

NASSP Calls on Congress to Support:

The **School Principal Recruitment and Training Act (H.R. 930/S. 476)** would authorize a grant program to recruit, select, train, and support principals to work in high-need schools. Selected aspiring principals would be provided with a pre-service residency that lasts for at least one year as well as focused coursework on instructional leadership, organizational management, and the use of data to inform instruction. Grant funds would also be used to provide mentoring and professional development to strengthen current principals' effectiveness. *Sponsors: Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA) and Sen. Al Franken (D-MN)*

The **Great Teaching and Leading for Great Schools Act (H.R. 848)** focuses on the importance of teacher and principal quality by providing intensive, job-embedded professional development that is useful and relevant to educators' work. In this bill, professional development would focus on continuous professional learning strategies involving the use of technology, peer networks, and time for school leaders and teachers to participate in collaborative team-based learning multiple times per week. The bill would ensure that principal evaluations connect to a system of support and development and that principal effectiveness is based on multiple measures of student performance, support for effective teachers, and other critical leadership factors. *Sponsor: Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO)*

The **Better Education Support and Training (BEST) Act (S. 882)** would revamp Title II, Part A of ESEA to provide targeted funding for states and districts to support teachers, principals, and other educators through comprehensive induction, residency and mentoring programs, and personalized, job-embedded professional development. The bill would require states to use 2-5 percent of funds to improve principal effectiveness. *Sponsor: Sen. Robert Casey (D-PA)*

The **Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN) Act (H.R. 858)** would authorize \$500 million to support comprehensive state and local literacy programs to ensure that children from birth through grade 12 have the reading and writing skills necessary for success in school and beyond. At the middle and high school levels, the LEARN Act would focus on literacy across the content areas and targeted interventions for students reading and writing below grade level. *Sponsor: Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY)*

The **Enhancing Education Through Technology Act (S. 541)** would authorize \$500 million for state grants for technology readiness and access. School districts would provide "digital age" professional development opportunities for school leaders and teachers focused on the use of education technology to ensure students are college and career ready when they graduate from high school. *Sponsor: Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)*

The **Success in the Middle Act (S. 581)** would authorize federal investments for improving the education of middle grade students in low-performing schools by creating and disseminating promising research on best practices to improve achievement in middle grades education. States and districts would develop an early warning data and intervention system to identify those students most at risk of dropping out, then implement interventions that will help those students succeed. *Sponsor: Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)*

The **Next Generation High Schools Act (S. 696)** would authorize \$300 million for a competitive high school redesign program to personalize education for students and connect their learning to real-world experiences. The bill would expand access to rigorous courses in high schools and provide students opportunities to earn college credit while in high school. Finally, the bill would establish an early warning indicator and intervention system and implement supports and reforms in feeder middle schools. *Sponsor: Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)*

NASSP Calls on Congress to Oppose:

The **GREAT Teachers and Principals Act (no bill #)** would allow the creation of teacher and principal preparation academies without putting in place certain safeguards to ensure that their graduates are fully prepared to enter schools as effective teachers and principals. Among NASSP's concerns regarding principals are that no education experience is required to be a principal candidate; there are no clinical standards set in the bill, so the clinical component of an academy could last only a day; and it requires states that receive grants to have a separate authorization and approval process for academies than other teacher and principal preparation programs, thus creating a second set of standards. *Sponsors: Rep. Thomas Petri (D-WI) and Sen. Michael Bennet (D-CO)*

The **Creating Hope and Opportunity for Individuals and Communities through Education (CHOICE) Act (H.R. 618/S. 265)** would turn IDEA into a voucher program, shifting scarce public funds for special education to private institutions, which are not bound by federal and state laws or regulations on staffing, programming, and personalization for students with disabilities. The bill would also reduce Impact Aid and expand the failing DC voucher program. *Sponsors: Rep. Todd Rokita (R-IN) and Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)*

The **Scholarship for Kids Act (no bill #)** would funnel \$24 billion in taxpayer dollars to private school voucher programs by dismantling a vast majority of currently authorized federal education programs in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), including the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy program, the High School Graduation Initiative, the School Leadership program, and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. This bill would undermine the main purpose of Title I of ESEA, which is designed to target federal funds to public schools with high concentrations of poverty in order to provide additional educational services for these students. *Sponsors: Rep. Luke Messer (R-IN) and Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)*