

LETTER FROM STATE-LEVEL ELECTED LEADERS IN ALL 50 STATES SUPPORTING BETSY DEVOS FOR SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

January 17, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander,

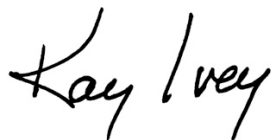
As one of the most critical issues impacting the future of our nation, we must have a Secretary of Education committed to the needs of all of our nation's children. Betsy DeVos has made it her life's mission to find, support and push for education solutions in her home state of Michigan and across the country. She is an advocate and ally for all children, and we write to you today to express our support for her nomination to this important position as her confirmation hearing approaches.

We represent elected state offices from all 50 states, and as such, we each know the impact of an overgrown federal government reaching into the states to push a one-size-fits all approach to education. No two states, localities or school districts are the same, nor are the needs of the children who reside there. Betsy DeVos understands this distinction and for years has embraced a variety of education solutions to meet this need.

Her support for an all-of-the-above approach to K-12 education – from charter schools, to public, private and online education – defines the school choice movement that has helped countless children across many of our states. By advancing these innovative solutions from the Department of Education, Betsy DeVos will put children first and empower not only states to lead the way in making critical education decisions, but also empower parents to choose what type of education is best for their children.

Together we applaud President-elect Donald Trump for selecting Betsy DeVos as his Secretary of Education nominee. We encourage the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions to ensure a swift confirmation process so that we together can get to work making classrooms a place for all children to thrive.

Sincerely,



Lt. Governor Kay Ivey
Alabama



Secretary John H. Merrill
Alabama



Sen. Del Marsh
Senate President Pro Tem
Alabama

LETTER FROM STATE-LEVEL ELECTED LEADERS IN ALL 50 STATES
SUPPORTING BETSY DEVOS FOR SECRETARY OF EDUCATION



Rep. Charisse Millett
House Republican Leader
Alaska

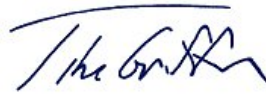


Sen. Steve Yarbrough
Senate President
Arizona

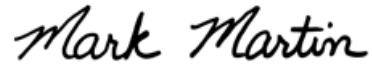
Rep. T.J. Shope
House Speaker Pro Tem
Arizona



Rep. Tony Rivero
Arizona



Lt. Governor Tim Griffin
Arkansas



Secretary Mark Martin
Arkansas



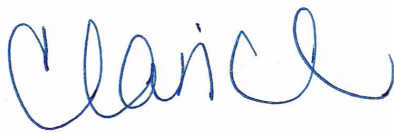
Sen. Jean Fuller
Senate Republican Leader
California



Sen. Kevin Grantham
Senate President
Colorado



Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg
Senate President Pro Tem
Colorado



Rep. Clarice Navarro
Colorado



Former Rep. Libby Szabo
Jefferson County
Commissioner
Colorado



Sen. Michael McLachlan
Deputy Senate Republican
Majority Leader
Connecticut



Rep. Vincent Candelora
Connecticut



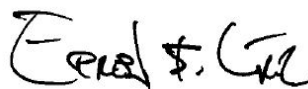
Sen. F. Gary Simpson
Senate Republican Leader
Delaware



Sen. Greg Lavelle
Senate Republican Whip
Delaware



Sen. Anthony Delcollo
Delaware



Sen. Ernie Lopez
Delaware



Sen. Brian Pettyjohn
Delaware

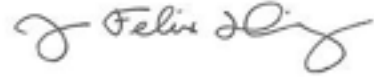
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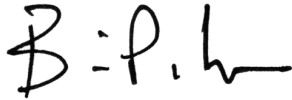
Rep. Richard Corcoran
Speaker of the House
Florida



Rep. Jose Oliva
Speaker-Elect
Florida



Rep. Jose Felix Diaz
Florida



Secretary Brian Kemp
Georgia



Sen. David Shafer
Senate President Pro Tem
Georgia



Former Rep. B.J. Pak
Georgia



Rep. Gene Ward
Hawaii



Rep. Scott Bedke
Speaker of the House
Idaho



Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti
Illinois



Rep. John Cabello
Illinois



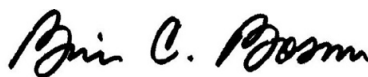
Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch
Indiana



Sen. David Long
Senate President Pro Tem
Indiana



Sen. Brandt Hershman
Senate Majority Leader
Indiana



Rep. Brian Bosma
Speaker of the House
Indiana



Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
Iowa



Rep. Linda Upmeyer
Speaker of the House
Iowa



Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer
Kansas



Secretary Kris Kobach
Kansas

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Sen. Susan Wagle
Senate President
Kansas



