



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

FLISA Member Meeting Agenda

Wyndham San Diego Bayside—1355 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA

Committee Work Thursday, June 20th— 2PM-4PM Embarcadaro Room

(Advocacy Committee Meets at 3PM—NAFIS Jason Schimmenti Zoom at 3:15P)

Membership Meeting Friday, June 21st 9AM-4PM Embarcadaro Room

Reception 5PM-7PM Poolside Terrace

Please bring your laptop/device for Committee Work.

I. Welcome Comments and Review of the Mission/Vision of FLISA – Frank Sheboy

Our Mission: To ensure the reimbursement of funds lost due to the federal government's removal of land from local tax rolls, paid to eligible public school districts, with 100 percent of the revenue used for the education of students.

Vision: Advancing towards **100%** full-funding for the 7002 program.

Guiding Principles:

- Section 7002 Impact Aid Funds will be distributed in a fair and equitable manner,
- Membership in the FLISA Organization will be expanded,
- Safeguard the financial interests of all Section 7002 Impact Aid districts.

II. Introduction of FLISA Board and Past-Presidents

Current FLISA Board (voting members) consists of:

Frank Sheboy (President thru March 2026, Past-Pres thru March 2028),

Christine Walker (Vice-President thru March 2026),

Jerry Ellender* (Treasurer thru March 2025),

**Retains Non-Voting Member-at-Large Status after this appointment **Appointed to complete term*

Stephanie Long** (Secretary thru March 2025), ***Appointed to complete term*

Cathie Peznoski (Past-President thru March 2026),

Mary Ticknor Advocacy Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

Bob Reichert*** Membership Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

Mark Cross Messaging Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

Non-Voting Members-at-Large—Wes Eversole (Member-at-Large)

Past-Presidents:

Terry Tamblyn

Tom Madden

Sandy Doeber

Craig Hutcheson

Tom Davenport

Tom Schneider

Bob Reichert***

Mark Naugle

Section 3 By-Laws Excerpt:

- a. *Terms of Office: Executive Board members shall be elected at large for two-year terms with the exception of the member elected to the office of President who shall serve a four-year term, two years as President, followed by two years as Immediate Past President. [...] Executive Board members shall be elected at the spring meeting. The President, Vice-President and At Large Members shall be elected during even numbered years. The Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected during odd numbered years. Newly elected Executive Board Members shall take office upon the conclusion of the final FLISA meeting of the spring NAFIS conference.*

III. Introduction by Those in Attendance

- A. Name, Title, Location and Impacted Land
- B. Recognition of New Attendees—Frank Sheboy

IV. FLISA Executive Director's Report – Tom Schneider

- A. Overview
- B. This is a member-led organization...we work together in advocacy.
- C. The success of this meeting is what you do between meetings to advocate for the goals of Impact Aid and FLISA

V. Approval of minutes from FLISA Spring Meeting—Christine Walker/Stephanie Long

- A. Document has been posted on the FLISA website

VI. Treasurer and Bookkeeper Report—Cathie Peznowski/Jerry Ellender

- 1. FY 25 Budget Considerations
 - a. OASIS/NIISA/FRO Attendance (Approx. \$1,250 Each)
 - b. Terry/Bob Messaging Committee Idea for “button” on website for Membership dues (\$2000)
- 2. Final Budget approved at Summer FLISA Meeting with Amendment once final legal fees determined
 - a. Attorney Fees to be Non-Profit (APPROXIMATE \$3,500)
- 3. FLISA Registration Fees Increase Reflected in Summer Meeting Information
 - a. Academy to help with Summer Meeting until July 1, 2024
- 4. FLISA Dues Out this Summer Update
 - a. Letters sent by Bookkeeper (New Address)
 - b. Dues Structure Review for 2025--Original Dues from FLISA Inception

DUES SCHEDULE: In accordance with the FLISA bylaws, your annual membership payment for 2019-20 is based on the amount of 7002 revenue your district receives. We ask that your membership dues be received by the Treasurer between July 1 and September 30.

District receiving \$1,000,000 per year or more.....	\$1,000
District receiving \$500,000 - \$999,000 per year.....	\$500
District receiving \$250,000 - \$499,000 per year.....	\$250
District receiving \$100,000 - \$249,000 per year.....	\$100
Districts receiving less than \$99,999 per year.....	\$50

VII. Non-Profit Status Update—Cathie Peznowski/Frank Sheboy and Tom Schneider

- 5. Attorney Information/Predicted Timeline

VIII. Bookkeeper Status Update—Cathie Peznowski/Tom Schneider

- 6. Membership Letters out in July (Look for new address)



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IX. NAFIS Board and NAFIS Update— Craig Hutcheson/Tom Schneider

- a. Update on NAFIS Organization
- b. NAFIS Conference: Suggestions?
- c. FRO (Federal Relations Outreach) Update
 - a. FLISA Thanks Volunteers for FRO:
 1. Schneider, Wes, Christine, Mark, Steph
- d. Importance of Department of Education Survey Completion

X. Executive Director: Legislative Update

XI. Review of 118th Congress and FY 24—FY 25 NAFIS Appropriations Ask

See NAFIS Talking Points for Spring, 2024 (attached):

Talking Points on Impact Aid Funding:

- If applicable, THANK them for their support in not cutting the Impact Aid program in FY 24.
- 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. (MERIT)

Section	FY21 Final	FY22 Final	FY23 Final	FY24 Final	FY25 NAFIS Request
Federal Property	\$76.31 M	\$77.31 M	\$78.31 M	\$78.31 M	\$81 M
Basic Support	\$1,354.24 M	\$1,409.24 M	\$1,468.24 M	\$1,468.24 M	\$1,539.00 M
Disabilities	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$49.816 M
Construction	\$17.41 M	\$17.41 M	\$18.41 M	\$18.41 M	\$20.5 M
Facilities	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M
Total	\$1,501.12 M	\$1,557.12 M	\$1,618.12 M	\$1,618.12 M	\$1,695.15 M

From NAFIS Budget Request Letter March 26, 2024

The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) requests that you provide at least \$1,695,151,000 for the Impact Aid Program, a \$70 million increase over FY 2024 enacted levels. Specifically, we request \$81 million for Federal Property (a \$2 million increase), \$1,539,000,000 billion for Basic Support (a \$65 million increase), \$20.5 million for Construction (a \$1.5 million increase), and \$49,816,000 million for Children with Disabilities in the Department of Education's Impact Aid Program (a \$1.5 million increase) for FY 2025.

XII. Other NAFIS Legislation for 118th Congress:

From NAFIS Talking Points on Impact Aid Funding:

Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act

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 Lujan (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

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) Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Ben Ray Lujan (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 are hoping 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 JSchimmenti@nafisdc.org to sign up or with any questions.

Talking Points on Coalitions:

- 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.



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XIII. Committee Updates and Committee Work (See Below)

- e. Mary Ticknor--**Advocacy** Committee
- f. Bob Reichert--**Membership** Committee
 - a. Why Join FLISA 1-Pager
 - b. Terry's Idea to visit California highest dollar amount non-participating to Visit Districts/speak at meetings?
 - c. Membership" Button on Website—New Registration Form with Cathie Information/Address
 - d. Why Join Brochure for Membership Letters in July
- g. Mark Cross--**Messaging** Committee

Review Talking Points and 1-Pager for September 24, 2024 Hill Visits (Messaging Committee)

XIV. Nominations for FLISA Extra Mile Award

XV. Look Ahead: What do we need for a successful:

- Interim communications
- Winter 2025 FLISA Meeting Information—St. Petersburg, Florida

XVI. Next Meeting Information

- a. **NAFIS Fall 2024 Conference:** Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, September 21st thru Wednesday, September 25th
 - a. Discussion on Reception Monday vs. Tuesday, September 24th After Hill Visits
- b. **FLISA Winter, 2025 Meeting,** Hyatt Clearwater, Florida—February 1st Thursday Afternoon)—**Registration Form Attached**
 - a. Committee Work Thursday, January 30th —2PM-4PM
 - b. Board Meeting Thursday, January 30th —4PM-6PM
 - c. Membership Meeting Friday, January 31st—9AM-4PM
- c. **NAFIS Spring, 2025 Conference:** Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, March 8th thru Wednesday, March 12th
- d. **FLISA Summer, 2025 Meeting**—Location/Date: Needed
 - a. East Coast (NY, Michigan)/West Coast (Lake Tahoe/Reno, Jackson Hole)
 - b. Suggestions to Consider: Upstate New York/Michigan?
 - c. **Date: Thursday, June 19th thru Saturday June 21st (Juneteenth) or Thursday, June 26th thru Saturday, June 28th**

XVII. Action Items:

17-A. Approval of FLISA Spring Meeting Minutes,

17-B. Approval FY 25 Budget to be amended once final legal fees are determined (estimated \$3,500),

17-C. Nomination and Direction to Executive Director to Investigate Possible of Summer, 2025 Meeting Locations

XVIII. Recognition and Thanks—Extra Mile Awards

- Recognition and thanks to outgoing FLISA Treasurer Becky Allan, (This will be mailed to Academy after the meeting)

XIX. Reception Reminder/Adjournment

***Call for Presentations—Winter 2025 FLISA Meeting**

Enhancing the FLISA Meeting Agenda – Our Thanks to Mary Ticknor for volunteering to present at our last Winter Meeting...We are now looking for volunteers for Winter Meeting, in Clearwater in 2025.

***Call for Presentations—Winter FLISA Meeting 2025**

Do you have important best practices to share with the educator community? Are you an expert on a cutting-edge issue in youth development or education? Can you captivate a crowd? Well, it's time to bring your ideas to a national audience – become a presenter at the FLISA Winter Conference in Florida.



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FLISA Member Spring Meeting Minutes
Sunday, March 10, 2024—Concord/Lexington 10:45-11:45AM
Monday, March 11, 2024—Columbia B 8:30-10:00AM

- I. **Welcome Comments and Review of the Mission/Vision of FLISA**
Cathie Pezanoski reviewed the mission, vision, and guiding principles of FLISA.
- II. **Introduction of FLISA Board and Past Presidents**
Past presidents and the FLISA board introduced themselves.
- III. **Introduction by Those in Attendance**
Attendees introduced themselves and quorum was confirmed

Name	School District
Amy Bessette	Wall School District #51-5
Anne Lawless	Highland Falls-Ft. Montgomery Central School Dist.
April Moore	Sierra Sands Unified School District
Ben Papes	Glen Lake Community School
Billie Jordan	OASIS
Brooke Hazael-Massieux	Glen Lake Community School
Camilio Calabaza	Kewa Keres Language Program
Cathie Pezanoski	Elwood CCSD #203
Charlie Kyle	Burr Ridge CCSD 180
Charlotte Odom	Brookeland ISD
Christine Walker	Hueneme Elementary School District
Christopher Carballo	Highland Falls-Ft. Montgomery Central School

	Dist.
Craig M. Hutcheson	Kittatinny Reg. High School Dist.
Evelyn Hinton	San Carlos USD
Frank Sheboy	Highland Falls-Ft. Montgomery Central School Dist.
Hope Dennis	Wall School District #51-5
Jason Misner	Glen Lake Community School
Jerry Ellender	Mad River Local School District
Jolyn Choate	Hulbert Public Schools
Kevin Feeney	Wilmington Comm. Unit School Dist. #209-U
Khrysten Seweingyama	Tuba City Unified SD
Mark Cross	Cass School Dist. #63
Mark Naugle	Custer School Dist. #16-1
Mary Ticknor	Lemont Twp. High School Dist. #210
Michael McElduff	Highland Falls-Ft. Montgomery Central School Dist.
Oscar Lovato	Santo Domingo Pueblo
Patricia Coriz	Kewa Keres Language Program
Raymond Aguilar	Santo Domingo Pueblo
Robert Cambell	Sierra Sands Unified School District
Robert Dunn	Southeast Local School Dist.
Robert Reichart	Hatboro Horsham School Dist.
Ron Begay	Tuba City Unified SD
Sally Crowser	Wall School District
Samantha Pochedly	Southeast Local School Dist.
Sandy Doebert	
Sarah Wedge	Custer School Dist. #16-1
Shawn Stowe	Leland Public Schools
Stephanie Long	Leland Public Schools
Tawnya Stevens	San Carlos USD
Terry Anderson	Wilmington CUSD #209U



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Thomas Schneider	FLISA
Tim Page	Elwood CCSD #203
Tom Madden	FLISA
Wes Eversole	Lake Dallas Ind. School Dist.

IV. FLISA Executive Director's Report

NAFIS Executive Director Nicole Russell came by the meeting and introduced the new Director of Policy and Advocacy, Jayson Schimmenti. She also introduced the intern for the Spring semester. Dr. Tom Schneider gave a legislative update. Marc Cross distributed the talking points and "leave behind" prepared by the messaging committee.

V. Minutes from the FLISA Winter Meeting

Christine Walker shared the minutes from the Winter meeting were in the agenda packet and posted on the website.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Cathie Pezanoski explained that Academy School District will no longer be the fiscal agent for FLISA, but FLISA will be working to become a separate non-profit organization. The attorney recommends becoming a 501(c)6. The research was done with no cost, but there isll be a cost for the attorney to support with filing paperwork, etc. Cathie Pezanoski reminded membership about change in summer/winter registration fees. With FLISA becoming it's own non profit, there is a need for a new paid position, a bookkeeper. There will continue to be a volunteer treasurer that is from a member district.

