FASFEPA:Federal Education Update

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Climates

Funding

- State and local budgets have yet to reach pre-recession levels
- Cumulative impact of recent federal funding trends: actual cuts in FY11, FY12, FY13 and only partial restoration of cuts in FY14

Political

- Partisan. Middle ground moderates are gone. It's an election year.

Federal

- Gridlock between House and Senate
- Our friends at the agencies: Regulation, regulation, regulation.

State

- Trend toward coordinated approach to moving legislation that threatens public education
- Strong push on education issues with grassroots implications

What is Going On?

- Regulations
- Authorizations and Reauthorizations
- Budget/Appropriations
- Hearings/Mark Ups

Congressional To-Do List

- Annual appropriations process
- ESEA
- IDEA
- Education Science Research Act
- Higher Education
- Early Ed: Head Start and CCDBG
- Workforce Investment
- Perkins/Career Tech

ESEA: Reauthorization & Waivers

- Reauthorization: It's a matter of willingness vs. capacity (aka politics)
- Administration that dislikes both House and Senate bill
- Reality: 41 states in some phase of waiver implementation
- No real incentive for Admin to change course; slowing of waivers is step in right direction, but not enough
  - Senate needs to act

Standards & Assessments

WAIVERS

- College and career ready standards in math/EL Maintain science standards and assessments from NCLB
- Eliminates use of modified assessment for SWD (2% test)
- States must develop and administer college- and career-ready reading and math assessments by 2014-15
- States must adopt English language proficiency standards that align with college- and career-ready standards

SENATE (S.1091)

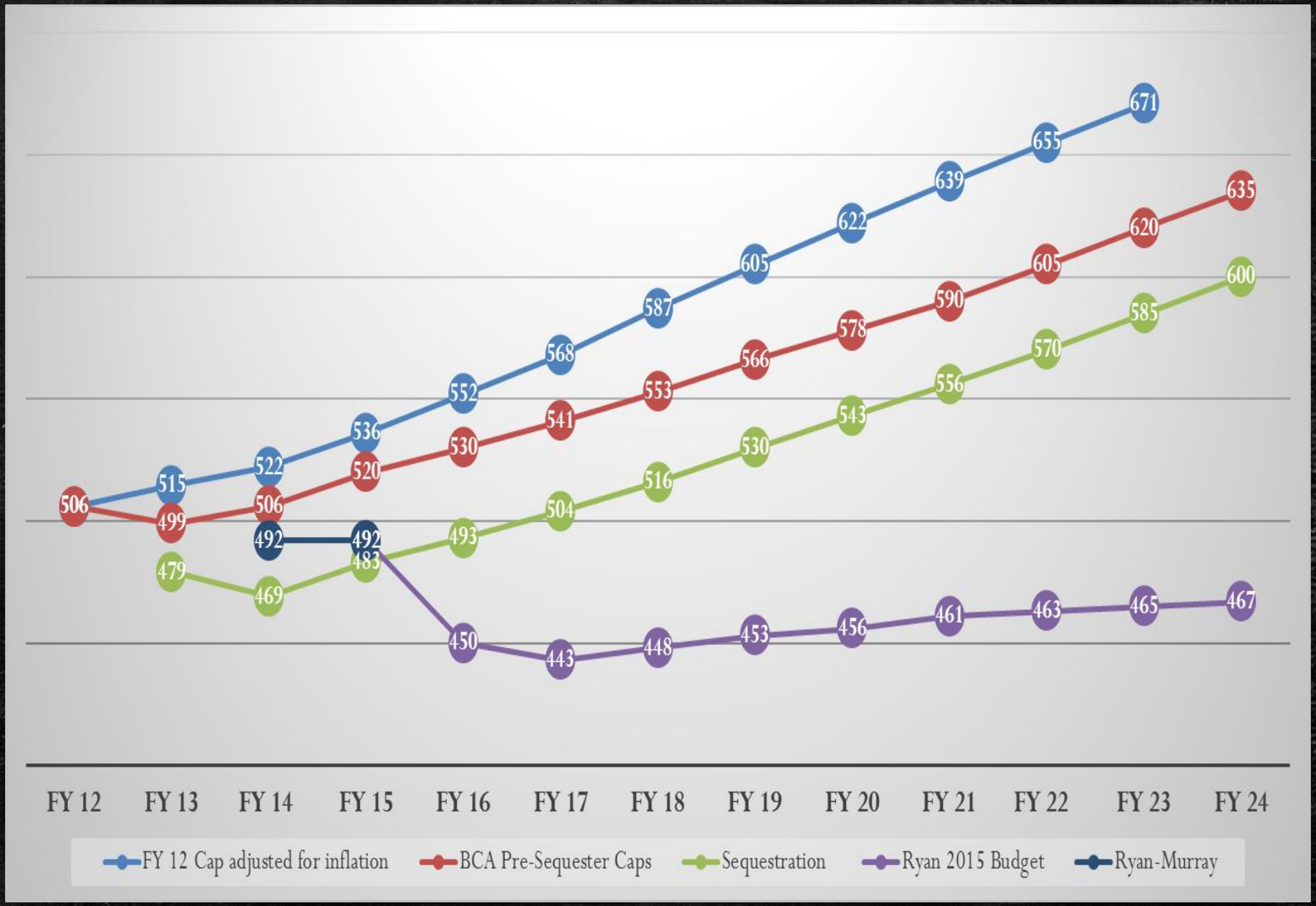
- States adopt reading and math standards aligned to college and career readiness by 2015.
- Eliminates use of modified assessment for SWD (2% test)
- States must adopt English-language development standards that articulate no fewer than four levels of proficiency
- Content assessments would have to be provided in native languages in states where 10 percent of the EL population shares a native language and 10,000 students speak that language

