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JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 15, 2009

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education
Senate Appropriations Committee
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education
Senate Appropriations Committee
156 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Thad Cochran,

I request that the following language be reported in the Labor-HHS and Education
Appropriations Bill under the Funds for Improvement (FIE) Account.

Caring School Climate: All students should be provided with a school climate that is supportive
and rich in developmental assets, strengths and supports. Students learn better and achieve more
when they are in a school characterized by strong adult-student relationships, an environment
that provides opportunities for all students to excel, and programs and practices that help young
people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible

The Department of Education is encouraged to partner with Search Institute to provide resources,
publications and trainings to state and local educational agencies on the positive relationships,
opportunities, values, and skills that students need to succeed in school and avoid risky behavior.
Resources should include a free information service, using print, electronic media, and the
Internet, for schools, principals, school officers, parent-teacher associations, and community
groups, relating to infusing developmental assets, supports and strengths into existing school
curriculum, programs and services.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator