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April 3, 1978

The Honorable Augustus F. Hawkins
2350 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hawkins:

I am writing to urge your support of the following language to be included in the legislative history of Title I of the ESEA:

"The phrase 'by various means' is intended to include, but not limited to, supportive social services which link the disadvantaged child to the education process by helping in assuring school attendance and promoting the physical and emotional health so that the child may benefit from teaching."

The purpose of the sentence is to clarify that the role of supportive services is to close the gap between the child and the education process. The additional language:

- helps to reinforce decision-making at the local level with respect to these services;
- makes services more visible in the legislation;
- would not mandate any change with respect to the services, and;
- helps in the clarification of present use.

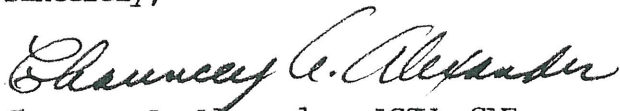
School Social Workers are professionals, employed by local school districts, to support and facilitate the educational process in schools committed to the goal of causitive achievement, they recognize that certain problems such as infrequent

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or non-attendance, poor physical or emotional health, and/or school programming that fails to meet the needs of particular children, can stand between the child and his/her success in academic life. Social Workers are skilled in delivery of preventive, remedial and crisis services to students, their families and to other school personnel.

While School Social Workers vary in number from state to state, their services are used in each of the 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,



Chauncey A. Alexander, ACSW, CAE
Executive Director

CAA:MF:DS:lmb

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