

January 24, 2021

Dr. Miguel Cardona
Ian Rosenblum
Roberto Rodriguez
Donna Harris-Aikens
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-8240

RE: The Study of State Policies to Prohibit Aiding and Abetting Sexual Misconduct in Schools

Hello, Dr. Cardona, Mr. Rosenblum, Mr. Rodriguez, and Ms. Aikens,

This letter is in regard to the status of The Study of State Policies to Prohibit Aiding and Abetting Sexual Misconduct in Schools. The study was funded by the DOE in 2019 and was originally scheduled to be released on May 15, 2021. The study was delayed due to COVID, but has been submitted for review since early 2021. The report is currently in review, and has not moved forward.

Cases of school employee sexual misconduct continue to plague our nation's students and offenders continue to be aided and abetted through negotiated agreements that conceal their offenses. Sexual misconduct of students by school employees can impact their learning and academic achievement and result in life-long emotional, physical, and psychological consequences for victims, families, and their communities.

As advisory members of this project, we are anxiously awaiting the release of the final report of the study and urge the review to be expedited as soon as possible. We would be pleased to schedule a call to discuss the status of the report.

Thank you for your time and response. The release of this report will help to add to the research-base regarding sexual misconduct by school employees against students and will strengthen the foundation for prevention strategies that can better ensure safe learning environments for our nation's children. There is no higher priority for America's educators.

Sincerely,

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