



# S.1177, Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 – Fact Sheet

## COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & THE WORKFORCE DEMOCRATS

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Hon. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott • Ranking Member

The **Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015** lives up to the promises of *Brown v. Board of Education* and the intent of the original Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) by building on past reauthorizations of the law while addressing the key challenges presented by the most recent authorization of ESEA, No Child Left Behind. **The Every Student Succeeds Act:**

- Puts in place assessment, accountability, and improvement systems that will close achievement gaps with evidence-based strategies that meet the unique needs of students and schools.
- Requires states to set high standards for all children, including by capping participation of students with disabilities in alternate assessments.
- Requires meaningful state and local action in every school where all students – or any subgroup of students – aren't learning. It requires that any action taken to support school improvement is driven by student outcomes – and that poverty can't be used as an excuse for not stepping up to better serve students.
- Supports teachers and school leaders with resources and professional development opportunities that will prepare today's learners for tomorrow's workforce.
- Provides dedicated funding to improve student access to critical support and community services, a well-rounded curriculum, and improved technology in our nation's most disadvantaged schools.
- Drives federal dollars to the schools and communities that need them the most. It requires transparent reporting of data to ensure schools are responsible for not only the achievement of all their students, but also for the equitable allocation of resources to support student learning. States and districts will be required, for the first time, to address resource inequities in school improvement.
- Recognizes the importance of early learning – a priority in both red and blue states alike – by authorizing a program to assist with coordination of state and federal programs to ensure our nation's most vulnerable students aren't starting kindergarten behind their peers.
- Ensures the federal government maintains authority to implement the law and to hold bad actors accountable for not complying with federal law.