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American Federation of Teachers □ Council of The Great City Schools □ National Parent Teacher Association
International Union of Operating Engineers □ National Education Association □ AASA, The School Superintendents Association
□ National School Boards Association □ National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Secondary School Principals □ NAACP □ National Association of Federally Impacted Schools
American Institute of Architects □ Organizations Concerned About Rural Education □ National Rural Education Association
Californians for School Facilities

January 23, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madame Speaker and Majority Leader Hoyer:

The undersigned organizations appreciate and support the House commitment to make our nation's infrastructure a priority for this session of Congress. Schools are a critical part of our nation's infrastructure and should be included in the House infrastructure package.

We support the infrastructure priorities Speaker Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Schumer have identified in their discussions with the Administration. We support the House priority to make short and long term investments in our national infrastructure including schools. We thank the 210 House cosponsors of the Rebuild America's Schools Act, HR 865, reported favorably by the Education and Labor Committee.

The need to modernize the approximately 100,000 public K-12 school facilities across our nation is extensive. The average public school is nearly 50 years old. The American Society of Civil Engineers rated school facility infrastructure as a D+ estimating 53 percent of schools need improvement to reach good condition. A 2013 Center for Green Schools Report *State of Our Schools* estimated that schools face \$271 billion in deferred maintenance costs. The Report estimates that the cost to bring schools into good repair and to address modernization needs is \$542 billion over the next ten years.

States and local communities are investing in school facilities, but the need is greater than local resources. Federal financial support for state and local efforts to modernize our nation's school facility infrastructure would greatly assist local communities build, repair and renovate our nation's schools, also creating much needed local jobs in communities across our country.

We look forward to working with you as the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Transportation and Infrastructure and the House of Representatives move forward on rebuilding America's infrastructure including schools.

Sincerely,

Robert Canavan
Chair

CC: The Honorable Richard E. Neal
CC: The Honorable Robert C. Scott
CC: The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio

American Federation of Teachers
National Education Association
International Union of Operating Engineers
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
Council of the Great City Schools
National PTA
National Association of Elementary School Principals
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National Association of Secondary School Principals
National School Boards Association
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
U.S. Green Building Council
American Federation of School Administrators
Organizations Concerned About Rural Education
Rural School and Community Trust
Association of Educational Service Agencies
National Rural Education Association
National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium
Association of School Business Officials International
Californians for School Facilities
Advance CTE
Alliance for Excellent Education
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
Association for Career and Technical Education
CoSN
Democrats for Education Reform
EDGE Consulting Partners
Education Reform Now Advocacy
Educators for Excellence
Los Angeles Unified School District
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
National Indian Impacted Schools Association NIISA
State Education Technology Directors Association
Rebuild America's Schools Coalition