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April 13, 2021

Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 3 million members of the National Education Association, who teach and support students in public K-12 schools and colleges across America, we urge you to vote YES on the NO BAN Act, H.R. 1333 and the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, H.R. 40. Votes on these issues may be included in the Report Card for the 117th Congress.

NEA members support the NO BAN Act because it would:

- Require the executive branch to base any future restrictions on immigration or entry into the United States on “specific and credible facts” connected to “specific acts,” meet a compelling government interest, and employ the least restrictive means.
- Require the executive branch to notify and brief Congress on the status, implementation, and constitutional and legislative authority for any future restrictions.
- Specifically prohibit discrimination based on religion in the Immigration and Nationality Act.

NEA members support the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act because it would:

- Establish a commission to study, develop, and recommend reparation proposals in the context of an examination of slavery and discrimination in the United States from 1619 to the present day.
- Identify the role of the federal and state governments in supporting slavery, forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants, and lingering effects of slavery on African Americans and society today.

Educators are dedicated to cultivating in students an appreciation of America’s triumphs as well as our flaws, and the passion to address the wrongs of history and create a more welcoming and just nation. These bills represent significant steps in our journey toward fairness and equity, and we urge you to vote YES on them.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association