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

**Washington, DC – September 26, 2018** – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) has recognized Congressman Joe Courtney (D-CT) 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 Courtney is a long-standing member of the House Impact Aid Coalition and consistently supports and advocates for the Impact Aid program. Recently, he served as a leader in efforts to protect Impact Aid from a plan to redirect up to a third of its funding to private school vouchers. Through his roles on both the House Armed Services and Education and the Workforce Committees, Congressman Courtney educated his colleagues on the harm that proposed legislation would cause to students, schools and taxpayers across the country.

“Impact Aid has been a critical source of federal support for local schools, particularly in communities with large military populations, since the Truman administration,” said Courtney. “Towns like Groton and Ledyard in my district rely on Impact Aid to help underwrite the cost of educating the children of military and tribal families. This is critically important because service members living on federal property like military bases, and Native Americans living on tribal land, are exempted from paying local taxes that are normally used to fund schools. The Impact Aid Program represents our commitment to making sure the children of military service members and Native families are provided with a quality public education, while not forcing local communities to pay the bill. I would like to thank NAFIS for honoring me with this award, and I promise to remain a strong advocate of Impact Aid in Congress.”

“For years, Congressman Courtney has played an integral role in ensuring that federally impacted school districts—those that receive Impact Aid—have the resources they need to offer the quality of education

students deserve,” said NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. “Impact Aid pays for teacher salaries, social/emotional supports, student transportation, technology and other education programming and supports based on local needs. School districts in Connecticut and throughout the nation rely on Impact Aid to give students access to opportunities they need to succeed in school and life.”

The entire Impact Aid community joins together in thanking Congressman Courtney for his work to protect and strengthen 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.nafisdc.org](http://www.nafisdc.org).