KEVIN KILEY
3RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY,
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

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## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, AC 20515-0503

May 8, 2025

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

The Honorable Robert Aderholt

Chairman

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies

Committee on Appropriations

Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies

Committee on Appropriations

Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I respectfully request that the Committee provide robust funding for AmeriCorps in the Fiscal Year 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. AmeriCorps plays a critical role in addressing national workforce shortages, including through Professional Corps programs like Teach For America (TFA), which places high-impact educators in underserved schools. As a proud Teach For America alumnus, I've seen firsthand how impactful the program is for students and schools.

For nearly 35 years, TFA has partnered with school districts across the country, particularly in rural areas, underserved urban communities, and public charter schools, to place teachers in high-need classrooms. In the 2024–2025 school year, over 75% of TFA corps members are teaching in Title I schools, and 43% are in public charter schools. Many serve in hard-to-staff subjects such as STEM and special education.

Research has consistently demonstrated that TFA teachers have a meaningful impact on student achievement. A 2024 meta-analysis by the American Institutes for Research, covering 63,134 teachers and more than 5 million students, found that students taught by TFA corps members perform significantly better in math and science compared to those taught by non-TFA teachers. A 2023 study from the CALDER Center showed that TFA teachers in Miami-Dade improved student outcomes by the equivalent of 54 days of additional learning in math and 18

days in English Language Arts. Other studies have found similar gains in Denver, Indianapolis, New York, and across the country.

TFA's partnership with AmeriCorps through the Education Award and related benefits has been essential to recruiting and retaining high-quality educators in communities with the greatest needs. In many rural and under-resourced areas, it remains the only viable alternative pipeline when traditional programs fall short. Over one in three TFA teachers are homegrown, returning to serve in the communities where they were raised. This partnership helps reduce financial barriers to entering the teaching profession and supports the long-term economic mobility of both corps members and their students.

Professional Corps programs like Teach For America are proven, cost-effective solutions to longstanding workforce challenges, and continued investment in these programs will have a meaningful, measurable impact on students and communities across the country.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kiley

Member of Congress