The House Appropriations Committee has approved its FY 2016 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill.

Overall, the bill cuts discretionary funding for the Department of Education (ED) by $2.77 billion or 4.1%. That is a bigger cut than the $2.27 billion cut that occurred from the FY 2013 sequester! Discretionary funding for ED would be below the FY 2011 level. Overall discretionary funding, excluding Pell grants, is cut by $2.4 billion (-5.4%). This total would be below the FY 2004 level, moving funding backwards by 12 years, prior to accounting for inflation or enrollment growth!
The bill eliminates 27 programs:
(all numbers below in thousands)
1. School improvement State grants = $-505,756
2. Striving readers = $-160,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
3. Title I Evaluation = $-710 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
4. Preschool development grants = $-250,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
5. Mathematics and science partnerships = $-152,717
6. Safe and drug-free schools and communities national programs = $-70,000
7. Elementary and secondary school counseling = $-49,561
8. Carol M. White Physical Education Program = $-47,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
9. Investing in Innovation = $-120,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
10. Teacher incentive fund grants = $-230,000
11. Transition to teaching = $-13,700 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
12. School leadership = $-16,368 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
13. Magnet schools assistance = $-91,647
14. Advanced placement = $-28,483
15. Ready-to-learn television = $-25,741
16. Innovative Approaches to Literacy = $-24,786
17. Full Service Community Schools = $-10,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
18. Javits Gifted and Talented = $-10,000
19. Non-Cognitive Initiative = $-2,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
20. Education Facilities Clearinghouse = $-994 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
21. Arts in Education = $-25,000
22. Special Olympics Education programs = -$7,593 (though IDEA Technical assistance and dissemination is increased by this same amount)
23. First in the World = -$60,000 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
24. Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success = -$4,950 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
25. National Center for students with disabilities = -$2,475 (also eliminated in the Senate bill)
26. Teacher quality partnership (HEA) = -$40,592
27. Regional educational laboratories = -$54,423

It CUTS:
1. Teacher quality State grants by $668 million (-28.4%)
2. State Assessments by $78 million (-20.6%)
3. Comprehensive Centers by $4.8 million
4. CTE national programs by $3.6 million
5. Adult Education national leadership by $3.5 million
6. The Pell grant discretionary appropriation by $370 million. The Pell maximum award would still automatically increase for the 2016-17 school year based on separate mandatory funding to a projected maximum of $5,915. The cut to the discretionary appropriation reduces the current year surplus, which would result in a Pell shortfall in FY 2017 of $634 million (based on the March CBO baseline, assuming that the FY 16 House appropriated level for Pell is also the FY 17 appropriated level).
7. Graduate assistance in areas of national need by $4.2 million
8. Research, development, and dissemination by $86.7 million (-48.2%)
9. Research in special education by $18 million
10. Special education studies and evaluations by $4.8 million

It INCREASES:
1. Impact Aid Basic support payments by $10 million (the other parts of Impact Aid are frozen)
2. Education for Native Hawaiians by $1 million
3. Alaska Native Education Equity by $1 million
4. Indian Education by $20 million
5. Charter schools grants by $21.8 million
6. IDEA State grants by $502 million
7. IDEA Technical assistance and dissemination by $7.6 million (this is the same amount as was provided in FY 15 for Special Olympics Education programs)
8. Helen Keller National Center for Deaf/Blind Youth and Adults by $1.2 million
9. American Printing House for the Blind by $0.5 million
10. National Technical Institute for the Deaf by $1 million
11. Gallaudet University by $1 million
12. Student Aid Administration by $50 million
13. Strengthening Institutions by $1.6 million
14. Developing Hispanic-serving institutions by $2 million
15. Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans by $0.2 million
16. Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) by $4.6 million
17. **Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions** by $1.8 million
18. **Strengthening Predominantly Black Institutions** by $0.2 million
19. **Strengthening Asian American and Native American Pacific-Islander-Serving Institutions** by $62,000
20. **Strengthening Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions** by $0.3 million
21. **Strengthening Native American-serving nontribal institutions** by $62,000
22. **Strengthening Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities** by $4.3 million
23. **Tribally controlled postsecondary career and technical institutions** by $1 million
24. **TRIO** by $60.2 million (+7.2%)
25. **GEAR UP** by $21.1 million (+7%)
26. **Head Start** in HHS by $192 million, of which $150 million is targeted to Early Head Start and $42 million to a 0.5 percent Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) increase for Head Start Grantees.