Cathie Pezanoski, Tom Schneider, Frank Sheboy, Jerry Ellender and Becky Allan worked together to create draft budget. Ms. Peznowski walked through budget. She explained

that the cost of the attorney was not included in the budget as they received the estimate after the budget was developed. The cost will be not to exceed \$3500 Academy will continue as the fiscal agent through the transition. Invoices for membership will be sent from bookkeeper to take that off Academy in the transition. Tom Schneider talked about the proposed bookkeeper position and the job description. He also discussed internal control between bookkeeper and treasurer.

VII. By-Laws/Meeting Minutes "Correction" Information (attached)

There is a need to re-vote on the changes to the by-laws as presented in March, 2022, as there was an error in how the change was reported in the minutes. The new minutes will be sent to the attorney.

Meeting is adjourned at 11:45am until tomorrow morning.

Meeting reconvened at 8:30 am on March 11th; quorum confirmed.

Attendees that were not in attendance on 3/10/24 were introduced.

VIII. Review of Executive Board Membership and Proposal of Slate for March, 2024 Election

Mark Naugle reviewed the current FLISA board and made recommendations for the new board.

Current FLISA Board (voting members) consists of:

Cathie Pezanoski (President thru March 2024, Past-Pres thru March 2026),
Frank Sheboy (Vice President thru March 2024),
Becky Allan (Treasurer thru March 2025),
Christine Walker (Secretary thru March 2025),
Mark Naugle (Past-President thru March 2024),
Mary Ticknor Advocacy Chairperson (Thru March, 2024)
Bob Reichert*** Membership Chairperson (Thru March, 2024)
Mark Cross Messaging Chairperson (Thru March, 2024)

Recommended Slate FLISA Board (voting members) consists of:

Frank Sheboy (President thru March 2026, Past-Pres thru March 2028),
Christine Walker (Vice-President thru March 2026),
Jerry Ellender* (Treasurer thru March 2025),

**Retains Non-Voting Member-at-Large Status after this appointment **Appointed to complete term*

Stephanie Long** (Secretary thru March 2025),

***Appointed to complete term*

Cathie Pezanoski (Past-President thru March 2026),
Mary Ticknor Advocacy Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)



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Bob Reichert*** Membership Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

Mark Cross Messaging Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

Non-Voting Members-at-Large—Wes Eversole (Member-at-Large)

Past-Presidents:

Terry Tamblyn	Tom Madden	Sandy Doebert	Craig Hutcheson
Tom Davenport	Tom Schneider	Bob Reichert***	Mark Naugle

IX. NAFIS Board and NAFIS Update

Tom Schneider shared there will be a Recognition of Lynn Watkins in honor of her retirement.

Craig Hutcheson gave the following updates:

- Director of Policy and Advocacy, Jayson Schimmenti.
- NAFIS Board working on strategic plan and organizational assessment
- Proposed Director of Operations is on hold until recommendations from consultant in regards to the office, etc.

Frank Sheboy gave an update on the meeting with NAFIS Executive Director Nicole Russell.

The Inaugural Hilary Goldmann Women in Leadership Award Recipient will be presented to Sandy Doebert

X. Review of 118th Congress and FY 24—FY 25 NAFIS Appropriations Ask

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

XI. Other NAFIS Legislation for 118th Congress was reviewed.

XII. Committee Updates and Committee Work

Committee chairs gave an overview of what their committees do and then each group met together to discuss next steps.

- b. Mary Ticknor--**Advocacy** Committee
- c. Bob Reichert--**Membership** Committee
- d. Mark Cross--**Messaging** Committee

XV. Action Items:

17-A. Approval of FLISA Winter Meeting Minutes,

Motion by Mark Naugle

Second by Wes Eversole

Motion approved by unanimous vote

17-B. Approval of Tentative FY 25 Budget with Final Approval at Summer Meeting,

Motion by Frank Sheboy

Second by April Moore

Motion approved by unanimous vote

17-C. Approval of FLISA Bookkeeper Job Description as presented,

Motion by Mary Ticknor

Second by Mark Cross

Motion approved by unanimous vote

17-D. Approval of Cathie Peznowski as Bookkeeper to be reviewed annually as presented,

Motion by Mark Naugle

Second by Kevin Feeney

Motion approved by unanimous vote

17-E. Approval of FLISA By-Laws as originally confirmed in March, 2022 (Needs 2/3 Vote),

Motion by Wes Eversole

Second by Stephanie Long

Motion approved by unanimous vote

17-F. Nomination and election of Frank Sheboy as FLISA President thru March, 2026,

17-G. Nomination and election Christine Walker as FLISA Vice-President thru March, 2026,

17-H. Appointment of Jerry Ellender to complete the term as Treasurer thru March, 2025 while retaining non-voting member status on the FLISA Board after this appointment,

17-I. Appointment of Stephanie Long to complete the term as Secretary thru March, 2025,

17-J. Nomination and election of Mary Ticknor as Advocacy Chairperson thru March, 2026,

17-K. Nomination and election of Bob Reichert as Membership Chairperson thru March, 2026,

17-L. Nomination and election of Mark Cross as Messaging Chairperson thru March, 2026,



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There were no nominations from the floor. It was suggested to take 17-f thru 17-L as a slate.

Motion to approve items 17-F thru 17-L by Tim Page

Second by April Moore

Motion approved by unanimous vote

XVI. Next Meeting Information

Tom Schneider gave information about upcoming meetings:

- A. Summer, 2024 – Location: Wyndham San Diego Bayside
 - a. Committee Work Thursday, June 20th— 2PM-4PM (Embarcadero Room)
 - b. Board Meeting 4PM-6PM (Embarcadero Room)
 - c. Membership Meeting Friday, June 21st 9AM-4PM (Embarcadero Rm.)
 - d. Reception 5PM-7PM (Poolside Terrace)
- B. Fall NAFIS Conference, Washington DC, September 21-25, 2024
- C. Winter, 2025 **FLISA Meeting, Hyatt Clearwater, Florida—January 30th-31st**
 - a. Committee Work Thursday, January 30th —2PM-4PM
 - b. Board Meeting Thursday, January 30th —4PM-6PM
 - c. Membership Meeting Friday, January 31st—9AM-4PM
- D. Spring NAFIS Conference, Washington DC, March 10-12, 2025

XVII. Recognition and Thanks—Extra Mile Awards

- Recognition and thanks to outgoing President Cathie Peznowski (Mark Naugle),
- Recognition and thanks to outgoing FLISA Treasurer Becky Allan,
- Recognition and thanks to Past-President Sandy Doeber,
- Recognition and thanks to Retiring NAFIS Director Lynn Watkins

XV. Adjournment

**Approval FY 25 Budget to be amended once final legal fees are determined
(estimated \$3,500)**

**Section 7002 YTD FLISA Treasurer's Report
July 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2024 (as of February 29, 2024)**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
	FY24-25 Proposed Budget	FY23-24 Adopted Budget	FY23-24 YTD Actual	Variance	FY22-23 Actual	FY21-22 Actual	FY20-21 Actual	FY19-20 Actual	FY18-19 Actual	
Revenue										
1 Membership dues (2) (6) (12) (13)	24,000	24,000	21,400	(2,600)	22,900	24,100	12,550	21,600	21,750	1
2 Winter Conference (5) (8)	5,500	4,500	4,640	140	5,230	4,000	-	4,960	5,120	2
3 Summer Conference (4)	4,500	4,500	-	(4,500)	3,680	3,720	1,000	-	4,160	3
4 Total Revenue	34,000	33,000	26,040	(6,960)	31,810	31,820	13,550	26,560	31,030	4
Expenditures										
5 Executive Director										5
6 Compensation (7)(11)	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	6
8 Travel	8,000	5,000	4,804	(196)	2,660	6,466	95	3,170	8,409	8
9 Printing/other (9)	1,000	2,000	-	(2,000)	1,125	-	809	2,194	1,565	9
10 Subtotal	19,000	17,000	14,804	(2,196)	13,785	16,466	10,904	15,363	19,975	10
11 Bookkeeper										11
12 Compensation	2,500									12
13 Travel	8,000									13
14 Subtotal	10,500									14
15 Executive Committee										15
16 Printing	-	300	-	(300)	-	-	-	-	36	16
17 Office/Other/Contingency	-	750	-	(750)	-	-	-	-	500	17
18 Subtotal	-	1,050	-	(1,050)	-	-	-	-	536	18
19 FRO/MISA/NIISA Outreach (3)										19
20 Travel	4,000	1,500	1,189	(311)	-	-	-	500	2,036	20
21 Printing/Other (15)	500	500	-	(500)	500	500	-	-	-	21
22 Subtotal	4,500	2,000	1,189	(811)	500	500	-	500	2,036	22
23 General Operations										23
24 Bank Charges	250	250	-	(250)	385	209		12	-	24
25 Website Development/Maintenance (10)(14)	2,000	11,000	4,619	(6,381)	8,035	440	588	617	926	25
26 Software License	900	500	815	315	702	712	228	755	360	26
27 Printing	200	200		(200)					193	27
28 Miscellaneous	600	600	289	(311)	234		1,335	132	9	28
29 Winter Conference (8)	5,500	6,500	4,252	(2,248)	7,740	2,753	2,000	3,676	5,901	29
30 Summer Conference (4)	4,500	4,500	4,924	424	4,672	858	-	-	1,556	30
31 Subtotal	13,950	23,550	14,899	(8,651)	21,768	4,972	4,151	5,192	8,943	31
32 Total Expenditures	47,950	43,600	30,892	(12,708)	36,054	21,938	15,055	21,055	31,490	32
33 Net Income	(13,950)	(10,600)	(4,852)	5,748	(4,244)	9,882	(1,505)	5,505	(460)	33
34 Beginning Balance	61,000	70,735	70,735	-	74,979	65,097	66,602	61,097	61,558	34
35 Ending Balance	47,050	60,135	65,883	5,748	70,735	74,979	65,097	66,602	61,097	35
36 Winter Conference Revenue	5,500	4,500	4,640	140	5,230	4,000	-	4,960	5,120	36
37 Winter Conference Expenditures (8)	6,500	6,500	4,252	(2,248)	7,740	2,753	2,000	3,676	5,901	37
38 Winter Conference Net Income	(1,000)	(2,000)	388	2,388	(2,510)	1,247	(2,000)	1,284	(781)	38
39 Summer Conference Revenue	4,500	4,500	-	(4,500)	3,680	3,720	1,000	-	4,160	39
40 Summer Conference Expenditures (4)	4,500	4,500	4,924	424	4,672	858	-	-	1,556	40
41 Summer Conference Net Income	-	-	(4,924)	(4,924)	(992)	2,862	1,000	-	2,604	41

SEE FOOTNOTES ON NEXT PAGE

Approval FY 25 Budget to be amended once final legal fees are determined (estimated \$3,500),

**Section 7002 YTD FLISA Treasurer's Report
July 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2024 (as of February 29, 2024)**

Footnotes:

- 2) Dues for FY08 - FY12 were charged in accordance with the by-law amendment at Fall '08 NAFIS meeting.
- 3) On 6/26/15 the Exec Board approved FLISA representation/attendance at MISA and NIISA meetings as well as Fed Rel Outreach.
- 4) Summer conference expenses and income may not be recorded by June 30th.
- 5) As a result of fund balance growth, at the fall 2011 meeting the \$002 Executive Board proposed to reduce the winter & summer meeting registration fees to \$50 (from approx \$150) per person, not including add'l meals. This is reflected in FY12-FY15 data.
- NOTE: At March 2014 meeting, the Exec Board approved returning to \$150 registration for summer/winter meetings beginning 2015-16.
- 6) Dues for FY13 - FY15 are established at 50% of the rate established by the fall '08 by-law amendment, per summer '12 by-law amendment. Beginning in FY16 dues return to 100% of the rate established by the fall 2008 by-law amendment.
- 7) Executive Board approved additional \$500 to Exec Dir compensation for 2013-14.
- 8) The 2014-15 winter meeting was hosted by NISA in Las Vegas. NISA collected all revenue and paid all expenses, thus nothing appears on the \$002 books for the event.
- 9) On 6/26/15 the Exec Board increased the budget for expenses related to Exec Dir cell phone service and computer purchase/lease.
- 10) On 6/26/15 the Exec Board approved expenditures for website design in 2015-16 and annual maintenance in subsequent years.
- 11) On 6/23/18 membership approved an amended budget for 2018-19 that increased Executive Director compensation to \$10,000.
- 12) Dues for FY20 - FY21 are established at 50% of the rate established at the May 5, 2020 meeting.
- 13) Dues for FY21-FY22 are restored to 100% of the rate.
- 14) At the January 6, 2022 meeting, the Exec Board approved a future \$5,000 expenditure to fund contract with a Microsoft Teams consultant (Angus Frost) to start the process of migrating the Advocacy Action plan to Microsoft Teams. This money was not spent in FY21-FY22 for a Microsoft Teams consultant. The FY22-FY23 budget for this line item includes \$2,000 for website development and maintenance; \$5,000 for a stipend for an IT consultant (paid in two equal installments, one half after each FLISA Winter and Summer meeting); and \$4,000 for travel expenses for the IT consultant to attend the FLISA Winter and Summer meetings.
- 15) Includes \$500 donation from FLISA to FISEF.

