

United States Congress

Influence Index: 100

General Information:

The United States House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce is dedicated to ensuring security and prosperity for American families in a changing economy. The committee and its five subcommittees oversee education and workforce programs impacting Americans at all stages and from all walks of life. In a changing economy driven by technology, competition, and knowledge, the Education and the Workforce Committee promotes constant improvement in education and secure access to health care, retirement security, and training for American workers. Created on January 7, 1997, the Committee has jurisdiction on education and labor issues.

United States Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) focuses on the evolving global economy and the need for a highly skilled workforce create new challenges for American workers. The HELP Committee works to ensure that America’s workforce is prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st Century through a lifetime of learning for its citizens. HELP has jurisdiction over various issues related to education and workforce development, including Head Start, the No Child Left Behind Act, Higher Education, the Arts and Humanities, Student Financial Assistance, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Job and Vocational Training and the Workforce Investment Act.

BASIC FACTS

Location Washington, D.C.

President/Director Rep. Howard P. “Buck” McKeon, Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce; Sen. Michael B. Enzi, Chairman, Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

Number of Staff House Education and the Workforce – 74; Senate HELP – 37 total, including 5 for education

Membership House Education and Workforce – 49 Representatives; Senate HELP – 20 Senators

FISCAL DATA

The U.S. Congress approved FY2006 discretionary appropriations for the U.S. Department of Education totaling \$57.55 billion. The budget included:

- Title I grants to districts \$12.71 billion
- Special education (IDEA) state grants (Part B-611) \$10.58 billion
- Vocational and technical education \$1.30 billion
- Pell Grants \$13.05 billion

Major Initiatives

The U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce and its five subcommittees (including the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness, Subcommittee on Education Reform, and Subcommittee on Select Education) and the Senate HELP Committee and its subcommittees (including the Subcommittee on Education and Early Childhood Development) have conducted hearings and passed legislation such as:

- No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 – JAN. 8, 2002 107th Congress (Public Law 107–110)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 – DEC. 3, 2004 108th Congress (Public Law 108–446)
- The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act (S. 250)

Contact Information

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Notes

Information gathered from websites of the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce and the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.