The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
Family Recommendations to the State

David Hinojosa
Director of the IDRA EAC-South
IDRA National Director of Policy
david.hinojosa@idra.org
Implementing Federal Law

**Federal-ESSA**
- Congress passes legislation and President signs into law
- U.S. Department of Education issues regulations to implement the law

**State**
- Texas Legislature passes legislation and Governor signs into law
- Texas Education Agency issues regulations to implement the law

**Local School Boards**
- The local school board issues policies
Examples of Policy Concerns Under ESSA at the State Level

- How will the State of Texas exercise its discretionary authority and will it roll-back on civil rights protections?
- Will state goals for achievement and graduation be meaningful to protect civil rights?
- Will accountability indicators help identify struggling students in a meaningful way?
- What will the “other school quality and success indicators” include?
- Will high-stakes testing consequences continue?
- Will required tests in excess of federal requirements continue in Texas?
- Will school interventions for low-performing schools be supportive or punitive?
State Policy Concerns (cont.)

- How much discretion will school districts have in evaluating teachers meaningfully or will they be required to include student performance?
- Will privately-operated charter schools and vouchers continue to distract attention from providing all students great opportunities in their neighborhood school?
- Will Texas create effective policies that allow the state to recruit and retain high quality teachers?
- Will Texas finally provide schools with the resources needed to help all students succeed?
What will Local School Boards do under ESSA and State Laws?

- HB 5: Endorsements and College Readiness
- HB 5: Graduation Review Committees
- Poor quality pre-K
- Higher Class Sizes
- Inequitable Intra-district Allocations and other resources
- Unqualified, Inexperienced Teachers and long-term substitutes
- Compensatory programs: i.e., before/afterschool tutoring, summer school
- School Discipline policies
- Support struggling students, teachers, school leaders and parents
- Family and Community Engagement
Family and Community Engagement Under Federal, State and Local Laws and Policies

**Federal - ESSA**
- Direct Parent Outreach
- School-Parent Compact
- Family Engagement Programs
- Statewide Family Engagement Centers

**State**
- April 2017 – Release draft plan for public comment
- July 2017 – Submit final state plan to USDE for approval
- Final approval from USDE within 120 days

**Local School Boards**
- School and district family engagement plans
- How to measure parent and family engagement
Intercultural Development Research Association
Dr. María “Cuca” Robledo Montecel, President & CEO
5815 Callaghan Road, Suite 101
San Antonio, Texas 78228

210-444-1710 • contact@idra.org

www.idra.org

Ensuring that educational opportunity and success for all students are guaranteed