



June 26, 2008

The Hon. George Miller
Chairman
Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

Thank you for your leadership in approving H.R. 3289, the Providing Services Early to Kids Act of 2007. We could not agree more with your opening statement yesterday that is “profoundly irresponsible” for public policy to NOT reflect what research has proven: that high-quality early education makes a significant, measurable difference in the quality of individual lives.

Our partners in states throughout the country appreciate the federal-state partnership reflected in the legislation, and stand ready to make the best possible use of a new federal grant to improve state pre-kindergarten programs.

Governors and other state leaders are already working to build systems of early education for children, pulling together pre-k, Head Start, and child care – blending federal and state dollars for the maximum benefit of children and families. The quality improvement grants proposed in H.R. 3289 will serve to strengthen that collaboration at the state and local level, augmenting the tools that you and your colleagues included in the Head Start reauthorization approved last year. The PRE-K Act, following the Head Start reauthorization, represents powerful momentum to improve the lives of young children and their families.

We congratulate you, your colleagues, and your staff, for this strong step forward in the name of our youngest learners. We look forward to working with you as H.R. 3289 moves to the House floor.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Libby Doggett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Libby" being more prominent.

Libby Doggett, Ph.D.
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Patterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathy" being more prominent.

Kathy Patterson
Federal Policy Director