Agenda Topic: Federal Relations

Materials: Washington Education News

Staff Contact(s): Gail Lieberman

Purpose of Agenda Item

To apprise the Board of current events in Washington DC, particularly regarding reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

State Board members will better understand the plans currently before Congress for substantive education change.

Background Information

The latest Washington News update is attached and also on the agency web site.

There continue to be concerns voiced about the ESEA reauthorization bills by the Council of Chief State School Officers. They are in the areas of governance, state education agency resources, annual assessments and accountability systems, increased funding levels for education, and transferability/Straight A’s/charitable choice. NASBE as an organization has expressed concern over the budget, Straight A’s, and assessment. Committee for Education Funding continues to express concern over the financial priority for education within the actual budget.

Superintendent’s Recommendation

No action is needed at this time.

Next Steps

Continue to keep the Board apprised.

Attachment (Washington Update News for May 7, 2001)