

February 12, 2025

The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Health Education  
Labor and Pensions  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Health  
Education Labor and Pensions  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cassidy and Ranking Member Sanders:

The Defense of Freedom Institute for Policy Studies (DFI) enthusiastically endorses Linda McMahon to be the next U.S. Secretary of Education. She has the right experience, skills, and temperament to lead the Education Department (the “Department”) and advance President Trump’s bold vision for American education.

DFI is a nonpartisan policy and legal advocacy organization focused on the policies and programs of the Department. Founded by former senior leaders from Secretary Betsy DeVos’s administration, DFI has been at the forefront of resisting federal overreach, including the previous administration’s radical redefinition of Title IX and its reckless attempts to shift student loan debt onto taxpayers through unlawful forgiveness schemes.

Soon after being sworn into office, President Trump took action to remove damaging ideology from the federal government. He has prioritized eliminating gender ideology and critical race theory from federally funded education programs, fighting campus antisemitism, and protecting sex-separated sports and intimate facilities.

Linda McMahon is uniquely equipped to advance these priorities and execute on President Trump’s three-part strategy for transforming education in America: 1) empowering States to improve their systems by reducing federal burdens; 2) empowering families to take control of their children’s education by giving them



more school choice; and 3) reducing waste, fraud, and abuse within all federal agencies.

Administrator McMahon understands the urgency of these reforms and is fully committed to the President's formidable education agenda. She also understands that powerful interest groups benefit from the status quo and that they work fiercely to protect it, even though that status quo has failed students and taxpayers. Her results-focused record as an entrepreneur, business leader, and head of the Small Business Administration demonstrates that she will conclusively set aside the forces that favor this failing status quo and deliver on the President's agenda in education.

Linda McMahon's work ethic, financial sophistication, and unwavering commitment to education are precisely what the Education Department needs. The Committee should confirm the nomination of Administrator McMahon to serve as Secretary of Education.

Yours truly,

Robert S. Eitel  
President and Cofounder

Jim Blew  
Cofounder