

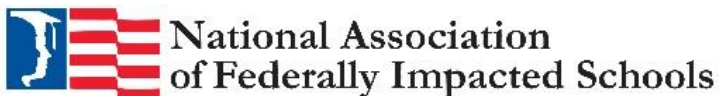
POLICY & ADVOCACY 101

Leslie Finnan

Director of Policy & Advocacy, NAFIS

Hilary Goldmann

Executive Director, NAFIS



It's Important You're Here

Session Agenda

- Commonly Used Terms
- Budget & Appropriations Process
- Delivering a Powerful Message
- NAFIS Action Center

Commonly Used Terms

Congressional Committees

Authorizing Committee vs. Appropriations Committee

- Authorizing Committee - Creates and/or updates programs & agencies (i.e. Elementary & Secondary Education Act, creation of the Homeland Security Agency)
 - Can include suggested spending levels – they are NOT binding
- Appropriations Committee divvies up the funding

Federal Funding

Discretionary vs Mandatory

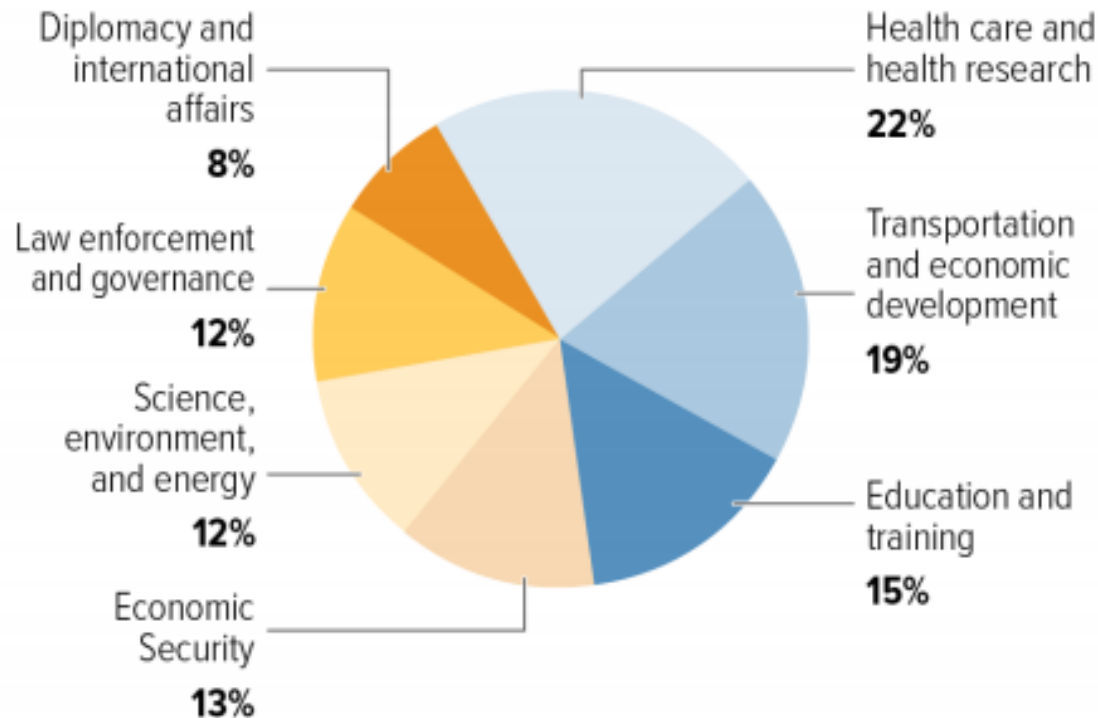
- **Discretionary** Spending – appropriated annually by Congress.
- **Mandatory** Spending – Entitlement programs with automatic spending. (Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.).

Non-Defense Discretionary (NDD) Programs

- Housing & social services
- Education & job training
- Public health
- Infrastructure
- International relations
- Medical & scientific research
- Natural & cultural resources
- Weather monitoring & environmental protection
- Public safety & law enforcement

Non-Defense Discretionary Spending

Non-Defense Discretionary Spending, FY 2019



Source: CBPP calculations using Office of Management and Budget data

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Commonly Used Terms

- **Fiscal Year (FY)** – Begins October 1 of each year and ends on September 30 of the following year.
- **Continuing Resolution (CR)** - legislation that extends funding for federal agencies – typically at the same rate that they had been previously funded – into a new fiscal year until new appropriations bills become law.

