Dear \_\_\_\_,

I am writing as a constituent, as an educator, and as a leader in my community to strongly urge you to support the House of Representatives’ approved Fiscal Year 2020 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill that would provide a $500 million increase for Title II, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act. While I understand that funding will be tight this year, I urge you to prioritize funding for this program and to support our educators and the students they serve.

Title II, Part A is a formula grant program that provides critical funding to states and school districts to prepare, train, recruit, and retain high-quality teachers, principals, assistant principals, and other school leaders. We are counting on you to ensure that our nation's educators are supported appropriately with high quality professional learning programs so that they can ensure that all of our students are college and career ready.

In my (school/state/district), Title II, Part A is used for… (BRIEFLY DESCRIBE Title IIA USE IN YOUR SCHOOL, STATE OR DISTRICT.

In my opinion, a funding increase for Title II, Part A is long overdue. Not only has this program *not seen an increase* in funding in a decade, it has actually sustained drastic reductions including a $249 million cut in FY 2017. Additionally, the current Administration has repeatedly sought to eliminate it completely. With parents understanding that teachers are the most vital element of their children’s educational experience and a growing shortage of qualified teachers, reducing or eliminating funding for Title II, Part A is dangerously shortsighted. Instead of cutting or eliminating this program, we urge you to take the important step of increasing funding for Title II, Part A not only because this program’s funds no longer go as far as they did ten years ago but also to to preserve and expand the nation’s teaching corps.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that you follow the lead of the House of Representatives and increase funding for Title II, Part A of ESSA by $500 million in fiscal year 2020. I and all of our nation’s educators and students will benefit and applaud such an important vote in support of public education. Thank you for your consideration and for your support of our nation's educators and students.

Sincerely,

[Educator’s name]