

FALL 2024

# LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT

**We urge Congress to take a sensible bipartisan approach to funding the federal government that provides the necessary resources to support the nation's schools.**

## **Legislation to Support Child Nutrition**

- Healthy Meals Help Kids Learn Act – [H.R. 1269/S. 3093](#): This legislation would permanently increase school lunch reimbursements by 45 cents and breakfast by 28 cents.
- Universal School Meals Program Act – [H.R. 3204/S. 1568](#): This legislation would make breakfast and lunch free for all public-school students.

## **Legislation to Support Special Education**

- Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) Full Funding Act – [H.R. 4519/S. 2217](#): This bipartisan legislation would require the full, permanent, and mandatory funding of the IDEA.

## **Legislation to Support Student Mental Health**

- Preparing & Retaining Education Professionals (PREP) Act – [S. 2369](#): This bipartisan legislation would increase funding to attract, develop, and retain high quality educators, especially in high-need subject areas.
- EDUCATORS for America Act – [H.R. 2992/S. 1341](#): This legislation would provide state grants to strengthen the educator workforce, address teacher shortages, and expand the Teacher Quality Partnership Program.

## **Legislation to Support Teachers**

- Preparing & Retaining Education Professionals (PREP) Act – [S. 2369](#): This bipartisan legislation would increase funding to attract, develop, and retain high quality educators, especially in high-need subject areas.
- EDUCATORS for America Act – [H.R. 2992/S. 1341](#): This legislation would provide state grants to strengthen the educator workforce, address teacher shortages, and expand the Teacher Quality Partnership Program.

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## Legislation to Support Student Mental Health

- Creating Access and Resources in Education (CARE) for Student Mental Health Act – S. 4041: This bipartisan legislation would authorize and streamline programs and grants like the School-Based Mental Health Services Program to help school districts get the resources they need to increase available mental health resources and a diverse pipeline of mental health practitioners. The legislation would also ensure that appropriate technical assistance and support is provided to small and rural school systems so they have the capacity and ability to compete for these federal grants.
- Expanding Access to Mental Health Services in Schools Act – H.R. 7108: This bipartisan legislation would address the urgent need for mental health professionals in schools by further expanding and funding the School Based Mental Health Services Grants, a state and local grant program to directly increase the number of school based mental health professionals administered by the Department of Education.
- Fentanyl Awareness for Children and Teens in Schools (FACTS) Act – H.R. 5625/S. 3701: This bipartisan legislation would create a grant program to establish education partnership programs between public schools and public health agencies to prevent the misuse and overdose of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids by youth.
- Peer-to-Peer Mental Health Support Act – S. 3453: This bipartisan bill would establish a new grant program to facilitate peer-to-peer mental health support programs for secondary school students.
- Supporting All Students Act – S. 3525: This legislation would establish a youth peer-to-peer support line integrated into the 988 Hotline program and would establish a new grant program for school districts to hire mental health coordinators.

## Legislation to Support Connectivity & Cybersecurity

- Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act – H.R. 6929/S. 3565: This bipartisan legislation would extend the Affordable Connectivity Program, which provides affordable broadband services to low income households.
- Enhancing K-12 Cybersecurity Act – H.R. 2485/S. 1191: This bipartisan legislation strengthens cybersecurity in public schools by promoting access to information, better tracking of cyberattacks nationally, and providing new cybersecurity resources through the creation of a K-12 Cybersecurity Technology Improvement Program all administered through the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).