

June 18, 2013

The Honorable George Miller  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Education and the Workforce  
2101 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Miller:

The undersigned organizations write to offer you our gratitude and support for including the Transforming Education Through Technology program in your substitute amendment to the Student Success Act. This important provision will help to ensure that the nation's students graduate from high school college- and career-ready, having received a high quality education that capitalizes on the effective use of technology.

Today's students face an increasingly complex and competitive world. In addition to teaching core content to prepare students for the future, the nation's schools must teach young people to think critically, apply knowledge to solve real world challenges, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, be self-directed, and be responsible digital citizens. States are now in the process of implementing college- and career-ready standards in order to help students meet the demands of the 21st century. Your legislation will help to ensure that school districts and schools are able to utilize effective digital learning strategies and implement high quality assessments aligned to these high standards.

We appreciate the comprehensive nature of the Transforming Education Through Technology program. The legislation focuses on teaching and learning and supports the use of technology as a tool for instruction. This bill would provide grants to school districts to ensure they have the technological infrastructure and professional development necessary to meet the needs of each student. The bill also recognizes the importance of evaluating funded projects and ensuring that the results are disseminated in the field so that educators can use and apply them in classrooms. As the name suggests, your legislation will help transform students' educational experience. The profession of teaching will be strengthened through expanded opportunities for professional development, and the classroom experience for students will be enhanced by greater personalization and engaging instruction.

Thank you for your leadership. As the Elementary and Secondary Education Act reauthorization process continues, we look forward to working with you to ensure that the final bill includes the Transforming Education Through Technology program so that every student in America has access to the high quality, technology-enriched learning environment they need to lead our country into the future.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Excellent Education  
Consortium for School Networking  
International Society for Technology in Education  
Knowledge Alliance  
KnowledgeWorks  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Education Association  
The School Superintendents Association (AASA)  
State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA)  
Software and Information Industry Association