

Special  
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Summit **2022**  
July 10-13, 2022



# Bringing It Home

*Making a Difference With the Skills You Have Gained*

# Agenda

- **Federal Issues vs. State Issues**
- **Federal Issues in the State**
- **Influencing Legislators in Your State**
- **Respecting Boundaries**
- **Examples:**
  - Arizona CEC
  - ICASE
  - Illinois
  - New Jersey CEC

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# Federal Issues vs. State Issues

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# Federal Issues vs. State Issues

Federal Issues	State Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Full funding of IDEA</li><li>● Appropriations for States</li><li>● Title I, II, III, Funding</li><li>● Big Picture Mental Health Funding</li><li>● Addressing the educator shortage through federal funding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Changing the state regulations around IEP Paperwork</li><li>● Addressing the amount of money that flows to public and private schools.</li><li>● Developing a mental health support system</li><li>● Changing requirements for people to become paraprofessionals</li><li>● Interstate licensure agreements</li></ul>

# Federal Legislators vs. State Legislators

Federal Legislators	State Legislators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Often away from home</li><li>● Engagement may be challenging</li><li>● Larger staff to help them understand the 100s of issues that will come across their desk</li><li>● Usually have larger constituencies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Local (except during session)</li><li>● Shop at your grocery store and may be a parent in your school district.</li><li>● Small staff (if any) to help them to understand the issues that come across their desk</li><li>● Usually have smaller constituencies</li></ul>

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# Federal Issues **IN** the State

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# Federal Issues in the State

## Appropriations

- State funding for schools
- Reimbursement for special education programs
- Construction funds for schools
- The percentage of federal funding that will go to a type of school

# Federal Issues in the State

## *Educator Shortages*

- New money for university programs in special education
- Joining a licensure cooperative
- Removing the fees associated with licensure renewal
- Streamlining the process for becoming a substitute teacher



# Federal Issues in the State

## *Mental Health*

- Money for mental health partnerships
- Changing the rules associated with reciprocal reporting and mental health laws
- Adding requirements related to threat assessments
- Adding money for additional social workers or school psychologists

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# Influencing Your Legislators at Home

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# Making a Difference at Home

- **When does your legislature meet?**
- **Who are the leaders of your legislature?**
- **Do your legislators know who you are?**
- **When does your State Board of Education meet?**
- **Does your State Board have a legislative platform?**

# Influencing Your Legislators

## SELS 2022

## State Advocacy Day

Keynote Speaker on Storytelling

Keynote Speaker - maybe even a member?

Sessions on the State of What's Happening on the Hill

Webinars? Ongoing? Value to membership

Issue Sessions (Mental Health, Appropriations, Educator Shortages)

Webinars? Focused? Ongoing? Value to membership

Social Media Toolkit

Social Media Toolkit

Legislative Action Center - Federal Members

Legislative Action Center - State Legislators

Hill Visits

Capitol Visits

Taking it Home

Taking it Home

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# Respecting Boundaries

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# Boundaries

## Kevin Confession

**Always be respectful in everything that you do:**

On social media

In person

**Always respect boundaries in everything you do:**

On social media

In person

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# State Level Examples

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# State Level Advocacy Example: **Arizona CEC**

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# State Level Advocacy Example: **Indiana CASE**

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**ASPIRING STATEWIDE SPECIAL  
EDUCATION TEACHER**



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# State Level Advocacy

## Example: **Illinois**

- Legislative Day during State Conference
- Illinois Principals Association - Principal for a Day
- Congressional Roundtable

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**Thank You!**

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