

NORTH CAROLINA CEC
**CHILDREN'S ACTION NETWORK
(CAN)**

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**NC CEC 2018
EXECUTIVE
BOARD**

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**BUDGET CUTS ARE IMPACTING SPECIAL EDUCATION,
ACCORDING TO SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND RELATED
SERVICE PROVIDERS**

CEC and The National Coalition on Personnel Shortages in Special Education and Related Services (NCPSSERS), conducted a survey of more than 1,000 special educators from every state about the effects of federal budget cuts. The results found that school administrators and related service providers state that budget cuts are impacting and further threatening services for students with disabilities!

When Congress originally passed IDEA, it promised that the federal government would pay 40% of the excess cost of providing special education and related services for students in the school-aged grants program, which serves the most students and receives the most funding. Yet, over these many years, Congress has never lived up to this promise. And this is only one of 4 components to IDEA. To ensure that children and youth with disabilities receive the services they are entitled to, Congress must pursue mandatory full funding of all parts of IDEA.

How you can help:

EMAIL...The White House has asked CEC for even more stories and data on the impact of budget cuts to families, students, schools and educators! Share how budget cuts have impacted you, your students and your school by emailing pubpol@cec.sped.org.

WRITE...Send your representatives an email/letter and tell them to #SayNo2SpEdCuts!

TWEET...[Use these tweets and Facebook messages](#) to help us spread the word.

We hope we can count on you to help students with disabilities receive the services they deserve. Thank you!

**"EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON
WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD"**

Nelson Mandela

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REPORT FINDS THAT STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE DISPROPORTIONALLY DISCIPLINED

In case you needed someone to confirm what you already know, its official, according to the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) just confirmed the students with disabilities, African American students and boys are disproportionality disciplined (e.g., suspensions and expulsions) in K-12 public schools. The GAO analyzed the Department of Education national civil rights data for school year 2013-2014. These disparities were widespread and persisted regardless of the type of disciplinary action, level of school poverty, or type of public school attended. The GAO looked at patterns of out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and expulsions, referrals to law enforcement, school-related arrests, and corporal punishment. Representative Bobby Scott, D-VA, ranking member of the U.S. House Committee on Education and Workforce who requested the report said in a statement, "This report underscores the need to combat these gross disparities by strengthening, not rescinding the 2014 Discipline Guidance Package, which recommends specific strategies to reduce the disparities without jeopardizing school safety." CEC believes the results of the GAO report provides evidence the Administration should not rescind the 2014 discipline guidance nor delay the regulations on special education significant disproportionality

CEC'S LETTER TO EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE COMMITTEE ON PROSPER ACT

CEC sent a letter to Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) and Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA) voicing concern that the PROSPER Act will undermine the preparation of highly effective special educators and access to higher education opportunities for youth with disabilities.

ADVOCATE WITH CEC IN DC

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Come join us at the **2018 Special Education Legislative Summit**

When: July 8-11, 2018

Where: Alexandria, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

This is not your typical "sit and get" event. At the summit you will be briefed on the latest proposals under consideration by the Administration and Congress. We'll guide you to make appointments with your Senators and Representatives, arm you with information that will resonate in Congress, and prepare you to tell your stories in a way that will have a lasting impact.

CEC SIGNS LETTER TO APPLAUD THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DOLLARS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT

CEC, along with 32 other national organizations, sent a letter to Rep. Terri Sewell (D-AL) to applaud the introduction of the legislation, *The Public Dollars for Public Schools Act*.

TELL CONGRESS TO INVEST IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES!

BUDGETS ARE TIGHT AND CONGRESS IS UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE TO KEEP FUNDING TO A MINIMUM. TELL CONGRESS THAT EDUCATION CANNOT ABSORB ANY MORE FUNDING CUTS!

ISSUE BRIEF

THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)

Approximately 10% of the world's population having been identified as having a disability. This population has been discriminated against for centuries, with many living in poverty, and is the most disadvantaged among all minorities, experiencing the most extreme lack of access to education, independent living, and employment. CRPD establishes international standards regarding the rights and freedoms of people with disabilities and a common basis for greater civic and political participation and self-sufficiency. It reflects core values and principles, such as dignity of the individual, access to justice, importance of family decision-making, and access to education, independent living and employment. As of March 2016, there are 116 signatures to the CRPD and 112 ratifications of the CRPD, including the European Union. However, the United States has not signed onto the convention.

WHY THE NEED

- Individuals with disabilities have been discriminated against for centuries, live in poverty and are the most disadvantaged among all minorities, experiencing the most extreme lack of access to education, independent living, and employment.
- A broad coalition of more than 600 U.S. disability, civil rights, faith, business, and veteran organizations support the U.S. ratification of the CRPD, holding that American leadership in this arena is critical to the ultimate success of the treaty.
- Ratification is critical to maintaining our leadership role and to eliminating disability discrimination throughout the world and gives the U.S. legitimacy to export the model of the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) to other countries.
- The absence of U.S. leadership in the CRPD and its Committee of experts matters. Ratification provides the United States an opportunity to play an important and expansive role in the development of disability rights around the world without having to change any U.S. laws or add additional costs to its budget.

WHAT IT DOES

- The CRPD promotes, protects, and ensures the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.
- The CRPD was developed and negotiated by civil society, a first in treaty history.
- Ratification of the CRPD exports U.S. leadership.
- CRPD ratification improves global accessibility.
- Ratification of the CRPD will NOT infringe upon U.S. sovereignty.
- Ratification of the CRPD does NOT establish new rights or required change to current U.S. policy.
- Ratification of the CRPD will NOT harm parental rights of parents with children with disabilities and will NOT impair the right to of parents to home school their children.

THEREFORE, please support the US ratification of the UN CRPD

SPECIAL EDUCATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE! CEC CELEBRATES 41 YEARS OF IDEA

On November 29, 1975, President Gerald Ford signed into law the Education for all Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94 – 142), legislation that paved the way for improved educational outcomes for individuals with disabilities. CEC was at the forefront of the advocacy effort – alongside many parents, organizations and individuals with disabilities – a movement that marked a dramatic shift in how our nation supports and educates individuals with disabilities.

~~"It takes a special kind of person to care for a child with special needs."~~

A child with special needs will inspire you to be a special kind of person.

GLOBAL HYDRANENCEPHALY FOUNDATION