

April 7, 2014

Chairman John Kline
Congressman George Miller
U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce
2181 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kline and Congressman Miller:

On behalf of state education leaders across the nation, I am pleased to support H.R. 10, the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act. This bipartisan bill would reauthorize and update the federal Charter Schools Program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to help prepare students to better compete and contribute to our global economy through innovative public school settings.

H.R. 10 supports state efforts to develop and expand charter schools by authorizing activities related to opening and preparing to operate new charter schools, as well as for the replication and expansion of successful charter models.

The Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act also includes provisions to support the evaluation of the impact of the charter school program, including the impact on student achievement; ensures that charter schools that receive funds meet the educational needs of all students, including students with disabilities and English learners; supports efforts to strengthen the charter school authorizing process; and continues support for the sharing of best practices between charter schools and traditional public schools.

We hope and expect that reauthorization of the Charter Schools Program will facilitate additional bipartisan legislative activity on overdue reauthorizations such as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. We look forward to working with you and your congressional colleagues to fully update federal education law and policy to support state education system improvement

Sincerely,



Chris Minnich
Executive Director

