

Public Policy Notes

Southern Early Childhood Association

The 2016 Election: Who Voted?

February/March 2017

Public Policy Notes

Exit poll data (collected by CNN) on election day provided a basic snapshot of who voted and for whom they voted. Exit poll data is always preliminary because of the variances of self-reporting by voters as they exit the polls.

The [Center for Politics](#) at the University of Virginia recently highlighted the release of the post election version of the [Cooperative Congressional Election Study](#) which is a large-sample national survey of 50,000 persons, conducted by Harvard University. The Center did a comparison of exit poll data and the data produced by the Study and found a smaller gender and race gap than originally reported by the exit poll. Although these variances were noted, they did not change the fundamental data that highlights a “healthy gender gap” in American politics.

According to the CCES data, **Trump received 49% of the male vote** to Clinton’s **44%**, while **Clinton received 52% of the female vote** with **Trump receiving 43%**. Race also played a part in

how voters selected a candidate. According to the Study, these were the voting margins reported.

White Voters
54% Trump/40% Clinton
Black Voters
88% Clinton/8% Trump
Latino Voters
64% Clinton/29% Trump
Asian Voters
70% Clinton/25% Trump
Other Voters
41% Clinton/48% Trump

The Study also broke down the vote by race & gender.

White Men
56% Trump/36% Clinton
White Women
52% Trump/43% Clinton
Black Men
13% Trump/84% Clinton
Black Women
4% Trump/92% Clinton
Latino Men
31% Trump/60% Clinton
Latino Women
27% Trump/68% Clinton
Others
38% Trump/53% Clinton

The “age gap” was perhaps even more revealing. Here are the statistics of voting

by “age”.

Voters 18-29
58% Clinton/31% Trump
Voters 30-44
39% Trump/53% Clinton
Voters 45-64
51% Trump/45% Clinton
Voters 65+
56% Trump/41% Clinton

The educational background of voters also played a role in the selection of a candidate. According to the Study:

Voters/HS or less
52% Trump/44% Clinton
Voters/Some college
45% Trump/48% Clinton
Voters/College grad
43% Trump/50% Clinton
Voters/Postgrad
35% Trump/59% Clinton

According to the Center, *“The gender gap continues to be a fact of life in American politics and the gap showed up across most every racial and ethnic group. Once again, whites voted substantially Republican and nonwhites voted heavily Democratic.”* Source: Sabato’s Crystal Ball, 3/23/2017

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What Does It Mean?

As President Trump unveiled his first budget and signed Executive Orders, it is evident that the issues on which he campaigned are being put into action. It remains to be seen how the differing views on how to Make America Great Again, will actually be put into action. It is your responsibility to stay informed and active... you can make a difference.

Make sure your voice is heard!

What's Happening in the SECA States

All SECA states have legislative sessions that are or will be underway. We'll highlight some of the legislation that could impact early childhood education in your state. **Click** on the bill number to access the full text of the bill and to determine where the bill stands within the legislative process in your state.

Alabama

[HB 277](#) Revises the definition of day care center to include pre-schools, removes the exemption from licensure by the Department of Human Resources of preschool programs that are part of a church or non-profit religious schools, clarifies that the licensing of a faith-based child care facility may not be construed to infringe upon the rights of the facility. (Latest version filed March 3, 2017)

Arkansas

[H1545](#) Allows the Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education to independently promulgate rules. Removes the provision for approval by the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission.

Florida

[H0079](#) Revises duties of Just Read, Florida! Office relating to reading instruction, training, & research; revises parent notification requirements relating to students with reading deficiencies; revises requirements & standards for teacher training & professional certificates & endorsements; revises requirements & criteria for remediation & identification of students with reading deficiencies; revises reporting requirements relating to school im-

provement & accountability; revises requirements for instructional materials funds; revises duties of school districts relating to professional development.

[S0946](#) Revising the definition of the term "child care facility" to exclude facilities offering programs for children which are owned and operated by a county or municipal government under certain circumstances, etc.

Georgia

[HB 297](#) A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, so as to provide requirements for safety plans in early care and education programs; to revise the requirements for school safety plans at public elementary and secondary schools

[SB97](#) A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 20-1A-64 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to functions and authority of lead agency and the Department of Early Care and Learning regarding early care and learning, so as to expand child care subsidies from one year to two years for parents in a job training or educational program

[SB98](#) A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 20-2-260 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to capital outlay funds in elementary and secondary education, so as to provide that capital outlay funds may be used for educational facilities for voluntary pre-kindergarten programs provided by the school system; to provide that

student projection counts may include pre-kindergarten

Kentucky (Adjourned Sine Die)

[SB 236](#) Create a new section of KRS Chapter 199 to permit a parent or legal guardian to request a background check of the child abuse and neglect registry records when employing a child care provider for his or her minor child; require the cabinet to make the request form available on its Web site; create language to require the signature of the individual child care provider consenting to a background check; amend KRS 160.380 to require that school superintendents conduct a background check of child abuse and neglect records maintained by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services when considering employment decisions....

