

NATIONAL INDIAN IMPACTED SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

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IMPACT AID PRIORITIES FOR 2024

Increase Impact Aid appropriations by \$70M (broken down as follows)

- \$65M Basic Support (Section 7003)
- \$2M Federal Properties (Section 7002)
- \$1.5M Construction (Section 7007)
- \$1.5M Children With Disabilities (Section 7003d)

Explanation: Passed into law in 1950, Impact Aid is the oldest federal education program. The Impact Aid Program, currently funded at \$1.6B, benefits over 1,100 Impact Aid recipient public school districts that educate nearly 10 million students across the nation. Impact Aid represents a partnership between the Federal Government and those local school districts where it holds non-taxable land, such as Indian treaty, Federal trust, Alaska Land Claims Settlement Act, military installations, low-rent housing, national parks and laboratories. ** An annual increase in Impact Aid funding is a critical investment in efforts to close achievement gaps, recruiting and retaining quality school leaders, updating technology, counselling and mental health support and more.

Support S. 871/H.R. 1591 “Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act

Explanation: The Impact Aid Program has **not** been fully funded since 1969. As a result, the Department of Education prorates payments based on a district’s rate of impactation. The Act introduces a five year plan to fully fund the Impact Aid Program. Full funding would provide additional funding and make districts more equitable to property rich districts as well as provide additional resources for Indian lands and military impacted school districts. Consider supporting this bill to bring funding equity to 1,100+ federally impacted school districts serving more than 10M students!

Support S. 2808/H.R. 6698 “Impact Aid Infrastructure Partnership Act

Explanation: Current Impact Aid Program funding levels for school construction is \$18.4M and is grossly inadequate to meet the backlog of construction and renovation needs of federally impacted school districts. First introduced in the US Senate and followed by a companion bill in the US House, the Act would add \$1B over four years or \$250M year. Funding would be distributed to eligible districts-- 75% school construction/teacher housing and 25% formula. Grant award criteria will consider bonding capacity and identified priorities including health and safety, code violations, identified emergencies, and natural disasters. Two GAO studies and NIISA member surveys document the need. Consider co-sponsoring!