

FEDERAL EDUCATION POLICYMAKERS, 1941 - 2009

This outline of key legislators, administration officials, and education policy actions by the federal government is a product of the States' Impact on Federal Education Policy Project (SIFEPP), a national initiative led by the New York State Archives and funded by The New York Community Trust – Wallace Foundation Special Projects Fund. It complements the project's historical overview essay, *Federal Education Policy and the States, 1945-2004: A Brief Synopsis*.

Visit the project website (www.sifepp.nysed.gov) for an online version of this document that provides links to archival collections of many of these policymakers, the historical overview essay, and other resources, as well as access to archival materials nationwide related to education policy.

Historical Note: The federal Office of Education was created on March 2, 1867. It became part of the Department of the Interior on July 1, 1889. As of July 1, 1939 it was placed under the Federal Security Agency of the Department of the Interior where it remained until the creation of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) in 1953. The Commissioner of Education reported directly to the Secretary of HEW until 1972 when an Education Division was created, headed by the Assistant Secretary for Education. The Office of the Commissioner of Education ceased to exist when the Department of Education was created in 1980.

ADMINISTRATION

President:	Franklin D. Roosevelt (D) 1941 - 1944
Secretary of the Interior:	Harold LeClair Ickes
Commissioner of Education:	John Ward Studebaker
Major education actions:	1941 – Lanham (Public War Housing) Act (P.L. 77-849) [Note 1] 1944 – Serviceman's Readjustment Act (G.I. Bill; P.L. 78-346) [Note 1]

77th Congress (1941-1942)

SENATE:	66-Dem, 28-Rep, 2-Other
Vice-President:	Henry A. Wallace (D)
Majority Leader:	Alben Barkley (D-KY)
Minority Leader:	Charles L. McNary (R-OR)
Committee:	Education and Labor
	Chair: Elbert D. Thomas (D-UT)
	Ranking Minority Member: Robert A. Taft (R-OH)

HOUSE:	267-Dem, 162-Rep, 6-Other
Speaker:	Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Majority Leader:	John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Minority Leader:	Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee:	Committee on Education
	Chair: William H. Larrabee (D-IN)
	Ranking Minority Member: George A. Dondero (R-MI)

78th Congress (1943-1944)

SENATE:	57-Dem, 38-Rep, 1-Other
Vice-President:	Henry A. Wallace (D)
Majority Leader:	Alben Barkley (D-KY)
Minority Leader:	Wallace H. White, Jr. (R-ME)
Committee:	Education and Labor
	Chair: Elbert D. Thomas (D-UT)
	Ranking Minority Member: Robert A. Taft (R-OH)

HOUSE: 222-Dem, 209-Rep, 4-Other
Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Minority Leader: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee: Committee on Education
Chair: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)
Ranking Minority Member: George A. Dondero (R-MI)

ADMINISTRATION

President: Franklin D. Roosevelt (D) 1945 - 1945 (died April 12, 1945)
Harry S. Truman (D) 1945 - 1948
Secretary of the Interior: Harold LeClair Ickes
Julius Albert Krug, March 18, 1946
Commissioner of Education: John Ward Studebaker
Major education actions: 1946 – George-Barden Act/Vocational Education Act (P.L. 79-586) [Note 1]
1946 – Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (P.L. 79-396) [Note 6]

79th Congress (1945-1946)

SENATE: 57-Dem, 38-Rep, 1-Other
Vice-President: Harry S. Truman (D), until 4/12/45, then vacant.
Majority Leader: Alben Barkley (D-KY)
Minority Leader: Wallace H. White, Jr. (R-ME)
Committee: Education and Labor
Chair: James E. Murray (D-MT)
Ranking Minority Member: Robert A. Taft (R-OH)

HOUSE: 242-Dem, 191-Rep, 2-Other
Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Minority Leader: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee: Committee on Education
Chair: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)
Ranking Minority Member: George A. Dondero (R-MI)

80th Congress (1947-1948)

SENATE: 51-Rep, 45-Dem.
Vice-President: (vacant)
Majority Leader: Wallace H. White, Jr. (R-ME)
Minority Leader: Alben Barkley (D-KY)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Robert A. Taft (R-OH)
Ranking Minority Member: Elbert D. Thomas (D-UT)

HOUSE: 246-Rep, 188-Dem, 1-Other
Speaker: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Majority Leader: Charles A. Halleck (R-IN)
Minority Leader: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Fred A. Hartley, Jr. (R-NJ)
Ranking Minority Member: John Lesinski (D-MI)

ADMINISTRATION

President: Harry S. Truman (D) 1949 - 1952
Secretary of the Interior: Julius Albert Krug
Oscar Littleton Chapman (December 1, 1949)
Commissioner of Education: Earl James McGrath
Major education actions: 1949 – President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities
[Note 4]
1949 – Federal Property and Administrative Services Act (P.L. 81-852)
(Sections 202 & 203) [Note 4]
1950 – Impact Aid Laws (P.L. 81-815 & P.L. 81-874) [Note 1]

