

## ANALYSIS OF FY05 BUSH EDUCATION BUDGET

Feb. 2, 2004 – Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee Minority Staff

**Total discretionary spending** would rise 3.0 percent, or \$1.68 billion, from \$55.67 billion to \$57.34 billion. If enacted, this would be the smallest increase for education since FY96, at a time when schools are struggling to meet the mandates of the No Child Left Behind Act.

**No Child Left Behind Act programs:** Funding would be \$24.91 billion, an increase of only \$448 million, or 1.8%, over the FY04 level of \$24.46 billion. The Bush budget underfunds the NCLBA authorized level for FY05 (\$34.32 billion) by \$9.4 billion.

**Title I:** Funding would increase by \$1 billion, for a total of \$13.34 billion – more than \$7.1 billion below the NCLBA authorized level for FY05 (\$20.5 billion). Bush’s budget leaves behind 2.4 million students who could be fully served by Title I if the program were funded at the authorized level.

**IDEA Part B State Grants (Special ed):** Funding would increase by \$1 billion, for a total of \$11.07 billion. This would provide 19.7 percent of the national average per-pupil expenditure – still less than half of the “full funding” level that Congress committed to paying when the IDEA was first adopted in 1975.

**Eliminated programs:** 38 programs, with a total funding of \$1.4 billion, would be eliminated. They include: alcohol abuse reduction, arts in education, dropout prevention, school counselors, smaller learning communities, comprehensive school reform, Even Start, LEAP, Star Schools, and school leadership.

**Pell Grants:** Maximum award would remain \$4,050, enough to pay just 34 percent of the average annual cost of attending college – down from 42 percent in 2001. Funding for Pell Grants would increase by \$856 million, but almost all the money would be used to address the projected increase in recipients. No funds are included to address the \$3.7 billion Pell shortfall. The \$856 million increase also includes \$33 million for “Enhanced Pell Grants for State Scholars,” described below.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers:** This program would be level-funded at \$999 million, just half of the \$2 billion FY05 authorized level – meaning that 1.32 million children who should receive afterschool services would be left behind.

**Impact aid:** level-funded at \$1.2 billion.

**Rural education:** level-funded at \$168 million.

**English language acquisition:** level-funded at \$681 million.

**Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities:** Funding would increase by \$41.8 million, to \$716 million, mainly because of a \$50 million increase in mentoring and a \$23 million increase (for total of \$25 million) for drug-testing programs for students.

**Vocational and Technical Ed:** Program would be revamped through the reauthorization process, renamed as Secondary and Technical Education State Grants, and cut by \$316 million, for a total of \$1 billion.

**Advanced credentialing:** Funding for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards would be eliminated; instead, the American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence would receive \$7 million.

### **President's initiatives**

Several are focused on high school students, as part of Bush's new "Jobs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" initiative:

- \$33 million for the Enhanced Pell Grants for State Scholars, a new program that would increase Pell Grants by up to \$1,000 for first-year students who complete rigorous courses in high school; another \$12 million would support this initiative under the proposed new Secondary and Technical Education State Grants program;
- \$100 million for a new secondary school reading initiative, "Striving Readers";
- \$120 million for a new Secondary Education Mathematics Initiative (funded as part of Math and Science Partnerships);
- \$40 million for an "Adjunct Teacher Corps Initiative" to support arrangements in which professionals can serve as secondary school teachers on an adjunct basis;
- \$28 million increase for Advanced Placement

**Choice initiatives:** \$50 million for a new "Choice Incentive Fund" to pay for student transfers to private and public schools, and \$100 million (\$63 million increase) for "Credit Enhancement for Charter School Facilities".

Also: \$10 million for a new "Military Families Initiative to help students from military families that move frequently.