Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

July 15, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

As members of Congress who support United States leadership on global education, we urge your Administration to commit \$1 billion over five years towards the Global Partnership for Education's (GPE) 2021-2025 strategy, leading up to its financing conference co-hosted by the UK and Kenyan governments in London on July 29, 2021.

GPE is the only multilateral partnership exclusively dedicated to ensuring all children have access to a quality education and are equipped to learn. It is the only global entity that brings together all partners—international donors, the private sector, and community groups—around plans to build resilient education systems and to educate more children to higher levels across the world.

With U.S. government leadership, the world has seen great gains in learning outcomes and improved access to quality basic education. However, COVID-19 has been the largest disruption to education the world has ever seen. Without immediate action, school closures and economic hardship could combine to push millions of vulnerable children out of education and reverse decades of hard-won gains.

In 2020, GPE quickly mobilized over half a billion dollars to support partner countries' pandemic response. It continues to be the largest provider of grants for the COVID-19 education response. GPE's COVID-19 fund has helped governments sustain learning for 355 million children in the poorest countries, with a focus on remote learning, teacher support, and safe reopening of schools.

GPE has maintained its ability to support education globally through a track record of effectiveness, working at scale, and retaining national-level commitment from partner countries. GPE now supports 76 countries in getting their most vulnerable girls and boys to school, improving teaching, and advancing foundational learning skills—such as basic numeracy and literacy. It is also building resilient education systems capable of withstanding shocks, including pandemics, climate change, and violent conflict. Signaling the scope of GPE's work to come, a total of ninety countries and territories are eligible for GPE support from 2021-2025, accounting for more than 80% of the world's out-of-school children.

GPE's innovative financing "Multiplier" helps draw in external financing for developing country partners from development banks and other donors, in support of their education sector plans. This fund provides \$1 in GPE grant funds for every \$3 a country secures in external financing, generating more than \$882 million for education since 2018 and mobilizing nearly a billion dollars in total co-financing.

Continued U.S. leadership and financial commitments are critical to fulfilling GPE's replenishment target of at least \$5 billion from all donors at the upcoming financing conference. With these resources, GPE will be able to do the following:

- o Enable 175 million primary-age children to learn
- o Reach 140 million students with professionally trained teachers
- o Get 88 million more children in school, more than half of them girls

o Save \$16 billion through more efficient spending

U.S. leadership is needed now more than ever to ensure that COVID-19 setbacks are not long-lasting. With its innovative financing mechanisms, co-financing from developing country partners, and results-based approach, GPE will make U.S. foreign assistance go even further.

The financing conference in July is a critical moment for the U.S. to make a \$1-billion, five-year pledge to the Global Partnership for Education. We encourage you to demonstrate our country's enduring commitment to ensuring every child's access to a quality basic education. We look forward to working with you to secure funding for this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Brian Fitzpatrick Member of Congress

Dina Titus Member of Congress

Grace Meng

Member of Congress

Albio Sires Member of Congress Derek Kilmer Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern Member of Congress

Lois Frankel Member of Congress Judy Chu

Member of Congress

Peter Welch Member of Congress

/s/

Sheila Jackson Lee Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress

Eddie Bernice Johnson Member of Congress Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush Member of Congress

Ro Khanna Member of Congress

Chris Pappas Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Karen Bass Member of Congress

Jim Cooper Member of Congress James R. Langevin Member of Congress

Joe Neguse Member of Congress

Ted Deutch Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly Member of Congress

Kaiali'i Kahele Member of Congress

Colin Z. Allred Member of Congress Julia Brownley

Member of Congress

Mare Veasey Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee Member of Congress

Jim Himes Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan Member of Congress

mosy Houleton

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Ed Case

Ed Case Member of Congress

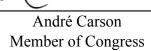
Adam Smith Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr. Member of Congress

Ritchie Torres Member of Congress

Brenda L. Lawrence Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland Member of Congress

Steve Cohen Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene Member of Congress

Alma S. Adams, PhD Member of Congress

Juan Vargas Member of Congress Mark Pocan Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr. Member of Congress

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress

Gwen S. Moore Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell Member of Congress Jahana Hayes

Member of Congress

Jake Auchincloss Member of Congress

Mikie Sherrill Member of Congress

Mike Levin Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester Member of Congress Salud Carbajal

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Jason Crow Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin Member of Congress

Darren Soto Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky

Member of Congress

Don Young
Member of Congress

Conor Lamb Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D. Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Jared Golden
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth Member of Congress

Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress

A. Donald McEachin Member of Congress

A. Donal M'Eac Li

Norma J. Torres Member of Congress

Seth Moulton Member of Congress Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu Member of Congress

Ted W. Lien

Jackie Speier Member of Congress Susan Wild Member of Congress

Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez Member of Congress

Linda T. Sánchez Member of Congress

Winds J. Janz

David E. Price Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano Member of Congress

John B. Larson Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline Member of Congress

Il N. Cullie

Peter A. DeFazio Member of Congress Ami Ba

Ami Bera, M.D. Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D. Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett Member of Congress

Tom O'Halleran Member of Congress Darry K. Davis Member of Congress

Cc:

Secretary Tony Blinken Administrator Samantha Power