

NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER PRIORITIES AND NAC SIGN-ONS BY U.S. PROVINCE LEADERS: April 2022

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NAC FOCUS AREA: IMMIGRATION

ISSUE: ANTI-ASYLUM MEASURES

General Content: In light of the recent anti-asylum measures that have been introduced in an attempt to keep Title 42 in place, including the *Public Health and Border Security Act of 2022* and the House companion, the letter opposes these measures and any attempts to keep Title 42 in place.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: Church World Service

ISSUE: TITLE IV OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

General Content: Letter to urge Congress to include in the final budget reconciliation language that expands access to federal financial aid under Title IV of the Higher Education Act to DACA recipients and DED and TPS holders. This expansion would allow Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders access to federal financial aid to support them in pursuing their higher education goals.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: The President's Alliance

NAC FOCUS AREA: POVERTY

ISSUE: DEDICATING IRS RESOURCES FOR SPECIAL CASES OF 2021 CHILD TAX CREDIT (CTC) CLAIMS NOT YET PROCESSED

General Content: Memo to Treasury highlighting a number of issues families' have experienced filing and accessing their CTC this spring, and calling for immediate support.

Sent to: Wally Adeyemo, Thomas West, and Michael Schmidt, Department of Treasury

CC: Nadiya Beckwith-Stanley and Brendan Duke, Executive Office of the President

Sponsored by: ABC - Coalition

ISSUE: Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations in FY 2023

General Content: Letter to lead appropriators in Congress seeking an adequate share of funding for Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations in FY 2023. This is a critical decision period in which House and Senate appropriators and Congressional leadership must decide on funding for appropriations overall and how it will be divided among the 12 appropriations subcommittees. The Labor-HHS-Education subcommittee covers funding for health care, research, and public health protections, substance use and mental health disorder prevention and treatment, job training, protections for workers, childcare, Head Start, and other children's services, assistance for seniors and people with disabilities, education from pre-k through college,

help for immigrants, heating and cooling assistance, anti-poverty programs, and much more. Many of these programs have lost ground for years; the letter gives examples and calls for funding adequate to meet today's needs.

Sent to: House and Senate Appropriations Committee Chairs and Ranking Members: Senate: The Patrick Leahy, Richard Shelby and House: Rosa DeLauro, Kay Granger

Sponsored by: Coalition on Human Need

ISSUE: COVID-19 VACCINATIONS EFFORTS ACROSS THE WORLD AND SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS AT THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND TO RESPOND TO UKRAINE

General Content: Letter stressing the deteriorating economic and humanitarian conditions around the world and asking for help for so that developing countries may respond to the ongoing fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting global economic downturn, and now, the devastating war in Ukraine. Congress must quickly approve essential funding toward global vaccination efforts as the Administration has requested in order to address the rise of variants across the world and fight the virus here in the United States. In addition, immediately support a new issuance of at least \$650 billion in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) — a simple, rapid, and cost-free way to enable Ukraine, its neighboring allies, and developing countries to respond to, and build back better from, these combined international crises.

Sent to: President Biden, Secretary Yellen and Members of Congress

Sponsored by: African Faith and Justice Network

ISSUE: CHILD TAX CREDIT

General Content: Last July, the monthly Child Tax Credit payments slashed childhood poverty by 30%, lifting 3 million children out of poverty! Inversely, 3.7 million children fell into poverty when the monthly credits ended in January. The expanded and fully refundable monthly Child Tax Credit payments to ensure families can put food on the table and pay their bills must be brought back. A budget is a reflection of our values, our current budget harms families by underinvesting in our people and our communities. The expanded Child Tax Credit has been a manifestation of answering the moral call to 'love one another.' It's time to build a better kind of politics with children at the center.

Sent to: Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Members of U.S. Congress

Sponsored by: Network

ISSUE: OPPORTUNITY YOUTH

General Content: A letter to Congress urging them to ensure that Opportunity Youth, youth of color, youth experiencing poverty, and the programs that serve them receive a robust amount of funds for FY23. With the recent report from Measure of America estimating that there are now approximately 4.9 million Opportunity Youth in the United States, or one in eight youth and young adults between ages 16 and 24, now is a critical time for Congress to act and invest in the proven programs and solutions that support our young people.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: The Forum for Youth Investment

ISSUE: RECONCILE FY23 APPROPRIATIONS REGARDING PRIORITIES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

General Content: Letter urging Congress to quickly pass a historic reconciliation bill that prioritizes clean energy investments, health care, the expanded and permanently fully refundable Child Tax Credit, home and community-based services and childcare.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: Washington Interreligious Community

- Also, Environment

ISSUE: PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS ACT (PWFA)

General Content: A Mother's Day card will be sent to members of the Senate asking them to honor mothers and mothers-to-be by passing the Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act. The bill passed in the house last Spring with bi-partisan support and is waiting to be passed in the Senate. Pregnant workers shouldn't be forced to choose between their job and a safe pregnancy because then can't get the accommodations they need to stay healthy and working.

Sent to: Members of the Senate

Sponsored by: The PWFA Coalition

ISSUE: FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN FY23

General Content: Letter urging Congress to provide the highest possible funding for affordable housing and community development programs in FY2023. Congress has underfunded these resources for decades, and the staggering increase in rents across the country requires significantly increased funding to maintain the current level of people being served by vital HUD and USDA programs.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: National Low Income Housing Coalition

ISSUE: CHILD CARE FUNDING

General Content: A letter calling on Leader Schumer to prioritize investments in childcare funds to help benefit workers and parents. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the undeniable connection between access to childcare and a stable workforce that supports a strong economy, as well as the deep inequities of a childcare system that relies on families paying unaffordable sums, early educators being paid poverty-level wages, and too many counties across the country lacking the workforce or facilities needed to meet childcare demands.

