

AASA/ASBO ADVOCACY

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AASA/ASBO Advocacy Update

- Perkins Career/Tech
- School Nutrition
- Every Student Succeeds Act
- Federal Funding & Appropriations
- Other

Perkins CTE Reauthorization

- Main problem is funding, not policy
 - *13% decline since 2007*
- Not a broken law, but certainly one ripe for improvement
- AASA Priorities
 - *Don't make it so difficult for districts to get a few \$*
 - *Emphasize better alignment with business/industry*
 - *Maintain separate K-12/post-sec funding streams*
 - *Don't make Perkins funding competitive*
 - *Allow states more flexibility in designing accountability systems and setting performance targets*
 - *Encourage career counseling and exploration*
 - *Remove the non-traditional performance target*

A tale of two chambers

- The Senate started out hot—there was discussion of a bill drop by early February. What happened? ESSA implementation.
- The House had minimal interest in Perkins CTE reauth, but needed some feel-good, pro-economy legislation. What happened? They introduced a bipartisan Perkins bill last week.
- Will anything happen this week? No.
- Will anything happen in the fall? Maybe. Your advocacy matters!
- Does anything need to happen? That Depends. We could have two very different Chairman (Virginia Foxx and Bernie Sanders) at the helm of the Committees....odds of policy compromise wouldn't be too high.

Tell me about the House bill (HR 5887)

Addresses the paperwork burden by allowing districts to fill out a simple, easy-to-complete local application that contains 4 elements.

1) Results of needs-assessment

2) Description of what programs of study are being offered and how they relate to results of needs-assessment

3) Description of how the LEA is providing career exploration activities, career information or career counseling to students

4) Description of how LEA will provide activities to prepare students with disabilities and other special populations with skills for high skill, high wage, or in-demand occupations

House bill cont.

- The Needs Assessment
 - *This was an AASA/ACTE paperwork reduction idea*
 - *Happens on biennial basis*
 - *Requires districts to consult with higher-education partners and local business/industry groups to ensure there is strong alignment and relevance in CTE program offerings. Must also meet with relevant stakeholders (teachers, administrators, students) to see what areas of need are the greatest related to program improvement.*
- Labor market information: District have access to and must consider labor market information in CTE program offerings and counseling activities.

House bill cont.

■ Loosening the Federal Reins

- *Prevents the Secretary from withholding funds from a State that does not meet certain performance targets and empowers State leaders to develop an improvement plan that works best for the needs and circumstances in their States.*
- *Discourages States from requiring set-asides from districts to address performance*
- *When picking performance targets, States must consult with superintendents and other stakeholders to ensure reasonability*
- *If a district fails to meet a performance target, State must consider local economic conditions of district before requiring improvement activities*

Accountability system

- Districts must report on the following measures for all students who are CTE Concentrators
 - *Students who have taken at least 2 courses in a single program of study*
 - *Students who have taken 3 distinct CTE courses*
- CTE concentrator graduation rates, CTE concentrator academic attainment, CTE Concentrator post-secondary placement, % of CTE students in non-traditional programs of study
- And states pick one of the following:
 - *Rate of an industry recognized credential*
 - *Rate of dual-enrollment*
 - *Rate of students participating in work-based learning*

School Nutrition

- Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act up for reauthorization
- AASA priorities:
 - *10 cent per meal increase in reimbursement*
 - *Reduce whole grain requirements from 100% to 50%*
 - *Keep sodium requirements at Target 1 – cancel increase to Target 2 and 3*
 - *Allow any part of the reimbursable meal to be served a la carte*
 - *Change fruit and vegetable from “must take” to “may take”*

School Nutrition – House

- *House bill passed committee on highly party lines (AASA endorsed)*
 - Addresses nutrition issue through study of standards
 - Increases breakfast reimbursement three cents
 - Increased verification – up to 10 percent
 - Changes CEP eligibility
 - Block grant pilot – would block grant breakfast and lunch money for three states and remove most federal rules

