HILL DAY EXPERIENCE at the 125th Anniversary Convention

2022 PTA CAPITOL HILL DAY ASK: FY2022 RECONCILIATION AND FY2023 APPROPRIATIONS

Issue Overview
The long-term success of our nation depends on quality federal investments in our education system. However, federal funding for public education programs has remained at 2% of the federal budget for decades, despite the increase in public school enrollment and the rising cost of education resources and services.

PTA has long advocated to ensure children have access to adequately funded public schools that improve their overall well-being and allow students to reach their fullest potential.

PTA’s Recommendations for FY2022 Reconciliation
A process by which the American Rescue Plan was made possible in FY2021, we urge inclusion of the following provisions in any reconciliation package this fiscal year:

INFRASTRUCTURE
➔ $100 billion in direct grants and $30 billion in bonds for infrastructure improvements to K-12 public school facilities

CHILD NUTRITION
➔ Extend the waiver authority for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) through SY22/23 to continue the appropriate school meal administrative and operational flexibilities that have been in place throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
➔ Give states the option to implement the Community Eligibility Provision statewide
➔ Allow all states to conduct Medicaid direct certification
➔ Extend Summer EBT nationwide for students who receive free or reduced-price school meals to close the summer meal gap
➔ Provide $500 million for School Kitchen Equipment Grants
➔ Provide $634 million for a Healthy School Meal Incentives demonstration project

CHILDCARE
➔ Invest in affordable, high-quality childcare for all families and—for the first time—federally fund universal preschool for three- and four-year-old children
PTA’s Recommendations for FY2023 Appropriations

EDUCATION

→ $20 million for the Statewide Family Engagement Centers (SFEC) grant program and $45 million for the Parent Information Centers program to foster meaningful parent and family engagement in their children’s education
→ $16.2 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B putting IDEA on a glidepath to full funding and support our nation’s students with disabilities
→ $36.5 billion for Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to provide all students, especially those living in low-income households with the support needed to succeed
→ $3 billion for the Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants program, Title II, Part A of ESSA to invest in retaining and recruiting teachers, principals, and other school leaders, as well as improving their practice
→ $2 billion for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program under Title IV-A of ESSA to provide all students with access to a well-rounded education

COMMUNITY SAFETY & YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION

→ $375 million for a new Community Violence Intervention Initiative at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
→ $15 million for CDC’s National Center on Injury Prevention (NCIPC) to support research and prevention of childhood trauma
→ $35 million for the CDC and $25 million for the National Institutes of Health to conduct public health research into firearm morbidity and mortality prevention
→ $50 million to support research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention through the CDC, consistent with the Gun Violence Prevention Research Act (S.281, H.R.825)
→ $30 million for the Department of Justice (DOJ)’s Children Exposed to Violence Initiative

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

→ $1 billion for school-based mental health supports and services, including School Based Mental Health Services Professionals & School Based Mental Health Services programs
→ Robust funding for the Project AWARE grant program, including $25 million for Section 7134 grants to provide mental health education and training to students and school personnel and prevent youth suicide and violence
→ $8.3 million for the Interagency Task Force on Trauma-Informed Care through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Questions? Email National PTA Director of Government Affairs Kate Clabaugh (kclabaugh@PTA.org).