



# Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

## Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

### Talking Points for September 26, 2017 Hill Visits

- On behalf of the nearly 900,000 children enrolled in federally impacted schools in our community and across the country, I would like to thank you for your support of Impact Aid and the increase in funding for all impact aid schools under FY 17 budget agreement.
  - Recognizing the need to meet its obligation to federally impacted students in 7002 schools the Senate Labor HHS appropriated an additional \$500K for FY 18.
  - Without Sequestration caps and with your assistance, we are hopeful that we can see an increase of \$2M for 7002 Schools in the FY 18 budget.
  - Thank you for supporting the inclusion of language in ESSA which has streamlined the process of applying for Impact Aid funds from the Department of Education.
- The Federal Government has seized highly valued land in our school districts for a variety of reasons, making that land exempt from the property taxes that support schools.
  - The Federal Government acknowledged its responsibility and initiated the Impact Aid program in 1950.
  - Today, the Federal Government provides impacted schools \$68M or only about 11% of the lost tax revenue.
  - In school districts where there is a federal land, local property taxpayers are penalized by having to pay more in taxes, or school districts are forced to reduce programs.
  - Impact Aid funds are efficient and flexible: they go directly to schools to support our students.
- New lands added by the Federal Government in recent years mean that more schools share the same amount of funds—each getting a smaller piece of the pie.
  - At the very least, Congress should provide additional funding to account for newly acquired lands so that funds are not reduced further. In essence, more schools have to share the same amount of funding. Implementing the appropriation of an additional \$2M for the Federal Properties program is a good first step.

#### 4. Be sure to give a specific example of how losing 7002 funds will impact your district.

Funding History			Sequester				NAFIS REQUEST
FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014/15**	FY 16	FY 2017	FY 2018
\$67,208,000	\$67,208,000	\$66,947,000	\$63,445,000	66,813,000	66,813,000	68,813,000	70,813,000

\*\*In FY 14 Impact Aid schools were one of the few educational programs returned to pre-sequester levels

- If they have not already, please ask them to join the Impact Aid Coalition (**If interested please notify NAFIS, at [jocelyn@nafisdc.org](mailto:jocelyn@nafisdc.org), to follow-up**). Ask the staffer to let you know when the Member has signed and/or joined so you can include this information in your next school newsletter and community meeting. (Offer an invitation to visit your schools).
- Thank staffer for meeting with you & remind them of the date of the Spring NAFIS conference on **March 20, 2018**. Offer to be a resource of additional information and direct the staff member to our website: [www.FLISA.org](http://www.FLISA.org)