



National School Boards Association  
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May 7, 2019

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Labor, Health & Human Services, Education and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

*Re: Fiscal Year 2020 Subcommittee Mark*

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

The National School Boards Association (NSBA) greatly appreciates your bipartisan leadership to address our membership's top priorities for education investments in your legislation for Fiscal Year 2020 Labor, Health & Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations. The increases you have proposed for education will provide much-needed resources to our students and school districts for special education, Title I programs, effective teachers and school leaders, English Language Acquisition, Student Support and Academic Enrichment, school safety, social/emotional learning, and afterschool programs. Your Subcommittee Mark will also strengthen investments in the Impact Aid program that is critical to school districts educating large populations of federally connected students, including those who reside on Native American trust lands and those whose parents serve in the Armed Forces.

NSBA's membership has prioritized the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), along with other critical programs such as Title I, as valuable resources in closing achievement gaps and advancing equity. Your leadership to maximize the effectiveness of these programs among our students and communities is indicative of Congress' commitment to its promise to fund the federal share of investments in IDEA and to raise student achievement among all students. This appropriations bill will help our school districts and parents address the unique needs of students with disabilities. It will enable our school districts to provide more services essential to student success in core subject areas such as mathematics and reading comprehension. Your Subcommittee mark will allow our public schools to provide greater opportunities for student enrichment, parental engagement and professional development for our teachers and school leaders.

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro



*The leading advocate for public education*

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Further, this FY2020 funding bill will enable more of our schools to strengthen school safety measures that facilitate healthy climates conducive to learning.

On behalf of our state school boards associations and the 90,000 school board members who govern the country's 14,000 public school districts, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) urges swift passage of this appropriations measure that will increase PreK-12 education investments in our nation's 50 million public school students. The fiscal stability provided by this legislation is important as our school districts continue to implement the landmark Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), fulfill the needs of students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, advance innovation and career-readiness through the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, expand high-quality early learning opportunities, and much more.

Thank you again for your leadership to prioritize our public school students and districts, including the nation's 6.9 million students educated through IDEA. You have established a significant precedent in education policy that will improve the access and quality of education for millions of students throughout the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Gentzel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and "G".

Thomas J. Gentzel  
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

cc: The Honorable Nita Lowey, Chairwoman, Committee on Appropriations  
The Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker  
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Republican Leader

