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NAFIS RESPONDS TO IMPACT AID PRIVATIZATION REPORT

Statement from NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldmann

(WASHINGTON, DC) – “Stripping Impact Aid from public schools as a means of creating a new system of education savings accounts (ESAs) completely misses the point of Impact Aid and undermines public schools in this country,” said National Association of Federally Impacted Schools Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. A new EdChoice report, co-authored with staff of the Heritage Foundation, *Surveying the Military: What America’s Servicemembers, Veterans and Spouses Think About K-12 Education and the Profession*, is part of a larger effort to turn Impact Aid into ESAs. NAFIS opposes these and other school privatization schemes that divert funding from public schools.

“Impact Aid works – and public school district leaders work hard to meet the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. The program compensates school districts for Federal lands that cannot be taxed, and these funds serve as general operating dollars to support both federally connected and non-federally connected students. To privatize Impact Aid into a per-student allocation would undermine the purpose of concentrating resources in school districts where the Federal impact and the tax loss are greatest. Draining Impact Aid from public schools negatively impacts students, schools, and taxpayers.”

NAFIS issue [brief](#) on turning Impact Aid into ESAs.