

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 4
JUNE 25, 2007

FUNDS FOR 2008 - 09

1. On June 7, the Education Appropriations Subcommittee passed a bill that would increase the allocation for 2008 – 09 for Title 1 for local education agencies (LEAs) by nearly 2 billion dollars while increasing the education budget by over 4 billion dollars. This increase was greater than President Bush’s proposed Education Budget. The full House Appropriations Committee has not yet debated the bill passed by the Subcommittee.
2. On June 21, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved an increase of 2008 -09 funding for IDEA and Title I. Title I would have an increase of a little over 2 billion dollars with 1 billion going to LEA grants and school improvement.
3. The Senate proposal significantly reduced Reading First and Teacher Incentive funds while eliminating funding for Title V, Even Start and Dropout Prevention. Most other programs are level funded.
4. The full House must pass a final budget; the full Senate must pass a final budget and then the House and Senate must resolve the difference between the two budgets.
5. Both the House and Senate budgets exceed the President’s budget and the President threatens to veto.
6. It certainly appears that a negotiated budget between the House and Senate will exceed the President’s Budget. Only then will we see if there will be a veto.