



**Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel
Service Council Committee Report
2021-2022
October 8, 2021**

Committee Name:	Legislation and Education
Committee Chair/Co-Chairs:	Xochitl Garcia
Committee Members (if any):	
Committee Description: This committee shall specifically address itself to the concerns mentioned in Sections 2.2 (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i). Additionally, this committee shall make every effort to educate the Membership on pertinent legislative issues and the legislative process. Researches and reports on any state and national legislation which has an impact on educational equity programs and/or first-generation, low-income students, or students with disabilities.	

Committee Goals & Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep members informed about issues related to national and state legislation. ● Meet with the WESTOP Led/ED chair in order to align goals with the regional chapter. ● Serve as liaison among the Council for Opportunity in Education and WESTOP Leg/Ed Chairs. ● Collect data and organize information for CA Policy Fact Book ● Coordinate and attend SoCal WESTOP congressional visits during Policy Seminar

Committee Updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Government relations update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ COE urges the Department of Education to forgive TRIO educators' student debt, and improve Public Service Loan Forgiveness. ○ Build Back Better (Human Infrastructure) Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ September 25, the House Budget Committee voted for the \$3.5B Build back Better Act, with education investments including child care, pre-K, job training, school construction, school nutrition, Minority Serving Institutes and Historically Black colleges and universities. ○ Congress passed a nine-week continuing resolution to avert a government shutdown. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All federal programs with current funding levels will be kept through December 3. ○ COE Policy Seminar will take place March 20-23, 2022. ○ New Talent Search and EOC slates are out.



- U.S. Department of Education has updated the funding band slate for both Talent Search and EOC.

Recommendations

- Encourage membership to reach out to Members of Congress.
- Look out for “action alerts” from COE

Action Items

- N/A

Respectfully Submitted,

Xochitl Garcia