



MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF RURAL EDUCATION

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Honorable Glenn Thompson
United States House of Representatives
124 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Thompson:

On behalf of the Missouri Association of Rural Education (MARE) and students of rural school districts in Missouri, I want to thank you for your leadership in developing the All Children are Equal (ACE) act. ACE is an effective legislative response that will end discrimination against small rural and urban school districts in the formula for distributing Title I funds.

ACE addresses the negative effects of a provision in the law that was intended to send more money per disadvantaged student to school districts with the highest concentration of such students, which is a worthy purpose that the current formula does not actually serve. ACE will fix the number weighting system by gradually reducing the weighting factors.

Formulas are designed to be effective tools in the distribution of funds. This formula currently does not meet that expectation. By ending the number weighting, the Title I formula will be much fairer and also more effective in meeting its stated purpose.

On behalf of the MARE Executive Board, we look forward to the opportunity to work with you and the ACE Act co-sponsors in securing its passage.

Sincerely,

Ray V. Patrick, EdD.

Executive Director

“Celebrating 26 Years of Promoting Rural Education”

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