

NCDA Advocacy Report

Last Updated: May 06, 2021

Congressional Update

As May gets underway, the main story that we are monitoring in Washington is the negotiation over a bipartisan infrastructure package. In late March, President Biden proposed the American Jobs Plan, an ambitious, \$2 trillion infrastructure plan. However, this plan goes beyond investments in roads, bridges, and waterway systems. The Democrats' proposal takes an expansive view of infrastructure and invests in clean drinking water, renewable energy, and broadband.

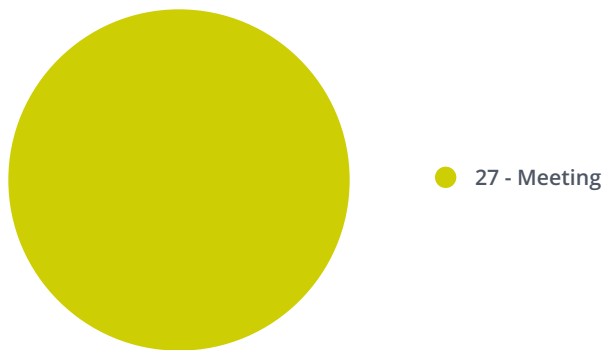
In many ways, the initial stimulus package that the Democrats and the Administration ushered through Congress via budget reconciliation may end up being the most straightforward thing they do in the first two years. The President took over while the economy was still shedding jobs and the argument for stimulus spending was easy to make. Now, the economy is on the rebound, cases are down, and people are back to work. The argument for another \$4 trillion in spending is a more difficult lift in Congress.

Speaker Pelosi has stated that she would like an infrastructure bill on the House floor by early July. That would require committees to hold markups this month. To meet this timeline, Democrats and the White House will need to decide to continue to seek a bipartisan infrastructure deal or pass their infrastructure proposal via reconciliation.

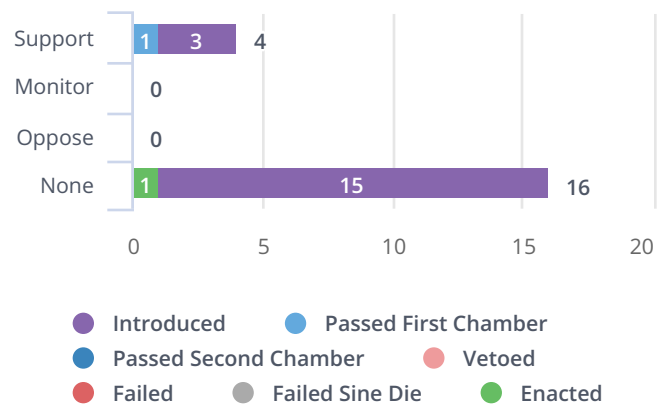
The other half of the Biden proposal is the American Families Plan. This proposal also includes roughly \$2 trillion in spending and includes tax increases on top earners and corporations, which would fully pay for the expenditures within 15 years. The proposal invests in free community college, additional higher education investments, universal pre-school, and direct support to children and families. Many proposal components have bipartisan support, but the bill will never earn enough Republican support to pass as a package. It will need to be broken up into bipartisan pieces, and Democrats will attempt to pass the rest through budget reconciliation.

The Democrats' do not have much time to pass these two bills. There is a sense of urgency in the caucus that they must pass significant, transformative legislation this year to make the case to the American people next year that they deserve to remain in control of Congress. Once we get into the fall and next year, the window will likely close as the election heats up. The following 100 days are some of the most critical for the Biden Administration and Democrats in Congress.