At the Summer Meeting Budget to be approved with note that the FY 25 Budget will be amended once final legal fees are determined (estimated at \$3,500) at the next FLISA meeting.



National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

400 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 290 | Washington, DC 20001 | (p) 202.624.5455 | www.NAFISDC.org

March 26, 2024

Hon. Tammy Baldwin, Chair
Subcommittee on Labor HHS and Education
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Shelly Moore Capito, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor HHS and Education
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Robert Aderholt, Chair
Subcommittee on Labor HHS Education
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor HHS Education
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin, Chair Aderholt, Ranking Member Capito, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) requests **that you provide at least \$1,695,151,000 for the Impact Aid Program, a \$70 million increase over FY 2024 enacted levels. Specifically, we request \$81 million for Federal Property (a \$2 million increase), \$1,539,000,000 billion for Basic Support (a \$65 million increase), \$20.5 million for Construction (a \$1.5 million increase), and \$49,816,000 million for Children with Disabilities in the Department of Education's Impact Aid Program (a \$1.5 million increase) for FY 2025.**

NAFIS represents approximately 1,100 Impact Aid-recipient school districts that educate more than 8 million students nationwide. Impact Aid is the oldest elementary and secondary education program and represents a partnership between the Federal Government and those local communities where it holds significant non-taxable property, such as military installations, Indian treaty or trust land, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act land, Federal low-rent housing facilities, national parks, and national laboratories.

NAFIS is grateful for Congress's past bipartisan support of the Impact Aid program and hopes that strong support will continue in FY 2025. Federally impacted school districts cannot afford stagnant appropriations or a loss of funding, given their continuing high student needs and high inflation.

Section 7003 Basic Support: This cornerstone account of Impact Aid provides formula funding to support the students attending federally impacted public schools. This formula is based on several factors, including the cost of education, per pupil expenditures, and need. Because the federal government has been unable to fully meet its obligations to this program since 1969, underfunding it by nearly 40%, the actual allotments to school districts is further reduced on a prorated basis. We appreciate that Congress has recognized this historic shortfall by increasing funding in recent years and request that Congress continue to work towards full funding by providing another incremental increase

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

in FY 2025. NAFIS supports a \$65 million increase for the coming fiscal year, which would build on increases provided in previous years and help the program keep pace with the rising education costs.

Section 7003(d) Children with Disabilities: Another important element of Impact Aid is the Children with Disabilities section, which provides funding for military-connected and Indian lands students with active Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). NAFIS seeks a \$1.5 million increase for this line item.

Section 7002 Federal Property: For Section 7002 payments, which provide formula funding based on the actual property in the school district owned by the Federal Government, we request an additional \$2 million in FY 2025. These funds will partially offset new costs as the Federal Government continues to take the property off local tax rolls and the value of taxable land on which the funding formula is based increases.

Section 7007 Construction: Finally, the Construction section of Impact Aid, which allows federally impacted schools to make critical renovations to their buildings, has received very limited federal funding until much-needed increases in recent years. For FY 2025, we request a \$1.5 million increase over last year. Additionally, we recommend that FY 2025 Impact Aid Section 7007 funds be distributed under Section 7007(b) competitive grants since FY 2024 funds will be dispersed through Section 7007(a) formula grants. This request tracks with language inserted annually in appropriation bills that call for even-year dollars to be paid out under the formula provision 7007(a) and odd-year dollars to be paid out under 7007(b) competitive grants.

Additional investments in Impact Aid are critical to help school districts close achievement gaps, update technology, expand access to early childhood and afterschool programs, provide school-based mental health supports, replace failing infrastructure, offer competitive salaries to recruit and retain school leaders, and more. Through increased funding, we ask you to continue to view the program as a critical Federal investment and a tax replacement program for federally impacted communities.

Sincerely,



Nicole Russell
Executive Director

CC: US House of Representatives and US Senate

IMPACT AID

BA in millions	2023	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Request
Payments for Federally Connected Children: Basic Support Payments	\$1,468.2	\$1,468.2	\$1,468.2
Payments for Children with Disabilities	48.3	48.3	48.3
Facilities Maintenance	4.8	4.8	4.8
Construction	18.4	18.4	18.4
Payments for Federal Property	78.3	78.3	78.3
Total	1,618.1	1,618.1	1,618.1

The Impact Aid program provides financial assistance to school districts affected by Federal activities. The presence of certain children living on Federal property across the country can place a financial burden on the LEAs that educate them because such property is exempt from local property taxes, denying LEAs access to a key source of revenue used by most communities to finance education. Impact Aid helps replace the lost local revenue that would otherwise be available to LEAs to pay for the education of these children.

The Request would provide significant support for the education of approximately 770,000 federally connected children in approximately 1,000 school districts.

Basic Support Payments support federally connected children through both regular Basic Support Payments and Basic Support Payments for Heavily Impacted LEAs.

The Request for Payments for Children with Disabilities would support formula grants to help eligible districts meet their obligations under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide a free appropriate public education for federally connected children with disabilities.

The Request for Facilities Maintenance would fund essential repair and maintenance of the nine school facilities serving large numbers of military dependents that are owned and operated by the Department of Education, while also supporting the transfer of these schools to local school districts.

The Request for Construction would be used for competitive grants to the LEAs with the greatest need and would provide sufficient assistance to enable those LEAs to make major repairs and renovations.

The Request for Payments for Federal Property would provide formula-based payments to LEAs that generally have lost 10 percent or more of their taxable property to the Federal Government.

HOUSE GOP TARGETS SWIFT APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS BILLS FOR 2025

Leaders in the Republican-led U.S. House of Representatives have laid out an aggressive schedule to try and pass all of the FY 2025 appropriations bills, and the new Chairman of Appropriations, Oklahoma's Tom Cole, is right in the thick of it.

Wednesday, May 29th 2024, 5:26 pm
By: Alex Cameron

Leaders in the Republican-led U.S. House of Representatives have laid out an aggressive schedule to try and pass all of the FY 2025 appropriations bills, and the new Chairman of Appropriations, Oklahoma's Tom Cole, is right in the thick of it.

House Majority Leader Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA) informed members of the GOP conference last week that the goal is, not just to get all 12 appropriations bills out of committee, but all 12 across the House floor before the start of August recess. It's a tall order.

"We got to get these bills moving," said Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK4) in a recent interview, "we're six months behind on the normal appropriations process as is."

To help move things along, Congressman Cole last week finalized the topline funding levels for all 12 appropriations subcommittees, following a strict reading of last year's Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA), which set spending levels for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

"The reality is, there were a lot of side deals that were not part of the law but were agreed upon by the two sides," Cole explained, "we thought the best thing to do would be just to follow the law."

The FRA allowed for a one percent increase in baseline appropriations from 2024 to 2025. Before the addition of the 'side deal' funding put current discretionary spending for FY24 at \$1.66 trillion, the baseline number was \$1.589 trillion. The law's one percent increase would, therefore, put the funding limit for FY25 at \$1.605 trillion, which is just what Cole and Republicans on the Appropriations Committee voted to approve.

That represents a nearly three percent decrease in discretionary spending.

But Cole's and Republicans' intention is to allocate the funding so that, despite an overall cut, GOP priorities will not be cut. Under the House GOP plan, defense will see an overall increase of one percent, or about \$9 billion. Funding for veterans would not be cut and funding for the border security initiatives would increase.

"Everything else is going to get a haircut," Cole allowed.

Non-defense appropriations -- buoyed this year by 'side deals' that were not technically part of FRA -- would effectively be cut, on average, six percent.

In a statement following approval of the topline, formally known as 302(b)s, Cole said, "These allocations up-



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The top Democrat on Appropriations, though, Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), ripped the topline numbers, saying the proposed funding levels "...fall well short of what the American people need, and well short of what both parties already agreed to."

While the cuts may be too much for some Democrats to stomach, they may not be enough for some Republicans. Last year, it was the disgruntled far right that blocked several of the spending bills, and Cole knows that could happen again.

The bottom line, Cole says, is these topline are a starting point--he won't control where they end up.

"That final decision is made above my head," said Rep. Cole. "There will be a negotiation that involves the Speaker (and) the Majority Leader of the Senate."

And, of course, the Biden administration will be weighing in, especially given this will potentially be playing out during the run-up to the November election.

Congress is already clashing on FY25 funding as House proposes big cuts

By Eric Katz

May 17, 2024

House Republicans are proposing an average of 6% discretionary spending cuts to non-defense agencies for fiscal 2025, putting it on a collision course with the Democratic-led Senate that is seeking to avoid such reductions.

Republicans on the House Appropriations Committee released their top-line spending levels for each of the 12 annual funding bills Congress must pass each year, which included cuts for some agencies as high as 11%.

The appropriators are putting aside parts of the two-year budget deal President Biden struck with House Republicans last year in exchange for raising the debt ceiling, saying they are instead sticking only to the spending levels detailed in the Fiscal Responsibility Act. In addition to that law, Biden and then-House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., agreed to other mechanisms that would ultimately allow both defense and non-defense discretionary spending to increase by 1% in fiscal 2025.

“The bills written by [the House Appropriations] Committee will adhere to law set by the Fiscal Responsibility Act—with no side deals—and focus resources where they are needed most,” said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., who chairs the panel. “Our FY25 process will reflect our commitment to strengthening our national defense, supporting the safety and security of the American people and reining in government to its core mission.”

Under Cole’s proposals, which he said are subject to change pending new evaluations from the Congressional Budget Office, the departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Treasury, State and related agencies would all receive cuts between 10% and 11%. The Pentagon would receive a 1% boost, while the Homeland Security Department would receive a bump above President Biden’s request and the Veterans Affairs Department would see its request met. The appropriations committee is set to begin marking up its fiscal 2025 bills next week.

Democrats immediately decried the announcement, saying House Republicans were flouting the deal they struck last year and forcing unnecessary harm to agencies and their constituencies. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., said Republicans were leading Congress down the same “messy, chaotic, harmful and embarrassing” road it followed when attempting to keep the government open for fiscal 2024.

“This is the exact same process we saw play out last year,” DeLauro said. “A process where House Republicans, held hostage by their most extreme members, led us from one shutdown threat to another.”

She added Democrats were ready to negotiate, but said Congress must meet its prior agreement and ensure defense and non-defense funding both see increases of at least 1%.

Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, has said Democrats will not accept any spending bills that do not provide parity in the funding boosts to defense and non-defense accounts. She noted many

Republicans have suggested the Pentagon will require a larger-than-1% bump and said that must be accompanied by similar increases for domestic agencies.

Murray and Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, the top Republican on the panel, worked closely in drafting bills last year and their proposals won broad bipartisan support in the committee. This year, however, could bring a bumpier path. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has criticized Biden's proposed funding for defense as insufficient and rejected Murray's framework.

"The defense spending needs to reflect the needs of our country, which clearly argues against having an arbitrary line that doesn't spend more on defense than domestic," McConnell told reporters last week. "So I certainly disagree with that and we're going to have a vigorous discussion about it."

Following Cole's announcement in the House, Murray once again pledged to write appropriations bills that "include the full resources" of the Biden-McCarthy budget deal that avoid "devastating cuts."

"Let's not repeat the mistakes of last year, which only got us months of chaos and delay," Murray said. "We cannot shortchange our country's future—we've got to invest in it, and at a minimum, that starts with providing the full funding for domestic programs that was agreed to last year."

She emphasized that was only a starting point, calling the current caps inadequate. Congress could opt to punt the drafting of funding bills until after the upcoming presidential election, [as it did in 2020](#). Current funding is set to expire at the end of September.

By Eric Katz

May 17, 2024

<https://www.govexec.com/management/2024/05/congress-already-clashing-fy25-funding-house-proposes-big-cuts/396678/>

The Hill

HOUSE

GOP tempers expectations on appropriations bills

BY ARIS FOLLEY - 05/28/24 6:00 AM ET

House Republicans are pressing forward with aggressive plans to mark up and pass their 12 annual funding bills for fiscal 2025 before the August recess, but some are dialing back expectations after intraparty divisions over spending plagued the process last year.

House Republicans took a key step this week in passing legislation out of committee to fund military construction and the Department of Veterans Affairs for most of next year.

The bill marked the first of the 12 partisan funding plans for fiscal 2025 that Republicans hope to move out of committee and across the floor by the end of July — when Congress gears up to take its monthlong August recess.

The proposed schedule was detailed by House GOP leadership to members earlier this week.

But despite optimism from parts of the conference, some are tempering expectations given the late start.

“If we don’t hit any speed bumps, it could work,” Rep. Andy Harris (R-Md.), chair of the funding subcommittee that oversees dollars for the Department of Agriculture, said this week when asked about leadership’s proposed floor schedule. “But we usually hit speed bumps.”

He added that he thinks the party’s goal of passing all 12 bills across the floor “won’t be any easier” than last year — when intraparty divides over spending and policy areas such as abortion dominated public attention as the conference struggled to unify behind its appropriations bills.

