

## Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education for Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

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Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association (FLISA) represents approximately 200 school districts and nearly 900,000 children that have federally owned land within their district boundaries, land for which the Federal Government pays no property taxes to schools. FLISA is a sub-group of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS).

- The Federal Government has seized valued land in our school districts for a variety of reasons from military bases to national parks, from Army Corps of Engineer projects and laboratories to wildlife conservation areas, making them exempt from the property taxes that support school children. Before the federal takeover, these lands generated property taxes that supported school children.
- School districts are dependent upon local property taxes as a major revenue source to fund educational programs for the federally impacted children they serve. Because the Federal Government does not pay property taxes, the revenue for these schools is dramatically reduced.
- The Federal Government acknowledged its responsibility and initiated the Impact Aid program in 1950. Today, the Federal Government provides impacted schools approximately less than 10% nationwide of the lost tax revenue.
- In school districts where there is a federal property, local property taxpayers are penalized by paying higher taxes or school districts are forced to reduce programs, unjustly depriving federally impacted children of the educational opportunities they need and deserve. Property owners should not be responsible for both their own property taxes, plus the Federal Government's share.
- Children and student achievement suffer the most. Impact aid funds critical instructional programs for teaching and learning. These dollars directly support the education and achievement of nearly 900,000 federally impacted children.
- Congress should continue its obligation to our students and communities. It should reject the Senate FY Budget and agree to the House's more appropriate FY 20 appropriation which recognizes the government's obligation to support all Impact Aid programs increasing Federal Land Impact Aid by \$2M.
- Congress has the obligation to 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.

With your assistance, we are hopeful that we can see an increase of \$2M for these 7002 Schools in the FY 20 budget.

Funding History:							FLISA REQUEST
FY 12	SEQUESTER FY 13	FY 14/15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20
\$66,947,000	\$63,445,000	66,813,000	66,813,000	68,813,000	73,313,000	74,313,000	ADDITIONAL + \$2M

Please join the Impact Aid Coalition. Information is available at www.NAFISDC.org or please contact the NAFIS Director of Policy and Advocacy Leslie Finnan at Leslie@nafisdc.org. Additionally, the Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association website www.FLISA.org is a terrific source of information.