School Nutrition – Senate

- *Senate Agriculture Committee passed bill to the floor (AASA opposed)*
 - No new money
 - Addressed some of the nutrition standards issues
 - Increased verification – up to 10 percent
 - Changes review period from three to five years
- *Next steps*
 - “Hotlining” this week
- *What should you do?*
 - Push your senators to block the hotline when you meet with them tomorrow
 - *Democrats – talk up verification*
 - *Republicans – talk up lack of flexibility*

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- From authorization to implementation!
- Regulations:
 - *Assessment*
 - *Appropriations*
 - *Supplement, Not Supplant*
- Guidance & Resources:
 - *Foster Care Children*
 - *Well-Rounded Education (7/13)*
 - *ESSA Transition FAQ*
 - *Stakeholder Engagement*

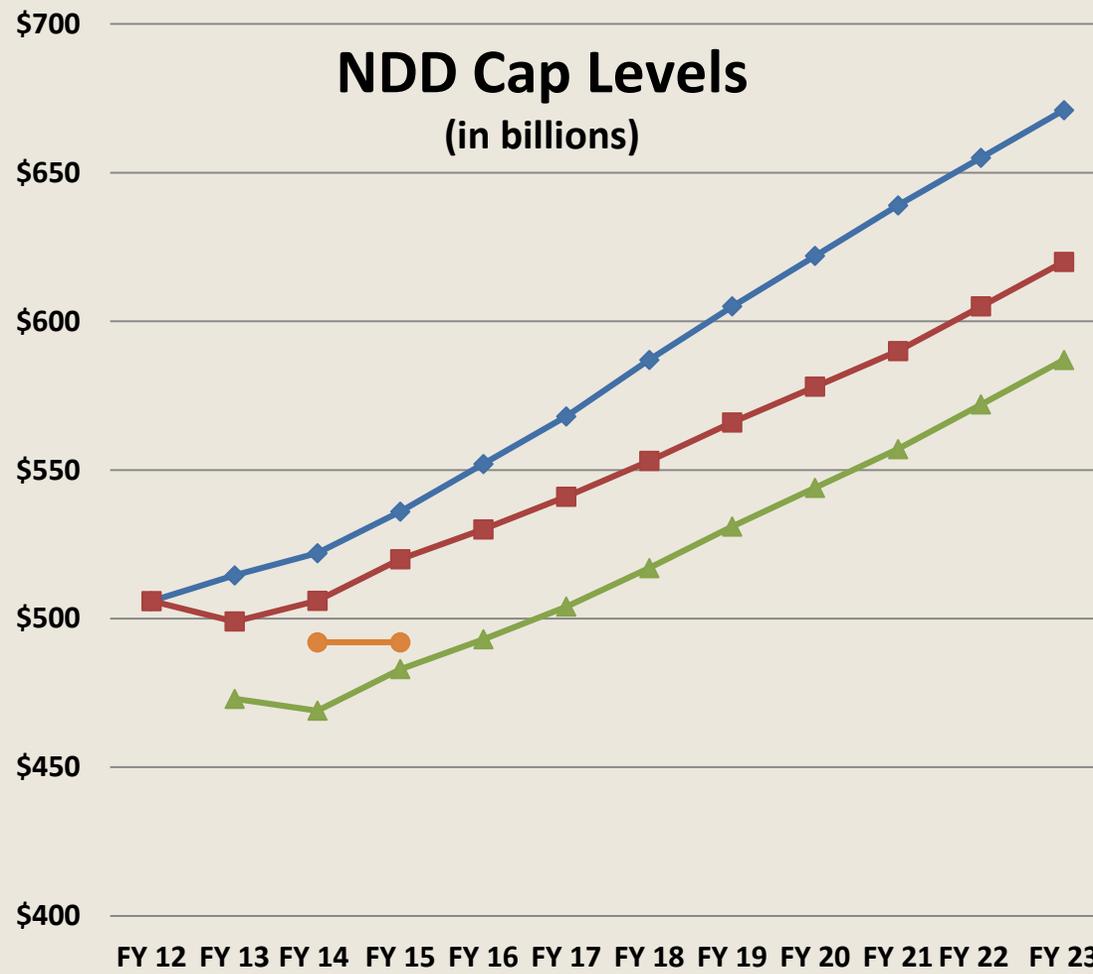
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- Opposed to USED's effort to achieve statutory changes to the comparability provision through regulations for "supplement not supplant (SNS)."
- Opposed to USED's regulation (200.18) that requires the state plan to include one summative rating from at least three distinct rating categories for each school.
- Opposed to the proposed regulation that would require all state education agencies (SEAs) to identify LEAs in need of support and/or improvement for the *start* of the 2017–18 school year (SY).
- Opposed to USED's proposed regulation as it relates to the transportation of foster children.

