December 1, 2015

The Honorable Bobby Scott  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Scott:

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) is writing to thank you for your leadership and significant efforts to assure students with disabilities are fully included in S. 1177, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). We believe the ESSA makes important strides to support all students in having the opportunity to receive a quality education. On behalf of the six million students with disabilities attending public school across the nation we write to support final passage of the bill.

CCD recognizes that the ESSA is the result of many compromises. As such, we urge you to remain diligent in your efforts to support the funding and regulatory processes necessary to ensure schools can follow through on the promise of ESSA which is: ‘to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps.’ As we all know and agree, every student with a disability deserves this opportunity.

CCD thanks you for your commitment to ensuring federal law continues to provide meaningful access to rigorous standards for all students and fully includes students with disabilities in state assessment and accountability systems.

Sincerely,

Eileen Dombrowski  
Easter Seals

Lindsay Jones  
National Center for Learning Disabilities

Kim Musheno  
Association of University Centers for Disability

Laura Kaloi  
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates

Cindy Smith  
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities