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February 4, 2015

Representative Glenn Thompson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Thompson,

On behalf of AAS, The School Superintendents Association, representing more than 10,000 school system leaders across the nation, I write to express our support for, and appreciation of, the All Children are Equal (ACE) Act. Your leadership on this important issue shines a light on the very important priority of targeting Title I dollars from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) toward students in poverty.

ACE is an effective legislative fix to the flawed number weighting provision within the current Title I formula. Number weighting redirects funds away from all smaller districts—both urban and rural—regardless of their poverty rate and toward a handful of the largest districts, regardless of how low their poverty rate.

By 'turning down the volume' on the number weighting brackets within the Title I formula, ACE works to ensure that Title I dollars are distributed in a manner consistent with original Congressional intent and helps deliver Title I dollars to those schools with the highest concentration (percentage) of students in poverty.

This is an issue of both equity and government effectiveness, and the ACE act, in ending number weighting, makes the Title I formula not only more fair, but also more effective at accomplishing its state purpose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noelle Ellerson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Noelle Ellerson  
Associate Executive Director, Policy & Advocacy