

APPENDIX B

A Survey of Local School Superintendents

July 17, 1996

Dear Superintendent,

The goal of this survey is to assess, in a rudimentary way, the impact of federal education policies and regulations on the activities of local education agencies. To do this, we are requesting information from you on the profile of your district and on the sources and uses of your federal education funds. In addition, we are requesting background information on the costs related to federal regulations, mandates (funded and unfunded), and requirements tied to federal program participation.

While some of the information requested in this survey is very specific, please do not go beyond readily available information to complete this survey. If the requested data is not readily available, either provide a “best guess” estimate of the statistic, or simply skip the question. Please feel free to elaborate on any section, or to provide additional comments to the survey as you see fit.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this very important project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the individuals listed on the cover of this survey.

Sincerely,

PETE HOEKSTRA
Chairman,
Subcommittee on Oversight
and Investigations

DISTRICT PROFILE:

Enrollment in 1995-96 School Year

Total..... _____
Average Daily Attendance..... _____
Percent Minority Students..... _____
Percent Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch..... _____

Personnel in 1995-96 School Year (in FTEs)

School District Administrative Staff (total)..... _____
 # Superintendents..... _____
 # Assistants to Superintendents..... _____
 # Instruction Coordinators..... _____
 # Other District Staff..... _____

Instructional Staff (total)..... _____
 # Principals..... _____
 # Assistant Principals..... _____
 # Teachers..... _____
 # Aides..... _____
 # Librarians..... _____
 # Guidance Counselors..... _____
 # Other Instructional Staff..... _____

Support Staff (total).....	_____
# Secretaries and Clerical Support.....	_____
# Transportation.....	_____
# Food Services.....	_____
# Physical Plant Support.....	_____
# Health and Recreation.....	_____
# Other Support Staff.....	_____

Facilities:

# Elementary Schools.....	_____
# Middle Schools.....	_____
# High Schools.....	_____
Other (child care, administrative, etc.).....	_____

Budget for Most Recent Year Available:

School Year_____

Total Revenue.....	_____
<u>Federal (total)</u>	_____
Chapter I/Title I.....	_____
Eisenhower Math and Science.....	_____
Children with Disabilities.....	_____
Safe and Drug Free Schools.....	_____
Impact Aid.....	_____
Bilingual Education.....	_____
Indian Education.....	_____
Chapter II (Block Grant).....	_____
Vocational Education.....	_____
Other (Nutrition, Demo, Grants, etc.)	_____

State (total)..... _____

State School Lunch Program..... _____

Local (total)..... _____

Tax (Property)..... _____

Contributions..... _____

Lunch Fees..... _____

Transportation Fees..... _____

Other..... _____

Total Expenditures..... _____

Instruction..... _____

Operation and Maintenance..... _____

Food Service..... _____

Capital Outlay..... _____

Interest on Debt..... _____

Other..... _____

Title I

Total Grant..... _____

Amount that went to:

Teachers Salaries..... _____

Instructional Aides..... _____

Instructional Materials and Equipment... _____

Administration (salaries and expenses)... _____

Other Professional Salaries..... _____

Other Expenses..... _____

Eisenhower Math and Science

Total Grant.....	_____
Teachers Salaries.....	_____
Instructional Aides.....	_____
Instructional Materials and Equipment....	_____
Administration (salaries and expenses)...	_____
Other Professional Salaries.....	_____
Other Expenses.....	_____

IDEA

Total Grant.....	_____
Teachers Salaries.....	_____
Instructional Aides.....	_____
Instructional Materials and Equipment....	_____
Administration (salaries and expenses)...	_____
Other Professional Salaries.....	_____
Other Expenses.....	_____

Safe and Drug Free Schools

Total Grant.....	_____
Teachers Salaries.....	_____
Instructional Aides.....	_____
Instructional Materials and Equipment....	_____
Administration (salaries and expenses)....	_____
Other Professional Salaries.....	_____
Other Expenses.....	_____

PAPERWORK AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Paperwork and Reporting

Total Estimated Number Of Forms
Filed Each Year..... _____

Number Submitted to the Federal
Government..... _____

Number Submitted to the State..... _____

Number of State Forms tied to
Federal Programs..... _____

Number of Mandatory or
Near-Mandatory Forms..... _____

If possible, please submit your district's completed application for the following federal programs and provide an estimate of the resources (staff time, fees for grant writer, copying, postage, etc.) utilized in completing the application. Also include an estimate of the resources expended meeting the various reporting requirements of each program and the size of the final award.

Safe and Drug Free Schools

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____

Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports.... _____

Size of Final Grant..... _____

Title I

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____

Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports.... _____

Size of Final Grant..... _____

Eisenhower Professional Development

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____
Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports..... _____
Size of Final Grant..... _____

IDEA

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____
Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports..... _____
Size of Final Grant..... _____

Impact Aid

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____
Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports..... _____
Size of Final Grant..... _____

Indian Education

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____
Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports..... _____
Size of Final Grant..... _____

Bilingual Education

Estimated Cost to Complete Application/Plan..... _____
Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports..... _____
Size of Final Grant..... _____

Please include a list of other federal education programs for which your district applied and the grant amounts received (discretionary grant programs). What is the estimated cost of applying for these programs? Please try to separate out the estimated cost for applications that were not funded.

OTHER GRANTS

Name of Grant.....	_____
Estimated Cost to Complete Required Reports.....	_____
Estimated Cost to Complete/Plan.....	_____
Size of Final Grant.....	_____

REGULATIONS

In addition to program rules and regulations, many education programs require assurances of broader federal regulatory compliance before federal grants can be provided. The bulk of the regulatory costs are due to laws pertaining to *accessibility* (ADA, IDEA, and the Rehabilitation Act), *asbestos* (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act), *lead in paint and drinking water* (Lead Contamination Control Act), *underground storage tanks* (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act), and *radon*. Finally, the National School Board Association has repeatedly testified that the *Davis-Bacon Act*, which requires the payment of federally determined prevailing wages on federally-funded construction, inflates the cost of school construction.

Please provide any available information you may have concerning the added costs of federal regulations on the operation of your district. If no information is available, please comment on your “sense” of the cost, the usefulness of the regulations, and any insights into whether these regulations could be simplified, eliminated or left to the states.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

While various evaluations are performed on federal education programs, it would be helpful to get an “in the trenches” view of the successful aspects of these programs, as well as any problems stemming from either the operation or administration of federal programs. Please provide any comments you may have concerning federal programs for which you have received funding (Chapter I, Safe and Drug Free Schools, Eisenhower Professional Development, Bilingual Education, IDEA, etc.).

What are the greatest barriers your district faces in providing all your students a high quality education?

How have federal education programs contributed to your local education goals?

How have federal education programs detracted from your local education goals?

Ideally, how would your district like to use federal education funds, assuming they were provided in a single block grant, or in a more flexible funding stream?

What are the greatest benefits, cost or otherwise, to participation in federal education programs?

How does your district integrate Federal education programs into your regular instruction program?

How well have federal officials met your needs for information and flexibility with regard to Federal education programs? (e.g. Did the Department of Education communicate with you in a timely manner regarding program regulations? Do they respond promptly to any questions or concerns? Have they worked with your district to enable you to use federal programs in a way which best serves your local goals?)