81st Congress (1949-1950)

SENATE: 54-Dem, 42-Rep.
Vice-President: Alben W. Barkley (D)
Majority Leader: Scott W. Lucas (D-IL)
Minority Leader: Kenneth S. Wherry (R-NE)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Elbert D. Thomas (D-UT)
Ranking Minority Member: Robert A. Taft (R-OH)

HOUSE: 263-Dem, 171-Rep, 1-Other
Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Minority Leader: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: John Lesinski, 1949-1950 (D-MI),
Graham A. Barden, 1950 (D-NC)
Ranking Minority Member: Samuel K. McConnell (R-PA)

82nd Congress (1951-1952)

SENATE: 49-Dem, 47-Rep.
Vice-President: Alben W. Barkley (D)
Majority Leader: Ernest W. McFarland (D-AZ)
Minority Leader: Kenneth S. Wherry (R-NE)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: James E. Murray (D-MT)
Ranking Minority Member: Robert A. Taft (R-OH)

HOUSE: 235-Dem, 199-Rep, 1-Other
Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Minority Leader: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)
Ranking Minority Member: Samuel K. McConnell (R-PA)

ADMINISTRATION

President: Dwight D. Eisenhower (R) 1953 - 1956
Secretary of Interior: Douglas McKay
Secretary of H.E.W.: Oveta Culp Hobby
Marion B. Folsom (July 20, 1955)
Commissioner of Education: Lee M. Thurston
Samuel M. Brownell
Major education actions: 1953 – Reorganization Plan I (creating the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare)
1956 – (P.L. 84-825)
1956 – Social Security Amendments of 1956 (P.L. 84-880)
1956 – (P.L. 84-922)

83rd Congress (1953-1954)

SENATE: 48-Rep, 47-Dem, 1-Other
Vice-President: Richard M. Nixon (R)
Majority Leader: Robert A. Taft (R-OH), died July 31, 1953.
William F. Knowland (R-CA), elected August 4, 1953.
Minority Leader: Lyndon B. Johnson (D-TX)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: H. Alexander Smith (R-NJ)
Ranking Minority Member: James E. Murray (D-MT)

HOUSE: 221-Rep, 213-Dem, 1-Other
Speaker: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Majority Leader: Charles A. Halleck (R-IN)
Minority Leader: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Samuel K. McConnell, Jr. (R-PA)
Ranking Minority Member: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)

84th Congress (1955-1956)

SENATE: 48-Dem, 47-Rep, 1-Other
Vice-President: Richard M. Nixon (R)
Majority Leader: Lyndon B. Johnson (D-TX)
Minority Leader: William F. Knowland (R-CA)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)
Ranking Minority Member: H. Alexander Smith (R-NJ)

HOUSE: 232-Dem, 203-Rep.
Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Minority Leader: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)
Ranking Minority Member: Samuel K. McConnell, Jr. (R-PA)

ADMINISTRATION:

President: **Dwight D. Eisenhower (R) 1957 - 1960**
 Secretary of H.E.W.: Marion B. Folsom
 Arthur S. Flemming (1958)
 Commissioner of Education: Lawrence G. Derthick
Major education actions: 1957 – LOC to Purchase Books & Sound Reproductions for the Blind (P.L. 85-308)
 1958 – National Defense Education Act (NDEA; P.L. 85-864) [Note 1]
 1958 – Education of Mentally Retarded Children Act of 1958 (P.L. 85-926)

85th Congress (1957-1958)

SENATE: 49-Dem, 47-Rep.
 Vice-President: Richard M. Nixon (R)
 Majority Leader: Lyndon B. Johnson (D-TX)
 Minority Leader: William F. Knowland (R-CA)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
 Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)
 Ranking Minority Member: H. Alexander Smith (R-NJ)

HOUSE: 234-Dem, 201-Rep.
 Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
 Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
 Minority Leader: Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (R-MA)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
 Chair: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)
 Ranking Minority Member: Samuel K. McConnell, Jr. (R-PA)

86th Congress (1959-1960)

SENATE: 65-Dem, 35-Rep.
 Vice-President: Richard M. Nixon (R)
 Majority Leader: Lyndon B. Johnson (D-TX)
 Minority Leader: Everett M. Dirksen (R-IL)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
 Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)
 Ranking Minority Member: Barry M. Goldwater (R-AZ)

HOUSE: 283-Dem, 153-Rep, 1-Other
 Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX)
 Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
 Minority Leader: Charles A. Halleck (R-IN)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
 Chair: Graham A. Barden (D-NC)
 Ranking Minority Member: Carroll D. Kearns (R-PA)

