

Community College National Legislative Summit



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Preparing for the 2023 NLS

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Agenda

- Navigating the 118th Congress
- Impact on NLS Advocacy
- Overview of the NLS Green Sheet
- Q&A Session
- Reminders

Navigating the 118th Congress

- House majority has flipped, with Republicans holding a narrow majority of 222 to 213 Democrats.
- Senate Democrats gained outright majority, flipping a PA seat for a 51-49 edge.
 - Note: Senator Sinema from Arizona declared herself independent, but she is expected to caucus with the Democratic party.
- With divided Congress, gridlock is likely, with much less legislation enacted than in the 117th Congress.
 - Large scale spending bills seen in 117th Congress unlikely
 - House will emphasize oversight of Biden Administration; Senate will likely focus on confirmation of Biden appointees to the judiciary and agencies
 - With little chance of the President's legislative priorities moving, expect Administration emphasis on regulatory/executive actions

Navigating the 118th Congress, Continued

- In the Senate, new faces on both sides of the aisle leading key committees:
 - Senate HELP Committee: Senators Sanders (I-VT) & Cassidy (R-LA)
 - Senate Appropriations Committee: Senators Murray (D-WA) & Collins (R-ME)
- In the House, Education & Workforce Committee leaders will flip roles
 - Rep. Foxx (R-NC) will chair the Committee
 - Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA) will serve as Ranking Member
- House Appropriations Committee leadership will remain the same but in reversed roles with new Republican leadership at the subcommittee.
 - Chair Granger (R-TX) & Ranking Member DeLauro (D-CT)
 - LHHS Subcommittee will be chaired by Rep. Aderholt (R-AL); Rep. DeLauro will be RM
- Committee appointments in both House & Senate have not been finalized. We expect completion this week.

Impact on NLS Advocacy

- First Congress Elected with 2020 Census District Maps
 - Your college or residence may have been drawn into a new district with different Representatives (even if it's not a new Member of Congress)
- Both House and Senate Office Buildings are once again open to the public
 - No longer needing an escort from the entrance to the individual offices
 - Individual offices may still have virtual meeting policies in place, but we expect the vast majority, if not all, of your meetings to be in person 😊

Overview of the NLS Green Sheet

- Bolster The Role of Community Colleges in Workforce Development
 - Strengthen the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
 - Authorize a Major Community College-Led Job Training Program

Overview of the NLS Green Sheet, Cont'd

- Fund Key Education and Workforce Programs
 - Support Student Access and Success
 - Strengthen Under-Resourced Institutions
 - Increase funding for institutional aid programs including Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), Title III-A Strengthening Institutions; Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs); Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs); Tribal Colleges; and other programs serving traditionally underrepresented populations
 - Bolster Job Training and Career and Technical Education

Overview of the NLS Green Sheet, Cont'd

- Enact the Dream Act
 - Provide a path to citizenship for undocumented young people, including the thousands of students currently enrolled in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

Overview of the NLS Green Sheet, Cont'd

- Reform Student Aid for Today's Students
 - Support Workforce Pell Grants for Students in Short-Term Programs
 - Invest in Basic Needs Supports for Students
 - Promote Responsible Borrowing
 - Adopt Accountability and Transparency Policies that Reflect Needs of Community Colleges
 - Create a federal student unit record system to generate accurate, meaningful student-level data on postsecondary outcomes, including post-completion earnings.

Overview of the NLS Green Sheet, Cont'd

- Focus Student Tax Policy on Those Who Can Benefit Most
 - End the Taxation of Pell Grants and Modify the American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)
 - Make Pell Grants tax-free through adopting legislation similar to the bipartisan Tax Free Pell Grant Act of 117th Congress.
 - Alter the \$2,500 AOTC so that Pell Grant awards are not subtracted from a student's eligible expenses

Overview of the NLS Green Sheet, Cont'd

- Farm Bill
 - Support Rural Community Colleges
 - Create federal funding streams for community colleges to support rural economic development, particularly in the agricultural sector.
 - Increase Access to SNAP
 - Support streamlining of access to SNAP benefits for community college students.

Questions?

Thank You! – See You in February 2023

- Reminders:
 - Register for the NLS [here](#).
 - Additional resources to prepare for NLS can be found [here](#).
 - Post Advocacy Meeting
 - Fill out ACCT's [Congressional Contact Form](#)
- Questions? please contact us at publicpolicy@acct.org