



# Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

**FLISA Member Meeting Agenda**  
**NAFIS Fall Conference—Washington DC**  
**Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>—10:45-11:45AM Congressional A**  
**Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>—8:30-10AM Congressional A**

**Please bring your laptop/device for Committee Work.**

Our **new NAFIS Executive Director, Cherise Imai**, will be attending one of our meetings as time permits to introduce herself and provide a brief NAFIS overview and answer questions.

## 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 2027),

*\*Retains Non-Voting Member-at-Large Status after this appointment*

**Sarah Wedge** (Secretary thru March 2027),

**Craig Hutcheson (Past President thru March, 2026)\***

*\*By-laws state that if the Past President cannot serve for whatever reason, we go back to the previous Past President. In this case, Mark Naugle (retired).*

**Mike McElduff** Advocacy Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

**Sally Crowser**—Advocacy Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson)

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

**Jason Misner**—Membership Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson)

**Mark Cross** Messaging Chairperson (Thru March, 2026)

**Kevin Feeney**—Messaging Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson)

**Non-Voting Members-Bookkeeper**—Cathie Peznowski (Past President)

**Past-Presidents—Non Voting:**

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

**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

**Please sign-in** during the meeting for FLISA attendees a list and include the offices and staff member FLISA members will be visiting on the hill. This will be shared with NAFIS Staff to coordinate our advocacy efforts.

**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—Sarah Wedge**

- A. Document has been posted on the FLISA website, Summer Meeting

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

- A. FY 26 Budget Information;
  - Goal is to have one-year of expenses on hand.
  - Reminder to update district contact information on the website under update 7002 Data
  - Membership Letters out in July (Remember there’s a New Address)
    - **56 Members** / Down from 71 Members
    - (But Texas Fiscal Year/Reminders Not Out Yet)
    - 4 Mew Members

**IX. NAFIS Board and NAFIS Update— Craig Hutcheson/Christine Walker**

- A. Update on NAFIS Organization
- B. NAFIS Executive Director Introduction—Cherise Imai**
- C. NAFIS Conference: Suggestions?
- D. Department of Education Staffing Status
- E. **Share Your District’s Newest Initiatives with NAFIS Staff for publication Reminder**
- F. Anticipated NAFIS Dues Increase



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### X. Executive Director: Legislative Update

- A. FLISA Organization is humming...Federal Government not so much.
- B. Share your stories (See: Highland Falls and Elwood)
- C. OASIS/NIISA Partnerships

### XI. Review of 119<sup>th</sup> Congress and FY 26 NAFIS Appropriations Ask

#### Status of NAFIS Request for FY 26:

- Support an increase in Impact Aid funding of at least \$5 million, as included in the House Labor-Health-Education Appropriations bill.
  - \$1 million for Sec. 7002 Federal Property
  - \$4 million for Sec. 7003 Basic Support
  - It was one of very few programs to see additional funding.

#### Talking Points:

- Explain how level funding (and even this \$1M increase) is effectively a cut to an already underfunded program due to **new schools qualifying for funding and inflation.**
  - **4.4% increase or \$3.5M per year is needed for adequate funding.**
- Thank them for Congress's recent investments in the Impact Aid program.
- Explain how a possible cut to your Impact Aid payment would affect your district.
- Inform members of Congress of the good works of these federal properties.
- Continue to emphasize the impact of reduced funds has on our students/schools.
  
- Previous **FY 26 Federal Property (7002)** ask is:
  - **\$3.5 million (4.4%) increase over FY 24 ask of approximately \$82.5M. FY 25 funding is at \$79M.**
  
- NAFIS News September 5, 2025: the House Appropriations Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee advanced its FY2026 funding bill for the U.S. Department of Education, which reflects a 15% (\$12 billion) cut, consistent with President Trump's budget request. The measure, approved on a party-line vote, now moves to the full committee.

## XII. Other NAFIS Legislation for 119<sup>th</sup> Congress:

### Future of the Department of Education

- NAFIS opposes any attempt to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education and is deeply concerned by the Trump Administration's recent statements.
- Specifically, we are concerned that any reduction in staff at the Impact Aid office or transfer of authority over the program will negatively impact the program and staff's ability to disseminate payments in a timely manner and provide necessary technical assistance to school districts.