ADMINISTRATION

President: **John F. Kennedy (D) 1961 – 1963** (died November 22, 1963)
Lyndon B. Johnson (D) 1963 - 1964
 Secretary of H.E.W.: Abraham A. Ribicoff
 Anthony J. Celebrezze (1962)
 Commissioner of Education: Sterling M. McMurrin (1961-1962)
 Francis Keppel (1963-1965)
Major education actions: 1961 – Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Offences Control Act (P.L. 87-274)
 1962 – Manpower Development and Training Act (P.L. 87-415)
 1962 – Educational Television Act (P.L. 87-447)

1963 – Maternal and Child Health and Mental Retardation Planning Act (P.L. 88-156)
1963 – Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Construction Act (P.L. 88-164)
1963 – Higher Education Facilities Act (P.L. 88-204) [Note 3]
1963 – Vocational Education Act (P.L. 88-210)
1964 – Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (P.L. 88-352) [Note 1]
1964 – Economic Opportunity Act (including Adult Basic Education; P.L. 88-452)
1964 – National Defense Education Act Amendments (P.L. 88-665)

87th Congress (1961-1962)

SENATE: 64-Dem, 36-Rep.

Vice-President: Lyndon B. Johnson (D)
Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)
Minority Leader: Everett M. Dirksen (R-IL)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)
Ranking Minority Member: Barry M. Goldwater (R-AZ)

HOUSE: 263-Dem, 174-Rep.

Speaker: Sam Rayburn (D-TX) , died November 16, 1961
John W. McCormack (D-MA), January 10, 1962
Majority Leader: John W. McCormack (D-MA), became Speaker
Carl B. Albert (D-OK), January 10, 1962
Minority Leader: Charles A. Halleck (R-IN)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Adam C. Powell (D-NY)
Ranking Minority Member: Carroll D. Kearns (R-PA)

88th Congress (1963-1964)

SENATE: 66-Dem, 34-Rep.

Vice-President: Lyndon B. Johnson (D) until 11/22/63, then vacant.
Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)
Minority Leader: Everett M. Dirksen (R-IL)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)
Ranking Minority Member: Barry M. Goldwater (R-AZ)

HOUSE: 259-Dem, 176-Rep.

Speaker: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Majority Leader: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)
Minority Leader: Charles A. Halleck (R-IN)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Adam C. Powell (D-NY)
Ranking Minority Member: Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)

ADMINISTRATION:

President: Lyndon B. Johnson (D) 1965 - 1968
Secretary of H.E.W.: John W. Gardner
Wilbur J. Cohen (1968)
Commissioner of Education: Francis Keppel
Harold Howe II (1966)
Major education actions: 1965 – Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (P.L. 89-10) [Note 1]
1965 – Higher Education Act (P.L. 89-329) [Note 3]

1965 – National Vocational Student Loan Insurance Act (P.L. 89-287) [Note 3]
1965 – Older Americans Act (P.L. 89-73) [Note 6]
1966 – Comprehensive Health Planning and Public Health Services Act (P.L. 89-749)
1966 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1966 (P.L. 89-750)
1966 – Child Nutrition Act (P.L. 89-642) [Note 6]
1966 – Higher Education Amendments of 1966 (P.L. 89-752)
1966 – Veterans Readjustment Benefits Act (P.L. 89-358)
1966 – Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act (P.L. 89-754)
1967 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1967 (P.L. 90-247)
1967 – Age Discrimination in Employment Act (P.L. 90-202) [Note 5]
1967 – Mental Health Amendments (P.L. 90-31)
1967 – Education Professionals Development Act (P.L. 90-35)
1967 – Mental Retardation Amendments (P.L. 90-170)
1968 – Bilingual Education Act (reauthorization of ESEA; P.L. 90-247)
1968 – Architectural Barriers Act (P.L. 90-480) [Note 4]
1968 - Handicapped Children’s Early Education Assistance Act of 1968
(PL 90-538)
1968 – Higher Education Amendments of 1968 (P.L. 90-575) [Note 3]

89th Congress (1965-1966)

SENATE: 68-Dem, 32-Rep.

Vice-President: Hubert H. Humphrey (D)

Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)

Minority Leader: Everett M. Dirksen (R-IL)

Committee: Labor and Public Welfare

Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)

Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 295-Dem, 140-Rep.

Speaker: John W. McCormack (D-MA)

Majority Leader: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)

Minority Leader: Gerald R. Ford (R-MI)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

Chair: Adam C. Powell (D-NY)

Ranking Minority Member: William H. Ayres (R-OH)

90th Congress (1967-1968)

SENATE: 64-Dem, 36-Rep.

Vice-President: Hubert H. Humphrey (D)

Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)

Minority Leader: Everett M. Dirksen (R-IL)

Committee: Labor and Public Welfare

Chair: Lister Hill (D-AL)

Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 247-Dem, 187-Rep.

