

# What's Happening in Washington?

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December 6, 2009

Arlington, VA

*Sharon Walsh, DEC and ITCA*



# Agenda

- Fiscal Climate
- 111th Congress
- Executive Branch Update
- Early Learning Challenge Fund
- State Advisory Councils (ARRA)
- Health Care Reform
- Budget and Appropriations
- Medicaid

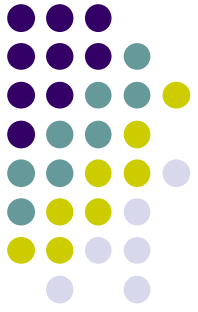


# CENTER FOR BUDGET POLICY PRIORITIES (CBPP)



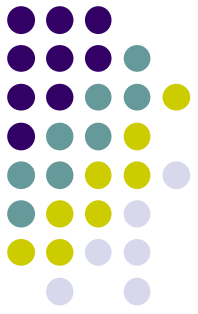
- Ongoing tracking of state fiscal data
- Last Update: November 19, 2009
- [WWW.CBPP.ORG](http://WWW.CBPP.ORG)
- In total, 48 states have addressed or still face shortfalls in their budgets for fiscal year 2010 totaling \$190 billion or 28 percent of state budgets — the largest gaps on record.

# STATE FISCAL REALITY



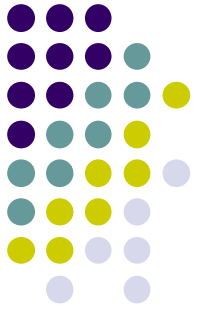
- Fiscal year **2011** gaps - A total of **\$92 billion or 16% of budgets for the 38 states** that have estimated the size of these gaps.
- These totals are likely to grow as revenues continue to deteriorate, and **may well exceed \$180 billion**
- **42 states and DC** have made cuts:
  - Health care (28 states)
  - Services for elderly and disabled (24 plus DC)
  - K-12 Education (26 plus DC)
  - Higher Education (35 states)

# 111<sup>th</sup> Congress



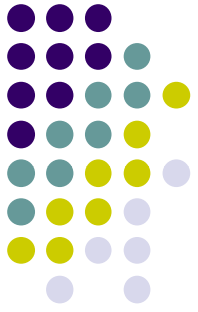
- 1<sup>st</sup> Session likely to continue to and maybe through the holidays
- 2<sup>nd</sup> session to begin in January 2010 – work becomes even more political
- November 2010 – Mid-term election of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress
- January 2011 – 112<sup>th</sup> Congress Convenes – any bills not signed into law expire and must be reintroduced

# Agenda of the 111th Congress



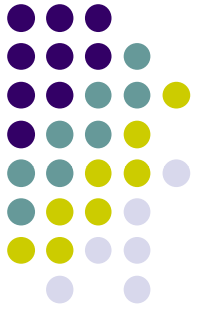
- Fiscal Crisis
- Possible Jobs Package
- Discussions on Additional Stimulus– Push to include Continued Medicaid Match Increase
- Climate Change/CAP and Trade
- Extension of Unemployment
- COBRA Extensions
- Immigration
- Debt Extension – Currently \$12.1 trillion
- Afghanistan and Iraq
- Highways
- FAA
- Estate and Other Taxes

# Agenda of the 111th Congress



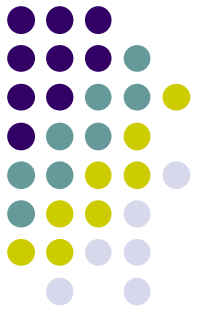
- Child Care Block Grant Reauthorization/TANF
- CAPTA Reauthorization
- Developmental Disabilities Act Reauthorization
- SAMPSA Reauthorization
- Child Nutrition
- Institute on Education Sciences
- Elementary/Secondary Education (ESEA)
- IDEA
- "Rosa's Law" S. 2781
- Seclusion and restraint

