



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

March 31, 2014

The Honorable John Kline  
2439 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George Miller  
2205 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen Kline & Miller,

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Education Task Force (CCD) is a coalition of more than 100 organizations that advance the rights of our nation's six million children and youth with disabilities eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). We are writing to express support for the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act. Thank you for introducing this important legislation.

This bill addresses our long-standing concerns about the under-enrollment of students with disabilities in charter schools by requiring charter school authorizers to monitor how charter schools not only recruit and enroll students with disabilities but also how the schools plan to retain these students once enrolled. The bill also includes new requirements that will help charter schools intentionally plan for and consider how they will meet the needs of students with disabilities and how to help them thrive.

We know that the challenges facing students with disabilities issues are many, but these students possess a wealth of potential to succeed and meet high standards. We applaud this bipartisan effort and thank you for your work to ensure that students with disabilities are appropriately served in charter schools.

Sincerely,

ACCSES  
Autism National Committee  
Brain Injury Association of America  
Council for Exceptional Children  
Council for Parent Attorneys and Advocates  
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund  
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education  
National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Down Syndrome Congress  
National Parent Teacher Association  
The Advocacy Institute

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities is a coalition national consumer, advocacy, provider and professional organizations headquartered in Washington, D.C. Since 1973, the CCD has advocated on behalf of people of all ages with physical and mental disabilities and their families. CCD has worked to achieve federal legislation and regulations that assure that the 54 million children and adults with disabilities are fully integrated into the mainstream of society. For additional information, please contact:

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