

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

JUN 2 5 2018

The Honorable Mark Johnson Superintendent of Public Instruction North Carolina Department of Public Instruction 6351 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-6351

Dear Superintendent Johnson:

I am pleased to inform you that, pursuant to section 9207(d)(1) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the U.S. Department of Education (Department) is extending North Carolina's designation as an Ed-Flex State under the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999 (Ed-Flex), as amended by ESSA.

The Ed-Flex designation for your State is effective through the 2018-2019 school year. Any new or existing waivers that your State grants under its Ed-Flex authority will terminate at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. Please note that Ed-Flex authority applies only to waivers sought by individual school districts and schools; the statute does not give States the authority to waive Federal requirements that apply to State educational agencies.

The Ed-Flex authority was reauthorized by section 9207 of the ESSA. The Department will release information regarding how States can apply to extend the authority for use beginning with the 2019-2020 school year and extending for up to four more years later this year.

I look forward to working with you as you continue to use the Ed-Flex authority to improve school and student performance in your State. If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Wright of my staff at: <u>OSS.NorthCarolina@ed.gov</u>.

Sincerely Jason Botel

Jason Botel Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Position of Assistant Secretary of Elementary and Secondary Education

cc: Donna Brown, Director, Federal Program Monitoring and Support Division

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