



League of United Latin American Citizens

July 10, 2015

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United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens, the nation's oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization, I write to express our organization's deep concern with several amendments that may be considered on the floor as part of the Senate's consideration of the *Every Child Achieves Act of 2015*. Should these amendments come to the floor, LULAC urges the following:

Isakson #2165 – VOTE NO

This amendment would exclude students from classroom instruction and educational assessments as part of an “opt out” mechanism.

Lee #2162 – VOTE NO

This amendment would nullify state policies on test participation by requiring states to allow “opt out” policies excluding students from classroom instruction and educational assessments for any reason.

Paul # 2218 – VOTE NO

This amendment would further weaken a state's ability to do its job by providing blanket cover for student absences when they refuse to participate in academic assessment and instruction.

Vitter #2213– VOTE NO

LULAC also opposes any anti-immigrant amendment that aims to disrupt local and state policies aimed at building trust and cooperation between law enforcement and the immigrant community. The Vitter #2213 should not be a part of the ESEA reauthorization process.

LULAC is in agreement with the civil rights community that these amendments would further weaken the underlying bill and completely undermine the longstanding purpose of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) – to raise achievement for vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

Brent Wilkes
LULAC Executive Director