



AB 1081: After School Education- Natural Disasters

SUMMARY

AB 1081 would authorize the Department of Education to allocate any excess funding in the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program toward programs in areas that have been affected by natural disasters.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The After School Education and Safety Program, created in 2002 after the passage of Proposition 49, funds local after school education and enrichment programs. The program receives annual funding of \$550 million and provides students in grades K-9 with academic support, enrichment programs, and homework assistance in a safe after-school environment.

Over 500 school districts and county offices of education operate ASES programs, serving over 400,000 students. Local governments and nonprofit organizations working in partnership with local educational agencies may also apply for funding. Grants are provided in three one-year increments. However, programs do not always utilize the entirety of their grant amounts, and return part of their funding to the state.

The Camp Fire, which started in Butte County on November 8th, 2018, was the deadliest and most destructive wildfire in California state history. It burned 153,336 acres, killing 85 individuals and destroying 18,804 structures. The fire displaced over 50,000 people and devastated the communities of Magalia, Concow and Paradise. It will take years for these communities to recover and rebuild. During this time, ASES programs operating in the impacted and surrounding areas need the resources to recover their programs and

absorb displaced students. However, the Department of Education currently lacks the discretion to use excess funds in the ASES Program to assist these programs.

SOLUTION

AB 1081 would authorize the Department of Education to allocate any excess funding in the ASES Program toward programs in areas that have been affected by natural disasters. This will help provide relief for students receiving crucial after-school support in the aftermath of a catastrophic event like the Camp Fire.

AUTHOR'S STATEMENT

Families who have gone through extremely traumatic experiences like the Camp Fire need resources and support like after-school programs to help them cope and regain a sense of normalcy. AB 1081 will help ensure these programs have proper funding in the aftermath of natural disasters.

SUPPORT

None on File

OPPOSITION

None on File

MORE INFORMATION

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