K-12 math and science studies and create a fund to allow the Education Department reward states adopting the standards.
- S. 164** *Sponsor: Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)*  
Success Act, a comprehensive K-12 bill introduced by Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Chairman Edward Kennedy (D-MA).
- S. 100** *Sponsor: Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA)*  
Healthy Children Act, a bill to encourage the health of children in schools by promoting better nutrition and increased physical activity.
- S. 33** *Sponsor: Sen. Michael Enzi (R-WY)*  
Redesignating Office for Vocational and Adult Education, the bill would rename the Education Department's Office for Vocational and Adult Education to call it the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (5/22/07 passed the Senate).
- S. 7** *Sponsor: Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV)*  
College Opportunity Act, a bill to amend Title IV of the Higher Education Act and other laws and provisions and urge Congress to make college more affordable through increased federal Pell Grants and providing more favorable student loans.

## **HOUSE**

- H.R. 5401** *Sponsor: Rep. David Loebsack (D-IA)*

GREEN Schools Improvement Act, a bill to authorize grants to states, targeting high-need and rural school districts, to develop guidelines, standards and best practices for energy-efficient school design and building, as well as grants to districts to make such renovations to their campuses.

H.R. 5179 *Sponsor: Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)*  
International Education Leadership Act, a bill to establish an Assistant Secretary for International and Foreign Language Education and an Office of International and Foreign Language Education.

H.R. 5157 *Sponsor: Rep. Frank Barney (D-MA)*  
Removing Impediments to Students Education (RISE) Act, a bill to repeal provisions in HEA prohibiting persons convicted of drug offenses from receiving student financial assistance.

H.R. 4577 *Sponsor: Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL)*  
A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to strengthen student visa background checks and improve the monitoring of foreign students in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4449 *Sponsor: Rep. Wally Herger (R-CA)*  
A bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education.

H.R. 4230 *Sponsor: Rep. Darlene Hooley (D-OR)*  
A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a school-based health clinic program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4355 *Sponsor: Rep. John Boozman (R-AR)*  
A bill to promote youth financial education.

H.R.4243 *Sponsor: Rep. Earl Pomeroy (D-ND)*  
Indian School Construction Act, a bill to provide funding for the construction of schools of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, through the issuance of bonds.

H.R.4216 *Sponsor: Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL)*  
A bill to amend HEA of 1965 to provide grants for the purpose of enhancing access of low income Black students to higher education.

H.R. 4217 *Sponsor: Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL)*  
A bill to study access to and success in education of minority males including high school graduation and college participation.

H.R. 4188 *Sponsor: Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)*  
IDEA Fairness Act of 2007, a bill to amend IDEA to permit a prevailing party in an action or proceeding brought to enforce the Act to be awarded expert witness fees and certain other expenses.

H.R. 4151 *Sponsor: Rep. Sylvestre Reyes (D-TX)*  
STEM Promotion Act, a bill to expand the public awareness of STEM and encourage American's to study and enter those fields as a matter of strategic importance to the U.S.

- H.R. 4139** *Sponsor: Rep. Zachary Space (D-OH)*  
College and University Rural Education (CURE) Act, a bill to amend HEA to authorize the Education Secretary to award grants to partnerships between rural institutions of higher education and rural local educational agencies.
- H.R. 4137** *Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA)*  
College Opportunity and Affordability Act, a bill to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (2/7/08 passed by House; 11/15/07 passed by Ed and Labor Committee).
- H.R. 4075** *Sponsor: Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT)*  
Accessing College through Comprehensive Early Outreach and State Partnerships Act, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand college access and increase college persistence, and for other purposes.
- H.R. 4067** *Sponsor: Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)*  
Bridges from Jobs to Career Act, a bill to provide grants to colleges to improve remedial education (including English language instruction) to customize remediation to students' career goals, and to help students move rapidly from remediation into for-credit occupation program courses.
- H.R. 4060** *Sponsor: Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH)*  
Universal Pre-Kindergarten Act, a bill to assist States in establishing a universal pre-kindergarten program to ensure that all children 3, 4, and 5 years old have access to a high-quality full-day, full-calendar-year pre-kindergarten education.
- H.R. 4045** *Sponsor: Rep. Jason Altmire (D-PA)*  
Improving Teacher Diversity Act, a bill to award competitive grants to minority serving institutions to establish centers of excellence for teacher education.
- H.R. 3966** *Sponsor: Rep. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)*  
Early Education Workforce Act, a bill to provide for a statewide early childhood education professional development and career system
- H.R. 3955** *Sponsor: Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)*  
Science Museum and National Laboratory Partnership Demonstration Act, a bill to provide for educational partnerships between science museums and Energy Department National Laboratories by authorizing the secretary of energy to award on a competitive basis as many as five grants to partnerships.
- H.R. 3927** *Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA)*  
Extension of Higher Education Reauthorization Act (9/23/07 passed by the House).
- H.R. 3763** *Sponsor: Rep. David Loebsack (D-IA)*  
The GRADUATES Act, a bill to award competitive grants to eligible partnerships to implement innovative strategies at the secondary school level to improve student achievement.
- H.R. 3762** *Sponsor: Rep. David Loebsack (D-IA)*  
We Care Act, a bill to amend ESEA to foster community involvement.
- H.R. 3760** *Sponsor: Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-MI)*  
A bill to amend ESEA to enable LEAs to use amounts received from the Fund for

