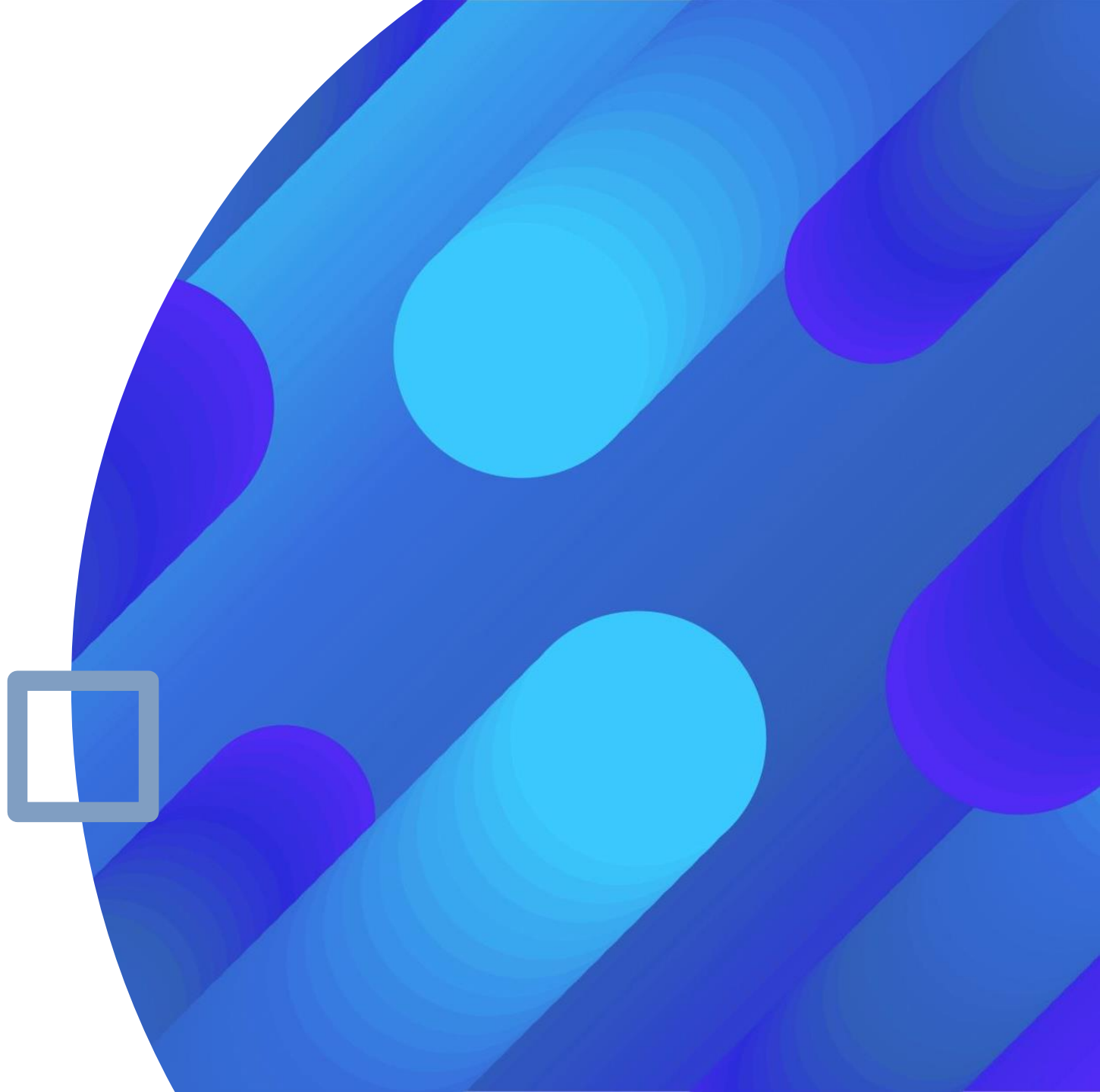




Federal Policy Update

Jon Bernstein

Bernstein Strategy Group





COVID-19 Relief Funding

US President Donald Trump:

“Now that we have witnessed it on a large scale basis, and firsthand, Virtual Learning has proven to be TERRIBLE compared to In School, or On Campus, Learning. Not even close! Schools must be open in the Fall. If not open, why would the Federal Government give Funding? It won't!!!”

