

Lobbyit.com**THE HILL REPORT****NCDA** | National Career
Development
Association

NCDA Monthly Report

Dear Paul,

In the month of April, Lobbyit worked a number of different issues for NCDA, including obtaining an invite to be a part of a Senate panel on CTE and veterans.

Advocacy Updates

The month of April saw Congress making efforts to return to "regular order". After the President almost vetoed the Omnibus because he was unhappy with the size of the spending package, Congress has an incentive to pass the individual spending (appropriations) bills. However, it has been a very long time since Congress passed all twelve appropriations bills and the likelihood that they will succeed this year is low. But we will monitor to see. Going forward, we anticipate that the bandwidth on the Hill will be filled with appropriations negotiations, confirmation hearings in the Senate, negotiations on FAA reauthorization, and the Farm Bill. These next few months will be a flurry of activity as Congress tries to complete its business in time to leave for full time campaigning at the end of the summer.

As part of our work for NCDA, we connected with the ACTE staffers that help the Senate CTE Caucus plan their events. They reached out to us and

requested that we provide a representative from NCDA to speak to how counseling needs to be a part of the discussion and at the table when dealing with CTE issues as it relates to veterans and their transition out of service. NCDA's representative did a great job and spoke to issues that everyone on the panel acknowledged are often overlooked when discussing this topic. Additionally, we connected with other organizations who are doing great work in this space and could help us expand NCDA's reach and impact in this space.

Additionally, during April, we worked with the GR Committee to organize a meeting with DOL and leaders from the Employment and Training Administration who are overseeing the Administration's efforts to expand apprenticeships throughout the US. We acknowledged that often NCDA membership is unaware as to what is happening in this space within their region. We are working to establish lines of communication with the Department in order to keep them informed as to the questions that professionals in the field have and in turn also keep the state CDAs informed as to what is happening within their region and ensure that they are connected with DOL representatives at the regional level. As part of these efforts, we hope to set up an ongoing relationship that will include periodic interaction at the board level of NCDA w/ senior DOL leadership.

As we approach the half-year mark, we will be working the GR Committee to reassess our legislative strategy and determine if we need to make adjustments for the rest of the year based on NCDA priorities and the shifting legislative calendar.

Legislative Activity

H.R. 719 - A PLUS Act

Representative Mark Walker (R-NC) introduced the bill on January 27th, 2017. On the day it was introduced, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. The bill currently has 31 cosponsors.

This bill allows each state to receive federal elementary and secondary education funds on a consolidated basis and manage the funds to advance the educational policy of the state.

A declaration of intent must be formulated by a combination of specified state officials or by referendum and must list the programs for which consolidated funding is requested. States may use such funds for any educational purpose permitted by state law, but must make certain assurances that they will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures, abide by federal civil rights laws, advance educational opportunities for the disadvantaged, and use federal funds to supplement rather than supplant state funding.

Related Bills: **S. 221-A PLUS Act**

S. 206 - JOBS Act of 2017

Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) introduced the JOBS Act of 2017 on January 24th, 2017. On the day it was introduced, the bill was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. The bill currently has 5 cosponsors.

This bill amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish the Job Training Federal Pell Grant Program. The Department of Education must award job training Federal Pell Grants to eligible students. An eligible student is one who does not have a degree, attends an institution of higher education (IHE), is enrolled in a job training program at such IHE, and meets all other eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell Grant. The maximum job training Federal Pell Grant award is 50% of the discretionary base maximum award specified in annual appropriations law.

Related Bills: [H.R. 2451 - Pell Grant Preservation and Expansion Act](#)

[H.R. 1286 - Pell Grant Funding Act](#)

Representative Ron Kind (D-WI) introduced the Pell Grant Funding Act on March 1st, 2017. On the day it was introduced, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. There are no cosponsors.

Requires the Secretary of Education to utilize excess revenue from the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program to carry out the Federal Pell Grant Program.

Related Bills: [H.R. 1880-College for All Act of 2017](#)

Until next month,

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