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Committee for Education Funding

November 19, 2008

President-Elect Barack Obama

Washington, DC 20001

Dear President-Elect Obama:

On behalf of the Committee for Education Funding (CEF), a nonpartisan coalition of 95 education organizations reflecting the broad spectrum of the education community, we offer you our warmest congratulations for your historic election as the 44th President of the United States. We've admired your work in support of our nation's students and educators as a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, and we thank you for your continued commitment to education throughout your campaign. We were especially impressed by your comprehensive education campaign platform, which assures us that education will be a top priority in your administration.

Throughout the next several weeks, as you and your transition team prepare to take office, CEF urges you to keep increased education investment at the forefront of your agenda. While the economic crisis is sure to take precedence, we urge you to consider education investment as a critical part of the long term solution. We need to provide immediate relief to states, school districts, and postsecondary institutions that have been hurt by the credit and lending crisis. Creating a financial rescue plan that includes increased education investment is a fail-safe vehicle to ensure our economic future.

As you are keenly aware, strengthening education not only bolsters our economy, but our communities and families as well. We trust that you will keep America's students and schools in mind as you work to repair the nation's economy and prioritize your objectives for the next four years. We look forward to working with you to achieve our common goals for the success of America's students. We would be deeply honored to meet with you to initiate a lasting relationship between the education community and your administration, as well as your transition team to discuss issues pertinent to education funding and the economic crisis.

We thank you for your consideration and strong support for education. When our students succeed, our nation succeeds!

Sincerely,

Hilary Goldmann
President

Edward R. Kealy Ph.D.
Executive Director