

**JOHN T. SALAZAR**

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND WATER  
  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

**Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515**

December 2, 2009

**Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20202**

**Dear Secretary Duncan:**

**As a proud representative of Colorado to the U.S. House of Representatives, I write to express support for Colorado's Statewide Longitudinal Data System grant application.**

**Colorado has successfully laid the groundwork for an effective longitudinal data system. Policies are in place; innovative practices have been established; and education stakeholders are supportive of the development of this system. With additional funds, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) will be able to partner with other agencies and provide a robust picture of Colorado's students that will equip policy makers, researchers, educators, parents/guardians, and students with the data necessary to make informed decisions.**

**As the Congressman from Colorado's Third Congressional District and a sixth generation native of the San Luis Valley in Southern Colorado, I represent some of the most rural school districts in the state. The ideas outlined in CDE's School View Proposal for this SLDS grant would help facilitate important growth in the way those school districts and higher education organizations can serve their students. These funds would help provide an infrastructure that equips all educators with tools to effectively increase student achievement.**

**Colorado is a worthwhile investment, and I hope you will seriously consider this proposal. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please keep my Alamosa office informed of any developments with this proposal.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T. Salazar".

**John T Salazar  
United States Congress**

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