“We’re saying we’re going to get our 12 appropriation bills done,” Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-Tenn.), another spending cardinal, told The Hill, while adding

that he's "optimistic and excited" as the party ramps up the annual funding process.

Fleischmann and other GOP members of the House Appropriations Committee said getting bills passed by the powerful panel that crafts the measures will be easier than getting them done on the floor.

"The floor poses some very interesting dynamics," he said. "You got to be able to pass a rule. If you can't pass a rule, and you've got to do it on suspension, and you're not going to get Democratic votes. Inherently, there were some challenges there that we're going to have to overcome."

Last year, the House GOP passed more than half of their partisan appropriations bills through the chamber, but five others were held up when hard-line conservatives tanked procedural votes amid internal disagreements on spending.

Republicans who were upset with those tactics say that ended up giving Democrats more leverage, since the party needed help from the minority to pass rules that got them to the substance of the bills on the floor.

Before bringing bills to the floor this time around, Fleischmann also said he thinks the conference will need to "have an intrafamily meeting with all three wings ... and see where we are before we get to the floor" — after leadership suffered some embarrassing blows last year when it had to repeatedly pull floor votes on the conference's funding bills largely due to intraparty divides.

The House Appropriations Committee has only released two bills this week, including legislation to fund the legislative branch. Democrats have come out strongly against the measures over so-called "poison pill" riders and Republicans' overall proposed funding levels due to cuts to nondefense programs.

In remarks to reporters Thursday, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) said the annual funding bills that have come from the Republican side so far have "zero chance of becoming law," accusing the party of pursuing cuts and "right-wing" policies that won't pass the Democratic-led Senate.

He criticized legislation as "stripping away reproductive freedom from military women, attacking the LGBTQ+ community" and "trying to eliminate programs that promote diversity, equity and inclusion. Such efforts will be "dead on arrival," Jeffries said.

He also accused Republicans of trying to “shut down the government” ahead of the November presidential election — as lawmakers expect the outcome of the race to have a major impact on the appropriations process for fiscal 2025.

Another key disagreement to watch for in the months ahead is how both sides interpret a previous bipartisan deal to suspend the debt limit last year. The deal, which kept the nation from what experts say could have been an unprecedented default, included a budget limits agreement that lawmakers are still grappling with as they work out fiscal 2025 funding.

Republicans have sought to sidestep what lawmakers have described as a handshake deal between the White House and then-Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) that would plus up spending for nondefense programs beyond the caps signed into law.

Many Republicans say Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) is not beholden to McCarthy’s deal. Democrats say the handshake agreement was key to locking down support from their side of the aisle at the time and have accused Republicans of reneging on the overall deal.

Senate Democrats have already fired a warning shot over the matter, with Senate Appropriations Chair Patty Murray (D-Wash.) recently saying the upper chamber will “include the full resources that House Republicans and the president agreed to last year.”

At the same time, senators on both sides have signaled more dollars are needed for defense spending beyond the modest increase in the budget caps agreement — which could mean a wider gulf when it comes time for both chambers to bring their own bills to the bargaining table to produce the final compromise measures for fiscal 2025.

The Senate also has yet to decide on a top-line number for fiscal 2025 spending, as Republicans in the upper chamber have also brushed off calls for parity in increases to defense and nondefense levels.

“We have two major competitors: the Russians and the Chinese. We have the Iranians, and we have their proxies. This is the most dangerous time since the Berlin Wall came down, and the defense spending needs to reflect the needs of our country, which clearly argues against having an arbitrary line that doesn’t spend more on defense than domestic,” Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.) said earlier this month.

Congress still has more than four months on the calendar until a Sept. 30 deadline to pass legislation keeping the government funded for the next fiscal year. But it is likely to miss that deadline, and to have to approve a short-term funding measure to prevent a shutdown.

"This is just something that has always been challenging for Congress, to get these bills done in full and on time," Andrew Lautz, a fiscal policy analyst with the Bipartisan Policy Center, said in an interview.

He also noted that, since the enactment of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, there has only been a handful of instances in which lawmakers have had all 12 bills signed into law on time.

"It's not something that's going to be solved overnight or even in a six-month period or even over a year," Lautz said Friday. "But I think they need to have conversations — really over the next couple of years — to assess what's not working, because pretty much any lawmaker and most of their constituents, the general public, can see that the process is not working right now."

☀ AM: Are House Republicans setting themselves up to fail?

Punchbowl News <team@punchbowl.news>

Mon 6/5/24 4:52 AM

To:schneiderthomasw@hotmail.com <schneiderthomasw@hotmail.com>

Jun. 5, 2024

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The 2025 spending wars hit the floor

Happy Wednesday morning.

The House will vote today on the FY2025 MilCon-VA spending bill, the first of next year's measures to reach the floor under new Appropriations Committee Chair Tom Cole (R-Okla.).

Yet only a handful of House Democrats are likely to vote for the nearly \$379 billion package, traditionally among the most bipartisan of the 12 annual spending bills.

In fact, Democratic leaders are urging all their members to vote no in order to lay down a marker for Cole, Speaker Mike Johnson and other senior Republicans. The message: if they want to avoid a repeat of last year's appropriations debacle, they should cut a deal with Democrats now and skip the theatrics.

"It really is going down the same road. I don't know what the reasoning is behind this," said Rep. Rosa DeLauro (Conn.), top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee. "It's going to be the same catastrophe as it was last year." Cole, Johnson and House Majority Leader Steve Scalise insist they're open to a deal. Just not right now.

Cole's plan is to use Fiscal Responsibility Act FY2025 funding levels minus multi-billion dollar "side deals" negotiated between President Joe Biden and former Speaker Kevin McCarthy. Cole says he and Johnson weren't part of those side deals, so they don't have to honor them.

The Oklahoma Republican's position would lead to big cuts in domestic spending while the Pentagon's budget would increase by \$9 billion. Funding for the departments of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs would also be boosted. Bills such as Labor-HHS, State-Foreign Ops and Financial Services-General Government would see double-digit cuts.

And in a bow to GOP hardliners, Cole and Republican appropriators have included numerous "poison pills" in these bills. These are conservative policy riders covering abortion, DEI, immigration, climate change, transgender and LGBTQ funding. The upcoming spending bill for

the Justice Department is expected to include language targeting Special Counsel Jack Smith's criminal investigations into former President Donald Trump, among other anti-"lawfare" riders.

All these provisions are bitterly opposed by House Democrats, and they won't get anywhere with the Democratic-run Senate or the White House. The affable Cole portrays all this as a negotiation and "our opening bid" in the FY2025 spending fight.

"It's an opening position, a negotiation. These things always are," Cole said. "These things are never 'Take it or leave it.' They change."

No talks yet. Cole and House GOP leaders aren't negotiating with anyone yet, not even on topline spending. Cole is pushing to have all 12 bills through his panel by mid-July. Scalise wants them all passed on the floor before Congress leaves for the August recess.

There are vulnerable House Republicans who could balk at such domestic spending cuts knowing they'll never become law. The House only passed seven such bills last year before the appropriations process bogged down in a partisan stalemate.

Lawmakers will need to pass a continuing resolution before the Sept. 30 deadline to avoid a government shutdown. Then they'll come back and finish up everything post-election.

House Democrats, the Senate and the White House all feel the issue of FY2025 spending levels was settled when the Fiscal Responsibility Act was enacted last year.

"Tom Cole, I have a lot of respect for," DeLauro said. "I've been very clear. We're not doing less than 1%." DeLauro means there needs to be a minimum 1% increase for both defense and nondefense spending. As of now, the two sides are tens of billions of dollars apart.

Even House GOP appropriators — while supporting Cole's plan — admit it probably won't work. They also acknowledge that GOP hardliners will be upset when Johnson and the GOP leadership can't deliver the spending cuts they're promising now.

"All we can do is what we can do in the House, and what we think is right," said Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho), cardinal for the Interior subcommittee. "In the end, you're going to have to negotiate with the Democratic Senate and a Democratic administration. And spending levels will probably go up in some areas."

We asked Simpson if this would lead to a backlash by conservatives. "I suspect you're right," the veteran lawmaker said.

Let's circle back to Johnson and Scalise. How will Johnson — who was only able to beat back a motion to vacate from GOP Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (Ga.) with Democratic support — survive conservative criticism when he ends up cutting deals with Democrats and Biden on these bills, likely in the lame-duck session?

Here's what Johnson told us when we asked him why he should expect a different result this time around: "Because we're doing the slow, deliberate process of building consensus around these ideas, and I'm optimistic that we'll be able to get it done."

Johnson said it with a smile, almost seeming to know how unrealistic it sounds. Scalise described the situation this way: "We can only control the House. The Senate has notoriously failed to act in a timely manner, but it's up to us to do our job in the House, and then go shame them into doing theirs."

— John Bresnahan and Jake Sherman

THE SENATE

Senate's summer of show votes sparks GOP divisions

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer is embracing the art of the "show vote" to boost his vulnerable incumbents this summer, a reflection of the steep uphill climb Democrats face as their majority hangs by a thread.

It began last month with the border security deal, putting red-state Democrats on the record once again in support of what they say is the strictest bipartisan border crackdown in decades.

Now, Schumer is teeing up a series of votes on abortion-related legislation for June, beginning later today with a procedural vote on the Right to Contraception Act. Schumer also started the process to vote later this month on legislation protecting IVF. And he says more votes are coming.

Republicans are dismissing the Schumer campaign as an election-year ploy. This is a unifying message among GOP senators.

"They are more interested in playing politics than they are actually about securing the very things they're talking about," Sen. Katie Britt (R-Ala.) said. "They've engaged in a summer of scare tactics, and they don't care about the false fear they're creating in women and families."

But that's where their consensus ends.

GOP clashes over abortion strategy: As is often the case, Democrats are unified here while Republicans showed new signs of strategic division this week.

As we scooped in Tuesday's PM edition, Republicans sparred during their closed-door lunch over whether to vote to advance the Democratic contraception bill in a bid to go on offense over the issue, according to multiple attendees.

The goal, these members said, would be to force votes on amendments and potentially a side-by-side vote on Sen. Joni Ernst's (R-Iowa) *Allowing Greater Access to Safe and Effective Contraception Act*. This is the GOP alternative to the Democrats' bill. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) was among those making the case to vote in favor of advancing the Democratic bill.

Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), who's running for GOP leader, then chimed in and suggested that Republicans should all stick together if the plan is to vote to advance the measure.

Senate Minority Whip John Thune quickly shot down this idea, we're told, saying it does Republicans no good to drag out a process that Democrats are simply using as a political cudgel against Republicans. In other words, it's a trap — and GOP senators should quickly dispense with it.

Before the GOP lunch, we asked Thune whether he's concerned about the month-long Democratic effort to highlight abortion on the floor, especially since the issue has proven to be effective for Democrats since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Thune said it's something Republican candidates this year will "need to have a clear answer for."

"The Democrats don't have a lot else to talk about [because] they don't want to talk about inflation, they don't want to talk about the border," Thune said. "And frankly it's an issue that — yeah, there's some political traction with it out there." How far will Schumer go? The Democratic leader isn't saying what he'll do after the abortion votes this month, but he could extend the strategy to other areas as well.

Of course, actual legislative days will be few and far between the closer we get to Nov. 5. However, it's reasonable to ask whether Schumer will continue the "show vote" effort for other legislation that Democrats think they could benefit from.

That could mean voting on the Wyden-Smith tax bill at some point. Senate Republicans almost uniformly oppose it, as do a few Democrats. But there could be some political advantages for vulnerable Democrats voting on the package, which includes tax benefits for Ohio residents impacted by last year's train derailment in East Palestine, as well as an expansion of the child tax credit. Schumer declined to say Tuesday whether he plans on bringing up the measure this summer, citing GOP opposition.

— Andrew Desiderio

GOP AT WAR

Inside House conservatives' push to purge moderates from GOP House conservatives are waging war against GOP moderates, targeting competitive primaries in an attempt to rid Congress of establishment Republicans.

This primary season has highlighted just how far the right flank is planning to go, with House Freedom Caucus members and their allies going after sitting incumbents like Reps. Tony Gonzales (R-Texas), **Mike Bost (R-Ill.)**, William Timmons (R-S.C.) and Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.).

Several members have privately said that it's worth driving Republicans into the minority if it means boosting the number of far-right members in Congress. That means supporting candidates who are willing to shut down the federal government, push red-meat culture riders and reject the type of bipartisanship promoted by more pragmatic members in purple districts.

"With the shape this country is in, we have to go with the most conservative members," Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.) told us. "If you make the right choice, you have to first change what's

going on up here with the spending and with the Washington inside clique that just wants to do the same thing over and over again." Their strategy has already seen setbacks.

Bost and Gonzales beat their far-right challengers, although both primaries were competitive.

Yet despite these losses, hard right lawmakers say it's important to make a point by challenging moderates.

"Republicans around the country want somebody who is going to vote with Republicans," House Freedom Caucus Chair Bob Good (R-Va.) told us. "They want somebody who actually wants to secure the border, somebody who's a genuine conservative fighter, and not somebody that's part of the uniparty establishment that's been passing these major spending bills with Democrats." Good, of course, faces his own June 18 primary against John McGuire, who has been endorsed by both former President Donald Trump and multiple House Republicans.

