



Council of the Great City Schools
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FOR RELEASE
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Proposal Slashes Federal Funding to Urban Schools

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 -- The nation's urban public schools stand to lose some \$615 million in federal Title I aid under a congressional proposal to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) according to an analysis conducted by the Council of the Great City Schools.

The losses come from a proposal approved by the House Education and Workforce Committee in H.R. 5 on February 11, 2015. The provision, called portability, would effectively redirect Title I funds for disadvantaged students away from some of the nation's poorest inner-city schools and into more affluent schools and neighborhoods.

The portability provision has two primary effects:

- It would transfer money from school districts with high concentrations of poor children to school districts that are more well off, and
- It would transfer money within a school district from the poorest schools to more affluent schools.

Coupled with the repeal of the current 40 percent poverty threshold for using Title I funds school-wide – thereby allowing Title I allocations to benefit any student within a school – H.R. 5 would diminish the support intended to offset the impact of concentrations of poverty on learning.

The losses could result in a reduction of nearly 7,000 teaching positions across the nation's urban schools, cutbacks in professional development and instructional coaching, less resources for textbooks and instructional materials, a loss of after-school and summer programs, and a decline in counseling and other student supports for urban schoolchildren.

“This provision in H.R. 5 would be a tragic reallocation of scarce federal resources away from the schools and students with the greatest needs,” said Michael Casserly, Executive Director of the Council of the Great City Schools. “This would dilute the original federal intention of marshalling resources to bolster educational opportunity for poor students.”

The House of Representatives is expected to vote on the proposal by the end of February. This proposal would negatively impact nearly all urban school districts and thousands of other high-poverty school districts nationwide. (See attached table for local impact on individual Great City School Districts.) ###

Impact of H.R. 5 Portability Provision on the Great City Schools

Great City School District	Title I Allocation Current Law	Title I Allocation HR 5 - Portability	Difference
Albuquerque Public Schools	\$30,697,171	\$28,685,374	-\$2,011,797
Anchorage School District	\$13,523,559	\$12,452,152	-\$1,071,407
Atlanta City School District	\$33,188,962	\$23,290,422	-\$9,898,540
Austin Independent School District	\$33,226,314	\$31,301,138	-\$1,925,176
Baltimore City Public Schools	\$52,064,995	\$46,368,631	-\$5,696,364
Birmingham City School District	\$15,591,455	\$14,106,799	-\$1,484,657
Boston School District	\$37,639,911	\$29,234,038	-\$8,405,872
Bridgeport School District	\$11,441,229	\$9,903,047	-\$1,538,182
Broward County School District	\$66,751,605	\$62,612,037	-\$4,139,568
Buffalo City School District	\$28,570,487	\$26,497,288	-\$2,073,199
Charleston County School District	\$16,979,124	\$15,600,944	-\$1,378,179
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	\$41,845,349	\$37,635,255	-\$4,210,094
Chicago Public School District 299	\$273,617,947	\$209,415,573	-\$64,202,374
Cincinnati City School District	\$33,812,572	\$28,719,591	-\$5,092,981
Clark County School District	\$90,241,415	\$85,704,683	-\$4,536,732
Cleveland Municipal School District	\$54,694,252	\$40,586,424	-\$14,107,828
Columbus City School District	\$47,071,881	\$35,244,165	-\$11,827,716
Dallas Independent School District	\$88,446,062	\$75,404,376	-\$13,041,686
Dayton City School District	\$15,829,977	\$13,683,992	-\$2,145,985
Denver County School District 1	\$32,784,374	\$26,833,189	-\$5,951,186
Des Moines Independent Community Schools	\$11,465,619	\$9,316,707	-\$2,148,912
Detroit City School District	\$147,012,384	\$96,417,095	-\$50,595,290
District of Columbia Public Schools *	\$43,211,400	NA	NA
Duval County School District	\$39,898,666	\$39,517,779	-\$380,887
East Baton Rouge Parish School District	\$26,429,490	\$24,869,969	-\$1,559,521
El Paso Independent School District	\$28,008,119	\$21,971,273	-\$6,036,846
Fort Worth Independent School District	\$36,111,816	\$33,420,526	-\$2,691,290
Fresno Unified School District	\$46,099,002	\$41,185,074	-\$4,913,929
Guilford County Schools	\$22,551,131	\$20,887,072	-\$1,664,060
Hawaii Department of Education *	\$53,208,513	NA	NA
Hillsborough County School District	\$62,253,863	\$58,659,705	-\$3,594,158
Houston Independent School District	\$99,119,020	\$82,050,263	-\$17,068,757
Indianapolis Public Schools	\$32,447,175	\$25,297,095	-\$7,150,080
Jackson Public School District	\$15,704,764	\$15,248,092	-\$456,672
Jefferson County School District	\$41,864,120	\$35,545,131	-\$6,318,989
Kansas City School District	\$14,501,879	\$12,937,576	-\$1,564,303

