



1201 16th Street, NW | Washington, DC 20036 | Phone: (202) 833-4000

Rebecca S. Pringle  
*President*

Princess R. Moss  
*Vice President*

Noel Candelaria  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

Kim A. Anderson  
*Executive Director*

February 11, 2021

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
Washington, DC 20015

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 3 million members of the National Education Association, who teach and support students in public schools and public colleges, and also include front-line workers providing other vital services, we urge you to include \$350 billion in aid to state, county, local, tribal, and territorial governments in final budget reconciliation language. Votes on this issue may be included in the NEA Report Card for the 117th Congress.

We are in the midst of a once in a century pandemic. On top of the untold pain and suffering families are experiencing as they lose loved ones to a deadly virus, we are also in the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Educators have risen to this moment and demonstrated the resilience, creativity, and teamwork that we strive to cultivate in our students. Educators and all public service workers have often risked their own health and that of their families to provide crucial services to keep our communities going.

However, the jobs of the very public service workers we depend on are in jeopardy. Nationwide, over 1.4 million of these workers, including educators, have already been laid off due to budget shortfalls caused by the pandemic. Additional layoffs would be disastrous, especially for the schools and neighborhoods that were struggling with too few resources even before the pandemic. The burden would largely be shouldered by already under-served Black and Brown communities.

States, cities, counties, tribes, and territories are counting on Congress to help them bring people back to work and prevent additional layoffs and service cuts. We urge you to support the \$350 billion in funding for states, local governments, tribes, and territories under consideration in the House Committee on Oversight and Reform as part of H. Con. Res. 11. We also ask you to oppose any amendments that would lower or restrict this desperately needed \$350 billion.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan  
Director of Government Relations  
National Education Association