Regulations, continued

- All agencies issue regulations. We work on regulations from USED, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), US Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor, Federal Communications Commission, and more.
- EPA: Is considering a rule to reduce the presence of PCBs (a known carcinogen) from public buildings, including schools.
 - *Anticipated update of rule would limit its application ONLY to schools.*
 - *With any federal policy or regulation, the success of the end goal—in this case, elimination of light ballasts with PCBs—depends as much on the policy itself as it does in recognizing the importance of state and local leadership as well as the unintended consequences, costs, and burdens that may come with the policy or regulation.*
 - *Current regulations (the “lamps rule” through the U.S. Department of Energy [DOE]) have implications for the phasing out/removal of PCB-bearing light ballasts. Given that this rule is already accelerating the removal of old fluorescent light ballasts (FLBs) nationwide, and the compelling data from our comprehensive national data, we question the need for further regulation from the EPA.*
- Department of Labor: Proposal for Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) would extend overtime protections. The final rule raises the current salary threshold for overtime pay from \$23,600, which is below the poverty level for a family of four, to \$47,476.
 - *Generally speaking, teachers, principals, and superintendents will not be affected by this change, thanks to the FLSA’s “learned professional,” “administrative,” and “executive” exemptions.*
 - *Many school support staff will be eligible for overtime pay, including aides, paraprofessionals, maintenance workers, school bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, some clerks and secretaries that are not eligible for these exemptions.*