HOUSE (HR 5)

- Requires states to adopt standards in reading, math and science
- Computer adaptive assessments OK
- Maintains alternate assessment and modified assessment and removes caps on # of students eligible to take assessments
- Requires districts to annually assess the English proficiency of all English language learners. Such assessments must be aligned with the state's English language proficiency standards

ESEA Reauth: Conferencing a Bill?

- Standards, Accountability and Assessment
- School Improvement/Turn Around
- Funding Portability/School Choice
- Maintenance of Effort
- Comparability
- Funding Flexibility
- Class Size Reduction
- Ed Tech
- RttT and i3
- Moot? HQT/Teacher Eval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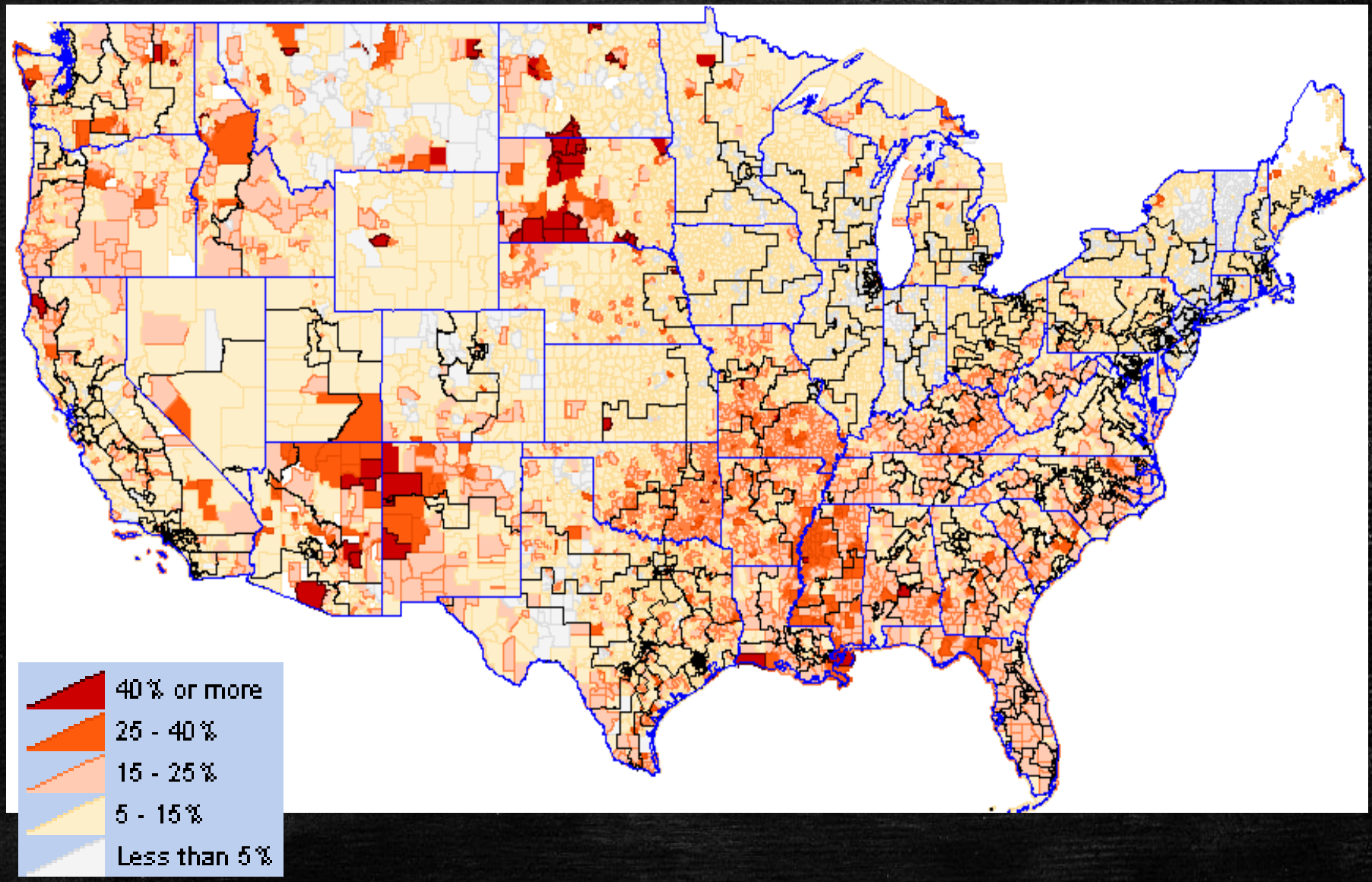
FY 12 Cap adjusted for inflation
BCA Pre-Sequester Caps
Sequestration
Ryan 2015 Budget
Ryan-Murray

