



July 13, 2026

The Honorable Tim Walberg
Chairman
Committee on Education & Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Ranking Member
Committee on Education & Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Re: H.R. 9610, Less Bureaucracy, Better K-12 Education Act and H.R. 9608, Less Bureaucracy, Better Family Engagement Act

Dear Chairman Walberg and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of AASA, The School Superintendents Association representing 10,000 school district leaders across the United States, we write to express our opposition to H.R. 9610 and H.R. 9608, which would eliminate the authority of the Department of Education to manage, control and drive policy for critical K-12 education programs.

Unlike the Interagency Agreements, which transferred some day-to-day administration and oversight of key education programs to other federal agencies while maintaining that major policy decisions would remain with the Department of Education, the Secretary, and other political and career officials, this proposal would transfer all authority over critical K-12 programs to the Secretary of Labor, the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, and their designees.

In February, AASA's Governing Board adopted a position on the dismantling of the Department, which re-stated our belief that it is essential to maintain a cabinet-level position qualified for and dedicated to public education to continue to prioritizing education at the federal level; a position that maintains decision making authority. Maintaining a cabinet-level Department with responsibility for education policy helps ensure these programs benefit from dedicated expertise, consistent oversight, and a continued federal focus on improving educational opportunities and outcomes for all students. Removing responsibility for major federal education programs such as Title I from the Department of Education weakens the federal infrastructure dedicated to advancing educational opportunity in America, diminishes the visibility and priority of K-12 education at the federal level and undermines academic achievement for our nation's students.

Thank you for considering our views on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Noelle Ellerson Ng", is placed below the "Sincerely," text.

Noelle Ellerson Ng
Chief Advocacy & Governance Officer