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## **Congressman Cole Honored for Support of Impact Aid**

**Washington, DC – September 26, 2018** – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) has recognized Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK) with the Friend of NAFIS Award. This award, which was presented at the 2018 NAFIS Fall Conference, celebrates recipients for outstanding contributions to the Impact Aid Program.

Impact Aid reimburses school districts for the loss of revenue caused by the presence of nontaxable Federal property, including military installations; Indian Trust, Treaty and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands; Federal low-income housing facilities; and national parks, national laboratories and other Federal buildings and property. It helps ensure students who attend schools on or near Federal property have access to a quality education.

Congressman Cole is a long-standing supporter of Impact Aid and a member of the House Impact Aid Coalition. As chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, he has prioritized Impact Aid and played a crucial role in securing additional funding for the program. He is also an outspoken critic of efforts to redirect Impact Aid funding to private school vouchers.

“Congressman Cole’s efforts to increase Impact Aid funding and to protect the program have benefited federally impacted school districts—those that receive Impact Aid—in Oklahoma and across the country,” said NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldman. “Because of Impact Aid, these school districts can pay for teacher salaries, social/emotional supports, student transportation, technology and other education programming and supports based on local needs, ensuring their students have access to opportunities they need to succeed in school and life.”

The entire Impact Aid community joins together in thanking Congressman Cole for his work to strengthen and protect Impact Aid.

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The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) represents the 1,200-plus federally impacted public school districts that together educate more than 10 million students across the nation. Federally impacted school districts are those located on or near nontaxable Federal property—including military installations; Indian Trust, Treaty and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands; Federal low-

income housing facilities; and national parks, national laboratories and other Federal buildings and property. These school districts, which are demographically and geographically diverse, receive Impact Aid, a Federal education program that reimburses school districts for the lost local revenue and additional costs associated with the presence of Federal property. To learn more, visit [www.nafisd.org](http://www.nafisd.org).