Speaker: John W. McCormack (D-MA)

Majority Leader: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)

Minority Leader: Gerald R. Ford (R-MI)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)

Ranking Minority Member: William H. Ayres (R-OH)

ADMINISTRATION

President: **Richard M. Nixon (R) 1969 -1972**
Secretary of H.E.W.: Robert H. Finch
Elliot L. Richardson (1970)
Commissioner of Education: James E. Allen, Jr.
Sidney P. Marland, Jr. (1970)
Major education actions: 1969 – Educational Television and Radio Amendments (P.L. 91-97)
1969 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1969 (P.L. 91-230)
1970 – National Commission on Libraries and Information Science Act (P.L. 91-345)
[Note 4]
1970 – Experimental Schools Program (ESP) and National Institute of Education (NIE)
launched
1972 – Title IX of Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments (P.L. 92-318)
[Note 1]
1972 – Emergency School Aid Act (in P.L. 92-318)
1972 – Higher Education Act reauthorization including NIE (in P.L. 92-318)

91st Congress (1969-1970)

SENATE: 57-Dem, 43-Rep.
Vice-President: Spiro T. Agnew (R)
Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)
Minority Leader: Everett M. Dirksen (R-IL), died on September 7, 1969.
Hugh D. Scott, Jr. (R-PA), elected September 24, 1969.
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Ralph Yarborough (D-TX)
Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 243-Dem, 192-Rep.
Speaker: John W. McCormack (D-MA)
Majority Leader: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)
Minority Leader: Gerald R. Ford (R-MI)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: William H. Ayres (R-OH)

92nd Congress (1971-1972)

SENATE: 54-Dem, 44-Rep, 2-Other
Vice-President: Spiro T. Agnew (R)
Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)
Minority Leader: Hugh D. Scott, Jr. (R-PA)
Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Harrison A. William, Jr. (D-NJ)
Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 255-Dem, 180-Rep.
Speaker: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)
Majority Leader: Hale Boggs (D-LA)
Minority Leader: Gerald R. Ford (R-MI)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: Albert H. Quie (R-MN)

ADMINISTRATION

President: **Richard M. Nixon (R) 1973 – 1974 (resigned August 9, 1974)**
 Gerald R. Ford (R) 1974 - 1976

Secretary of H.E.W.: Casper W. Weinberger
 Forrest David Matthews (1975)

Assistant Secretary for Education: Sidney P. Marland, Jr.
 Virginia Y. Trotter (1974)

Commissioner of Education: John Ottina
 Terrel H. Bell (1974)

Major education actions: 1973 – Rehabilitation Act (P.L. 93-112) [Note 4]
 1973 – Domestic Volunteer Service Act (P.L. 93-113) [Note 5]
 1974 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1974 (P.L. 93-380)
 1974 – Education of the Handicapped Amendments of 1974 (in P.L. 93-380)
 1974 – Bilingual Education Act amended (in P.L. 93-380)
 1974 – Equal Education Opportunities Act (in P.L. 93-380)
 1974 – Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (P.L. 93-415) [Note 6]
 1974 – Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638) [Note 2]
 1974 – Native American Program Act (P.L. 93-644) [Note 6]
 1975 – Education for All Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94-142) [Note 2]
 1976 – Education Division and Related Agencies Appropriation Act (P.L. 94-94)
 1976 – Educational Broadcasting Facilities and Telecommunications Demonstration Act (P.L. 94-309)
 1976 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-482)
 1976 – Vocational Education Amendments (in P.L. 94-482) [Note 7]

93rd Congress (1973-1974)

SENATE: 56-Dem, 42-Rep, 2-Other

Vice-President: Spiro T. Agnew (R), resigned October 10, 1973.
 Gerald R. Ford (R), confirmed on December 6, 1973
 Nelson A. Rockefeller (R), confirmed on December 19, 1974.

Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)
 Minority Leader: Hugh D. Scott, Jr. (R-PA)

Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
 Chair: Harrison A. William, Jr. (D-NJ)
 Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 242-Dem, 192-Rep, 1-Other

Speaker: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)
 Majority Leader: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)
 Minority Leader: Gerald R. Ford (R-MD), resigned December 6, 1973
 John J. Rhodes (R-AZ)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
 Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
 Ranking Minority Member: Albert H. Quie (R-MN)

94th Congress (1975-1976)

SENATE: 60-Dem, 38-Rep, 2-Other

Vice-President: Nelson A. Rockefeller, (R)
 Majority Leader: Mike Mansfield (D-MT)
 Minority Leader: Hugh D. Scott, Jr. (R-PA)

Committee: Labor and Public Welfare
Chair: Harrison A. William, Jr. (D-NJ)
Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 291-Dem, 144-Rep.
Speaker: Carl B. Albert (D-OK)
Majority Leader: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)
Minority Leader: John J. Rhodes (R-AZ)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: Albert H. Quie (R-MN)

