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April 16, 2021

Ms. Keely Martin Bosler, Director
Department of Finance
Room 1145, State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Bosler:

In a letter dated April 9, 2021, you notified the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, pursuant to the provisions of Section 28.00 of the 2020-21 Budget Act, of a request by the California Department of Education (CDE) to allocate \$10 billion in one-time federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER III) to schools in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The letter requested a waiver from the 30-day legislative review period.

As I stated in my response letter related to the allocation of the ESSER II funds, the Legislature views ESSER funds as one part of a comprehensive package of federal and state resources that are supporting schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ensuring schools have the resources necessary to re-open is particularly important as we continue to provide funding to LEAs. To that end, I respectfully request, as part of this year's budget process, CDE work with the Legislature in developing comprehensive reporting guidelines on how LEAs have used and plan to use these and other COVID-19-related funds.

I have reviewed the request and concur that the change is aligned with the requirements of Section 28.00. In addition, I approve your request to waive the 30-day review period, in order to allow schools to maximize the use of federal funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,


Nancy Skinner
Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee