

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education,
and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education,
and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

We urge you to recognize the importance of the Federal Impact Aid Program as you set the Appropriation Subcommittee's funding priorities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. We request strong and continued funding for all line items of the Impact Aid Program to ensure all federally connected school districts can provide quality education.

Congress created Impact Aid in 1950 in recognition of the federal government's responsibility to help finance public education in areas impacted by a federal presence. Impact Aid provides a payment in lieu of taxes to local school districts for lost revenue that is a result of tax-exempt federal property and actions that have increased expenditures due to the enrollment of federally connected children. The program provides direct, flexible funding to over 1,200 school districts nationwide. Impact Aid funds a range of programs, including facilities renovation, teacher retention, technology purchases, and maintenance of transportation fleets. For many districts, this funding is essential to school operations.

Congress should prioritize Basic Support to ensure the current payout level to school districts is at least maintained. For districts enrolling military children, the ability to address both the academic and emotional needs of these students must be maintained. Education is a quality-of-life issue for military families and improving schools serving military students will help the military's ongoing recruitment and retention initiatives.

The needs of districts enrolling children who reside on Indian lands—of whom over 93 percent are Native American—must be supported as well. Often, these school districts are in rural areas with a limited tax base and where administrators double as bus drivers, teachers, and coaches. Impact Aid dollars provide a foundational education program for all students; many schools would close their doors without this federal support.

Federal Properties school districts depend on Impact Aid due to a limited local tax base caused by the presence of certain federal land in their districts, including national parks and grasslands, national laboratories, Army Corps of Engineers projects, and military academies. Congress should prioritize this funding stream to reflect the addition of eligible Federal Property school districts. We urge you to support strong and continued funding for this important program.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



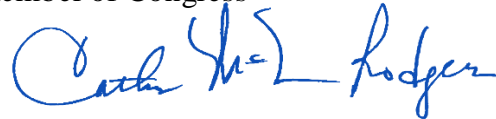
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Roger Williams
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress

Additional Member of Congress Signatories

/s/ Jack Bergman	/s/ Matt Gaetz	/s/ Michael R. Turner
/s/ Donald M. Payne, Jr.	/s/ Salud Carbajal	/s/ Glenn "GT" Thompson
/s/ John Garamendi	/s/ Mike Bost	/s/ Peter Welch
/s/ Donald S. Beyer Jr.	/s/ Joe Neguse	/s/ Sharice L. Davids
/s/ Adam Smith	/s/ Doug Lamborn	/s/ Nydia M. Velázquez
/s/ Antonio Delgado	/s/ Kaiiali'i Kahele	/s/ Jay Obernolte
/s/ Mark DeSaulnier	/s/ Adam Kinzinger	/s/ Veronica Escobar
/s/ Christopher H. Smith	/s/ Alan Lowenthal	/s/ Ilhan Omar
/s/ Steve Cohen	/s/ Chellie Pingree	/s/ Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
/s/ Suzan K. DelBene	/s/ Julia Brownley	/s/ Kim Schrier, M.D.
/s/ Jimmy Panetta	/s/ Jeff Van Drew	/s/ Joaquin Castro
/s/ Vicky Hartzler	/s/ Don Bacon	/s/ Michelle Fischbach
/s/ Tony Cárdenas	/s/ Elise M. Stefanik	/s/ Jim Costa
/s/ Albio Sires	/s/ Don Young	/s/ Frank Pallone, Jr.
/s/ Sean Patrick Maloney	/s/ Jerry McNerney	/s/ Liz Cheney
/s/ Gerald E. Connolly	/s/ Frank D. Lucas	/s/ Earl L. "Buddy" Carter

/s/ Sara Jacobs	/s/ Bradley S. Schneider	/s/ Blake Moore
/s/ Bill Foster	/s/ Madeleine Dean	/s/ Bobby L. Rush
/s/ Alcee L. Hastings	/s/ David N. Cicilline	/s/ Marie Newman
/s/ Peter A. DeFazio	/s/ Pete Stauber	/s/ Doug LaMalfa
/s/ Anthony G. Brown	/s/ Juan Vargas	/s/ Sheila Jackson Lee
/s/ Seth Moulton	/s/ Richard Hudson	/s/ Jared Huffman
/s/ Scott H. Peters	/s/ Donald Norcross	/s/ Diana DeGette
/s/ Josh Gottheimer	/s/ Brian Babin, D.D.S.	/s/ Markwayne Mullin
/s/ Tom O'Halleran	/s/ Joe Courtney	/s/ Dusty Johnson
/s/ Danny K. Davis	/s/ Ruben Gallego	/s/ Bobby L. Rush
/s/ Lloyd Doggett	/s/ Darrell Issa	/s/ Raúl M. Grijalva