ADMINISTRATION

President: James Earl Carter (D) 1977 - 1980
Secretary of H.E.W.: Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Patricia Roberts Harris (1979)
Assistant Secretary for Education: Mary Berry
Commissioner of Education: Ernest L. Boyer
Secretary of Education: Shirley Mount Hufstedler (1980)
Major education actions: 1977 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1977 (P.L. 95-112)
1977 – Consolidated Grants to Insular Areas Act (P.L. 95-134) [Note 2]
1978 – Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) amended (P.L. 95-524)
1978 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1978 (P.L. 95-561) [Note 2]
1979 – Department of Education Organization Act (P.L. 96-88)
1980 – Creation of Department of Education [Note 1]
1980 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1980 (P.L. 96-374) [Note 3]
1980 – Refugee Education Assistance Act (P.L. 96-422) [Note 2]

95th Congress (1977-1978)

SENATE: 61-Dem, 38-Rep, 1-Other
Vice-President: Walter F. Mondale (D)
Majority Leader: Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)
Minority Leader: Howard H. Baker, Jr. (R-TN)
Committee: Human Resources
Chair: Harrison A. William, Jr. (D-NJ)
Ranking Minority Member: Jacob K. Javits (R-NY)

HOUSE: 292-Dem, 143-Rep.
Speaker: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)
Majority Leader: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX)
Minority Leader: John J. Rhodes (R-AZ)
Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: Albert H. Quie (R-MN)

96th Congress (1979-1980)

SENATE: 58-Dem, 41-Rep, 1-Other
Vice-President: Walter F. Mondale (D)
Majority Leader: Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)
Minority Leader: Howard H. Baker, Jr. (R-TN)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources
Chair: Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-NJ)
Ranking Minority Member: Richard S. Schweiker (R-PA)

HOUSE: 277-Dem, 158-Rep.
Speaker: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)
Majority Leader: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX)
Minority Leader: John J. Rhodes (R-AZ)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: John M. Ashbrook (R-OH)

ADMINISTRATION

President: Ronald Reagan (R) 1981 - 1984

Secretary of Education: Terrel H. Bell

Major education actions: 1981 – Community Services Block Grant Act [Note 6]
1981 – Education Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA, reauthorization of ESEA; P.L. 97-35)
1981 – Adult Education Act Amendments of 1981 (in P.L. 97-35)
1981 – Follow Through Act (in P.L. 97-35; repealed in 1994) [Note 6]
1981 – Head Start Act (in P.L. 97-35) [Note 6]
1982 – Student Financial Assistance Technical Amendments Act (P.L. 97-301) [Note 3]
1983 – Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1983 (P.L. 98-199)
1984 – Helen Keller National Center Act (P.L. 98-221) [Note 4]
1984 – Education for Economic Security Act (P.L. 98-377) [Note 2]
1984 – Elementary & Secondary Education Amendments of 1984 (P.L. 98-511)
1984 – Bilingual Education Act amended (in P.L. 98-511)

97th Congress (1981-1982)

SENATE: 53-Rep, 46-Dem, 1-Other

Vice-President: George H. W. Bush (R)

Majority Leader: Howard H. Baker, Jr. (R-TN)

Minority Leader: Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources
Chair: Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 242-Dem, 192-Rep, 1-Other

Speaker: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)

Majority Leader: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX)

Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: John M. Ashbrook, 1981-82 (R-OH),
Ranking Minority Member: John N. Erlenborn, 1982-83 (R-IL)

98th Congress (1983-1984)

SENATE: 54-Rep, 46-Dem.

Vice-President: George H. W. Bush (R)

Majority Leader: Howard H. Baker, Jr. (R-TN)

Minority Leader: Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources
Chair: Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 269-Dem, 166-Rep.
Speaker: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)
Majority Leader: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX)
Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Carl D. Perkins (D-KY)
Ranking Minority Member: John N. Erlenborn (R-IL)

ADMINISTRATION

President: Ronald Reagan (R) 1985 - 1988

Secretary of Education: William J. Bennett
Lauro F. Cavazos, 1988

Major education actions:
1985 – Health Research Extension Act (P.L. 99-158)
1985 – Child Development Associate Scholarship Assistance Act (P.L. 99-425) [Note 6]
1986 – Education of the Deaf Act (P.L. 99-371) [Note 5]
1986 – Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1986 (P.L. 99-457)
1986 – Sections 51 & 52 of Internal Revenue Code (Work Opportunity Credit) [Note 4]
1986 – Handicapped Children’s Protection Act (P.L. 99-372) [Note 2]
1986 – Higher Education Amendments of 1986 (P.L. 99-498) [Note 3]
1986 – Anti-Drug Abuse Act (Title IV, Subtitle C, Indian Education Programs; P.L. 99-570) [Note 2]
1987 – McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (P.L. 100-77) [Note 2]
1987 – Hawkins-Stafford School Improvements (P.L. 100-297)
1988 – Tribally Controlled Schools Act (in P.L. 100-297) [Note 2]
1988 – Section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act [Note 4]
1988 – Education and Training for a Competitive America Act (P.L. 100-418)
1988 – Educational Partnerships Act (P.L. 100-418)
1988 – Bilingual Education Act amended
1988 – Section 5051 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act (National Commission on Drug-Free Schools; P.L. 100-690) [Note 5]

99th Congress (1985-1986)

SENATE: 53-Rep, 47-Dem.

