



PROSPER Act Advocacy Toolkit

Tell the House Education & Workforce Committee that you oppose the Promoting Real Opportunity, Success and Prosperity Through Education Reform (PROSPER) Act. It decreases college access for students with disabilities.

Last week, Rep. Virginia Foxx, the Chair of the House Education & Workforce Committee, released the text of the Promoting Real Opportunity, Success and Prosperity Through Education Reform (PROSPER) Act, an education bill meant to replace the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA).

On December 11th, the Education & Workforce Committee will consider amendments to and vote on the PROSPER Act. Now is the time for the House Education & Workforce Committee to hear from you about how this bill will harm students with disabilities and their chance at future success in college!

NCLD believes students with disabilities deserve the same opportunities as their peers. Unfortunately, this bill does not provide those opportunities and, in some instances, makes it harder for students with disabilities to navigate life after high school. We are especially concerned that the PROSPER Act:

- **Eliminates programs that support teachers.** PROSPER removes all of HEOA's Title II which included grants that improve teacher quality and incentivize teachers to serve in high-need areas like special education.
- **Does not include the RISE Act.** PROSPER fails to include an essential component of the RISE Act that would require colleges and universities to accept a student's individualized education plan (IEP) or 504 plan as evidence of their disability.
- **Removes grants that increase accessibility on college campuses.** PROSPER eliminates a grant program that supports faculty who work with students with disability and one that supports accessible materials in college.

If the PROSPER Act doesn't include these provisions, it cannot serve all students who want to pursue higher education. Read more about the PROSPER Act and its impact on students with disabilities [here](#).

Here's how you can help tell members of the House Education and Workforce Committee they need to support our kids and that you oppose the PROSPER Act:

- Share the following posts on Facebook and Twitter and tag members of the committee
- Use the script and contact information provided to call offices directly

Facebook Advocacy

Sample posts:

- How can we prepare our students to succeed in college if we don't address the teacher shortage in special education and other high-need areas? The PROSPER Act eliminates support for teacher training and will make the shortage worse. Oppose the PROSPER Act now and tell the House Education & Workforce Committee they must support teachers if we are going to provide greater access to students with disabilities. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- The PROSPER Act does not include one of the most important parts of the bi-partisan RISE Act: allowing students to submit an individualized education plan (IEP) or 504 plan as evidence of their disability. We must increase college access and support the success of students with disabilities! Oppose the PROSPER Act and contact the House Education & Workforce Committee today!
- The PROSPER Act does not provide students with disabilities with opportunities for increased access to college. It guts programs that support college faculty and provide accessible materials on campuses. A new HEA must improve access for all students! Contact the Education & Workforce Committee and tell them to say #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- It's clear that the PROSPER Act does not consider students with disabilities. Tell the House and Education Workforce Committee that our students should not be an afterthought as they reauthorize HEA. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- Legislators will claim they rewrote the Higher Education Act to make college possible for more students, but they ignored the challenges faced by students with disabilities. Everyone deserves an opportunity to succeed in college. Let the House Education & Workforce Committee know you stand with students with disabilities and oppose the PROSPER Act! #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs

In your Facebook posts about this topic, you can tag the following members of the House Education & Workforce Committee:

Republicans

Member	Link
Rep. Thomas Garrett	https://www.facebook.com/RepGarrett/
Rep. Elise Stefanik	https://www.facebook.com/RepEliseStefanik
Rep. Drew Ferguson	https://www.facebook.com/RepDrewFerguson/
Rep. Jason Lewis	https://www.facebook.com/RepJasonLewis/
Rep. Lloyd Smucker	https://www.facebook.com/RepSmucker
Rep. Steve Stivers	https://www.facebook.com/RepSteveStivers/
Rep. Neal Dunn	https://www.facebook.com/DrNealDunnFL2/

Rep. Fred Upton	https://www.facebook.com/RepFredUpton
Rep. Roger Marshall	https://www.facebook.com/RogerMarshallMD/
Rep. Don Bacon	https://www.facebook.com/RepDonBacon
Rep. Jack Bergman	https://www.facebook.com/RepJackBergman/
Rep. Jody Hice	https://www.facebook.com/CongressmanJodyHice
Rep. Stevan Pearce	https://www.facebook.com/RepStevePearce
Rep. Lynn Jenkins	https://www.facebook.com/replynnjenkins

