

TO: AASA Members  
FROM: Noelle Ellerson Ng  
DATE: March 22, 2018  
RE: Analysis of FY18 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

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On March 21, Congress released H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY18. The bill and its provisions fund the federal government for FY18, which runs from Oct 1, 2017 thru September 30, 2018. FY18 dollars will be in schools during the 2018-19 school year. Given that we are almost half way through FY18, Congress has relied on a series of short-term continuing resolutions to keep government funded and running, with two brief shutdowns. The final continuing resolution was set to expire at midnight on March 22/23, meaning the timing of the bill forced an expedited floor vote schedule in both the House and the Senate. The House and Senate both passed the bill on Thursday/early hours of Friday morning, sending the bill to the President's desk for signature. *At the time this memo was posted to the website, the House and Senate had passed the bill and the President had tweeted a threat to NOT sign the bill. (Update: 3/23 9:45 am)*

**Overview:** HR 1625 provides \$1.3 trillion for FY18. It includes \$629 b in base defense funding and \$579 in base non-defense funding. These levels reflect the recent Bipartisan Budget Act, which raised the FY18 budget caps on discretionary spending for both defense and non-defense discretionary funding. As a point of clarification, federal education funding lies, generally, in the Labor/Health/Human Services/Education/Other (LHHS) appropriations bill, which is in the non-defense discretionary (NDD) portion of the budget. Overall, the bill provides \$600 billion in NDD funding, in part fueled by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 NDD cap increase of \$63 billion. Specific to education, the bill provides a \$3.9 b increase to USED, providing a total of \$70.9 b for FY18. While this represents a significant increase and is a welcome level of investment, it is important to note that if FY12 USED funding levels (\$68.1 b) kept pace with inflation, it would currently be funded at \$74.8 b. The bill rejects the Trump administration's continued efforts to further advance their flawed privatization agenda. Program-specific funding levels are detailed below, and followed by a list of linked resources related to the omnibus bill.

#### **Program Specific Details:**

- Early Education
  - Head Start: \$610 m increase
  - Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG): \$2.37 b increase
- K12 Programs
  - ESSA Title I: \$300 m increase to \$15.8 b
  - ESSA Title IV: \$700 m increase to \$1.1 b
  - IDEA State Grants (Part B): \$275 m increase to \$12.3 b
  - Impact Aid: \$86 m increase, to \$1.4 b
  - Charter Schools: \$58 m increase, to \$400 m
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers: \$20 m increase, to \$1.2 b
  - State Assessments: \$8.9 m increase to \$378 m
  - Career and Technical Education State Grants: \$75 m increase to \$1.193 b
  - Homeless Youth/Children: \$8 m increase to \$85 m
  - Native Hawaiian Education: \$3 m increase to \$36 m
  - Alaska Native Education: \$3 m increase to \$35 m
  - Rural Education: \$5 m increase to \$181 m
  - Promise Neighborhoods: \$5 m increase to \$78 m

- Indian Education: \$15 m increase to \$180 m
- ESSA Title II: Level funded at \$2.056 b
- Innovative Approaches to Literacy: Level funded at \$27 m
- Migrant Students: Level funded at \$375 m
- Neglected/Delinquent Students: Level funded at \$48 m
- Comprehensive Literacy Development grants: Level funded at \$190 m
- English language Acquisition: Level funded at \$737 m
- Other
  - Opioid Crisis: \$3 b increase for programs to respond to crisis, including \$2.7 b increase for prevention, treatment, surveillance, research, and more.
  - Center for Disease Controls: \$806 m increase for CDC, as well as language that allows CDC to conduct gun violence prevention research
  - Secure Rural Schools/Forest Counties: The bill reauthorizes and provides two years of funding for the SRS program. (Read the related [AASA letter](#).)
  - Firearms and Training: Includes language to prohibit the use of federal funds to purchase firearm or for firearm training for educators
  - Transportation for Integration: Retains language to continue prohibition on federal funds from being used for transportation to support public school racial integration (Read the [AASA letter](#) opposing this language.)

#### **Related Resources:**

- [Text of Consolidated appropriations Act of 2018](#)
  - [Explanatory Statement](#) (Labor Health Human Services Education Other)
- Congressional Committee Statements
  - Senate Appropriations [Majority Bill Summary](#)
  - Senate Appropriations [Minority Bill Summary](#)
  - House Appropriations [Majority Summary](#) and [LHHS Summary](#)
  - House Appropriations [Minority Summary](#)
- EdWeek Coverage
  - [More Than School Safety: What the Huge Hike for ESSA's Block Grant Means](#)
  - [Congress Wants a Record High for Education Spending. But That's Only on Paper](#)
  - [Federal Spending Bill Would Boost Education Aid, Reject Trump Choice Push](#)
- AASA [Letter of Support](#) for FY18 Omnibus Bill