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In Today's Edition

- Weekly Rundown
- Supreme Court Could Issue in Nebraska v. Biden This Week as Court Term Nears End
- House Appropriations Subcommittee Approves Financial Services Appropriations Act, Includes CFPB Reforms
- U.S. Department of Education News
- General News



Weekly Rundown

The NCHER Weekly Rundown, which includes the latest information on important events in Washington, DC, is available today and can be downloaded from the [NCHER website](#).

Supreme Court Could Issue in Nebraska v. Biden This Week as Court Term Nears End

This week, the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to issue its opinion in Nebraska v. Biden as the court's term nears its end. The court will reconvene tomorrow and is expected to release the remaining 10 cases over the next few days. The court could also add extra days to release additional opinions next week. As previously discussed, the court is

debating the constitutionality of the U.S. Department of Education's federal student loan forgiveness plan, which would discharge up to \$10,000 in student loan debt for borrowers if they make less than \$125,000 a year individually or \$250,000 as a family and \$20,000 if they received a Pell Grant during their postsecondary education career. The Department says the plan would provide relief for up to 43 million borrowers and cancel the full balance of roughly 20 million of that number.

In late February, the court heard oral arguments in *Biden v. Nebraska* and *Department of Education v. Brown*, two cases brought by six states and two individual borrowers against the loan forgiveness plan. During questioning, several conservative justices - Chief Justice John Roberts, Justice Samuel Alito, Justice Clarence Thomas, and Justice Neil Gorsuch - expressed skepticism about the Biden Administration's authority to cancel federal student loans because of the pandemic, though other justices - namely Justice Brett Kavanaugh and Justice Amy Coney Barrett - expressed doubt that the parties had standing to bring the case. The court's liberal justices - Justice Sonia Sotomayer, Justice Elena Kagan, and Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson - appeared inclined to reject challenges to the program.

For further coverage, see these articles from [ABC News](#), [Forbes](#), and [U.S. News and World Report](#).

House Appropriations Subcommittee Approves Financial Services Appropriations Act, Includes CFPB Reforms

Last week, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government approved the [Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2024](#) by voice vote. The bill includes funding for the U.S. Department of Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), Federal Communications Commission, Federal Trade Commission, Securities and Exchange Commission, and other independent agencies. Overall, the bill includes \$25.32 billion for programs under the subcommittee's jurisdiction, which is \$6.2 billion (19.75 percent) below the President's budget request, \$1.9 billion (7.0 percent) below the FY23 enacted level, and \$581.9 million (2.25 percent) below the FY22 enacted level. Of interest to the NCHER membership, the bill includes language subjecting the CFPB to the annual appropriations process and replacing the CFPB director with a bipartisan, five-person commission. The bill now heads to the House Appropriations Committee for additional consideration. For a copy of a bill summary, click [here](#).

U.S. Department of Education News

For today's Federal Register, click [here](#).

The following announcements were posted to Federal Student Aid's Knowledge Center:

- [\(DL-23-04\) Additional 2021–22 Direct Loan Program Year Closeout Information](#)
 - [\(COD-23-04\) 2023–24 COD System Peak Processing Reminders](#)
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General News

[The Hechinger Report](#) publishes an opinion piece saying that higher education must do a better job explaining why college is worth the investment.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) publishes an opinion piece saying that underborrowing is “the other student loan crisis.”

[The Hill](#) reports that the partisan divide on student loan solutions is about to get louder as the U.S. Supreme Court prepares to issue its decision on the federal student loan forgiveness program.

An online version of this Daily Briefing is available to view and print from the [Daily Briefing Section](#) of the [NCHER e-Library](#).

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