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July 17, 2013

The Honorable Glenn Thompson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
124 Cannon HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**All Children are Equal (ACE) Act  
Position: Support**

Dear Representative Thompson:

The California Small School Districts' Association (SSDA) represents the more than 500 small school districts in California. The Association has adopted a support position on the All Children are Equal (ACE) Act that you are sponsoring.

The current Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title I allocation formulas discriminate against high poverty, small, rural school districts. Because of the numbers weighting system, large school districts with low percentages of Title I eligible poverty students receive more funding per Title I pupil than small districts with high percentages of Title I eligible students. SSDA believes the original intent of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act was to treat all children living in poverty the same way. SSDA believes this original intent meant that every child in poverty would receive the same amount of supplemental funding for their education needs.

SSDA also supports the Title I concentration factor because research has demonstrated that greater percentages of children in poverty require more funds per eligible Title I pupil to address their educational deficits than children in schools with lower percentages of students from families in poverty.

The All Children are Equal Act would correct these inequities that have been created in the ESEA Title I allocation formulas.

SSDA urges Congress and the Representatives from California to support the All Children are Equal Act to restore the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I funding back to the purposes originally intended with the enactment of this legislation in 1965.

Thank you for your leadership in sponsoring the All Children are Equal Act.

Sincerely,

David L. Walrath