Support the 2010 National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week: Co-sponsor H.Res. 1472!

From: The Honorable Jared Polis
Sent By: Spiros.Protopsaltis@mail.house.gov
Bill: H.Res. 1472
Date: 6/25/2010

Support Adult Education and Family Literacy!

Co-sponsor the 2010 National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week Resolution

Current Co-sponsors: Grijalva, Hinojosa, Honda, Sarbanes, Yarmuth

Supported by the National Coalition for Literacy

Dear Colleague:

Adult education and family literacy programs have, for many years, provided millions of Americans with the skills they need to lead productive lives, help their children succeed in school, and participate in every aspect of the bounty offered by our great nation.

To pay tribute to adult education and family literacy programs for their contributions to the education of our nation's adult learners and their families I will soon introduce a resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 13, 2010, as National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week.

According to the National Assessment of Adult Literacy, there are approximately 90 million adults who lack the literacy skills to reach their full potential. Approximately 30 million of these individuals are at the lowest levels of literacy and are generally found among the unemployed, the underemployed and those participating in welfare and other government benefit programs.

Adult education programs work with these individuals as well as new immigrants striving to learn English, to help them obtain the skills they need to become employed, retain a job, get a promotion, transition to postsecondary education, participate in a training program, read to their children and fully participate in their education, obtain the English language skills necessary to succeed in their new home country, and achieve economic self-sufficiency for their families.

Family literacy programs work with parents without a high school diploma or GED and their young children to help break cycles of illiteracy and poverty that plague some of our nation's most vulnerable families. They help adults improve their skills and obtain the essential secondary education credentials they need to get a job, continue their education, pursue careers leading to self-sufficiency, and lead productive lives. Most importantly, they provide parents with the knowledge and skills they need to be their child's first and most important teacher and to be full participants in their child's education. For children, family literacy programs help ensure that children start school ready to learn and on an equal footing with their peers.

Please join me in paying tribute to adult education and family literacy programs. If you have any questions or would like to become an original co-sponsor of this legislation, please contact Spiros.Protopsaltis@mail.house.gov or 5-5721.

Sincerely,

Jared Polis
Member of Congress