



TO: National Career Development Association- Government Relations Committee
FROM: Advocacy Associates, LLC
DATE: May 24, 2012
SUBJECT: Legislative Update

On the Hill

Fiscal Year 2013 Budget

Congressional debates in the coming months will likely focus on the debt ceiling. These discussions will be similar to the battles of summer 2011, which resulted in The Budget Control Act. This Act allows Congress to increase the debt limit by \$1.2 trillion only if spending is reduced by the same amount. If the debt ceiling is increased without this goal being achieved, automatic cuts will be enacted (called “sequestrations.”) The Treasury department estimates that the debt ceiling will likely be reached by October, just before the elections. Hence, Congress must either enact \$1.2 trillion in cuts by that deadline, face sequestration or change the provisions of the Budget Control Act.

There is a push to deal with debt ceiling issue during summer 2012 before the elections in November. It’s more likely that this will be dealt with after the elections during what is known as the “lame duck” session (i.e., the remaining days of the current session before the swearing in of the next Congress.) It is referred to as “lame duck,” because all members of the current session, whether re-elected or not, stay in Congress to resolve outstanding issues.

Regardless of whether the debt ceiling deal is reached before or after the elections, Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) has stated his intention to tie dollar to dollar debt ceiling increases with spending cuts. This will have a major impact on all spending bills, including workforce and education.

If interested, here is a recent ABC [interview of Speaker Boehner](#) regarding the debt limit increase.

Updates on Legislation

H.R.4227 Workforce Investment Act of 2012 (Minority Proposal)

On March 20, Rep. John Tierney (D-MA) introduced H.R. 4227, Workforce Investment Act of 2012. The bill looks to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The bill aims to streamline and improve the workforce investment system, improve system accountability, and promote innovation and best practices within the workforce investment system. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

No action has occurred.

H.R. 4227 has 2 cosponsors: Rep. George Miller (D-CA) [Ranking Member of Education and Workforce Committee], Rep Ruben Hinojosa (TX-15)

H.R. 4297 Workforce Investment Improvement Act of 2012(Majority Proposal)

On March 29, 2012, Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) introduced H.R. 4297, Workforce Investment Improvement Act of 2012. This bill is the Republican version of the WIA reauthorization. The bill looks to consolidate more than 20 programs into one flexible Workforce Investment Fund. A hearing was held on the bill on April 17, 2012.

No action has occurred.

H.R. 4297 has 2 cosponsors: Rep. Joe Heck (R-NV), Rep. Howard P “Buck” McKeon (R-CA).

Off the Hill

Meeting with Deputy Secretary Oates

Pat Schwallie-Giddis and Robin Cleveland met with Assistant Secretary Oates and her staff on May 15th. Follow up items include:

1. A conference call between Jane Oates and NCDA members describing ETA goals and projects.
2. Challenging NCDA members to volunteer in Career One Stop Centers.
3. Coordinate rollout of ETA career planning tool for high school students in areas of dense NCDA membership.

District Meeting with Rep. Hinojosa (D-TX)

Advocacy Associates has contacted district staff and determined that the July recess is too far in advance to determine specific availability for the Congressman. Next steps include:

1. Finding meeting attendees
2. Providing the district staff with a formal meeting request letter.

The Transition Assistance Program Employment Workshops (TAP)

As discussed in previous updates, this program is administered jointly by the DoL and DOD to assist returning veterans with reintegration into the job market. Much of the program is administered online, but NCDA members may be able to supplement this program. Advocacy Associates is still working to determine the appropriate parties in DoL and DOD that NCDA may work with.

Hill Staffers Briefing

NCDA is interested in working with ACA on a career counseling session for Capitol Hill staff after the elections. Advocacy Associates is currently working with ACA to determine details for the workshop/briefing.

ACA Joint Letter & Institute

ACA has issued an [action alert](#) regarding the FY2013 appropriations for Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program. As this is an issue NCDA shares an interest in, we recommend working with ACA to write a joint letter to members of Congress.

Additionally, the 4th annual ACA Leadership Institute is scheduled for July, 2012. Advocacy Associates suggests becoming more involved in this event by providing a finalized set of legislative priorities to ACA, as well as to partner on overlapping priorities.

Customized NCDA Government Relations Website

Advocacy Associates has begun providing customized websites for client's government relations/steering committees to have a central location for materials. Advocacy Associates will create a sample website and provide a login for the board members to use.

Coalition Building Targets

Career and Technical Education Caucus-

Advocacy Associates has analyzed the members of the Career and Technical Education Caucus and suggest the following members for outreach and relationship building.

1. Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-PA05) - His district is located in northwestern/central Pennsylvania and includes Sigel, Penfield, and Williamsport. He is a co-chair of the CTE Caucus. He is a member of the Education and Workforce committee and serves on the subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. He assumed office in 2009.
2. Rep Jim Langevin (D-RI02) - His district is located in southern and western Rhode Island and includes Cranston, Warwick Westerly, and Providence. He is the other co-chair of the CTE caucus. He is a member of the Armed Services committee and the Intelligence committee. He assumed office in 2001.
3. Rep. Steve LaTourette (R-OH14) - His district is located in the northeast corner of Ohio and includes Ashtabula, East Lake, and Willoughby. He is a member of the Appropriations committee. He assumed office in 1995.
4. Rep. David Loebsack (D-IA02) – His district is located in southeastern Iowa including Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, and Ottumwa. He is a member of the Education

and Workforce committee and serves on the subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. He assumed office in 2007.

5. Steve Southerland (R-FL02)- His district encompasses the eastern Florida panhandle and includes Panama city and Tallahassee. He is a member of the several committees including Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure. He assumed office in 2011. He is not in the CTE caucus, but he is President Deb Osborn's Representative.
6. Rep Mark Critz (D-PA12) – His district stretches from Johnstown to suburbs of Pittsburgh. He is a member of the Committee on Small Business, and he serves on the subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce. He assumed office in 2010.
7. Cory Gardner (R-CO04)- His district is located in eastern Colorado and includes Fort Collins, Loveland, and Greeley. He is a member of the Energy and commerce committee. He assumed office in 2011. He is not in the CTE Caucus, but he is President Elect Rich Feller's representative.
8. Rep Rush Holt (D-NJ12) - His district includes North and East Brunswick and Princeton University area. He is a member of the Committee on Education and Workforce Committee and serves on the subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education. He assumed office 1999.

National Skills Coalition

The NSC is currently seeking a new senior policy analyst for their Washington DC headquarters. As this appears to be a new position (based on the NSC website), the new hire may indicate that the NSC intends to increase its policy work. As NSC increases its visibility, there may be opportunities to strengthen our relationship once that individual has been hired.

American School Counseling Association

The ASCA has recently hired a new government relations staffer. She has expressed interest in partnering with NCDA on issues like ESEA. Tom and Advocacy Associates will meet with her once she returns from maternity leave.

Education and Workforce Roundtable

As we identify more groups to partner with, it will be beneficial to organize a roundtable meeting with one or two representatives from various groups in order to create a consensus on priorities. NCDA taking the reins to coordinate a meeting will establish the organization as a more serious player in education and workforce issues.