### FLISA Department of Education statement (See Attached)

### Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act HR 5195 (No Senate Bill Number Yet)— September 5<sup>th</sup> from NAFIS Staff

The introduction of the updated Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act in the House on Monday and hope to have the Senate version dropped shortly after. We're just waiting on the final sign-off from our Republican co-lead in the Senate. As such, we wanted to request the official endorsement of the subgroups. Here is the breakdown of the adjustments made to the bill this Congress.

- Sec. 7002 - Federal Property – the end goal is \$250 million. This would cover about 25% of the unmet need. This represents an increase of approximately \$100 million over the last Congress, primarily to underscore our commitment to the Federal property line, which has experienced limited growth in recent years, and to provide clearer messaging for the bill as we establish a goal of 25% of the unmet need.
- Sec. 7003 - Basic Support – the end goal is \$2,347,658,000, which would fully fund this line based on our estimate of unmet need based on FY24 data from the Department. This is \$105,988,246 less than the bill from last Congress, which represents a decrease in federally connected students and thus a decrease in the unmet need in the program.
- Sec. 7003(d) – Children with Disabilities – the end goal is \$120 million. This is a slightly decreased and rounded-off update of the \$120,316,000 goal from last Congress for ease of messaging.
- Sec. 7007 – Construction - the end goal is \$45 million. This is a slightly decreased and rounded-off update of the \$45,406,000 goal from last Congress for ease of messaging.

### FLISA Statement in Support of Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act HR 5195:

*"This legislation represents the clearest path to making things right for the students, communities and taxpayers impacted by a federal presence within their school boundaries. It is time to fully fix these problems that were created for the past seven decades. This legislation is the best way to get it done, and now is finally the time."*

--Tom Schneider, Executive Director FLISA



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### **Fairness in Education Funding Act - H.R.4260**

This legislation would prevent the Secretary of Education from significantly altering the administration of the Impact Aid program from how it was administered on January 1, 2025, except as required by Federal law or a court order.

#### The Ask:

- Cosponsor the bill by contacting Callie Lucia (callie.lucia@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Pat Ryan (D-NY).
- *Note: There is no Senate companion to this legislation.*

### **Resolution Recognizing the 75th Anniversary of Impact Aid – \_S.Res. TBD / H.Res.TBD**

This bipartisan and bicameral resolution would designate September 30, 2025 as “Impact Aid Recognition Day” to recognize and celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Impact Aid Program.

#### The Ask:

- Cosponsor the resolution by contacting: Ben Strand (ben\_strand@hirono.senate.gov) with Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
- *Note: A House companion to this legislation is expected soon.*
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### **Impact Aid Caucus**

The bipartisan and bicameral Congressional Impact Aid Caucus, formerly the 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 nearly 100 current Members of Congress in the caucus, and we hope to continue to grow these numbers. If you talk to a member who is not currently in the caucus, suggest that they join. It is an easy way to show your support for federally impacted schools and Impact Aid.

#### The Ask:

- Contact [JSchimmenti@nafisdc.org](mailto:JSchimmenti@nafisdc.org) to join.

### **XIII. Committee Updates and Committee Work (See Below)**

#### **A. Mike McElduff --Advocacy Committee**

- a. “Leave Behind Packets”
- b. **Section 7002 Federal Lands Coalition or Caucus--New Idea Alert**

**Mike McElduff, Highland Falls:** *Section 7002 Federal Lands Coalition or Caucus of Congressional members supporting our type of impact aid. This would obviously be in addition to all types of Impact Aid, but specifically for 7002. It would clearly need to be bi-partisan and we would need to find someone who is 7002 impact aid "first".*

*Not sure yet, what that Caucus of 7002 would look like or what it would do aside from being a supporter of language advocating for increased impact aid spending overall and 7002 specifically. However, it may be helpful in pointing out what districts would be specifically hurt with the elimination of 7002. We would obviously grow this Caucus past the first two bi-partisan members...but its not going anywhere without the two start up bi-partisans. (Jason Misner and Steph Long contributing)*

c. **Breach of Contract Suit—New Idea Alert\***

**Stephanie Long, Leland:** *Our FLISA group hire a lawyer now to draft a lawsuit to be filed on the day 7002 funds get **cut suing the government for breach of contract**. Have him take the case pro-bono for name recognition. The odds that 7003 gets cut are small given the military connection and the sheer number of schools and kids it would impact. We are specifically named in Project 2025 and we are smaller and less represented on the NAFIS board.*

