

ProLiteracy Policy Update



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Appropriations Recommendations Defeated by House

Last week, the recommendations of the conference committee appointed to resolve differences in the Senate and House appropriations bills for Labor/Health and Human Services/Education were defeated in the House. Twenty-two Republicans joined the Democrats in opposition to the Conference Report. The Senate is not required to consider the conference report in light of the House defeat.

The Conference Report included an appropriation for state grants for adult basic education at \$570 million, approximately level funding from the current funding year. However, Even Start would have been funded at \$100 million, a drastic cut from the current \$225 million, if the bill had been successful.

Following consideration of the Labor/HHS measure, the House agreed to a Continuing Resolution, funding government programs not covered by an enacted annual appropriation through Dec. 17, 2005. The Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill must now go back for further negotiation with the Senate. This may represent a continuing risk to the state grant appropriation, but also an opportunity for Even Start advocates. The House will reconvene on December 6 and the Senate will reconvene on December 12. Congress is expected to wrap appropriations up before the end of the year.

FY 2006 Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies **HR 3010**

HOUSE CONFEREES:

Republicans

Cunningham (CA)
Lewis (CA)
Weldon (FL)
Northup (KY)
Wicker (MS)
Walsh (NY)
Regula (OH)
Istook (OK)
Peterson (PA)
Sherwood (PA)
Granger (TX)

Democrats

Roybal-Allard (CA)
DeLauro (CT)
Jackson (IL)
Hoyer (MD)
Lowey (NY)

Kennedy (RI)
Obey (WI)

SENATE CONFEREES:

Republicans:

Shelby (AL)
Stevens (AK)
Craig (ID)
Cochran (MS)
Gregg (NH)
Domenici (NM)
DeWine (OH)
Specter (PA)
Hutchison (TX)

Democrats:

Inouye (HI)
Harkin (IA)
Durbin (IL)
Landrieu (LA)
Reid (NV)
Murray (WA)
Kohl (WI)
Byrd (WV)