



November 29, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: FedSDC@fedcdc.org

Mourning the Loss of a Civil Rights Leader and Courageous Activist

Washington D.C. – The Federal School Discipline and Climate Coalition (FedSDC) issued the following statement after the passing of **Representative Donald McEachin** (D-VA 4th District):

“We are deeply saddened by the loss of Representative McEachin and extend our condolences to his family, loved ones, and staff. Our hearts break for your loss and shudders at the thought of the hole left behind in Congress in his wake. During his time serving the people of Virginia’s 4th District, Rep. McEachin was a champion for equity and excellence in education as he worked to ensure all students were put in a position to succeed. His support of the *Protecting Our Students in Schools Act* to prohibit the use of corporal punishment in schools is just one example of his relentless advocacy in support of our children. The efforts of Rep. McEachin and his staff have helped move the needle on issues that humanize the classroom for our students and give them the resources they need to thrive. Donald McEachin was a giant, both literally and figuratively, and he will be sorely missed.”

Ellen Reddy and **Morgan Craven**, co-chairs of FedSDC’s Corporal Punishment Working Group, added: “We mourn the passing of Rep. McEachin, and send our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and staff. The Congressman was a steadfast champion and partner in the work of eliminating corporal punishment. While we are deeply saddened, we remain resolved and committed to honoring his memory and work on this pressing issue. We look forward to working with Congress to ensure his valiant efforts aren’t in vain.”

FedSDC is a diverse group of local community organizers, national organizations, and directly impacted students, youth, families, and community members committed to advocating for legislative and federal action to protect the interests and educational rights of Black and Brown students and youth through a racial and educational equity lens.
