

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

November 7, 2014

The Honorable Mike Pence
Governor of Indiana
200 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Pence,

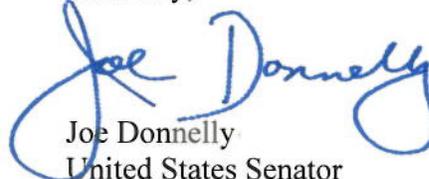
Thank you for your reply to my letter about Indiana's pre-kindergarten pilot program and the Preschool Development Grant. I appreciate your commitment to the five-county pilot program, and I'm interested to learn more about your plan to fund and implement a \$10 million continuation of the existing pilot program past the current fiscal year. More importantly, I'm eager to better understand your plan so that we may partner together to ensure our state has access to the necessary state and federal funding to expand pre-kindergarten education across Indiana.

I share your desire to see pre-kindergarten education in Indiana, which is why I am still troubled by the decision to forgo the Preschool Development Block Grant. I would still like answers to the questions outlined in my original letter, so that I can best advocate for preschool expansion and development in Indiana through efforts in the United States Senate. I ask again that you provide responses to the following questions:

- What specific federal requirements and conditions to the Preschool Development Grant would impede the expansion of pre-kindergarten in Indiana? Have you discussed these concerns with the Departments of Health and Human Services and Education?
- What outstanding policy questions need to be answered by the state's pilot program in order for the state to pursue expansion?
- Given your commitment to pursue the expansion of pre-kindergarten programs, what is the state's plan to fund and implement such an expansion?

I remain committed to working with you, educators, and other local partners to ensure that all Hoosier children have the resources necessary to achieve their long-term potential.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly
United States Senator