NCLD COMMENDS CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS FOR REINTRODUCING THE IDEA FULL FUNDING ACT

WASHINGTON – July 10, 2023 – The National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) is pleased to endorse the IDEA Full Funding Act that was reintroduced today in both chambers of the 118th Congress.

In 1975, Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to ensure that every child with a disability receives a free appropriate public education with a commitment to fund 40 percent of the additional costs of educating students with disabilities. This pledge has never been met. In FY 2023, the federal funding contribution was 12.2 percent of the average per-child costs—far below the 40 percent promise.

If passed, the IDEA Full Funding Act would put funding for IDEA state grants on a 10-year “glidepath”, or require yearly increases to funding so that the federal government reaches an annual appropriation that contributes 40% of the average per pupil expenditures within a decade. This bill has support from over 60 education, disability, and civil rights organizations.

“It's been nearly 50 years since Congress passed IDEA, and the need to fully fund it is imperative now more than ever,” says Dr. Jacqueline Rodriguez, CEO, National Center for Learning Disabilities. “We applaud Senator Chris Van Hollen and Representative Jared Huffman for taking the necessary steps toward more equitable funding by reintroducing the IDEA Full Funding Act. The time is now to fulfill the pledge to invest in funding for educating students with disabilities, which includes approximately 2.3 million students with specific learning disabilities.”

ABOUT NCLD
The National Center for Learning Disabilities’ mission is to improve the lives of the 1 in 5 children and adults nationwide with learning and attention issues—by empowering parents and young adults, transforming schools and advocating for equal rights and opportunities.

For more information, please contact:
Cierra Mangal
Director of Communications
cmangal@ncld.org

####