# U.S. Education Secretary Duncan to Governors

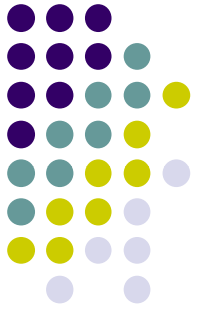


“Our role is to be a partner and a resource to you as you work to balance your budget...while advancing these essential reforms in our nation’s schools so that every child in America can receive a complete and competitive education – ***from cradle through career.***”

# Secretary Duncan - NAEYC



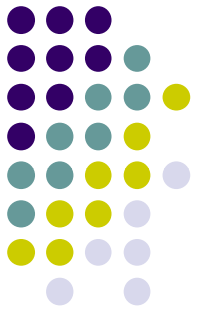
- The Department of Education has adopted a ***birth through 3rd grade early learning agenda*** that embraces the full range of early childhood development.
- We added only ***one invitational priority to the \$4.3 billion Race to the Top fund—an early learning priority*** to support states with early learning programs that improve school readiness and the transition between preschool and kindergarten.
- And in our ***Invest in Innovation i3*** grants for districts and non-profits who invest in successful educational innovations, improved collaboration and transitions on the ***early childhood continuum from birth through age 8 will be a competitive priority.***



# Key Appointments

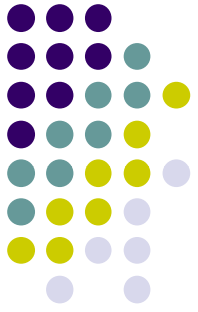
- **Alexa Posny**, Assistant Secretary OSERS and Acting OSEP Director
- **Jacqueline Jones**, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Early Learning, DOE
- **Carmen Nazario**, Assistant Secretary for Children and Families
- **Yvette Sanchez Fuentes**, Director of the Office of Head Start
- **Joan Lombardi**, Deputy Assistant Secretary and inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, HHS
- **White House**
  - Kareem Dale, Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy
  - Jeffrey Crowley, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy & member of President's Domestic Policy Council

# Early Learning Challenge Fund



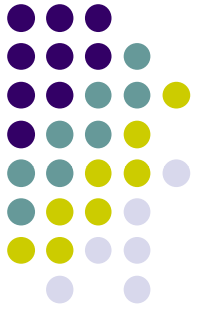
- Passed by House September 17th by 253-171
- Included as Title IV of H.R. 3221 The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act
- Bill expected in the Senate in January 2010
- State Grants for Birth to Five
- To increase the number of disadvantaged children who participate in comprehensive and high-quality early learning programs.
- Jointly to administered- ED and HHS

# PURPOSES



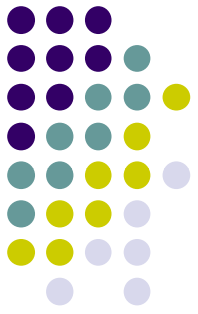
- **Promote State standards reform**
- Establish high program **standards of quality**
- Fund & implement initiatives to **improve skills and effectiveness of providers, & improve quality of existing programs,**
- To ensure a **greater number of disadvantaged children** enter kindergarten with cognitive, social, emotional, and physical skills and abilities **to be successful in school.**
- To **increase parents' abilities to access** comprehensive and high quality early learning **programs .**

# Competitive State Grants



- Quality Pathways Grants – up to 5 years
- Development Grants – up to 3 years
- State lead agency established by State
- Must Coordinate proposed activities with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care
- \$8 Billion for 8 Years
- Must Coordinate with Title 1, HS, Child Care, Part C and 619 of IDEA

# Part C Assurance



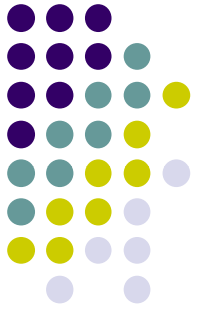
States applying for a Quality Pathways Grant must include an assurance that the ***State will continue to participate in Part C of the IDEA for the duration of the grant.***

