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Congress of the United States

April 17, 2013

Committee on Natural Resources
Ranking Member, Energy and
Minerals Subcommittee

Committee on Education and
the Workforce

Founder and Co-Chair,
Research & Development Caucus

The Honorable Jack Kingston
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee
On Labor, Health and Human Services
and Education
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee
On Labor, Health and Human Services
and Education
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Kingston and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you draft your Fiscal Year 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill, we request that you include robust funding for Title VI/ Fulbright-Hays International Education and Foreign Language programs.

Title VI/Fulbright-Hays programs have had a tremendous impact on our nation over the years by developing a strong foundation in international education, research, and foreign language studies, especially in the less-commonly taught languages of U.S. strategic interest. The FY 2014 budget is particularly critical, because the nation's premier Title VI language, area, and international business resource centers and fellowships will compete for the next cycle of 4-year grants. Given the 44 percent funding reduction since FY 2011, without an adequate restoration of Title VI funds, we could potentially lose nearly half of these centers that form the cornerstone of the nation's deep international knowledge and expertise.

The various programs funded under this account serve to strengthen the nation's educational infrastructure in areas where the need grows greater by the day. Strong academic programs in critical foreign languages and intensive training in multi-disciplinary regional studies including socio-economic, cultural, security, and religious aspects among others are vital to our national security. It is also important to keep in mind that, beyond the intensive curriculum development and related academic programming that is possible thanks to these programs, these resources make possible extensive outreach to K-12 classrooms, strong collaborations between four year postsecondary institutions and community colleges, and strengthened ties between U. S. postsecondary institutions and international partners.

We strongly urge robust funding for these programs to preserve this critical international and foreign language education infrastructure. This is a small, but vitally important investment both in education and national security, as well as economic competitiveness.

Sincerely,



Rush Holt

Steve Lynd

Daniel Price

Hank Johnson

J. Z. Z.

Kenn Bao

Suzanne Brainer

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Jim McDevitt

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Aman C. Davis

Phil Van Hollen

Jon Huffer

Raul M. Grijalva

Michael H. Michael

Jared Polis

Members of Congress who signed the Fiscal Year 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education Appropriations bill

1. Rush Holt
2. Stephen Lynch
3. David E. Price
4. Henry "Hank" Johnson
5. Cedric Richmond
6. Karen Bass
7. Suzanne Bonamici
8. Todd Young
9. Ted Deutch
10. Ron Barber
11. Earl Blumenauer
12. Jerrold Nadler
13. Eleanor Holmes Norton
14. Eliot L. Engel
15. Jim Moran
16. Colleen Hanabusa
17. Denny Heck
18. Mark Pocan
19. Joyce Beatty
20. Steve Stivers
21. Jim McDermott
22. Michael E. Capuano
23. Ron Kind
24. Susan Davis
25. Chris Van Hollen
26. Raúl Grijalva
27. Michael Michaud
28. Jared Polis
29. Jared Huffman