All Team Actions



Bills by Last Status and Position



Tracked Legislation

Priority: High (4)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 447	Referred To The Subcommittee On Crime Terrorism And Homeland Security 2021 03 05	In Senate	Support	High	69.8% 84.7%
Title		Introduction Date: 2021-01-25				
National Apprenticeship Act of 2021						
Description						
<p>National Apprenticeship Act of 2021 This bill provides statutory authority for the registered apprenticeship program within the Department of Labor, provides for related grant programs, and contains related provisions. The bill provides statutory authority for the Office of Apprenticeship (OA) within Labor. The OA's responsibilities include (1) supporting the development of apprenticeship models; (2) recognizing qualified state apprenticeship agencies, and operating apprenticeship offices in states without a recognized agency; (3) providing technical assistance to state agencies; (4) periodically updating requirements for each occupation in the apprenticeship program and determining whether to approve new occupations for the program; (5) promoting greater diversity in the national apprenticeship system; and (6) awarding grants provided under this bill. The bill also establishes in statute the responsibilities of state apprenticeship agencies and offices, including (1) providing technical assistance to stakeholders, (2) resolving complaints, (3) establishing state performance goals, and (4) including in its written plan a description of how its apprenticeship programs align with the skills needs of the state's employers. The OA shall enter into an agreement with the Department of Education to promote the integration and alignment of apprenticeship programs with secondary, postsecondary, and adult education. The OA shall award grants to eligible entities to (1) expand national apprenticeship system programs, including by expanding pre-apprenticeship and youth apprenticeship programs; (2) encourage employer participation; and (3) strengthen alignment between the apprenticeship system and education providers. The bill provides statutory authority for criteria for various programs, including (1) quality standards for apprenticeships, (2) requirements for apprenticeship agreements between a program sponsor and an apprentice, and (3) acceptable uses for grant funds awarded under this bill.</p>						
Primary Sponsors						
Bobby Scott						

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 52	Introduced In Senate 2021 01 26	In Senate	Support	High	3.6% 54.9%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-01-26
Gateway to Careers Act of 2021

Description
Gateway to Careers Act of 2021 This bill establishes a career pathway grant program through which the Department of Education must award competitive grants to certain public institutions of higher education and postsecondary technical education schools. Grant recipients must use these funds to (1) carry out activities that support the development and implementation of career pathway programs, and (2) provide support services to students engaged in career pathway programs.

Primary Sponsors
Maggie Hassan

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 200	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2021 02 03	In Senate	Support	High	4.3% 57.5%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-03
Relaunching America's Workforce Act

Primary Sponsors
Patty Murray

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 396	Introduced In Senate 2021 02 23	In Senate	Support	High	28.0% 56.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-23
Apprenticeship Hubs Across America Act of 2021

Primary Sponsors
Chris Coons

Priority: None (16)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 487	Referred To The Subcommittee On Nutrition Oversight And Department Operations 2021 02 24	In House	None	None	5.3% 52.7%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-01-25
RESET for America's Future Act

Primary Sponsors
Abigail Spanberger

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 602	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 01 28	In House	None	None	15.3% 51.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-01-28
Relaunching America's Workforce Act

Primary Sponsors
Bobby Scott

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 636	Referred To The Subcommittee On Immigration And Citizenship 2021 03 22	In House	None	None	7.8% 53.7%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-01
PARTNERS Act

Primary Sponsors
Suzanne Bonamici

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 683	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 02	In House	None	None	7.7% 48.0%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-02
Apprenticeship Access for All Act of 2021

Primary Sponsors
Alma Adams

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 691	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 02	In House	None	None	4.5% 51.5%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-02
Expanding Opportunity through Pre-Apprenticeships Act

Primary Sponsors
Tony Cardenas

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 702	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 02	In House	None	None	9.1% 54.2%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-02
To direct the Secretary of Labor to award grants to develop, administer, and evaluate early childhood education apprenticeships, and for other purposes.