Share of Federal Dollars in School District Budgets



Appropriations: FY14

- We had a shutdown. The deal to end the shutdown required:
  - Dec 13: Budget Conference Report Due
  - Jan 15 CR Expires
  - Feb 7 Debt Ceiling Extension Expires
- The final FY14 appropriations package restored roughly 80% of all sequester cuts. USED received an amount that covered roughly 65% of its cuts.
  - Impact Aid: fully restored
  - Title I and IDEA have most of cuts restored (~90%)
  - REAP left at post-sequester level

Appropriations: FY15

- Pres. Budget released his budget in March
- Election year politics. Likely to be a series of CRs.
- House and Senate may do a budget, though Dec. deal established overall funding level.
- The reality is that level funding is a good year and even a nominal increase (Title I or IDEA) is a huge success.
  - Just because this is the reality does not mean we have to 'like' it, or that we should applaud Congress for level funding.

FY15 Budget & Appropriations

- President Obama's budget prioritizes education
  - $68.6 billion, a $1.3 billion (1.9%) increase over FY14 levels
- Proposal is within parameters of Murray/Ryan budget deal
  - Secondary proposal includes priorities above/beyond funding caps
- Prioritizes early ed, STEM, post-secondary access, and safe environments

FY15 Budget & Appropriations

Programs Proposed for Consolidation/Elimination in FY2015		
Funding Level in Millions		
Program	**Consolidate/Eliminate**	**Funding**
Advanced Placement	Consolidated	28.5
Arts in Education	Consolidated	25
Charter School Grants	Consolidated	248.2
Elementary/Secondary School Counseling	Consolidated	49.6
High School Graduation Initiative	Consolidated	46.3
Impact Aid Payments for Federal Property	Eliminated	66.8
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	Consolidated	2,349.80
Mathematics and Science Partnerships	Consolidated	149.7
Physical Education Program	Consolidated	74.6
Ready to Learn Television	Consolidated	25.7
Safe and Drug Free Schools	Consolidated	90
Striving Readers	Consolidated	158
Teacher Incentive Fund	Consolidated	288.8
Teacher Quality Partnership	Consolidated	40.6
Transition to Teaching	Consolidated	13.8

FY15 Budget & Appropriations

USED FY15 Proposal: Level Funded	
21st century community learning centers	Comprehensive centers
Alaska Native student education	English Learner Education
Career and technical education	IDEA Preschool grants
Homeless Education	Indian Student Education
IDEA National activities	Magnet schools assistance
Rural education	Migrant Education
School Improvement Grants	Native Hawaiian student education
State Assessments	Neglected and Delinquent
Title I	*blank*
Effective teaching and learning for a well-rounded education (replaces Arts education)	Expanding educational options: (proposed legislation) Replaces Charter schools grants
Effective teaching and learning: Literacy (Combines/replaces Ready-to-learn television and Striving readers)	College pathways and accelerated learning: (combines and High school graduation initiative and AP)
Successful, safe, and healthy students: (combines/replaces Safe and drug-free schools and communities national activities; Elementary and secondary school counseling and Physical education program)	

