July 24, 2019

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our 3 million members and the 50 million students they serve, we strongly urge you to VOTE YES on the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act (H.R. 3239) for humanitarian reasons that align with our American values and the principles of basic human dignity. Votes on this issue may be included in NEA’s Report Card for the 116th Congress.

Specifically, this bill would establish minimum standards of health care for children, women, and families taken into custody by Customs and Border Protection (CPB). These standards include:

- Requiring CBP to conduct health screenings with translators within 12 hours of detaining individuals and within 3 hours of detaining the most vulnerable, including children, the elderly, and pregnant women
- Providing basic access to emergency care, medications, and life-saving medical equipment
- Ensuring access to proper sanitation and hygiene, food and nutrition, and appropriate shelter

We strongly urge you to VOTE YES on H.R. 3239 to uphold the dignity of human life and help prevent the deaths of people in CBP custody, especially children.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association