May 8, 2019

U.S. 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 Protecting Americans with Pre-Existing Conditions Act (H.R. 986) to ensure that people with pre-existing conditions can continue to get affordable health coverage.

The Kaiser Family Foundation analyzed data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and found that 27 percent of adults age 18-64 (more than 50 million people) have a pre-existing condition that would have led to a denial of insurance in the individual market before enactment of the Affordable Care Act. The share of people with pre-existing conditions ranges from 15 percent for 18-24 year-olds to 47 percent for 60-64 year-olds.

Administration guidance on Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act, issued last fall, removes a state requirement that health coverage plans must be comprehensive, affordable, and protect people with pre-existing conditions. Instead, the guidance encourages states to allow junk insurance plans that do not protect Americans with pre-existing conditions.

We urge you to VOTE YES to ensure that Americans with pre-existing conditions can continue to get affordable health coverage.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association