MEDIA ALERT

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Center on Education Policy Releases New Reports on the Federal Role in Education

Trio of papers examines the history of federal involvement in public schools and its implications for today’s policy debates

WHAT: In response to recent calls by members of the Tea Party for the elimination of the U.S. Department of Education and demands that the government step back from its involvement in public schools, the Center on Education Policy has released a new paper that examines the federal government’s vital role in education over the course of the nation’s history. The report is accompanied by two supplemental papers that delve more deeply into specific issues discussed in the main report, namely the Northwest Ordinance and other federal land policies that encouraged the establishment of public schools, and federal tax code provisions that benefit education. Implications and recommendations for current education policy are also discussed.

WHEN: The three papers are available at www.cep-dc.org.

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Based in Washington, D.C., and founded in 1995 by Jack Jennings, the Center on Education Policy is a national independent advocate for public education and for more effective public schools. The Center works to help Americans better understand the role of public education in a democracy and the need to improve the academic quality of public schools. The Center does not represent special interests. Instead, it helps citizens make sense of conflicting opinions and perceptions about public education and create conditions that will lead to better public schools.