April 9, 2019

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS), we write to express our support for H.R. 2021, the Investing for the People Act of 2019. NAFIS represents the 1,200-plus Impact Aid-recipient school districts nationwide that educate more than 10 million students. The Impact Aid program replaces the lost local tax revenue associated with the presence of non-taxable Federal property such as military installations, Indian lands, low-rent housing, and national parks and laboratories. It relies on sufficient federal funding to do so.

Because Impact Aid relies on discretionary funding streams, the unrealistic spending limits set out in the Budget Control Act of 2011 would be devastating to federally impacted school districts and their students. Building off the 2018 bipartisan budget agreement, the increased funding levels proposed by H.R. 2021 are both responsible and vital to meet the Federal Government’s responsibilities towards federally impacted school districts. We hope to see Congress and the President work together to reach a new agreement that averts the cuts that would be required under the Budget Control Act and allows us to make smart investments in our nation’s future.

We encourage you to vote in favor of H.R. 2021, the Investing for the People Act of 2019, and look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues to secure adequate Federal funds for the critical Impact Aid program. Thank you for making these school districts, and the students, they serve a priority.

Sincerely,

Hilary Goldmann
Executive Director

Leslie Finnan
Director of Policy & Advocacy