National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

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TALKING POINTS: 2024 NAFIS SPRING CONFERENCE

Impact Aid Overview

Through Impact Aid, the Federal Government seeks to compensate school districts for lost property tax revenue arising from the presence of nontaxable Federal property (i.e. military installations, Indian trust and treaty lands, Federal low-rent housing, national laboratories and grasslands, and other Federal lands) within school district boundaries. Funding appropriated annually by Congress goes directly to school districts and can be used for any general fund purpose, including staff, mental health supports, technology, and transportation, supporting all students. This flexibility allows school district leaders to target funds based on need. While this program's funds are immensely helpful to school districts, it has not been fully funded in decades.

Annual Federal Funding

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FY 2025 Appropriations – With schools facing many challenges, including the need to build or renovate facilities, attract and retain educators, and adjust to recent education cuts, Impact Aid dollars are more precious now than they have ever been. Therefore, we are requesting a \$65 million increase for Basic Support, a \$2 million increase for Federal Property, a \$1.5 million increase for Construction, and a \$1.5 increase for Children with Disabilities.

Talking Points on Impact Aid Funding:

- If applicable, THANK them for their support in not cutting the Impact Aid program in FY 2024.
 - REQUEST support for a \$70 million increase for Impact Aid in FY 2025:
 - \$65 million increase for Basic Support
 - \$2 million increase for Federal Property
 - \$1.5 million increase for Construction
 - \$1.5 million increase for Children with Disabilities
- EXPLAIN what an increase to Impact Aid could mean for your district.

Section	FY21 Final	FY22 Final	FY23 Final	FY24*	FY25 NAFIS Request
Federal Property	\$76.31 M	\$77.31 M	\$78.31 M	\$78.31 M	\$80.31 M
Basic Support	\$1,354.24 M	\$1,409.24 M	\$1,468.24 M	\$1,468.24 M	\$1,533.24 M
Disabilities	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$49.82 M
Construction	\$17.41 M	\$17.41 M	\$18.41 M	\$18.41 M	\$19.91 M
Facilities	\$4.84 M				
Total	\$1,501.12 M	\$1,557.12 M	\$1,618.12 M	\$1,618.12 M	\$1,688.12 M

*If FY24 is funded at the same level as FY23

THE NAFIS FAMILY

FLISA

Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

MISA Military Impacted Schools Association

LO-ISA Learning Opportunity Impacted Schools Association

NIISA

National Indian Impacted Schools Association

Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act

Background: The Federal Government has a responsibility to fully fund Impact Aid, but it has not met this responsibility since 1969. This legislation would establish a five-year glidepath to full funding and ensure meaningful annual increases to districts.

The NAFIS-endorsed and fully bipartisan *Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act* has now been introduced in the House (H.R. 1591) and the Senate (S. 871). This legislation would fully fund Basic Support and provide a proportional increase to Federal Property, Construction, and Children with Disabilities.

Talking Points on Full Funding Bill:

- THANK those members who co-sponsored this legislation.
- REQUEST CO-SPONSORSHIP from those who have not yet signed-on.
- ORIGINAL CO-SPONSORS: House Reps. Tom Cole (R-OK) and Mike Levin (D-CA); Senate Sens. Ben Ray Luján (D-NM), Thomas Tillis (R-NC), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Markwayne Mullin (R-OK), Richard Durbin (D-IL), and John Cornyn (R-TX).

Impact Aid Infrastructure Partnership Act

Background: The current Impact Aid Construction line provides only \$18.41 million annually, which is insufficient to meet most internal renovation needs and provides no funding to build new schools. There is also a significant demand for funding to renovate and construct teacher housing.

The *Impact Aid Infrastructure Partnership Act*, which would add a total of \$1 billion over four years (\$250 million per year) to the Impact Aid Construction line item, has been introduced in the House (H.R. 6698) and the Senate (S. 2808). 25% of the new funds would be made available via formula to all eligible school districts. The U.S. Department of Education would disseminate the remaining 75% as competitive grants, with priority for those school districts with acute emergencies in their facilities (e.g., building code violations), teacher housing in need of repair, or limited or no bonding capacity.

Talking Points on Infrastructure:

- THANK those members who co-sponsored this legislation.
- REQUEST CO-SPONSORSHIP from those who have not yet signed-on.
- ORIGINAL CO-SPONSORS: House Reps. John Garamendi (D-CA), Julia Brownley (D-CA), Lloyd Doggett (D-TX), Raul Grijalva (D-AZ), and Marilyn Strickland (D-WA); Senate Sens. Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Ben Ray Luján (D-NM), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Tina Smith (D-MN), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).

Impact Aid Coalitions

The bipartisan House and Senate Impact Aid Coalitions were established in the 1990s and have since led successful efforts to protect and prioritize the Impact Aid program. There are more than 100 current Members of Congress on the coalitions. We hope to continue to grow these numbers and have the largest coalitions yet by the end of the 118th Congress. If you talk to a Member who is not currently on the coalition, suggest they join. Have them contact <u>JSchimmenti@nafisdc.org</u> to sign up or with any questions.

Talking Points:

- JOIN the House or Senate Impact Aid Coalition for the 118th Congress.
- It is an easy way to show your support for federally impacted schools and Impact Aid. Membership does not require any commitment of time or staff.
- The coalition serves as a resource to NAFIS in supporting and protecting Impact Aid.