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"It is an object of vast magnitude that systems of education should be adopted and pursued which may not only diffuse a knowledge of the sciences but may implant in the minds of the American youth the principles of virtue and of liberty and inspire them with just and liberal ideas of government and with an inviolable attachment to their own country."
Noah Webster

Congratulations to the Vance Family

The AACCS wishes our warmest congratulations to Vice President JD Vance and his wife Usha Vance on the birth of their son, Alec Neel Vance, born July 19, 2026. Vice President Vance reported in a post on Sunday that his wife and new baby are "happy and healthy." Alec is the fourth child of the Vances. The last time a vice president and his wife had a baby while in office was in 1870, when then-Vice President Schuyler Colfax and his wife gave birth to a baby boy. The AACCS rejoices with the Vance family on this new life, a gift from God.

AACCS Submits Public Comments on Federal Financial Assistance Rule

The AACCS recently submitted public comments on a [proposed rule](#) by the Office of Management and Budget on federal financial assistance. The proposed regulation would apply to all federal agencies and entities that accept federal financial assistance, including the Department of Education and federal student loan and grant programs. The proposed rule is part of the Trump administration's push to increase accountability, reduce fraud and wasteful spending, and enforce civil rights law. The proposal would prohibit federal funding from advancing DEI and disparate impact policies and protect the ability of religious entities to participate in federal funding programs without compromising their religious mission and beliefs.

The AACCS public comments focused on strengthening protections for religious institutions. For example, the comments note that a provision to prevent viewpoint discrimination, intended to prevent a "heckler's veto" that inhibits free speech, could result in a church or religious college being forced to allow speech or activities that violate its religious beliefs. The AACCS recommends revisions to ensure that religious liberty is protected as well as free speech and adding language that fully protects religious liberty, including hiring rights, tenets of faith, and religious identity. Another provision prohibits discrimination against faith-based organizations based on their religious character. The AACCS suggests adding language to explicitly affirm the fundamental right of religious organizations to make employment decisions based on their religious beliefs, pointing to a 2007 legal opinion from the Department of Justice that affirmed the right of World Vision to hire based on its religious tenets while participating in a federal grant program. The comments conclude by exhorting the OMB to "ensure that religious entities can fully participate in federally funded programs, contributing to the common good, education, and serving others without fear of government reprisal or violation of their fundamental liberties." The OMB will address public comments as it finalizes the rule in the coming months.

House Ed and Workforce Committee Releases Legislative Package of 10 Education Bills

On July 9, 2026, House Republicans introduced a 10-bill legislative package that would permanently transfer several statutory responsibilities of the U.S. Department of Education to other federal agencies, advancing the

Trump administration's effort to shrink the Department's size and authority. The package, called "Less Bureaucracy, Better Education," includes workforce development, K-12 and higher education, child care for student parents, family engagement, and federal student aid, among other things. The bills would make the new agencies legally responsible for running these programs. However, recent transfers of special education programs or certain civil rights activities are not included in the proposals. These changes would mainly affect how colleges receive federal funding, manage student aid, and report information to the government. If the bill passes, colleges may need to work with different federal agencies, instead of just the Department of Education. The diffusion of authority will reduce the Department of Education's power in the long run but may also create confusion or delays in the short term. [Supporters](#), including committee chairman Tim Walberg, say the legislation would reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and shift programs to agencies better equipped to administer them, while protecting services for students and families. [Critics argue](#) that splitting education programs among several agencies could lead to funding delays, weaker oversight, and increased administrative burdens. The bills do not have identified Senate counterparts, and while they would not formally eliminate the Department of Education, they represent a significant step toward restructuring it. Closing the Department altogether would need broader support from Congress, including 60 votes in the Senate. *Written by AACS intern Seth Walker*

Poll Shows Majority Believe that Children Need a Mother and Father

The [Greater Than](#) organization has released a new [poll](#) about American families that shows a common consensus among conservatives and moderates on the importance of a child having both a father and mother in the household. The [survey](#), taken from a national group of 1,200 likely general-election voters who identify as center-right, found that 96% of respondents say it is important for a child to be raised with both an involved mother and father. A further 82% of these voters agreed that no child should be deliberately denied a mother or father. Likewise, 78% of voters agreed children's needs should come before adult desires. On the other hand, 66% of voters disagreed with the claim that being raised by same-sex parents is no different for a child than being raised by an adoptive mother and father. This data supports the understanding that most conservative and moderate voters place children's needs before adult desires. Conservative commentator Josh Hammer wrote that this poll "exposes the growing disconnect between elite cultural narratives and the convictions of conservative and moderate voters. Despite years of messaging from the media, academia, and corporate America, these voters continue to affirm a fundamental belief: whenever possible, children should be raised by and connected to both their mother and father." These numbers will help conservatives further enforce their strategies for policy and lawmaking. *Written by AACS intern Johnathan Dys*

In Case You Missed It:

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Register Now for the AACS National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.—September 14-16, 2026](#)

[Democratic Socialist Come Clean about Their True Intentions: "Overthrowing" the U.S. Government](#)

[Educational Freedom Does Not Gamble with Student's Futures](#)

[Rep. Brandon Gill Exposes Marxist Ideology at Smithsonian American History Museum](#)

[Top American State for Religious Liberty](#)

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