March 9, 2016

Senator John McCain Chairman Senate Armed Services Committee 218 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Appreciation upon the Introduction of the Equal Access to Congressional Research Service Reports Act of 2016 (S2639)

Dear Senator McCain,

As organizations committed to the availability of information about our government and its transparency, we write to express our support for the Equal Access to Congressional Research Service Reports Act of 2016 (S 2639), introduced last week. We extend our sincere gratitude for your many years of leadership in support of opening access to these valuable, taxpayer-funded reports. We are appreciative of your efforts, and those of Senator Patrick Leahy, to make a bipartisan push for a more open government at a time when such work is particularly vital to our democracy.

Through its reports, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) plays a vital role in informing Congressional debate and lawmaking. Thus, this legislation will afford the public information critical to its involvement in the policymaking process. Requiring no-fee public access CR CR tion