



September 20, 2023

The Honorable Robert Aderholt, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
HHS, Education and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin, Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Aderholt, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Baldwin, and Ranking Member Capito:

As you negotiate a final version of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 appropriations bill, the Consortium for Constituents with Disabilities (CCD) Education Task Force urges you to provide additional funding for the federal programs that support infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, their families, and the educators and other service providers who serve them and to reject proposals that would reduce funding.

CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for Federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. To support these goals and ensure that children with disabilities have every opportunity to succeed in school and beyond, Congress must uphold its responsibility to pass comprehensive appropriations bills each year and deliver on its commitment to funding early intervention and education costs for children with disabilities.

Congress must address the historic underfunding of IDEA and related programs and put forward a negotiated bill that would significantly increase and sustain key programs that support infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, their families, and the teachers and other personnel who serve them. To make meaningful progress on funding for these critical programs, we respectfully request no less than the following amounts for each program within IDEA in FY24:

- Part B Section 611 (Grants to States): \$16.3 billion
- Part B Section 619 (Preschool Grants): \$503 million
- Part C (Grants to serve infants and toddlers): \$932 million
- Part D (National Activities):
 - State Personnel Development: \$53.6 million
 - Technical Assistance and Dissemination: \$55.3 million

- Personnel Preparation: \$300 million
- Parent Training and Information Centers: \$49.2 million
- Media and Technology: \$41.4 million

Additionally, we respectfully request funding in the following amounts for additional programs that impact education and outcomes for individuals with disabilities:

- Institute for Education Sciences (IES): \$900 million
- National Center for Special Education Research (within IES): \$70 million
- Office for Civil Rights: \$178 million
- ESSA Title I: \$36.5 billion
- ESSA Title II: \$3 billion
- Transition Programs for Students with Intellectual Disability (TPSID) Model Demonstrations & TPSID National Coordinating Center (NCC), and National Technical Assistance and Dissemination Center (NDATC): \$15.2 million
- Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR) program: \$25 million
- American Printing House for the Blind (APH): \$53.4 million
- Assistive Technology Act Programs: \$49 million
- School Based Mental Health Services Professionals and School Based Mental Health Services grants: \$428 million.

These funding levels are necessary to sustain and improve on these programs. Furthermore, Congress must avoid cuts to public education at a time when districts and schools are striving to address instructional loss, a severe shortage of teachers and mental health professionals, and other adverse pandemic-related impacts for students with disabilities, as any cuts to programs would be detrimental to students with disabilities. A significant increase in Federal funding for IDEA and other complementary programs would ensure that funding is available for programs that can benefit all children, including children with disabilities. Thank you for considering our views as you work toward reaching an agreement on the FY2024 appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics
 American Printing House for the Blind
 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
 APTA
 Assistive Technology Industry Association
 Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
 Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
 American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA)
 APSE
 Autism Speaks
 Autism Society of America

Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Council of Administrators of Special Education
CAST, Inc.
Center for Learner Equity
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
CommunicationFIRST
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for Learning Disabilities
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates
Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
Division for Learning Disabilities of the Council for Exception Children (DLD - CEC)
Epilepsy Foundation
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education (HECSE)
IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE)
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
National Down Syndrome Congress
TASH
Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children (TED)
The Advocacy Institute
The Arc of the United States

CC:

House Appropriations Committee

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The Consortium for Constituents with Disabilities (CCD) is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for Federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society free from racism, ableism, sexism, and xenophobia, as well as LGBTQ+ based discrimination and religious intolerance.

www.c-c-d.org