

U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #138, JUNE 2015

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to the editor Angela O. Bedenbaugh at Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com. We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

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ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT UPDATE (ESEANCLB)

In a recent speech Secretary of Education Duncan called for more money and more resources than teachers and schools currently receive. “... no family should be denied preschool for their children, and (a law that) reflects the real scientific understanding that learning begins at birth, not somehow at age 5.” He noted that not enough children have the preschool education experience that would prepare them for either kindergarten or first grade. Additionally, upon high school graduation many students are not academically prepared to take college classes or to start a career. Most colleges offer remedial courses for these students; however, taking remedial courses means that the students or their parents are paying more money for tuition. Taking remedial courses lengthens the time needed to get a college degree. He expressed the belief that elementary and secondary schools should provide education in the arts, history, foreign languages, and advanced mathematics and science. He also expressed the belief that teachers should have pay commensurate with the importance of the work they are asked to do. He noted that testing should not take up so much time from actual classroom instruction. Unfortunately, much of what the Secretary recommended is not in either the House or the Senate version of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The Senate version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is entitled “Every Child Achieves Act of 2015” (S.1177). Floor debate on this bill in the Senate will begin July 7. No summary of the bill is available at Congress.gov.

AAUW AND “ELECT HER”

The Association of American University Women (AAUW) has the project “Elect Her” in which the organization works to get college women elected to campus positions. This year nine of the women whom AAUW supported won positions on college and university campuses. The organization believes that in order to have women represented in larger

numbers at the state and national levels, the effort begins with college age women. Although women comprise more than 50% of the population, currently less than 20% of elected nation-wide positions are held by women. To see the women AAUW helped win, go to <http://www.aauw.org/2015/06/26/these-campus-women-won/>

CAR AIR BAG LOOKUP

With the recent concern over problems with airbags in cars, one should check to see if a car you own is one of those which has air bags that cause serious injury or death. To see whether or not your car is on the list go to <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Owners/vin-lookup-sites>

FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE: <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard [1-866-327-8670](tel:1-866-327-8670) [this is a toll free number]. You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

Email access and addresses

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate
White House [1-202-456-1111](tel:1-202-456-1111)

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.