



Great Public Schools
for Every Student

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July 14, 2021

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
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 FY2022 appropriations bill for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies. We also urge you oppose the poison pill amendments identified below should they be proposed. Votes on these issues may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 117th Congress.

Provisions we strongly support

We applaud the leadership of Chairwoman DeLauro in making an historic investment in our nation's students, educators and schools, and are pleased that the bill matches President Biden's total discretionary request and increases Department of Education funding by 41 percent over FY2021. Specifically, we urge you to support these provisions of the bill:

- \$19.5 billion increase for Title I programs that more than doubles FY2021 funding
- \$400 increase in the maximum Pell Grant
- \$17.2 billion for Special Education—\$3.1 billion above the FY2021 enacted level and \$7 million above the President's budget request
- \$12.2 billion for Head Start—\$1.4 billion above the FY2021 enacted level and approximately \$300 million above the President's budget request
- \$443 million for Full-Service Community Schools—\$413 million over the FY2021 enacted level to provide comprehensive services and expand evidence-based models that meet the holistic needs of children, families, and communities
- \$2.2 billion for Career, Technical and Adult Education—\$208 million above the FY2021 enacted level and \$55 million above the President's budget request

Potential amendments we oppose

We oppose poison pill amendments that undermine public schools, educators, students, and families. Specifically, we urge you to oppose any amendment that would:

- Divert funding or resources from public schools to private or religious schools
- Increase funding for the Federal Charter Schools Program
- Deny students truthful and honest education by censoring educators and directing them not to discuss race or racism in their teaching
- Discriminate against or stigmatize transgender students

We thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association