**MEMBER EMAIL ANNOUNCING COORDINATED DAY OF ACTION**

# August 29: Please Join AFSA, ASCD, Learning Forward, NAESP, NASSP, and New Leaders for a National Day of Action in Support of Title II Funding!

We need every voice!

Join us on August 29 for a National Day of Action to advocate for full funding for Title II in the Every Student Succeeds Act. Nearly every district receives Title II funding to support the recruitment, preparation, development, and retention of excellent teachers and leaders, but the funding for Title II is in danger of being eliminated. The elimination—or significant reduction—of Title II funding would have drastic and negative impacts on teachers, school leaders, principals, and the students they serve.

# Four Simple Ways to Advocate for Title II Funding on August 29

1. **Sign up for our Thunderclap**

A Thunderclap is a social media tool to amplify a message. To participate in our Thunderclap, go to [http://thndr.me/lMppSy](http://sendgrid.thunderclap.it/wf/click?upn=YDBP6RK3mvJEJxxpkIniqIgXJdiItQ-2BXuua7nscy87k-3D_cNCEmz06J3tf6xqEweWdaqKN3Qw0LSp7EbcWjfHo4NX1MvjwUknqcg1QWN62-2B7AmNwTwZMnZIwXuUBARCJokZTzqRG9-2Fz5LjXahjVuJrC74Ov8rbvgIlluOD0wVEVNqb0Pl2tJsGmbTXzHYRaRTHtzeYyC4NvKOE8UYhY3xtKkuiPUjfWKwq87rSWaj5j1tAp1Xg36sP1ntMcfiYeiY-2BN7uxuUzILk1WZhA60cBein4-3D) and use your Twitter or Facebook account to sign up. On August29th at exactly 10:30 a.m. (ET), the tool will post an identical message in support of Title II funding to all of the supporters’ accounts, amplifying our message to all of their followers and friends.

1. **Send a prewritten letter to Congress**

Use our easy advocacy tool to send this prewritten letter [insert link] to Congress about the importance of Title II, Part A, which is critical to providing professional development for school leaders.

Letter to be uploaded into each orgs Advocacy Platform [not part of email to members, just for us to edit here]

Dear \_\_\_\_,

I am writing as a constituent, as a leader in my school, and as a leader in my community to strongly urge you to provide full funding for the Title II, Part A program in FY 2018.

As a school leader, I was encouraged when Congress passed the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015. ESSA provided new opportunities for schools to invest in principal leadership and support for our previously overlooked profession. In fact, many states have wisely already taken advantage of the optional 3 percent state set-aside of Title II, Part A funds for school-leadership-specific activities.

Recently, though, I have become alarmed by the very real prospect that Congress will not provide any funding at all for Title II in FY 2018. President Trump’s proposed FY 2018 budget would eliminate all funding for the program and the House Appropriations Committee voted to approve that elimination last month. This is dangerously shortsighted because it would severely disrupt many states’ ESSA implementation plans and hamper our efforts to increase student achievement.

Tile II, Part A provides critical funding to states for the purposes of preparing, training, recruiting, and retaining high-quality teachers, principals, assistant principals, and other school leaders. Given the unique role that principals play in ensuring that our nation's teachers are supported and that our students have a high-quality learning experience through high school in order to be college and career ready, principals must be afforded the necessary opportunities for professional learning and growth as they work to improve teaching and learning in all schools.

While I am extremely disheartened by President Trump's proposal and the House Appropriations Committee’s vote, there is still a chance for Congress to reverse course and fully restore funding for Title II, Part A in FY 2018.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your support of our nation's educators and students.

Sincerely,

[Educator’s name]

1. **Tweet using #TitleIIA @[Senators and Reps]**

Here are some sample tweets you can use:

* #TitleIIA is critical for school leaders and principals to do their jobs effectively; cuts threaten this ability.
* Millions of school leaders depend on #TitleIIA to improve schools and instruction in the classroom.
* #ESSA allows states to use 3% of #TitleIIA funds for PD for principals; cutting decreases the chances to seize this opportunity.
* The quality of teaching and leadership in schools are the two most significant in-school factors tied to student achievement. #TitleIIA
* #TitleIIA supports increased student academic achievement by promoting strategies that will positively affect educator effectiveness.
* Educators and students deserve schools led by great principals. Tell Congress to maintain school leadership funding through #TitleIIA
* Students and teachers need great principals to thrive—Tell Congress: Don't cut school leadership funding! #TitleIIA
* Without great principals, we won't have great schools. Tell Congress to maintain school leadership funding! #TitleIIA
* Educators: Join us in telling Congress not to cut school leadership funding! #TitleIIA

1. **Call your members in Congress!**

Unsure who your representative is? Visit the [Find Your Representative](http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/) tool. Unsure what to say? Here is a script you can use when speaking to a staff member of the office.

* I am a **[insert title and organizational affiliation]** and I am calling to urge Senator/Representative **[insert name here]** to restore cuts made to Title II, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title II, Part A provides critical funding to states for the purposes of preparing, training, recruiting, and retaining high-quality teachers, principals, assistant principals, and other school leaders.
* I am extremely concerned that the House Appropriations Committee voted to eliminate funding for Title II, Part A because this will severely disrupt many states’ ESSA implementation plans and hamper our efforts to increase student achievement.
* Given the unique role that principals play in ensuring that our nation's teachers are supported, and that our students have a high-quality learning experiences in order to be college and career ready, principals must be afforded the necessary opportunities for professional learning and growth as they work to improve teaching and learning in all schools.
* I urge Senator/Representative **[insert name]** to restore Title II, Part A funding.

We hope you can join us on August 29th to support our nation’s school leaders!

Sincerely,

[Name]