

Senator Lamar Alexander
Chair, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

January 27, 2017

Dear Senator Alexander:

On behalf of the 5000+ members of the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy, I am writing to express our concern regarding the nominee for Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos. In particular, we are troubled by Ms. DeVos' lack of understanding or appreciation for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), essential federal legislation that protects the rights of all children to receive a free and appropriate education. Her suggestion that this is more appropriate as a state issue indicates a lack of understanding regarding the history of IDEA and the horrific way that some children were segregated and denied this basic right prior to passage of IDEA. Our Academy has a long history of serving children with disabilities and their families. We strongly believe that the Secretary of Education must fully embrace and support IDEA.

Thank you for your careful consideration.



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Executive Office

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