UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA



MARTIN NACHIMSON President

ALLEN FAGIN Executive Vice President

YEHUDA NEUBERGER Chairman

NATHAN J. DIAMENT Executive Director

MAURY LITWACK Director of State Political Affairs

HOWARD FRIEDMAN Honorary Chairman February 10, 2015

Chairman John Kline, Ranking Member Robert Scott Subcmte. Chair Todd Rokita, Subcmte. Ranking Mem. Marcia Fudge and Members of the Committee on Education & the Workforce U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Dear Members of the Committee,

We write to you on behalf of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America – the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization – to express our support for the Student Success Act (H.R.5) – legislation to reauthorize and revise the Elementary & Secondary Education Act.

We are particularly appreciative of H.R.5's provisions addressing ESEA's requirement that eligible students in non-public schools receive 'equitable services' under the act. H.R.5 strengthens these provisions to ensure the participation of private school students and teachers in the programs funded under the Act. H.R.5 improves the consultation and negotiation processes to provide clearer procedures and faster notice for private school officials. These changes will better protect access for low income and learning challenged students in nonpublic schools.

Our organization is proud to have worked over the years with your predecessors, such as John Boehner, George Miller, Ted Kennedy and Judd Gregg, to improve ESEA for all American children – including those in nonpublic schools – and we are pleased to have the opportunity to work with you in this reauthorization. We appreciate that H.R.5 contains provisions we have proposed to the Chairman that will indeed improve the statute's equitable services regime.

We look forward to your Committee reporting H.R.5 favorably to the floor and working with you to secure its passage.

Sincerely, Yehuda Neuberger Chairman

Nathan J. Diament Executive Director

OU Advocacy is the non-partisan public policy and advocacy arm of the Orthodox Union, the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization founded in 1898.