IMPACT AID?

Appropriation (funding)

Committee Jurisdictions:

- House: Subcommittee on Labor-Health and Human Services-Education
- Senate: Subcommittee on Labor-Health and Human Services-Education

Authorization (policy)

Committee Jurisdictions:

- House: Education and Workforce
- Senate: Health-Education-Labor and Pensions

The Budget & Appropriations Process



Congress Has “Power of the Purse”



“No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.”

–Article I, U.S. Constitution

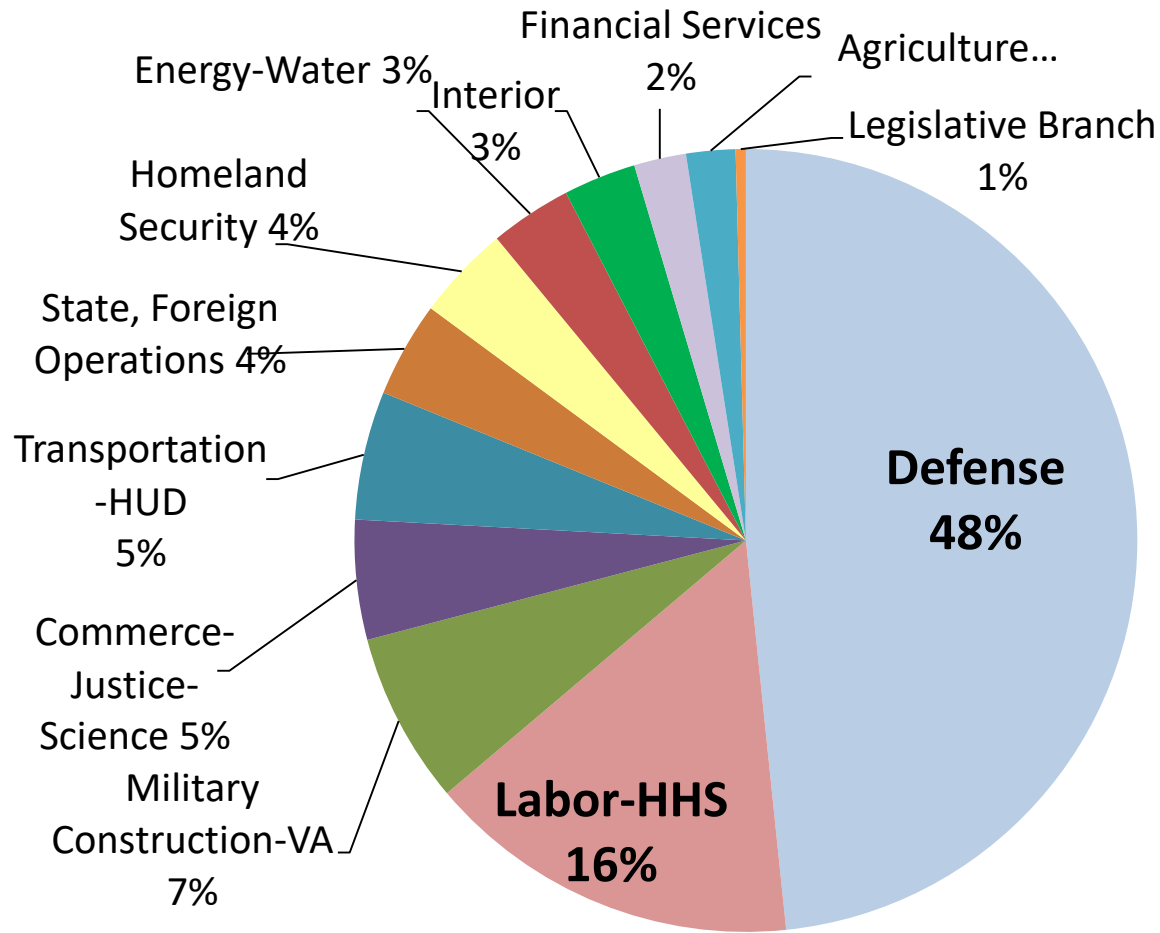
Congressional Budget Timeline

- Mid- to Late January – President delivers the State of the Union address.
- First Monday in February – President submits a budget request to Congress.
- April 1 – Budget Committee reports a budget resolution. (A Budget Resolution is a framework. It's adopted by Congress, but is not a law).
- April 15 – Congress completes action on a budget resolution.

Appropriations Timeline

- 12 appropriations bills:
 - Marked up in subcommittee
 - Marked up in full committee
 - Debated and passed by full House/Senate
- After the House and Senate pass a bill, it is reported to Conference Committee to resolve the differences
- All bills should be enacted (passed by both Houses of Congress & signed by President) by September 30.

12 Appropriations Bills



History of the Federal Budget

- Congressional Budget & Impoundment Control Act of 1974
