



AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics®

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May 13, 2019

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair DeLauro,

Thank you for your strong support for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) in your subcommittee's FY20 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies bill.

These agencies—three of the 13 primary federal statistical agencies—are critical components of our data infrastructure. Their data help our economy, workforce, and families thrive. The levels in your bill help address critical challenges the agencies face due to their nearly 15 percent loss of purchasing power since FY10. These challenges include measuring the effects of the gig economy, AI, robotics, and automation on our economy and workforce, in the case of BLS; tracking public health issues in a timely manner and on a subnational level, in the case of NCHS; and ensuring our schools and future workforce will meet the challenges and opportunities for the decades to come.

We are also grateful for your strong support for the National Institutes of Health.

We appreciate your leadership and will be strongly advocating for these levels in the enacted bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Wasserstein', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ron Wasserstein
Executive Director