

December 7, 2015

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
Chairman, United States Senate Committee  
on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member, United States Senate Committee  
on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Dear Senators Alexander and Murray:

On behalf of state education leaders across the country, I am pleased to endorse the Every Student Succeeds Act. This critical legislation would fix the No Child Left Behind Act and create a stable federal law that gives states additional flexibility and encourages innovation while maintaining a strong focus on accountability and student equity.

The law is well overdue for reauthorization, which has led to uncertainty and instability for state and local education leaders working to improve student outcomes and eliminate academic achievement gaps. Quick congressional action to approve the Every Student Succeeds Act is critical to establish an appropriate balance between federal and state roles in U.S. education policy and enable a sound federal-state partnership in providing academic opportunities for all students in the years to come.

Thank you for your hard work in reaching bipartisan agreement on the Every Student Succeeds Act. I strongly urge the Senate to join the House of Representatives in voting to approve the Act.

Sincerely,



Chris Minnich  
Executive Director  
Council of Chief State School Officers

