



The Education Trust

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AMENDMENT #2241 to the Every Child Achieves Act:

DECIDEDLY NOT AYP

JULY 2015

Amendment #2241, introduced by U.S. Sens. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Richard Durbin (D-Ill.), and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), to the Every Child Achieves Act reflects important lessons learned from No Child Left Behind's "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP), chief among them that states need more flexibility in building accountability systems. The amendment maintains the critical expectation that all groups of students be making progress, as well as a clear responsibility for school, district, and state action when there is no progress. But it puts all the critical decisions in state and local hands.

Here are the key differences between AYP and Amendment #2241:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under AYP, schools are accountable primarily for tests and graduation rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under Amendment #2241, schools are judged on a broader range of measures.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under AYP, the federal government set the goal of 100 percent proficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under Amendment #2241, states set their own improvement goals.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under AYP, the federal government created two possible ratings: Made AYP and Did Not Make AYP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under Amendment #2241, states choose what the ratings are (e.g., A-F grades, five-star system, or something else entirely). The only requirement is that these ratings clearly signal when there is chronic overall failure or any group of students is not making progress.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under AYP, any school that missed AYP for two consecutive years was identified with the same label whether it missed by a mile for all of its students or by an inch for one student group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment #2241 differentiates between schools that chronically fail all of their students and those that consistently miss state-set goals on the range of indicators for any group of students.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under AYP, the federal government defined specific consequences for all schools that missed AYP, regardless of the reasons why it missed the mark.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under Amendment #2241, supports and interventions are locally determined and customized to the needs of the school.