

# ISTE Advocacy Update

## **Funding bill supports edtech, teachers**

*\$1.1 billion in funding included for ESSA's Title IV-A*

We're thrilled to share that the spending package passed by the House today provides significant funding for edtech and supports America's teachers! The fiscal year 2018 Omnibus Appropriations Bill included \$1.1 billion in funding for Title IV, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Title IV-A of ESSA, known as the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant program, includes funds for "supporting the effective use of technology that is backed by professional development, blended learning and edtech devices."

And, in a significant surprise, Title II-A, the \$2 billion per year teacher professional development program that both President Donald Trump and the full House sought to kill, survived intact in this bill.

Thanks to everyone who wrote, called, and tweeted elected officials — your efforts helped make this happen! Thank you also to all who participated in the Day on the Hill event that included over 150 meetings with Congressional offices as part of the 2018 EdTech Advocacy and Policy Summit. You were there, in their offices, advocating for this outcome at the very time they were making these decisions. We're also grateful for the House's support, and look forward to this bill's passage and enactment into law by the president.

## **Read more about the victory here:**

<https://www.iste.org/explore/articleDetail?articleid=2173>

## **What to expect next**

While the House has approved the bill, the Senate still needs to vote on the overall funding for the government that this funding is a part of. They are hoping to meet the March 23 deadline for keeping the government funded and open, so we should know the outcome very soon.

## **More to read**

[http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2018/03/federal\\_spending\\_bill\\_boosts\\_education\\_rejects\\_several\\_trump\\_cuts.html](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2018/03/federal_spending_bill_boosts_education_rejects_several_trump_cuts.html)

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/03/22/omnibus-spending-package->

### Sample messages to share

- WE DID IT! Deal on FY18 appropriations increases federal education spending by nearly \$2.7 billion. Funds #edtech + teachers! #MoreTitleIV #TitleIIA #ESSA <https://www.iste.org/explore/articleDetail?articleid=2173>
- Big win! Congress' FY18 spending package provides significant funding for #edtech and supports America's teachers #MoreTitleIV #TitleIIA #ESSA <https://www.iste.org/explore/articleDetail?articleid=2173>
- Hey [@mention senators + reps] Thrilled to see more edtech, teacher funding. Let's get this over the line! #MoreTitleIV #TitleIIA #EdTech #ESSA

We'll keep you posted, but for now, please join us in celebrating this great news!

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