



For Immediate Release  
May 1, 2019

**National Center for Learning Disabilities Statement on the Release of the House Labor HHS, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee Appropriations Bill**

**Washington, DC** -- The National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) is extremely pleased that the House Appropriations LHHS-Education Subcommittee voted to move the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations bill to the full committee for consideration. This legislation increases the federal investment in education and recognizes the importance of investing in our education system. "These increased investments would strengthen public education for all children and will provide much-needed resources for students with disabilities," says Lindsay Jones, President and CEO of NCLD

Importantly, if passed by the Senate, this legislation would increase funding for special education and other programs operating under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It would also increase support for programs that support the whole child, such as the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grant program, 21st Century Community Learning Centers and the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Initiative. We are also pleased that it would directly support teachers, by increasing funding for the Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants (Title II-A), funds that help schools pay for professional development.

Jones added, "We are grateful that for the past two years, the House Appropriations Committee has shunned the divisive and impractical budget recommendations of the Administration. The bill being passed out of the subcommittee represents a renewed investment that would offer an opportunity to continue building an education system that prepares its students to compete in the global market of the 21st century, provides states and districts with the flexibility to improve and expand access to critical programs, and effectively creates long-term solutions that address the needs our students face."

We recognize this is only the first step in a long arduous budgeting process and much advocacy is needed to secure the funding approved by the subcommittee in the coming months. However, we are buoyed by the parents and students who rely on this funding to unlock unimaginable opportunities.

Again, we thank the subcommittee for its support of programs that enhance education for students with disabilities and urge Congress to pass a final appropriations bill that reflects full funding for the aforementioned programs.

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**About the National Center for Learning Disabilities**

The mission of the National Center for Learning Disabilities is to improve the lives of the 1 in 5 children and adults nationwide with learning and attention issues -- by empowering parents and young adults, transforming schools and advocating for equal rights and opportunities. We're working to create a society in which every individual possesses the academic, social, and emotional skills needed to succeed in school, at work and in life. For more information, visit [nclcd.org](http://nclcd.org).