Vice-President: George H. W. Bush (R)
Majority Leader: Robert Dole (R-KS)
Minority Leader: Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources
Chair: Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 253-Dem, 182-Rep.
Speaker: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-MA)
Majority Leader: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX)
Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor
Chair: Augustus F. Hawkins (D-CA)
Ranking Minority Member: James M. Jeffords (R-VT)

100th Congress (1987-1988)

SENATE: 55-Dem, 45-Rep.

Vice-President: George H. W. Bush (R)

Majority Leader: Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)

Minority Leader: Robert Dole (R-KS)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources

Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

Ranking Minority Member: Orrin Hatch (R-UT)

HOUSE: 258-Dem, 177-Rep.

Speaker: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX)

Majority Leader: Thomas S. Foley (D-WA)

Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

Chair: Augustus F. Hawkins (D-CA)

Ranking Minority Member: James M. Jeffords (R-VT)

ADMINISTRATION

President: George H. W. Bush (R) 1989 - 1992

Secretary of Education: Lauro F. Cavazos, 1989

Lamar Alexander, 1991

Major education actions:

1990 – Americans with Disabilities Act (P.L. 101-336) *[Note 5]*

1990 – Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1990 (P.L. 101-476)

1990 – Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (P.L. 101-508)

[Note 6] (repealed, 1998)

1990 – National and Community Service Act (P.L. 101-610) *[Note 5]*

1991 – Education Council Act (P.L. 102-62)

1991 – America 2000 proposed, but not enacted

1992 – Higher Education Amendments of 1992 (P.L.102-325) *[Note 3]*

1992 – Higher Education Facilities Act of 1992 (in P.L. 102-325)

1992 – EEOC Educational, Technical Assistance, and Training Revolving Fund Act (P.L. 102-411)

1992 – Education of the Deaf Act Amendments of 1992 (P.L. 102-421)

101st Congress (1989-1990)

SENATE: 55-Dem, 45-Rep.

Vice-President: Dan Quayle (R)

Majority Leader: George J. Mitchell (D-ME)

Minority Leader: Robert Dole (R-KS)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources

Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

Ranking Minority Member: Orrin Hatch (R-UT)

HOUSE: 260-Dem, 175-Rep.

Speaker: James C. Wright, Jr. (D-TX), resigned June 6, 1989

Thomas S. Foley (D-WA), June 6, 1989

Majority Leader: Thomas S. Foley (D-WA), became speaker on June 6, 1989

Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO) June 14, 1989

Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

Chair: Augustus F. Hawkins (D-CA)

Ranking Minority Member: William F. Goodling (R-PA)

102nd Congress (1991-1992)

SENATE: 56-Dem, 44-Rep.

Vice-President: Dan Quayle (R)

Majority Leader: George J. Mitchell (D-ME)

Minority Leader: Robert Dole (R-KS)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources

Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

Ranking Minority Member: Orrin Hatch (R-UT)

HOUSE: 267-Dem, 167-Rep, 1-Other

Speaker: Thomas S. Foley (D-WA)

Majority Leader: Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO)

Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

Chair: William D. Ford (D-MI)

Ranking Minority Member: William F. Goodling (R-PA)

ADMINISTRATION

President: William J. Clinton (D) 1993 - 1996

Secretary of Education: Richard W. Riley

Major education actions:

1993 – Education of the Deaf Act Amendments of 1993 (P.L. 103-73)

1994 – Goals 2000: Educate America Act (P.L. 103-227) *[Note 2]*

1994 – School-to-Work Opportunities Act (STWOA; P.L. 103-239) *[Note 4]*

1994 – Improving America’s Schools Act (reauthorization of ESEA; P.L. 103-382)
[Note 6]

1994 – Education Infrastructure Act (in P.L. 103-382)

1994 – Bilingual Education Act amended (in P.L. 103-382)

1996 – Museum and Library Services Act (P.L. 104-208) *[Note 4]*

103rd Congress (1993-1994)

SENATE: 57-Dem, 43-Rep.

Vice-President: Albert Gore (D)

Majority Leader: George J. Mitchell (D-ME)

Minority Leader: Robert Dole (R-KS)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources

Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

Ranking Minority Member: Nancy Landon Kassebaum (R-KS)

HOUSE: 258-Dem, 176-Rep, 1-Other

Speaker: Thomas S. Foley (D-WA)

Majority Leader: Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO)

Minority Leader: Robert H. Michel (R-IL)

Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

Chair: William D. Ford (D-MI)

Ranking Minority Member: William F. Goodling (R-PA)

104th Congress (1995-1996)

SENATE: 52-Rep, 48-Dem.

Vice-President: Albert Gore (D)

Majority Leader: Robert Dole (R-KS), resigned position on June 11, 1996
Trent Lott (R-MS), elected June 12, 1996.

