



# National Coalition For Literacy

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education ◦ Adult Literacy Media Alliance ◦ American Council on Education, GED Testing Service ◦ American Institute for Research ◦ American Library Association ◦ Center for Applied Linguistics ◦ Center for Literacy Studies, University of Tennessee ◦ Commission on Adult Basic Education ◦ Council for Advancement of Adult Literacy ◦ Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy and the Goodling Institute for Research, Pennsylvania State University ◦ International Reading Association ◦ National Center for Family Literacy ◦ National Council of State Directors of Adult Education ◦ National Even Start Association ◦ ProLiteracy Worldwide ◦ Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. ◦ World Education

September 24, 2007

Dear Congressman/Senator:

As you prepare to conference legislation appropriating funds for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, we ask you to keep in mind the views of the adult education and family literacy community.

The National Coalition for Literacy, representing twenty-six national adult education and family literacy organizations, strongly supports the proposed funding levels contained in the House-passed bill for adult basic education grants and the Even Start Family Literacy Program. These programs provide vital education services to our nation's most vulnerable adults and their families.

We would also like to go on record in opposition to any cuts to adult education and family literacy programs.

Across the country, there are waiting lists for adult basic education and Even Start programs. Many of those waiting are our nation's immigrants and their families, who are trying to access the services they need to achieve the American dream.

We recognize that you face restraints on spending but any additional funds (over those in the House-passed bill) that you can provide to adult basic education and Even Start during conference would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Sherrie Claiborne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sherrie Claiborne  
President