the Improvement for Education for innovative programs to increase learning in nutrition and exercise.

- H.R. 3759** *Sponsor: Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-MI)*  
A bill to amend ESEA to enable LEAs to use amounts received from the Fund for the Improvement for Education for innovative programs to increase learning in financial literacy.
- H.R. 3747** *Sponsor: Rep. Howard McKeon (R-CA)*  
A bill to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act.
- H.R. 3746** *Sponsor: Rep. Howard McKeon (R-CA)*  
College Access and Opportunity Act, a bill to amend and extend the Higher Education Act.
- H.R. 3718** *Sponsor: Rep. Jason Altmire (D-PA)*  
Educational Advisor and Contractor Integrity Act, a bill to amend ESEA to require the Education Department to address conflicts of interest associated with use of advisory committees and technical assistance programs.
- H.R. 3642** *Sponsor: Rep. Donald Payne (D-NJ)*  
Expanded Learning Time Demonstration Act, a bill to amend ESEA to provide grants for expanded learning time schools and programs.
- H.R. 3595** *Sponsor: Rep. Nick Lampson (D-TX)*  
A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent law the deduction for certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers.
- H.R. 3523** *Sponsor: Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA)*  
I LEAD, a bill to develop a generation of school leaders who are committed to, and effective in, increasing student achievement and to ensure that all low-income, under-performing schools are led by effective school leaders who are well-prepared to foster student success.
- H.R. 3463** *Sponsor: Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a partnership between the Department of Education and the National Park Service to provide educational opportunities for students and teachers.
- H.R. 3441** *Sponsor: Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD)*  
A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize competitive grants to train school principals in instructional leadership skills and to promote the incorporation of standards of instructional leadership into State-level principal certification or licensure.
- H.R. 3439** *Sponsor: Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to create a demonstration project to fund additional secondary school counselors in troubled Title I schools to reduce the dropout rate.
- H.R. 3438** *Sponsor: Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA)*  
A bill to amend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to

authorize the use of grant funds for gang prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

- H.R. 3419** *Sponsor: Rep. David Loebsack (D-IA)*  
A bill to establish an Office of Specialized Instructional Support Services in the Department of Education and to provide grants to State educational agencies to reduce barriers to learning; to the Committee on Education and Labor.
- H.R. 3407** *Sponsor: Rep. Phil Hare (D-IL)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow State and local educational agencies and schools to make greater use of early intervening services, particularly schoolwide positive behavior supports.
- H.R. 3406** *Sponsor: Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)*  
A bill to provide grants to States to ensure that all students exit the middle grades prepared for success in a high school with an academically rigorous curriculum that prepares students for postsecondary education and the workplace.
- H.R. 3394** *Sponsor: Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to assist underperforming schools to recruit, support, and retain highly qualified and effective teachers by providing grants for participation in the Targeted High Need Initiative Program.
- H.R. 3357** *Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA)*  
A bill to reauthorize the National Writing Project Act of 2007.
- H.R. 3317** *Sponsor: Rep. Chaka Fattah (D-PA)*  
A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve and enhance the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP).
- H.R. 3313** *Sponsor: Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)*  
A bill to amend provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 relating to mathematics and science instruction.
- H.R. 3289** *Sponsor: Rep. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve early education.
- H.R. 3269** *Sponsor: Rep. Heather Wilson (R-NM)*  
A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.
- H.R. 3263** *Sponsor: Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to encourage the implementation or expansion of prekindergarten programs for students 4 years of age or younger.
- H.R.3253** *Sponsor: Rep. Rush Holt (N-NJ)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for the use of longitudinal data systems.