 - Established a Congressional budget process
- Balanced Budget & Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985
- Budget Enforcement Act of 1990
- Budget Enforcement Act of 1997
- Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010

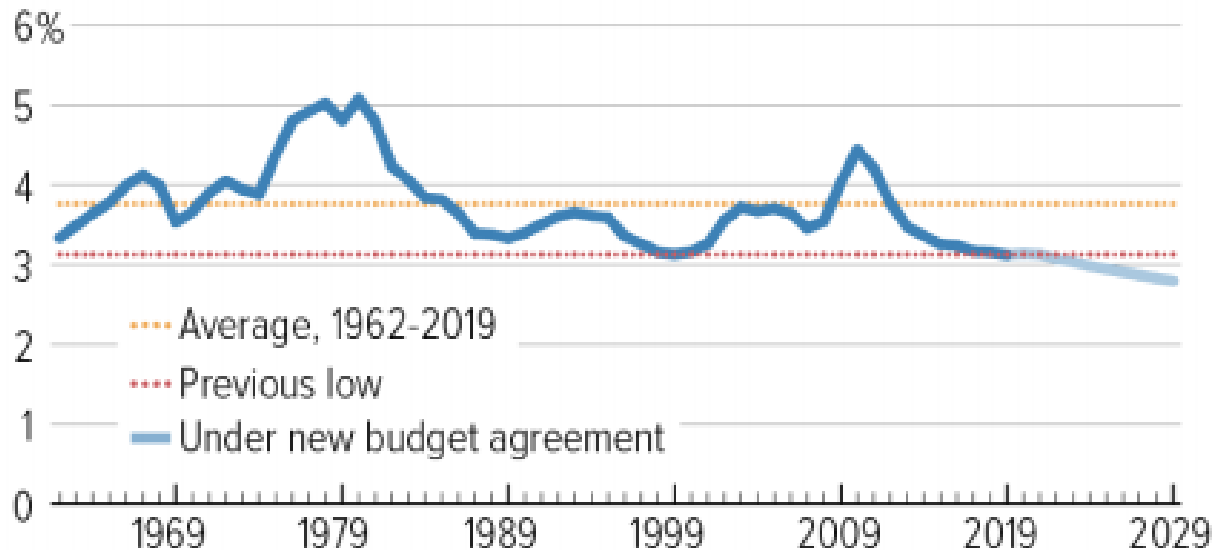
History of the Federal Budget Cont'd

- Budget Control Act of 2011
 - Established sequestration when a Joint Committee failed to produce legislation to reduce deficits by at least \$1.2 trillion through FY2021.
- Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013
 - Provided sequester relief in FY2014 (\$45 billion) and FY2015 (\$18 billion), split evenly between defense and non-defense programs. Extended sequestration.
- Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015
 - Provided sequester relief in FY2016 (\$50 billion) and FY2017 (\$30 billion), split evenly between defense and non-defense programs. Extended mandatory sequestration.
- Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018
 - Provided sequester relief in FY2018 (\$80 billion for defense, \$63 billion for non-defense) and FY2019 (\$85 billion for defense and \$68 million for non-defense). Extended mandatory sequestration.
- Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019
 - Provided sequester relief in FY2020 (\$44 billion) and FY2021 (\$10 billion), split evenly between defense and non-defense programs. Sequestration ends in 2021.

