

**Fiscal Year 2027 Witness Testimony for the Hearing Record Ally Talcott, Executive Director, Title IV-A Coalition**

**Prepared for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies**

May 20, 2026

Dear Chair Capito and Ranking Member Baldwin,

On behalf of the 200+ undersigned national, state, and local organizations, we urge Congress to provide \$1.6 billion in Fiscal Year 2027 for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program, known as Title IV-A, authorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act. This bipartisan flexible grant supports investments in safe and healthy students, well-rounded education programs, and the effective use of technology in education.

Robust and steady funding for Title IV-A helps ensure districts are able to provide a full array of services and learning opportunities that support the whole child and improves academic success for all students. As a formula-based program focused on the flexible, locally-determined use of funds, the grant ensures that a large number of geographically and socioeconomically diverse districts have resources they can direct in a manner that best addresses their particular needs. Title IV-A has continuously maintained bipartisan support in part because of the flexibility it affords states and districts to implement programming tailored to their community.

Our 2025 survey of over 1,000 district leaders across the nation shows that 78% of district leaders greatly appreciate the program's flexibility. To that point, when asked about how districts invested in the many allowable uses, districts selected a wide-range of activities including, but not limited to: funding STEM and computer science programs, career and technical education, music and the arts, International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement courses (IB and AP), physical education, health and wellness, professional development for use of educational technology, violence prevention, behavioral and mental health supports and much more. Survey data also reveals that without increased funding, the expansion of existing programs and creation of new programs would not be possible.

This federal investment is absolutely essential to supporting comprehensive student needs, ensuring a safe and healthy school environment, and increasing access to a well-rounded education necessary for students to thrive in a modern society and workforce. For these reasons, we urge Congress to continue its bipartisan investment in the Title IV-A program by funding it at its fully authorized level of \$1.6 billion in FY 2027. Furthermore, Congress must ensure that this funding is disbursed by the administration in a timely fashion and with fidelity and adherence to the laws which Congress has passed.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you to ensure these investments continue to support districts, educators, and students in a manner tailored to their unique needs.

Sincerely,

<b>National Organizations</b>	edWeb.net	National Association of School Psychologists
ACTFL	El Sistema USA	National Association of Secondary School Principals
Advisory Council -Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages	Feierabend Association for Music Education	National Center for Learning Disabilities
Afterschool Alliance	Futures Without Violence	National Concerts
American Occupational Therapy Association	Great Plains Association for College Admission Counseling	National Council for Social Studies
American Psychological Association	Guitar and Accessories Marketing Association	National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)
American School Counselor Association	Hip-Hop Education Center	National Dance Education Organization
Americans for the Arts	Institute for Educational Leadership	National Federation of State High School Associations
ArtsEd West	Kindermusik Int'l	National Music Council of the United States
Association of Art Museum Directors	KRUTZ, Inc.	National PTA
Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents	Lang Lang International Music Foundation	National Science Teaching Association (NSTA)
A. Cuthbertson Consulting	League of American Orchestras	NBJC
CAST	Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation	NECTFL
Chamber Music America	Music Teachers National Association	New England Association for College Admission Counseling
Chorus America	Music Travel Consultants	New Harmony Line
CMA Foundation	Music Will	OAKE, Organization of American Kodály Educators
Coalition for Community Schools	Music Workshop	OPERA America
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)	MusicFirst	Pacific Northwest Association of College Admissions Counseling (PNACAC)
Committee for Children	National Art Education Association	Parents for Arts Education
CommonTime Education	National Association for College Admission Counseling	Percussive Arts Society
Conn Selmer, Inc.	National Association for Media Arts Education	Quadrant Research
Council for Exceptional Children	National Association for Music Education	Rocky Mountain Association of IB World Schools
Council of Administrators of Special Education	National Association for the Study and Performance of African American Music	School Social Workers Association of America
Drum Corps International	National Association of Elementary School Principals	SchoolHouse Connection
EDGE Partners	National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)	SHAPE America - Society of Health and Physical Educators
EdTrust	National Association of School Nurses	
Education Through Music		
Educational Theatre Association (EdTA)		

Speech Theatre Association of Missouri (STAM)

Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc

Teach Plus

Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children

Teaching Guitar Workshops

Teachrock.org

The American Orff-Schulwerk Association

The Music Teacher Guild

The Rhythm and Blues Preservation Society

Young Audiences, Inc.

