

Washington, DC—September 30, 2020: The [Re]Build America's School Infrastructure Coalition (BASIC), representing civic, governmental, and industry organizations from across the U.S. greatly appreciates that \$5 billion for emergency repairs for public school facilities is a dedicated part of the funding proposed for education in the Heroes Act 2.0 introduced by the House of Representatives.

The inclusion of these funds is critical for the well being of our families and communities and codifies the House's commitment to the health and safety of our students and educators. It also demonstrates the understanding that without public schools opening safely, our economy cannot thrive. Funding for emergency repairs and building modifications to support protocols for social distancing, personal hygiene, surface cleaning, and high standards for fresh and filtered air are needed to reopen schools in a pandemic is pragmatic. Without additional education funding, only the most affluent school districts can bring children and staff back on site safely.

BASIC is hopeful that the House and Senate will soon agree to a comprehensive educational facilities infrastructure funding bill to provide high-need schools and districts with the resources needed to modernize and rebuild deteriorated school facilities. Rebuilding America's public schools will jumpstart the economy in the wake of COVID-19, and enable communities to modernize schools to be safer, healthier, and more resilient when facing future challenges.

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The Re[Build] America's School Infrastructure Coalition (BASIC) is a non-partisan coalition of civic, public sector, labor, and industry associations who support federal funding to help under-served public school districts modernize and build K-12 public school facilities. We believe that ALL children should attend healthy, safe, and educationally appropriate school facilities. It's BASIC.

To learn more: Visit BASIC's website, which includes resources and recent school facilities news.

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