

Institute for Educational Leadership

IEL Policy Exchange

March 18, 2000

Dear Colleague:

I am pleased to invite you to a Policy Exchange Seminar on *Making Flexibility Real – Improving Outcomes for Students & Communities*. The seminar will be held on Monday, April 17, 2000, in Room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

During this hands-on seminar you will learn how much leeway schools *already have* to use federal education money creatively to help students learn and achieve. You will learn where schools *don't* have much flexibility at all. And you will learn how to navigate the confusing web of flexibility provisions to get results that make sense in different communities. This seminar is aimed at people who *work with* or *care about* schools, not just people who work *in* schools.

Your "toolbox" for this seminar will be the enclosed guidebook – *Understanding Flexibility in Federal Education Programs, 2000*, which we developed in partnership with the Center on Education Policy.*

Jack Jennings of the Center will sketch an overview of flexibility in federal education programs, with an emphasis on using this flexibility to improve results for children.

We will then work in teams to explore two case studies – one in an urban low-income middle school and a second in a comfortable suburban school district. Seminar participants will identify if, or how, they can use flexibility in federal education law to meet local needs. Resource people from federal agencies will be on hand to "coach" the small groups as they problem-solve.

1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036
202/822 8405
202/872 4050 fax
iel@iel.org
www.iel.org

* You can download this publication from our Web site.
Also, see the Ed-Flex Guidance by the U.S. Department of Education at
<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/EDFLEX/Edflexfactsheet.htm>.

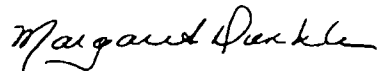
*If you want an advance peek of the two cases, look at our web site –
www.policyexchange.iel.org – after April 12.*

After working in small groups, the teams will report on their successes and failures, and participants will debate the implications of what they have learned.

Space is limited and invitations are not transferable. **Please fax the enclosed response form no later than Monday, April 10, 2000.**

I'm looking forward to seeing you on April 17. If you have any questions, please call me (at 202/822-8405, extension 104, or toll-free at 877/386-5531), or contact Megan Briggs at 202/822-8405, extension 100.

Best wishes,



Margaret Dunkle
Director, IEL Policy Exchange.

P.S. Also enclosed are two additional hot-off-the-press Policy Exchange publications about foster care. Additional copies are \$2 each, and anyone can download a copy from our web site: www.policyexchange.iel.org.

- *Foster Care: A Guide to Who Controls Federal Programs, Policies & Purse Strings* identifies the federal movers and shakers in the area of foster care, and tells you how to reach them.
- *The Federal Role in Helping Young People Transition from Foster Care* powerfully outlines the issues facing young people as they turn 18 and "age out" of the foster care system. This report will be especially useful to states and communities as they implement the newly enacted Foster Care Independence Act.

Enclosures:

Response Form
Understanding Flexibility in Federal Education Programs 2000
Foster Care: A Guide to Who Controls Federal Programs & Purse Strings
The Federal Role in Helping Young People Transition from Foster Care

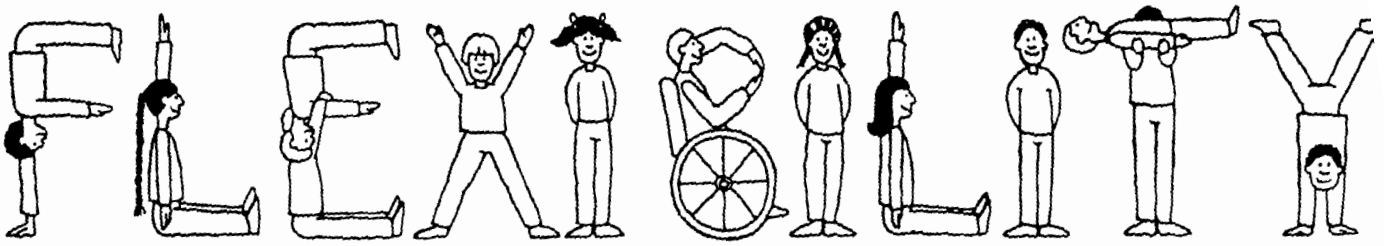
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UNDERSTANDING



IN
FEDERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

2000



Institute for Educational Leadership

IEL Policy Exchange

RESPONSE FORM

**—MAKING FLEXIBILITY REAL—
IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS & COMMUNITIES**

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon., Monday, April 17, 2000
Room 430, Dirksen Senate Office Building
(Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Hearing Room)

Name: _____

Invitations are not transferable

Title: _____ Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Committee, Department, or Organization: _____

If your position, organization and/or address have changed, please let us know.