Minority Leader: Thomas A. Daschle (D-SD)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources
Chair: Nancy Landon Kassebaum (R-KS)
Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 230-Rep, 204-Dem, 1-Other

Speaker: Newt Gingrich (R-GA)

Majority Leader: Richard K. Armey (R-TX)

Minority Leader: Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO)

Committee: Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities

Chair: William F. Goodling (R-PA)

Ranking Minority Member: William L. Clay (D-MO)

ADMINISTRATION

President: William J. Clinton (D) 1997 – 2000 Second Term

Secretary of Education: Richard W. Riley

Major education actions: 1997 – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) reauthorization (P.L. 105-17) [Note 2]

1998 – Workforce Investment Act (replaces/repeals Adult Education Act; (P.L. 105-220) [Note 4]

1998 – Higher Education Amendments of 1998 (P.L.105-244) [Note 3]

1998 – Reading Excellence Act (in P.L. 105-277)

1998 – COATS Human Services Reauthorization Act (P.L. 105-285) [Note 6]

1998 – Head Start Amendments (in P.L. 105-285) [Note 6]

1998 – Indian Education Assistance Act (amends Johnson-O'Malley; P.L. 105-292) [Note 2]

1998 – Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act (P.L. 105-332) [Note 4]

1999 – Education Flexibility Partnership Demonstration Act (Goals 2000;P.L. 106-25)

2000 – Sections 112 & 115 of American Competitiveness in the 21st Century Act (P.L. 106-313_ [Note 4]

105th Congress (1997-1998)

SENATE: 55-Rep, 45-Dem.

Vice-President: Albert Gore (D)

Majority Leader: Trent Lott (R-MS)

Minority Leader: Thomas A. Daschle (D-SD)

Committee: Labor and Human Resources

Chair: James M. Jeffords (R-VT)

Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 228-Rep, 206-Dem, 1-Other

Speaker: Newt Gingrich (R-GA)

Majority Leader: Richard K. Armey (R-TX)

Minority Leader: Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO)

Committee: Committee on Education and the Workforce

Chair: William F. Goodling (R-PA)

Ranking Minority Member: William L. Clay (D-MO)

106th Congress (1999-2000)

SENATE: 55-Rep, 45-Dem.

Vice-President: Albert Gore (D)

Majority Leader: Trent Lott (R-MS)

Minority Leader: Thomas A. Daschle (D-SD)

Committee: **Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)**
Chair: James M. Jeffords (R-VT)
Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: **223-Rep, 211-Dem, 1-Other.**

Speaker: J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL)
Majority Leader: Richard K. Armey (R-TX)
Minority Leader: Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO)

Committee: **Committee on Education and the Workforce**
Chair: William F. Goodling (R-PA)
Ranking Minority Member: William L. Clay (D-MO)

ADMINISTRATION

President: **George W. Bush (R) 2001 - 2004**

Secretary of Education: Roderick Paige

Major education actions: 2001 – No Child Left Behind Act (reauthorization of ESEA of 1965; P.L. 107-110)
2001 – English Language Acquisition Act (in P.L. 107-110; replaces Bilingual Education Act)
2001 – State and Local Flexibility Demonstration Act (in P.L. 107-110)
2002 – Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act of 1946, amended (P.L. 108-269) [Note 6]
2002 – Education Sciences Reform Act (P.L. 108-185) [Note 2]
2003 – Education of the Blind Act
2004 – Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (P.L. 108-446)

107th Congress (2001-2002)

SENATE: **50-Rep, 50-Dem. January 20-June 6, 2001**

Vice-President: Richard Cheney (R)

Majority Leader: Trent Lott (R-MS)

Minority Leader: Thomas A. Daschle (D-SD)

Committee: **Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)**
Chair: James M. Jeffords (R-VT)
Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

SENATE: **50-Dem, 49-Rep, 1-Ind. June 6, 2001-November 2002**

Vice-President: Richard Cheney (R)

Majority Leader: Thomas A. Daschle (D-SD)

Minority Leader: Trent Lott (R-MS)

Committee: **Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)**
Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)
Ranking Minority Member: James M. Jeffords (I-VT)

HOUSE: **221-Rep, 212-Dem, 2-Other**

Speaker: J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL)

Majority Leader: Richard K. Armey (R-TX)

Minority Leader: Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO)

Committee: **Committee on Education and the Workforce**
Chair: John Boehner (R-OH)
Ranking Minority Member: George Miller (D-CA)

108th Congress (2003-2004)

SENATE: 51-Rep, 48-Dem, 1-Ind.

