

# The Federal Update for July 15, 2022

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Re: Federal Update

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*Senate Appropriators are aiming to release draft legislation for fiscal year 2023 by the end of this month. However, Senators in COVID-19 quarantine – Senators, unlike members of the House, may not vote remotely – and other health challenges among members of leadership may delay progress on appropriations bills as the Congressional August recess is slated to begin next month.*

## Legislation and Guidance

### Title IX Proposed Rule Officially Published in *Federal Register*

The U.S. Department of Education’s (ED’s) proposed rule on Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was officially published in the *Federal Register* this week. ED released the proposed rule publicly in June, but the proposed rule had not been formally published until this week.

Stakeholders may submit comments directly through the *Federal Register* portal on or before September 12, 2022. ED is likely to receive a significant number of comments on the proposed rule as the prior Title IX rule, published by the Trump administration, received over 100,000 comments.

[The proposed rule and portal to submit comments is available here](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/07/12/2022-13734/nondiscrimination-on-the-basis-of-sex-in-education-programs-or-activities-receiving-federal).

Author: KSC

## News

### ED Launches New After-School Effort

On Thursday the U.S. Department of Education (ED) announced the Engage Every Student Initiative, billed as a public-private partnership to support schools in offering quality out-of-time (afterschool and summer learning) programs. The groups at the heart of the partnership – the Afterschool Alliance, National Comprehensive Center, National League of Cities, National Summer Learning Association and AASA (the School Superintendents Association), will organize and distribute information on particular interventions and programs to other community-based organizations.

ED also said the agency would award a contract in the coming year to “provide best practices in program implementation.” “We need bold action, especially for low-income students and students of color who have historically struggled to access quality afterschool programs and rich summer learning experiences,” Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said in a statement.

Author: JCM

### Advocates Push for Inclusion of Early Ed in Reconciliation Bill

A group of education advocates, led by the First Five Years Fund, has written to Congress asking that lawmakers include funding for early education in the new version of the reconciliation bill rumored to be under discussion in the Senate. The groups ask for an expansion of the Child Care and Development Block Grant to help raise wages for providers and teachers while lowering costs for families. The authors suggest that funds provided by stimulus bills have helped to stave off a potential collapse of the child care system, but argue that a collapse is on the horizon without additional federal support.

Similar proposals have proven popular among some in the Senate. Senators Patty Murray (D-WA) and Tim Kaine (D-VA) have shared a streamlined early learning proposal that would echo many of these recommendations. Lawmakers have said they are engaging in ongoing negotiations of a reconciliation bill, but so far there has been no agreement on content or timeline.

The [letter is available here.](https://www.ffyf.org/letter-early-learning-care-are-foundational-supports-for-families-the-economy/)

Author: JCM

## Reports

### GAO Publishes Report on Racial Divide in Public Schools

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report on Thursday that examines the racial composition of K-12 public schools across the country. Overall, the report concludes that schools are often still racially divided even as the K-12 public school student population has become more diverse in recent years.

The report finds that the student body at many schools is predominantly made up of one race and/or ethnicity, and that approximately 14 percent of such schools are located within 10 miles of another school that is also predominantly made up of one race and/or ethnicity. According to the report, in school year 2020-2021, approximately 14 percent of students attended schools where 90 percent of the student body is of one race and/or ethnicity. And in the same school year, GAO found that over a third of public K-12 students attended schools where the student body was 75 percent or more made up of one race and/or ethnicity. In addition, the report determined that when a group of schools secede from their current district to create a new school district, the new district is more likely to have a higher percentage of white and Asian students and have wealthier students when compared to the district that the school seceded from.

The GAO analyzed the U.S. Department of Education’s Common Core of Data from school years 2014-2015 through 2020-2021 for this report. In addition, the GAO reviewed Common Core of Data from school years 2009-2010 through 2019-2020 for the analysis on district secessions.

[The GAO report is available here](https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-22-104737.pdf).

Author: KSC

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