



February 10th, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair, Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressional Leaders:

We write to urge your support for and engagement with two opportunities to support investment in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). IDEA protects students with disabilities by guaranteeing the right to a free appropriate public education. Without this funding, school districts are required to pay a higher proportion of the special education costs to ensure students with disabilities receive required special education and related services.

Each year that Congress fails to fully fund IDEA, our schools and children suffer. The IDEA Full Funding Act would create a path to gradually increase federal dollars appropriated for IDEA over the next few years until it reaches the 40% level. This essential increase will provide much-needed relief for school districts in the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities.

There are two actions we ask you to consider:

- Protect and prioritize IDEA investment in FY25 and FY26: When Congress resumes its work on annual appropriations, support funding levels that protect and prioritize investment in IDEA. We ask that you provide no less than \$16.259 billion for IDEA Part B Grants to States, putting IDEA on a glidepath to full funding, while holding all other education programs harmless from funding cuts.
- Sign on to co-sponsor the IDEA Full Funding Act, which would provide support to school districts as they ensure that children with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education. Despite the federal government's promise to provide 40% of the extra costs associated with educating students with disabilities, it currently only covers approximately

10.2% annually. The IDEA Full Funding Act has yet to be introduced this Congress, but the legislation is scheduled for reintroduction in the near future.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

National Organizations Signatures

AASA, The School Superintendents Association

AACTE: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

AFT, AFL-CIO

American Occupational Therapy Association

American Psychological Association

Association of Educational Service Agencies

Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)

Autism Society of America

Chiefs for Change

Council for Learning Disabilities

Council of the Great City Schools

EDGE Consulting Partners

Education Reform Now

Council for Exceptional Children

Learning Disabilities Association of America

National Association for Music Education

National Association of Elementary School Principals

National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

National Association of Private Special Education Centers

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

National Association for Pupil Transportation

National Center for Learning Disabilities

National Conference of State Legislatures

National Down Syndrome Congress

National Education Association

National Rural Education Association

The Advocacy Institute

The Arc of the United States

State and Local Signatures

Alaska Occupational Therapy Association

Albany Unified School District

Alisal Union School District

Almond Acres Charter Academy

Anaheim Elementary School District

Anaheim Elementary SELPA

Arizona Occupational Therapy Association

ASAH – Special Education Partnerships

Atascadero Unified School District

Autism Alliance of Michigan
Bangor UESD
Bellevue-Santa Fe Charter School
Berryessa Union School District
Bristol Public Schools
Butte County Office of Education
Butte County SELPA
California Alliance of Child and Family Services
Capital Region ESD 113
CAPSES California Association of Private Special Education Services
Cayucos Elementary School District
Centinela Valley Union High School District
Central Unified School District
CESA 10
Chico Unified School District
Coalition for Adequate Funding for Special Education
Conejo Valley Unified School District
Conejo Valley USD
Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association (ConnOTA)
Connecticut School Occupational Therapy CoP
Cooperative Educational Service Agency #12
County Administrator, Inglewood Unified School District
Davis Joint Unified School District
Dos Palos-Oro Loma Joint Unified School District
DOTA
East San Gabriel Valley SELPA
East San Gabriel Valley SELPA Community Advisory Committee
Eastmont School District
Educational Service District 123
El Segundo Unified School District
Fillmore Unified School District
Foothill SELPA
Foxborough Public Schools
Fresno County Charter SELPA
Fresno County SELPA
Granite Mountain Charter School
Gridley Unified School District
Hacienda La Puente Unified School District
Harford County Public Schools, Maryland
Hawthorne School District
Hermosa Beach City School District
Humboldt-Del Norte SELPA
Huntington Beach Union High School District
IAPSEC (Illinois Association of Private Special Education Centers)

Inyo County Office of Education
Irvine International Academy
Jefferson Elementary School District
Jefferson School District
Kern High SELPA
King City Union School District
Kings Canyon Joint Unified School District
Lammersville Unified
Lawndale Elementary School District
Le Grand Union Elementary School District
Lennox School District
Los Angeles County Charter SELPA
Los Angeles Unified School District
Maine Occupational Therapy Association
Manhattan Beach Unified School District
Manteca Unified School District
Marin County SELPA
Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives
Mayacamas Countywide Middle School
Merced City School District
Merced Union High School District
Miami County Educational Service Center
Monterey County Office of Education
Monterey County SELPA
Morongo Unified School District
National Association of Social Workers DC Metro Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Alabama Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Alaska Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Arizona Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Arkansas Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Colorado Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Connecticut Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Delaware Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Georgia Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Guam Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Idaho Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Illinois Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Indiana Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Iowa Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Kansas Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Kentucky Chapter

National Association of Social Workers, Louisiana Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Maine Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Maryland Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Massachusetts Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Michigan Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Minnesota Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Mississippi Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Missouri Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Montana Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Nebraska Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Nevada Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, New Hampshire Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, New Jersey Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, New Mexico Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, New York City Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, New York State Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, North Carolina Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, North Dakota Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Ohio Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Oklahoma Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Oregon Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Puerto Rico Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Rhode Island Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, South Carolina Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, South Dakota Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Tennessee Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Texas Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Utah Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Vermont Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Virgin Islands Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Virginia Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Washington Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, West Virginia Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Wisconsin Chapter
National Association of Social Workers, Wyoming Chapter

NCESD

Nevada Association of School Superintendents

North Central ESD

North Monterey County Unified School District

North Region SELPA Community Advisory Committee

North Santa Cruz County SELPA

North West SELPA

NYS Occupational Therapy Association

Oak Park Unified School District
Oakland Unified School District
Occupational Therapy Association of Colorado
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF OREGON
Ocean View School District
Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools
OOTA
Orange Unified SELPA
Oxnard School District
Palermo Union Elementary School District
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District
Paso Robles Joint Unified School District
Piedmont Unified School District
Pine Ridge Elementary School District
Pine Ridge Elementary School District
Pleasant Valley Joint Union Elementary School District
Pleasant Valley School District
PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Redondo Beach Unified School District
Regional Center East Bay
Riverdale Joint Unified School District
San Ardo Union Elementary School District
San Diego Unified School District
San Joaquin County SELPA
San Luis Obispo County Office of Education
San Luis Obispo County SELPA
San Mateo County SELPA
San Mateo Union High School District
San Ramon Valley USD SELPA
Santa Barbara County SELPA
Santa Clara County Office of Education
Santa Clarita Valley SELPA
SELPA Administrators of California
SFUSD
Simi Valley Unified School District
Siskiyou County Office of Education
SMUHSD
Solano County Special Education Local Plan Area
Soledad Unified School District
South Carolina Occupational Therapy Association (SCOTA)
South East Santa Clara SELPA
South Monterey County Joint Union High School District
SouthWest Metro
Southwest SELPA
SSFUSD
Sunnyvale School District

The Delhi Unified School District
The Idaho Occupational Therapy Association
Tonasket School District
Torrance Unified School District
Tri-City SELPA (Culver City, Santa Monica-Malibu, Beverly Hills Unified School Districts)
Tri-Valley SELPA
Tulare County Office of Education
Ventura County Office of Education
Ventura County SELPA
Ventura Unified School District
Washington Unified School District
Weaver Union School District
Wenatchee School District
West Contra Costa Unified School District
West Orange County Consortium for Special Education (WOCCSE)
Westminster School District
Winters Joint Unified School District
Wiseburn Unified School District
YMCA of the East Bay-Early Childhood Impact
Yolo County SELPA
Yuba County Office of Education

In addition to the [2,866 members of the school communities](#) across the state of California.