Vice-President: Richard Cheney (R)

Majority Leader: William H. Frist (R-TN)

Minority Leader: Thomas A. Daschle (D-SD)

Committee: Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)

Chair: Judd Gregg (R-NH)

Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 229-Rep, 204-Dem, 1-Other

Speaker: J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL)

Majority Leader: Thomas DeLay (R-TX)

Minority Leader: Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Committee: Committee on Education and the Workforce

Chair: John Boehner (R-OH)

Ranking Minority Member: George Miller (D-CA)

ADMINISTRATION

President: George W. Bush (R) 2005 – 2008 Second Term

Secretary of Education: Margaret Spellings

Major education actions: 2006 – Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act (P.L. 109-270)

2007 – America Competes Act; P.L. 110-69

2007 – Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act (P.L. 110-134)

109th Congress (2005-2006)

SENATE: 55-Rep, 44-Dem, 1-Ind.

Vice-President: Richard Cheney (R)

Majority Leader: William H. Frist (R-TN)

Minority Leader: Harry M. Reid (D-NV)

Committee: Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)

Chair: Mike Enzi (R-WY)

Ranking Minority Member: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

HOUSE: 232-Rep, 202-Dem, 1-Other

Speaker: J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL)

Majority Leader: Thomas DeLay (R-TX)

Minority Leader: Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Committee: Committee on Education and the Workforce

Chair: John Boehner (R-OH)

Ranking Minority Member: George Miller (D-CA)

110th Congress (2007-2008)

SENATE: 49-Dem, 49-Rep, 2-Ind. (caucused with Dem)

Vice-President: Richard Cheney (R)

Majority Leader: Harry M. Reid (D-NV)

Minority Leader: Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

Committee: Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)

Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)

Ranking Minority Member: Mike Enzi (R-WY)

HOUSE: 233-Dem, 202-Rep

Speaker: Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Majority Leader: Steny Hoyer (D-MD)

Minority Leader: John Boehner (R-OH)

Committee: Education and Labor

Chair: George Miller (D-CA)

Ranking Minority Member: Howard M. (Buck) McKeon (R-CA)

ADMINISTRATION

President: Barack Obama (D) 2009 – Present

Secretary of Education: Arne Duncan

Major education actions: 2009 – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (P.L. 111-5)

111th Congress (2009-2010)

SENATE: 56-Dem, 41-Rep, 2-Ind (caucused with Dem)

Vice-President: Joseph Biden (D)

Majority Leader: Harry M. Reid (D-NV)

Minority Leader: Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

Committee: Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)

Chair: Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), died August 25, 2009

Tom Harkin (D-IA)

Ranking Minority Member: Mike Enzi (R-WY)

HOUSE: 254-Dem, 178-Rep

Speaker: Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Majority Leader: Steny Hoyer (D-MD)

Minority Leader: John Boehner (R-OH)

Committee: Education and Labor

Chair: George Miller (D-CA)

Ranking Minority Member: Howard M. (Buck) McKeon (R-CA)

NOTES: For Major Education Actions

[Note 1] From US Department of Education website <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/fed/role.html?src=sm>

[Note 2] House Committee on Education and the Workforce: *A Compilation Of Federal Education Laws: Volume II*, <http://edworkforce.house.gov/publications/edcomps/vol2esea.pdf>

[Note 3] House Committee on Education and the Workforce: *A Compilation Of Federal Education Laws: Volume III*, <http://edworkforce.house.gov/publications/heacomp/hea65001.pdf>

[Note 4] House Committee on Education and the Workforce: *A Compilation Of Federal Education Laws: Volume IV*, <http://edworkforce.house.gov/publications/edcomps/vol4voced.pdf>

[Note 5] House Committee on Education and the Workforce: *A Compilation Of Federal Education Laws: Volume V*, <http://edworkforce.house.gov/publications/oedcomps/vol5sed.pdf>

[Note 6] House Committee on Education and the Workforce: *A Compilation Of Federal Education Laws: Volume VI*, <http://edworkforce.house.gov/publications/edcomps/vol6nutrition.pdf>

[Note 7] *A Selected Chronology of the History of Vocational and Technical Education in United States in General*, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, <http://www.okcareertech.org/history/history3.htm>

SOURCES:

For Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Cabinet Secretaries:

Time: Almanac 2003, Borgna Brunner, ed. Family Education Network, Inc., Boston, 2002.

For House leadership and party distribution:

U.S. House of Representatives website; Office of the Clerk, <http://clerk.house.gov/index.html>

For House Committee history and leadership:

History of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and the Members Who Have Served As Chairman, <http://edworkforce.house.gov/committee/history.htm>

For Senate leadership and party distribution:

U.S. Senate website; Statistics and Lists, http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/reference/two_column_table/stats_and_lists.htm

For Senate Committee history and leadership:

U.S. Senate website; Art & History, *Senate Standing Committees and Chairmen*, <http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/resources/pdf/CommitteeChairs.pdf>

For Commissioners of Education, 1889 – 1934:

U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Education Bulletin, 1937. *Biennial Survey of Education: 1934 – 1936*, v. II.

For Commissioners of Education, 1935 – 1980 and Assistant Secretaries for Education:

The United States Government Manual. Office of the Federal Register, vols. 1935 – 1980-81.