Military Impacted Schools Association
www.militaryimpactedschoolsassociation.org

FISCAL YEAR 2015 SUPPORT FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

The education of a military child is a military readiness issue. Men and women serving our country rely on local school districts to provide quality education and counseling programs in a safe and secure environment for their children. As a nation, we honor the sacrifices of our service members by investing in their children's capacity for greatness through education. As we enter the thirteenth year of war, eight out of ten military children have never known a world at peace. Today, there are over one million U.S. active duty military children. Half of these children receive their education from heavily impacted school districts. More than 40,000 of these children have a wounded parent. Support for military families begins by supporting the children of the military serving our nation.

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Background Information

The DoD Impact Aid Funding for military children began in 1990 to help school districts with high concentrations of military students.

➢   In order to qualify, a school district must have an enrollment of at least 20% military children

➢   120 School Districts qualify for the program

➢   Good schools support readiness, recruitment, and retention programs in an all-volunteer service

➢   Schools are a key component in quality of life programs for military families

➢   Funding enables schools to meet the needs of military children and their parents facing the stress of repeated deployments.

➢   The need to support military children with severe disabilities poses a mounting challenge to heavily impacted school districts.

Recommendation

➢   Authorize and appropriate $ 50 million in DoD Operation and Maintenance Funds to support children of military families stationed in heavily impacted school districts.

➢   Authorize and appropriate $ 5 million in DoD Operation and Maintenance Funds to support children of military families with severe disabilities stationed in heavily impacted school districts.