- H.R. 3242** *Sponsor: Rep. Jerry Weller (R-IL)*  
A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the ability of the United States to be competitive in a global economy, and for other purposes.
- H.R. 3162** *Sponsor: Rep. John Dingell (D-MI)*  
Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program.
- H.R. 3132** *Sponsor: Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA)*  
Safe Schools Improvement Act to include bullying and harassment prevention programs under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program.
- H.R. 2955** *Sponsor: Rep. Robert Scott (D-VA)*  
Every Student Counts Act, to improve calculation, reporting, and accountability for graduation rates.
- H.R. 2669** *Sponsor: Rep. George Miller (D-CA)*  
College Cost Reduction Act, pursuant to instructions in the FY2008 budget resolution, the reconciliation bill would reduce the deficit by \$750 million. (Signed by the President 9/27/07; Enrolled by Congress 9/18/07; cleared for the White House 9/7/07; 7/11/07 passed the House; 6/13/07 passed by House Ed and Labor Committee)
- H.R. 2621** *Sponsor: Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)*  
A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand the loan forgiveness program for teachers, to provide a loan forgiveness program for nurses, and for other purposes.
- H.R. 2617** *Sponsor: Rep. Rahm Emanuel (D-IL)*  
A bill that would direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to high-need local educational agencies to establish teaching residency programs.
- H.R. 2577** *Sponsor: Rep. Howard McKeon (R-CA)*  
A bill that would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide additional flexibility to State and local educational agencies to raise the academic achievement of all students.
- H.R. 2573** *Sponsor: Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-CA)*  
A bill to establish State infrastructure banks for education.
- H.R. 2470** *Sponsor: Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY)*  
America's Better Classroom Act, the bill would offer tax credits that could total as much as \$25 billion to be put towards the costs of school repairs. Under the bill, states and local districts would be able to cut financing costs in half.
- H.R. 2323** *Sponsor: Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD)*  
The Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2007, a bill to create schools which incorporate other community services such as health clinics or libraries, or which in other ways make the community more involved in the school.
- H.R. 2289** *Sponsor: Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY)*  
Striving Readers Act of 2007, a bill to assist states, districts, and schools ensure

that adolescents are able to read and write well enough to learn in school, graduate on time, and succeed in college and the workplace.

- H.R. 2272** *Sponsor: Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN)*  
21<sup>st</sup> Century Competitiveness Act, this bill includes five previously-passed House bills, including H.R. 363, the 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act, and H.R. 1867, a National Science Foundation reauthorization (passed 5/21/07 by House).
- H.R. 2214** *Sponsor: Rep. Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX)*  
English Literacy and Civics Education Act, a bill to establish integrated English literacy and civics education programs.
- H.R. 2204** *Sponsor: George Miller (D-CA)*  
Teacher Excellence for All Children Act, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Higher Education Act and the tax code to improve recruitment, preparation, distribution and retention of public elementary and secondary school teachers and principals.
- H.R. 1939** *Sponsor: Howard McKeon (R-CA)*  
Reading First Improvement Act, a bill to amend the Reading First program by codifying recommendations made by the Education Department's Inspector General.
- H.R. 1928** *Sponsor: Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-TX)*  
Reporting on STEM Under-Representation Act, a bill to provide for a report by the National Academy of Sciences on under-representation of certain groups in STEM-related fields.
- H.R. 1867** *Sponsor: Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA)*  
National Science Foundation Reauthorization Act (5/2/07 passed by House; 4/25/07 passed by the House; 4/19/07; approved by Subcommittee on Research and Science Education).
- H.R. 1761** *Sponsor: Rep. Tom Price (R-GA)*  
Teacher Incentive Fund Authorization Act, a bill to amend NCLB to provide funds to states and local school districts to develop performance-based compensation systems that offer teachers and principals "recognition pay" for demonstrating progress in raising student achievement.
- H.R. 1657** *Sponsor: Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)*  
Science and Technology Scholarships Act, a bill to establish a Science and Technology Scholarship Program to award scholarships to recruit and prepare students for careers in the National Weather Service and in National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration marine research, atmospheric research and satellite programs.
- H.R. 1623** *Sponsor: Rep. Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX)*  
The Graduation for All Act, a bill to improve graduation rates by authorizing \$1 billion in grants to be distributed by the Education Department to establish adolescent Literacy programs.

