



Mason Contractors Association of America

Advancing the Masonry Industry

April 29, 2008

The Honorable George Miller
Chairman, House Committee on Education and Labor
2181 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2031

RE: 21st Century High-Performance Public School Facilities Act (H.R. 3021)

Dear Chairman Miller:

This letter shall serve as an endorsement of H.R. 3021, Congressman Ben Chandler's 21st Century High-Performance Public School Facilities Act and the Loeb sack-Kildee Substitute.

The **21st Century High Performing Public School Facilities Act** will assist states in meeting the school facility needs of local communities by providing resources to build, repair, renovate and modernize America's schools. Equally important, its enactment will stimulate the creation of more than 100,000 new jobs in construction related services.

Through the **21st Century High Performing Public School Facilities Act** states and local communities will be assisted in meeting these staggering needs through federal grants to local school districts for energy efficient school modernization and construction projects nationwide. Under the 21st Century High Performing Public School Facilities Act, the Federal Government would provide \$6.4 billion in grants to states and local school districts at a time when significant fiscal relief for local school districts is needed. The federal grants will help states and communities stretch their limited resources to pay for additional school facility projects and essential education programs.

The **21st Century High Performing Public School Facilities Act** creates a program that provides federal support for the renovation, repair and building of schools, while leaving decision making about the schools at the local level. The Act provides a federal investment to help renovate, repair and modernize thousands of public schools. School districts in every state have school renovation and repair projects that can be underway very quickly if federal financial resources are available to help underwrite the project costs.

The **21st Century High Performing Public School Facilities Act** will provide federal funding to support the local commitments to undertake projects to renovate and repair schools. School construction projects will generate thousands of jobs in the construction industry, and among the many suppliers, ranging from architects and engineers to roofing contractors and other workers, who design and build our nation's schools.

The Mason Contractors Association of America is proud to lend its support to **The 21st Century High Performing Public School Facilities Act and the Loeb sack-Kildee Substitute**. Modern, more efficient and better schools will improve the learning environment for students, enhance the workplace for students, teachers and school administrators and most importantly they will advance student achievement in urban, rural and suburban communities in every state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Buczkiewicz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "J" and "B".

Jeff Buczkiewicz
Executive Director