### **State Organizations**

#### **Alabama**

Alabama Arts Alliance

Alabama Association of School Psychologists

Alabama Music Educators Association (AMEA)

Amp Up Arts

#### **Arizona**

Arizona Association of School Psychologists

Arizona Dance Education Organization

#### **Arkansas**

Arkansas Music Educators Association

#### **California**

California Music Educators Association

Create CA

Los Angeles Unified School District

#### **Colorado**

Colorado Music Educators Association

#### **Connecticut**

Arts for Learning Connecticut

Connecticut Music Educators Association

CT Council of Language Teachers (CT COLT)

Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra

#### **Delaware**

DECTFL

Delaware Association of School Psychologists (DASP)

Delaware Music Educators Association

#### **District of Columbia**

GWATFL

Washington DC Music Education Association

#### **Florida**

AATSP-Florida Chapter

Center for Fine Arts Education Florida

FLENJ

Florida Association of School Psychologists

Florida School Counselor Association

JazzSLAM

#### **Georgia**

Georgia Association of School Psychologists

Georgia Music Educators Association

#### **Hawaii**

Hawai'i Music Educators Association

Hawai'i Youth Symphony

#### **Idaho**

Idaho Music Educators Association

#### **Illinois**

Illinois School Counselor Association

#### **Indiana**

Indiana Music Education Association

#### **Iowa**

Iowa School Counselor Association

Iowa School Psychologists Association

#### **Kansas**

Kansas Music Educators Association

#### **Kentucky**

Kentucky Association for Psychology in Schools

Kentucky Music Educators Association

#### **Louisiana**

Louisiana Music Educators Association

Louisiana School Psychological Association

#### **Maine**

Educators for a Multilingual Maine

Maine Association of School Psychologists (MASP)

Maine Music Educators Association

#### **Maryland**

Arts Education in Maryland Schools (AEMS)

Maryland Foreign Language Association

Maryland Music Educators Association

Potomac & Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling (PCACAC)

### **Massachusetts**

Massachusetts Music Educators Association

Sankofa Songs! Inc.

### **Michigan**

Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling

Michigan Association of School Psychologists (MASP)

Michigan Music Education Association

### **Minnesota**

Minnesota School Psychologists Association

### **Mississippi**

Magnolia State School Counselor Association

Mississippi Music Educators Association

### **Missouri**

Missouri Alliance for Arts Education

Missouri Association of School Psychologists

### **Montana**

The Montana Association of School Psychologists

### **Nebraska**

Nebraska Music Education Association

### **Nevada**

Nevada Music Education Association

### **New Hampshire**

New Hampshire School Counselor Association

NHMEA

### **New Jersey**

Arts Ed NJ

GlassRoots

New Jersey Association of School Psychologists

New Jersey Music Educators Association

New Jersey School Counselors Association

### **New Mexico**

New Mexico Music Educators Association

### **New York**

Jazz At Lincoln Center

Long Island Language Teachers, Inc. (LILT)

New York Association of School Psychologists (NYASP)

New York State Association for Language Teachers, Inc. (NYSALFT)

NYC Arts in Education Roundtable

NYSSMA

Stony Brook University

### **North Carolina**

Arts North Carolina

North Carolina Dance Education Organization

North Carolina Music Educators Association

North Carolina Theatre Conference

### **North Dakota**

NDSCA

North Dakota Music Educators Association

### **Ohio**

Ohio Association for College Admission Counseling (OACAC)

Ohio Music Education Association

Ohio School Counselor Association

Ohio School Psychologists Association

### **Oklahoma**

Oklahoma Music Educators Association

Oklahoma School Psychological Association

### **Oregon**

Oregon School psychologist Association (OSPA)

### **Pennsylvania**

Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counseling (PACAC)

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association

### **Rhode Island**

Rhode Island Music Education Association

Rhode Island School Psychologist Association

### **South Carolina**

Association of South Carolina International Baccalaureate Schools

South Carolina Arts Alliance

South Carolina Association of School Psychologists

### **South Dakota**

South Dakota Music Education Association

### **Texas**

National Association for Music  
Education-Texas

Wyoming School Psychology  
Association

Texas Association of School  
Psychologists

### **Utah**

Utah Association of School  
Psychologists

Utah Music Educators Association

### **Vermont**

Vermont Association of School  
Psychologists

Vermont Music Educators  
Association

VOCALE - Vermont Organization of  
Classics and Language Educators

### **Virginia**

Virginia Music Educators  
Association

### **Washington**

ArtsEd Washington

Washington Music Educators  
Association

Washington State Association of  
School Psychologists

### **West Virginia**

West Virginia Music Educators  
Association

West Virginia School Counselor  
Association

### **Wisconsin**

Beyond The Notes Music Festival

Wisconsin Music Educators  
Association

Wisconsin School Counselor  
Association

### **Wyoming**

Wyoming Music Educators  
Association