

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2015

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

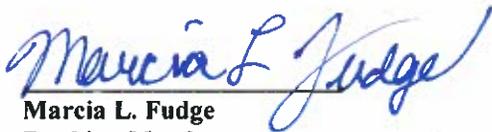
As you begin to craft the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill for fiscal year 2016, we write in support of a significant increase in federal funding for Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Title I dollars provide financial assistance to local educational agencies and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure all children meet challenging state academic standards. Federal funds are currently allocated through four statutory formulas that are based primarily on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state.

In the most recent budget proposal, President Obama highlighted the crucial nature of this program in requesting a \$1 billion increase to help address the fact that Title I funding for low-income children has fallen by 22 percent from \$1,546 in 2009 to \$1,212 in 2014. Currently, 24 million students receive Title I educational support under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In the 2010-11 school year, more than 66,000 public schools across the country used Title I funds to provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects. These funds support programs such as extra instruction in reading and mathematics, as well as special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum.

Title I funding is currently below both FY 2010 and pre-sequestration funding levels. Given the increase in poverty among school age children and the increased difficulty of academic standards being implemented across the nation, it is imperative federal education dollars are focused on helping all students succeed.

We urge you to honor our nation's commitment to our students and support a significant increase in federal funding in fiscal year 2016 for Title I. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

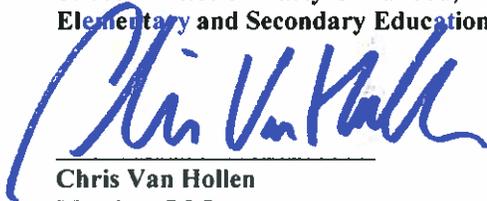
Sincerely,



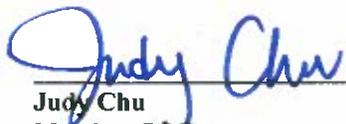
Marcia L. Fudge
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Early Childhood,
Elementary and Secondary Education



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Ranking Member
Education and the Workforce Committee



Chris Van Hollen
Member Of Congress



Judy Chu
Member Of Congress

Stacy E. Plaskett

Member of Congress

Samyandharam Bonamini

Member of Congress

Jim Huffman

Member of Congress

Fuh Volo

Member of Congress

Barney

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M. V. [Signature]

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Elizabeth H. Esty

Member of Congress

John [Signature]

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Mark DeSaulnier

Member of Congress

Anna Teta

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Michelle Lujan Grisham

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Daniel J. Kieve

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Frank Pallone

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Alan Lowenthal

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Deborah I. Dingell

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Wili

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Niki Ingos

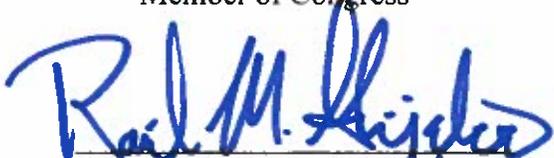
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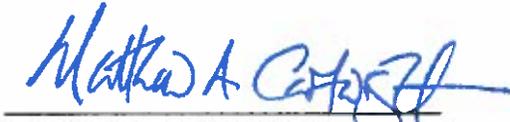
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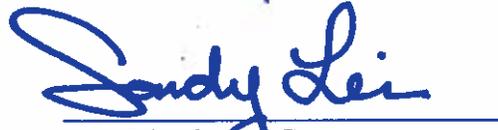
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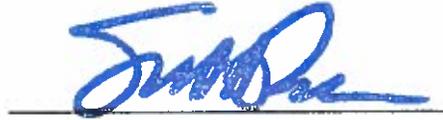
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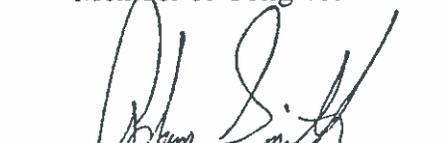
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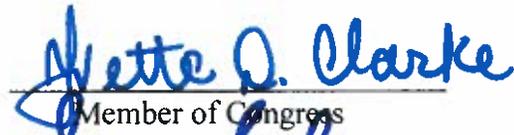

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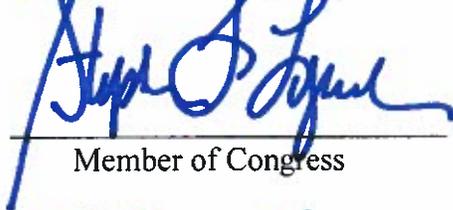

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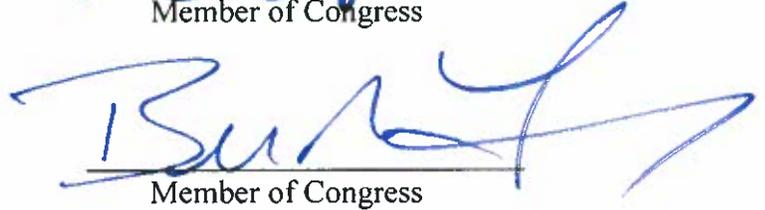

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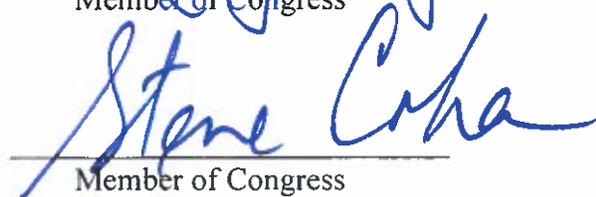

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Brenda J. Byrne
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Sam Rains
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Katherine M. Clark
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Jan Schakel
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