

April 3, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi,
Speaker of the United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

The Learning First Alliance is pleased that the CARES Act provides support and resources to education nonprofit associations, particularly in allowing application by nonprofits for the Paycheck Protection Program relief. Education associations ensure educators and community members have the research-based professional support and critical resources they need to serve *all* of our 50.8 million students in K-12 public schools.

Our national organizations will need short-term and long-term relief to recover from this national crisis. The current short-term relief provided through the CARES Act, while much needed, will not provide the long-term support needed for most education associations to survive. Most of our associations, as well as their state-level affiliate organizations, are projecting a loss of one-quarter to one-half of their annual revenues, which will cause layoffs and result in significant reductions in services for our members.

As the Congress considers its next step to temporarily assist industries impacted by the COVID-19 virus, the Learning First Alliance urges you to include national and state level tax-exempt nonprofit educational associations in an expanded package. These organizations will be facing years of reduced revenues as schools, individual educators, and parents will not have the resources to pay membership fees, attend the professional meetings, and engage in services provided by these groups. Importantly, this means that some of the most important and useful aids to educators and parents to continue to improve their schools will be lost. On the immediate economic level, this will result in the layoff of workers and elimination of services that provide for educational improvements for our future generation of workers and citizens.

We ask that you include the following provisions in the next stimulus package:

1. Expand the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to allow 501(c)4s and 501(c)6s to also qualify;
2. Provide additional funding for PPP—the current allocation will only cover the short-term projection;
3. Expand funding for the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL).

The Learning First Alliance is a partnership of leading education nonprofit organizations representing more than 10 million members dedicated to improving student learning in America's public schools. We share examples of success, encourage collaboration, and work toward the continual and long-term improvement of public education based on research.



AASA, The School
Superintendents Association

American Federation of
Teachers

American School Counselor
Association

Consortium for School
Networking

Learning Forward

National Association of
Elementary School Principals

National Association of
Secondary School Principals

National Education Association

National PTA

National School Boards
Association

National School Public Relations
Association

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Most education associations are small and have a disproportional dependence on their annual meetings and other services to support the research and journal publications for their parents and professions who serve our school children. Without support, the professional information to improve education will be lost. This will have a profound impact on the long-term health of our society.

Thank you for your consideration and if you have questions or wish to arrange a meeting, please contact Learning First Alliance Executive Director Richard Long at 703-738-9081 or longr@learningfirst.org.

Sincerely,

AASA, the School Superintendents Association
Consortium of School Networking (CoSN)
Learning Forward
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National PTA
National School Boards Association
National School Public Relations Association