**Letter (Email from stakeholders to members of Congress)**

Dear \_\_\_\_,

I am writing as a constituent, as an educator, and as a leader in my community to request your support for a $210 million increase for Title II, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act, in fiscal year 2024 appropriations.

Title II-A, the flagship professional learning program at the US Department of Education, is a formula grant program that provides critical funding to states and school districts to prepare, train, recruit, and retain high-quality educators. Rigorous professional development supported through Title II-A is needed for academic recovery, teacher retention, and meeting the needs of all students.

I am concerned with the House Appropriations Committee’s recent decision to cut back overall federal spending on domestic discretionary programs, which includes all federal education programs, to Fiscal Year 2022 levels. This action could lead to extremely deep cuts to Title II-A and harm our efforts to attract and retain our educators and address widening achievement gaps. In some cases, deep cuts to Title II-A could lead to lay-offs of not just teachers but also the coaches and mentors who are so critical to our district’s professional learning plan.

Rather than reduce funding for Title II-A, and thus hamstring its effectiveness, I urge you to consider supporting a $210 million increase for it in the forthcoming FY2024 Labor HHS Education Appropriations bill. Title II-A has received limited funding increases over the past few years that have not come close to keeping pace with inflation and still leave it short of its highest authorized funding level. With all that our K-12 schools are facing, now is the time to invest in our educators, not limit their professional opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration and for your support of our nation's educators and students.

Sincerely,

[Educator’s name]