

November 28, 2022

The Honorable Robert Menendez, Chairman
The Honorable James E. Risch, Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing in support of ([H.R. 7240/S. 3938](#)), the **Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development (READ) Reauthorization Act**. The READ Reauthorization Act ([H.R. 7240/S. 3938](#)) is bipartisan, bicameral legislation to extend the original authorization of the READ Act passed in 2017 (P.L. 115-56) for an additional five years. This legislation passed the House on September 20, 2022, and we are requesting that it be **urgently moved forward in the Senate and enacted into law**.

To date, the statute has measurably expanded access and learning outcomes for inclusive, quality education for children and youth around the world. As a result of the READ Act, U.S. investments in basic education are providing countries the boost they need to provide the most vulnerable children quality education, helping them to become thriving, productive citizens.

When children and youth are prepared to go to school, learn, and gain the skills they need for life and work, they build more hopeful and prosperous futures for themselves, their families, communities, and countries. Further, in an interconnected world, smart development projects in other countries offer returns on investment to donor countries, including the United States. In particular, investments in international education serve as a force multiplier for the United States Government's international development work, with an estimated return of \$15 per \$1 spent.¹ Strengthening education systems in developing countries advances U.S. foreign policy goals, promotes U.S. and international security, and accelerates economic growth at home and abroad.

We urge you to include the READ Reauthorization Act on your priority agenda for passage this congressional session as quickly as possible. We would be glad to answer questions and discuss this important bipartisan reauthorization further. If you have any questions about the READ Act Reauthorization Act, please contact Christa Giesecke at cgiesecke@gce-us.org or Crickett Nicovich at cnicovich@results.org.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership.

Sincerely,

¹ [Education For All Global Monitoring Report 2012 - Youth and skills: Putting education to work](#)

Signed by:

1. American Institutes for Research
2. Basic Education Coalition
3. Building Tomorrow
4. Chemonics International
5. ChildFund International
6. Childhood Education International
7. Educate the Children - Nepal
8. Education Development Center
9. Education for All Coalition
10. First Focus on Children
11. Food for the Hungry
12. Global Campaign for Education-US
13. Global Citizen
14. Humanity & Inclusion
15. International Rescue Committee
16. Jesuit Refugee Service/USA
17. Magis Americas
18. Malala Fund
19. Mott MacDonald and Cambridge Education
20. ONE Campaign
21. PDRC International
22. RESULTS and RESULTS Educational Fund
23. RTI International
24. Rukmini Foundation
25. Save the Children
26. School-to-School International
27. The Borgen Project
28. The Luminos Fund
29. UNICEF USA
30. World Learning
31. World Vision US
32. Worldreader