

Impact Schools of South Dakota
Resolution for Impact Aid Appropriations
March 17, 2017

WHEREAS, the President's Administration FY 2018 proposed budget eliminates Section 7002 of the Impact Aid program;

AND WHEREAS, Impact Aid is the oldest elementary-secondary federal education program administered by the Department of Education in which Section 7002 is specifically purposed to offset lost property tax revenue to local educational agencies due to federal government acquisition of previously taxable properties;

AND WHEREAS, property taxes paid by American families, individuals, businesses, farms, and all other property owners as well as 7002 funding support local educational agencies and the thousands of students served by those local educational agencies;

AND WHEREAS, the financial obligation to local educational agencies and the students they serve remains regardless of property owner, date of acquisition, or use of property;

AND WHEREAS, with existing funding levels, Section 7002 funding is an offset for lost property tax revenue due to federal lands not receiving full reimbursement;

AND WHEREAS, existing property owners in affected local agencies already bear a significant burden in financial support of local educational agencies due to federal acquisition of private lands;

AND WHEREAS, raising additional local tax revenue to support local educational agencies is unrealistic and overly burdensome on local taxpayers;


AND WHEREAS, South Dakota has twenty-one local educational agency applicants under Section 7002 of the Impact Aid law;

AND WHEREAS, Impact Aid funding is of critical importance in providing quality educational opportunities for the 15,718 students educated in these twenty local educational agencies;

AND WHEREAS, each generation of students on their educational journey deserves the same opportunities to enrich their lives through education, and Section 7002 funding is a key component in providing those educational opportunities;

AND WHEREAS, it is the federal government's obligation to rectify the negative financial impact its presence has caused;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Impact Schools of South Dakota strongly oppose the elimination of Section 7002 and advocate for the continuation of federal funding for this specific federal responsibility as has been the standard for more than sixty years.


Loy DuFrain, President
Impact Schools of South Dakota