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Lawmakers Announce Plan for a Bipartisan Overhaul of Education Law

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Democratic and Republican leaders of the House Education and Labor Committee today made an announcement about their plans for a bipartisan reform of the nation’s primary federal education law, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) – currently known as No Child Left Behind. **U.S. Reps. George Miller** (D-CA), the chairman of the committee, **John Kline** (R-MN), the senior Republican of the committee, **Dale E. Kildee** (D-MI), the chairman of the subcommittee on elementary and secondary education, and **Michael N. Castle** (R-DE), the senior Republican of that subcommittee, issued the following joint statement:

“Today, we’re announcing a bipartisan, open and transparent effort to rewrite No Child Left Behind – a law that we all agree is in need of major reform. It will start with a series of hearings in the coming weeks to explore the challenges and opportunities ahead as we work to ensure an excellent education is available to every student in America. With a real commitment to innovation, we invite all stakeholders who share our serious interest in building a world-class education system to email us their suggestions.”

The committee’s first hearing will focus on charter schools and will be held on February 24, 2010.

Beginning today, groups and stakeholders can send the committee their input and suggestions at eseacomments@mail.house.gov. The deadline for comments is March 26, 2010.