FY15 Budget & Appropriations

USED FY15 Proposal: Funded Below FY14 Levels	Funding Cut/Increase
Effective Teacher/Leader State grants (ESEA Title II)	-$350 million (14.9%)
Impact Aid Payments for Federal Property	-$67 million
Teacher Quality Partnership	Eliminated
Transition to Teaching	Eliminated
Fund for Improvement of Education	-$18.1 million
ConnectEducators	+200 m (ALL new)
High School Redesign	+150 m (ALL new)
IDEA State Grants	+100 m (0.9%, COMPETITIVE)
Investing in Innovation (i3)	+23.4 m (16.5%)
Preschool Development Grants	+250 m (100%)
Promise Neighborhoods	+43.3 m (76%)
Race to the Top: Equity & Opportunity	+300 m (ALL new)
School Leadership	+9.2 m (35.9%)
STEM innovation	+170 m (133%)
Teacher Leader Innovation Fund (TIF)	+31.2 m (10.8%)
Teacher Leader Pathways	+74.7 m (ALL new)

E-Rate

- E-Rate awareness: Does your Congressional delegation and general community know what E-Rate is an how it benefits your schools?
- Confluence of positive momentum:
  - It is outside of Congress
  - FCC leading effort to modernize E-Rate
  - President Obama's ConnectEd initiative, as well as focus on ed tech in State of the Union
  - Dan is on the USAC Board
  - Full set of FCC Commissioners, including an E-Rate Champion and a committed Chairman

E-Rate

- Efforts to modernize E-Rate MUST be two fold, including a permanent increase in the E-Rate funding cap as well as programmatic adjustments
- E-Rate is funded at $2.34 b, only slight above the 1996 level of $2.25.
- Proposed structural changes include streamlining application and renewal process, supporting broadband for schools, improve process for consortia applications, and more
- Recent Public Notice details changes to P2, question the intent of addressing funding

Perkins/CTE

- House Education Committee (Winter/Spring 2014?)
- Desire for bipartisan bill
- Stumbling blocks to bipartisanship
  - Funding levels
  - MOE
  - Competitive funding
  - Joint secondary/post-secondary funding

Vouchers & Portability

- ESEA includes portability provision
- Current voucher bills
  - Senate bill (S 1968) would allow consolidate >80 existing programs, authorizing $24 b (41% of all fed ed $$) to allow states to create vouchers
  - No momentum now, but an important marker should Republicans take the Senate
  - CHOICE (S 1909) would give funds to states for disability school choice programs
- Oppose vouchers and portability!

Early Education

- CCDBG: Senate has passed CCDBG; House has no plans to pick it up at this point
- President Obama remains focused on early education, including a continued call for Preschool for All and related funding in FY15 budget
- Senate and House introduced *Strong Start for America's Children Act* (S 1697/ HR 3461) as first step in President's early childhood education initiative
  - Senate to mark up in committee before Memorial Day

IDEA

- IDEA Funding always #1 Priority
  - FY15 proposal included $100 m for IDEA (competitive!), after bipartisan letter from 138 members of Congress urged funding increase
  - EDUCATE Act (HR 4136) is a 10-year proposal to fully fund IDEA
- MOE
  - With sequester, 100% MOE becomes more difficult
  - Need commonsense changes to MOE
    - Waiver option
    - Aligning IDEA MOE with Title I

Other Topics

- Charters
- School Nutrition: Food Service Personnel Regs & School Marketing
- PCBs in Light Ballasts
- Health Care: Medicaid claiming and supporting
- Seclusion/Restraint
- School Climate: Seclusion/Restraint, Bullying and Student Safety

Get—And Stay—Involved!

- Weigh in early, weigh in often
- These decisions are made whether or not you weigh in.
- 15 minutes per month is all it takes.
- Get to know your Senator/Representative, and perhaps more importantly, their education staffer.
- Invite the Representative/Senator and staffer to your district. Anecdotes and stories have a lot of sticking power with this Congress. Let the face of your district be the one that sticks in their mind!

AASA Advocacy Resources

- AASA Website: www.aasa.org
- AASA Blog: www.aasa.org/aasablog.aspx
- AASA Advocacy on Twitter (next slide!)
- Annual Legislative Advocacy Conference
- AASA Connect: www.aasaconnect.com
- Weekly Update: *Legislative Corps*
- Monthly Update: *Advocacy Alert*
- *Policy Insider*
- *Legislative Trends*

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