

## **Family Engagement in Education Act Introduced**

On July 11, 2013 the Family Engagement in Education Act of 2013 (S. 1291/H.R. 2662) was introduced by U.S. Senators Jack Reed (RI), Christopher Coons (DE), Sheldon Whitehouse (RI), and Representatives Glenn Thompson (PA) and Carolyn McCarthy (NY).

The two sheets attached are summaries of the Family Engagement in Education Act of 2013. The legislation sheet explains the important components of the legislation along with the state PTAs, including Ohio, that endorse its passage. As PTA leaders and advocates know well, research demonstrates that family engagement in a child's education increases student achievement, improves attendance, and reduces dropout rates. The Family Engagement in Education Act of 2013 provides school districts the flexibility to identify programming that works best for individual communities and resources to build effective family engagement strategies.

The funding explanation sheet reveals no new federal dollars will be allocated from the bill. Instead, the legislation expands authorization to state educational agencies for family engagement practices.