Sen. Robert Stivers
Senate President
Kentucky



Sen. Ralph Alvarado
Kentucky



Rep. Jonathan Shell
House Majority Leader
Kentucky



Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser
Louisiana



Rep. Greg Cromer
Louisiana



Sen. Michael Thibodeau
Senate President
Maine



Sen. Andre Cushing
Senate Assistant Majority Leader
Maine



Sen. Stephen Hershey, Jr.
Maryland



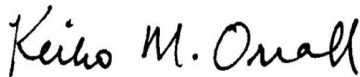
Sen. Michael Hough
Maryland



Rep. Nic Kipke
House Republican Leader
Maryland



Rep. Kathy Szeliga
House Republican Whip
Maryland



Rep. Keiko M. Orrall
Massachusetts



Lt. Governor Brian Calley
Michigan



Secretary Ruth Johnson
Michigan



Sen. Arlan Meekhof
Senate Majority Leader
Michigan



Sen. Paul Gazelka
Senate Majority Leader
Minnesota



Rep. Kurt Daudt
Speaker of the House
Minnesota

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Lt. Governor Tate Reeves
Mississippi



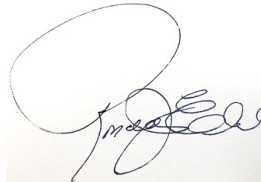
Rep. Shamed Dogan
Missouri



Sen. Fred Thomas
Senate Majority Leader
Montana



Rep. Austin Knudsen
Speaker of the House
Montana



Rep. Ron Ehli
House Majority Leader
Montana



Lt. Governor Mike Foley
Nebraska



Lt. Governor Mark Hutchison
Nevada



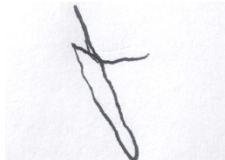
Sen. Michael Roberson
Senate Republican Leader
Nevada



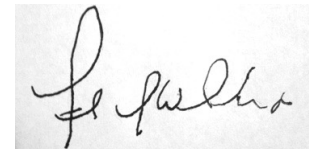
Sen. Scott Hammond
Nevada



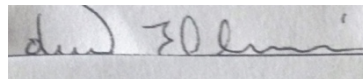
Assemblyman Paul Anderson
Assembly Republican
Floor Leader
Nevada



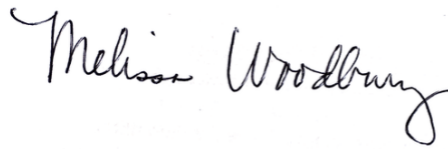
Assemblyman James Oscarson
Assembly Assistant Republican
Floor Leader
Nevada



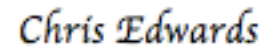
Assemblyman Jim Wheeler
Assembly Assistant
Republican Floor Leader
Nevada



Assemblyman John Ellison
Assembly Republican Whip
Nevada

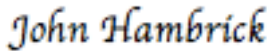


Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury
Assembly Republican Whip
Nevada



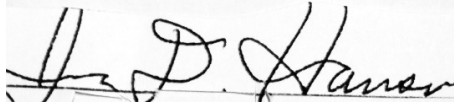
Assemblyman Chris Edwards
Nevada

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John Hambrick

Assemblyman John Hambrick
Nevada



Ira D. Hansen

Assemblyman Ira Hansen
Nevada



Al Kramer

Assemblyman Al Kramer
Nevada



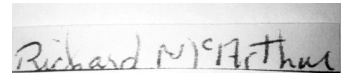
Lisa Krasner

Assemblywoman Lisa Krasner
Nevada



Jim Marchant

Assemblyman Jim Marchant
Nevada



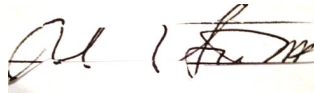
Richard McArthur

Assemblyman Richard McArthur
Nevada



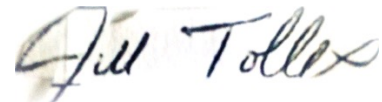
Keith Pickard

Assemblyman Keith Pickard
Nevada



Robin Titus

Assemblyman Robin Titus
Nevada



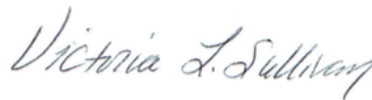
Jill Tolles

Assemblywoman Jill Tolles
Nevada



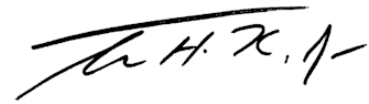
Andy Sanborn

Sen. Andy Sanborn
New Hampshire



Victoria L. Sullivan

Rep. Victoria Sullivan
Member, Committee on Education
New Hampshire



Tom H. Kean

Sen. Tom Kean
Senate Republican Leader
New Jersey



John A. Sanchez

Lt. Governor John Sanchez
New Mexico



Nathaniel Z. Gentry

Rep. Nate Gentry
House Republican Leader
New Mexico



Alonzo Baldonado

Rep. Alonzo Baldonado
House Republican Whip
New Mexico



Monica Youngblood

Rep. Monica Youngblood
New Mexico



John J. Flanagan

Sen. John Flanagan
Senate Majority Leader
New York



Dan Forest

Lt. Governor Dan Forest
North Carolina

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Sen. Phil Berger
Senate President Pro Tem
North Carolina



