



Senator Richard Shelby
Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 16, 2018

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of AASA, The School Superintendents Association, the Association of School Business Officials, International (ASBO), and the Association of Educational Services Agencies, representing school business officials, school superintendents, and educational agency administrators across the nation, I write to express our strong opposition to President Trump's proposal to rescind \$15.4 billion in federal funding, funding that has already been approved and allocated by Congress. We oppose the proposal overall, and in particular, the inclusion of a cut of \$7 billion in funding that would otherwise be available to programs and services, including education, funded through the Labor Health Human Services Education and Other (LHHS) appropriations bill for fiscal year 2019 (FY19).

Less than two months ago, we were pleased to commend Congress' bipartisan two-year budget deal and work to wrap up funding for FY18: "[We applaud] Congress for completing its federal appropriations work for federal fiscal year 2018 (FY18)...the bill and its investments in public education are a step in the right direction toward supporting efforts to ensure every parent and student has access to a high-quality public school." The budget cap agreement recognized not only the needs of the nation, but also the resources required to address those needs, including public education. We are concerned that rescissions will undermine the bipartisan nature of the budget deal, will run in direct contradiction with the sentiment of meeting the needs of the nation, will eliminate resources available to appropriators to address these needs, and will arbitrarily limit the ability of Congress to reallocate funding when necessary.

We are optimistic that the level of funding provided in FY18 will be a baseline of support for our nation's public schools and the students they serve, and that future funding conversations, including FY19, will build on this critical investment.

We urge you to oppose this initial proposed rescission, as well as any additional proposed rescissions the President may advance, including proposed cuts to FY18 funding.

Please reach out with any questions (nellerson@aasa.org).

Sincerely,

Noelle Ellerson Ng
Legislative Liaison

CC: U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee
U.S. House Appropriations Committee