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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AGENCIES FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

**Scott E. Pepperman, Executive Director
5 Briarwood Court,
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17050**

***SERVICE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES NEED ACCESS TO FEDERAL CIVILIAN SURPLUS PROPERTY**

***NASASP URGES CONGRESS TO ACT NOW TO AMEND TITLE 40**

As the sole conduit for moving surplus Federal property to local communities throughout the United States for over 63 years serving the neediest of organizations, the *National Association of State Agencies for Surplus Property (NASASP) urges Congress to take immediate action to amend Title 40 so Service Educational Activities (SEAs) can access surplus Federal property from Federal Civilian Agencies.

*SEAs are defined as educational activities which are of special interest to the armed services, including maritime academies, or military, naval, Air Force, or Coast Guard preparatory schools. They include but are not limited to organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of America, the American Red Cross, the Little League Baseball International, Junior ROTC Programs and the US Olympic Teams. Since their inclusion in Public Law 94-519 in 1976, SEAs have been limited in the surplus property they can receive. Title 40 codified the Federal Property of 1949 and states as follows:

“Section 549(d) of title 40, United States Code authorizes surplus property under the control of the Department of Defense(DOD) to be donated, through State Agencies for Surplus Property (SASPs), to educational activities which are of special interest the armed services.”

NASASP requests that SEAs be permitted to acquire Federal civilian property in addition to DOD property for the following reasons:

- Many useful items such as paint, camping equipment, office equipment and supplies, computers, furniture, first aid equipment, vehicles and much more are available routinely from Federal civilian agencies in better quantities and quality than DOD.
- Property received through the Federal surplus property program if expanded, would help further alleviate some of the budget woes of our SEAs.
- The youth of America would ultimately be the beneficiaries of this action
- SEAs throughout the United States are in favor of receiving Federal civilian agency property.

Finally NASASP would like to make it clear that all Federal surplus property is government property that is bought by all tax payers. If SEAs can only obtain DOD property we believe that is unfair property distribution and it really goes against all that the General Services Administration (GSA) has told us the Donation Program is about, namely fair and equitable distribution of all available surplus property. The SASPs spent a lot of time on Civil Rights and fair distribution yet it appears that in this case the law says we can discriminate against SEAs when it comes to surplus Federal civilian property. NASASP believes this is wrong and we would like to see action taken to remedy this discrimination.

NASASP urges Congress to convene hearings immediately to amend Title 40 and remove the exception status from SEAs and grant them full eligibility to all Federal surplus property under both DOD control and the control of GSA (all Civilian Agency property).

NASASP also requests that we be invited to testify at any and all hearings on this matter, as well as on any matter affecting the personal property disposal process. Based on our experience for over 63 years, we are singularly well qualified to offer testimony on this subject.

Any questions concerning this matter should be addressed to the Executive Director of NASASP at 717-756-1868 or email to nasaspexecdir@aol.com