# ARRA State Advisory Council Grants Available



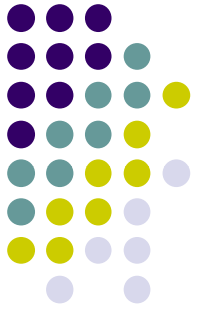
- From Head Start Reauthorization funded under ARRA - \$100,000,000
- Governor must designate a council
- Representatives of IDEA Part C or 619
- Must include strategic plan to develop and enhance high quality systems of early care and education
- Requires 70% non-Federal share to apply
- Applications due August 1, 2010

# Health Care Reform



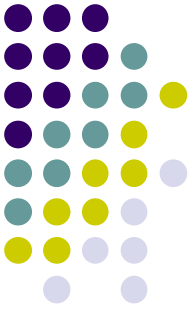
- Major Activity of this session
- Senate and House Committee Action Before August Recess
- Town Hall Meetings
- President's Speech Before Congress 9/9/09
- 5 bills passed committee level
- Major reaction/concern by all sides

# House Bill Passed



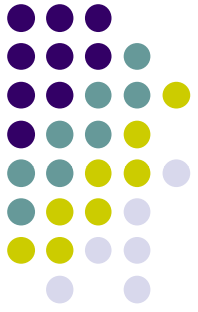
- House merged three versions of the bill
- Passed (H.R. 3962) November 7
- Vote of 220-215
- House Summaries  
<http://edlabor.house.gov/documents/111/pdf/publications/AHCAA-DETAILEDSUMMARY-102909.pdf>
- House and Senate bills will go to conference
- Conferenced bill must be passed by both Houses and signed by President
- Possibly by State of the Union??

# What's Next?



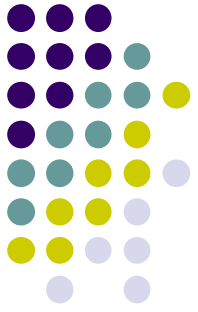
- November 18 - Senate released H.R. 3590 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
- Most Senate action needs 60 votes unless reconciliation used
- A procedural vote in November (60 yeas) allowed debate
- Debate may be several weeks

# Senate Deliberations

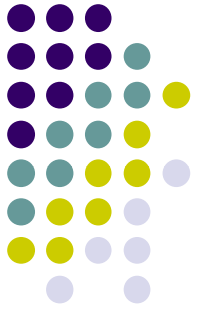


- Senate in session this weekend considering amendments
- President is meeting with Senators 12/6 on options for public option
- Majority Leader Harry Reid will offer a Manager's Substitute Amendment
- Final Senate vote is “planned” before New Years

# Kaiser Family Foundation



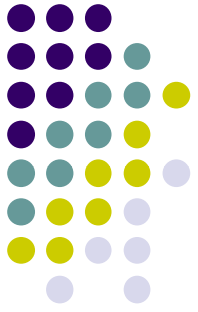
- <http://healthreform.kff.org/>
- Numerous side-by-sides of all proposals
- Interactive tools
- Includes:
  - Explaining the basics
  - Issue briefs
  - Indepth analysis
- Updated all the time



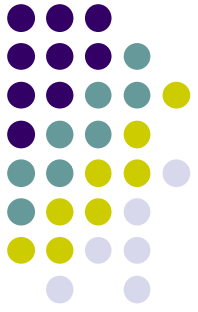
# Commonwealth Fund

- Analysis of House and Senate Bills - 12/09
- Proposes 5 key changes in bills:
  - Insurance market
  - Public option
  - Provider payment reform
  - Adjustment of payments
  - Medicare Advisory Board
- <http://www.commonwealthfund.org/>

# Children's Defense Fund

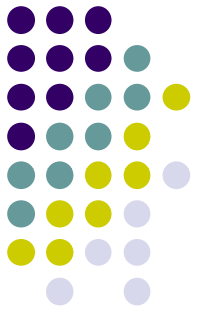


- “Protect Children in Health Reform - A Holiday Discussion Guide” 2009
- <http://www.childrensdefense.org/search/search.jsp>
- Purpose – To address questions, issues, concerns, cautions from family and friends
- Addresses:
  - SCHIP
  - Children's coverage
  - Family's options
  - Fiscal realities and health care reform
  - Strategies for reform



