The National Association of IOLTA Programs (NAIP) issued the following statement from their President, Judith Baker in support of the Legal Service Corporation.

NAIP is a national organization whose members include state IOLTA programs, who along with the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), are major funding partners of civil legal aid programs that exist in every state and every congressional district in the nation.

NAIP strongly supports the LSC program, the elimination of which would have tragic consequences. As an organization of funders of legal aid programs, NAIP understands the critical importance LSC plays in assuring one of the core values of our nation, access to justice for all. LSC funding to civil legal aid assures fairness for all in the justice system, regardless of how much money they have. It provides access to legal help for people to protect their livelihoods, their health, and their families. Access to legal help impacts economic stability and is critical for strengthening local communities both rural and urban.

Civil legal aid has never been more important. An increasing number of our nation’s families are turning to the courts with serious unmet civil legal needs; individuals, families and ultimately society suffer when these issues are left unresolved. Elimination of LSC will only exacerbate an already critically underfunded civil legal aid system.