

HARRY REID  
NEVADA

MAJORITY LEADER

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7012

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OS/ES/CCCU

February 16, 2007

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The Honorable Margaret Spellings  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Spellings:

Congress recently passed an enhanced Continuing Resolution that included funding for the FY 2007 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill. As you know, this late action on FY 2007 funding for most federal departments and agencies was the direct result of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress' failure to complete nine of the eleven appropriations bills.

Given we are nearly half way through the fiscal year before the enactment of final funding levels, most federal departments and agencies face significant challenges and decisions about how to use the funds they were provided. I encourage you to use the bill reported out of the Republican-controlled Senate Appropriations Committee during the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress as guidance when you determine how to allocate your department's funds in Fiscal Year 2007.

I strongly support the priorities included in this bill. I believe they are essential to the nation and to my home state of Nevada. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,



HARRY REID  
United States Senator