September 19, 2017

The Hon. Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-230 US Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232 U.S. Capitol  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Hon. Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-221 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-204, US Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, and Leader Pelosi,

We are writing to express our strong support for the final report of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking released last week. We urge you to work closely with your colleagues and the Administration to implement the administrative and legislative policy recommendations included in it by the end of 2018.

We commend U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) and U.S. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) for working together to create the Commission that received unanimous support from the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in March 2016. We also commend them for announcing legislation to enact many of the recommendations. Importantly, we applaud Commission Chair Katharine Abraham, Commission Co-Chair Ron Haskins and the 13 other Commissioners who all developed and signed the final report. These actions demonstrate the strong and growing bipartisan commitment to improving the lives of the American people through the increased use of data and evidence.

The Commission’s bipartisan recommendations would help make our government more effective and efficient by:

• Building evidence about the practices, policies and programs that will achieve the most effective and efficient results so that policymakers can make better decisions;
• Investing limited taxpayer dollars in practices, policies and programs that use data, evidence and evaluation to demonstrate they work; and
• Directing funds away from practices, policies, and programs that consistently fail to achieve measurable outcomes.

For all these reasons, we urge you to work closely with your colleagues and the Administration to implement the bipartisan recommendations in the final report of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking by the end of 2018.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Achievement Network (ANet)
Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy (AISP)
AdvancED
America Forward
America's Promise Alliance
American Educational Research Association
American Statistical Association
AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation
Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management
Association of Public Data Users (APDU)
BARR Center
Be the Change
Boston Plan for Excellence
Bottom Line
Build Advisory Corporation
Building Educated Leaders for Life (BELL)
Cascade Philanthropy Advisors
Center for Employment Opportunities
Center for Research and Reform in Education, Johns Hopkins University
Chrysalis
City of Philadelphia
City Year
Civic Enterprises
College Possible National Communities In Schools
Community Training and Assistance Center (CTAC)
Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER)
Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
CSH
Data Quality Campaign
Democracy Builders
EDGE Consulting Partners
Education and Outreach Group, Sonoma State University
Education Development Center
Education Northwest
Educational Testing Service

Efficacy
Empirical Education
Everyone Graduates Center
FareStart
Forum for Youth Investment
Friends of the Children, Inc.
FUSE Corps
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
GreenLight Fund
Healthy Teens Coalition of Manatee County (FL)
IDEA Public Schools
Institute for Child Success
Jobs for the Future
JVS Boston
Knowledge Alliance
Leading Educators
Leaps and Bounds Family Services
LIFT
Literacy Design Collaborative
McREL International
MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas
Metro United Way (KY)
Mile High WorkShop
Millionair Club Charity
Morino Institute
National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform
National Prevention Science Coalition
NCCD
New Classrooms
New Leaders
New Profit
New Teacher Center
North Texas Alliance to Reduce Unintended Pregnancy in Teens
Northern Humboldt Union High School District (CA)
Nurse Family Partnership
Opportunity Nation
PACE Center for Girls
Per Scholas
PowerMyLearning
Project Evident
R Street Institute
REDF
Research Institute for Key Indicators
Results for America
RMC Research Corporation
Roca
Root Cause
SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
Seneca Family of Agencies
Social Innovation Research Center
Sorenson Impact Center
Spurwink Services
Success for All Foundation
Sunlight Foundation
Teach Plus
The Boston Foundation
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
The Policy & Research Group
Third Sector
Third Way
TNTP
U.S. Soccer Foundation
United Way of King County (WA)
Urban Alliance
Venture Philanthropy Partners
Waterford
Wyman Center
Youth Villages

Dow Constantine, County Executive, King County (WA)
The Hon. Ben McAdams, Mayor, Salt Lake County (UT)
Melody Barnes, Co-Founder and Principal, MB2 Solutions, and former Director, White House Domestic Policy Council (Obama)
John Bridgeland, Founder & CEO, Civic Enterprises, and former Director, White House Domestic Policy Council (G.W. Bush)
Paul Carttar, former Director, Social Innovation Fund

Janice Eberly, James R. and Helen D. Russell Professor of Finance, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, and former Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy, U.S. Treasury
Dale Ellis, Superintendent, Montgomery County Schools (NC)
Jason Furman, Professor of Practice, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and former Chairman, White House Council of Economic Advisors
Linda Gibbs, Principal, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and former New York City Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services (Bloomberg Administration)
Kevin Madden, Partner, Hamilton Place Strategies, and former Senior Advisor and spokesman for Governor Mitt Romney (2012 and 2008 presidential campaigns)
Rebecca Maynard, University Trustee Chair Professor of Education & Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania
Shelley Metzenbaum, former Associate Director for Performance and Personnel Management, White House Office of Management and Budget
Joshua Ogburn, Director, University of Virginia Pay for Success Lab
Bruce Reed, Co-Founder and CEO, Civic, and former Director, White House Domestic Policy Council (Clinton)
Diane Schanzenbach, Director, Institute for Policy Research and Margaret Walker Alexander Professor, Northwestern University
Matt Segneri, Director, Harvard Business School Social Enterprise Initiative
Jay C. Shambaugh, Director, The Hamilton Project at Brookings Institution, Professor, George Washington University, and former Member, Council of Economic Advisors

cc: The Hon. Patty Murray, Members of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking