



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

May30, 2019

Watch City Self Advocates
Opportunities for Inclusion, Inc.
56 Chestnut Street
Waltham, MA 02453

Dear Watch City Self Advocates:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos regarding funding for the Special Olympics education program. Your letter has been referred to the Office of Budget Service within the Office of Finance and Operations, and I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Secretary.

The President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Budget Request (Request) promotes fiscal discipline and supports priorities to improve the quality of education and prepare students for the workforce of the 21st century. The Request would implement fundamental reforms aimed at reducing the size and scope of the Federal role in education, while maintaining the Department's commitment to supporting State efforts to serve vulnerable students.

We understand your concern about the proposed elimination of Federal funding for the Special Olympics education program and are pleased to share that the Administration has amended the Request. The FY 2020 Budget Amendments would provide \$17.6 million in funding for the Special Olympics Program under the Special Education Account, the same as the FY 2019 enacted level. The Special Olympics Program funds are used to promote the expansion of Special Olympics, including through support of education programs such as the Unified Champion Schools.

The Administration is committed to providing Americans with disabilities the opportunities and services they need to succeed in school, in the workplace, and in the community. In addition to the amended request for the Special Olympics education program, the overall Request supports a wide range of programs that can improve educational, employment, and independent living outcomes for people with disabilities, including:

- \$13.2 billion for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) formula grants to States to support special education and early intervention services for more than 7 million children with disabilities; and
- \$225.6 million for competitively awarded grants to support research, demonstrations, technical assistance and dissemination, and personnel preparation and development. These investments would ensure that high-quality special education and related services meet the unique needs of children with disabilities and their families.

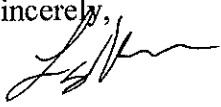
For information on specific activities included in the Request, please our website at www.ED.gov/budget. Additional information is also available in the Special Education and the Rehabilitative Services Congressional Budget Justifications at www.ED.gov/CJ.

400 MARYLAND AVE. SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202-4500
www.ed.gov

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Thank you again for your letter on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Kean', written over a horizontal line.

Larry Kean, Director
Office of Budget Service