Mississippi

[HB 216](#) An Act To Require The State Department Of Education To Establish A Program To Be Known As "a Better Chance" Or The "abc Program" For The Purpose Of Providing Pre-kindergarten Instruction Throughout The State Via The Internet; To Require The Program To Include Certain Components, Including The Daily Delivery Of Real-time Instruction By A Licensed Prekindergarten Teacher

[HB 161](#) An Act To Create The Child Care Advisory Council To Advise The Department Of Human Services Division Of Early Childhood Care And Development On The Development Of The Child Care And Development Block Grant State Plan

What's Happening in the SECA States

Oklahoma

[HB 1618](#) Requirements for child care centers

[HB 1966](#) Mandating ratios for number of children supervised by employees of child care facilities

[HB 1967](#) Providing that new training and education requirements for child care facilities be offered at no cost

[HB 1970](#) Providing for provisional licenses for child care facilities

[SB 691](#) Oklahoma Child Care Facilities Licensing Act; permitting certain training to be done online

South Carolina

[H3094](#) Provide That A Child Attending A State-funded Four-year-old Kindergarten Program Is Considered An Elementary School Student For Purposes Of The Federal Educational Rate Program

Tennessee

[HB0627](#) Requires licensed child care agencies to test for radon once every five years; agencies must provide proof of radon testing prior to application for initial or renewal licensure.

[HB0767](#) As introduced, exempts employers and employees who have been convicted of certain disqualifying offenses from the prohibition on coming into direct contact with school children or children in a child care program, if 20 or more years have elapsed between the date of conviction of the offense and the date on which the

criminal history records check is conducted.

[HB0872](#) As introduced, prohibits the suspension or expulsion of students in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten unless the student's behavior endangers the physical safety of other students or school personnel.

[HB 1312](#) As introduced, prohibits the administration of standardized tests to students in pre-K-2, unless the tests are used for a diagnostic purpose or required by federal law; prohibits the use of standardized tests for students in K-2 to evaluate a classroom, teacher, school, or school district.

Texas

[SB 818](#) Relating to nutrition and fitness standards for certain child-care facilities and training for employees at those facilities

[HB 1522](#) Relating to a task force to coordinate and make recommendations on parent engagement and education programs provided by state agencies.

[HB 740](#) Relating to application and license fees for certain child-care facilities and child-placing agencies.

[HB 971](#) Relating to authorization by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for certain public junior colleges to offer early childhood education baccalaureate degree programs.

[HB 188](#) Relating to student/teacher ratios for prekindergarten

classes in public schools.

[HB 674](#) Relating to the suspension of a student younger than six years of age from public school.

Virginia (Adjourned Sine Die)

[HB 1568](#) Child care providers; criminal history background check; penalty (sent to Governor)

[HB 1837](#) Licensure exemptions; private preschool programs. Modifies the licensure exemption requirements for certified preschool programs operated by a private school that is accredited by an organization recognized by the Board of Education (sent to Governor)

West Virginia

[SB 68](#) Relating generally to compulsory school attendance and early childhood education programs

[SB186](#) The bill changes the kindergarten age attainment requirement from age five prior to September 1, to age five prior to July 1. The bill changes the early childhood education program age attainment date requirement from age four prior to September 1, to age four prior to July 1. for which compulsory attendance begins to those who attain age six by July 1, of each year.

The **Louisiana Legislature** is scheduled to convene on April 10, 2017.

The **North Carolina Legislature** reconvenes March 27, 2017.

Go to the [Our States](#) page on the SECA website to find links to each state's legislative websites.

Southern Early Childhood Association

1123 S. University, Ste 255
Little Rock, AR 72204

Phone: 800-305-SECA

Fax: 501-227-5297

E-mail:

info@southernearlychildhood.org

www.southernearlychildhood.org

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"A Voice for Southern
Children"

How to Use Public Policy Notes

If you're interested in advocacy, one of the most effective tools that you can have is access to information. This newsletter is provided as a service to locate and share information that we think will be helpful to you in your work at the state level and to keep you updated on what's happening in public policy.

You'll find information that:

- **Compares your state to other SECA states**—how you're doing, what issues you have in common, what the hot topics are in your states.
- **Brings the national scene to your fingertips** and gives you a perspective on how national events might impact you... You'll also receive information about where to find additional information.

We hope you'll find it helpful. Children need you to be their "voice" in your community and state.

This monthly newsletter is produced by Glenda Bean, SECA Executive Director.

SECA strives to provide non-partisan and non-biased information that is of interest to early childhood educators. Sign up at

http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/page.php?url=public_policy_notes

to receive notice of its availability each month.

The Trump Budget: Gear Up for the Fight!

President Trump released his first budget this month, and it was presented as a budget that "promises evidence-based" approaches to government.

[America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again](#), fulfilled many campaign promises by boosting spending on defense, homeland security and veterans services while cutting funding within discretionary programs to fund the security increases.

Discretionary programs are the federal budget programs that Congress allocates funds to in each budget cycle and these funds represent a small portion of the total federal budget. Dis-

cretionary program cuts included:

- ⇒ A 14% decrease to the Department of Education
- ⇒ A 16% decrease to Health and Human Services
- ⇒ A 21% decrease to the Department of Labor
- ⇒ A 21% decrease to the Department of Agriculture

There are a number of programs slated to be eliminated entirely, including the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Corporation for National and Community Services, the Delta

Regional Authority and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation.

True to his promise to have zero impact on Medicare & Social Security, those mandatory, entitlement programs have not been addressed. (These programs are funded based upon utilization and need.... Congress must appropriate sufficient funds to finance these programs.)

The budget process now begins and Congress does not typically accept the president's budget without significant "tweaks" and revisions. Advocates for groups that would be impacted by the proposed budget cuts have already begun to fight the proposals and some Republican Governors have stated their intent to work for changes to the proposed budget.