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This Week in Washington

APRIL 30 – MAY 4, 2007

Ellen Fern, Editor

efern@wpllc.net

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.**

Weekly Calendar

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Future Hearings & Events

On The Floor This Week

Bills To Watch

Important Links

About WPLL

Weekly Calendar

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

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2007

We the People/Civic Education (E&S)

Subject: The Center for Civic Education hosts the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals where more than 1, 200 students compete from across the country.

Participants: Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ) receives the Dale Kildee Civitas Award and Morgan Brown, assistant deputy education secretary, Innovation and Improvement, provides remarks.

Time and Location: Events begin at 9:30 a.m.; 2200 Rayburn HOB. Awards banquet with winning class announced at 7:00 p.m.; Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, D.C..

Contact: Michelle White, 202.289.3900, mwhite@wpllc.net.

Financial Literacy (E&S, H)

Subject: The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) will hold a news conference to announce the results of a new survey that tracked the progress of consumers who participated in its "Money Smart" financial literacy program.

Participants: Sheila Bair, chairman, FDIC; Ken Wade, CEO, Neighborworks America; and Steve

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1101 Vermont Avenue, NW | Suite 400 | Washington, DC 20005-3521

202.289.3900 | 202.371.0197 (fax)

Brobeck, executive director, Consumer Federation of America.

Time and Location: 10:00 a.m.; FDIC, 550 17th Street, NW, Seventh Floor, Washington, D.C..

Contact: 202.898.6634.

Financial Literacy (E&S, H)

Subject: The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia will hold a hearing on "The Federal Government's Role in Empowering Americans to Make Informed Financial Decisions."

Witnesses: Sheila Bair, chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Morgan Brown, assistant deputy education secretary, Innovation and Improvement; Dan Iannicola Jr., deputy assistant treasury secretary, Financial Education; Robert Danbeck, associate director, Human Resources Products and Services Division, Office of Personnel Management; Yvonne Jones, director, Financial Markets & Community Investment Team, Government Accountability Office; Robert Duvall, president and CEO, The National Council on Economic Education; and Stephen Brobeck, executive director, Consumer Federation of America.

Time and Location: 2:30 p.m.; 342 Dirksen SOB.

Contact: 202.224.2627.

Science and Technology Awards (E&S)

Subject: FIRST, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, will host a congressional reception to honor 100 young people and mentors who won top honors in the FIRST Championship.

Participants: Rep. Jim Langevin (D-RI); Dean Kamen, founder, FIRST; John Abele, chairman, FIRST; Paul Gudonis, president, FIRST; and Dave Lavery, program executive for Solar System Exploration, NASA.

Time and Location: 5:30 p.m.; 345 Cannon HOB.

Contact: Marian Murphy, 603.666.3906 ext. 409.

TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2007

Financing College Education (H)

Subject: The House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Competitiveness will hold a hearing on "Paying For a College Education: Barriers and Solutions for Students and Families."

Time and Location: 1:30 p.m.; 2175 Rayburn HOB.

Contact: 202.226.0853.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2007

No Child Left Behind and International Competition (E&S)

The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will host a discussion titled, "Collision or Collaboration? No Child Left Behind and America's International Competition."

Participants: David Dunn, U.S. Department of Education; David Goldston, Princeton University; Andrew Rotherham, Education Sector; Susan Traiman, Business Roundtable; and Frederick Hess, AEI.

Time and Location: 3:30 p.m.; AEI, 1150 17th Street, NW, Wohlstetter Conference Center, 12th Floor, Washington, D.C..

Contact: Veronique Rodman, 202.862.4871, VRODMAN@AEI.ORG.

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2007

None.

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2007

Youth Programs in Developing Countries (E&S)

Subject: The American Youth Policy Forum in association with the Education Development Center, Inc. and the International Youth Foundation will host a luncheon discussion on the USAID-funded youth programs across the globe and on how this work can help inform youth policy in the United States.

Participants: Ron Israel, vice president and director, the Global Learning Group, Education Development Center; Clare Ignatowski, senior advisor for Workforce Development and Youth, United States Agency for International Development; David James-Wilson, associate project director for Applied Research, Educational Quality Improvement Project 3, Education Development Center; Cornelia Janke, associate director, Global Learning Group, program manager, Afghanistan Literacy & Community Empowerment Program, Education Development Center; and Peter Shiras, vice president for Employability, International Youth Foundation.

Time and Location: 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Capitol Hill Room TBD.

Contact: To RSVP, please reply to aypf@aypf.org by 12:00 p.m., May 2. For a full event description with presenter bios go to: <http://www.aypf.org/forumbriefs/2007/fb050407.htm>.