COVID-19 Relief Funding

US Secretary of Education

Betsy DeVos: "American investment in education is a promise to students and their families. If schools aren't going to reopen and not fulfill that promise, they shouldn't get the funds, and give it to the families to decide to go to a school that is going to meet that promise."





COVID-19 Relief Funding

AFSA President Ernest Logan: “School leaders want to reopen their schools, on time and in person. In a time of social and emotional upheaval, our students have never needed us more...This is not going to be easy,” said Logan, noting that estimates on the additional funding needed range from at least \$158 billion to \$244 billion.

The CARES Act

- Enacted March 27
- Includes:
 - Governor's Emergency Ed Relief Fund - \$3.01 billion
 - K-12 - \$13.5 billion
 - Higher Ed - \$14.23 billion
- Uses:
 - Generally: Virtually anything
 - Specifically: "Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of individual schools."





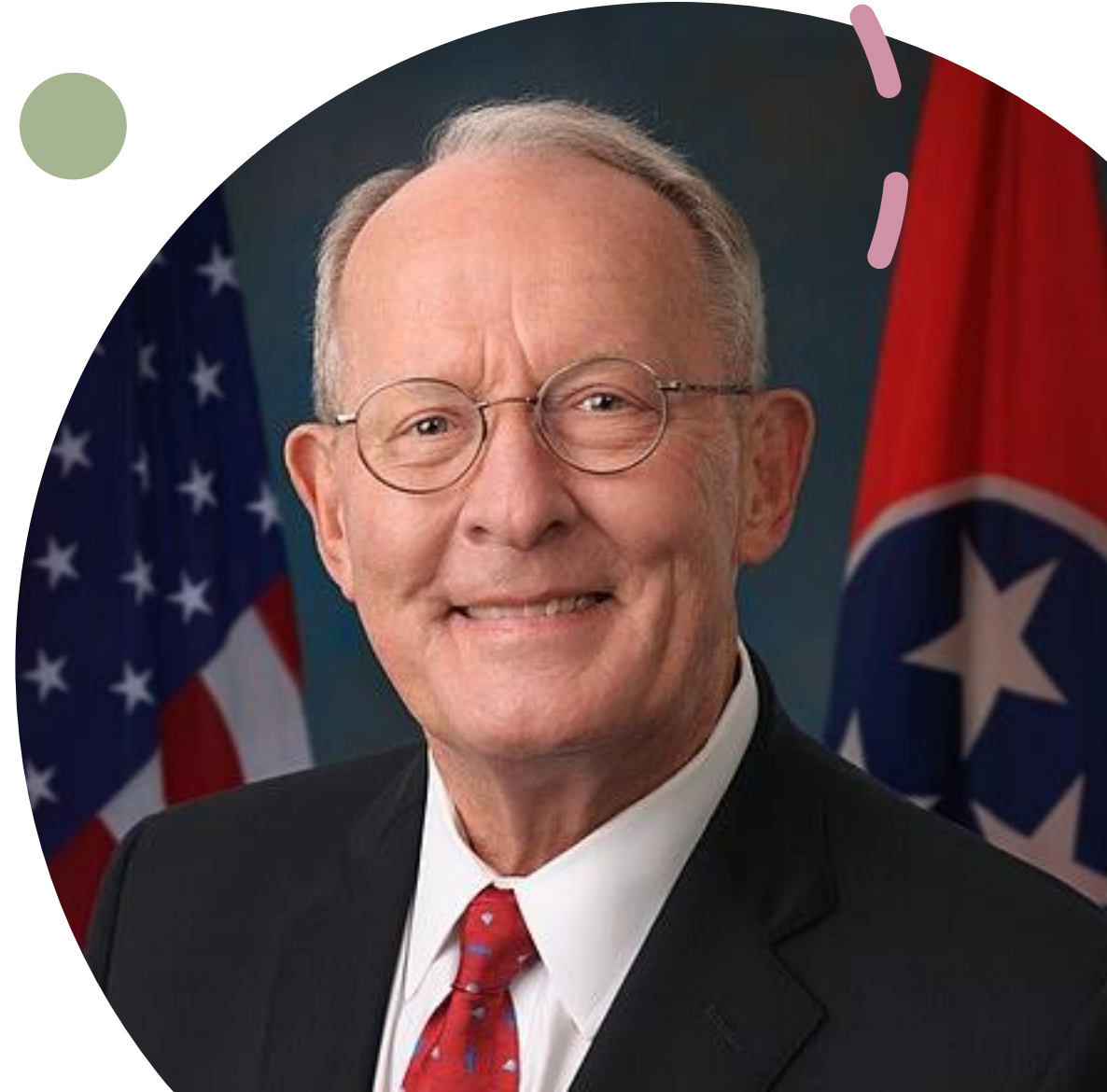
Next Round of COVID-19 Funding Coming

- House passed HEROES Act in May
 - \$3 trillion bill
 - Additional \$58 billion for K-12 and \$32 billion for higher education
 - \$1.5 billion for home connectivity
 - No additional education funding for state governors
- HEROES falls short of what education community sought -- \$175 billion for k-12 and \$5 billion for home connectivity
- Senate bill expected any day now

Fight for More Funding

- Republicans argue: No new money until CARES Act money is spent.
As of May 31, only 1% spent (GAO)
 - States slow to move money to districts
 - Districts have until September 2021 to spend the money
 - Confusion re. private school share of funding

But Senate HELP Committee Chair Lamar Alexander (R-TN) believes \$50-\$75 billion more needed





