



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

February 6, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, and Minority Leader Pelosi:

I write to express support for H. J. Res. 58, a resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act to block the U.S. Department of Education's rule related to teacher preparation published on October 31, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 75494).

The Department of Education (ED) has legitimate oversight responsibility of TEACH grants to protect the interests of students, educators, and taxpayers. In my view, more needs to be done to ensure teacher preparation programs are adequately preparing the next generation of educators. Unfortunately though, ED promulgated an overly complicated rule that would impose a significant financial burden on states and education programs.

Accordingly, it is appropriate that Congress block this rule. Although the teacher preparation rule may be repealed, we believe that ED should identify leading efforts across the nation and support their further development including the Institute of Education Sciences' efforts to encourage a more rapid adoption and broader culture of improvement and accountability.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter McPherson
President
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

CC:
Chairman Lamar Alexander
Ranking Member Patty Murray
Chairwoman Virginia Foxx
Ranking Member Bobby Scott
Chairman Brett Guthrie
Ranking Member Susan Davis