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## TEACH FOR AMERICA STATEMENT ON SENATOR PATTY MURRAY'S ESEA PRINCIPLES SPEECH

**New York, NY (January 13, 2015)** — Elisa Villanueva Beard, co-CEO of Teach For America, today released the following statement on Senator Murray's ESEA principles speech:

*"We commend Senator Murray for recognizing the urgent need to update and strengthen the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in a bipartisan manner. As an organization that prepares thousands of teachers each year to teach in high-need schools, and has helped prepare tens of thousands of teachers over the last two decades, we support her principles recognizing the need for a statewide annual assessment as one measure of student achievement growth, ensuring that schools have the necessary resources – including resources to allow teachers and school leaders to continue to build their skills so that every student has a high-quality education, and recognizing that high quality education must start with access to high-quality preschool programs."*

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### About Teach For America

Teach For America works in partnership with communities to expand educational opportunity for children facing the challenges of poverty. Founded in 1990, Teach For America recruits and develops a diverse corps of outstanding college graduates and professionals to make an initial two-year commitment to teach in high-need schools and become lifelong leaders in the movement to end educational inequity. Today, 10,600 corps members are teaching in 50 urban and rural regions across the country while more than 37,000 alumni work across sectors to ensure that all children have access to an excellent education. For more information, visit [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).