

**The Honorable FirstName LastName
U.S. Senate or U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.**

Dear Senator or Dear Representative:

Subject: HEA Reauthorization –Preparing Teachers for Digital Age Learners

I am writing to express my strong support for the “Preparing Teachers for Digital Age Learners” program included in H.R. 4137, The College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007. I encourage the Congress to include this program in the final HEA Reauthorization bill.

In today’s climate of economic global competitiveness it is incumbent upon our nation to produce teachers who have the skills and expertise to prepare students who will succeed in this environment. New teachers must enter the classroom with an expertise in integrating technology into classroom learning for raising student learning outcomes, and developing skills for the 21st Century such as higher order thinking, learning and problem solving skills, and creativity and innovation.

The Preparing Teachers for Digital Age Learners program would revamp the existing Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to use Technology program. This updated program will provide consortia with two options to address the preparation of our nation’s teachers:

- develop long-term partnerships focused on effective teaching with modern digital tools and content that substantially connect pre-service preparation of teacher candidates with high-needs schools; or
- transform the way schools of education teach classroom technology integration to teacher candidates.

I encourage the Senate to recede to the House and include the “Preparing Teachers for Digital Age Learners” in the final HEA Reauthorization bill.