

Student Success Act Passes House

Last week, the House narrowly passed the **Student Success Act**, on a 221 to 207, with no Democrats voting for it. The bill will revamp the Bush-era No Child Left Behind Act (formally known as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act).

Key Components of the Student Success Act:

- Eliminates the NCLB's one-size-fits-all system of "adequate yearly progress" ;
- Requires states collecting federal funds to regularly assess students and publicly report the disaggregated results;
- Repeals the bureaucratic "highly qualified teacher" mandate;
- Eliminates or consolidates over 70 programs;
- Prohibits federal officials from compelling states to adopt and support the Common Core;
- Allows states to let Title I funds follow those children to the public school of their choice; and
- Maintains the NCLB testing schedule and disaggregation of student achievement by subgroups.

Advocates say that the bill maintains transparency, reduces red tape, gives states new flexibility, and puts an end to waivers.

Where Are We in the Process?

The Democratic controlled Senate education committee approved its own completely partisan and very different version earlier this year. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan tweeted "**We need #ESEA reauthorization that protects vulnerable students, raises standards & improves teaching. The House bill does none of these.**"

So the stage is set for the legislative process to continue as the two versions are shaped into the Student Success Act.

If you would like more information please contact

Barbara Hunter Cox

Director of Teaching and Learning