



National Title I Association

a National Association of State Title I Directors

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June 18, 2013

Honorable John Kline

Chairman, House Committee on Education and the Workforce

United States House of Representatives

2181 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kline:

The National Title I Association would like to thank you for moving forward with the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Having a comprehensive reauthorization that includes a full and public debate is critical. We also want to thank you for posting your recommendation, the Student Success Act, H.R. 5. We believe that working together we will be able to achieve significant improvements in the education of our disadvantaged children.

We appreciate the goals outlined in the purposes of the Student Success Act. Our Association's primary goal for the reauthorization is to continue to improve an education program that will enable our schools to assist children living in poverty in the United States. These children frequently start school academically behind their peers. They have also had fewer opportunities to experience educational environments that would allow them to develop and excel in the curriculum and be prepared to become productive citizens. As authorized under ESEA, Title I, Part A supports low income children and it is essential that the reauthorization clearly embraces this purpose. This is crucial to ensure that our low income children will not be behind when they start school, resulting in even more pronounced deficits as the academic years progress.

The key element of Title I, Part A has been that the federal government provides supplemental resources to states and local districts to ensure that every child succeeds. It cannot become a general aid program. Title I, Part A must maintain the focus on removing barriers that prevent low income children from succeeding. A reauthorized ESEA must continue to place a special emphasis on children who live in poverty and who need additional academic support so that they will be able to meet college- and career-ready standards.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to achieve our mutual goals.

Sincerely yours,

Bernell Cook

President