Education & 112th Congress

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HELLO... IS ANYONE LISTENING?

2010 Mid-Term Elections
2010 Election Outcome

Senate
51 Democrats (-6)
46 Republicans
2 Independents – vote with Democrats
1 Undecided/AK Independent vote with Republicans

House
239 Republicans
190 Democrats (-60)
6 Undecided

Governorships
19 Democratic (-7)
29 Republican
New Illinois Members

Senate
Mark Steven Kirk (R)
Served 5 terms in House
Social Moderate - Fiscal Conservative
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

House
Joe Walsh (R) 8th District
Investment Banker, Tea Party Activist
Supports Charter Schools, merit pay for teachers, school choice, local responsibility for education
Education & Labor Committee

Robert Dold (R) 10th District
Small Business Owner
Fiscal Conservative – Social Moderate
Opposes Health Care Overhaul
Budget, Energy and Commerce,
Transportation & Infrastructure Committees
Adam Kinzinger (R) 11th District  
County Board/Veteran  
Supports extending the tax cuts, limiting Federal Government in private sector, providing new money only for national security, infrastructure and new energy resources  
Energy and Commerce Committee

Randy Hultgren (R) 14th District  
Served in IL Legislature  
Mainline Conservative  
Supports shrinking the size of the Federal Government  
Energy and Commerce & Financial Services Committees

Bobby Schilling (R) 17th District  
Small Business Owner  
Against tax increases, will vote to slash discretionary spending – 10% cut, lower corporate tax rate  
Agriculture, Small Business or Veteran’s Affairs Committees
Leadership Elections
Senate November 16th
House November 17th

Bush Income Tax Cuts – expire Dec. 31st
Appropriations for 2011 – CR expires Dec. 3rd
Extend the CR or pass an Omnibus Bill

Maybe...
Child Nutrition Bill
Dream Act/Immigration Legislation
Dr. Fix for Medicare
One time $250 payment for Social Security Beneficiaries
Extension of Unemployment Benefits
Ear Mark Ban
Food Safety Bill
Defense Reauthorization
START Treaty – Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty
What it all means...

Republicans have more leverage in the Senate and control the House

Compromise between House, Senate and White House will be necessary – but unlikely

Advance Conservative Agenda
Roll Back Past 2 Years of Democratic Actions

Republicans say they will concentrate on...

- Job Creation
- Reduction of Discretionary Spending by rolling back 2011 spending to 2008 levels
- Deficit Reduction/Balance Budgets
- Oversight of Administration
- Producing a smaller, less costly, government
- Cancelation of unexpended stimulus funds
- Capping discretionary spending
- Ending financial industry bailout
- Overhauling the budget system
- Extending the self-imposed ban on earmarks
- Appropriations increases offset with cuts to other programs not revenue increases
What it means for Education

Education – Common ground

Appropriations – No money – deep cuts

ESEA – Start the process over

IDEA - Not happening anytime soon!
Senator Dodd (CT) reintroduced his R & S Bill with a Republican Co-sponsor, Senator Burr (NC)

**Added new language:**
The use of physical restraint or seclusion shall not be written into a student’s education plan, individual safety plan, behavioral plan or individualized education program (as defined in IDEA) unless all of the following conditions apply:

The use of physical restraint and seclusion complies with the minimum standards of this section and any other applicable State law (including regulations) regarding physical restraint or seclusion, to the extent that law (including regulations) provide additional protection for students.

The student has a documented history showing a series of behaviors in the preceding 2 years that has created an imminent danger of serious bodily injury in school.

A comprehensive, data-driven functional behavior assessment has been conducted and a behavioral intervention plan implemented by a qualified team of professionals.
Students with disabilities are general education students first. As a result, ESEA should be the basis for educating all students, ensuring all students are held to high challenging standards and are included within an accountability system. IDEA provides the special education supports and services a student may need to receive full educational benefit.

Underlying Policy Issues/Policy Objectives:

All students will be college and/or career-ready upon leaving the public school system.

A single system of education exists in which “all students” truly means all.
National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility & Reform

December 1st deadline

Recommendations
- Tax overhaul
- Spending cuts beginning in 2012
- Changes in Social Security
- Three year freeze on Federal pay
- 15% reduction in White House & Congressional budgets

Education Issues
- Student Administrative fees – on loans
- Eliminate Office of Safe & Drug Free Schools
- Integrate military children into public schools

14 of 18 votes needed to pass recommendations
Stay Involved

Educate your New & Old Congressional members about your programs

Make sure they know who you serve and the services you provide

Let them know you don’t want the budget balanced on the back of education

Hold them accountable

AND Keep an eye on them!

Thank you – any questions...