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> Gary M. Amoroso, Ph.D., Executive Director

Minnesota Association of School Administrators

July 12, 2011

The Honorable John Kline Chairman, Education and Workforce Committee 2181 Rayburn Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Kline:

Thank you for your proposal to provide local school districts with greater control and flexibility relative to the many categorical programs associated with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). As Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA), I fully support this concept.

I believe that the concepts contained within The State and Local Funding Flexibility Act will help to level the playing field for low-income and minority students while providing educators the local control and flexibility that they need to provide support to the greatest number of students.

I greatly appreciate the fact that your proposal demonstrates a perspective of trust that educators will do what is in the best interest of the students that they serve. This is truly a refreshing perspective that that is long overdue. The current law has attempted to use punishment and embarrassment as motivators for educators and students. Research is very clear that punishment and embarrassment do not serve to motivate.

Thank you for your efforts. I sincerely hope that you are successful in moving this proposal forward. As always, please feel free to contact me if I can be of service to you.

Sincerely,

Gary M. Amoroso Executive Director

Minnesota Association of School Administrators

cc: Bruce Hunter, Associate Executive Director for Advocacy and Communications, AASA