

FLORIDA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, INC

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FSBA 2017 Federal Platform

The Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) calls upon the U.S. Congress to fulfill its role in supporting and promoting a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education. In pursuit of this goal, FSBA urges Congress to:

- ✧ Provide sufficient federal funding to pursue and implement federal initiatives and mandates, including funding to increase the federal investment in IDEA to the guaranteed level of 40% of the costs to meet special education mandates and funding to fully fund the government's share of ESEA and avoid provisions that would divert substantial federal resources into competitive grant programs.
- ✧ Support and monitor FCC implementation of the "ConnectEd" plan for E-Rate and increase overall funding for E-Rate.
- ✧ Support legislation that would allow states to collect state sales tax due on remote and internet purchases of goods and services that are currently taxable offline.
- ✧ Exempt K-12 and workforce education spending from budget cuts under sequestration reduction or related budget balancing negotiations, and, at a minimum, increase funding to meet increased costs due to inflation, increased number of students and critical unmet needs.
- ✧ Support the implementation of ESSA to provide maximum flexibility to local districts in determining school intervention and improvement activities.
- ✧ Preclude current and future administrations from adopting rules that are not expressly required by law in ESSA.
- ✧ Provide maximum funding provided through the ESSA to school districts, with some funding allocated for professional development.
- ✧ Support existing Title I formula and distribution that gives the flexibility to determine the best use of federal funds for the planning of school improvement initiatives.
- ✧ Oppose any change in law that would allow portability of Title I and/or IDEA funding.
- ✧ Oppose HR5003, Improving Child Nutrition and Education Act, until two objectionable provisions – allowance of state block grants and alternative verification methods to determine student eligibility (CEP) – are removed.
- ✧ Support reauthorization of the Perkins Career/Technical Education Act with flexibility to create or continue appropriate partnerships with postsecondary education institutions, workforce development boards and local business/industry in providing quality instructional, industry-certified programs.
- ✧ Provide funding for the unreimbursed costs associated with educating immigrant students.