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March 18, 2020

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our 3 million members and the 50 million students they serve, we strongly urge you to VOTE NO on the Johnson amendment that would replace the paid sick and emergency leave provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act with unemployment insurance. We also urge you to VOTE YES on the Murray substitute that would provide emergency paid sick days and paid leave to all working people for the next two years. Votes on this issue may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 116th Congress.

The Johnson amendment would:

- Eliminate the guarantee of 10 paid sick and family care days and 12 weeks of extended emergency school leave provisions—and reimbursement to employers for providing these key protections.
- Require employees to apply to state unemployment insurance systems that are already inundated with claims from unemployed workers and ill-prepared for the flood of claims they are about to experience.
- Substantially reduce payments to workers who are quarantined, sick, or seeking a diagnosis from 100 percent wage replacement of up to \$511 per day to two-thirds wage replacement of up to \$200 per day or \$1,000 per week, whichever is less.
- Jeopardize the ability of gig and contract workers to receive any wage replacement.

Again, we urge you to VOTE NO on the Johnson amendment and to VOTE YES on the Murray substitute.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association