

April 1, 2003

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
United States House of Representatives
2301 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Fattah:

On behalf of the 1,300 federally connected local educational agencies throughout the United States and the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS), I am proud to add NAFIS to the many education and children related associations that endorse and support "The Student Bill of Rights" legislation that you introduced during the 107th Congress and have again re-introduced this Congress.

Quality education is important to all of us working with public education. Not only is quality important but so too, is education equality. All children should be granted the opportunity to be provided a quality educational program no matter their socio-economic status or their living environment. It makes no difference. Every child in this country should be afforded the same opportunity to succeed and receiving a quality education is the key to making success a reality.

NAFIS is an association that represents different kinds of children from different sets of circumstances and environments. We represent children whose parents are in the military and who are faced with a high degree of mobility. They may attend as many as five or six schools during their K-12 years. We represent schools serving Native American children that are faced with cultural and health related problems that may well be even more acute than children living in inner cities. We represent urban and rural schools. Schools that have a sound tax base and those that don't. So you see, NAFIS is a composite of every kind of school in this country. We see your legislation as an equalizer and we are proud to add our name to the many other associations that support your legislation.

Should there be anything that we can do to help promote your legislation, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John B. Forkenbrock
Executive Director