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February 25, 2019

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our three million members and the 50 million students they serve, we urge you to VOTE YES on the Castro resolution that would undo President Trump's emergency declaration. Votes associated with this issue may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 116th Congress.

**Why the emergency declaration must be terminated**

- The current and previous Congress rejected President Trump's demands to appropriate billions of dollars for a medieval wall on our southern border to address a crisis manufactured by the president himself.
- Declaring a national emergency when one does not exist is a power grab that undermines the separation of powers fundamental to our system of government.
- Congress, the legislative branch of our government, is co-equal to the executive branch.
- The U.S. Constitution explicitly grants the power of the purse to the legislative branch in Article I, Section 9, Clause 7, which says, "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . ."
- Declaring a national emergency when none exists is a dangerous precedent.
- This issue transcends partisan politics — it is a matter of remaining true to the U.S. Constitution and the rule of law.

For all of these reasons, we urge you to VOTE YES on the Castro resolution.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan  
Director of Government Relations  
National Education Association