Sen. Harry Brown
Senate Majority Leader
North Carolina



Sen. Wesley Meredith
Senate Majority Whip
North Carolina



Sen. Chad Barefoot
Co-Chair, Committee on Education/
Higher Education
North Carolina



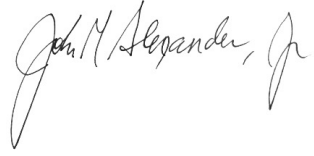
Sen. David Curtis
Co-Chair, Committee on
Education/Higher Education
North Carolina



Sen. Michael Lee
Co-Chair, Committee on
Education/Higher
Education
North Carolina



Sen. Joyce Krawiec
Member, Committee on Education
North Carolina




Sen. John Alexander
North Carolina



Sen. Deanna Ballard
North Carolina



Sen. Bill Cook
North Carolina



Sen. Cathy Dunn
North Carolina



Sen. Kathy Harrington
North Carolina



Sen. Brent Jackson
North Carolina



Sen. Paul Newton
North Carolina



Sen. Ronald Rabin
North Carolina



Sen. Bill Rabon
North Carolina

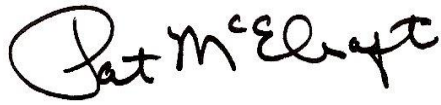


Sen. Norman Sanderson
North Carolina



Sen. Tommy Tucker
North Carolina

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Rep. Pat McElraft
House Deputy Majority Whip
North Carolina



Governor Doug Burgum
North Dakota



Rep. Al Carlson
House Majority Leader
North Dakota



Rep. Cliff Rosenberger
Speaker of the House
Ohio



Rep. Keith Faber
Immediate Past Senate
President
Ohio



Rep. Niraj Antani
Ohio



Lt. Governor Todd Lamb
Oklahoma



T.W. Shannon
Former Speaker of the House
Oklahoma



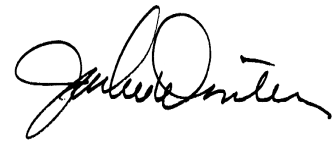
Rep. Ryan Martinez
Oklahoma



Sen. Ted Ferrioli
Senate Republican Leader
Oregon



Rep. Michael McLane
House Republican Leader
Oregon



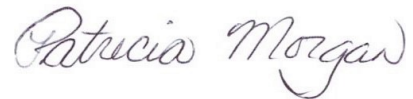
Sen. Jackie Winters
Oregon



Rep. Mike Turzai
Speaker of the House
Pennsylvania



Rep. David Reed
House Majority Leader
Pennsylvania



Rep. Patricia Morgan
House Republican Leader
Rhode Island



Secretary Mark Hammond
South Carolina



Rep. Phyllis Henderson
House Majority Whip
South Carolina



Rep. Kristin Langer
House Majority Whip
South Dakota

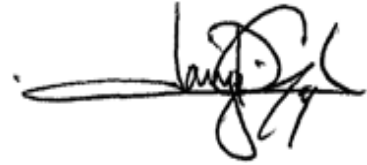
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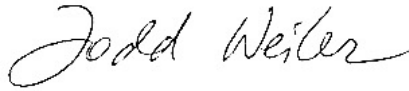
Brian Gosch
Former House Majority Leader
South Dakota



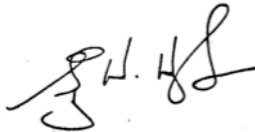
Secretary Tre Hargett
Tennessee



Rep. Larry Gonzales
Texas



Sen. Todd Weiler
Utah



Rep. Greg Hughes
Speaker of the House
Utah



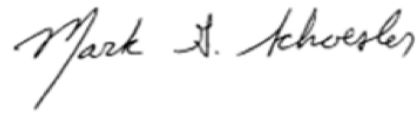
Rep. Don Turner
House Republican Leader
Vermont



Sen. Ryan McDougle
Chair, Senate Republican
Caucus
Virginia



Del. Bill Howell
Speaker of the House
Virginia



Sen. Mark Schoesler
Senate Majority Leader
Washington



Rep. Eric Nelson
Chair, House Republican
Caucus
West Virginia



Rep. Jill Upson
Member, Committee on
Education
West Virginia



Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch
Wisconsin



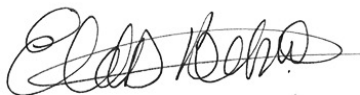
Sen. Scott Fitzgerald
Senate Majority Leader
Wisconsin



Assemblyman Robin Vos
Speaker of the House
Wisconsin



Assemblywoman Jessie Rodriguez
Wisconsin



Sen. Eli Bebout
Senate President
Wyoming



Rep. Steven Harshman
Speaker of the House
Wyoming