Sent to: Senator Chuck Schumer, Senate Majority Leader

Sponsored by: National Employment Law Project

NAC: OTHER RELATED AREAS

Explanation of RELATED AREAS (Root Causes, implicated in the Concern, or Current Situation). These would generally be contained within a FOCUS AREA. They include but are not limited to: **COVID-19, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, FAMILIES, RACISM, and VIOLENCE.**

AREA: ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

ISSUE: FUNDING INCREASE IN SUPPORT OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND INVESTMENT TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

General Content: The letter asks for substantially increased funding in FY23 to support foreign assistance, including investments to address the causes and consequences of climate change. The request is to support a Fiscal Year 2023 302(b) allocation for the subcommittee of at least \$72.9 billion to support critical development goals and dedicate at least \$6.744 billion of that account for direct climate change programs.

Sent to: House Committee on Appropriations and Sub-committee Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies

Sponsored by: T.M. Rawe Consulting

ISSUE: SAVE OAK FLAT ACT

General Content: We joined a letter sent on Earth Day to Congress asking them to pass the Save Oak Flat Act. Oak Flat is currently within Tonto National Forest in Arizona and is considered sacred by the San Carlos Apache Tribe and several other southwestern tribes. The 2015 NDAA included a provision that requires the land be given to a mining company with the filing of a final environmental impact statement. The Save Oak Flat Act would repeal this authorization and ensure the permanent protection of Oak Flat.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (BJC)

AREA: RACISM

ISSUE: ASIAN CONCERN ABOUT RACIST/NEGATIVE RHETORIC

General Content: Colleagues of the AAPM in Ohio (where we have a presence) made an urgent national request for solidarity with AAPI Ohioans who are working to address the dangerous, xenophobic rhetoric in Congressman Tim Ryan's recent "One Word" campaign ad. Rep. Ryan is the Democratic frontrunner for the U.S. Senate race in Ohio. It asks to eliminate all future nationalist, fear mongering rhetoric from his campaign. We strongly resonate with the desire to meet the urgent needs of working Ohioans and change the priorities of the U.S. Senate, and we understand legitimate criticisms of the Chinese government are valid and necessary. However,

the decision to stoke fear and anger against an inflated China threat is dangerous and unacceptable.

Sent to: National Open Letter

Sponsored by: Asian American Midwest Progressives (AAMP) i

AREA: VIOLENCE

ISSUE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS HAVING ACCESS TO CHILD CARE

General Content: Letter detailing why it's so important survivors have access to affordable, reliable, and flexible childcare and why Congress should prioritize those concepts when drafting childcare legislation or funding childcare proposals.

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: Futures Without Violence

ISSUE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS HAVING ACCESS TO CHILD CARE

General Content: The brief details the importance of domestic violence survivors having access to affordable, reliable, and flexible childcare. Research shows that the inability to access affordable, reliable, and flexible childcare can keep survivors out of the workforce, force them to remain with abusive partners for financial stability, and endanger the health, safety, and wellbeing of their children. This brief outlines why it is critical that survivors have access to childcare that fits their unique needs.

Sent to: Congress and as a newsletter to others

Sponsored by: Futures Without Violence

ISSUE: Ending Corporal Punishment in All Schools -- Protecting Our Students in Schools Act (POSSA)

General Content: The letter calls for an end corporal punishment by 12pm on April 28, 2022. It calls for implementation of the Protecting Our Students in Schools Act, to end corporal punishment in schools that receive federal funding. Corporal punishment is one way that students are funneled into the school-to-prison pipeline and exposes Black and Brown students, youth and children to violence, assault, stress and trauma. This practice of paddling, spanking, hitting or beating Black students in schools must end NOW!

Sent to: Members of Congress

Sponsored by: The Federal School Discipline and Climate Coalition (FedSDC)

- Also, Racism

ISSUE: NDD (NON-DEFENSE DISCRETIONARY) FUNDING FY23

General Content: Letter urging Congress to significantly increase the funding for non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending to provide sufficient allocations to the committees of jurisdiction that fund critical federal programs that address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. In addition to the already high rates of domestic violence, dating violence and sexual assault, the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted survivors. Survivors are at extreme risk in a time of heightened economic, health, familial, and emotional trauma. In addition to the already high rates of domestic violence, dating violence and sexual assault, the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted survivors.

Sent to: Appropriations Committee: Chairman Leahy and Vice Chairman Shelby, Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger

Sponsored by: National Domestic Violence Hotline

- Also, Covid-19

STATEMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH ADVOCACY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

AREA: IMMIGRATION

General Content: We signed on to a Comment Statement regarding Public Charge regulatory Reform along with 1000 organizations in all of the states in the USA and the District of Columbia. It had to do with regulation that the TRUMP Administration used to deny immigrants and their families benefits. It is now being significantly modified.

Sponsored by: Springboard Partners

BRIEFS

ISSUE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS HAVING ACCESS TO CHILD CARE

General Content: The brief details the importance of domestic violence survivors having access to affordable, reliable, and flexible childcare. Research shows that the inability to access affordable, reliable, and flexible childcare can keep survivors out of the workforce, force them to remain with abusive partners for financial stability, and endanger the health, safety, and wellbeing of their children. This brief outlines why it is critical that survivors have access to childcare that fits their unique needs.

Sent to: Congress and as a newsletter to others

Sponsored by: Futures Without Violence

ACTION ALERTS

End Housing Discrimination against Domestic Violence Survivors

Earth Day: Urge Congress to Protect Sacred Indigenous Land from Destruction