Federal Appropriations, a Recap

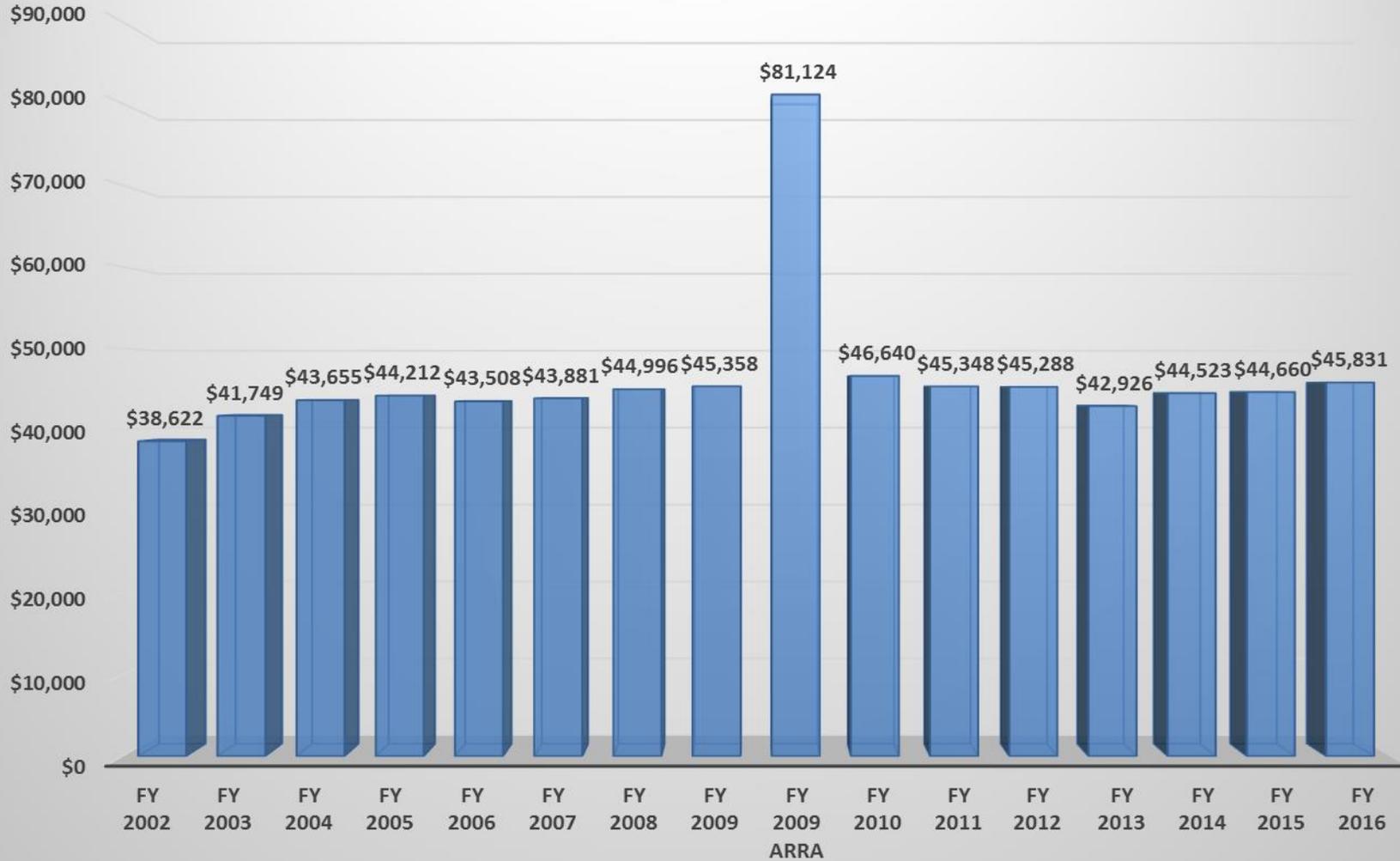


- Federal Fiscal Year (FY) runs Oct 1 - Sept 30
- We are in FY16 (Oct 1 2015- Sept 30 2016)
- FY16 dollars will be in schools for 2016-17 school year
- We are in the non-defense discretionary (NDD) portion of the budget
- Education \$\$ is in the LHHS-Edu approps bill
- We are lobbying FY17, which will fund first year of ESSA (SY2017-18)

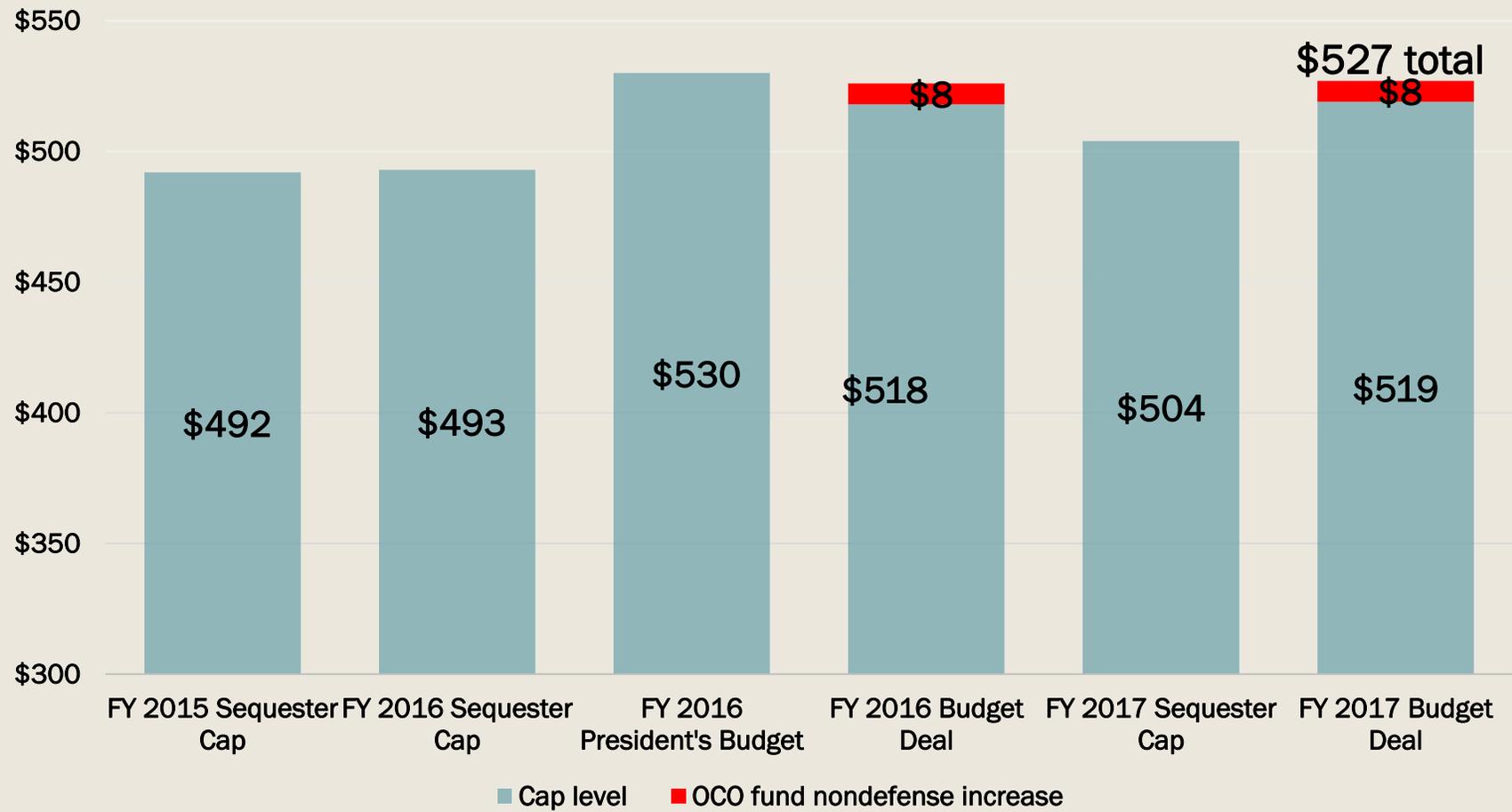
◆ FY 12 Cap adjusted for inflation
 ■ BCA Pre-Sequester Caps
▲ Sequestration
 ● Ryan-Murray

