



National Association of State Directors of Special Education, Inc.

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September 14, 2009

Senator Tom Harkin
Chairman
Committee on Health, Education, Labor
and Pensions
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Michael Enzi
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor
and Pensions
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Enzi:

On behalf of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE), which represents the state directors of special education in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Bureau of Indian Education, the Department of Defense Education Agency, the Federal territories and the Freely Associated States, I urge you to confirm as expeditiously as possible the nomination of Alexa Posny to be Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

Dr. Posny is extremely well qualified for this position. Her background in both Title I and special education, her service as a Title I director, a state director of special education, the director of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and the current chief state school officer for the state of Kansas represent the depth of her knowledge and skills.

Dr. Posny is held in high regard by her colleagues. At this time, with all of the work in the states surrounding accountability of the IDEA funds distributed under the ARRA, it is extremely important that OSERS have the high quality leadership that Dr. Posny will bring to the Department.

We urge you to act on her nomination immediately.

Sincerely,

Bill East, Ed.D.
Executive Director