**\*Discussion on possible legal costs see attached.**

- B. Bob Reichert--**Membership** Committee
  - b. Review “Why Join” Brochure sent in Membership Letters in June
- C. Mark Cross--**Messaging** Committee (*Greatest Committee Ever Assembled*)
  - c. Review Leave-behind and messaging for 119<sup>th</sup> Congress/OMB

**FLISA Leave Behind Handout**

Attached is the flyer for congressional members and staffers with the updates we discussed this summer. This includes a new cute kids picture, as well as an added patriotic picture (more cute kids) with some additional space that was created. Some of the graphics were also retooled and rearranged a bit, and several things were reworded for clarity and consistency.

More substantively, you will see references to why our *taxpayers* need impact aid, as well as *efficiency*. I also thought from some of our past conversations that it made sense to get away from it being the "oldest" program and "75 years" old, as some could see that as a bad thing. Along those lines, the Fast Facts now says...

- Funds vital educational programs and services
- Highly efficient, flexible, and locally controlled funding
- Essential for our students as well as our local taxpayers
- Years of strong bipartisan and bicameral support
- Funded at just 7 percent, continued support is critical

*Take a close look and thoughts on this are very welcome, but soon please as I will need to get these printed by the end of the week.*

d. **Town Hall Event to Spread Awareness of Impact Aid—New Idea Alert**

**Mike McElduff, Highland Falls:** *Town Hall was a great success, with participation from representatives at both the federal and state levels. We had an attendance of over 80 individuals, and we believe the session effectively encouraged attendees to engage our politicians through letter-writing. We had pre-written letters for families as well as letters for community members who don't have children in our schools. We also have letters at each of our schools for parents to review and sign and we are working with advocacy groups to hand them out at the local Library and other locations. Our next step is to engage our faculty, staff and students to all write a letter by the end of May.*

**“Hey Mike, how can I do one of those cool town hall events?”**



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## **XIV. Recognition and Nominations for FLISA Extra Mile Award**

- A. Tom Madden Recognition
- B. Highland Falls Recognition
- C. *Steph Long, Summer, 2026*

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

- A. Interim communications
- B. Winter January 2026 FLISA Meeting Information—St. Petersburg, Florida
- C. Spring March 2026 NAFIS Conference—Washington DC

## **XVI. Next FLISA Meeting Dates/Locations**

- a. **FLISA Winter, 2026 Meeting**, Hyatt Regency Clearwater, Florida—January 29-30th—*Registration Form Available June, 2025*
  - 1. Committee Work Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup> —2PM-4PM
  - 2. Board Meeting Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup> —4PM-6PM
  - 3. Membership Meeting Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>—9AM-4PM
- b. **NAFIS Spring 2026 Conference**: Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, March 14<sup>st</sup> thru Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>
- c. **FLISA Summer, 2026 Meeting**—Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, MI—June 18-19th—Location TBD--*Registration Available January, 2026*
  - 1. Committee Work Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>—2PM-4PM
  - 2. Board Meeting Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> —4PM-6PM
  - 3. Membership Meeting Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>—9AM-4PM
- d. **NAFIS Fall 2026 Conference**: Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> thru Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>
- e. **FLISA Winter, 2027 Meeting**, Hyatt Regency Clearwater, Florida—January 29-30th—*Registration Form Available June, 2026*
  - 1. Committee Work Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> —2PM-4PM
  - 2. Board Meeting Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> —4PM-6PM
  - 3. Membership Meeting Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>—9AM-4PM

\*Note that some changes to the NAFIS Closing Reception have been discussed to begin in 2027. More details to follow as the date gets closer.

## **XVII. Action Items:**

### **17-A. Approval of FLISA Summer Meeting Minutes (June 20, 2025)**

## **XIX. Reception Reminder/Adjournment**

## **\*Call for Presentations—Winter 2026 FLISA Meeting**

**Enhancing the FLISA Meeting Agenda** – Our Thanks to April Moore for volunteering to present at our Summer Meeting...We are now looking for volunteers for Winter Meeting, in Clearwater in 2025.

*Steph Long and her team from Leland, Michigan have already volunteered for our FLISA Summer Meeting in 2026. Be sure to reserve your presentation date as soon as possible.*

### **\*Call for Presentations—Winter FLISA Meeting 2026**

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 January, 2026 Florida.