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Major Education Associations Urge Swift Action to Pass Education Jobs Fund

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:

“The Learning First Alliance strongly supports efforts to provide $10 billion in federal aid to prevent imminent layoffs of teachers, principals and other school staff. The importance of these funds at this critical time cannot be overstated. Massive layoffs of school and district staff could have grave long-term consequences for our nation’s children, who are already facing growing class sizes, shrinking curricula and the loss of essential services.

Job cuts in our public schools and school districts threaten our long-term economic future, which depends on our ability to prepare all students for college and careers. The prospect of job losses running into the hundreds of thousands also poses a serious and immediate threat to our fragile economic recovery.

We call on the Senate to work quickly to address this crisis facing our nation’s classrooms. Because some have concerns with the education offsets in the House-passed Supplemental, we urge the Senate to work with the House and the Administration to craft a package that can garner the needed votes for swift passage of a Supplemental Appropriations Bill that includes the $10 billion Education Jobs Fund.”

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