

October 30, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services and Education  
2467 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services and Education  
2413 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The 99 undersigned organizations write to thank you for supporting and including an amendment to fund Statewide Family Engagement Centers (SFECs) at \$10 million in the Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act (H.R. 3354). We greatly appreciate your support for family engagement centers and urge you to maintain this \$10 million for SFECs during negotiations with the Senate on a final FY 2018 appropriations package.

With ESSA implementation underway, states, school districts, school leaders and parents need the resources and services offered through the SFEC program to effectively engage parents as stakeholders and successfully implement the law as Congress intended. Research shows that family engagement improves academic outcomes for our nation's children and drives increases in student achievement. Our organizations believe that an investment in SFECs is critical to ensuring that families are meaningfully supported and engaged in their child's education so they can support our nation's students in becoming fully prepared for higher education, workforce and career opportunities in the 21st century.

The undersigned organizations thank you for your support and leadership on family engagement and ask for your continued support to fund SFECs at \$10 million in FY 2018.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

Afterschool Alliance  
American Federation of School Administrators  
American School Health Association  
Campaign for Youth Justice  
Council of Administrators of Special Education  
Easterseals  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters  
Institute for Educational Leadership  
Learning Disabilities Association of America  
Magnet Schools of America  
National Association for Family, School and Community Engagement  
National Association of Elementary School Principals  
National Association of Secondary School Principals

National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of State Boards of Education  
National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships  
National Council of La Raza  
National Education Association  
National PTA  
PACER Center  
Parents as Teachers

### State Organizations

Alabama Parent Education Center  
Alabama PTA  
Alaska PTA  
Arizona PTA  
Arkansas PTA  
Association for Special Children and Families (New Jersey)  
California State PTA  
Colorado PTA  
Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition  
Connecticut PTA  
Delaware PTA  
European PTA  
Families Helping Families of Jefferson (Louisiana)  
Families Together, Inc. (Kansas)  
Family Matters (Illinois)  
Family Resource Center on Disabilities (Illinois)  
Federation for Children with Special Needs (Massachusetts)  
Florida PTA  
Georgia PTA  
Hawaii PTA  
Idaho Parents Unlimited  
Idaho PTA  
Illinois PTA  
INCLUDEnyc (New York)  
Indiana PTA  
IN\*SOURCE (Indiana)  
Iowa PTA  
Kansas PTA  
Kentucky PTA  
Kentucky Statewide Parent Involvement Network  
Learning Disabilities Association of Hawaii (Hawaii)  
Long Island Communities of Practice (New York)  
Louisiana PTA  
Maine PTA

Maryland PTA  
Massachusetts PTA  
Michigan PTA  
Minnesota PTA  
Mississippi Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities  
Mississippi PTA  
Missouri PTA  
Montana PTA  
Nevada PTA  
New Hampshire PTA  
New Jersey PTA  
New Mexico PTA  
New York State PTA  
North Carolina PTA  
North Dakota PTA  
Ohio PTA  
Oklahoma PTA  
Oregon PTA  
Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (Virginia)  
Parent to Parent of Miami (Florida)  
Parents Helping Parents of Wyoming  
Parents Reaching Out (New Mexico)  
PTI Nebraska  
Pennsylvania PTA  
Puerto Rico PTA  
Rhode Island Parent Information Network  
Rhode Island PTA  
South Carolina PTA  
SPEAKS Education (Michigan)  
Stone Soup Group (Alaska)  
Tennessee PTA  
Texas PTA  
THRIVE Center (Colorado)  
U.S. Virgin Islands PTA  
Utah PTA  
Vermont Family Network  
Virginia PTA  
Washington State PTA  
West Virginia PTA  
Wisconsin PTA  
Wyoming PTA