



# Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

## FLISA Talking Points for March 2023 Hill Visits

**FLISA Members – Consider what is best to share of the following based upon if the meeting is with a member of Congress, the member's experience with Impact Aid, or if this is a meeting with staff members. Also consider the [NAFIS Meeting Tips](#). At some point in the meeting, please share with those in attendance the one-page handout.**

### Introduction and Purpose

1. We are here to explain and answer any questions about federal impact aid and ask for your support for funding.
2. *Explain impaction for each district (federal land, percentage, etc.). What would you lose without it? Tell your story.*
3. We want to make sure the program stays in place and maintain this critical source of funding for our students and taxpayers. Unlike some programs, we must have *congressional support each year to maintain this program.*

### Federal Impact Aid Background

4. The Impact Aid Program was signed into law by President Truman in 1950 and is the nation's oldest K-12 federal education program. *For nearly 75 years, Congress has provided funding to school districts with bipartisan support.*
5. Impact Aid reimburses school districts for the lost revenue associated with nontaxable federal property. This is valuable land that was seized by the government, *making that land exempt from local property taxes for schools.*
6. To be eligible for Impact Aid, *a district must have 10 percent or more of its land owned by the federal government.*

### Student Impact and the National Associations

7. There are more than 1,200 federally impacted school districts that receive Impact Aid located across all 50 states. Together, we educate *more than 10 million public school students.*
8. Our association is the Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association (Section 7002), and [FLISA](#) represents *approximately 200 districts and nearly 900,000 children* that have federally owned land within their boundaries.
9. FLISA is part of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools. [NAFIS](#) also includes Mid-to-Low LOT Schools (MTLLS), Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) and the National Indian Impacted Schools Association (NIISA).

### Local Financial Implications

10. School districts are largely funded through local property taxes and since federal property is exempt from local taxation, federally impacted school districts are at a *serious financial disadvantage in funding their schools.*
11. Impacted school districts receive on *average less than 10 cents on the dollar* of what would be received from local property taxes. This also has implications for our local taxpayers.
12. New lands added by the federal government in recent years means that more schools share the same amount of funds, which results in *existing school districts each getting a smaller portion of the funding* that is provided.

### Our Ask of Congress to Support Our Students and Schools

13. We are asking Congress to provide some additional funding to account for newly acquired lands *so that our currently federally impacted schools do not lose additional funding.*
14. Specifically, we request that you consider supporting the *currently proposed increase in the Senate of \$2 million additional funding for Section 7002 Schools in FY24.* For federally impacted schools, *this is a grand total request of \$80,313,000 over the FY23 funded amount of \$78,313,000, which is just a 2.55 percent increase.*
15. *For those not already a member,* please consider joining the bipartisan [Impact Aid Coalition](#). More information is on our handout we will leave. *Thank those who are already a member of the Coalition.*
16. Please also consider supporting the [Advancing Toward Full Impact Aid Funding](#) Act, which is aimed at advancing towards fully funding the Impact Aid program. More information is available on our handout.

**Thank them for their support, offer an invitation to your schools, and tell them we will return on September 19, 2023!**

