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AND THE WORKFORCE  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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February 3, 2015

The Honorable John Kline  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6100

Dear Chairman Kline:

Last week, I respectfully requested that you schedule a series of hearings on issues pertinent to reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), prior to any committee legislative action on reauthorization. It is unfortunate that you have not responded to the request. It is even more regrettable that, today, you took such legislative action, introducing a bill to reauthorize ESEA without holding a single hearing or seeking input from Democratic committee members.

We've welcomed twelve new colleagues to the Committee on Education and the Workforce for the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress. Like the rest of us, these members would benefit from the opportunity to explore areas in need of reform and review innovative policy solutions. In the absence of any committee hearing, I will be hosting a Forum on ESEA Reauthorization on Thursday, February 5, 2015 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in 2203 Rayburn House Office Building. All committee members, staff and the public are invited to attend and hear the perspectives of practitioners, researchers, and advocates about evidence-based approaches to improving educational opportunity for all students.

The Forum on ESEA Reauthorization will provide all committee members the opportunity to learn about pertinent research from a diverse panel of witnesses. There will be two panels of experts, representing diverse constituencies. We are currently working to confirm panelists' attendance and welcome your suggestions on potential participants.

We owe our committee, the whole of Congress, and the general public the assurance that reauthorization efforts are informed by the most current research.

The Honorable John Kline  
February 3, 2015  
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Committee Democrats look forward to a robust dialogue as well as continued collaboration on achieving a comprehensive, bipartisan reauthorization of the ESEA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Scott', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**  
Ranking Member