



National Association
of Independent
Colleges and Universities

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February 6, 2017

Representative Virginia Foxx
Chairwoman
U.S. House Committee on Education
and the Workforce
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Bobby Scott
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Education
and the Workforce
2101 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Foxx and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, I write in support of H. J. Res. 58, a resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act to block implementation of the Department of Education's Teacher Preparation Regulations finalized in October 2016.

NAICU serves as the unified national voice of independent higher education and reflects the diversity of private, nonprofit higher education in the United States. Our member institutions consist of major research universities, church-related colleges, historically black colleges, art and design colleges, traditional liberal arts and science institutions, women's colleges, two-year colleges, and schools of law, medicine, engineering, business, and other professions. With more than 3 million students attending independent colleges and universities, and 825 institutions with teacher preparation programs, the private, non-profit sector of American higher education has a dramatic impact on our nation's larger public interests, including the teaching profession.

Independent colleges and universities have a long history of preparing highly-qualified teachers for America's classrooms. Their education programs range from relatively small institutions' modest teacher education departments to large research institutions, with distinct colleges of education encompassing doctoral programs, and traditions of multi-disciplinary research in teaching, learning, and human development.

We strongly support H. J. Res. 58, as the final Teacher Preparation regulations do not reflect cutting edge practices in the teaching profession, and mandate a federal accountability system that does not help students. Instead, the regulations substitute a one-size-fits-all federal template



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for professional standards which by definition should be developed and maintained by the profession.

We believe that high quality and rigor are essential for effective professional teacher preparation programs, and that there should be appropriate accountability for teacher preparation programs at independent colleges and universities. And, we strongly believe that assessments are most effective when made at the institutional level using multiple scientifically valid and reliable measures; and that teacher licensure and certification should remain the primary responsibility of the state, not the federal government.

Thank you for your action on H. J. Res. 58. We look forward to working with you on its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. L. Warren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David L. Warren