

**SAA Committee on Public Policy
Conference Call
March 28, 2018**

Meeting Notes

Archives on the Hill planning

- Focus of visits will be Members of Congress on NARA/NHPRC oversight & appropriations committees.
- A work plan & to-do list, with assignments & deadlines, was discussed on yesterday's phone call.
- Immediate task is for SAA, CoSA, NAGARA, & RAAC to identify their members whose representatives are on the relevant committees.
- Nothing specific assigned to COPP, however, we should support overall SAA efforts to not overtax staff. Nancy will let us know how we can be most effective.
- We will be borrowing heavily from NHA advocacy resources to not reinvent the wheel
- COPP members are encouraged to participate, regardless of whether your reps are on the targeted committees.
- Event will be Tuesday August 14th. There will be a morning gathering for last minute instructions, getting folks comfortable, etc. at the Hall of States on Capitol Hill (NAGARA's offices) and way-stations in Senate & House cafeterias for folks to check-in throughout the day, as needed. There is also likely to be an end of day "thank you" gathering at the Hall of States so folks don't have to go back to the conference hotel during rush hour.
- SAA will be hosting 2 training webinars, likely in July: one on how to conduct a visit and another with specific messaging & asks. These will be recorded to serve as a resource for future efforts.

Congressional Records Issue Brief

- No substantive comments, all agreed to send to Council.
- Noted need to anonymize appendix.

Legislative Action Plan

- General discussion as to whether this was an appropriate approach to get Council attention re implementing the Action Plan adopted in January.
- Suggestion made that we incorporate some general deadlines with this.
- Also discussed the appropriate mechanism for developing the proposed white paper on a long-term funding request: whether SAA should develop it initially and then bring it to CoSA, NAGARA, RAAC; or whether it should start as a collaborative effort.
- COPP should provide feedback, especially on proposed deadlines and white paper mechanism, by COB Wed. 4/4.

Nomination of Gina Haspel to be CIA Director

- Issue was raised as to whether SAA should comment on this nomination and, if so, in what manner.
- Suggested that statement could take the approach that records destruction has implications for future accountability, etc. See examples of impact of records on truth & reconciliation efforts.
- Deadline TBD – need to determine status of nomination and hearings.

Census 2020

- Issue was raised whether, given recent SAA statement on the Census, whether a new statement was necessary regarding news that question about immigration status will be added to the decennial census
- COPP was informed that Executive Committee had drafted language to add to existing statement which will be shared with COPP for feedback.