
SEPTEMBER 2016

REGION III

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES



1. FEDERAL UPDATES

- ☐ In August, the U.S. Department of Justice published a final rule that officially takes effect October 11. The updated regulations clarify the definition of “disability” under the ADA to be more broadly construed and applied. A complete copy of the rule can be found [here](#).
- ☐ The ADA Education and Reform Act of 2015 ([HR 3765](#)) is out of committee and has 54 co-sponsors. The bill requires a person with a disability who encounters a barrier to give the facility owner (public or private) written notice that details the encounter, lists the sections of ADA they believe have been violated, and then give the owner 60 days to respond and 120 to fix the issue. 54 disability organizations have expressed opposition to the bill.
- ☐ [Dear Colleague Letter on Campus Policing](#) was sent out on September 8. The letter shares information on the Final Report of the [President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing](#).

2. TITLE IX UPDATES

- ☐ No updates.

3. FINANCIAL AID

- ☐ SIMPLE Act (H.R. 5962) – to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the automatic recertification of income for income-driven repayment plans. At this point, the legislation has only been introduced in the House, but is worth tracking.
- ☐ Released this month: NASPA’s publication “[Landscape Analysis of Emergency Aid Programs](#)”

4. STATE UPDATES

Alabama	No updates.
Florida	Senate Committee on Higher Education bills can be tracked online at: https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/Show/HE/?Tab=CommBills House Committee on Higher Education bills can be tracked online at: http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Committees/committeesdetail.aspx?Committeed=2848
Georgia	No updates.
Kentucky	No updates.
Louisiana	No updates.

Mississippi	No updates.
North Carolina	No updates.
South Carolina	South Carolina signed into law the Tucker Hipps Transparency Act. It will require public institutions to post conduct records of fraternities and sororities publicly. The bill is retroactive to 2012, so any incidents since then must be included. In addition to being on the university's website, all orientation participants must be made aware of the record and where it can be found. Institutions are currently implementing May's OCR Transgender guidance and are determining if injunction will change their roll out plan or not.
Tennessee	No updates.
Texas	No updates.
Virginia	No updates.

To submit state policy updates for the next newsletter, go to the Region III Public Policy [Google Form](#).

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

NASPA Region III /SACSA Fall Conference

Jacksonville, FL

November 5-7, 2016

Register to participate at: <http://www.sacsa.org/page/Conference>

If you want to get more involved in public policy at the state level, the following states have State Public Policy Directors that you can contact. Here is the listing of State Public Policy Directors in Region III:

Dr. Jody Conway	Florida - University of South Florida	jdyconway@usf.edu
Neil Jamerson	South Carolina - Furman	neil.jamerson@furman.edu
Dr. Heidi Leming	Tennessee - TBR	hleming@tbr.edu
Dr. Thomas Moorman	Texas - University of North Texas	Thomas.moorman@unthsc.edu

Two NASPA Publications of Interest:

[FLSA Final Overtime Rule: A Resource Guide for Student Affairs Professionals](#)

[Guns on Campus: The Architecture and Momentum of State Policy Action](#)

This monthly newsletter is compiled by the NASPA Region III Public Policy Representative, Dr. Heidi Leming. If you would like to send suggestions for the next newsletter, please email heidi.leming@tbr.edu.