Norman put it more simply, referring to his support for South Carolina State Rep. Adam Morgan, who is running against Timmons.

"Adam Morgan is a conservative and is more conservative than William," Norman said. Morgan is backed by several Freedom Caucus members and chairs the South Carolina Freedom Caucus. The South Carolina primary is June 11.

A handful of lawmakers, including Good and Norman, are also supporting Jerrod Sessler running against Newhouse. Newhouse is one of just two House Republicans left in Congress who voted to impeach former President Donald Trump in 2021 over his role in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. Washington will hold its jungle primary on Aug. 6.

The opposition: Not every Republican is on board with meddling in primaries. Rep. Eric Burlison (R-Mo.), a freshman HFC member, said he disagrees that members should try to oust their colleagues.

"I'm not one of the people in the Freedom Caucus getting involved with primary challengers," Burlison told us. "If I'm serving with that person, I'm going to give them the respect of not getting involved in that race."

Rep. Cory Mills (R-Fla.) said he thinks too much of primary meddling has become about personal vendettas, rather than having a cohesive strategy of trying to elect more conservatives to Congress.

"We certainly risk losing the majority if we don't really focus on how we achieve this goal and not just make an effort to oust them," Mills told us.

We also previously reported that Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio), a founding member of the Freedom Caucus, is opposed to members getting involved in incumbents' primaries.

"I don't engage in that," Jordan told us.

— Mica Soellner

Republicans prepare to fast-track tax cuts in reconciliation

BY TOBIAS BURNS - 05/29/24 6:00 AM ET

Republicans are getting ready to fast-track the extension of the Trump tax cuts through the reconciliation process if they win big in November.

Nearly seven years after the GOP used budget reconciliation to pass the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), the party is gearing up to use the same maneuver to renew key provisions set to expire in 2026.

While most legislation needs the support of 60 senators to avert a filibuster, budget reconciliation allows lawmakers to pass major tax and spending bills with a simple majority — and without bipartisan backing.

Republican tax writers have already broken into working groups on specific tax topics in advance of the 2025 tax cut expirations, priming the House Ways and Means Committee to get straight to work if the GOP sweeps Congress and the White House.

House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-La.) also addressed his conference last week about reconciliation, bringing members up to speed on the process that could carry one of their top policy priorities to the finish line.

“With Leader Scalise, it was really a process of reminding everybody of the importance of reconciliation, how that was used in 2017, how the Democrats used that during the first two years of the Biden term,” David Kustoff (R-Tenn.), a member of the Ways and Means Committee, told The Hill last week.

Democrats used budget reconciliation to pass the Affordable Care Act under former President Obama, along with President Biden’s economic relief plan and Inflation Reduction Act. The GOP also attempted to use budget

reconciliation to repeal major swaths of Obama's health care law but was famously foiled by then-Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) on the Senate floor.

"We need to be prepared with different options. It cannot be overstated that it's important to plan ahead, policy-wise. We worked on TCJA for years before we had unified government," said Rep. Adrian Smith (R-Neb.), chair of the working group on rural America.

Smith said the premise of the different groups is "to educate the conference, especially because so many members were not here in 2017."

The scope of the groups extends well beyond the individual provisions that are due to sunset and into different sectors of the economy including manufacturing, supply chains, and the "new economy."

Republicans are also paying attention to dynamics around the Senate parliamentarian, who decides the extent of what can be passed through the more limited reconciliation process.

"We always have to be mindful of the pretty restrictive rules that surround reconciliation. You can't get too creative or you get outside the boundaries of what's allowed under the Senate rules," Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-Colo.) said.

But eventual procedural constraints are not getting in the way of the brainstorming session that the Ways and Means working groups are now undertaking. The conversations are ranging from the effect of artificial intelligence (AI) on the labor force participation rate to taxation of emerging life sciences industries.

"Over the next decade, synthetic biology and AI — what do they do to the tax code?" Rep. David Schweikert (R-Ariz.), head of the "new economy" working group, said Wednesday. "If your call center is now just computers, does that change labor force participation and income and [payroll] tax collections? Or do those individuals go on to other types of employment with higher productivity?"

There is considerable variance among Republican tax writers about what to do with the corporate tax rate, which the Trump tax cuts slashed from 35 percent down to 21 percent.

Some Republicans think the corporate rate may have been dropped too low and are open to hiking it back up, Ways and Means chair Jason Smith (Mo.) recently said.

Others say it should be dropped even lower as a way to attract more businesses and capital investment to the U.S.

"In terms of the corporate rate, that doesn't sunset, but they might try to take that down at some point," Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-Fla.), who heads the manufacturing taxation team on the Ways and Means Committee, said last week.

"We want to find a way that we can create more incentives for [manufacturers], create more jobs and opportunity to do more of the work here in the States instead of abroad," he said.

Other Republicans are shooting for a straight extension of the individual provisions, with no changes to the corporate tax rate.

"What we've had on the books has been very productive," Adrian Smith told The Hill. "I think a good thing would be to have a clean extension."

Democrats are also thinking beyond the expiration of the individual tax rates set by the TCJA, intending to reposition the corporate rate.

Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-Wash.) said last week that the corporate rate was among issues that were "absolutely ... on the table and things that we're going to be talking about."

While changes in business and corporate taxes from the 2017 tax law changed investment flows within the economy, it did not add substantially to economic growth. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated gross domestic product (GDP) expansion due to the law of 0.3 percent in 2018 and 0.6 percent in 2019 before the economic policies of the pandemic made its continued effects too difficult to measure accurately.

The law also did not affect compensation levels for regular people, with the Congressional Research Service concluding that "ordinary workers had very little growth in wage rates" resulting from the law.

The CBO projected this month that extending the law through 2034 would cost \$4.6 trillion, a substantial increase to the deficit after it already ballooned to

new highs at more than 120 percent of GDP in the aftermath of the pandemic. Total U.S. debt stock is now \$34 trillion, though a significant portion of that is money the government effectively owes itself.

Several Ways and Means Republicans declined to answer questions about how extensions or expansions of the Trump tax cuts could be paid for through additional revenue raising measures.

"Tell me how the election goes," Schweikert said. "And then I can start to walk you through what some of your choices are."

One revenue raiser that's currently being floated as part of a separate tax package is a cancellation of the employee retention tax credit, coming in at around \$78 billion. The current proposal would use that money to offset a series of business credits that were nixed to help pay for the TCJA as well as a boost in the child tax credit.

But that package has stalled out in the Senate, at least for now.

"I would just say right now it's stalled out," Sen. John Thune (R-N.D.) told The Hill last week. "I think it will take a while for it to get back on track. In the Senate right now, there aren't the votes to move it."

"We're not looking at probably getting that on the floor of the Senate," he added.

Senate Democrats have been encouraging Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) to just put the bill up for a vote, since it sailed through the House with wide bipartisan approval.

"We're talking to [Schumer]. I'm talking to him about when it can be scheduled. Right now we're working on the border, which obviously is an important issue. But I believe we've got the votes," Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) said last week.

The Hill

OPINION > CAMPAIGN

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

GOP trifecta? Introducing the Decision Desk HQ 2024 Election Forecast Model

BY SCOTT TRANTER, ZACHARY DONINI & RYAN GEST, OPINION CONTRIBUTORS -
05/29/24 12:00 PM ET

Welcome to Decision Desk HQ's 2024 Election Forecast Model, a powerful tool for in-depth analysis and predictions for the upcoming presidential, Senate and House races.

In 2020 and 2022, our models correctly forecasted more than 90 percent of outcomes across more than 1,000 contested elections. This model builds on the framework of those models, incorporating methodological improvements to deliver even more accurate and comprehensive insights.

The model considers hundreds of data points including polling, economic indicators, national and local political trends, candidate characteristics and campaign finance information, all processed through advanced machine-learning algorithms. More details on our methodology [can be found here](#).

In addition to our quantitative forecasts, Decision Desk HQ provides qualitative ratings for each race, categorizing them as "Solid," "Likely," "Leans" or "Tossup" for each party. These ratings allow readers to track significant shifts in the electoral landscape easily, as changes in these categories can signal important developments in key races. Our qualitative ratings also enable direct comparisons between our forecast and the expert analyses provided by respected outlets such as the Cook Political Report, Split Ticket and Sabato's Crystal Ball.

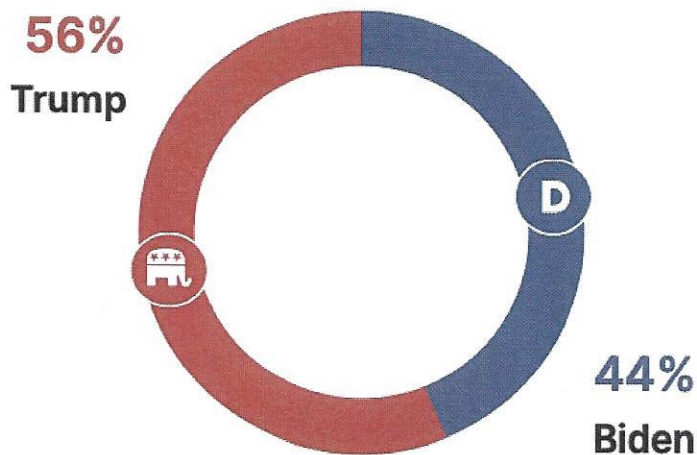
The presidency

Less than six months before Election Day, President Joe Biden's reelection prospects are in worse shape than many Democrats would like them to be. Many fundamentals of the race, including the incumbency advantage, campaign fundraising levels and many macroeconomic factors, generally favor Biden. Yet both national and swing state polls give former President Donald Trump a clear edge.

According to the latest national polling average from Decision Desk HQ/The Hill, Trump leads Joe Biden by 1.0 percentage points across 712 national polls — a significant pro-Trump shift from Biden's 4.5-point popular vote victory margin in 2020. And if the election were held today, swing state polling suggests Trump would achieve a decisive victory in the Electoral College, flipping all six of the states that Biden won by less than 3 points in 2020: Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Presidential Forecast

Last Updated: May 28, 9:36 PM EDT



[View full 2024 forecast](#)

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As the 2016 and 2020 elections demonstrated, polling can be subject to systematic errors that might underestimate any candidate by several percentage points. And since most of the campaigning will commence in full

following each party's nominating convention, there's still plenty of time for movement before Nov. 5.

The 2024 Decision Desk HQ forecast currently predicts that Trump has a 58 percent chance of winning the presidency — meaning that if the 2024 election were held 100 times, Trump would win 58 times and Biden would win 41. It is important to note that a chance of winning above 50 percent does not mean that victory is guaranteed, nor does it represent the candidates' predicted vote shares. And improbable events can occur. For example, before the Super Bowl in February, the betting lines gave the San Francisco 49ers a 54.1 percent chance of winning, yet the Kansas City Chiefs won, 25 to 22.

America is currently in an unprecedentedly competitive electoral era, marked by nine consecutive presidential elections (1988 to 2020) in which neither the Democratic nor Republican nominee secured a double-digit victory margin in the popular vote. In each of the last four elections, 40 of 50 states (and the District of Columbia) have voted consistently for the same party — a level of consistency not seen since the early 20th century.

As a result, our Electoral College forecast shows that both Biden and Trump have better than an 80 percent chance of winning in all but twelve states. The current predictions give Trump an edge in enough states to win 235 electoral votes compared to Biden's 226. Since neither candidate's core coalition puts him over 270 electoral votes, the campaign will thus focus intensely on seven key states: Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Five of those states — Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin — switched from Trump in 2016 to Biden in 2020 and are currently rated as "Toss-Ups." Nevada is also rated as a "Toss-Up," having voted for Hillary Clinton and Biden by nearly identical 2.4-point margins in the past two elections. North Carolina, having favored Trump by 3 points in 2016 and by 1 point in 2020, is currently rated as "Lean Republican."

Our mean Electoral College projections show Trump averaging 282 electoral votes to Biden's 256. However, the single most likely outcome at this point — occurring in 24 percent of the 14 million simulations we ran for our model — has Trump winning all seven key battlegrounds and a 312 to 226 victory in the Electoral College.

