ESEA: Its History and Future

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“The causes of events are ever more interesting than the events themselves.”

Marcus Tullius Cicero
Factors that have shaped the federal role

- National security and defense
- Failure of the states to act
- International economic competitiveness – the economy
Race and Civil Rights

- Brown v. Board of Education – 1954
- Civil Rights Act – 1964
- Issues of busing
- No Child Left Behind
Civil Rights

- Title IX - 1972
- IDEA – 1975
- NCLB
Failure of states to act

• Many federal actions have been triggered by states not meeting needs
  • Voc Ed
  • Title I
  • IDEA
  • Gifted
  • NCLB
  • RttT
Forces Affecting Future Policy

• Federalism issues
• Education as a civil right
• Second chance options remain
• Free markets
• Centralization v. flexibility
• Role of scientifically-based evidence
Some Observations

- The importance of “They made me do it!”
- Need to do away with “Siloization”
- Education governance is really important
- Authority was ceded to the executive branch in DC
- Relationships are very important
Political Education
Setting the Course for State and Federal Policy, Second Edition
Christopher T. Cross
Foreword by Brian Sandoval and Jeremy Anderson
September 2014, Teachers College Press
http://store.tcpress.com/0807755869.shtml

The Progress of Education Reform: The shaping of federal education policy over time
Christopher T. Cross
May 2015, Education Commission of the States
http://www.ecs.org/clearinghouse/01/19/16/11916.pdf