- H.R. 1539** *Sponsor: Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-MI)*  
Academic Partnerships Lead Us to Success Act, a bill to allow states to notify the Education Department that they would assume full responsibility for education. As such, they would still receive federal funds but not be liable for meeting No Child Left Behind Act mandates. See [S. 893](#).
- H.R. 1486** *Sponsor: Rep. Howard McKeon (R-CA)*  
Empowering Parents through Choice Act, a bill to provide parental choice for those students attending schools that are in need of improvement and have been identified for restructuring.
- H.R. 1377** *Sponsor: Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX)*  
To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against tax for an individual teaching in a school with a significant number of limited English proficient students and to provide a deduction for expenses paid or incurred by a teacher for courses required for certification in teaching English as a second language.
- H.R. 1228** *Sponsor: Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)*  
To improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.
- H.R. 854** *Sponsor: Rep. John Larson (D-CT)*  
Grants for Gang Prevention Act, a bill authorizing HHS to award grants to eligible entities to prevent or alleviate youth violence in eligible urban communities by providing counseling, mentoring and mental health services.
- H.R. 821** *Sponsor: Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)*  
Everyone Deserves Unconditional Access to Education Act, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full funding for special education.
- H.R. 717** *Sponsor: Rep. David Wu (D-OR)*  
Community College Partnership Act, a bill to encourage partnerships between community colleges and four-year colleges and universities by authorizing grants that help students transfer from 2-year colleges to four-year institutions.
- H.R. 684** *Sponsor: Rep. Dennis Moore (D-KS)*  
Keeping Our Promises to America's Children Act, a bill to require full funding of part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
- H.R. 627** *Sponsor: Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)*  
Keep Our PACT Act, a bill to require full funding of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- H.R. 549** *Sponsor: Rep. Dave Camp (R-MI)*  
Tax Deductions for Teachers Act; a bill to amend the tax code to increase, extend, and make permanent the above-the-line deduction for certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers.

- H.R. 526** *Sponsor: Rep. John Larson (D-CT)*  
Full Funding for IDEA Now Act; a bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full funding for assistance for education of all children with disabilities.
- H.R. 472** *Sponsor: Rep. Howard McKeon (R-CA)*  
College Affordability and Transparency Act; a bill to amend the Higher Education Act to address the issues of college affordability and transparency.
- H.R. 325** and **S. 224** *Sponsors: Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)/Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT)*  
Standards to Provide Educational Achievement for Kids Act (SPEAK Act), a bill to create a rigorous and voluntary national education content standards in K-12 math and science studies and create a fund to allow the Education Department reward states adopting the standards.
- H.R. 318** *Sponsor: Rep. Lee Terry (R-NE)*  
A bill to amend the Impact Aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve the distribution of school construction payments to better meet the needs of military and Indian land school districts.
- H.R. 171** *Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)*  
Student Support Act, a bill to direct the Education Department to give grants to states for assistance in hiring additional school-based mental health and student service providers.
- H.R. 121** *Sponsor: Rep. Michael Doyle (D-PA)*  
High-Performance Green Building Act of 2007, a bill to improve efficiency in the Federal Government through the use of high-performance green buildings, and for other purposes. See S.489 and S.506.
- H.R. 54** *Sponsor: Rep. Donna Christensen (D-VI)*  
Teacher Recruitment Act of 2007, a bill to expand the eligibility of individuals to qualify for loan forgiveness for teachers in order to provide additional incentives for teachers currently employed or seeking employment in economically depressed rural areas, Territories, and Indian Reservations.
- H.R. 38** *Sponsor: Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)*  
Math and Science School Readiness Act, a bill to amend the Head Start Act to improve the math and science readiness programs for disadvantaged children.
- H.R. 37** *Sponsor: Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)*  
National Science Education Tax Incentive for Businesses Act, a bill to amend the tax code to encourage businesses to improve math and science education at elementary and secondary schools.
- H.R. 36** *Sponsor: Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)*  
National Science Education Tax Incentive for Teachers Act, a bill to amend the tax code to encourage teachers to pursue teaching math and science subjects at elementary and secondary schools.
- H.R. 35** *Sponsor: Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)*  
Science Accountability Act, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the use of science assessments in the calculation of adequate yearly progress, and for other purposes.

**H.CON.RES.11** Sponsor: Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY)  
English Plus Resolution.

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

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions: <http://help.senate.gov>

U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce: <http://edworkforce.house.gov>

U.S. Senate Budget Committee: <http://www.budget.senate.gov>

U.S. House Budget Committee: <http://www.house.gov/budget>

Congressional Budget Office: <http://www.cbo.gov>

Federal legislative information: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

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