Democrats

Member	Link
Rep. Jared Polis	https://www.facebook.com/jaredpolis
Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi	https://www.facebook.com/CongressmanRaja/
Rep. Jimmy Panetta	https://www.facebook.com/RepJimmyPanetta/
Rep. Emanuel Cleaver	https://www.facebook.com/emanuelcleaverii
Rep. Brenda Lawrence	https://www.facebook.com/Rep.BLawrence/
Rep. Susan Davis	https://www.facebook.com/RepSusanDavis
Rep. Adriano Espaillat	https://www.facebook.com/RepEspaillat/
Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester	https://www.facebook.com/Rep.BluntRochester/
Rep. Mark Takano	https://www.facebook.com/RepMarkTakano
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier	https://www.facebook.com/RepMarkDeSaulnier
Rep. Alma S. Adams	https://www.facebook.com/CongresswomanAdams
Rep. Scott H. Peters	https://www.facebook.com/RepScottPeters/
Rep. Suzanne Bonamici	https://www.facebook.com/CongresswomanBonamici

Twitter Advocacy

Sample tweets:

- The PROSPER Act can't support all students if it guts programs that prepare quality teachers in high-need areas. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- Oppose the PROSPER Act – it cuts programs that improve access for students with disabilities in college. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- Until it provides students with equal access to a quality higher education, I oppose the PROSPER Act. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- The House's #HEA bill can't serve all students if it guts programs that support students with #disabilities. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs
- The House wrote a higher ed reauthorization bill without talking to the disability & civil rights community. We need a seat at the table. #AllShouldPROSPER #HigherEdforSWDs

Tweet at the following members of the House Education & Workforce Committee:

Republicans

Member	Twitter Handle
Rep. Thomas Garrett	@RepTomGarrett
Rep. Elise Stefanik	@RepStefanik
Rep. Drew Ferguson	@RepDrewFerguson
Rep. Jason Lewis	@RepJasonLewis
Rep. Lloyd Smucker	@RepSmucker
Rep. Steve Stivers	@RepSteveStivers
Rep. Neal Dunn	@DrNealDunnFL2
Rep. Fred Upton	@RepFredUpton
Rep. Roger Marshall	@RogerMarshallMD
Rep. Don Bacon	@RepDonBacon
Rep. Lynn Jenkins	@RepLynnJenkins
Rep. Jody Hice	@CongressmanHice
Rep. Jack Bergman	@RepJackBergman

Rep. Stevan Pearce	@RepStevePearce
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Democrats

Member	Twitter Handle
Rep. Jared Polis	@RepJaredPolis
Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi	@CongressmanRaja
Rep. Jimmy Panetta	@RepJimmyPanetta
Rep. Emanuel Cleaver	@RepClever
Rep. Brenda Lawrence	@RepLawrence
Rep. Susan Davis	@RepSusanDavis
Rep. Adriano Espaillat	@RepEspaillat
Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester	@RepBRochester
Rep. Mark Takano	@RepMarkTakano
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier	@RepDeSaulnier
Rep. Alma S. Adams	@RepAdams
Rep. Scott H. Peters	@RepScottPeters
Rep. Suzanne Bonamici	@RepBonamici

Hashtags:

- **#AllShouldPROSPER**
- **#HigherEdforSWDs**

Call or Email Members of Congress

To call or email members of the House Education & Workforce Committee:

