

Sign Letter to Chairman Kline and Ranking Member Scott Supporting Civic Education

Dear Colleague,

We know you share our commitment to promoting the quality instruction of concepts that sustain our Republic and economy in schools across the country. History, civics, geography and economics foster the critical thinking, historical reasoning, and financial literacy students need to become active and informed participants in our nation's civic and economic life. In the years since federal funds to support instruction in these subjects were discontinued, many states and school districts have reduced or eliminated professional development, class time, and graduation requirements in these subjects. The result: fewer than 25% of eighth graders asked can correctly identify the purpose of the Bill of Rights.

The Senate included four provisions designed to support schools and school districts that wish to offer high quality instruction in history, civics, geography and economics. We are asking you to join us in urging Chairman Kline and Ranking Member Scott to accept these provisions in conference. The Every Child Achieves Act would dedicate competitive funds to improve the teaching of history and civics; create intensive "academies" for teachers and students to deepen their knowledge of history and civics; authorize grants to non-profit organizations to develop and disseminate to schools innovative, engaging instruction in history, civics, and geography, especially for underserved students; and allow parent engagement funds to be used to support financial literacy activities.

We hope you will join us in supporting these provisions and ensuring that every child receives the tools necessary for informed and engaged citizenship. To have your name added to this letter, please contact Matthew McGinn in Rep. David Cicilline's office at [\(202\) 225-4911](tel:2022254911), Matthew.McGinn@mail.house.gov or Melissa Robel in Rep. Dennis Ross' office at [\(202\) 225-1252](tel:2022251252), melissa.robela@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

David N. Cicilline (D-RI)

Member of Congress

Dennis A. Ross (R-FL)

Member of Congress