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September 15, 2020

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 urge you to VOTE YES on the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (H.R. 2694) when it comes to the floor later this week. Votes on this issue may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 116th Congress.

Why educators support the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

- 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.
- No one should be forced to choose between a paycheck and a healthy pregnancy.

Where we stand today

- More than three-quarters of women—half the American workforce and nearly 80 percent of educators—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. That's not good enough—every woman in every state needs the protections H.R. 2694 provides.

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act would help ensure that pregnant workers trying to stay healthy during the coronavirus pandemic can request accommodations from their employers—like personal protective equipment (PPE), telework, or staggered shifts or commuting times—without facing discrimination or retaliation. Please VOTE YES when the bill comes to the floor.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association