

Office of the President



Serving Learners

February 6, 2008

Honorable George Miller
Chairman
Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
2205 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, I am pleased to write in support of passage of HR 4137, the College Opportunity and Affordability Act. This legislation includes several provisions which will strengthen the preparation of teachers in institutions of higher education. The partnership grants in Title II rightly focus on clinical preparation by targeting mentoring, induction and residential preparation models. Research clearly indicates that strong clinical preparation yields teachers who are more effective in the classroom and who stay longer.

AACTE is a national voluntary association of higher education institutions and other organizations and is dedicated to ensuring the highest quality preparation and continuing professional development for teachers and school leaders in order to enhance PK-12 student learning. The almost 800 institutions holding AACTE membership include private, state, and municipal colleges and universities large and small located in every state, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam. Collectively, the AACTE membership prepares more than two-thirds of the new teachers entering schools each year in the United States.

Thank you for your leadership on behalf of teacher quality.

Sincerely,

Sharon P. Robinson

Sharon P. Robinson, Ed.D.
President and CEO