# Families USA

- Holding the Line: Senate (2/09)  
<http://www.familiesusa.org/health-reform-2009/>
- Medicaid Expansion
- Protections for SCHIP (Casey Amendment)
- Out-of-Pocket Limits
- Public Option
- Exchanges
- Immigration
- Medicare



# Other Resources

- What the 2074 Page Senate Health Reform Bill Means for Maternal and Child Health, In 22 Bullets! – November 2009

[www.amchp.org](http://www.amchp.org)

- ITCA Principles – September 2009
- Center for Budget Policy Priorities

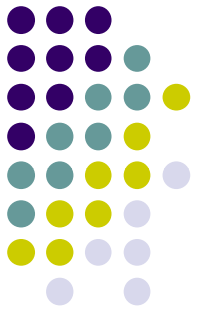
[www.cbpp.org](http://www.cbpp.org)

- Business Roundtable

<http://www.businessroundtable.org/healthstudy/>

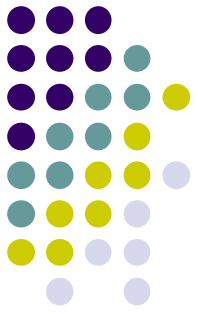
# GAO Report 10-57

## Education Grant Monitoring



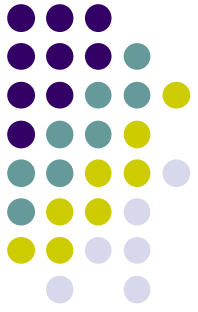
- In 2007, Education created the Risk Management Service (RMS) to work with all components of the department to ensure that each office has an effective risk management strategy in place.
- GAO asked to study progress and expertise of staff
- November 2009 issued results
- GAO recommends Education improve its oversight of risk management, increase financial expertise among its grant monitoring staff, and develop an accessible mechanism to share information.

# OMB Memo – October 7, 2009



Government-wide evaluation efforts – FY'2011 Budget

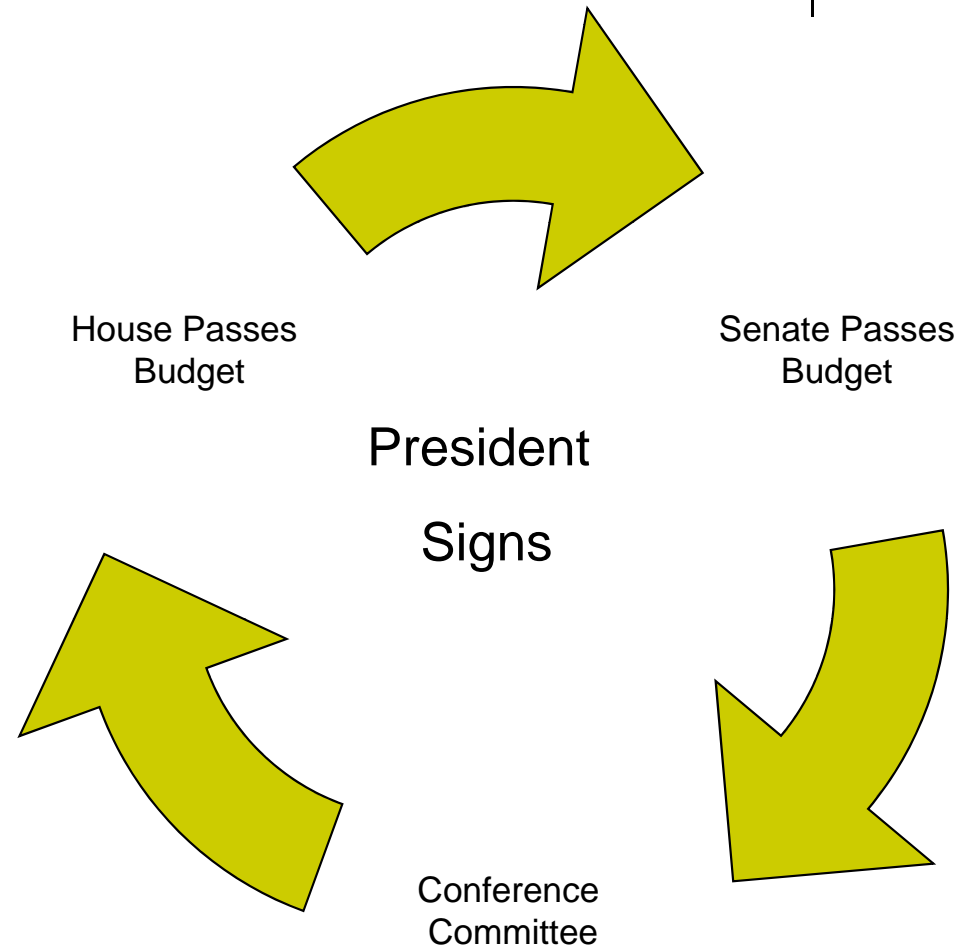
- **On-line information about existing evaluations.** Make information readily available online about all Federal evaluations focused on program impacts that are planned or already underway.
- **Inter-agency working group.** Establish a new inter-agency working group to promote stronger evaluation across the Federal government.
- **New, voluntary evaluation initiative.** Allocate a limited amount of funding for agencies which, on a voluntary basis, working to ensure evidence-based programs subject to rigorous evaluations to improve government programs in the future including identify impediments to rigorous program evaluation in their statutes or regulations.