Great City School District	Title I Allocation Current Law	Title I Allocation HR 5 - Portability	Difference
Long Beach Unified School District	\$28,390,652	\$26,015,593	-\$2,375,059
Los Angeles Unified School District	\$338,728,729	\$258,056,323	-\$80,672,406
Miami-Dade County School District	\$137,444,611	\$124,851,568	-\$12,593,042
Milwaukee School District	\$75,042,483	\$57,999,510	-\$17,042,974
Minneapolis Public School District	\$23,493,061	\$18,138,307	-\$5,354,754
Nashville-Davidson County School District	\$31,397,369	\$27,899,271	-\$3,498,098
New Orleans Parish School District	\$37,170,692	\$29,849,640	-\$7,321,052
New York City School District	\$716,822,285	\$621,406,823	-\$95,415,462
Newark City School District	\$34,394,644	\$26,505,966	-\$7,888,678
Norfolk City Public Schools	\$12,926,969	\$11,095,392	-\$1,831,576
Oakland Unified School District	\$18,704,916	\$17,767,936	-\$936,980
Oklahoma City Public Schools	\$23,036,569	\$19,647,373	-\$3,389,196
Omaha Public Schools	\$25,435,075	\$20,546,331	-\$4,888,744
Orange County School District	\$60,620,268	\$57,869,238	-\$2,751,029
Palm Beach County School District	\$47,183,722	\$45,869,226	-\$1,314,496
Philadelphia City School District	\$178,502,946	\$133,941,326	-\$44,561,620
Pittsburgh School District	\$17,852,673	\$15,325,838	-\$2,526,835
Portland School District 1J	\$12,639,617	\$11,098,611	-\$1,541,006
Providence School District	\$20,525,868	\$16,973,995	-\$3,551,873
Richmond City Public Schools	\$16,873,882	\$11,778,564	-\$5,095,318
Rochester City School District	\$23,889,615	\$23,451,472	-\$438,143
Sacramento City Unified School District	\$20,770,803	\$19,423,010	-\$1,347,793
San Diego City Unified School District	\$40,678,338	\$36,543,549	-\$4,134,789
San Francisco Unified School District	\$14,003,322	\$13,672,930	-\$330,392
Santa Ana Unified School District	\$18,601,943	\$17,731,354	-\$870,590
Seattle School District	\$11,252,405	\$9,984,293	-\$1,268,113
Shelby County School District	\$62,304,515	\$53,063,071	-\$9,241,444
St. Louis City School District	\$30,343,318	\$21,245,846	-\$9,097,472
St. Paul Public School District	\$22,743,278	\$17,537,090	-\$5,206,188
Toledo City School District	\$24,411,873	\$21,587,478	-\$2,824,395
Wichita Unified School District 259	\$23,923,674	\$18,940,236	-\$4,983,438

Council of the Great City Schools - TOTAL LOSS: -\$615,176,172

* Estimates unavailable for statewide Local Educational Agencies