



January 17, 2017

Strengthening Christian Schools

Equipping Christian Educators

Worldwide

Hon. Lamar Alexander, Chairman
Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
United States Senate
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Alexander,

The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) would like to express its support for the nomination of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education. We encourage the Committee and the full Senate to confirm the nomination.

Mrs. DeVos is an inspired choice for the position. She is a creative thinker who will bring new approaches to the field of education. She is a proven bipartisan advocate for policies which benefit all students and has stayed true to her conviction that “education should be non-partisan”. This commitment to all students – in the well-known formula: “no matter their zip code” – brings a fresh breath to Washington policy debates. All Americans can appreciate her commitment to the widest possible diversity of education options.

In her statement upon nomination, the Secretary-designate stated that “the status quo is not acceptable. I am committed to transforming our education system into the best in the world.” Given her lifetime of implementing creative policies which give multiple education options to parents, this commitment on her part is certain and a strong point in her favor. She offers a unique perspective with a proven track record of openness to all voices in crafting solutions to benefit all students.

It may help Senators to know that the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) is a non-profit, non-denominational, religious association providing support services to nearly 24,000 Christian schools in over 100 countries. ACSI is the world’s largest association of Protestant schools; our members educate 5.5 million children worldwide. In the United States, we serve nearly 3,000 Christian preschools, elementary and secondary schools, and 90 post-secondary institutions. ACSI accredits pre-K – 12 schools, provides professional development and teacher certification, and offers curricula, student testing and student activities. Member-schools advance the common good by providing quality education and spiritual formation to their students. ACSI thanks you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

P. George Tryfiates
Director for Government Affairs