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Education & Labor Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our 3 million members and the 50 million students they serve, during tomorrow's markup, we urge you to support both the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act and the Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act of 2019. Votes on these issues may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 116th Congress.

Why Educators Support the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (H.R. 2694)

- Women are half the American workforce and nearly 80 percent of educators—and more than three-quarters of them will be pregnant and employed at some point in their lives.
- All too often, pregnant women are pushed out of their jobs or forced to risk their health to continue earning a paycheck to feed their families.
- More than half the states and half a dozen cities explicitly require certain employers to provide some form of accommodations for pregnant employees.
- H.R. 2694 would clarify existing laws and create a uniform national standard for reasonable accommodations for pregnancy, childbirth, and related conditions.
- Providing reasonable accommodations would benefit pregnant women by reducing health risks to them and their babies, as well as employers by reducing turnover and lost productivity.

Why Educators Support the bipartisan Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act of 2019 (H.R. 5191)

- The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act has provided critical support to young people for 46 years, but the last full reauthorization was more than a decade ago; meanwhile youth homelessness is on the rise across the nation.
- H.R. 5191 would provide much-needed increases in funding levels for maternity group homes, street outreach programs, transitional living programs, and other initiatives.
- H.R. 5191 would also extend the length of stay in Basic Center Programs to 30 days from 21 days (or the maximum allowed by state law), provide assistance for completing the FAFSA, and expand protections to youth who are especially vulnerable to trafficking.

We thank you for taking up these critical pieces of legislation and stand ready to work with you to help advance and enact them.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association