

### **OHIO TO GET \$46.1 MILLION TO REDUCE CLASS SIZE**

In his weekly radio address, President Clinton will urge Congress to work in a bipartisan spirit to continue his plan to reduce class size in early grades to 18 students per teacher. He will also announce that the U.S. Department of Education is releasing new guidelines to help states and local school districts use the funds they will receive this summer to begin hiring well-qualified teachers to reduce class size in early grades. As the U.S. Senate considers the Education Flexibility Act, it is more important than ever that the Murray-Kennedy amendment to continue the President's class size reduction plan is passed as well.

Studies show that smaller class sizes help teachers provide more personal attention to students and spend less time on discipline; as a result students learn more and get a stronger foundation in the basic skills. In 1998, President Clinton proposed to help local schools hire 100,000 well-prepared teachers in order to reduce class size in grades 1-3 to a national average of 18, and make sure that every child gets a solid foundation in the basics. Last year, the President signed into law the first installment of his seven-year, \$12.4 billion proposal to hire 100,000 new teachers nationwide. For the first year, \$1.2 billion was provided to help local communities hire 30,000 teachers. The funds will be available to school districts in July. Local school boards will be incorporating these funds into the budgets they are developing right now for the next school year. To give communities the certainty they need to effectively plan and phase in a seven-year reduction in class size, Congress must act now.

In July, Ohio will receive \$46.1 million as its first installment of funds to hire teachers to reduce class size in early grades. For Ohio's largest school districts, that means:

OHIO	
CLEVELAND CITY SD	\$5,022,829
COLUMBUS CITY SD	3,060,896
CINCINNATI CITY SD	2,552,723
TOLEDO CITY SD	1,908,914
DAYTON CITY SD	1,495,538
AKRON CITY SD	1,417,960
YOUNGSTOWN CITY SD	868,006
CANTON CITY SD	570,093
LORAIN CITY SD	466,657
SPRINGFIELD CITY SD	452,346
EAST CLEVELAND CITY SD	359,626
SOUTH-WESTERN CITY SD	352,728
WARREN CITY SD	344,564
HAMILTON CITY SD	331,897
MANSFIELD CITY SD	293,127
MIDDLETOWN CITY SD	279,426
ELYRIA CITY SD	263,184
LIMA CITY SD	254,558
ZANESVILLE CITY SD	240,716
NEWARK CITY SD	235,906

The guidelines and total estimated school district allocations are available on the Internet at <http://www.ed.gov/inits/ClassSize/index.html>.