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Subject: Draft

Sorry for the delay. SCANA consumed our day. Please let me know your thoughts when you can. We appreciate your help

DV

We also must expand school choice for families in South Carolina. We already enjoy incredible success with the very limited scholarship program for children with exceptional learning needs. That program is capped at \$13 million, and that is claimed within the first half of each school year. We can do more for exceptional needs children, and other children in special circumstances, for very little money. We must double the exceptional needs scholarship program cap to \$26m and include the nearly 4400 foster care children 17,500 military children in South Carolina.

Foster children have endured circumstances that affect them in many ways, including the classroom. Foster parents need access to the learning environment best suits those circumstances. State estimates project a cost of just over \$2m to extend scholarship opportunities to foster families. Military children often experience both physical transition and a parent absent to deployment. Their families deserve access to the learning environment that meets their unique needs.

We now spend \$2.9 billion on K-12 education. We can afford to move less than half a percent into an already successful program and serve many more children in need.