Limited Funding

Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Falling to Historic Lows

Spending as a percent of gross domestic product



Note: Data available only back to 1962.

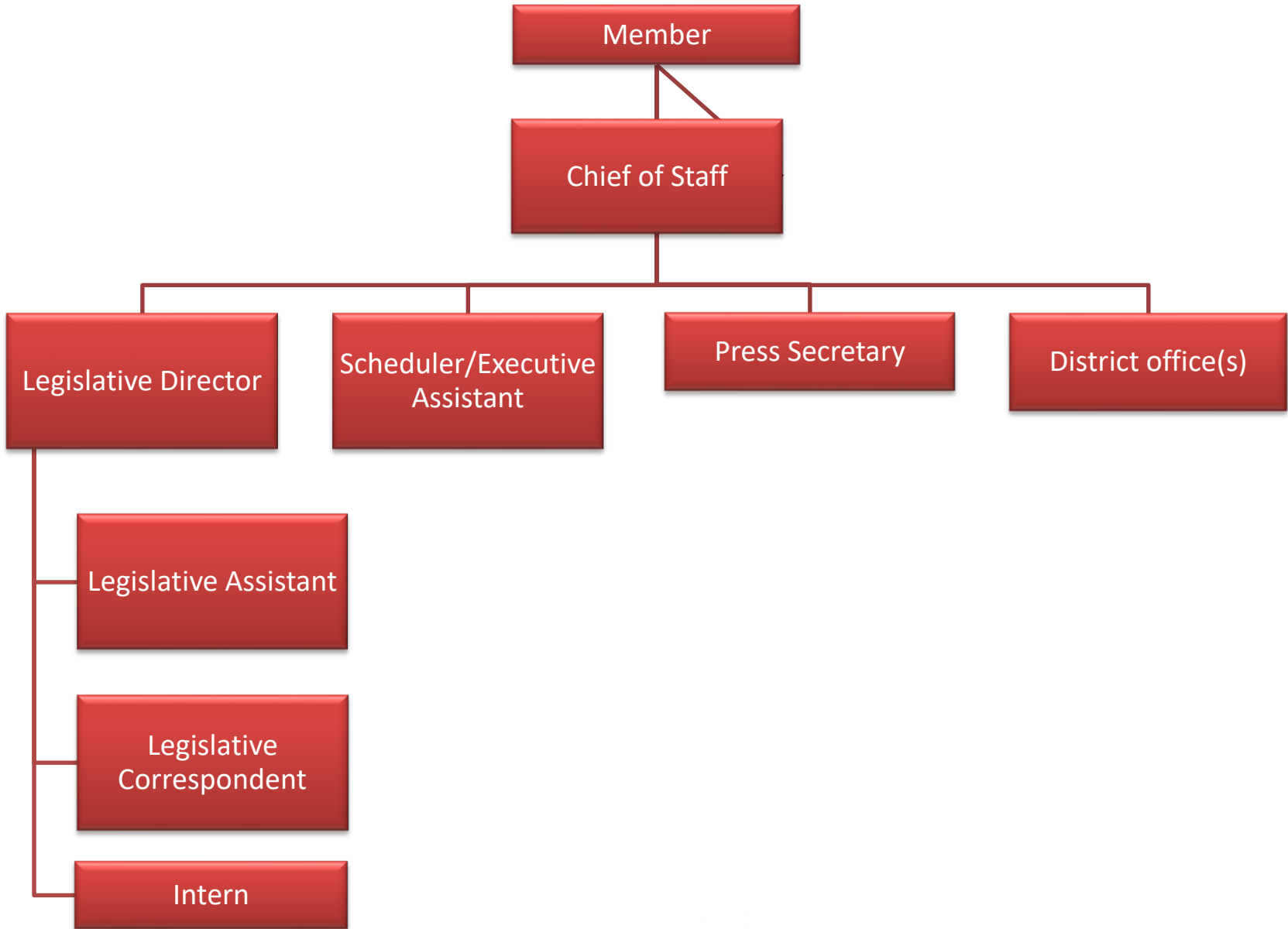
Source: CBPP, based on Office of Management and Budget and Congressional Budget Office data