FY21 Funding

- House moved its bill through Committee last week - and the news is good
 - Title II-A +\$22.5 million
 - Title IV-A + \$10 million
 - Only cut is to charter schools
- House floor action expected by end of the month

FY21 Funding

- Beyond the numbers - great report language

“Research has consistently demonstrated that school leadership is second only to classroom instruction as an influence on student learning, and 97 percent of teachers say that the principal is responsible for determining if a school can attract and retain great teachers. The Committee particularly takes note of the fact that, under ESEA, States may reserve approximately three percent of their Title II-A formula allocations to carry out activities for principals and other school leaders and encourages States to make use of this optional reservation so as to maximize the impact of the Title II-A program. The Committee directs the Department to encourage, through guidance or technical assistance, SEAs to utilize the school leader three percent Title II-A set-aside to better drive school improvement efforts.”

FY21 Funding Outlook

- Senate has yet to launch its appropriations process
- Time running short
- Increasing likelihood of a Continuing Resolution through the election



What can you do?

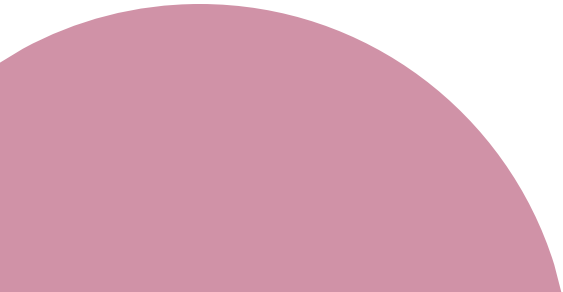


- The fight for more COVID-19 relief has begun
- We need more K-12 Education Stabilization funding for PPE, school cleaning, professional development, distance learning, etc.
- Schools need more funding to reopen in the fall
- **Time to e-mail, call, Tweet, etc. your Senators and Representatives that the next COVID-19 Relief bill cannot shortchange education - again**

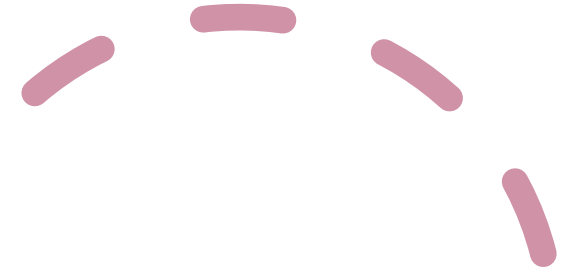


Questions

**RAISE
YOUR
HAND**



Contact Me



Jon
Bernstein

jon@bsg-
dc.com