MAJORITY MEMBERS:

GEORGE MILLER, CALIFORNIA, Chairman

DALE E. KILDEE, MICHIGAN, Vice Chairman
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA
LYNN C. WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA
RUBÉN HINOJOSA, TEXAS
CAROLYN McCARTHY, NEW YORK
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
DAVID WU, OREGON
RUSH HOLT, NEW JERSEY
SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA
TIMOTHY H. BISHOP, NEW YORK
JOE SESTAK, PENNSYLVANIA
DAVID LOEBSACK, IOWA
MAZIE HIRONO, HAWAII
JASON ALTMIRE, PENNSYLVANIA
PHIL HARE, ILLINOIS
YVETTE D. CLARKE, NEW YORK
JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT
CAROL SHEA-PORTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCIA L. FUDGE, OHIO
JARED POLIS, COLORADO
PAUL TONKO, NEW YORK
PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, PUERTO RICO
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN,
N. MARIANA ISLANDS
DINA TITUS, NEVADA

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, CALIFORNIA,
Senior Republican Member

THOMAS E. PETRI, WISCONSIN
PETER HOEKSTRA, MICHIGAN
MICHAEL N. CASTLE, DELAWARE
MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA
VERNON J. EHLERS, MICHIGAN
JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
JOHN KLINE, MINNESOTA
CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, WASHINGTON
TOM PRICE, GEORGIA
ROB BISHOP, UTAH
BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
BILL CASSIDY, LOUISIANA
TOM McCLINTOCK, CALIFORNIA
DUNCAN D. HUNTER, CALIFORNIA
DAVID P. ROE, TENNESSEE
GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

April 3, 2009

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services
House Committee on Appropriations
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey:

As you prepare for the 2010 appropriations cycle, I am submitting for your consideration the national funding priorities for programs under my jurisdiction as Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor. Please note, I have submitted my district top priorities (numbered in the online database as 1-5) in a separate letter and have included the Committee's funding priorities in the online database as 6-8.

I appreciate your leadership in securing targeted investments in education funding that are critical to job creation and look forward to working with you and your staff on both my district and Committee priorities for fiscal year 2010.

Committee funding *requests in priority order (In your online database as 6-8):*

1. **Head Start - $8,112,786,000**
2. **Child Care and Development Block Grant - $3,127,081,000**
3. **National Writing Project - $30,000,000**

My first Committee priority is $8.1 billion for **Head Start,** an increase of $1 billion above 2009. Head Start has been the premiere early education program in this country for more than 40 years, serving more than 25 million children and families in that time. This programmatic request would continue to support the many important provisions included in the bipartisan 2007 Head Start reauthorization bill to improve the quality of the program and would help reverse years of inadequate funding by the Bush Administration. The proposed increase will expand early education and development opportunities for low-income preschool children, infants and toddlers and ensure that programs have the necessary resources to prepare their students to succeed in school and in life.

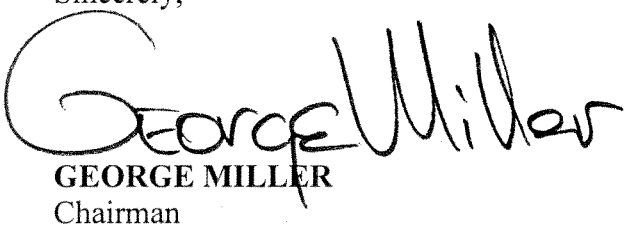
My second Committee priority is $3.1 billion for the **Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG),** an increase of $1 billion above 2009. This programmatic request would provide essential resources to help states improve the quality of child care that more than 1.8 million children receive through CCDBG funding. Unfortunately, like so many other critical social programs, CCDBG funding was level funded since 2002 under the Bush Administration. An increase in funding for CCDBG in 2010 would increase access to quality child care for thousands of kids in need.

My third Committee priority is $30 million for the **National Writing Project.** This project request would help fund programs in teacher development, quality writing, and research to help improve student performance in writing.

I want to also express my strong support for funding increases in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the President's early childhood education initiatives, national service, job training, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), and critical student aid programs. Consistent with the Committee's agenda for the 111th Congress, increasing resources for these vital programs will allow the Committee to enhance education and workforce opportunities for middle class American families.

Thank you, in advance, for your attention to the Committee's requests. I greatly appreciate your past support and look forward to working with you in the future. Should you have any questions, please contact me or Alejandra Ceja of my Committee staff at 226-2068.

Sincerely,



GEORGE MILLER
Chairman