Primary Sponsors
Brett Guthrie

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 703	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 02	In House	None	None	5.3% 45.4%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-02
Apprenticeship Futures for All Act

Primary Sponsors
Pramila Jayapal

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 720	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 02	In House	None	None	4.5% 54.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-02
CHANCE in TECH Act

Primary Sponsors
Seth Moulton

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 854	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 04	In House	None	None	6.5% 48.4%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-04
Youth Corps Act of 2021

Primary Sponsors
Freddie Wilson

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1225	Referred To The Subcommittee On Immigration And Citizenship 2021 04 28	In House	None	None	6.6% 54.4%

Title

National Security Diversity and Inclusion Workforce Act of 2021

Introduction Date: 2021-02-23

Description

National Security Diversity and Inclusion Workforce Act of 2021
 This bill requires each national security agency to report on its diversity and inclusion efforts. The bill defines diversity as diversity of persons based on gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, and other demographic categories. It also requires each such agency to * develop a system to collect and analyze applicant employment data to identify areas for improvement in attracting diverse talent, with emphasis on senior and management positions; * conduct periodic interviews with a representative cross-section of the national security workforce to obtain workplace information; * sponsor workforce members to participate in a Senior Executive Service candidate development program or similar program; * implement performance and advancement requirements for the workforce; * create opportunities for senior personnel to participate in outreach events and to discuss issues relating to diversity and inclusion; and * expand training on bias in the workplace and flexible work policies. The bill encourages agencies to expand professional development and career advancement opportunities that support their missions and to seek a diverse and talented pool of employment applicants by reaching out to educational organizations and professional associations.

Primary Sponsors

Gerry Connolly

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
US	HR 1319	Became Public Law No 117 2 2021 03 11	Enacted	None	None

Title

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Introduction Date: 2021-02-24**Description**

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 This bill provides additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses. Specifically, the bill provides funding for * agriculture and nutrition programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program); * schools and institutions of higher education; * child care and programs for older Americans and their families; * COVID-19 vaccinations, testing, treatment, and prevention; * mental health and substance-use disorder services; * emergency rental assistance, homeowner assistance, and other housing programs; * payments to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments for economic relief; * multiemployer pension plans; * small business assistance, including specific programs for restaurants and live venues; * programs for health care workers, transportation workers, federal employees, veterans, and other targeted populations; * international and humanitarian responses; * tribal government services; * scientific research and development; * state, territorial, and tribal capital projects that enable work, education, and health monitoring in response to COVID-19; and * health care providers in rural areas. The bill also includes provisions that * extend unemployment benefits and related services; * make up to \$10,200 of 2020 unemployment compensation tax-free; * make student loan forgiveness tax-free through 2025; * provide a maximum recovery rebate of \$1,400 per eligible individual; * expand and otherwise modify certain tax credits, including the child tax credit and the earned income tax credit; * provide premium assistance for certain health insurance coverage; and * require coverage, without cost-sharing, of COVID-19 vaccines and treatment under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Primary Sponsors

John Yarmuth

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1402	Referred To The House Committee On Education And Labor 2021 02 26	In House	None	None	4.5% 41.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-26
More Choice for Career Training Act of 2021

Description
More Choice for Career Training Act of 2021 This bill requires the Department of Education to develop an alternative certification program that allows students to use Pell Grants for enrollment in educational programs that have existed for at least five years and would not otherwise be eligible. The alternative certification program may not require accreditation, state authorization, minimum instructional hours, or minimum classroom time for an educational program to be eligible.

Primary Sponsors
John Carter

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 2174	Introduced In House 2021 03 23	In House	None	None	7.7% 51.0%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-03-23
To establish a rural postsecondary and economic development grant program.

Primary Sponsors
Elise Stefanik

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 186	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2021 02 02	In Senate	None	None	78.0% 53.1%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-02-02
Early Educators Apprenticeship Act

Primary Sponsors
Todd Young

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 885	Introduced In Senate 2021 03 22	In Senate	None	None	3.9% 54.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2021-03-22
Success for Rural Students and Communities Act of 2021

Primary Sponsors
Susan Collins

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 1026	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2021 03 25	In Senate	None	None	12.9% 52.2%

Title
American Apprenticeship Act

Introduction Date: 2021-03-25

Primary Sponsors
Amy Klobuchar

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