It **FREEZES:**
1. Title I grants to LEAs
2. Title I Migrant
3. Title I Neglected and delinquent
4. High School Equivalency Program/College Assistant Migrant Program
5. 21st century community learning centers
6. Education for homeless children and youths
7. Training and Advisory Services
8. Rural education
9. Supplemental education grants (K12)
10. Promise Neighborhoods
11. English Language Acquisition
12. IDEA Preschool Grants
13. IDEA Grants for Infants and Families
14. IDEA State Personnel Development
15. IDEA Personnel Preparation
16. IDEA Parent Information Centers
17. IDEA Technology and Media Services
18. Vocational Rehabilitation Client Assistance State grants
19. Vocational Rehabilitation Training
20. Vocational Rehabilitation Demonstration and Training programs
21. Vocational Rehabilitation Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights
22. Vocational Rehabilitation Supported Employment State grants
23. Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Older Blind Individuals
24. Career and technical education State grants
25. Adult basic and literacy education State grants
26. Federal Supplemental educational opportunity grants
27. Federal Work Study
28. International education and foreign language studies
29. Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities
30. Minority Science and Engineering Improvement
31. Child care access means parents in school
32. Howard University
33. College Housing And Academic Facilities Loans  
34. Historically Black College And University Capital Financing Program  
35. Statistics  
36. Statewide data systems  
37. National assessment (NAEP)  
38. NAGB  
39. Child Care Development Block grant (CCDBG) in HHS  
40. Institute of Museum and Library Services

**FUNDING CHANGES BY ACCOUNT (IN THOUSANDS):**

- **EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED** = $-666,466
- **IMPACT AID** = +$10,000
- **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS** = $-901,951
- **INDIAN EDUCATION** = +$20,000
- **INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT** = $-827,111
- **SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION** = $-166,561
- **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION** = $0
- **SPECIAL EDUCATION** = +$502,152

**Subtotal above K12 accounts** = $-2,029,937

- **REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH** = $-180,248  
  (NOTES: $238,153 is from programs that were transferred from ED to HHS by WIOA. Includes a mandatory increase of $56,696 for vocational rehabilitation State grants)
- **AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND** = +$500
- **NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF** = +$1,000
- **GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY** = +$1,000
- **CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION** = $-7,077
- **STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** = $-370,000
- **STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION** = +$50,000
- **HIGHER EDUCATION** = $-15,797
- **HOWARD UNIVERSITY** = $0
- **COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS PROGRAM** = $0
- HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM ACCOUNT = $0
- INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES = $-163,979
- PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION = $-1,000
- OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS = $0
- OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL = +$1,465

TOTAL = $-2,714,073

Policy riders for education:

Department of Education
- HBCU/HSI/MSI Endowment Funds - An institution of higher education that maintains an endowment fund supported with funds appropriated for title III or V of the HEA for fiscal year 2016 may use the income from that fund to award scholarships to students, subject to the limitation in section 331(c)(3)(B)(i) of the HEA. The use of such income for such purposes, prior to the enactment of this Act, shall be considered to have been an allowable use of that income, subject to that limitation.

- Gainful Employment—The bill blocks the gainful employment regulation.

- Credit Hour—The bill blocks a program integrity regulation defining “credit hour” that is used when awarding student financial aid.

- State Authorization—The bill blocks a program integrity regulation requiring colleges to be authorized all States in which they deliver distance education programs.

- College Ratings System—The bill blocks the college ratings system, which the Department just announced it will not proceed with.

- Teacher Preparation—The bill blocks a proposed regulation related to teacher preparation programs. A final rule is expected this summer. The proposed rule would require States to use school district surveys, employment data and student test results to rate teacher preparation programs.

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers—The bill includes a proviso in the bill blocking the Department from allowing 21st CCLC funds from being used for expanded learning time.