[Back to top.](#)

Future Hearings and Events

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2007

Reading First and Student Loan Industry (E&S, H)

Subject: The House Education and Labor Committee will hold a hearing about the Department of Education's oversight of programs under its control, including the college loan programs and the Reading First program.

Witness: Margaret Spellings, secretary, U.S. Department of Education

Time and Location: TBD; 2175 Rayburn HOB.

Contact: 202.226.0853.

Career and Technical Education and High School Reform (E&S)

Subject: The American Youth Policy Forum will hold a luncheon discussion and forum on the role of career and technical education (CTE) in high school reform. This forum will provide information on the skills gaps in the manufacturing sector and educational programs that combine academics and CTE to prepare qualified workers for a changing economy. Participants will learn how the need to educate highly skilled workers for manufacturing and how the rigor of technical programs can be enhanced, resulting in improved student outcomes.

Participants: Phyllis Eisen, vice president, The Manufacturing Institute and executive director, The Center for Workforce Success; and Duane Crum, California state director, Project Lead the Way.

Time and Location: 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Capitol Hill Location TBD.

Contact: RSVP by 12:00 p.m., May 7th by sending an email RSVP to aypf@aypf.org. For a full event description with presenter bios go to: <http://www.aypf.org/forumbriefs/2007/fb051007.htm>.

[Back to top.](#)

On The Floor This Week

SENATE

S.1082 - FDA Authorization Act

HOUSE

H.R.1429 - Improving Head Start Act of 2007

H.R.1867 - National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007

H.R.1868 - Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act of 2007

H.Res.334 - National Community College Month

H. Res. - Resolution congratulating charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education

Potential vote to override the President's veto on the Conference Report on H.R.1591, the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Health and Iraq Accountability Act.

[Back to top.](#)

Bills to Watch

SENATE

[S. Con. Res. 21](#) FY 2008 Budget Resolution (3/23/07 passed by full Senate).

[S.Res.126](#) Financial Literacy Month (3/27/07 passed by Unanimous Consent).

[S. 7](#) 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.

[S. 100](#) Healthy Children Act, a bill to encourage the health of children in schools by promoting better nutrition and increased physical activity.

[S. 164](#) Success Act, a comprehensive K-12 bill introduced by Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Chairman Edward Kennedy (D-MA).

[S. 224](#) and [H.R. 325](#) 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. 348](#) A bill to improve the amendments made by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

- S. 380** 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.489** 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.506** 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. 556** Head Start for School Readiness Act, a bill to reauthorize the Head Start Act, and for other purposes (2/14/07 passed by HELP Committee).
- S. 757** 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. 761** 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. 893** 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.912** 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. 958** 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. 1015** National Writing Project, a bill to reauthorize the National Writing Project.
- S. 1185** Graduation for All Act, a bill to authorize \$2.5 billion in grants for high school reform efforts.
- S. 1217** School Safety Act, a bill to support school safety measures in elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher learning.

- S. 1231 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.

HOUSE

H.Con.Res.99 FY 2008 Budget Resolution (3/30/07 passed by full House).

H.R. 1591 FY 2007 Supplemental Funding Legislation (3/23/07 passed by full House; 3/20/07 passed by Appropriations Committee).

H.Con.Res.121 School-Based Music Resolution.

H.Res.273 Designating Financial Literacy Month.

H.R. 35 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.R. 36 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. 37 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. 38 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.54 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.CON.RES.11 English Plus Resolution.

H.R.121 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. 171 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.318** 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. 325** and **S. 224** 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. 362** 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act, a bill to expand NSF education and teacher training programs. (4/24/07 passed by House; 3/28/07 passed Science and Technology Committee.)
- H.R. 549** 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. 472** College Affordability and Transparency Act; a bill to amend the Higher Education Act to address the issues of college affordability and transparency.
- H.R. 526** 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.627** 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.648** A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.
- H.R.684** 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.717** 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.821** 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.854** 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. 1377** 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** 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. 1429** Head Start Improvement Act, a bill to reauthorize the Head Start Act (3/14/07 passed by Ed and Labor Committee).
- H.R. 1486** 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. 1539** 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. 1623** 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. 1657** 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. 1761** 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. 1876** National Science Foundation Reauthorization Act (4/25/07 passed by the House; 4/19/07; approved by Subcommittee on Research and Science Education).
- H.R. 1928** 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. 1939** Reading First Improvement Act, a bill to amend the Reading First program by codifying recommendations made by the Education Department's Inspector General.

[Back to top.](#)

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>

[Back to top.](#)

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