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Major Education Associations Reaffirm Importance of Stable and Reliable Title I Funding

WASHINGTON – Today, the Learning First Alliance, a partnership of 17 national education associations representing over ten million parents, educators and policymakers, released the following statement:

“Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is a critical tool in the nation’s efforts to promote equity in education. It remains the only national mechanism for addressing the widespread state and local funding inequities that put low-income children at a severe disadvantage and call into question our nation’s commitment to equal opportunity.

While it does not fully fill these funding gaps, stable and reliable formula-driven Title I funds are a vital resource for school districts working to improve the lives of their most vulnerable students. Those funds are becoming all the more critical as states and districts face their worst budget shortfalls in decades. Competitive federal funds to support reform and innovation are critical, but they should always remain entirely separate from Title I funds.

The federal government should make an unyielding commitment to the fundamental goals of Title I. No district, school or student should ever have to worry about the reliability of Title I support.”

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