

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6932

To rescind unobligated amounts made available to the Department of Education for fiscal year 2026, and transfer such amounts to States in accordance with section 611 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 26, 2025

Mr. JAMES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To rescind unobligated amounts made available to the Department of Education for fiscal year 2026, and transfer such amounts to States in accordance with section 611 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Individuals with Dis-
5 abilities Education And Legacy Act” or the “IDEAL
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) On November 29, 2025, the Individuals
2 with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will honor
3 its 50th anniversary since President Gerald Ford
4 signed the Education for All Handicapped Children
5 Act into law in 1975.

6 (2) IDEA stated, clearly and unequivocally,
7 that every child, regardless of disability, has the
8 right to a free appropriate public education in the
9 least restrictive setting possible.

10 (3) 50 years of progress, 50 years of possibili-
11 ties, IDEA opened classroom doors, expanded oppor-
12 tunities, and transformed education for millions of
13 students with disabilities, let us keep moving for-
14 ward, not backward.

15 (4) Before 1975, more than 1,000,000 children
16 with disabilities were excluded from public schools,
17 often relegated to specialized private schools spon-
18 sored by charities and psychiatric hospitals, or left
19 without an education altogether.

20 (5) IDEA changed that, paving the way for in-
21 dividualized education plans that addressed the indi-
22 vidual needs of students classified under IDEA.

23 (6) Today, IDEA governs the education of
24 nearly 8,000,000 students nationwide, or approxi-
25 mately 15 percent of all public school students.

1 (7) According to the law, public schools must
2 identify and assess all students to ascertain if they
3 require services under IDEA.

4 (8) Children who are experiencing homelessness
5 or attending private schools must also be afforded
6 these services if required.

7 (9) For 50 years, IDEA has been the corner-
8 stone of special education in the United States, en-
9 suring access, accountability, and equality for mil-
10 lions of students.

11 (10) The history of IDEA is one of progress
12 hard-won and progress worth protecting.

13 (11) When IDEA became law, only 1 in 5 chil-
14 dren with disabilities had access to public education,
15 and today, millions learn, grow, and thrive because
16 of its protections.

17 (12) 50 years later, that impact can't be forgot-
18 ten, or undone.

19 **SEC. 3. TRANSFERRING UNOBLIGATED AMOUNTS TO THE**
20 **IDEA.**

21 (a) RESCISSION.—The unobligated balance of each
22 amount made available under the heading “Department
23 of Education” by any Act providing appropriations for fis-
24 cal year 2026, as of the date of the enactment of this Act,
25 are permanently rescinded.

1 (b) TRANSFER.—To the extent that amounts other-
2 wise made available to carry out section 611 of the Indi-
3 viduals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411)
4 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029 are equivalent,
5 accounting for inflation, to the amounts made available
6 to carry out such section 611 in fiscal year 2025, there
7 is hereby appropriated, out of any amounts in the Treas-
8 ury not otherwise appropriated, to be allocated to States
9 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029 in accordance
10 with such section 611, an amount equal to the amounts
11 rescinded by subsection (a), to be merged with amounts
12 otherwise made available for such purposes. Amounts allo-
13 cated to States pursuant to this subsection for each of fis-
14 cal years 2026 through 2029 shall supplement, not sup-
15 plant, amounts otherwise made available to make alloca-
16 tions to States under section 611 of the Individuals with
17 Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411) for each such
18 fiscal year.

19 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after amounts
20 are rescinded by subsection (a), the Secretary of Edu-
21 cation shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations
22 of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report
23 identifying—

24 (1) the amounts rescinded by subsection (a);
25 and

- 1 (2) the amounts allocated to each State pursu-
- 2 ant to subsection (b).

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