



National Coalition For Literacy

March 5, 2013

The Honorable George Miller
Ranking Member
Education and Workforce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rubén Hinojosa
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Higher
Education and Workforce Training
Education and Workforce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Tierney
Education and Workforce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Miller, Representative Tierney, and Representative Hinojosa:

On behalf of the National Coalition for Literacy, a coalition of 35 leading national and regional organizations dedicated to advancing adult education, family literacy, and English language acquisition in the U.S., I am writing to express our strong support of H.R. 798 (Workforce Investment Act of 2013). We commend you and your staff for the outstanding work accomplished to craft this comprehensive bill.

Today's workers need higher levels of education, including postsecondary credentials, to obtain self-sufficiency. H.R. 798 would help states modernize their adult education systems to meet the needs of this changing economy, particularly for lower-skilled adults with a longer path ahead of them. We are particularly pleased to see the following provisions, which NCL has long supported:

- Aligning activities in Titles I and II to incent cross-system collaboration and strengthen connections to postsecondary education and work for adult education students;
- Authorizing an appropriations of \$1.1 billion for adult education activities;
- Incorporating civics education for English language learners and codifying the English Language/Civics program;
- Reauthorizing a national adult education research center, the "National Institute for Adult Education and Literacy";
- Integrating a focus on 21st century technology skills for adult education students; and
- Requiring all states to have professional development programs for adult education staff and volunteers.

We continue to strongly advocate that WIA reauthorization remains a bipartisan effort, and we look forward to working with you as the reauthorization process moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin Finsterbusch". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Martin Finsterbusch
NCL President 2011-2013

CC: Congressman Phil Roe