



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 3, 2018

Seven Former Secretaries of Education Join Reagan Institute Summit on Education

Secretaries will lead closing panel discussion on 'Purpose of Education'

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute today announced that seven former Secretaries of Education are participating in the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE) taking place in Washington, D.C., on April 12, 2018.

"We are delighted to have the support of nearly all of the living former secretaries of education in this endeavor," said John Heubusch, executive director of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute. "Together, these individuals represent nearly 30 years of experience in education policy under both Republican and Democrat leadership. Their insights will be an invaluable resource to our bipartisan discussions."

The Secretaries of Education joining RISE 2018 include:

- John B King, Jr., *January 2016 - January 2017*
- Arne Duncan, *January 2009 - January 2016*
- Margaret Spellings, *January 2005 - January 2009*
- Rod Paige, *January 2001 - January 2005*
- Richard W. Riley, *January 1993 - January 2001*
- Lamar Alexander, *March 1991 - January 1993*
- William Bennett, *February 1985 - September 1988*

All of the secretaries serve as members of the RISE Honorary Steering Committee, lending their expertise and support to the event's organization, and many will serve as speakers for the event's various discussions. Secretaries King, Duncan, Spellings and Paige will participate in a closing session, which will draw on the secretaries' multi-faceted experiences across the changing education landscape to explore America's purpose for public and higher education from the perspective of the Department of Education.

The secretaries join other leaders in education, policy, business and technology participating in RISE 2018, including former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Rep. Virginia Foxx, Purdue President Mitch Daniels, President of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Peggy Brookins and many others. Throughout the conference, bipartisan panels and plenaries will foster conversation on a wide range of education policy issues. These issues include lessons learned from the 1983 report on education "A Nation at Risk," the future of higher education, the role of states in pursuing

educational excellence, innovation in the classroom and approaches to constructing bipartisan legislation.

RISE 2018 is open to registered media. For more information, visit www.reaganfoundation.org/reagan-institute or follow RISE on Twitter @ReaganEdSummit. Join the conversation by using #RISE2018.

Media Contact: Emilee Lamb — lamb@pinkstongroup.com or 571-480-2367

###

About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C.

Ronald Reagan said, “**Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.** We didn’t pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.” The RISE Summit builds on the success of the non-partisan Reagan National Defense Forum (RNDF), which, for the past five years, has brought together luminaries from across the political spectrum to examine the state of National Defense. With RISE, we plan to leverage our role as a convener to explore the future of American education.

www.reaganfoundation.org