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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **WASA Statement on Revisions to No Child Left Behind**

*Overhaul of federal law returns accountability to states*

**OLYMPIA** — Dr. Bill Keim, executive director for the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) issued the following statement today regarding passage of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, which replaces No Child Left Behind.

“We appreciate the leadership of Senator Patty Murray and the support of the entire Washington legislative delegation to achieve this landmark legislation. It is very positive step for the students of this state, and it renews confidence that Congress can act in a bipartisan manner to achieve important legislation,” said Keim.

“This week’s passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act rightfully returns accountability for school performance to the state level where it belongs. These are welcome changes that will free schools and districts from overly proscriptive regulations and inappropriate labeling of schools as ‘failing’. Some schools need additional resources to ensure all students reach their potential, and ESSA provides that assistance, while offering greater flexibility for states to determine how best to work with schools to achieve that shared goal.

“We applaud the efforts of Washington state educators who come to work each day focused on helping each student achieve their best. We are hopeful that these changes, combined with a long-term solution to the *McCleary* decision, will ensure all schools in Washington are funded equitably, and that all students are given a fair chance at learning from kindergarten through graduation.”

***About the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA):***

WASA ([www.wasa-oly.org](http://www.wasa-oly.org)) is a non-profit organization committed to the development of quality education through professional leadership. Members benefit from a supportive community of professional leaders working to provide insightful, valuable training, support, and resources. WASA also strives to sustain a positive impact on legislative and community leaders. Membership is open to education administrators in Washington state.

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