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HE001

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EH

275633
HE001

December 10, 1998

Larry D. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Assistant Executive Director
National Association of
School Psychologists
Suite 402
4340 East West Highway
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). I value the input from advocates such as yourself and appreciate your tireless efforts to improve educational opportunities for children with disabilities.

I share the concerns of the disability community about IDEA amendments, which members of Congress attempted to attach to this year's Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill. That is why my Administration stood firm in opposing all amendments to IDEA during the Omnibus budget negotiations. While compromise necessitated agreeing to a GAO study about school discipline, I am pleased that we prevailed in removing two potentially destructive amendments from the bill.

For 23 years, IDEA has proclaimed a simple idea: that every American citizen is a person of dignity and worth and has the right to develop his or her full capacities. Because of IDEA, children with disabilities throughout America have a better chance to reach their potential.

Representative Livingston's amendment, however, would have unfairly denied children due process by removing "disruptive" students from the classroom -- ceasing educational services over the objection of parents. As worded, such a provision threatens to take America back to a time when kids with disabilities could be denied an education because their instruction would allegedly be inexpedient. Moreover, such amendments to IDEA would unnecessarily reopen IDEA before the bipartisan reauthorization reached in 1997 has a chance to be implemented and assessed.



As we move into the last year of this millennium, I am committed to improving all aspects of our educational system to provide greater access to skilled employment. As we continue to uphold the principles and content of IDEA, we must also work to modernize our schools, which will mean more accessible schools. And we must strive for smaller class sizes, which will better enable teachers to meet individuals needs, including those of children with disabilities. I hope you will join me in improving the education of all our children.

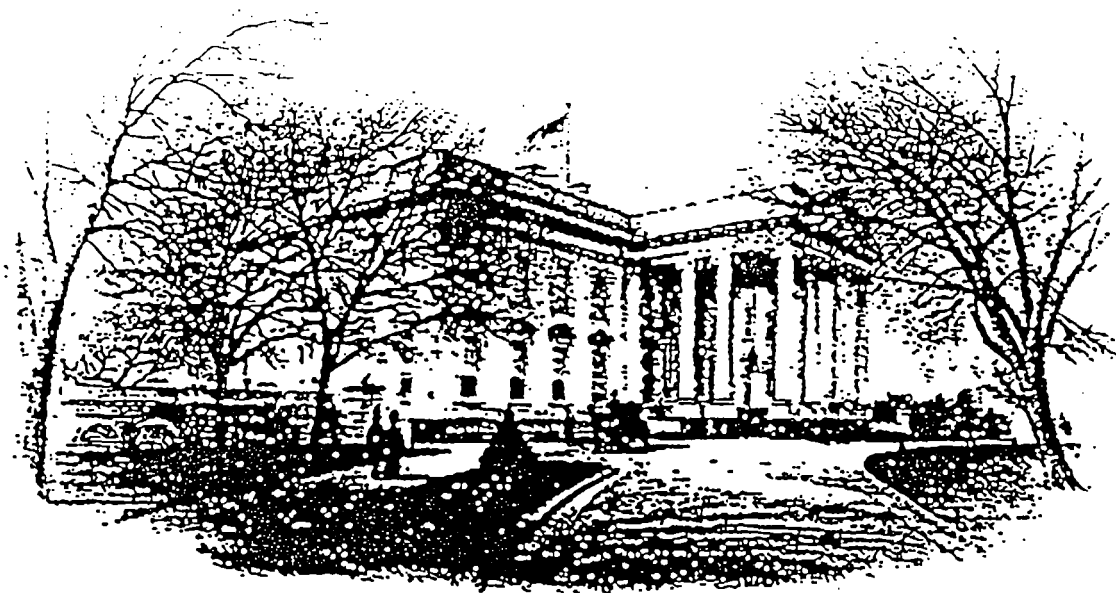
Sincerely, **BILL CLINTON**^A

BC/DIA/DC/ws-ckb (Corres. #4096441)
(12.sullivan.ld)

/cc: Jonathan Young, 122 OEOB
/cc: Diane Ikemiyashiro, 97 OEOB

981211

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Number of pages including cover 3

Date 11/9

To Jonathan Young

FAX Number 66218

Comments Is this language still
current? Thanks!

From Delia Cohen X65462

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
Presidential Correspondence
The White House 20502
Washington, DC
Phone: 202-456-7610
Fax: 202-456-2993

*** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	1419	
CONNECTION TEL		67431
CONNECTION ID	DOMESTIC POLICY	
ST. TIME	09/08 11:51	
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Facsimile from Diane Ikemiyashiro
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages

Voice: (202) 456-5519 FAX: (202) 456-5426

Number of Pages (including cover): 2

Date: 8. Sep. 98

Time: 11:25 am

To: Cynthia Dailard

Voice: 6.7871

FAX: 6.7431

incoming letter(s) from: Larry D. Sullivan - Natl Assn. of School Psychologists
re: IDEA

☒ for your review

☐ per my e-mail or voice-mail message to you

☐ per your request

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8.28.98

Contacted C. Daillhard regarding
this. I need info on disabilities
issue.