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Delivering a Powerful Message

We have the right to petition our government





Hill Meetings

- Be yourself
- Bring your passion
- You are the expert
- Become a Trusted Resource
- Hill meetings are hard & each is different
- Advocacy is a long term process

Tips for Your Meeting

- Do your homework prior to the meeting
 - Committee membership
 - Impact Aid Coalition
 - Recent local newspaper articles
 - Recent Press Releases
 - Policy interests
 - Where they fall on the political spectrum
- Identify a group leader and plan ahead what each participant will contribute

Advocacy Worksheet

Tips for Your Meetings

- Getting started
 - Are you from the state?
 - Are you familiar with Impact Aid?
- Remember
 - Bipartisanship
- Share your stories
 - Connect stories to the interests of legislator
 - Connect stories to students & taxpayers

Tips for Your Meeting

- The ASK – NAFIS Talking Points
 - Tailor to member's role
 - Tailor to your expertise
- Time to Listen: Give staff opportunity to respond
- How can we help you?
- Keep it concise

Tips for Your Meeting

- Interns may be the boss one day
- Meetings in the hallway can be productive
- Exchange business cards
- Take a photo
- Tweet your photo #Impactaid

Continue the Relationship

- Thank you email
- Write blog post/newsletter article
- Keep in touch with staff
- Invitation to visit your community

2020 NAFIS Spring Conference Communications Templates

Share Your Participation in the Conference with Your Community

These customizable communications materials (which can be modified for personal or school district use) can be used on social media platforms, in board reports or school district newsletters, sent to media, as the basis of an editorial or for any other purpose to help you share your time in DC with your community. Insert your own information where there is red text, and make changes and add language to emphasize other issues important to your context. Editable versions can be found on the 2020 NAFIS Spring Conference webpage.

Sample 1: Advocacy Focus

[Insert school district name] representatives met with the staff for [insert name(s) of Members of Congress] to explain the crucial role that Impact Aid plays in our district, funding [insert two or three items your district uses it for, such as teacher salaries, school counselors, school buses or after-school programming] and much, much more. Impact Aid reimburses our school district for lost local revenue caused by the presence of nontaxable federal land. It is critical to providing our students the opportunities they need to maximize their potential, so it is important for us to advocate directly to Congress for it.

At the meeting(s), district leaders also highlighted the achievements of our students and schools, including [insert key accomplishments or programs that you shared with congressional staff].

The meetings on Capitol Hill were part of the NAFIS Spring Conference, where we also received important updates on the Impact Aid program directly from the U.S. Department of Education and discussed other pressing education issues.

If possible, include a photo of you with the congressional representative and/or staffer you met with; the sign to the congressional office; or the U.S. Capitol building.

NAFIS Action Center



ABOUT NAFIS



IMPACT AID
RESOURCES



TAKE ACTION



POLICY & ADVOCACY



CONFERENCES &
EVENTS



FEDERALLY IMPACTED SCHOOLS
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



**NAFIS ADVOCATES FOR FEDERALLY IMPACTED SCHOOL DISTRICTS
AND THE STUDENTS THEY EDUCATE**



TAKE ACTION

DEAR COLLEAGUE SIGN-ON
APPROPRIATIONS LETTER



ADD YOUR VOICE

IMPACT AID INFRASTRUCTURE
ACT



Support the Impact Aid Infrastructure Act
Today!

ADD YOUR VOICE

FIND YOUR CONGRESSIONAL
REPRESENTATIVES



Find out how to contact your Members of
Congress

ADD YOUR VOICE



Why it's important you're here

- I. 147,000 associations
- II. 10-15K individual advocates on the Hill each WEEK
- III. 10,000 bills introduced; only about 4% pass
→ government is set up to be inefficient

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Q&A



**National Association
of Federally Impacted Schools**