

February 6, 2017

Representative Virginia Foxx
Chairwoman
U.S. House Committee on Education
and the Workforce
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Bobby Scott
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Education
and the Workforce
2101 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Foxx and Ranking Member Scott:

We write in support of H. J. Res. 58, a resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act to block implementation of an October 2016 rule related to teacher preparation programs. We appreciate the Committee's efforts to address this burdensome and problematic regulation.

We share with your committee a desire to ensure that American educators are fully prepared to succeed in the classroom, and welcome appropriate regulation that serves those goals. For this reason, we had regularly offered detailed commentary and suggestions for improving the rule throughout its extended consideration.

Unfortunately, the Department did not heed this advice, and proceeded to finalize a flawed rule last fall that does not reflect cutting edge professional practice and which we believe will have significant adverse consequences. The promulgation of this rule is even more troubling considering the recent enactment into law of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which bars the Department from prescribing the structure of state teacher evaluation systems.

Such an outcome has necessitated Congressional action, and we appreciate your efforts in this area. We encourage the members of your committee to support this resolution, and look forward to working with you to ensure its final passage.

Sincerely,



Molly Corbett Broad
President

MCB/ldw

On behalf of:

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Council on Education
Association of American Universities
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
Council for Higher Education Accreditation
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Thurgood Marshall College Fund
UNCF