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U.S. Representative DeLauro and Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel of FCC Honored With National Awards by Association of Educational Service Agencies

The Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESAs) has selected U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro and Jessica Rosenworcel, Acting Chairwoman of the Federal Communications Commission as recipients of the agency's 2021 Congressional Service Awards. The awards are presented annually to a member of the U.S. Congress or a federal agency in recognition of their support for federal education legislation and Educational Service Agencies (ESAs).

The awards were presented September 16 at the AESAs' annual Educators' Call To Action Conference in Washington, D.C.

Each year, the AESAs recognizes one or more legislators or a federal agency for providing strong support for furthering the federal role and funding of ESAs, advocating for positions on federal legislation supported by the AESAs or serving in a leadership role or on a congressional committee sponsoring legislation supporting AESAs legislation.

DeLauro represents the 3rd District of Connecticut and is the chair of the House Appropriations Committee. According to Joan Wade, the AESAs' Executive Director, DeLauro has a long history of leadership on investing in education.

"She has been a tireless advocate for increasing investment in public education, and she is an ally to schools, educational service agencies, students and staff alike," Wade said.

Rosenworcel has served on the FCC since May 2012 and was named Acting Chairwoman by President Joe Biden in January, 2021.

Wade called Rosenworcel "relentless" in her commitment to expanding equitable access to affordable connectivity, especially within and for schools and libraries.

"Her career has always somehow connected to E-Rate and educational connectivity, and she is the face of the term Homework Gap, helping to shed light on one of the worst kept secrets in education: that nearly 12 million of our nation's students don't have reliable Internet access at home," Wade added.

The AESAs is a professional organization serving ESAs in 45 states with 533 agencies nationwide. Its mission is to support and strengthen ESAs through advocacy, provision of technical assistance and professional growth opportunities, and support of research by external sources and member agencies.