Republicans

Name	Education Staffer	Education Staffer E-mail Address	Contact Number (DC Office)	Contact Number (District)
Rep. Thomas Garrett	Hallie Pence	Hallie.Pence@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4711	434-973-9631
Rep. Steve Stivers	Nick Bush	Nick.Bush@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2015	(614) 771-4968
Rep. Neal Dunn	Evan Lee (Legislative Director)	Evan.Lee@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-5235	850-785-0812
Rep. Fred Upton	Katherine Moffitt	Katherine.Moffitt@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3761	(269) 385-0039
Rep. Elise Stefanik	Patrick Hester	Patrick.Hester@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4611	(518) 743-0964
Rep. Roger Marshall	Dalton Henry (Legislative Director)	Dalton.Henry@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2715	620-765-7800
Rep. Drew Ferguson	Mary Christina Riley	Marychristina.Riley@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-5901	770-683-2033
Rep. Jason Lewis	Marek Laco	Marek.Laco@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2271	651-846-2120
Rep. Don Bacon	Jeff Kratz	Jeff.Kratz@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4155	(402) 938-0300
Rep. Lloyd Smucker	Noelle Verhelst	Noelle.Verhelst@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2411	(717) 393-0667
Rep. Lynn Jenkins	Baruch Humble	Baruch.Humble@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-6601	(785) 234-LYNN (5966)
Rep. Jody Hice	Tim Reitz	Tim.Reitz@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4101	(770) 207-1776
Rep. Stevan Pearce	Joshua Spann	Joshua.Spann@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2365	855-4-PEARCE (732723)

Rep. Jack Bergman	Gabe Hisem	Gabe.Hisem@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4735	231-944-7633
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Democrats

Name	Education Staffer	Education Staffer E-mail Address	Contact Number (DC Office)	Contact Number (District)
Rep. Jared Polis	Bo Morris	Bo.Morris@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2161	(303) 484-9596
Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi	Sam Morgante (Legislative Director)	Sam.Morgante@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3711	(847) 413-1959
Rep. Jimmy Panetta	Daniel Zeitlin (Legislative Director)	Daniel.Zeitlin@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2861	831-424-2229
Rep. Emanuel Cleaver	Vivian Laiti	Vivian.Laiti@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4535	(660) 584-7373
Rep. Brenda Lawrence	Alex Huang	Alex.Huang@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-5802	(313) 423-6183
Rep. Susan Davis	Armita Pedramrazi	Armita.Pedramrazi@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2040	(619) 280-5353
Rep. Adriano Espaillat	Mark Howell	Mark.Howell@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4365	718-450-8241
Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester	Ian Spears	Ian.Spears@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4165	(302) 830-2330
Rep. Mark Takano	Amanda Eaton	Amanda.Eaton@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2305	951.222.0203
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier	Sarah Jackson	Sarah.Jackson@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2095	(510) 620-1000
Rep. Alma S. Adams	John Christie	John.Christie@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-1510	704-344-9950
Rep. Scott H. Peters	Baillee Brown	Baillee.Brown@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-0508	858-455-5550
Rep. Suzanne Bonamici	Lakeisha Steele	Lakeisha.Steele@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-0855	(503) 469-6010

Sample phone script:

Good morning/afternoon! My name is _____ and I am a parent/educator/advocate calling from _____. I want to make sure you know about how important it is for students with disabilities to have access to college. The PROSPER Act does not adequately support students with disabilities and I am asking [insert name of Member of Congress] to oppose it. I am specifically concerned with these specific provisions:

- **Elimination of programs to support teachers.** The PROSPER Act removes all of HEOA's Title II, which included grants that improve teacher quality and incentivize teachers to serve in high-need areas like special education.
- **No inclusion of the RISE Act.** The PROSPER Act fails to include an essential component of the RISE Act that would require colleges and universities to accept a students' individualized education plan (IEP) or 504 plan as evidence of their disability.
- **Removal of grants that increase accessibility on college campuses.** The PROSPER Act eliminates a grant program that supports faculty who work with students with disabilities and one that supports accessible materials in college.

Students with disabilities deserve the opportunity to go to college and succeed. If we're going to pass a law to improve higher education, we must do so for all students—not just some! I am asking Rep. [insert name of Member of Congress] to help us make this a reality. What position has the Congressman / Congresswoman taken on the bill? Do you know how the Congressman/Congresswoman will vote?

Sample e-mail script:

Sample Subject Line: Please oppose the PROSPER Act

Insert Staffer's Name,

My name is _____ and I am a parent/educator/advocate from _____. I want to make sure you know about how important it is for students with disabilities to have access to college. The PROSPER Act does not adequately support students with disabilities and I am asking [insert name of Member of Congress] to oppose it. I am especially concerned with these specific provisions:

- **Elimination of programs to support teachers.** The PROSPER Act removes all of HEOA's Title II, which included grants that improve teacher quality and incentivize teachers to serve in high-need areas like special education.
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