

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Republican Leader McCarthy:

It is well documented that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant negative impact on schools across the United States over the past year. Every student, teacher, and classroom has been forced to work through the effects of the pandemic, which has caused a devastating interruption to our children's learning. Nevertheless, schools, teachers, and students have adapted and worked together to provide educational services amidst these uncertain and difficult times.

Under your leadership, Congress has responded and worked together in a bipartisan manner to provide aid to schools to safely operate and educate through the course of the pandemic. The current Covid relief package being negotiated in Congress would provide significant financial resources to continue to help meet the needs of all students.

However, we write today to highlight a potentially very serious shortcoming in the current proposal for the distribution of education relief funding. Recently, public education leaders in our state have brought attention to the fact that the proposed formula would result in massive disparities between districts across Michigan. This disparity would leave many districts without the necessary relief to provide a safer learning environment for students.

For example, estimates have shown that under the current formula, the new relief package would have some districts in Michigan receiving \$20,000 per pupil while others would receive less than \$500 per pupil. It is critically important that all underserved and low-income communities across the country have access to resources to address pandemic-related costs. While districts with the highest number of disadvantaged students must be prioritized, Congress should also seek to develop a formula that offers increased balance in the federal resources provided for all school districts.

As Congress continues to shape the next Covid relief package, we urge you to adjust the distribution formula to ensure that all students and districts that receive federal resources from this relief package can provide the best education possible for our children. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,



Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



Fred Upton  
Member of Congress



John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



Peter Meijer  
Member of Congress

cc Mr. Phil Rosenfelt, Acting Secretary of Education