



S. 2808/H.R. 6698 Impact Aid Infrastructure Partnership Act (IAIPA)

The *Impact Aid Infrastructure Partnership Act* would provide funds to the Impact Aid Construction program to address the significant backlog of facilities needs at federally impacted school districts. School facility surveys conducted by both the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools and the National Indian Impacted Schools Association found that 65% of respondents indicated their facilities are in fair to poor condition, which presents challenges in teacher recruitment and teacher retention and can negatively impact student learning. A 2020 study from the Government Accountability Office found that nearly half (49%) of responding federally impacted school districts needed HVAC updates or replacements in at least half of their buildings, and 35% needed multiple updates in each building.

This bill authorizes \$1 billion over four years (\$250 million per year) to provide funding to local educational agencies (LEAs) eligible to receive payments under the Impact Aid program:

- **25% of the funds would be provided by formula to eligible districts**, which include districts that have 20% or more children who reside on Indian lands or who are military-connected.
- **75% of the funds would be provided through competitive grants**, either as a grant in full or a grant with a matching requirement, depending on the ability to pay.

IAIPA would also require the Department of Education (ED) to establish and maintain a priority listing of school buildings based on need, including teacher housing.

- **Priority One:** A facility in violation of a building code representing a health hazard; that fails to meet Centers for Disease Control and Prevention standards; non-compliance meeting student capacity or infrastructure standards; or has teacher housing repair or new construction needs.
- **Priority Two:** A facility that does not meet the requirements of Priority One, but that fails to meet the minimum structural or health and safety standards as adopted by the American Society of Civil Engineers or has an identified need for teacher housing repair or new construction.

Eligible districts would be further prioritized as follows:

1. Lack the authority to tax or issue bonds or have a total assessed value of real property that may be taxed for school purposes of less than \$50 million.
2. A total assessed property value of less than \$100 million.
3. Other considerations such as percentage of federally connected students, Learning Opportunity Threshold (LOT) percentage, percentage of taxable land, and feasibility of completion of the project in 24 months.

Priority One school districts with no capacity to issue bonds could receive competitive grants to fully fund their construction projects. Priority One and Priority Two school districts with some capacity to use bonds would be subject to a matching requirement that varies based on their dependence on Impact Aid.

To co-sponsor S. 2808, contact Ben Strand in Sen. Mazie Hirono's office at ben_strand@hirono.senate.gov. To co-sponsor H.R. 6689, contact Abigail Leonard in Rep. John Garamendi's office at abigail.leonard@mail.house.gov.

THE NAFIS FAMILY

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