



Michigan School Business Officials



February 2, 2021

Dear Honorable Members of Congress,

Thank you for your efforts in our nation’s capital on behalf of Michiganders, and specifically Michigan’s children. Our thoughts are with you during this tumultuous point in our collective history.

During the most recent round of CARES Act funding, our membership identified and elevated a continued issue related to the distribution formula used in sending aid to classrooms across America. While the Title 1A formula provides an understood and time-tested method for distribution across the nation, it leaves many districts without the necessary relief to provide a safe learning environment and meet the needs of students.

We, the undersigned organizations ask that you advocate for a slight change in the formula. It is clear that distributing the dollars to the state through Title 1A is a forgone conclusion in previous and future aid packages. However, we suggest that while the funds flow through the state this way, Congress should allow the state to determine, to some extent, how the dollars reach the local education agencies. Therefore, we propose that at least 50 percent flow directly through Title 1A, with the remaining percentage (up to 50 percent) be left to state discretion or through a straight per-pupil formula.

This tweak would ensure that every district receives critical relief to address pandemic-related expenditures, while also guaranteeing that our districts with the highest percentage of disadvantaged students receive the aid they need.

We appreciate your continued efforts on behalf of all Michiganders.

Sincerely,

Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators  
Michigan Association of School Boards  
Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators  
Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals  
Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association  
Michigan School Business Officials  
Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education