Total ED Discretionary Funding Excluding Pell

in millions



NDD Spending Caps



FY17 Budget Talking Points

- Title I: Fund at level to meet state set aside and preserve LEA allocations
 - *level funded (consolidates \$450 m from SIG into Title I)*
 - *Coupled with change in hold harmless, results in CUT of \$200m in LEA allocations*
- IDEA: Level funding of IDEA puts the federal share at 16%, below the 2005 level, when federal share was 18%
- Title IV: Fund Title IV at a level that supports local formula allocation
 - *President funds Title IV at \$500 m (increase from \$353, but well below authorized \$1.6 b); Senate proposed \$300 m; House proposed \$1 b*
 - *Comes with rider language to make the program competitive, and allow states to establish priorities*

Other Topics

- IDEA
- Rural Education
- School Vouchers
- E-Rate/Lifeline/EBS
- Student Data & Privacy
- Charters
- Higher Education Act
- Affordable Care Act
- More?

Questions? Comments?

- Stay Engaged!
 - *AASA Policy Blog The Leading Edge*
 - *ASBO Blog: <http://cqrcengage.com/asbo/blog>*
 - *AASA Advocacy on Twitter (@AASAhq)*
 - *ASBO on Twitter (@ASBOIntl)*
 - *Weekly & Monthly Updates*
 - *AASA ESSA Resources (<http://www.aasa.org/AASAESSA.aspx>)*
 - *ASBO Policy Page (<http://asbointl.org/resources/legislative-priorities>)*

Things to Remember

- Advocacy is an ongoing process.
- Build relationships with your officials.
- Be prepared.
- Be courteous.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Follow up with your representatives.
- Share your experiences with us.

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 - AASA Policy Blog *The Leading Edge*
 - ASBOUSA Legislative Blogs: www.asbointl.org/network
 - AASA Advocacy on Twitter (@AASAhq)
 - ASBO on Twitter (@ASBOIntl and @ASBOUSA)
 - Weekly & Monthly Updates
 - AASA ESSA Resources (<http://www.aasa.org/AASAESSA.aspx>)
 - ASBO Legislative Resources (<http://asbointl.org/resources/legislative-priorities>)

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