Check: ☐ **Yes**, I will participate in the April 17 seminar, **OR**
☐ **No**, I will not participate.

Please help us make this discussion productive by answering the following question.

What federal flexibility tool is most important for improving learning and other results for students? Why?

Please respond no later than Monday, April 10, 2000!

(202) 872-4050 Fax

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policyexchange@iel.org

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The IEL Policy Exchange improves policies and programs for children, families and communities by connecting policies and policymakers across systems, levels of government and ideologies.

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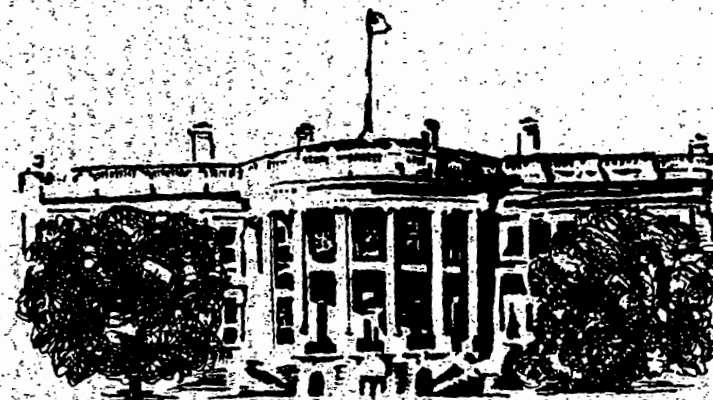
IEL Web site: www.iel.org

Policy Exchange Web site: www.policyexchange.iel.org

Foster Care



A Guide to Who Controls Federal Programs, Policies & Purse Strings



The Policy Exchange
Institute for Educational Leadership



Institute for Educational Leadership

IEL Policy Exchange

To Ann O'Henry

March 18, 2000

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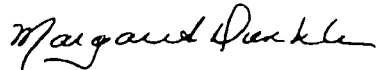
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FOSTER CARE POLICY SEMINAR

Seminar
on

THE FEDERAL ROLE IN HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TRANSITION FROM FOSTER CARE

THE INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM AND MORE

Seminar held in Washington, DC, July 23, 1999

Special Report #13

Sponsored by
The Policy Exchange
of the Institute for Educational Leadership

Additional copies of
The Federal Role in Helping Young People Transition from Foster Care:
The Independent Living Program and More
are available for \$2 prepaid from the Institute for Educational Leadership,
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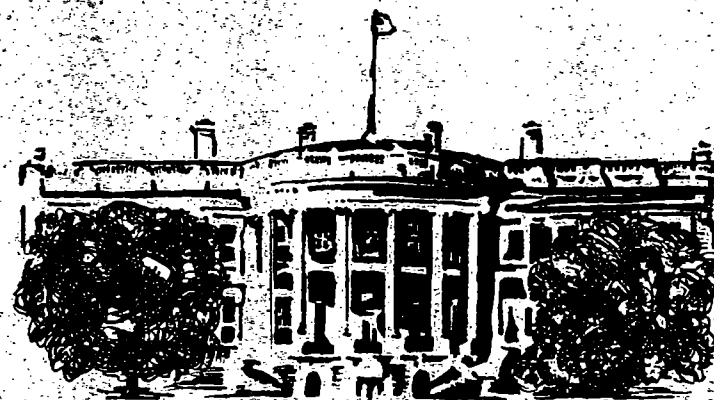
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Foster Care



A Guide to Who Controls Federal Programs, Policies & Purse Strings



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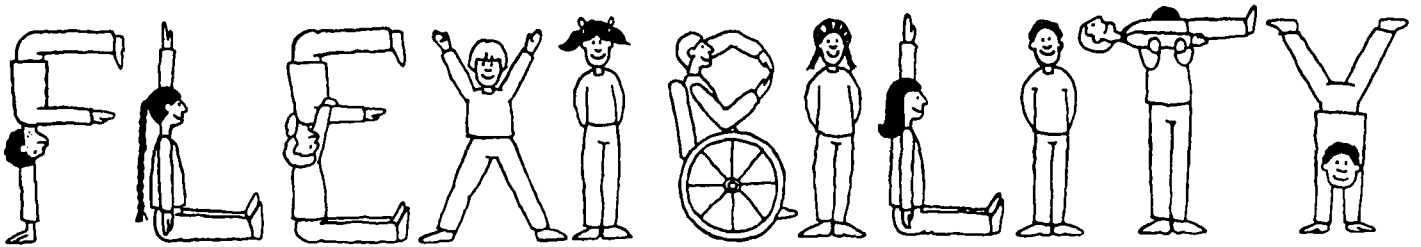
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