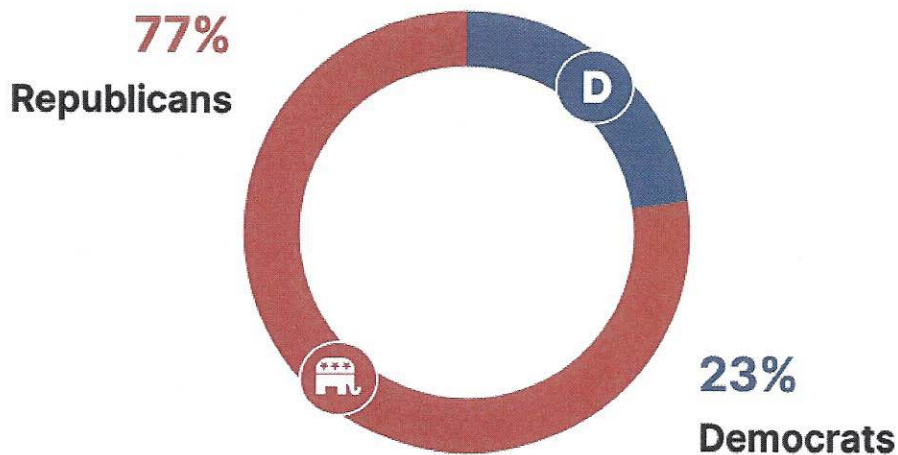
Biden's position is particularly weak in Arizona, Georgia, Nevada and North Carolina, where he has consistently trailed in the polls by 4 points or more in all of these states, even as he mostly polls within the margin of error in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

The Senate

Of the 34 Senate seats on the ballot in 2024, 23 are held by Democratic caucus members. Among the 11 presumed battleground states, Democrats are defending seats in eight of them, including three states — Montana, Ohio and West Virginia — that Trump won in both 2016 and 2020. Even if Biden holds the White House, securing Vice President Kamala Harris's tie-breaking vote, Democrats must win eight of these 11 states (likely all six states Biden won in 2020, plus two more) to maintain their majority.

Senate Forecast

Last Updated: May 28, 9:36 PM EDT



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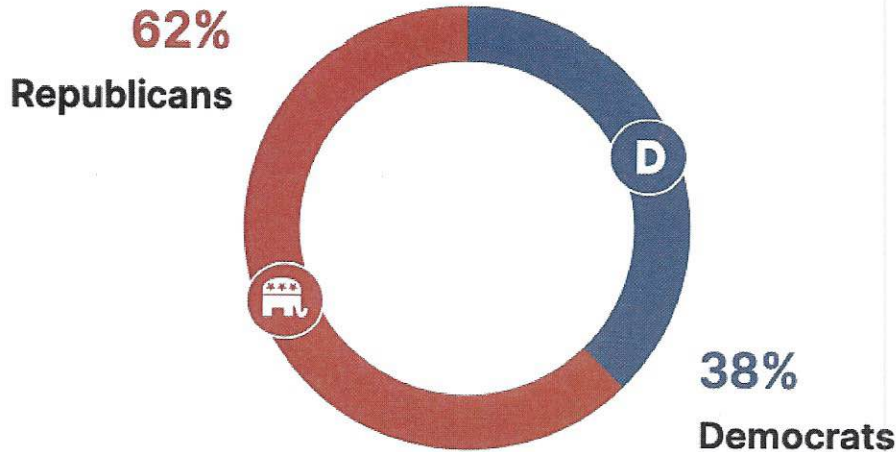
The 2024 Decision Desk HQ Senate Forecast gives Republicans an 80 percent chance of flipping control of the upper chamber. The GOP is currently favored to win 51 seats to Democrats' 46, with the contests in Nevada, Arizona, Michigan and Ohio rated as "Toss-Ups." Republicans hold a more commanding lead in "Safe" states, with 48 compared to Democrats' 40. This includes a Republican flip in West Virginia, where incumbent Sen. Joe Manchin (D) is retiring and Gov. Jim Justice (R) has secured the Republican nomination, setting up one of the easiest Senate flips in modern electoral history in this Trump+39 state.

The House

House Republicans and Democrats are gearing up for a highly competitive race. Although House Republicans fell short of their lofty expectations in 2022, they still managed to flip nine seats, securing a majority and the Speaker's gavel. They must now defend this narrow majority against the Democrats, who hold 213 seats — just five seats shy of the 218 needed to regain control.

House Forecast

Last Updated: May 28, 9:36 PM EDT



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Our model currently predicts that Republicans have a 64 percent chance of holding the House of Representatives. The GOP is currently favored in 213 congressional districts to Democrats' 206, with 16 races rated as "Toss-Up." Our mean projection shows a 223 to 212 Republican advantage, which would leave the House GOP in a situation similar to the result of the 2022 midterms.

A likely Trump victory in 2024 would mean Republicans have a near certain chance to flip control of the Senate, making the House Democrats' best chance to prevent a GOP trifecta. Given the high volume of competitive House races, specific developments in individual races (such as retirements, single polls and fundraising advantages) have less impact on the overall balance of power compared to the Senate. As a result, shifts in generic ballot polling are the most important factor in determining changes to our forecast for House control.

What is this forecast, anyway?

Forecasting, whether for basketball games or elections, is inherently fraught with uncertainties. Just as underdogs often win in March Madness, our election forecasting model is not immune to error. This reality doesn't detract from the utility of our forecasts, but it does underscore the importance of interpreting the results correctly.

In the aftermath of the 2016 election, many critiques were levied at forecasters for their apparent failure, exemplified by numerous articles asking, "How did everyone get it so wrong?" Such criticisms often overlook the essence of probabilistic models. For instance, Nate Silver's FiveThirtyEight model gave Trump a 28.2 percent chance of winning — better than a one-in-four chance. To put this in perspective, consider drawing a card from a standard 52-card deck: The chance of pulling a heart is one in four. You would not be shocked if you were to pick a heart, even though the odds are against it, yet the odds of Trump winning in 2016 were actually better than that.

Forecasts are not certainties. They are designed to help understand the range of potential outcomes. In a presidential election, there are millions of combinations of state results that could lead to a candidate achieving the necessary 270 electoral votes. At DDHQ, we harness extensive data and run thousands of simulations to demonstrate the most likely paths to victory.

Our role is to provide comprehensive and accurate analysis. The public's role is to interpret this analysis thoughtfully. We work diligently to offer insightful data in hopes that it will be met with critical engagement. In elections, where our pre-existing biases can heavily influence the information we seek out and how we receive it, critical thinking and analysis of information is crucial.

All modelers strive to be right, but accuracy is only part of the equation. Ultimately, the greater goal is to foster an environment where citizens not only consume data but use it actively to refine — not define — their own viewpoints.

Scott Tranter is the director of data science at Decision Desk HQ, where Ryan Gest is a data science and digital content fellow and Zachary Donnini is a data science fellow.

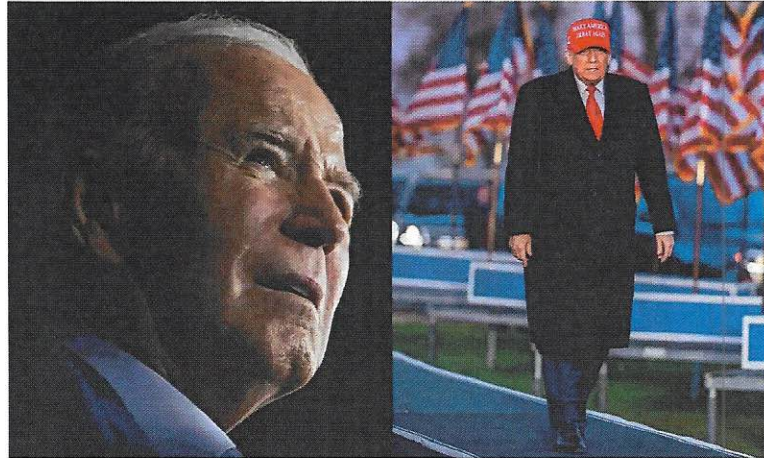
Interview

'A lot would have to go wrong for Biden to lose': can Allan Lichtman predict the 2024 election?

David Smith in Washington

The professor on his famous 13 'keys' to the White House, a method for predicting election results that's been right nine times out of 10

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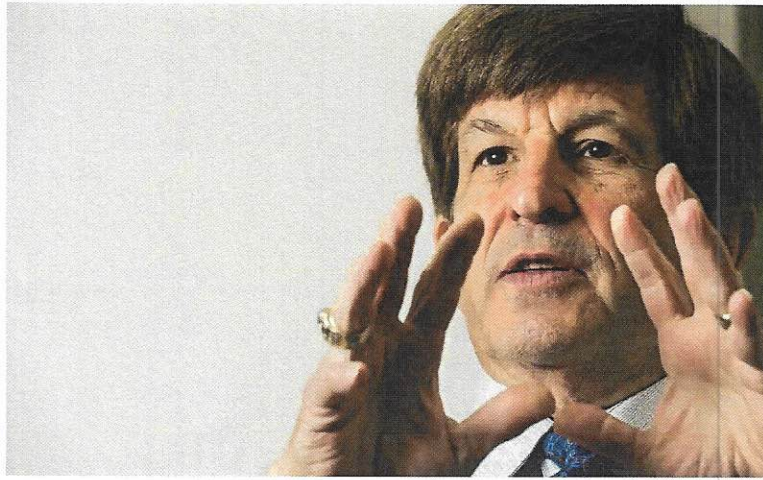
📷 Allan Lichtman is likely to make his pronouncement on the 2024 presidential election in early August. Composite: Getty Images

He has been called the Nostradamus of US presidential elections. Allan Lichtman has correctly predicted the result of nine of the past 10 (and even the one that got away, in 2000, he insists was stolen from Al Gore). But now he is gearing up for perhaps his greatest challenge: Joe Biden v Donald Trump II.

Lichtman is a man of parts. The history professor has been teaching at American University in Washington for half a century. He is a former North American 3,000m steeplechase champion and, at 77 – the same age as Trump – aiming to compete in the next Senior Olympics. In 1981 he appeared on the TV quizshow *Tic-Tac-Dough* and won \$110,000 in cash and prizes.

That same year he developed his now famous 13 keys to the White House, a method for predicting presidential election results that every four years tantalises the media, intrigues political operatives and provokes sniping from pollsters. Long before talk of the Steele dossier or Mueller investigation, it all began with a Russian reaching out across the cold war divide.

"I'd love to tell you I developed my system by ruining my eyes in the archives, by deep contemplation, but if I were to say that, to quote the late great Richard Nixon, *that would be wrong*," Lichtman recalls from a book-crowded office on the AU campus. "Like so many discoveries, it was kind of serendipitous."



📷 Allan Lichtman in his office in Washington DC in 2012. Photograph: Paul J Richards/AFP/Getty Images

Lichtman was a visiting scholar at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena when he met the world's leading authority in earthquake prediction, **Vladimir Keilis-Borok**, who had been part of a Soviet delegation that negotiated the limited nuclear test ban treaty with President John F Kennedy in Washington in 1963.

Keilis-Borok had fallen in love with American politics and began a collaboration with Lichtman to reconceptualise elections in earthquake terms. That is, as a question of stability (the party holding the White House keeps it) versus earthquake (the party holding the White House gets thrown out).

They looked at every presidential election since Abraham Lincoln's **victory in 1860**, combining Keilis-Borok's method recognising patterns associated with stability and earthquakes with Lichtman's theory that elections are basically votes up or down on the strength and performance of the party that holds the White House.

They came up with 13 true/false questions and a decision rule: if six or more keys went against the White House party, it would lose. If fewer than six went against it, it would win. These are the 13 keys, **as summarised by AU's website**:

1. Party mandate: After the midterm elections, the incumbent party holds more seats in the US House of Representatives than after the previous midterm elections.
2. Contest: There is no serious contest for the incumbent party nomination.
3. Incumbency: The incumbent party candidate is the sitting president.
4. Third party: There is no significant third party or independent campaign.
5. Short-term economy: The economy is not in recession during the election campaign.
6. Long-term economy: Real per capita economic growth during the term equals or exceeds mean growth during the previous two terms.
7. Policy change: The incumbent administration effects major changes in national policy.
8. Social unrest: There is no sustained social unrest during the term.
9. Scandal: The incumbent administration is untainted by major scandal.
10. Foreign/military failure: The incumbent administration suffers no major failure in foreign or military affairs.
11. Foreign/military success: The incumbent administration achieves a major success in foreign or military affairs.

12. Incumbent charisma: The incumbent party candidate is charismatic or a national hero.


13. Challenger charisma: The challenging party candidate is not charismatic or a national hero.

Lichtman and Keilis-Borok published a paper in an academic journal, which was spotted by an Associated Press science reporter, leading to a Washington Post article headlined: "Odd couple discovers keys to the White House." Then, in the Washingtonian magazine in April 1982, Lichtman used the keys to accurately predict that, despite economic recession, low approval ratings and relative old age, Ronald Reagan would win re-election two years later.

That led to an invitation to the White House from the presidential aide **Lee Atwater**, where Lichtman met numerous officials including then vice-president George HW Bush. Atwater asked him what would happen if Reagan did not run for re-election. Lichtman reckoned that a few important keys would be lost, including incumbent charisma.

"Without the Gipper, forget it," Lichtman says. "George Bush is about as charismatic as a New Jersey shopping centre on a Sunday morning. Atwater looks me in the eye, breathes a huge sigh of relief, and says, thank you, Professor Lichtman. And the rest is history."

For the next election, Bush was trailing his Democratic challenger Michael Dukakis by 18 percentage points in the opinion polls in May 1988, yet Lichtman correctly predicted a Bush victory because he was running on the Reagan inheritance of peace, prosperity, domestic tranquillity and breakthroughs with the Soviet Union.

 George HW Bush and Michael Dukakis debate on 25 September 1988. Photograph: Bettmann Archive via Getty Images

That year Lichtman published a book, *The Thirteen Keys to the Presidency*. But he was still derided by the punditry establishment. "When I first developed my system and made my predictions, the professional forecasters blasted me because I had committed the ultimate sin of prediction, the sin of subjectivity.

