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NAFIS Mourns Passing of Senator Dianne Feinstein

Washington, DC – September 29, 2023 – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) mourns the passing of Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) on September 28, 2023, at age 90. First elected to the U.S. Senate in 1992, she had the longest tenure of any woman in the chamber's history and was the longest-serving member of the Senate Democratic conference. She was a leader on many different issues, including national security and gun control. She was a trailblazer in many arenas, including serving as the first female leader of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Senator Feinstein was a longtime Impact Aid advocate. She served for many years as a member of the Senate Impact Aid Coalition. In the 118th Congress, she was an original co-sponsor of S. 2808, the Impact Aid Infrastructure Partnership Act, introduced earlier this month. She was also a co-sponsor of S. 871, the Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act.

"Impact Aid has lost a champion for kids. I would like to express my deep appreciation for Senator Feinstein's unwavering support for Impact Aid over the decades," said Jesse Najera, President of the California Association of Federally Impacted Schools (CAFIS) and Superintendent of Silver Valley Unified School District (CA). "Her dedication to ensuring that schools in federally impacted communities receive the funding they need has made a profound difference in the lives of countless students and families."

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The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) represents the 1,100-plus federally impacted public school districts that together educate approximately 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 <https://www.nafisdc.org/>.