Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0552

Dear Mr. Ultican,

Thank you for writing me with your views on updates to our country's approach to K-12 education. I appreciate hearing from you.

In an increasingly global economy, it is critical that we make educational investments that put our students in a position to compete with the rest of the world. For years, the United States has trailed China, India, and others not just in investment in education, but in student achievement. When making changes to education policy, Congress should be sure that it is closing that gap.

That's one of the reasons I support making key investments in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Design, and Math (STEAM) education programs. STEAM programs prepare our students to be innovators, put them in position to add to San Diego's rich legacy of scientific discovery and entrepreneurship, and close the achievement gap between ourselves and are largest global competitors.

Earlier in 2015, the House passed a version of the education bill – a much-needed update to No Child Left Behind – that did not achieve these goals so I did not support it. Since then, I have advocated to make it better. Through negotiations between the House and Senate, Congress came to an agreement on an update, called the Every Student Succeeds Act, which was a significant improvement. I was joined by over 350 Representatives in supporting the updated bill and the President signed it into law in early December.

Thank you again for contacting me. In San Diego, we know what kind of results we can achieve when we work together, and that is the approach I am taking to Washington. To stay updated on how I am working to represent the 52nd District, please visit scottpeters.house.gov to sign up for my e-Newsletter, like us on Facebook, or follow me on twitter @RepScottPeters.

Sincerely,

Scott Peters

Member of Congress