September 5, 2017

Below please see the letters of support for the Bonamici (#135) and Stefanik (#136) Amendments in regards to Title IV-A of ESSA funding from the Title IV-A Coalition.

Thank you on behalf of the Title IV-A Coalition.
September 5, 2017

Dear Representatives Bonamici and Stefanik,

The Title IV, A Coalition writes to express our sincerest gratitude for your unyielding commitment and support for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant (SSAE) program within the Every Student Succeeds Act. Our coalition is especially thankful for the bipartisan amendment that you introduced to amend the House omnibus package, which called for full funding for the SSAE program in FY 2018. Our coalition views this amendment as an important opportunity to highlight all of the critically important ways this funding would promote safe and healthy schools, ensure all students have access to a well-rounded education, and allow for the effective use of technology.

At a time where the fate of SSAE is uncertain, we are truly grateful for your leadership on this issue and are appreciative of your ongoing support for this program. We look forward to continuing our efforts to ensure that this program receives full funding and is implemented as Congress authorized and intended in ESSA.

With gratitude,
The Title IV, A Coalition

Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK)  
Afterschool Alliance  
American Association of School Librarians  
American College of Sports Medicine  
American Council for School Social Work  
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)  
American Dance Therapy Association  
American Heart Association  
American Library Association  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Psychological Association  
American School Counselor Association  
ASCD
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools
Coalition for Community Schools
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)
College in High School Alliance
Committee for Children
Futures Without Violence
Girl Scouts of the USA
Girls Inc.
Health and Education Alliance of Louisiana HEAL
HealthCorps
Healthy Schools Campaign
Healthy Schools Network
International Society for Technology in Education
Jobs for the Future
League of American Orchestras
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Lions Clubs International
Museum of Science, Boston
National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Music Education
National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)
National Association of School Nurses
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)
National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA)
National PTA
National School Boards Association
National Science Teachers Association
National Summer Learning Association
Safe Routes to School National Partnership
Save the children
School Social Work Association of America
SHAPE America - Society of Health and Physical Educators
Society for Public Health Education
Society of Women Engineers
State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA)
The American Counseling Association
The College Board
The Corps Network
The Joyful Child Foundation
Trust for America's Health
The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici  
439 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  

September 5, 2017  

Dear Representative Bonamici,  

The Title IV, A Coalition writes to express our sincerest gratitude for your unyielding commitment and support for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant (SSAE) program within the Every Student Succeeds Act. Our coalition is especially thankful for the bipartisan amendment that you introduced to amend the House omnibus package, which called for an increase of the SSAE program to $700 million in FY 2018.  

Our coalition views this amendment as an important opportunity to highlight all of the critically important areas that could benefit from this funding, which includes supporting safe and healthy school programs, ensuring all students have access to a well-rounded education, and supporting the effective use of technology.  

Given that the House Rules required that any increase within the LHHS-Ed bill to have an offset, we appreciate your willingness to find offsets within the Department that do not take away money from specific programs and place it to others. In light of the $200 million reduction to the Department of Education’s administrative funds to offset the Title IV-A increase, we want to emphasize the critical role the Department plays in the administration of these important programs and hope that this offset in no way diminishes the ability for the Department to continue its valuable work. In order to prevent further cuts to the LHHS-Education bill and the Department overall, we strongly urge members of Congress to raise the arbitrary spending caps so more investments can be made in education.  

At a time where the fate of SSAE is uncertain, we are truly grateful for your leadership on this issue and are appreciative of your ongoing support for this program. We look forward to continuing our efforts to ensure that this program receives full funding and is implemented as Congress authorized and intended in ESSA.  

With gratitude,  
The Title IV, A Coalition  

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