Cynthia will not be back until
Sept. 8

6-7431

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Facsimile from Diane Ikemiyashiro
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages

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incoming letter(s) from: Larry D. Sullivan - Natl Assn. of School Psychologists

re: IDEA

☒ for your review

☐ per my e-mail or voice-mail message to you

☐ per your request

Additional comments:

Thanks for your help.

-D.

Thank you for your letter regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). I value the input from advocates such as yourself and appreciate your tireless efforts to improve educational opportunities for children with disabilities.

I share the concerns of the disability community about IDEA amendments, which members of Congress attempted to attach to this year's Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill. That is why my Administration stood firm in opposing all amendments to IDEA during the Omnibus budget negotiations. While compromise necessitated agreeing to a GAO study about school discipline, I am pleased that we prevailed in removing two potentially destructive amendments from the bill.

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Representative Livingston's amendment, however, would have unfairly denied children due process by removing "disruptive" students from the classroom--ceasing educational services over the objection of parents. As worded, such a provision threatens to take America back to a time when kids with disabilities could be denied an education because their instruction would allegedly be "inexpedient." Moreover, such amendments to IDEA would unnecessarily re-open IDEA before the bipartisan reauthorization reached in 1997 has a chance to be implemented and assessed.

As we move into the last year of this millennium, I am committed to improving all aspects of our educational system to provide greater access to skilled employment. As we continue to uphold the principles and content of IDEA, we must also work to modernize our schools, which will mean more accessible schools. And we must strive for smaller class sizes, which will better enable teachers to meet individual needs, including those of children with disabilities. I hope you will join me in improving the education of all our children.

Again, thank you for writing.

cc: Jonathan Young, 122
Diane Ikeniyashin, 97

JOE

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / dia / *MM 9/12*

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/sullivan.ld.di

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Sep 16 1998 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 4096441

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC:

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

Mr. Larry D. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Assistant Executive Director
National Association of School
Psychologists
Suite 402
4340 East West Highway
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIALINSTR:

Cleared by C. Dailard, DPC - 9-16-98

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). I appreciate the benefit of your views.

I share your concern over the proposed amendments to the IDEA that are attached to the House of Representatives Labor, Heath and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill. That is why my Administration expressed opposition to the amendment offered by Representative

Livingston that would undermine the due process provisions in IDEA ^{for}

(children with disabilities who exhibit violent behavior). By allowing

^{*These children*}
schools to remove them over the objections of their parents, ^{*would be denied the due process entitled to all Americans*}
Additionally, these amendments would unnecessarily re-open the IDEA

before the bi-partisan reauthorization has a chance to be implemented and assessed.

Again, thank you for writing.

SEP 22 1998

.....
Diane Ikemiyashiro
.....

09/16/98 02:45:55 PM
.....

Record Type: Record

To: Cynthia Dailard/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: IDEA letter

Cynthia --

That looks great. Thanks so much.

DI

----- Forwarded by Diane Ikemiyashiro/WHO/EOP on 09/16/98 02:46 PM -----

Cynthia Dailard  **09/16/98 08:46:12**
AM

Record Type: Record

To: Diane Ikemiyashiro/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: IDEA letter

Here is a response to the letter from the Assn of School Psychologists. Hope it works. Let me know if you need anything else.

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). I appreciate the benefit of your views.

I share your concern over the proposed amendments to the IDEA attached to the House of Representatives Labor, Heath and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill. That is why my administration expressed opposition to the amendment offered by Representative Livingston that would undermine the due process provisions in IDEA for children with disabilities who exhibit violent behavior, by allowing schools to remove them over the objections of their parents. Additionally, these amendments would unnecessarily re-open the IDEA before the bi-partisan reauthorization has a chance to be implemented and assessed.

Again, thank you for writing.

275633



**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL
PSYCHOLOGISTS**

August 3, 1998

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
Office of the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

4340 East West Highway
Suite 402
Bethesda, MD 20814

301-657-0270
FAX: 301-657-0275
TDD: 301-657-4155
e-mail:
NASP8455@AOL.COM

Dear Mr. President:

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), representing more than 20,900 members, is concerned with the proposed amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). These amendments are part of the House of Representative's appropriations bill and would effectively diminish both due process and parental rights for specific groups of disabled students.

NASP joins with the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) to support your opposition to any effort to amend the 1997 IDEA law. Now is the time for parents and educators to work together to implement the new provisions and improvements to IDEA and to ensure quality teaching and learning for all children.

NASP thanks you for your commitment to protecting the rights of the more than six million children with disabilities and their families.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Assistant Executive Director

AUG 10 1998