"Some of my keys were not just cut and dried and I kept telling them, it's not subjectivity, it's judgment. We're dealing with human systems and historians make judgments all the time, and they're not random judgments. I define each key very carefully in my book and I have a record."

He adds: "It took 15 to 20 years and the professional forecasting community totally turned around. They realised their big mathematical models didn't work and the best models combined judgment with more cut-and-dried indicators. And suddenly the keys were the hottest thing in forecasting."

Lichtman was a man in demand. He spoke at forecasting conferences, wrote

for academic journals and even gave a talk to the CIA about how to apply the 13 keys to foreign elections. And his crystal ball kept working.

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He predicted that George HW Bush would be a one-term president, even though he was riding high in polls after the Gulf war, causing many leading Democrats to pass on mounting a challenge. Then a call from Little Rock, Arkansas. It was **Kay Goss**, special assistant to Governor Bill Clinton.

“Are you really saying that George Bush can be beaten in 1992?” she asked. Lichtman confirmed that he was saying that. Clinton went on to win the Democratic primary election and beat Bush for the White House. “The Clintons have been big fans of the keys ever since,” Lichtman notes.

The one apparent blot on Lichtman’s copybook is the 2000 election, where he predicted victory for the Democratic vice-president Al Gore over George W Bush, the Republican governor of Texas. Gore did win the national popular vote but lost the electoral college by a gossamer-thin margin. Lichtman, however, believes he was right.

 Al Gore answers a question during a town hall style debate against George W Bush in St Louis, Missouri, on 17 October 2000. Photograph: Tannen Maury/EPA

“It was a stolen election. Based on the actual votes, Al Gore should have won going away, except for the discarding of ballots cast by Black voters who were 95% for Gore. I proved this **in my report** to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. One out of every nine to 10 ballots cast by a Black voter was thrown out, as opposed to one out of 50 cast by a white voter.

“Most of those were not so-called hanging chads. They were over-votes because Black people were told punch in Gore and then write in Gore, just to be sure, and those ballots were all discarded. Political scientists have since looked at the election and proved I was right. Al Gore, based on the intent of the voters, should have won by tens of thousands of votes.”

He adds: “I contend I was right about 2000 or at a minimum there was no right prediction. You could argue either way. I contend - and a lot of people agree with me - that I’m 10 out of 10. But even if you say I’m nine out of 10, that’s not bad.”

Perhaps Lichtman’s most striking prophecy, defying polls, commentators and groupthink, was that Trump - a former reality TV star with no prior

political or military experience - would pull off a wildly improbable win over the former secretary of state and first lady Hillary Clinton in 2016. How did he know?

📷 Donald Trump's acceptance speech is broadcast in Times Square in New York on 9 November 2016. Photograph: Michael Reaves/Getty Images

"The critical sixth key was the contest key: Bernie Sanders's contest against Clinton. It was an open seat so you lost the incumbency key. The Democrats had done poorly in 2014 so you lost that key. There was no big domestic accomplishment following the Affordable Care Act in the previous term, and no big foreign policy splashy success following the killing of Bin Laden in the first term, so there were just enough keys. It was not an easy call."

After the election, Lichtman received a copy of the *Washington Post* interview in which he made the prediction. On it was written in a Sharpie pen: "Congrats, professor. Good call. Donald J Trump." But in the same call, Lichtman had also prophesied - again accurately - that Trump would one day be impeached.

He was right about 2020, too, as Trump struggled to handle the coronavirus pandemic. "The pandemic is what did him in. He congratulated me for predicting him but he didn't understand the keys. The message of the keys is it's governance not campaigning that counts and instead of dealing substantively with the pandemic, as we know, he thought he could talk his way out of it and that sank him."

In 2020 Lichtman gave a presentation to the American Political Science Association about the keys as one of three classic models of prediction. In recent months he has delivered keynote addresses at Asian and Brazilian financial conferences, the Oxford Union and JP Morgan. As another election looms, he is not impressed by polls that show Trump leading Biden, prompting a fatalistic mood to take hold in Washington DC and foreign capitals.

"They're mesmerised by the wrong things, which is the polls. First of all, polls six, seven months before an election have zero predictive value. They would have predicted President Michael Dukakis. They would have predicted President Jimmy Carter would have defeated Ronald Reagan, who won in a landslide; Carter was way ahead in some of the early polls.

"Not only are polls a snapshot but they are not predictors. They don't predict anything and there's no such thing as, 'if the election were held today'. That's a meaningless statement."

He is likely to make his pronouncement on the 2024 presidential election in early August. He notes that Biden already has the incumbency key in his favour and, having crushed token challengers in the Democratic primary, has the contest key too. "That's two keys off the top. That means six more keys

would have to fall to predict his defeat. A lot would have to go wrong for Biden to lose.”

 Joe Biden in the east room of the White House on 23 February 2024. Photograph: Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images

Lichtman gives no weight to running mate picks and has never changed his forecast in the wake of a so-called “October surprise” But no predictive model is entirely immune to a black swan event.

Speaking in the week that saw a jury seated for **Trump’s criminal trial in New York** involving a hush-money payment to a pornographic film performer, Lichtman acknowledges: “Keys are based on history. They’re very robust because they go all the way back retrospectively to 1860 and prospectively to 1984, so they cover enormous changes in our economy, our society, our demography, our politics.

“But it’s always possible there could be a cataclysmic enough event outside the scope of the keys that could affect the election and here we do have, for the first time, not just a former president but a major party candidate sitting in a trial and who knows if he’s convicted - and there’s a good chance he will be - how that might scramble things.”

Millions of people will be on edge on the night of 5 November. After 40 years of doing this, Lichtman will have one more reason to be anxious. “It’s nerve-racking because there are a lot of people who’d love to see me fail.” And if he does? “I’m human,” he admits. “It doesn’t mean my system’s wrong. Nothing is perfect in the human world.”

Biden v Trump: What’s in store for the US and the world?

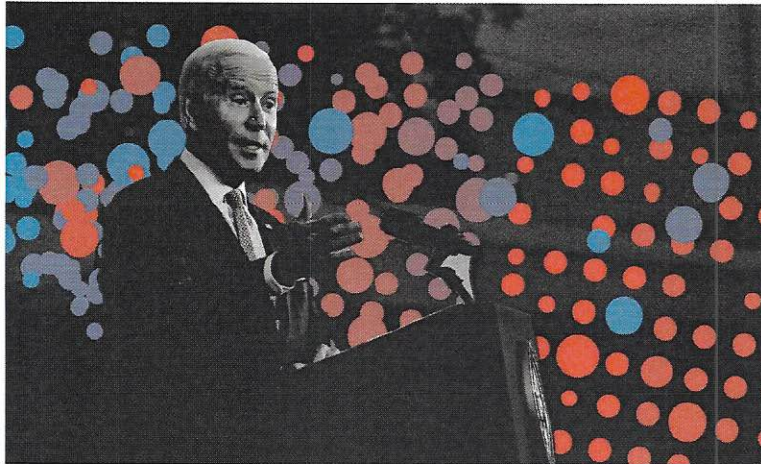
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Adam Gabbatt

Wed 29 May 2024 12.31 EDT

How a small number of Americans will decide the election

What are swing states? Do they have anything to do with playground swings? Are they anything to do with people putting their keys in a bowl?



Advertisement

Photograph: The Guardian

Hello! I hope you're having a great week.

Several of our reporters have spent the last few weeks in the critical swing states, and in this edition of the Stakes I thought we'd take a closer look at those states - the bits of the US that will, essentially, decide the election in November.

First up though, some other things going on in US politics this week.

Here's what you need to know

1. *Trump summations*

Donald Trump, in making hush-money payments to prevent accusations emerging of him having an affair, engaged in "a scheme to influence the election", the prosecution said in closing arguments during the former president's trial in New York. Trump's lawyer, meanwhile, sought to undermine the testimony of Michael Cohen, Trump's former aide and the prosecution's star witness, describing Cohen as "the greatest liar of all time".

2. *Contrasting tones*

Joe Biden gave an emotional speech on Sunday, the Memorial Day holiday in the US, where he said "the hurt is still real" from the death of his son Beau Biden, who served in the Iraq war. Trump marked the day by lashing out at his "human scum" opponents on Truth Social.

3. *Celebrity backings*

Robert DeNiro popped up outside the Manhattan courthouse where Trump is on trial on Tuesday, the veteran actor calling the former president a "clown". It came a few days after the Biden campaign released a DeNiro-voiced advert warning about a Trump second term. Other celebrity Biden supporters include George Clooney and Julia Roberts, while Tom Hanks and Taylor Swift endorsed Biden in 2020. Trump, meanwhile, has a more eclectic list of well-known supporters: there's Chuck Norris, Kid Rock and that guy who played Superman for a bit in an early-90s TV show.

The places that really matter

Composite: The Guardian/Getty Images

What are swing states? Do they have anything to do with playground swings? Are they anything to do with people putting their keys in a bowl? (No, they aren't.)

Swing states refer to the small number of states in the US that have a track record of alternating between voting for Democratic and Republican presidents, often by margins of just a few thousand voters.

In the modern era, New York, California and many other coastal states have almost always voted for Democratic presidential candidates. The majority of states in the south, including Texas, Alabama and Oklahoma, now vote for Republicans.

Biden can count on the Democrat-supporting states to vote for him. Trump knows he has the backing of the Republican-supporting states. But they aren't enough on their own. To win, Biden and Trump need to take some of the swing states to tip them over the edge.

These states - Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin - are where the election will be won or lost. (Current polling suggests Trump is leading in some of the states, *although the election is still quite a long way away.*)

Thought about that way, the whole election carnival starts to make more sense. On Tuesday, for example, the Biden campaign announced that three *police officers who were on duty during the January 6* insurrection will campaign for Biden in five states: Nevada, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan. Biden has also deployed DeNiro - him again - *to voice an ad* running in Wisconsin.

Both campaigns will also spend the next few months bombarding the seven swing states: millions of dollars will be spent in advertising, and more famous people will be dispatched to places like Detroit, Michigan, and Atlanta, Georgia. Biden has already been to Wisconsin *four times* this year, and in April spent three days *campaigning in Pennsylvania*; Trump held events in *Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin* across March, April and May.

An interesting thing to note, however, is that swing states aren't set in stone. Arizona and Georgia were seen as solidly Republican until Biden won there in 2020. On the flip side, until 2016 Florida and Ohio *were both considered swing states*, voting for George W Bush in 2000 and 2004, but Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012. But then changing demographics in both states saw Trump win Florida and Ohio in both 2016 and 2020, and Democrats aren't expected to win either this time round.

Biden did however win five crucial states in 2020: Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. But our recent reporting has revealed a different picture as we approach November. [REDACTED]

The Weekly Sift

A Different Take on Retro Conservative Fantasy

weeklysift

April 15

The Washington Post's "[Tradwives, SAHGs and the dream of feminine leisure](#)" is one of those rare articles that is way more interesting than its apparent topic. OK, there's a "tradwife" trend of sorts: social media influencers who style themselves as classic 1950s housewives, and a parallel group of stay-at-home girlfriends (or what we used to call "kept women"). But this "trend" doesn't represent all that many women, and you probably don't need a major newspaper to tell you what to think about them. After all, if women had been happy in these kinds of roles, [second-wave feminism](#) would never have caught on.

But Monica Hess takes a much more interesting approach. She doesn't analyze tradwifery as a serious option, as in "Were women really happier before feminism?". Instead, she approaches that vision for what it is: a fantasy. "I dream of feminine leisure", say many of the tradwives and SAHGs. And then Hess asks why that dream might be beguiling.

Her down-to-earth answer is simple: Life is hard these days.

The fact of the matter is that almost nobody who works for a living has the time they wish they did to look, feel or be their best, much less to cultivate a highly aesthetic relationship with *a thing called ease*.

What if the problem is not feminism but capitalism — specifically the American version, where work-life balance is a punchline? What if instead of [11 paid vacation days](#), as the average American gets, these women got the full month that is standard in the United Kingdom? What if instead of five (or six or seven) days a week, they worked the four days [that countries such as](#) South Africa and Belgium are piloting? Would that allow enough time to do a full skin-care regimen and pack a great suitcase? If college weren't so ghastly expensive here, maybe that one lady's daughter wouldn't be so keen on the patriarchy as a route to leisure that bypasses the long, uphill road to financial independence.

It wasn't fair when women had no choice to stay home. It's not fair if women are working but are still doing the work of maintaining a home. It's not fair if both men and women are trying to juggle it together and are still finding that there aren't enough hours or dollars in a day. Who wouldn't dream of feminine leisure?

To her credit, Hess also imagines the male side of this fantasy: Who wouldn't want to return from work each evening to find a home in perfect order, dinner on the table, and a well-rested

spouse ready to draw you into the "ease" she has been cultivating all day? (Now you just need a willing partner and a senior-vice-president salary to pay for it all.)

