



www.nsba.org
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December 7, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Our Mission
Working with and
through our State
Associations, NSBA
Advocates for Equity
and Excellence in
Public Education
through School Board
Leadership

Re: Support for the "Every Student Succeeds Act"

Office of Advocacy

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Democratic Leader Reid:

John D. Tuttle
President

The National School Boards Association (NSBA), representing more than 90,000 local school board members across the nation, working with and through our state associations, supports passage of S. 1177, the "Every Student Succeeds Act," and applauds the work of the Senate for its bipartisan effort to modernize the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA).

Thomas J. Gentzel
Executive Director

Michael C. Zola
Associate Executive Director

Chairman Lamar Alexander and Ranking Member Patty Murray of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee have led the process to develop legislation that addresses both equity and excellence to help our school boards provide the high-quality public education that all our children deserve and need to be successful adults and citizens.

The "Every Student Succeeds Act" addresses key concerns for school boards: local governance and flexibility that support innovative programs and effectiveness for continued gains in student achievement among all students. Moreover, provisions of S. 1177 address several of the policy priorities adopted by NSBA's Delegate Assembly for local governance, such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, maintenance of effort (MOE), and authorization of appropriations that reflects the budgetary allocations of the recent *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015*.

We urge your support for the passage of S. 1177 and look forward to working with you and the Administration to implement the "Every Student Succeeds Act."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Gentzel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas J. Gentzel
Executive Director

cc: Members of the U.S. Senate