

# TITLE IV-A

# COALITION

## **Title IV-A Coalition disappointed in the Administration's elimination of the flexible block grant meant to support well-rounded programs, safe and healthy schools, and the effective use of technology in FY19 budget**

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Title IV-A Coalition, we offer the following response to the Administration's elimination of the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant program, authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), in the FY19 budget:

**Washington D.C., February 12, 2017** — *"We are yet again deeply disappointed by the Administration's Fiscal Year 2019 budget proposal to completely eliminate the SSAE grant program in its third year of existence. The SSAE grant program under Title IV-A of ESSA is a flexible block grant that is designed to provide support for much needed health and safety programs, well-rounded education programs, and the effective use of education technology.*

*"The Administration's decision to zero out funding for this program, before many districts have even had a chance to use their FY17 funds to support these initiatives and prove that this flexible block grant program is a worthy investment, is extremely shortsighted. Additionally, it sends a clear signal to local school districts that this Administration does not value investments in areas like educational technology, mental health programs (including resources in schools to deal with the opioid crisis), and supporting a well-rounded curriculum, which includes computer science—all of which the SSAE grant program funds support. Defunding the single program that gives actual control and flexibility of education back to the local districts stands in stark contrast with the will of Congress and frankly, what the President and Secretary DeVos have said about this issue.*

*"We are encouraged that Congress has recognized the importance of the SSAE grant programs in its FY18 appropriations bills and hope that it will see fit to provide substantial increases in FY18 and FY19 now that the budget deal has passed. We sincerely urge Congress to fund the SSAE grant program at its authorized level of \$1.6 billion, giving local districts the ability to make effective use of Title IV-A investments."*

Afterschool Alliance  
Alliance for Excellent Education  
American Heart Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American School Counselor Association (ASCA)  
Communities In Schools  
Consortium for School Networking (CoSN)  
Futures Without Violence

Girl Scouts of the USA  
International Baccalaureate Organization  
International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)  
League of American Orchestras  
Museum of Science, Boston  
National Association for College Admission Counseling  
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)  
National Association of School Nurses  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
National PTA  
National School Boards Association  
National Science Teachers Association  
National Summer Learning Association  
School Social Work Association of America  
SHAPE America  
State Education Technology Directors Association (SETDA)  
The American Counseling Association  
The College Board