Hess' article expresses a point of view that could generalize: Maybe we're approaching retro conservative fantasies all wrong. At root, most of them aren't really about *then*, they're critiques of *now*: *Why does life have to be so hard? Why is it so hard to pay for college? To get a career started? To find a serious relationship partner and stay together? To afford a home? To fit children into the equation and offer them at least as good a chance as you had?*

Maybe people who are trying to wish their way out of this box deserve our empathy rather than our condemnation. The various retro fantasies they indulge may not be fact-based or workable in practice, but at least they address the question: Life wouldn't be so hard if some sugar daddy would take care of me. Or if immigrants and minorities hadn't stolen my place in line. Or if everybody went back to Jesus. Or if the government stopped sending our money overseas. Or if we had a strong-man leader who could make our country great again (whatever era "again" is supposed to point to).

Maybe the best liberal response isn't a screed about the evils of sexism or xenophobia or authoritarianism. Maybe we should skip past the specifics and give our own answer to the underlying question: Why is life so hard these days?

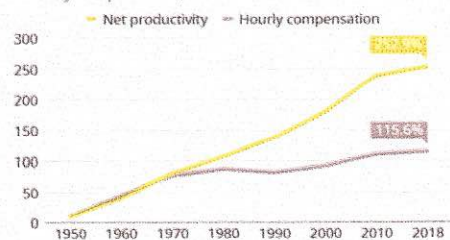
We do have such an answer, one that I believe is far more realistic and supportable than anything conservatives offer: *Life is hard because sometime in the late 1970s, the US scrapped the controls that kept the rich from capturing all the growth in the economy.*



We scrapped antitrust enforcement, so as a consumer you have to take whatever deal monopolies offer you. (The endless "choices" you face at the mall are often just different tentacles of the same octopus.) We scrapped unions, so as a worker you have no negotiating power. And we changed the tax system so that whatever the rich capture, they keep. The result is this graph, which every American voter should be able to draw on a napkin.

Productivity Soars, Wages Stagnate

Percent growth in U.S. productivity and hourly compensation, 1950-2018



Data on wages from workers in private sector compared to productivity in total economy.
Source: Economic Policy Institute



statista

If hourly compensation had kept up, the average Americans would make more than double what they do now. So you could afford a one-income household, if that's what your family wanted. Or you could save up for year-long sabbaticals and return to the workplace with new vision and energy. Or you could retire at 50 and see the world.

Corporate talking heads may denounce this point of view as "class warfare" or "socialism", but such name-calling isn't really a refutation. And it is nostalgic in a manner of speaking, but the point isn't to recreate some past era; it's to get back to the trends that held in the 50s, 60s, and early 70s, when economic gains were widely shared.

Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

FLISA Talking Points for March 2024 Hill Visits

FLISA Members – This is not a handout but talking points for communicating with members of Congress and staff. The NAFIS Hill Meeting Tips on the back may also be helpful. At the Hill meetings, please share the new FLISA 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 impactation 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, *a district must have 10 percent or more of its total taxable value owned by the federal government.*

Student Impact and the National Associations

7. There are more than 1,100 federally impacted school districts that receive Impact Aid located across all 50 states. *Together, we educate more than 9 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 (MTLS), Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) and the National Indian Impacted Schools Association (NIISA).

Local Financial Implications

10. *Our Section 7002 school districts have not been fully funded since 1988.* In fact, our federally impacted school districts receive on *average about seven cents on the dollar* of what would be received from local property taxes.
11. 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.*
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.
13. Even when Impact Aid funding increases, *new property added by the federal government results in existing school districts getting a smaller portion* of the available funding.
14. The impact of lost federal funding will either result in a *loss of educational programs, or a proportional increase in taxes* at the local level to offset the loss of funding, *which many impacted school districts cannot do.*

Our Ask of Congress to Support Our Students and Section 7002 Schools

15. *We are asking Congress to support \$2 million* in additional funding for Section 7002 Schools in FY25. This is a total request of \$80.31 million, which is a 2.5 percent increase from FY23, *after what we assume is no increase in FY24.*

The Impact Aid Coalition and Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act

16. *For those not already a member,* please consider joining over 100 members of the the bipartisan Impact Aid Coalition for the 118th Congress. Please contact JSchimmenti@nafisd.org to sign up or if you have any questions.
17. Please also consider supporting the fully bipartisan [Advancing Toward Full Impact Aid Funding](#) Act, which is aimed at advancing towards fully funding the Impact Aid program. *This Act has now been introduced in the House (H.R.1591) and the Senate (S.871).*

HOW TO DELIVER A POWERFUL MESSAGE IN A HILL MEETING

Your goal is to become a trusted resource for your Member of Congress and his or her staff, and to develop a strong supporter of Impact Aid.

PREPARING FOR THE MEETING

Use the NAFIS website, nafisdc.org, to increase your familiarity with Impact Aid.

Do your homework by identifying your Member of Congress':

- Committee Membership
- Impact Aid Coalition Membership
- Recent local newspaper articles
- Recent press releases
- Policy interests
- Space on the political spectrum

Prepare an example of how Impact Aid is important for your school district.

Develop your message using the NAFIS Talking Points and Elevator Pitch Worksheet.

Identify a group leader and plan what each participant will contribute and when.

Plan to use video, if virtual, even if the person you're meeting with is only on audio.

DURING THE MEETING

Be bipartisan and stay positive.

Share your stories and connect them to the interests of your Member of Congress. Be yourself and bring your passion.

Be helpful and offer to get back to the Member of Congress if you don't have the answer to a question.

Make your ask, using the NAFIS Talking Points to tell your legislator what you want them to do.

- Tailor to the Member of Congress' role
- Tailor to your expertise

Take time to listen and give your Member of Congress and their staff the opportunity to respond.

- Ask, "How can we help you?"
- Ask, "What is your boss' position?"

AFTER THE MEETING

Follow up on any promises made - unanswered questions, statistics, resources, etc.

Foster the relationship with regular contact

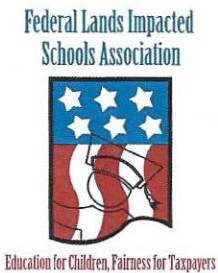
- Set calendar reminders to contact your policymakers at least once every quarter
- Share school district news and other successes with your Members of Congress
- Make sure you're following your Members of Congress on social media

Use Twitter to thank your Congressperson - use the NAFIS Sample Tweets for ideas - or share a brief article on your district website. Be sure to send it to them!

Send a "Thank You" email

- Let the person you met with know you appreciate their time and support
- Reiterate any talking points if necessary
- If the Member of Congress is not on the Impact Aid Coalition, remind them to join by sending an email to nicole@nafisdc.org
 - Check to see if they're on the coalition:
 - House of Representatives Coalition
 - Senate Coalition
- Invite them to visit your school district

Remember, advocacy is a long-term process - the meeting is only the first step!



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

The Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association (FLISA) Mission

🇺🇸 The Mission of National 7002 (Formally Section 8002) Impacted Schools is to secure federal funding which reimburses eligible districts for tax revenue lost (for student programs) due to the federal government's removal of land from the local tax rolls; such revenue to be used for the public education of students.

Reasons to become an Active Member of FLISA

- 🇺🇸 Over the past 15 years, the president has proposed eliminating section 7002 Federal Properties funding from the budget seven times. Only the advocacy efforts from FLISA members, and the NAFIS family, have prevented the funding from ultimately being cut.
- 🇺🇸 Recently, proposed bills from former House Leader Kevin McCarthy and Senator Bernie Sanders would have ultimately eliminated the 7002 funding your district currently receives. Members are kept up to date on these proposed bills and provided with detailed information to send to your representative legislators asking for their support.
- 🇺🇸 As a member of FLISA you will have a say and vote when it comes to new initiatives, budgets, funding formula changes, etc.
- 🇺🇸 As a member of FLISA you will understand how to maximize the funding your district receives and when you will receive funding.
- 🇺🇸 Your membership dollars will help provide the resources FLISA needs to increase funding levels and move toward a fully funded program. Currently, section 7002 Federal Properties funding is funded approximately 10 cents on the dollar.
- 🇺🇸 As a member of FLISA you will have access to the FLISA website and resources necessary to keep fully up to date on the program and your district's funding.
- 🇺🇸 Section 7002 Federal Properties is the smallest section of the Impact Aid program. We need to continue to grow our membership to have a say and remain relevant.
- 🇺🇸 The law that provides for Impact aid funding gets re-authorized and updated periodically which includes proposed changes to the funding formula. Proposed updates are written by the 7002 members. Becoming a member and being involved protects your district's funding and future financial interests.

How to Become a Member of FLISA

- 🇺🇸 School leaders looking to protect their Impact Aid Funding can join FLISA by completing our membership form sent annually or contacting the FLISA Executive Director, Tom Schneider directly at: schneiderthomasw@hotmail.com or 219-545-1011. Information is also available on our website: www.FLISA.org.



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

July 2024

Dear Section 7002 Impact Aid Recipient:

I don't have to tell you, we are in unprecedented times. What we see daily in our political headlines is truly unheard of and there are no guarantees that funding for any program will continue as it has in the past. This uncertainty can be unsettling as we try to set our school budgets for the coming years.

Given these tumultuous times, I want to remind you about the importance of **your** Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association (FLISA) membership.

Accompanying this letter is the 2024-25 FLISA renewal notice. It is your school district's opportunity to join the one and only Impact Aid organization dedicated solely to representing school districts that receive Section 7002 funding.

The Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association (FLISA) is your connection to Congress and the Department of Education. Our recent successes have included the continued authorization of the Impact Aid Law and **appropriations increases** for Section 7002 school districts like yours.

Many of you have been active participants in these efforts over the years, but **all** of you can support these efforts through your membership dues.

I know that during the summer Impact Aid can get pushed to the back burner. But, whenever I think about how many other challenging things there are to do, I hate to imagine how much more challenging those things would be without Impact Aid dollars.

I hope that you will join us not only because our cause of Impact Aid for federal lands is just, but also because it is in the spirit and comradery of fighting for something just that we make connections that provide support and lift our spirits.

Please join our efforts to increase impact aid funding and preserve the important school programs those funds provide.

Sincerely,
Tom Schneider, Ed. D.
Executive Director, Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Stay Informed

Please update your contact information by contacting me at: schneiderthomasw@hotmail.com. Also be sure to following us on twitter at: [@FLISA7002](https://twitter.com/FLISA7002)—Also check our website for all the latest: www.FLISA.org



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

FLISA SCHOOLS MEMBERSHIP DUES INVOICE

School District:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Contact Person:

Title:

Phone:

**E-mail Address:

**Please include your email address when returning this invoice. This will be used to send you important Impact Aid-Section 7002 information and updates.

Membership Dues (based on schedule below)

\$ _____

DUES SCHEDULE: In accordance with the FLISA bylaws, your annual membership payment *for 2024-2025* is based on the amount of 7002 revenue your district receives. We ask that your membership dues be received by the Treasurer between July 1 and September 30.

District receiving \$1,000,000 per year or more.....	\$1,000
District receiving \$500,000 - \$999,000 per year.....	\$500
District receiving \$250,000 - \$499,000 per year.....	\$250
District receiving \$100,000 - \$249,000 per year.....	\$100
Districts receiving less than \$99,999 per year.....	\$50

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: FLISA/SECTION 7002

MAIL CHECK TO: FLISA/Section 7002
c/o Bookkeeper
2009 Eastlake Drive
Ottawa, IL 61350

Thank you for your past support of FLISA, the Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association. Your membership and participation will help sustain our efforts to increase the Impact Aid funding levels, educate decision makers, and ensure the continued reauthorization of the Impact Aid Law.

For additional information, please contact:

Tom Schneider, Executive Director at 219-545-1011 (schneiderthomasw@hotmail.com)



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

FLISA Winter Meeting 2025

THURSDAY, January 30, 2025—Committee Meetings As Scheduled (Between Noon-4PM)

FRIDAY, January 31, 2025—9AM-4PM Eastern Time

Hyatt Regency Clearwater Beach Resort and Spa, 301 South Gulfview Blvd,
Clearwater Beach, Florida

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM AND INVOICE

PLEASE PRINT/TYPE ALL INFORMATION:

School District: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Emergency _____
Contact Name/Phone: _____

Meeting Participants Name(s): _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Conference Registration includes meeting room and a post meeting reception (open to attendees and their guests). Breakfast will be on your own. **No registration refunds will be given after January 5, 2025.**

Conference Registration \$200* X _____ (Number of Participants) Total \$ _____

*Lunch will be provided.

Please mail your payment with this form by January 3, 2025 made payable to FLISA to:

FLISA—Attention: Bookkeeper
2009 Eastlake Drive
Ottawa, IL 61350

Hotel Reservations: Make your hotel reservations as early as possible. **Hyatt Regency Clearwater Beach Resort and Spa, 301 South Gulfview Blvd, Clearwater Beach, Florida.** Meeting participants should use this link to reserve their room under the group code: **G-FDRL.**

[FLIS Winter Meeting 2025 \(hyatt.com\)](https://www.hyatt.com/FLISA-Winter-Meeting-2025)

The rates of \$279-\$329 per night (plus tax) extend through the weekend should some of the meeting participants want to stay in the area longer between Wednesday January 29th and Sunday, February 2nd. Or, you can call Central Reservations at (877) 803-7534 and request to be booked in the block named: **FLIS Winter Meeting 2025.** The hotel will only hold rooms thru **Wednesday, January 3, 2025.**