

Presentation Outline

Pick and choose what you need for your state. We recommend no more than 10 -12 slides for any presentation.

Slide and Title	Suggested Content
Slide 1 - Title Slide	40 by 2040 — Still Waiting: The Federal IDEA Funding Promise [insert state] Advocacy Campaign [Insert date]
Slide 2 - Why We Are Here	Congress promised in 1975 to fund 40 percent of special education costs under IDEA. Today, schools receive just 10 percent. The result: [insert state] districts collectively cover over [insert amount] annually to cover the federal funding shortfall. This campaign demands that Congress fulfill its commitment.
Slide 3 - The IDEA Promise	IDEA became law in 1975 with a federal commitment to fund 40% of special education costs. Actual funding has never reached this promise. Federal shortfalls force districts to subsidize mandated services from general education funds.
Slide 4 - Why It Matters for [insert]	[Insert State] districts are legally required to provide services, regardless of funding gaps. Statewide contributions to cover the funding gap now exceed [insert amount]. Rural and property-poor districts are disproportionately impacted. Every dollar shifted to special education is a dollar pulled from general education.
Slide 5 - The Impact on School Districts	Larger class sizes, Delayed curriculum updates, Fewer mental health supports, Staff reductions, Increased reliance on local levies, Structural budget deficits.
Slide 6 - The Campaign Goal	To secure bipartisan federal commitment to meet the 40% IDEA funding promise- through a multi-year glide path.
Slide 7 - Core Campaign	Congress promised. Students are waiting. Districts are subsidizing. It's time for Congress to fund what it required.
Slide 8 - Key Policy Requests	1. Enact a federal funding ramp to reach 40% IDEA funding. 2. Protect IDEA from future cuts. 3. Provide predictable, formula-driven allocations.
Slide 9 - [insert amount] Evidence - The Federal Funding Shortfall	Statewide: more than [insert amount]. Regular education is the payer of last resort. Without federal relief, the shortfall grows each year.
Slide 10 - Congressional Asks	We urge Congress to: Cosponsor IDEA Full Funding bills. Support annual appropriations that increase IDEA funding to 40 percent on a ten-year glide path. Commit publicly to honoring the 40% promise

Presentation Outline, continued

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Slide 11 - Storytelling Why It's Essential	Congress acts when stories meet data: Student success stories, District fiscal impact, Superintendent narrative, Parent perspective, Staff recruitment & retention impact
Slide 12: [insert State School Boards Association] Role	Statewide coordination of advocacy: Unified district messaging, Federal delegation engagement, Data and communications toolkit, Coalition partnerships (COSSBA, NSBA, NREA, AASA)
Slide 13: Week of Action	A targeted, coordinated push including: Email campaigns, Social media, Superintendent op-eds, Board resolutions, Congressional call-in days, Media briefings
Slide 14: Tools for School Districts	[insert State School Board Association] will provide: District Federal Funding Shortfall fact sheets, Template letters to Congress, Storytelling guide, Social media toolkit, Advocacy one-pager, Video scripts, Board resolution template
Slide 15: How School Boards Can Engage	Pass the IDEA funding resolution: Meet with your member of Congress, Share local impact stories, Participate in advocacy alerts, Publish op-eds and district-wide messages, Mobilize parent networks
Slide 16: How Superintendents Can Engage	Lead annual federal briefings with legislators: Provide district-level federal funding shortfall data, Speak at statewide or national press events, Record short videos for advocacy, Push out campaign materials in district communications
Slide 17: Communications Strategy	Press release announcing campaign, Coordinated media op-eds, Testimony at federal briefings, Social media messages, Advocacy landing page with tools and stories, National coalition amplification
Slide 18: The Cost of Inaction	Without fulfilling the IDEA promise: Federal Funding gaps grow, General education suffers, Staff shortages intensify, Districts face long-term structural instability
Slide 19: The Solution	Congress must: Fund IDEA at 40%, Adopt a steady growth formula, Protect IDEA from cuts, Deliver predictable, sustained funding
Slide 20: The Call to Action	Students with disabilities deserve fully funded services. Districts deserve predictable financial support. Congress must keep its word. "40 by 2040 - Fulfill the IDEA Promise" Let's finish the job.
Slide 21: Closing Message	This is not a partisan issue. It is a fiscal responsibility issue, and a promise long overdue. Together, we can ensure Congress fulfills IDEA's historic commitment.
Slide 22: Thank You	For additional campaign materials or district support, contact: [Insert staff name]