Education Town Hall
with special guest Chairman Robert C. “Bobby” Scott

APRIL 28, 2022
Investing in Pre-K and Childcare

- Children who attend preschool can better socialize, manage stress, solve problems, and have higher job earnings later in life.
  - Participation in Head Start increases a student’s likelihood of pursuing some higher education 4-12 percentage points.

- Families headed by married couples spend about 10% of household income on child care while single-parent families spend about 34% of their income.

- House Education and Labor Committee’s Key Priorities:
  - Child Care for Working Families Act – would ensure affordable, high-quality child care for working class families and support universal access to high-quality preschool for 3- and 4-year olds.
The U.S. puts 11.6% of public funding toward education, well below the international standard 15%.

51% of American public school students are living in poverty.
- A student living in poverty is 13 times less likely to graduate on time.

7 million, or 14% of K-12 public school students, receive special education services.

House Education and Labor Committee’s Key Priorities:
- House-passed Fiscal Year 2022 Omnibus Spending Package – Includes a $1 billion increase in funding for Title I schools, the largest increase in over a decade.
Outstanding student loan debt in the U.S. exceeds $1.3 trillion with African American college graduates owing $7,400 more in student loans on average than their white peers upon graduating.

House Education and Labor Committee’s Key Priorities:

- **College Affordability Act** – Would lower the cost of college, improve the quality of education by holding schools accountable for students’ success, and expand opportunity for students of all backgrounds.

- **House-passed Fiscal Year 2022 Omnibus Spending Package** – Provides significant investments to lower the cost of college, including through the largest increase in the maximum Pell Grant in over a decade.
  
  Also establishes a Postsecondary Student Success Grant program to help students either stay in school or complete their degrees.
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