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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:
**BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS**
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISION,
REGULATION AND INSURANCE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SMALL BUSINESS

May 15, 1978

Dear Friend:

Please excuse this form letter in response to your recent expression of opposition to the transfer of jurisdiction of the Head Start program to the proposed new Department of Education. The overwhelming amount of mail I have received on this issue makes it impossible to reply to each letter individually.

I share your opposition to the proposed transfer because I fear that it could have drastic effects upon the Head Start program as it exists today. I believe that Head Start is more than just another early-childhood education program; it is a comprehensive undertaking that includes health care, nutrition and child welfare, with a strong element of parental involvement. Since Head Start as it now exists is a program of demonstrated success and effectiveness, I feel that the proposed transfer involves unnecessary risks.

The legislation to create a Department of Education is currently being debated in the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. Hearings are expected to be completed this week and markup is expected to begin sometime in June. In the House, the Subcommittee on Legislation and National Security is waiting for the Administration to submit its own proposal to Congress before taking any action on this matter.

Please be assured that I shall continue to monitor this issue closely, and that I shall do my utmost to maintain the effectiveness of the Head Start program.

I appreciated your taking the time to make me aware of your views and hope you will continue to do so on other matters of concern.

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUN 1 1978

READ:
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Rose M. Mendonca CLERK

Sincerely,

F. J. St Germain
Fernand J. St Germain
Member of Congress

FJStG:mh

FILED

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**DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R. I.**