# FY 2010 Appropriations

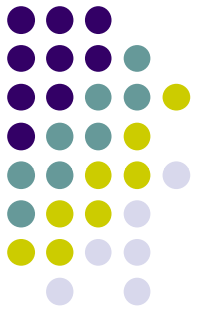
- **What is the Status?**

- Full House Passed Budget – July
- Senate Committee Passed Bill – August
- Full Senate Not Yet Voted
- ***Continuing Resolution*** – ends December 18 at FY 2009 levels

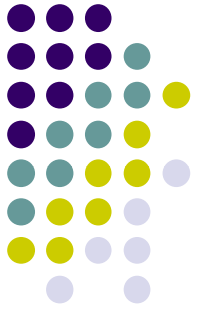


# FY 2011

## Budget/Appropriations



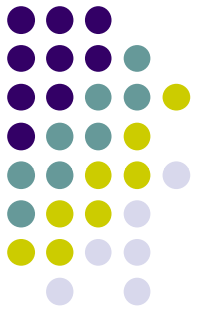
- Federal Year begins October 1, 2010
- Sign-On Letter to Secretary Duncan on FY'11 for Part C and 619 – October 2009
- President Provides Budget Request 2/10
- Congress develops Budget – No President Approval Needed
- Appropriations must be approved by House, Senate and President
- IDEA funds for July 1, 2011



# White House Call-In Days

- **Dec. 9th and 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **National White House Call-In Days**
- **Requesting Increases:**
  - \$3.7 billion for child care
  - \$3.7 billion for Head Start/Early Head Start
  - \$400 million for IDEA Preschool
  - \$500 million for IDEA Part C
- **Grass Roots Announcements Dec 9<sup>th</sup> AM**

# Medicaid News



- November 23, 2009 Federal Register
- Announced proposed rule, "Medicaid Program; Coverage for Rehabilitative Services" (72 FR 45201) originally published in the Federal Register on August 13, 2007 has been withdrawn.
- “In light of the clear congressional concern indicated by the statutory moratorium and the resolution opposing issuance of a final rule based on the proposed rule, as well as the complexity of the underlying issues and of the public comments received, we have decided to withdraw the August 2007 proposed rule in order to assure agency flexibility in re-examining the issues and exploring options and alternatives with stakeholders.”