

Conference of Chief Justices Conference of State Court Administrators

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November 28, 2017

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Chairman, Ways and Means Committee
United States House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal
Ranking Member, Ways and Means Committee
United States House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

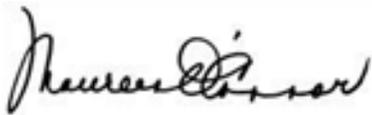
Re: Continuing of Useful Resources to States Act or COURTS Act

Dear Chairman Brady and Ranking Member Neal:

On behalf of the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators, we are writing in support of the Continuing of Useful Resources to States Act. For your information, we enclose resolution, *In Support of Reauthorization of Court Improvement Programs*, recently adopted by our respective Conferences.

The legislation reauthorizes the three Court Improvement Program (CIP) grants through FY 2022 at the current \$30 million level. The three CIP grant programs are critical for state courts as they provide the only federal funds to state courts for improving state court oversight of abuse and neglect cases; and have been invaluable in assisting courts to improve and expedite our processes and procedures. These funds have resulted in abused and neglected children moving more expeditiously to safe, permanent homes and improved outcomes for children in need of protection. Our work, however, is not complete, so the reauthorization of these funds will allow us to continue our work to improve results for these children.

We look forward to working with you to implement reforms to truly benefit children who come to the attention of the child welfare system and to continue to explore additional improvements on their behalf to ensure they all have safe, permanent families. Thank you for your continuing leadership on behalf of these children. If you need additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact us or Kay Farley at the National Center for State Courts. Ms. Farley can be reached at (202) 684-2622 or kfarley@ncsc.org.



Honorable Maureen O'Connor
President
Conference of Chief Justices



Callie T. Dietz
President
Conference of State Court Administrators

c: Kay Farley
Enclosure